

Method of sale was as follows :—

				Bd. ft.
(1) By appraised quantities	..	..	..	121,430,000
(2) By log-scaling	..	..	..	5,398,000
(3) By mill output	..	..	..	19,089,000

In addition a total of 85,000 board feet of sawn exotic timber valued at £269 was sold from State forests during the year. The value of other forest produce of indigenous species sold under permit amounted to £17,142 and exotic forest produce sold under permit to £461.

32. *Outturn Under Licence, Permits, &c.*—The total quantity of milling timber removed and paid for under log sale agreements, licences, and permits was 194,543,000 board feet (1948–49, 180,198,000) of which 168,192,000 was indigenous constituting 52 per cent. of the total indigenous cut. Other forest produce was removed under permits as follows :—

	1949–50.		1948–49.		1947–48.	
	Indigenous.	Exotic.	Indigenous.	Exotic.	Indigenous.	Exotic.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Poles	6,900	..	10,300	..	9,600	..
Strainers	30,200	..	23,300	..	21,000	..
Posts and stakes	549,800	..	565,700	..	430,600	..
Stays	21,900	..	13,700	..	8,100	..
Sleepers	7,100	..	14,100	..	20,000	..
House blocks and pole blocks	13,600	..	17,700	..	14,300	..
Battens	956,400	..	1,164,800	..	1,136,100	9,390
Bridge Stringers	400	..	40	..	10	..
Survey pegs	..	..	500	..	..	..
Firewood (cords)	900	20	900	50	600	30
Mining timber (pieces)	153,700	12,100	55,000	9,700	61,400	12,700
Rails	500	..	240	..	..	..
Chopping-blocks	200	..	100	..	1,200	100
Tomato stakes	1,700	..	1,400	..	38,600	..
Shingles	..	..	..	..	184,500	..

Indigenous and exotic timber extracted by the Forest Service itself is dealt with in Chapter VI, Section 8.

SOIL CONSERVATION

33. *General.*—The preservation of forests on steep hill country for the protection of highly-productive farm lands below has been so large a part of the Forest Service's work in its first thirty years, and the definition of this function in the Forests Act, 1949, is of such importance that the conservation policy of the Service is stated in some detail in Chapter II—Forest Policy, of this report. The control of forest and rural fires, which is of permanent importance in soil conservation, is dealt with in Chapter VII.

34. *Manuka Blight.*—It remains to record here developments regarding the spread of "manuka blight" mentioned in last year's report. The attitude of the Forest Service towards the use of the blight in pasture-management has been uncompromising. The vast tracks of hill country, particularly in the North Island, on which manuka constitutes the only vegetative cover and the ideal nurse crop for the regeneration of native forest must not be exposed to the risk of denudation; and the Service regards the dissemination of the disease as wholly unwarranted. Following a series of meetings at which representatives of interested Departments discussed the problem, arrangements have been made that the *Journal of Agriculture* should explain the disastrous consequences which