

COOK AND NIUE ISLANDS.

The export and import trade with the Cook and Niue Islands shows a further advance during the period under review, and it is pleasing to note that in the case of Niue Island exports at £22,992 constitute a record. Total exports from the Islands, valued at £90,548, show an increase of 40 per cent., and total imports, at £97,238, an increase of 26 per cent. over 1935 figures. Total trade of the Islands is shown in the table hereunder for the last five years :—

Total Trade, Cook and Niue Islands.

Year ended 31st December,	Exports.			Imports.		
	Cook Islands.	Niue Islands.	Total.	Cook Islands.	Niue Islands.	Total.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
1932	73,409	13,987	87,396	63,585	14,756	78,341
1933	73,983	11,542	85,525	76,716	13,123	89,839
1934	59,307	12,341	71,648	61,449	13,372	74,821
1935	53,599	12,076	65,675	61,676	15,288	76,964
1936	67,556	22,992	90,548	72,576	24,662	97,238

The distribution of the trade is shown in the following table, from which it will be noted that New Zealand's share in the total trade is £152,290, or 81 per cent. The United Kingdom, United States of America, and Australia come next in importance in that order.

Direction of Trade of Cook and Niue Islands, 1936.

Country.	Exports.			Imports.		
	From Cook Islands.	From Niue Islands.	Total.	Into Cook Islands.	Into Niue Islands.	Total.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
New Zealand	60,182	15,915	76,097	53,913	22,280	76,193
United Kingdom	3,509	..	3,509	6,196	609	6,805
Australia	..	..	..	5,519	649	6,168
United States of America	3,861	..	3,861	4,176	50	4,226
Japan	..	..	..	1,050	238	1,288
Canada	..	..	..	665	39	704
Western Samoa	..	5,152	5,152	..	769	769
Mexico	..	1,925	1,925	..	..	..
Other countries	4	..	4	1,057	28	1,085
Totals	67,556	22,992	90,548	72,576	24,662	97,238

The principal exports from the Lower Group of the Cook Islands are oranges, bananas, tomatoes, and copra ; from the Northern Group copra and pearl shell, and from Niue copra and bananas.

TONGA.

The table given hereunder shows the values of New Zealand's exports to and imports from Tonga in each of the past five calendar years :—

Total Trade with Tonga.

Year ended 31st December,					Exports to Tonga.	Imports from Tonga.
					£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
1932	..	..	..	..	27,266	9,412
1933	..	..	..	..	19,407	8,331
1934	..	..	..	..	12,948	13,282
1935	..	..	..	..	19,104	15,200
1936	..	..	..	..	27,215	11,296

A further rise in the exports from New Zealand to Tonga took place in 1936, the increase being 42·5 per cent. over 1935 figures. On the other hand, imports which had been increasing steadily over the past few years receded by £3,904, or 25 per cent. over 1935.

The principal imports from Tonga were bananas, £10,645 (£14,079) and potatoes, £374 (£650). Exports included meats, salted and tinned, £10,248 (£8,346) ; refined sugar, £3,107 (£1,761) ; timber, £2,063 (£1,340) ; butter, £2,014 (£790).