

1928.
NEW ZEALAND.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY

(REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1928.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 5 of the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914.

Department of Lands and Survey,
Wellington, 30th June, 1928.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report under the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, for the year ended 31st March, 1928.

I have, &c.,

J. B. THOMPSON, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. A. D. McLeod, Minister of Lands.

IN accordance with the provisions of the Kauri-gum Control Act, 1925, the stocks of kauri-gum the property of the Department were placed in the hands of the Kauri-gum Control Board for sale as from the 1st April, 1927.

The Control Board decided that, under the existing circumstances, the interests of the producers could best be served by the opening-up of a brokerage business and the selling of the producers' gum on a commission basis to the Auckland exporters instead of exporting gum on its own account. The sales of Government gum during the year have therefore been made by the Control Board to the Auckland exporters, and not, as in previous years, to the manufacturers abroad through overseas agents. All expenses incurred in handling the Government stocks and making sales are deducted by the Control Board from the proceeds of sales and the net proceeds accounted for to the Department.

The following tables give particulars of the export of kauri-gum from the Dominion for the years 1918-28, and of the quantities of gum received in Auckland from the gum-fields during the past seven years :—

EXPORT OF KAURI-GUM.

For the year ended 31st March, 1928, the export amounted to 4,531 tons, of the value of £267,559, an average price of £59 per ton. The tonnage, value, and average price per ton of the export for the past eleven years are—

Year ended 31st March,	Tonnage exported.	Value. £	Average per Ton. £
1918	4,636	304,852	66
1919	2,338	152,299	66
1920	4,726	310,614	66
1921	6,131	524,701	85
1922	3,968	391,304	98
1923	6,080	520,409	85
1924	6,923	640,712	92
1925	5,432	446,019	82
1926	5,495	414,420	75
1927	4,529	301,335	66
1928	4,531	267,559	59