

### WAIPA BOX-FACTORY AND PLANING-MILL

The demand for box-shooks in the North Island showed a recession from last year's peak. Less than 4 per cent. of the year's manufacture was exported, but, with a further reduction in the domestic demand pending, a corresponding increase in exports to Australia will be sought during the coming year. Details of the annual production and profits earned since operations commenced in 1941 are shown in the following schedule :—

| Year Ended 31st March, | Gross Timber Input.    |                    | Profits. |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|----------|
|                        | For Shook Manufacture. | For Dressing Only. |          |
|                        | Bd. ft.                | Bd. ft.            | £        |
| 1942 .. .. .           | 2,627,000              | ..                 | 2,800    |
| 1943 .. .. .           | 4,380,000              | ..                 | 8,200    |
| 1944 .. .. .           | 7,763,000              | 86,000             | 15,400   |
| 1945 .. .. .           | 7,645,000              | 383,000            | 20,600   |
| 1946 .. .. .           | 8,691,000              | 459,000            | 19,500   |
| 1947 .. .. .           | 7,468,000              | 862,000            | 8,300    |
| 1948 .. .. .           | 9,593,000              | 414,000            | 27,800   |
| 1949 .. .. .           | 7,957,000              | 636,000            | 19,600   |

### WOOD-PRESERVATION PLANTS

1. *Waipa*.—Owing to the lack of seasoned produce for treating, the plant operated at only 50 per cent. capacity for the first half of the year ; but from then on stocks were sufficient to maintain the plant in full production. The additional treating-tanks installed will assist in meeting the keen demand for posts and poles. Practically all round produce treated was larch, and details are given in the following table :—

| Year Ending 31st March, |  |  |  | Posts, &c. | Poles.  | Miscellaneous. | Total Volume Creosoted. | Creosote Used. |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|------------|---------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
|                         |  |  |  | Number.    | Number. | Cu. ft.        | Cu. ft. (approx.)       | Gallons.       |
| 1945 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 93,500     | 2,900   | 3,900          | 99,700                  | 107,300        |
| 1946 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 34,400     | 9,700   | 5,700          | 93,100                  | 89,000         |
| 1947 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 38,100     | ..      | 12,100         | 49,100                  | 45,000         |
| 1948 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 23,100     | 600     | 8,600          | 35,600                  | 34,800         |
| 1949 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 77,600     | 6,500   | 16,100         | 131,700                 | 105,900        |

Relevant figures for sales and stocks on hand for the same five-year period are as follows :—

| Year Ending 31st March, |  |  |  | Sales or Transfers. |         | Stocks on Hand at 31st March. |                  |                |                  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------|---------|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
|                         |  |  |  | Posts, &c.          | Poles.  | Treated Posts.                | Untreated Posts. | Treated Poles. | Untreated Poles. |
|                         |  |  |  | Number.             | Number. | Number.                       | Number.          | Number.        | Number.          |
| 1945 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 101,100             | 2,700   | 23,100                        | 69,200           | 1,300          | 9,700            |
| 1946 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 45,700              | 5,400   | 9,800                         | 37,300           | 4,800          | ..               |
| 1947 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 43,800              | 6,600   | 6,300                         | 58,700           | 5,800          | 200              |
| 1948 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 7,900               | 300     | 23,700                        | 55,000           | 600            | 1,200            |
| 1949 .. .. .            |  |  |  | 99,500              | 6,100   | 3,000                         | 127,000          | 1,000          | 9,200            |