

1931.  
NEW ZEALAND.

# KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY

(REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1931.

*Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly pursuant to Section 5 of the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914.*

Department of Lands and Survey,  
Wellington, 1st July, 1931.

SIR,—

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report under the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, for the year ended 31st March, 1931.

I have, &c.,

W. ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary.

The Hon. E. A. Ransom, Minister of Lands.

UPON the setting-up of the Kauri-gum Control Board in 1927 the Department's active participation in the kauri-gum industry ceased. At that date there were large stocks of gum on hand, mostly accumulated as a result of the Department purchasing gum from distressed diggers during a trying period just prior to the setting-up of the Control Board, when some grades of gum were practically unsaleable.

The stocks of gum were handed over to the Control Board for disposal as the market could absorb them without unduly interfering with current production. With the exception of a quantity of chip gradings which for the time being were unsaleable, all of the stocks of gum have been sold and delivery taken by the buyers. The chip gradings referred to were handed over to the Control Board for recleaning at its Penrose Gum-cleaning Works. As a result of the dullness experienced in the industry during the past year, part of the recleaned material could not be disposed of at a satisfactory figure, and is still held awaiting sale.

The following tables give particulars of the export of kauri-gum from the Dominion for the years 1920-31, and of the quantities of gum received in Auckland from the gumfields during the past eight years :—

## EXPORT OF KAURI-GUM.

For the year ended 31st March, 1931, the export amounted to 3,145 tons, of the value of £155,602, an average price of about £49 per ton. The tonnage, value, and average price per ton of the export for the past twelve years are—

Year ended 31st March.	Tonnage exported.	Value. £	Average. per Ton. £
1920	4,726	310,614	66
1921	6,131	524,701	85
1922	3,968	391,304	98
1923	6,080	520,409	85
1924	6,923	640,712	92
1925	5,432	446,019	82
1926	5,495	414,420	75
1927	4,529	301,335	66
1928	4,531	267,559	59
1929	4,566	241,223	53
1930	4,941	264,452	53
1931	3,145	155,602	49