

SESSION II.
1921.
NEW ZEALAND.

PATENTS, DESIGNS, AND TRADE-MARKS.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 113 of the Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks Act, 1911.

I HAVE the honour, in pursuance of section 113 of the Act, to submit my report on the operations thereunder during the past year.

The number of applications received again exceeded that of any previous years, as is shown by the following figures:—

1910 (previous highest year)	2,695	
1919	3,226	Increase per cent. 19·7
1920	3,693	„ 37·0

To some extent at least this considerable increase is the result of applications recently coming forward which have been delayed by the war, and with the last of these the tendency will be for the number of applications to remain stationary, or decrease rather than advance, till normal conditions again prevail in the country.

It is usual, though not necessary, for a rise in the applications received to be accompanied by an increase in the yearly revenue. This was the case last year, in which £9,696 17s. 4d. was received, as compared with £9,345 1s. 2d. in the preceding and previous highest year (an increase of 3·7 per cent.). The expenditure likewise increased, amounting to £3,736 4s. 1d., as compared with £3,373 6s. 9d. in 1919. This was due to the rise in salaries, bonuses towards increased cost of living, and extra clerical assistance to cope with the additional work, the expenditure in other respects being below that for the former year. The balance of receipts over expenditure was £5,960 13s. 3d. (as compared with £5,971 14s. 5d. for 1919), and brings the total of the amount received over that expended since the 1st January, 1890, to £91,388.

With the progress of the Office increasing difficulty is experienced in carrying out the provisions of the Act with regard to examination and searching. By carefully regulating and employing to the best advantage the time available for this work the Office force is enabled to do a good deal in the direction referred to, but to thoroughly examine and investigate the novelty of all cases would necessitate the employment of a highly trained and extensive examining corps. This would involve too heavy an outlay for the advantage derived for some time to come, and the better course for the present would appear to be to simplify procedure, dispense with all but strictly requisite formalities, and make such further provision for investigating the novelty, &c., of such cases as it becomes practicable to do so.

The need for such inquiry might also be reduced without much expense by extending the printing and distribution of abridgments of specifications and drawings of inventions, and rendering patent publications from other countries more freely available to enable inventors and others to become as fully acquainted as possible with the progress of any subject in which they are interested, and thus restrict cases of applications for patents lacking in novelty, besides promoting technical knowledge in the country.

PROVISIONS FOR CASES DELAYED OWING TO CIRCUMSTANCES ARISING FROM THE WAR.

While the Temporary Act and Regulations, and the Peace Treaty, applied to New Zealand by the Treaty of Peace Order, 1920, made provision for extensions and restorations, in certain cases this was found to be insufficient to meet all the delays arising from the war. By acceding to the Agreement of Berne on the 13th January last, and passing the necessary legislation, which was included in the Finance Act of last session, this country made further provision for all cases affected by the countries referred to. Rules recently passed thereunder contained liberal provisions for restorations, and for extensions which, owing to delay in enactment, and with a view of avoiding any further provision, have been made longer than in other countries.

The large number of cases released by foregoing provisions has meant a considerable addition to the ordinary work of the Office. While being gradually cleared off, there still remain a number of cases which have been held up to be dealt with, and, of course, examination, &c., of ordinary cases has been thrown somewhat in arrear, particularly as the number of such cases is being well maintained. It is hoped, however, to clear off arrears at the earliest possible moment and deal with applications with the usual expedition.

PATENTS.

(The figures in parentheses are for the year 1919.)

The number of applications received during 1920 was 2,194 (1,880), of which 984 (995) were filed with provisional specifications and 1,210 (885) were complete; 283 complete specifications were lodged during the year in respect of applications with which provisional specifications have been filed.

The total number of applications received to the 31st December, 1920, was 45,118, and the number of patents in force as on that date was 5,209.

The amount received in patent fees during 1920 was £7,156 12s. 9d.

The number of assignments, licenses, &c., of patents entered on the Register in 1920 was 106 (71).

The amount of fees received in respect of the restoration of lapsed patents was £33, as against £53 received in 1919.

Forty women inventors lodged applications during the year under review.

Eight patents of additions were sealed during the year.

Countries from which Applications received.

Of the 2,193 applications 1,155 were received from residents of New Zealand in 1920, while in the previous year out of 1,880 applications 1,104 were by persons residing in this country.

From Australia 276 (Victoria 143, New South Wales 111) came to hand, as compared with 243 (Victoria 106, New South Wales 91) for the preceding year. Of others applying for New Zealand letters patent, 313 (276) lived in Great Britain, 329 (200) in the United States, and 18 (11) in Canada, the figures in brackets being for the year 1919.

Trend of Invention.

The attention bestowed by inventors on the different branches of industry will be best ascertained by reference to Table G. It will be noticed that there has been a considerable increase in the applications in the classes relating to building, tools, internal-combustion engines, metal-working, and milking and other dairying apparatus, and that, while there has been a general increase, not much change is involved in the others.

DESIGNS.

There was an increase in the number of applications received during 1920, the total being 109, as compared with 73 during 1919, an increase of 49 per cent. The total number of registrations effected was 99, as compared with 64 during 1919, an increase of 54 per cent. The amount received in fees was £39 15s., being more than in 1919.

TRADE-MARKS.

Last year 1,390 applications for registration of trade-marks were received, 119 more than the number in the previous year.

The amount received in fees in respect of trade-marks was £2,492 0s. 6d., as against £1,925 17s. for 1919, an increase of £566 3s. 6d.

The applications and revenue for the past three decades were as follows:—

Period.	Number of Applications.				Revenue.		
					£	s.	d.
1890-1900	3,261	3,905	11 6
1901-1910	6,029	8,855	2 11
1911-1920	8,324	14,944	14 7

The number of trade-marks on the Register at the end of the year was 11,835.

Countries from which Applications received.

From residents in New Zealand 323 applications were received, as compared with 286 for the previous year. The number from Great Britain was 412, as compared with 445 for 1919; United States of America, 430 (344); New South Wales, 92 (73); Victoria, 51 (63).

The following figures show applications during previous three-year periods from various countries:—

	1912-14.	1915-17.	1918-20.
New Zealand	876	673	841
United Kingdom	749	509	1,035
Australia	105	100	165
Other parts of Empire	30	58	71
United States of America	211	330	916
Other countries	133	42	97

PATENT AGENTS.

The number of Patent Agents on the Register—i.e., twenty-two—has remained unchanged, there having been no names added or removed during the year.

STAFF.

I have pleasure in again acknowledging the work of the staff of the office.

D.—TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS AND REGISTRATION OF DESIGNS AND TRADE-MARKS RECORDED FOR THE YEARS 1890, 1900, AND 1910 TO 1920 (INCLUSIVE).

Year.	Patents.	Designs.	Trade-marks.	Total.
1890	616	5	160	781
1900	1,009	15	348	1,372
1910	1,831	46	818	2,695
1911	1,740	21	861	2,622
1912	1,737	44	779	2,560
1913	1,775	65	787	2,627
1914	1,574	55	687	2,316
1915	1,299	89	565	1,953
1916	1,261	113	666	2,040
1917	1,329	83	619	2,031
1918	1,386	53	695	2,134
1919	1,880	74	1272	3,226
1920	2,193	109	1391	3,693

E.—NUMBER OF PROVISIONAL AND COMPLETE SPECIFICATIONS RECEIVED, ETC.

Year.	Number of Applications with which Complete Specifications lodged.		Number of Applications with which Provisional Specifications lodged.		Number of Applications for which Complete Specifications subsequently lodged.		Number of Applications abandoned, lapsed, or refused.		Number of Patents sealed.		Total Number of Applications.
	N.Z.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Foreign.	N.Z.	Foreign.	
1910	250	443	990	148	254	75	925	125	306	475	1,831
1911	245	434	935	126	258	59	849	86	323	482	1,740
1912	258	507	877	95	275	35	817	78	334	508	1,737
1913	217	467	965	126	249	58	910	94	272	499	1,775
1914	177	426	868	103	228	45	782	96	273	423	1,574
1915	140	286	787	86	322	46	669	78	266	288	1,299
1916	178	297	699	87	194	38	630	67	245	319	1,261
1917	183	360	708	84	203	41	580	57	249	385	1,329
1918	143	454	704	88	245	39	540	72	284	442	1,389
1919	200	685	906	91	279	42	*	*	*	*	1,880
1920	250	890	949	110	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,199

* These figures are necessarily incomplete, as the time for proceeding further with the applications has not yet expired.

NOTE.—A few applications were received from joint applicants resident in different countries, also from applicants giving two addresses; the figures will therefore total more than the actual number of applications received.

F.—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS IN NEW ZEALAND FROM PERSONS RESIDING THERE AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN EACH OF THE YEARS 1918, 1919, AND 1920.

	1918.	1919.	1920.		1918.	1919.	1920.
New Zealand	885	1,104	1,155	Japan	2	..	1
Algeria	1	..	..	Mexico .. ..	..	..	1
Argentina	1	1	..	Natal .. ..	..	..	1
Belgium .. ..	..	2	11	New South Wales ..	65	91	111
Brazil	1	..	..	Norway	6	5	5
Canada	9	11	18	Orange Free State ..	..	..	1
Cook Islands .. ..	..	1	1	Queensland	14	17	9
Cuba .. ..	..	..	..	Rhodesia .. ..	..	5	1
Denmark	4	9	5	South Australia ..	10	12	9
Dutch East Indies ..	2	..	..	Straits Settlements ..	..	..	1
Egypt .. ..	..	..	5	Sweden	4	19	2
Fiji .. ..	..	1	..	Switzerland .. ..	..	..	2
Finland .. ..	..	..	1	Tahiti .. ..	..	..	1
France	2	4	15	Tasmania	1	5	5
Friendly Islands ..	1	..	..	Transvaal	1	3	5
Germany	2	..	14	United States of ..	94	200	329
Great Britain	156	276	318	America .. ..	..	..	..
Hawaii	1	..	1	Victoria	126	106	143
Holland	5	10	3	Western Australia ..	7	12	16
Italy	6	2	6				

NOTE.—A few applications were received from joint applicants resident in different countries, also from applicants giving two addresses; the figures will therefore total more than the actual number of applications received.

G.—TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS FOR THE DIFFERENT CLASSES OF INVENTIONS FOR EACH OF THE YEARS 1918, 1919, AND 1920.

Class.	1918.	1919.	1920.	Class.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Advertising and displaying signs, &c.	2	5	20	Illuminating (except gas-manufacture)	13	20	50
Aeronautics	6	11	23	Indicating, calculating, and measuring (including moisture-testers)	27	39	81
Amusements, music, exercisers, games, &c.	32	52	80	Kitchen utensils and cooking-appliances (including ovens)	16	43	86
Attaching and securing (including bolts, ties, &c.)	29	38	72	Lifting, hauling, and loading ..	26	37	60
Boilers (steam)	5	5	21	Locks, latches, and hinges ..	16	27	51
Boots and shoes	33	38	46	Marine and submarine (including lake and river engineering)	28	26	34
Bottles, bottling, and glass-working	12	19	35	Marking (tickets, labels, &c.) ..	4	10	6
Boxes, cans, and casks	52	37	81	Medicines and surgical appliances (including ear-instruments, dental work, &c.)	24	19	48
Brewing, distilling, &c.	5	7	33	Metal-working (including welding, stamping, and plating)	19	16	55
Brooms and brushes (including mops)	11	9	19	Milking-machines*	51	59	57
Building construction	21	47	73	Minerals (including filtration, lixiviation, screens, &c.)	14	16	24
" (brick and cement compositions and moulding)	34	56	102	" (magnetic separators) .. ..	..	..	1
" (windows and doors)	15	17	22	" (stampers and pulverizers)	1	7	5
Chemicals	15	32	23	Oils and lubricators	14	19	48
Cleaning, polishing, &c.	9	13	28	Paints and painting (including kauri-gum)	40	36	59
Closets and urinals	9	16	22	Pipes, tubes, and hose	9	10	30
Coin-freed mechanism	3	2	6	Preserving	6	9	18
Cooling and freezing	3	13	20	Presses	2	3	6
Cultivating and tilling	39	46	63	Printing and photography	15	27	30
Cutting and sawing, and tools ..	30	65	98	Pumps and sprayers (except rotary pumps)	11	17	51
Dairying*	15	30	45	Railways and tramways	20	20	57
Drains and sewers .. .. .	..	3	8	Roads and ways (including road-watering)	3	7	14
Dredging and excavating (including rock-drills)	1	8	14	Seed-dressing, chaff-cutting, and threshing	9	4	8
Drying	10	12	30	Seed-sowers	8	7	9
Electricity and magnetism	33	40	96	Sewing and knitting	14	18	18
Engines (air, gas, and oil)	43	99	135	Sheep and cattle (including veterinary appliances)	25	22	26
" (steam), including rotary pumps	11	7	27	Sheep shearing and clipping	4	5	10
" (miscellaneous and engine accessories), including current motors, solar motors, tide motors, wave motors, wind-mills, miscellaneous motors	38	50	87	Shop and hotel fittings	6	9	19
Explosives, firearms, and targets ..	15	13	16	Stationery and paper	28	31	53
Exterminating (including trapping animals)	10	15	29	Telephony and telegraphy (including phonographs)	18	70	147
Fencing	12	25	22	Tobacco	8	8	11
" (strainers)	6	6	9	Valves and cocks	2	16	34
Fibre-dressing (including rope-making)	19	16	17	Vehicles	54	66	164
Filters	5	8	4	" (velocipedes)	37	32	89
Fire alarms, escapes, ladders, and extinguishers	2	9	21	Ventilating .. .. .	..	..	3
Food	20	17	34	Washing and cleansing	13	17	43
Furnaces and kilns (including smoke-consumers)	14	17	29	Water-supplying	2	1	10
Furniture and upholstery, desks, blinds, curtains, &c.	42	59	77	Wearing-apparel	25	33	54
Gas-manufacture for lighting, heating, or power purposes	10	20	36	Wools and hides	12	6	23
Harness (including horse, &c., covers)	20	13	14	Miscellaneous inventions not in other classes, as indiarubber-manufacture, fishing-appliances, &c.	11	10	27
Harvesting and grading	8	14	9				
Heating, and fuel-manufacture ..	37	71	103				

* Prior to 1911 milking-machines were included in class "Dairying," but are now a separate class.

NOTE.—Owing to some inventions being classified under more than one heading, the figures will total rather more than the actual number of applications received.

H.—APPLICATIONS PENDING AT END OF YEAR 1920.
TOTAL, 1920.

I.—PATENTS IN FORCE AT END OF YEAR 1920.

Patents sealed from 31st December, 1917, to 31st December, 1920 ..	2,671
Third-year fees paid from 31st December, 1917, to 31st December, 1920 ..	1,139
Fourth-year fees paid from 31st December, 1916, to 31st December, 1920 ..	9
Sixth-year fees paid from 31st December, 1914, to 31st December, 1920 ..	682
Seventh-year fees paid from 31st December, 1913, to 31st December, 1920 ..	708
Total	5,209

J.—TABLE SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS, LETTERS PATENT SEALED, AND LETTERS PATENT IN FORCE FOR FULL TERM UNDER THE DIFFERENT PATENTS ACTS, UP TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1919 (INCLUSIVE).

		Total Number of Applications.	Number on which Letters Patent have been sealed.	Number of Patents on which Final Fee paid.
Act of 1860	1861 to 1870	109	109	109
" 1870	1871 to 1883	881	687	465
" 1883	1884 to 1889	3,170	1,757	368
Acts of 1889 and 1908	1890 to 30th June, 1912 ...	27,419	12,711	2,591*
Act of 1911	1st July, 1912, to 31st December, 1919	11,338	5,351*	440*
Grand totals ...	...	42,917	20,615*	3,973*

* Incomplete.

K.—TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF DESIGNS IN EACH OF THE SIXTEEN CLASSES UNDER THE PATENTS, DESIGNS, AND TRADE-MARKS ACT, 1911, FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1920.

Class 1.—Articles composed wholly of metal or in which metal predominates, not included in Class 2	35
Class 2.—Jewellery	3
Class 3.—Articles composed wholly of wood, bone, ivory, papier-mâché, or other solid substances not included in other classes, or of materials in which such substances predominate ..	41
Class 4.—Articles composed wholly of glass, earthenware, or porcelain, bricks, tiles, or cement, or in which such materials predominate	10
Class 5.—Articles composed wholly of paper (except paperhangings), cardboard, millboard, or strawboard, or in which such materials predominate	10
Class 6.—Articles composed wholly of leather or in which leather predominates, and bookbinding of all materials	5
Class 11.—Millinery and wearing-apparel, including boots and shoes	1
Class 12.—Ornamental needlework on muslin or other textile fabrics	1
Class 16.—Goods not included in other classes	3

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L.—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE-MARKS FROM PERSONS RESIDING IN NEW ZEALAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN EACH OF THE YEARS 1918, 1919, AND 1920.

	1918.	1919.	1920.		1918.	1919.	1920.
New Zealand	222	296	323	New South Wales ..	62	73	92
Belgium .. ..	..	1	7	Norway .. ..	..	2	3
Canada	20	16	32	Queensland	4	2	1
Denmark .. ..	..	..	..	South Australia ..	2	1	1
France	1	3	8	Spain	9	..	..
Great Britain	178	445	412	Sweden	4	12	8
Holland	2	3	4	Switzerland	1	5	2
Hong Kong .. ..	..	..	..	Tasmania .. ..	..	1	..
India .. ..	..	2	..	United States of America	142	344	430
Italy .. ..	..	1	13	Victoria	46	63	51
Japan	2	2	4	West Australia ..	..	1	..
Natal .. ..	..	..	..	

M.—NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS TO REGISTER TRADE-MARKS IN THE FIFTY DIFFERENT CLASSES IN EACH OF THE YEARS 1918, 1919, AND 1920.

Classes.	Classification of Goods.	1918.	1919.	1920.
1	Chemical substances used in manufactures, photography, or philosophical research, and anti-corrosives	33	49	54
2	Chemical substances used for agricultural, horticultural, veterinary, and sanitary purposes	20	43	48
3	Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy ..	49	102	62
4	Raw or partly prepared vegetable, animal, and mineral substances used in manufactures not included in other classes	9	12	20
5	Unwrought and partly wrought metals used in manufacture ..	6	22	16
6	Machinery of all kinds, and parts of machinery, except agricultural and horticultural machines included in Class 7	25	46	72
7	Agricultural and horticultural machinery, and parts of such machinery ..	12	16	25
8	Philosophical instruments, scientific instruments, and apparatus for useful purposes; instruments and apparatus for teaching	14	20	31
9	Musical instruments	4	12	12
10	Horological instruments .. .. .	..	5	4
11	Instruments, apparatus, and contrivances, not medicated, for surgical or curative purposes, or in relation to the health of men or animals	3	7	7
12	Cutlery and edge tools	6	20	33
13	Metal goods not included in other classes	25	66	66
14	Goods of precious metals (including aluminium, nickel, Britannia-metal, &c.) and jewellery, and imitations of such goods and jewellery	..	5	15
15	Glass	1	6	5
16	Porcelain and earthenware	2	8	3
17	Manufactures from mineral and other substances for building or decoration	13	9	15
18	Engineering, architectural, and building contrivances	5	9	22
19	Arms, ammunition, and stores not included in Class 20 .. ..	..	2	7
20	Explosive substances	2	6	6
21	Naval architectural contrivances and naval equipments not included in Classes 19 and 20	..	1	3
22	Carriages	7	27	64
23	(a) Cotton-yarn; (b) sewing-cotton	2	..	1
24	Cotton piece-goods of all kinds	18	89	19
25	Cotton goods not included in Classes 23, 24, and 38	9	3	4
26	Linen and hemp yarn and thread .. .. .	..	..	2
27	Linen and hemp piece-goods	1	2	3
28	Linen and hemp goods not included in Classes 26, 27, and 50 ..	1	3	..
29	Jute yarns and tissues, and other articles made of jute not included in Class 50	2	1	2
30	Silk, spun, thrown, or sewing .. .. .	..	..	2
31	Silk piece-goods	9	11	7
32	Other silk goods not included in Classes 30 and 31	1	1	2
33	Yarns of wool, worsted, or hair	2	..	5
34	Cloths and stuffs of wool, worsted, or hair	5	47	19
35	Woollen and worsted and hair goods not included in Classes 33 and 34	1	4	3
36	Carpets, floorcloth, and oilcloth .. .. .	..	5	6
37	Leather, skins (unwrought and wrought), and articles made of leather not included in other classes	10	12	18
38	Articles of clothing	48	74	121
39	Paper (except paperhangings), stationery, and bookbinding	38	54	57
40	Goods manufactured from indiarubber and guttapercha not included in other classes	10	34	32
41	Furniture and upholstery	11	7	12
42	Substances used as food or as ingredients in food	106	181	157
43	Fermented liquors and spirits	20	14	19
44	Mineral and aerated waters (natural and artificial), including ginger-beer	5	4	9
45	Tobacco, whether manufactured or unmanufactured	25	50	55
46	Seeds for agricultural and horticultural purposes	2	1	7
47	Candles, common soap, detergents; illuminating, heating, or lubricating oils; matches; and starch, blue, and other preparations for laundry purposes	59	48	53
48	Perfumery (including toilet articles), preparations for the teeth and hair, and perfumed soap	34	50	83
49	Games of all kinds, and sporting articles not included in other classes ..	3	3	7
50	Miscellaneous	39	81	92

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