

1934.
NEW ZEALAND.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY

(REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1934.

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

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 1st August, 1934.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report under the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, for the year ended 31st March, 1934.

I have, &c.,

W. ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary.

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

DURING the year market conditions on the whole have not been very satisfactory. For the medium grade (varnish) gums—although at times there has been an intermittent demand—prices were low and orders small. For the lower grades (linoleum) a fairly good demand existed during the year, but prices were low and buyers were in a position to dictate as to quality. As a result, large quantities of better grades had to be crushed and mixed with linoleum gums to meet the qualities demanded.

Some improvement in the American demand was noted during the year, but, as hitherto, Great Britain is still the chief customer. A good proportion of the gum exported to Great Britain, however, is re-exported to the Continent, where a fair demand exists.

With the return of prosperity there is no doubt some demand will exist for the better varnish grades, but there seems little doubt that the new synthetic gums have partly supplanted natural gums, including kauri, and that at least a considerable part of the former trade has been definitely lost.

As anticipated in last year's report, the remaining stocks of the Department's chip gradings in the hands of the Kauri-gum Control Board were able to be disposed of during the year without depressing market prices.

EXPORT OF KAURI-GUM.

For the year ended 31st March, 1934, the export amounted to 3,378 tons, of the value of £83,945, an average price of about £25 per ton. The tonnage, value, and average price per ton of the export for the past fourteen years are—

Year ended 31st March,	Tonnage exported.	Value. £	Average per Ton. £
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
1931	3,145	155,602	49
1932	3,164	124,757	39
1933	2,056	57,970	28
1934	3,378	83,945	25

Details of the yearly export, and the country to which exported, from 1922 to 1934 are given below :—

Particulars of Kauri-gum exported from New Zealand from 1922 to 31st March, 1934, inclusive.

Country to which exported.	1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.		1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.		1st April, 1924, to 31st March, 1925.		1st April, 1925, to 31st March, 1926.		1st April, 1926, to 31st March, 1927.		1st April, 1927, to 31st March, 1928.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United States of America	3,742	367,946	4,197	449,117	2,624	250,379	2,682	211,623	1,863	136,397	2,087	120,349
United Kingdom	1,960	129,082	2,409	170,785	2,360	169,975	2,350	179,868	2,036	133,032	2,043	127,401
Germany ..	70	3,363	66	2,832	117	6,367	107	4,670	127	5,432	119	6,613
Canada ..	109	7,462	118	7,714	97	5,726	101	3,569	144	7,181	165	6,329
Australia ..	84	6,679	7	787	24	2,006	9	1,198	15	911	33	1,448
Belgium ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	1,168	114	4,563	..	..
France ..	..	..	55	5,855	79	5,121	135	9,136	89	6,980	60	3,915
Austria-Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands ..	90	4,381	38	1,582	53	1,917	46	1,809	34	1,950	3	483
Sweden ..	20	1,000	..	..	20	820	..	..	46	1,929	1	132
Italy ..	1	170	26	1,647	55	3,546	..	2	51	2,469	..	..
Japan ..	4	326	7	393	3	162	22	1,027	10	476	20	843
Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Denmark ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	350	..	..	..	..
China ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	25
South African Union	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Totals ..	6,080	520,409	6,923	640,712	5,432	446,019	5,495	414,420	4,529	301,335	4,531	267,559

Country to which exported.	1st April, 1928, to 31st March, 1929.		1st April, 1929, to 31st March, 1930.		1st April, 1930, to 31st March, 1931.		1st April, 1931, to 31st March, 1932.		1st April, 1932, to 31st March, 1933.		1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United States of America	2,337	139,672	1,967	127,723	823	46,510	681	33,082	268	11,208	875	30,174
United Kingdom	1,504	77,479	2,425	117,677	1,957	96,679	1,968	71,572	1,298	36,150	1,730	37,218
Germany ..	234	7,949	100	2,646	62	1,508	52	6,725	70	1,104	325	5,093
Canada ..	209	7,448	202	7,169	127	4,726	173	4,156	169	3,157	94	2,530
Australia ..	8	408	106	3,908	37	1,423	65	1,862	91	2,251	120	3,355
Belgium ..	60	1,094	30	635	43	975	69	1,154	15	230	11	208
France ..	150	5,206	89	3,764	71	2,701	94	4,173	83	2,452	143	3,642
Austria-Hungary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands ..	29	1,068	2	285	4	218	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sweden ..	..	..	..	..	10	282	32	837	11	218	20	461
Italy ..	10	127	..	..	..	..	..	..	31	555	28	494
Japan ..	26	772	20	645	11	580	30	1,196	24	645	32	744
Hong Kong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Denmark ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
South African Union	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	4,566	241,223	4,941	264,452	3,145	155,602	3,164	124,757	2,056	57,970	3,378	83,945

PRODUCTION DURING THE YEAR.

The kauri-gum received at Auckland from the gumfields for the past eight years is shown, month by month, in the following table :—

Kauri-gum received in Auckland.

	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
April ..	338	317	295	339	441	309	405	240
May ..	332	277	390	246	374	394	245	161
June ..	362	359	331	285	247	263	144	238
July ..	401	230	364	349	309	244	153	162
August ..	392	241	331	317	194	251	43	150
September ..	287	323	288	323	214	208	128	219
October ..	229	385	356	534	328	192	176	320
November ..	341	500	407	441	317	276	182	326
December ..	325	284	245	268	277	172	188	209
January ..	265	278	290	371	158	194	167	165
February ..	198	307	275	412	281	277	213	325
March ..	441	411	240	563	386	224	185	289
	3,911	3,912	3,812	4,628	3,526	3,004	2,229	2,804

