

Patents sealed in the Years 1908, 1909, 1910, 1913, and 1914, and kept in Force by Payment of Renewal Fees.

New Zealand—Act of 1908.

Year.	Patents sealed.			Fee due by Fifth Year paid.			Fee due by Eighth Year paid.		
	Total.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Total.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Total.	Foreign.	N.Z.
1908 ..	762	512	250	250	172	78	107	78	29
1909 ..	660	428	232	246	169	77	99	78	21
1910 ..	790	542	248	262	187	75	129	100	29

Great Britain.

1905 ..	14,914	..	..	5,016	..	..	2,320	..	..
1906 ..	16,488	..	..	5,778	..	..	2,755	..	..
1907 ..	16,180	..	..	5,547	..	..	2,566	..	..

New Zealand—Act of 1911.

				Fee due by Fourth Year paid.					
				Total.	Foreign.	N.Z.			
1913 ..	660	395	265	198	100	98	..	..	..
1914 ..	799	547	252	417	287	130	..	..	..

It will be seen that in New Zealand for the period referred to 34·2 per cent. of the patents sealed were maintained by the payment of the fee due by the fifth year, and 15·1 per cent. by the payment of the fee due by the eighth year, the percentage of the patents granted to *residents* of this country maintained at the times mentioned being 31·5 and 10·8 respectively; and that 42·1 per cent. of the patents sealed under the Act of 1911 in 1913–14 were kept in force by the payment of the fee due by the fourth year, the proportion of such patents maintained to those granted to *residents* of New Zealand being 44 per cent.

The proportion per cent. of the patents maintained in Great Britain by the payment of the fees due by the fifth and eighth years was 34·3 and 16·0 for the years mentioned.

Examination of Specifications.

The result of the limited examination of specifications, &c., investigation of the novelty of inventions in respect of which, as has already been pointed out, no special provision has yet been made, was as follows:—

Number of applications received from 1st June, 1916, to 31st May, 1917 (inclusive)	1,367
Applications in respect of which amendment under section 5, or compliance with other formalities, required before acceptance ..	341
Applications in respect of which amendment on account of want of novelty required before acceptance	49
Not accepted	24

Classification.

The checking and revision of the classification, to the necessity of which I have referred in previous reports, is a work which should be undertaken as soon as an opportunity is afforded of putting it in hand.

Countries from which Applications received.

Last year 884 applications were received from residents in New Zealand, 2 more than in the previous year; and 447 from applicants outside New Zealand, 29 more than in 1916, of which number 215 were from the Commonwealth, 117 from Great Britain, and 82 from the United States of America.

Trend or Subject-matter of Inventions.

A considerably larger number of applications than usual were received on the subject of internal-combustion engines, 52 (22), and inventions in respect of cultivating appliances, 49 (32).