

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

Article.	Where exported.	Quantity.	Value.
			£
Oranges	New Zealand	138,857 cases	43,464
Bananas	"	70,206 "	32,719
Tomatoes	"	24,578 "	10,033
Limes and lemons	"	375 "	221
Mandarins	"	588 "	271
Kumeras	"	90 "	29
Coffee	"	19 sacks	95
Taros	"	10 "	3
Mangoes	"	2 "	1
Pines	"	107 "	16
Avocado pears	"	10 "	2
Coconuts	New Zealand	2,213 "	
	Tahiti	1,338 "	
	United States of America	1,176 "	
		4,727 "	1,400
Copra	New Zealand	196 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons	
	Tahiti	508 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	
	United States of America	1,182 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	
	Apia	131 "	
		2,018 "	26,205
Shell	United Kingdom	30 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	
	New Zealand	32 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	
	United States of America	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	
		64 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	2,251
			£118,710

Return of Imports and Exports for the Nine Years 1915 to 1923, inclusive.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Value.
	£	£	£
1915	65,590	63,057	128,647
1916	58,478	68,146	126,624
1917	80,061	60,190	140,251
1918	99,632	82,708	182,340
1919	142,925	127,729	270,654
1920	177,911	94,697	272,608
1921	112,974	69,301	182,335
1922	116,726	135,802	252,528
1923	131,590	118,710	250,300

VISIT OF THE HON. MINISTER OF THE COOK ISLANDS.

The visit of the Hon. Minister, accompanied by the Secretary of the Cook Islands Department, from the 30th September to the 2nd November last, was productive of much good, for, besides the many business matters which were discussed and settled, a much better feeling was promoted amongst all sections of our community, both European and Native. There will be recognized in this report many new projects which are the direct result of the visit.

The hope has been generally expressed that the Minister will, if possible, visit us annually, as so many of our matters require consideration and adjustment on the spot in the light of our peculiar local circumstances and conditions.

OBITUARY.

It is with regret that the death, on the 24th November last, of Mr. Thomas Duncan, Resident Agent at Mangaia, has to be recorded. The late Mr. Duncan joined the service in 1913 as Resident Agent at Aitutaki, and he was transferred to Mangaia in a similar capacity in 1919. The loss of such a zealous, conscientious, and capable official is being very widely and keenly felt.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The health of the people has remained satisfactory throughout the year.

Provision is being made on this year's local estimates for alterations and extensions to the hospital at Rarotonga, including the provision of a detached out-patients' department, as approved by the Minister during his visit to Rarotonga.