

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	16,838	8	8
(2) Amounts belonging to persons of former enemy nationality who have acquired the nationality of an Allied or Associated Power under one of the principal Treaties of Peace, or were otherwise entitled under such treaties to the release of their property	6,730	19	9
These persons are entitled to the release of their property in accordance with the express terms of the various Treaties of Peace.			
(3) Amounts belonging to British-born subjects who lost their British nationality on marriage, and who subsequently to the coming into force of the Treaty of Peace have been renaturalized as British subjects	29,342	19	1
These moneys have been released in conformity with the policy of the Imperial authorities in connection with similar cases in the United Kingdom.			
(4) Amounts belonging to British-born wives of German nationals	16,346	5	2
(5) Proceeds of investments representing savings from earnings made in New Zealand by German nationals who were not at the outbreak of the war permanently resident in the Dominion and who are now in necessitous circumstances	3,028	3	9
(6) Compassionate releases upon grounds other than (3), (4), and (5) above	9,609	5	9
(7) Moneys belonging to aliens who were interned during the war, and/or who were repatriated from New Zealand at their own request or otherwise	40,254	15	5
(8) Moneys belonging to the German Church Trust at Christchurch, released in pursuance of an Order in Council dated 23rd April, 1923, made under section 54 of the Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act, 1922	971	15	2
(9) Amounts transferred for disposal by the Commonwealth Clearing Office, the liquidator of the English branch of an enemy company, or in accordance with the Ex-enemy Absentee Property (Samoa) Order, 1923	1,171	1	0
(10) Amounts transferred to Consolidated Fund :—			
(a) Proceeds of realty acquired by a German subject which was forfeited and declared by the Supreme Court to be vested in the Public Trustee in trust for His Majesty the King under section 5 of the War Legislation Act, 1917	520	4	5
(b) Sundry amounts where the legal or beneficial owners could not be traced	1,728	17	4
	2,249	1	9
(11) Miscellaneous releases	628	11	11
	<u>£127,171</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>

CLEARING OFFICE AND ENEMY-PROPERTY WORK IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

118. The report of the Central Clearing Office for the year ended 31st March, 1928, copies of which were received in New Zealand in March last, shows that much progress has been made in the United Kingdom towards completion of the realization of enemy property and the settlement of claims lodged through the Clearing Office procedure. Of claims totalling approximately £208,000,000, those now outstanding total approximately £6,921,000. Further credits to the German Liquidation Account during the year total £5,414,000, making a total credit of £47,735,000.

In accordance with his custom, the Controller of the Central Clearing Office has appended to his report a summary of the principal decisions affecting the Clearing Offices which have been pronounced by the Courts and by the Arbitral Tribunals during the year.

CONCLUSION.

119. I am keenly alive to the duty of rendering the best possible service at the lowest possible cost, and I think it may be fairly claimed that the result of the year's operations shows that the Office is successfully fulfilling this duty. To my mind, the real criterion of an office of this size is the number of well-founded and serious complaints received from its extensive clientele. All complaints received are properly recorded and carefully investigated. Not only has the work throughout the year been conducted with a marked absence of justifiable complaints, but a large number of unsolicited enthusiastic expressions of appreciation of the services rendered by the Department has been received from clients throughout the country and overseas. These facts in themselves bear eloquent testimony to the effectiveness of the organization and the high standard of diligence and efficiency of the staff.