

TABLE GIVING THE STATE OF BRITISH AND GERMAN SHIPPING RESPECTIVELY AFTER SIXTEEN WEEKS OF WAR.

		Number of Steamships of over 100 Tons Gross.	Percentage of Total Number.	Gross Tonnage.	Percentage of Total Gross Tonnage.
Total number	British	10,123	100	20,523,706	100
	German	2,090	100	5,134,720	100
Unavailable for various causes	British	Captured	49		
		Detained in German ports	75		
		Held up in Baltic and Black Sea	71		
		Total..	195	1·9	585,551
	German	Captured	80		
		Detained in British or Allied ports	166		
		Seeking refuge in neutral ports	646		
		In German ports	329		
		Total..	1,221	58·4	4,584,926
	Plying	British	9,928	98·1	20,122,173
Plying or not accounted for	German	Known to be at sea	10		
		Sh'ps over 500 tons not accounted for	125		
		Steam trawlers not accounted for	353		
		Small coasters not accounted for	381		
	Total..	869	41·6	549,794	10·7

No. 71.

New Zealand, No. 549.

MY LORD,—

Downing Street, 3rd December, 1914.

With reference to Your Excellency's despatch, No. 148, of the 19th August last, I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of your Ministers, a copy of a letter from the National Health Insurance Commission (England) on the subject of the supply of insurance stamps and cards to port authorities in New Zealand. A.-1, 1915,
No. 57.

I have, &c.,

L. HARCOURT.

Governor His Excellency the Right Hon. the Earl of Liverpool,
G.C.M.G., M.V.O., &c.

Enclosure.

National Health Insurance Commission (England),

Buckingham Gate, London S.W., 25th November, 1914.

SIR,—

With reference to your letter of the 8th October, No. 37703, transmitting a copy of a despatch from the Governor of New Zealand, dated 19th August, 1914, No. 148, on the subject of national health insurance stamps, I am directed by the National Health Insurance Commission (England) to state that they had not anticipated that it would be necessary for stamps and cards to be kept at ports in New Zealand other than Auckland, Lyttelton, Wellington, and Dunedin. The Commissioners have consulted the High Commissioner for New Zealand, who is of opinion that it would be sufficient if supplies were sent to these four ports. If the Governor considers that it is desirable that they should be sent to all the ports mentioned in his despatch the Commissioners will, of course, make the necessary arrangements. Meanwhile they are arranging for stamps and cards to be sent to the four ports mentioned above.

I am, &c.,

R. W. HARRIS.

The Under-Secretary of State, Colonial Office, S.W.