

AUSTRALIAN FREE WOOL.

Australian wool of the 1920-21 and 1921-22 clips has sold freely during the past twelve months, the latest figures being as follows :—

Sold by auction in London from the 1st July, 1921, to the 30th June, 1922	Bales.
.. .. .	312,094
Sold by auction in Australia from the 1st July, 1921, to the 30th June, 1922	
.. .. .	1,510,702
Total	1,822,796

The disposals of Australian and New Zealand wool combined for the twelve months from the 1st July, 1921, to the 30th June, 1922, have been as follows :—

	Australian. Bales.	New Zealand. Bales.	Total. Bales.
B.A.W.R.A.	701,844	309,753	1,011,597
Free	1,822,796	710,688	2,533,484
Total for twelve months	2,524,640	1,020,441	3,545,081

The actual production of Australian and New Zealand wool, including slipes, for the twelve months ended the 30th June, 1922, is estimated as follows :—

	Bales.
Australia	1,850,000
New Zealand	575,000
Total	2,425,000

So that the sales of Australian and New Zealand wool during the twelve months have been approximately 1,120,000 bales more than the year's production ; or, put in another way, the sales have been 46 per cent. greater than the production.

The operations of the Committee have been carried out for a total expenditure to the 30th June, 1922, of £155 12s. 6d., the members acting in an entirely honorary capacity.

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.

The total payments by the Department for the fifteen months ended the 30th June, 1922, amount to £2,008,863, bringing the total payments by the Department from its inception on the 3rd March, 1915, to the 30th June, 1922, up to £160,585,507.

STAFF.

As the various branches of the Department have completed their work the staff has been reduced to the bare minimum required for effecting shipment of the balance of stocks and for the final compilation of accounts.

I have, &c.,

T. R. LEES, Controller.

The Hon. the Minister in Charge,
Department of Imperial Government Supplies.

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