

HEMP AND TOW GRADING RETURNS.

APRIL.

Hemp.—The total number of bales graded was 18,620, as compared with 9,169 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 9,451 bales. For the twelve months ending 30th April, 1913, the number of bales graded was 129,993, as compared with 88,375 for the previous twelve months, the increase being 41,618 bales.

Tow.—During the month 6,230 bales were dealt with, as compared with 2,474 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 3,756 bales. For the twelve months ending 30th April, 1913, the number of bales graded was 44,689, as compared with 24,317 for the previous twelve months, the increase being 20,372 bales.

HEMP, TOW, AND STRIPPER-SLIPS GRADED THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1913.

Hemp.

Port.	Superior.	Fine.	Good-fair.	Fair.	Common.	Rejected.	Condemmed.	Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Auckland ..	..	..	904	2,688	605	76	..	4,273
Napier ..	..	132	116	8	21	..	..	277
Foxton ..	..	..	764	3,277	532	17	..	4,590
Wellington ..	..	..	1,803	3,588	366	25	54	5,836
Blenheim ..	2	31	213	57	..	..	..	301
Picton ..	26	211	84	145	203	..	..	669
Lyttelton ..	..	20	34	..	..	..	..	54
Dunedin ..	..	..	227	503	..	..	..	730
Bluff ..	..	..	245	1,515	130	..	..	1,890
Totals ..	28	394	4,390	11,781	1,857	118	54	18,620
Percentages of totals	0·14	2·11	23·58	63·27	9·97	0·64	0·29	100

Tow.

Port.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.	Condemmed.	Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Auckland ..	55	451	1,210	104	1,820
Napier ..	..	26	29	..	55
Foxton ..	36	694	249	3	982
Wellington ..	225	1,206	542	36	2,009
Blenheim ..	41	13	21	..	75
Picton ..	119	49	104	..	272
Lyttelton ..	..	23	..	..	23
Dunedin ..	..	79	105	6	190
Bluff ..	7	260	438	99	804
Totals ..	483	2,801	2,698	248	6,230

Stripper-slips.—Passed for export: Auckland, 38; Napier, 7; Foxton, 583; Wellington, 524; Blenheim, 6; Picton, 15; Lyttelton, 12; Dunedin, 7; Bluff, 80—total, 1,272. Condemmed: Auckland, 10; Wellington, 80; Bluff, 47—total, 137.