

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

Details of the yearly export, and the country to which exported, from 1919 to 1931, are given below :—

Particulars of Kauri-gum exported from New Zealand from 1919 to 31st March, 1931, inclusive.

Country to which exported.	1st April, 1919, to 31st March, 1920.		1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921.		1st April, 1921, to 31st March, 1922.		1st April, 1922, to 31st March, 1923.		1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924.		1st April, 1924, to 31st March, 1925.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United States of America	2,037	157,251	3,224	345,992	2,487	266,922	3,742	367,946	4,197	449,117	2,624	250,379
United Kingdom	1,650	90,422	2,544	149,422	1,297	104,094	1,960	129,082	2,409	170,785	2,360	169,975
Germany ..	..	..	..	..	58	3,574	70	3,363	66	2,832	117	6,367
Canada ..	1,016	61,005	314	24,481	89	9,641	109	7,462	118	7,714	97	5,726
Australia ..	23	1,936	49	4,802	37	7,073	84	6,679	7	787	24	2,006
Belgium ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
France ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	55	5,855	79	5,121
Austria-Hungary ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90	4,381	38	1,582	53	1,917
Sweden ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	1,000	..	..	20	820
Italy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	170	26	1,647	55	3,546
Japan ..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	326	7	393	3	162
Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	4,726	310,614	6,131	524,701	3,968	391,304	6,080	520,409	6,923	640,712	5,432	446,019

Country to which exported.	1st April, 1925, to 31st March, 1926.		1st April, 1926, to 31st March, 1927.		1st April, 1927, to 31st March, 1928.		1st April, 1928, to 31st March, 1929.		1st April, 1929, to 31st March, 1930.		1st April, 1930, to 31st March, 1931.	
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
United States of America	2,682	211,623	1,863	136,397	2,087	120,349	2,337	139,672	1,967	127,723	823	46,510
United Kingdom	2,350	179,868	2,036	133,032	2,043	127,401	1,504	77,479	2,425	117,677	1,957	96,679
Germany ..	107	4,670	127	5,432	119	6,613	234	7,949	100	2,646	62	1,508
Canada ..	101	3,569	144	7,181	165	6,329	209	7,448	202	7,169	127	4,726
Australia ..	9	1,198	15	911	33	1,448	8	408	106	3,908	37	1,423
Belgium ..	33	1,168	114	4,563	..	..	60	1,094	30	635	43	975
France ..	135	9,136	89	6,980	60	3,915	150	5,206	89	3,764	71	2,701
Austria-Hungary ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Netherlands ..	46	1,809	34	1,950	3	483	29	1,068	2	285	4	218
Sweden ..	..	..	46	1,929	1	132	..	..	..	..	10	282
Italy ..	..	2	51	2,469	..	..	10	127	..	..	..	..
Japan ..	22	1,027	10	476	20	843	26	772	20	645	11	580
Hong Kong ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Denmark ..	10	350	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
China ..	..	..	..	15	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	..
South African Union	..	..	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	5,495	414,420	4,529	301,335	4,531	267,559	4,566	241,223	4,941	264,452	3,145	155,602

PRODUCTION DURING THE YEAR.

The kauri-gum received at Auckland from the gumfields for the past eight years is shown, month by month, in the following table :—

Kauri-gum received in Auckland.

	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
April ..	480	439	483	338	317	295	339	441
May ..	613	501	330	332	277	390	246	374
June ..	459	344	395	362	359	331	285	247
July ..	352	363	399	401	230	364	349	309
August ..	522	407	326	392	241	331	317	194
September ..	450	373	403	287	323	288	323	214
October ..	490	471	299	229	385	356	534	328
November ..	612	427	486	341	500	407	441	317
December ..	576	591	410	325	284	245	268	277
January ..	506	525	365	265	278	290	371	158
February ..	475	492	396	198	307	275	412	281
March ..	537	520	541	441	411	240	563	386
	6,072	5,453	4,833	3,911	3,912	3,812	4,628	3,526

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY ACCOUNT.

TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1931.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Gum on hand, 1st April, 1930	5,151	10	2	By Sales of gum	2,477	9	10
				Gum on hand, 31st March, 1931 ..	2,648	10	6
				Balance to Profit and Loss Account..	25	9	10
	<u>£5,151</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>£5,151</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1931.

<i>Dr.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Trading Account	25	9	10	By Interest on investments	346	6	0
Gum-cleaning expenses	313	0	0	Interest allowed on Sinking Fund contributions	31	18	5
Wages	14	3	5	Miscellaneous	1	0	0
Freight and cartage	4	1	9	Balance, net loss for year, carried down ..	3,210	16	3
Depreciation	13	0	0				
Insurance	40	1	8				
Printing and stationery	2	2	6				
Rent	267	3	3				
General expenses	196	17	10				
Interest on debentures	2,714	0	5				
	<u>£3,590</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>£3,590</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>
To Balance from previous year	61,103	11	3	By Adjustment on account previous year ..	173	17	2
Balance carried down	3,210	16	3	Balance—Accumulated loss to 31st March, 1931	71,350	2	2
Loss on realization	7,209	11	10				
	<u>£71,523</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>£71,523</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1931.

<i>Receipts.</i>	£	s.	d.	<i>Payments.</i>	£	s.	d.
To Cash in Public Account, 1st April, 1931 ..	16,722	1	7	By Expenditure under section 4, Kauri-gum			
Sales of gum	3,009	13	0	Industry Amendment Act, 1914	767	8	10
Proceeds derived from sale of sundry assets ..	136	13	7	Securities redeemed and cancelled	18,000	0	0
Interest on investments	506	2	5	Cost of exchange on cash remitted to London			
				for investment	19	3	10
				Cash in Public Account at 31st March, 1931 ..	1,587	17	11
	<u>£20,374</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>£20,374</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 1931.

<i>Liabilities.</i>				<i>Assets.</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Capital				Realization Account—Assets in course of realization	7,839	11	7
Debentures at 4 per cent. ..	57,000	0	0	Gum on hand	2,648	10	6
Crown Lands Account ..	500	0	0	Advances on gum	27	11	11
	<u>57,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Debtors—			
Consolidated Fund, for interest paid on debentures	18,665	12	6	Kauri-peat Oils	52	6	8
Interest accrued but not due ..	938	19	8	Sundry	25	16	0
Creditors—					<u>78</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>
Interest due and unpaid on debentures	9	17	3	Investment in Public Debt Redemption Fund ..	829	19	6
Kauri-gum Control Board ..	39	15	0	Losses in Suspense Account	58	18	4
				Profit and Loss Account	71,350	2	2
Writings-off reserve	7,268	10	2	Cash in Public Account	1,587	17	11
	<u>£84,420</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>£84,420</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>7</u>

W. ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary for Lands.
W. E. SHAW, Accountant.

I hereby certify that the Statement of Receipts and Payments, Trading and Profit and Loss Accounts, and Balance-sheet have been duly examined and compared with the relative books and documents submitted for audit, and correctly state the position as disclosed thereby. The following comments are appended: (1) The certificate of the Secretary has been accepted for the stocks of gum on hand; (2) losses of stocks of gum amounting to £6,108 8s. 10d., the value of the accumulated shrinkage and dust, have been written off without the authority of Parliament.—G. F. C. CAMPBELL, Controller and Auditor-General.

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