

1939.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

(REPORT OF THE).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

REPORT.

The SECRETARY, Department of Labour, to the Hon. the MINISTER OF LABOUR.

Department of Labour, Wellington, 24th July, 1939.

SIR,—

I have the honour to present herewith the forty-eighth annual report of this Department for the information of His Excellency the Governor-General, and to be laid before Parliament in compliance with the Labour Department Act, 1908, and the Factories Act, 1921-22. The report covers the financial year 1st April, 1938, to 31st March, 1939.

I have, &c.,

HENRY E. MOSTON,

Secretary of Labour.

The Hon. the Minister of Labour.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES.

This report does not cover activities in connection with the Employment Promotion Fund.

The tables embodied in this report show increases in the number of workers employed in factories, also a further increase in the number of factories registered. Many factory trades have found difficulty in obtaining sufficient skilled and semi-skilled workers to meet demands. A review of the number of permits issued to young persons to be employed in factories indicates the shortage of labour that exists, particularly in those factories where female labour is employed. The returns of apprentices employed in the skilled trades disclose a steady increase.

FACTORIES ACT.

Year.	Number of Factories registered.	Movement.	Number of Factory Workers.	Movement.
1916-17	12,455	759 (decrease)	78,188	4,823 (decrease)
1926-27	16,619	308 (increase)	103,404	1,083 (increase).
1927-28	16,782	163 "	102,622	782 (decrease).
1928-29	16,677	105 (decrease)	102,795	173 (increase).
1929-30	17,082	405 (increase)	104,448	1,653 "
1930-31	17,019	63 (decrease)	104,377	71 (decrease).
1931-32	16,253	766 "	89,932	14,445 "
1932-33	16,176	77 "	86,222	3,710 "
1933-34	15,598	578 "	85,968	254 "
1934-35	15,900	302 (increase)	93,592	7,624 (increase).
1935-36	16,434	534 "	102,275	8,683 "
1936-37	17,126	692 "	111,041	8,766 "
1937-38	17,559	433 "	123,551	12,510 "
1938-39	17,842	283 "	123,723	172 "