

1935.
NEW ZEALAND.

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY

(REPORT ON THE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1935.

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

SIR,—

Department of Lands and Survey, Wellington, 1st August, 1935.

I have the honour to submit herewith the annual report under the Kauri-gum Industry Amendment Act, 1914, for the year ended 31st March, 1935.

I have, &c.,

W. ROBERTSON, Under-Secretary.

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

MARKET conditions during the past year have not shown any appreciable improvement. The demand for medium-grade (varnish) gums has shown a continued falling tendency, with prices still at a low level. Some slight improvement in prices for the lower-grade (linoleum) gums has been noted, and there is a fair demand for this class of gum from England and the Continent. The American demand, however, is still confined almost entirely to varnish grades.

For the time being kauri-gum has lost its position in the varnish and lacquer industries. Hope for the future of the industry exists, however, in the production of pure gum by a new solvent process, the possibilities of which are at present being investigated. Undoubtedly a standard purified product of a high quality can be prepared, but commercial production has not yet been advanced sufficiently to ascertain whether it can be marketed profitably under constantly increasing competition from the synthetic resins and plastics.

EXPORT OF KAURI-GUM.

For the year ended 31st March, 1935, the export amounted to 3,412 tons, of the value of £91,070, an average price of about £27 per ton. The tonnage, value, and average price per ton of the export for the past fifteen years are—

| Year ended 31st March, | Tonnage exported. | Value. £ | Average per Ton. £ |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| 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 |
| 1932 | 3,164 | 124,757 | 39 |
| 1933 | 2,056 | 57,970 | 28 |
| 1934 | 3,378 | 83,945 | 25 |
| 1935 | 3,412 | 91,070 | 27 |

Details of the yearly export, and the country to which exported, from 1923 to 1935 are given below :—

Particulars of Kauri-gum exported from New Zealand from 1923 to 31st March, 1935, inclusive.

| Country to which exported. | 1st April, 1923, to 31st March, 1924. | | 1st April, 1924, to 31st March, 1925. | | 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. | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ |
| United States of America | 4,197 | 449,117 | 2,624 | 250,379 | 2,682 | 211,623 | 1,863 | 136,397 | 2,087 | 120,349 | 2,337 | 139,672 |
| United Kingdom | 2,409 | 170,785 | 2,360 | 169,975 | 2,350 | 179,868 | 2,036 | 133,032 | 2,043 | 127,401 | 1,504 | 77,479 |
| Germany | 66 | 2,832 | 117 | 6,367 | 107 | 4,670 | 127 | 5,432 | 119 | 6,613 | 234 | 7,949 |
| Canada | 118 | 7,714 | 97 | 5,726 | 101 | 3,569 | 144 | 7,181 | 165 | 6,329 | 208 | 7,448 |
| Australia | 7 | 787 | 24 | 2,006 | 9 | 1,198 | 15 | 911 | 33 | 1,448 | 8 | 408 |
| Belgium | .. | .. | .. | .. | 33 | 1,168 | 114 | 4,563 | .. | .. | 60 | 1,094 |
| France | 55 | 5,855 | 79 | 5,121 | 135 | 9,136 | 89 | 6,980 | 60 | 3,915 | 150 | 5,206 |
| Austria-Hungary | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Russia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Netherlands | 38 | 1,582 | 53 | 1,917 | 46 | 1,809 | 34 | 1,950 | 3 | 483 | 29 | 1,068 |
| Sweden | .. | .. | 20 | 820 | .. | .. | 46 | 1,929 | 1 | 132 | .. | .. |
| Italy | 26 | 1,647 | 55 | 3,546 | .. | 2 | 51 | 2,469 | .. | .. | 10 | 127 |
| Japan | 7 | 393 | 3 | 162 | 22 | 1,027 | 10 | 476 | 20 | 843 | 26 | 772 |
| Hong Kong | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Denmark | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 | 350 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| China | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15 | .. | 25 | .. | .. |
| South African Union | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21 | .. | .. |
| Totals | 6,923 | 640,712 | 5,432 | 446,019 | 5,495 | 414,420 | 4,529 | 301,335 | 4,531 | 267,559 | 4,566 | 241,223 |

| Country to which exported. | 1st April, 1929, to 31st March, 1930. | | 1st April, 1930, to 31st March, 1931. | | 1st April, 1931, to 31st March, 1932. | | 1st April, 1932, to 31st March, 1933. | | 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934. | | 1st April, 1934, to 31st March, 1935. | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ | Tons. | £ |
| United States of America | 1,967 | 127,723 | 823 | 46,510 | 681 | 33,082 | 268 | 11,208 | 875 | 30,174 | 394 | 20,602 |
| United Kingdom | 2,425 | 117,677 | 1,957 | 96,679 | 1,968 | 71,572 | 1,298 | 36,150 | 1,730 | 37,218 | 2,267 | 54,365 |
| Germany | 100 | 2,646 | 62 | 1,508 | 52 | 6,725 | 70 | 1,104 | 325 | 5,093 | 251 | 4,986 |
| Canada | 202 | 7,169 | 127 | 4,726 | 173 | 4,156 | 169 | 3,157 | 94 | 2,530 | 114 | 2,623 |
| Australia | 106 | 3,908 | 37 | 1,423 | 65 | 1,862 | 91 | 2,251 | 120 | 3,355 | 150 | 3,588 |
| Belgium | 30 | 635 | 43 | 975 | 69 | 1,154 | 15 | 230 | 11 | 208 | .. | .. |
| France | 89 | 3,764 | 71 | 2,701 | 94 | 4,173 | 83 | 2,452 | 143 | 3,642 | 116 | 2,768 |
| Austria-Hungary | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Russia | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Netherlands | 2 | 285 | 4 | 218 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 90 |
| Sweden | .. | .. | 10 | 282 | 32 | 837 | 11 | 218 | 20 | 461 | .. | .. |
| Italy | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 31 | 555 | 28 | 494 | 75 | 825 |
| Japan | 20 | 645 | 11 | 580 | 30 | 1,196 | 24 | 645 | 32 | 744 | 42 | 1,223 |
| Hong Kong | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 26 | .. | .. |
| Denmark | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| China | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| South African Union | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Totals | 4,941 | 264,452 | 3,145 | 155,602 | 3,164 | 124,757 | 2,056 | 57,970 | 3,378 | 83,945 | 3,412 | 91,070 |

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 :—

| | 1927-28. | 1928-29. | 1929-30. | 1930-31. | 1931-32. | 1932-33. | 1933-34. | 1934-35. |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. | Tons. |
| April | 317 | 295 | 339 | 441 | 309 | 405 | 240 | 202 |
| May | 277 | 390 | 246 | 374 | 394 | 245 | 161 | 224 |
| June | 359 | 331 | 285 | 247 | 263 | 144 | 238 | 148 |
| July | 230 | 364 | 349 | 309 | 244 | 153 | 162 | 150 |
| August | 241 | 331 | 317 | 194 | 251 | 43 | 150 | 193 |
| September | 323 | 288 | 323 | 214 | 208 | 128 | 219 | 201 |
| October | 385 | 356 | 534 | 328 | 192 | 176 | 320 | 307 |
| November | 500 | 407 | 441 | 317 | 276 | 182 | 326 | 243 |
| December | 284 | 245 | 268 | 277 | 172 | 188 | 209 | 268 |
| January | 278 | 290 | 371 | 158 | 194 | 167 | 165 | 312 |
| February | 307 | 275 | 412 | 281 | 277 | 213 | 325 | 274 |
| March | 411 | 240 | 563 | 386 | 224 | 185 | 289 | 336 |
| | 3,912 | 3,812 | 4,628 | 3,526 | 3,004 | 2,229 | 2,804 | 2,858 |

KAURI-GUM INDUSTRY ACCOUNT.

The assets of the Kauri-gum Industry Account have been realized, and the account has been abolished by statute.

Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, not given ; printing (710 copies), £3.

By Authority: G. H. LONEY, Government Printer, Wellington.—1935.

Price 3d.]