APPENDIX.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

NOTE.—In every case the factory-production statistics of each industry detailed hereunder relate to the twelve months ending 31st March, 1935, 1936, and 1937 (the latest year for which statistics are available).

The comments appearing below the statistics relate, however, to the twelve months ending 31st March, 1938, the period covered by this report.

Fruit-preserving and Jam-making.

	1935.	1936.	1937.
Official statistics, year ended 31st March—			
Establishments (number)	12	17	16
Employees (number)	371	425	427
Salaries and wages paid	£48,994	£56,328	£64,123
Value of output	£302,142	£361,151	£387,494
Value added by manufacture	£122,795	£148,250	£159,820
Imports, calendar years—			
Jams and preserves (including preserved ginger)	£(N.Z.) 13,218	£(N.Z.) 13,653	£(N.Z.) 17,982
Fruits, bottled and preserved in syrup—			
Apricots	19,111	18,260	21,514
Peaches	29,093	31,413	62,686
Pears	849	2,574	20,504
Fruit pulp, n.e.i.	4,610	10,049	25,795

In the South the past year has been satisfactory, with some slight increase in turnover; and the fruit season was good, although crops came in rather too quickly to suit manufacturers. In the North, however, sales compared somewhat unfavourably with the position disclosed by last year's figures, certain fruits and peas being in short supply, the chief unfavourable feature being brown-rot, which affected the stone-fruits. Generally speaking, the year for the Dominion as a whole may be regarded as satisfactory.

Boot and Shoe Making.

	1935.	1936.	1937.
Official statistics, year ended 31st March—			
Establishments (number)	76	75	71
Employees (number)	2,541	2,788	3,108
Salaries and wages paid	£344,504	£360,684	£438,084
Value of output	£1,102,950	£1,140,646	£1,384,186
Value added by manufacture	£540,663	£534,340	£648,442
Imports, calendar year: Boots, shoes, and slippers—			
Dozen pairs	211,165	219,650	267,035
Value	£472,056	£508,778	£708,024

The year commenced with large orders being placed with manufacturers, but it later became evident that retailers had acquired stocks in anticipation of higher prices, this subsequently operating unfavourably on the industry. Costs rose as regards both raw material and labour, and the position of the New Zealand manufacturer became difficult when, as the year progressed, orders placed overseas earlier in the year began to arrive. With Government action in the direction of introducing tariff amendments, however, the position eased considerably, and a rapid increase in production resulted.

At the close of the period it was ascertained that retailers, while reducing stocks, had still considerable quantities on hand, and as the winter demand had not yet set in, owing to exceptional weather conditions, this factor operated to some extent to discourage retailers from placing orders. A feeling of optimism is becoming increasingly apparent, and in general it is felt that the tariff amendments will contribute largely to the solution of the difficulties which have confronted the trade in the past. The full benefits of these adjustments will not be felt until retail stocks become liquidated. It is stated that the exclusion of "shoddy" footwear will be of great benefit to the industry as well as to consumers. In certain directions attention is being given towards manufacturing lines not previously catered for in New Zealand. Some little difficulty was being experienced in one centre in obtaining skilled labour, but it is thought that this matter will soon adjust itself.

Lime and Cement.

	1935.	1936.	1937.
Official statistics, year ended 31st March—			
Establishments (number)	50	57	60
Employees (number)	704	759	953
Salaries and wages paid	£144,617	£165,592	£212,657
Value of output	£582,784	£703,724	£836,048
Value added by manufacture	£459,483	£549,831	£670,057
Imports, calendar years—			
Cement, building (cwt.)	9,275	17,920	24,085
Value	£5,161	£10,312	£13,700

The position regarding the above industry is dealt with in other sections of this report. Some increase in sales has taken place.