

The following cash statement takes into account the amounts due to and owing by the Administration as at the close of the financial year, and shows an estimated credit balance of £6,538 2s. 9d.

*Cash Statement as at 31st March, 1924.*

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s.	d.
Cash in hand .. .. .	621	17	5	Sundry creditors .. .. .	484	2	2
Cash in bank .. .. .	151	5	9	Contingent losses—			
Cash on deposit, Bank of New Zealand ..	1,000	0	0	Fruit-case Account .. .. .	36	0	10
Sundry debtors .. .. .	2,354	10	1	Fruit-case Account, Mangaia ..	381	5	9
Proceeds of Customs due from New Zealand, due 31st March, 1924 (estimated)	2,000	0	0	Fruit-case Account, Aitutaki ..	25	13	6
Stamp-sales, New Zealand (estimated) ..	300	0	0				
High Court fees outstanding .. .. .	227	9	6	Sundry debtors estimated as bad debts ..	21	17	3
Native Land Court fees outstanding .. ..	831	19	6	Cash balance .. .. .	6,538	2	9
	£7,487	2	3		£7,487	2	3
Balance .. .. .	£6,538	2	9				

The balance-sheet set out hereunder takes into account the value of all Administration assets throughout the Group as at the 31st March, 1924, and all liabilities as per the cash statement, and shows an excess of assets amounting to £62,679 17s. 10d.

*Statement of Assets as at 31st March, 1924.*

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s.	d.
Land and buildings .. .. .	40,755	10	0
Waterworks .. .. .	6,000	0	0
Furniture .. .. .	6,011	0	0
Plant, machinery, and type, Printing Office ..	450	0	0
Stocks—			
Drugs and instruments, hospital .. .. .	454	0	0
Public Works Department .. .. .	1,069	9	6
Printing Office .. .. .	308	7	0
Freezer .. .. .	185	18	7
Ammunition .. .. .	6	8	6
Liquor .. .. .	262	1	6
Tools, &c., outer islands .. .. .	64	0	0
Motor-vehicles .. .. .	575	0	0
Cash as per cash statement .. .. .	6,538	2	9
	£62,679	17	10

*Liabilities.*

Nil.

TRADE.

For the year ended 31st December, 1923, the value of imports was £131,590, and of exports £118,710. For the previous year the figures were—Imports, £116,726; exports, £135,802.

During the year 138,857 cases of oranges, 70,206 cases of bananas, and 24,578 cases of tomatoes were exported, and it is considered that with suitable shipping facilities for the coming year the export of these fruits will be increased.

The growers throughout the Group are pleased with the new alternate cargo service to Auckland and Wellington, which gives them the choice of markets, which they have been asking for for some years; but, on the other hand, they are apprehensive that, owing to the accelerated San Francisco mail-service, they may be deprived of the shipping-space desired on the mail-steamers to Wellington. This is a most essential service, as it brings our fruit very quickly to what our growers consider their best market. Every effort should be made to secure increased shipping facilities to our best markets, in the hope that increased exports may so improve our financial position as to give us an opportunity of becoming more self-supporting in the future.

The following is a summary of imports and exports for 1923, together with a return for the last nine years:—

PORT OF AVARUA.

*Return of Imports for the Year ended 31st December, 1923.*

	£		£
New Zealand .. .. .	93,756	Canada .. .. .	91
United States of America .. .. .	23,139	Italy .. .. .	1
United Kingdom .. .. .	8,906	Suva .. .. .	5
Tahiti .. .. .	1,579	South Africa .. .. .	5
Australia .. .. .	3,838	Samoa .. .. .	86
France .. .. .	126		
Germany .. .. .	58		
			£131,590