

The disposal of the dry stores was a very difficult matter, for the following reasons :

- (i) There were huge accumulations of items for which no local demand existed.
- (ii) There were huge accumulations of items for which a local demand existed but the disposal of which on the local market would have seriously dislocated current production of these goods.

The Food Controller undertook the responsibility of arranging for the disposal of all dry stores, as the agent of the Board, and through him an effort was made to interest overseas buyers in all the items which could not immediately be absorbed on the local market. Invitations for offers were circularized to all traders with overseas connections. Some useful responses had been received, and indications were that substantial sales would have been made to overseas interests when the Government decided to offer the unsold balance of goods as a gift to the British Ministry of Food. The gift was accepted, and shipment to destinations nominated by the British Ministry of Food is proceeding as ships are available.

All items which were in short supply on the New Zealand market were quickly taken up and disposals have been made to date to an approximate value of £150,000.

These local sales were made in all cases at prices approved by the Price Tribunal, through the agency of the New Zealand Wholesale Merchants' Federation, the New Zealand Tea Brokers' Association, Incorporated, and through individual traders who specialized in certain lines. These additional goods proved a most useful supplement to the stocks of processed goods available to local consumers.

24. PROCEEDS OF REALIZATION

The total cash receipts for the year ended 31st March, 1946, amounted to £11,269,753, as compared with sales to 31st March, 1945, £3,478,643; total realizations since the commencement of operations, £14,748,396.

The analysis by commodity groups is as follows :—

Commodity Groups.	To 31st March, 1945.	For Period 1st April, 1945, to 31st March, 1946.	Total to 31st March, 1946.
	£	£	£
Aircraft and spares	98	2,650	2,748
Ammunition	59,468	4,322,502	4,381,970
Artillery and small-arms	2,826	777,950	780,776
Buildings	296,932	1,304,759	1,511,691
Building-materials	48,312	275,820	324,132
Camp and kitchen equipment	3,891	63,202	67,093
Chemicals and paints	2,377	7,170	9,547
Cordage, tents, and canvas	11,705	32,354	44,059
Drugs	9,523	66,623	76,146
Electrical and radio equipment	1,097	242,931	244,028
Foodstuffs	144,162	148,482	292,644
Furniture and office equipment	11,987	132,880	144,867
Machinery	12,048	290,321	302,369
Metals	11,339	171,501	182,840
M.T. vehicles and parts	2,862,621	1,255,033	4,117,654
Petroleum products	991	9,920	10,911
Photo equipment; musical instruments	1,018	1,018
Plant, heating and lighting	2,397	42,900	45,297
Rent and hire charges	44,600	44,600
Ships	15,893	76,918	92,811
Tanks and other armoured vehicles	15,981	15,981
Textiles, hessian, fabrics, and clothing	15,722	1,851,716	1,867,438
Tools, &c.	336	32,124	32,460
Miscellaneous	54,918	100,398	155,316
Totals	3,478,643	11,269,753	14,748,396