

IMPORTS.

The quantities and values of the principal items imported into New Zealand during the past two calendar years are set out in Table IV :—

Table IV.—Principal Imports (excluding Specie).

Item.				Year ended 31st December.			
				1937.		1938.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
					£(N.Z.)		£(N.Z.)
Wheat	Bushels	1,577,650	489,019	3,444,869	803,593		
Flour	Centals	7,347	7,568	737	550		
Sugar	Cwt.	1,851,403	723,225	1,684,409	601,271		
Tea	lb.	10,682,222	822,571	11,175,774	816,960		
Whisky	Gallons	340,491	420,719	322,069	413,197		
Cigarettes	Thousands	508,608	481,314	525,949	463,107		
Tobacco	lb.	3,315,663	439,800	4,009,815	563,482		
Seeds	..	..	207,838	..	151,715		
Hosiery	..	..	447,354	..	365,161		
Apparel, n.e.i.	..	..	1,814,116	..	1,511,897		
Boots and Shoes	Doz. prs.	267,035	708,024	229,455	578,024		
Drapery, n.e.i.	..	..	450,871	..	399,144		
Carpets, &c.	..	..	915,635	..	684,790		
Piece-goods—							
Cotton	..	..	1,944,289	..	1,497,504		
Silk	..	..	1,215,265	..	953,275		
Woollen	..	..	1,132,846	..	776,149		
Cornsacks	Doz.	536,158	163,756	407,640	125,853		
Other sacks	..	..	165,823	..	186,080		
Woolpacks	Doz.	48,089	59,351	49,353	58,187		
Kerosene	Gallons	4,712,073	86,788	6,834,224	118,890		
Motor-spirit	Gallons	85,665,508	1,856,209	102,288,881	1,881,210		
Mineral lubricating-oil	Gallons	4,037,650	405,070	3,160,416	315,226		
Crude petroleum	Gallons	43,039,234	332,390	65,154,762	585,182		
Coal	Tons	116,499	111,975	109,206	108,100		
Iron and steel—							
Bar, bolt, and rod	Cwt.	822,347	547,575	1,094,607	765,024		
Galvanized plate	Cwt.	560,122	676,259	388,324	537,012		
Hardware	..	..	1,034,939	..	990,096		
Electrical apparatus	..	..	2,595,178	..	2,848,711		
Wireless apparatus	..	..	607,099	..	430,155		
Timber—							
Sawn	Sup. ft.	26,971,846	382,740	29,842,999	428,942		
Other	..	..	179,788	..	205,941		
Paper—							
Newsprint	Cwt.	566,776	344,133	740,012	527,355		
Printing, other	Cwt.	177,710	331,992	155,764	293,104		
Other	..	..	884,391	..	434,656		
Manures—							
Phosphates	Tons	404,157	672,992	371,571	532,834		
Other	Tons	23,574	157,187	25,400	166,389		
Motor-vehicles	No.	36,782	5,791,132	33,464	5,427,860		
Tires for motor-vehicles	lb.	8,548,025	871,987	7,827,283	845,580		
Other items	..	..	25,682,487	..	27,029,983		
Total imports	..	..	56,160,695	..	55,422,189		

The high prices ruling for imported articles during 1937 were maintained in most instances during 1938, although lower quantities imported account to a great extent for the drop in total imports.