

1930.
NEW ZEALAND.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY

(REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1930.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 5 of the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914.

SIR,—
I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report under the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, for the year ended 31st March, 1930.

Department of Lands and Survey,
Wellington, 1st July, 1930.

I have, &c.,
J. B. THOMPSON, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. E. A. Ransom, Minister of Lands.

As stated in last year's report, all stocks of kauri-gum the property of the Department were placed in the hands of the Kauri-gum Control Board for disposal as provided for by the Kauri-gum Control Act, 1925.

These stocks of gum consisted of accumulated purchases, chiefly made during the trying period through which the industry passed prior to the setting-up of the Control Board. They could not have been disposed of sooner without running the risk of disturbing market conditions and rendering matters even more unsatisfactory than was the case at that time.

The Control Board sold the stocks as the demand sprang up, and the accumulations in the hands of private firms were worked off, thus enabling the market to absorb them without interfering with current production. All of the old stocks have been sold, delivery of portions of the last lots disposed of being taken during the current year, with the exception of one pile of poor chips which was unsaleable at the time, and which was handed over to the Control Board on consignment for treatment at its cleaning plant at Penrose. A considerable quantity of the recleaned material was sold during the year, and the balance will be disposed of by the Board as opportunity offers.

The following tables give particulars of the export of kauri-gum from the Dominion for the years 1919–30, and of the quantities of gum received in Auckland from the gumfields during the past eight years :—

EXPORT OF KAURI-GUM.

For the year ended 31st March, 1930, the export amounted to 4,941 tons, of the value of £264,452, an average price of about £53 per ton. The tonnage, value, and average price per ton of the export for the past twelve years are—

| Year ended 31st March, | Tonnage exported. | Value. £ | Average per Ton. £ |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1919 | 2,338 | 152,299 | 66 |
| 1920 | 4,726 | 310,614 | 66 |
| 1921 | 6,131 | 524,701 | 85 |
| 1922 | 3,968 | 391,304 | 98 |
| 1923 | 6,080 | 520,409 | 85 |
| 1924 | 6,923 | 640,712 | 92 |
| 1925 | 5,432 | 446,019 | 82 |
| 1926 | 5,495 | 414,420 | 75 |
| 1927 | 4,529 | 301,335 | 66 |
| 1928 | 4,531 | 267,559 | 59 |
| 1929 | 4,566 | 241,223 | 53 |
| 1930 | 4,941 | 264,452 | 53 |