

The increased values of our indigenous timber have resulted in the felling and utilization of large quantities of *Pinus radiata* from farmers' plantations and shelter-belts. In many cases these plantation-trees had reached their natural maturity, and, provided new plantations are made, their use for timber was advisable, but it is to be feared that high prices have induced many farmers to fell plantations which should have been retained for shelter-purposes.

Import of Timber.

The following return, furnished by the Comptroller of Customs, shows the total quantity and value of the various timbers, tan, bark, &c., imported into New Zealand, and the net Customs duty collected thereon, during the year ended 31st March, 1920. The quantity of timber imported exceeded that of last year by 6,697,568 ft.

Item.					Quantity.	Net Duty collected.	Value.
(1.) Round logs—					Sup. ft.	£	£
Ironbark					849,019	58	16,590
Other timbers					59,108	7	962
(2.) Hewn logs—							
Ironbark					1,819,376	175	33,968
Jarrah					101,813	..	1,726
Other timbers					1,463,043	116	20,518
(3.) Sawn, rough—							
Ironbark					433,180	247	7,837
Jarrah					4,098,151	661	47,884
Oregon pine (Canada)					3,150	3	35
Oregon pine (U.S.A.)					2,886,651	2,849	26,947
Other timbers					5,123,089	5,823	120,823
(4.) Sawn, dressed—							
Miscellaneous					31,062	72	983
Total					16,867,642	10,011	278,273
(5.) Laths					Number.		
.. .. .					1,172,652	147	2,974
(6.) Palings, split					83,280	67	913
(7.) Rails, split
(8.) Posts, split
(9.) Shingles					1,076,250	132	2,486
Total					2,332,182	346	6,373
(10.) Miscellaneous timbers					Tons.		
..	15	2,179
(11.) Tanning-bark					3,184	400	39,990
(12.) Wood-pulp					942	230	23,018
Total					4,126	645	65,187

Export of Timber.

The following return, furnished by the Comptroller of Customs, shows the total quantity and value of timber and tanning-bark exported from New Zealand during the year ended 31st March, 1920. The amount exported is less by approximately 15,000,000 ft. than for the previous year. No timber-export duty was collected.

Item.					Quantity.	Duty collected.	Value.
Kauri					Sup. ft.	£	£
.. .. .					3,719,610	..	45,763
White-pine					34,827,162	..	317,150
Rimu					12,125,889	..	96,135
Beech					772,661	..	7,266
Miscellaneous (New Zealand)					2,264,588	..	18,362
,, (not New Zealand)					15,092	..	269
Total					53,725,002	..	484,945
Tanning-bark (New Zealand)					Tons.		
.. .. .					47	..	564