

HEMP AND TOW GRADING RETURNS.

APRIL.

Hemp.—The total number of bales graded was 13,809, as compared with 9,633 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 4,176 bales. For the twelve months ending 30th April, 1916, the number of bales graded was 142,058, as compared with 82,477 for the previous twelve months, an increase of 59,581 bales.

Tow.—During the month 3,512 bales were dealt with, as compared with 2,740 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 772 bales. For the twelve months ending 30th April, 1916, the number of bales graded was 39,660, as compared with 23,338 for the previous twelve months, an increase of 16,322 bales.

Stripper-slips.—The number of bales graded was 532, as compared with 153 for the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 379 bales. For the twelve months ending 30th April, 1916, the number of bales graded was 6,254, as compared with 1,394 for the previous twelve months, an increase of 4,860 bales.

HEMP, TOW, AND STRIPPER-SLIPS GRADED THROUGHOUT THE DOMINION DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1916.

Hemp.

Port.	Superior.	Fine.	Good-fair.	Fair.		Common.	Rejected.	Condemned.	Total.
				High Point.	Low Point.				
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Auckland	171	597	1,264	581	109	..	2,722
Napier	85	..	..	..	..	..	85
Foxton	1,683	1,382	1,033	229	32	2	4,361
Wellington	45	936	2,314	1,219	184	25	4,723
Pictou	48	79	..	..	..	..	127
Blenheim	201	15	63	..	..	279
Lyttelton
Dunedin	23	151	26	7	..	207
Bluff	195	796	311	3	..	1,305
Totals	93	3,373	5,255	3,916	1,004	166	2	13,809
Percentages of totals	..	0.68	24.43	38.06	28.36	7.27	1.20	..	..

Tow.

Port.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.	Condemned.	Total.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Auckland ..	..	259	790	151	1,200
Napier ..	..	7	..	..	7
Foxton ..	175	373	74	..	622
Wellington ..	137	508	296	10	951
Pictou ..	14	13	..	..	27
Blenheim ..	4	151	..	..	155
Lyttelton ..	..	..	..	..	..
Dunedin ..	..	73	4	..	77
Bluff ..	..	48	378	47	473
Totals ..	330	1,432	1,542	208	3,512

Stripper-slips.—Auckland: Second grade, 2; condemned, 22. Foxton: Second grade, 227; condemned, 10. Wellington: First grade, 94; second grade, 108; condemned, 8. Blenheim: Second grade, 23. Dunedin: Second grade, 20; condemned, 4. Bluff: Second grade, 14.