# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# Bank of New Zealand

For the Year ended 31st March, 1935

AND

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL MEETING OF PROPRIETORS

on 14th June, 1935

WELLIEGTON.
Printed by Bungell Bros. Ltd., Willis Street.

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# Bank of New Zealand

Incorporated by Act of the General Assembly, 29th July, 1861.

# AUTHORISED CAPITAL.

Preference A Shares-500,000 at £1	- 1	£500,000
C Long-Term Mortgage Shares-468,750 at £1		468,750
D Long-Term Mortgage Shares-937,500 at £1		937,500
Preference B Shares-1,375,000 at £1	2/4	1,375,000
Ordinary Shares—3,750,000 at £1	1909	3,750,000
		£7,031,250

#### CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED AND PAID UP.

Preference A Shares Government			the Nev			£500,000
C Long-Term Mortga Zealand Government		res				234,375
D Long-Term Mortga			**		3.5	468,750
Preference B Shares	issued	to	the Nev	w Ze	aland	
			76767			1,375,000
Ordinary Shares	+9	(4)	**		9.9	3,750,000
						£6,328,125
Reserve Fund				£3,57	5,000	
Undivided Profits				34	8,137	
				-		3,923,137
						£10,251,262

# Bank of New Zealand

HEAD OFFICE, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.

### DIRECTORS:

(Four appointed by New Zealand Government; two elected by Ordinary Shareholders.)

WILLIAM WATSON, Esq. (Chairman).

SIR HAROLD BEAUCHAMP.

SIR GEORGE ELLIOT.

A. T. DONNELLY, Esq.

RICHD. W. GIBBS, Esq.

OLIVER NICHOLSON, Esq.

## GENERAL MANAGER:

F. W. DAWSON.

LONDON OFFICE - 1 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C. 4.

#### LONDON BOARD:

CECIL LUBBOCK, Esq. (CHAIRMAN).

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET THE RIGHT HON. EARL JELLICOE, G.C.B., O.M., G.C.V.O.

ROBERT MILL, ESQ. SIR JAMES MILLS, K.C.M.G. SIR GEORGE SCHUSTER, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., M.C.

# BANKERS:

BANK OF ENGLAND.
MIDLAND BANK LTD.

# LOCAL DIRECTORS IN AUSTRALIA:

Melbourne: SIR JOHN HIGGINS, G.C.M.G.

Sudney: THE HON. SIR HENRY BRADDON, K.B.E., M.L.C.

#### Chief Auditor:

A. L. HEMPTON (Appointed by New Zealand Government).

#### London Auditor:

SIR NICHOLAS WATERHOUSE, K.B.E. (Appointed by New Zealand Government).

# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

The Directors submit herewith the Balance sheet and Profit and Loss Statement of the Bank for the year ended 31st March last.

The profits, after providing for expenses of management, and for all bad and doubtful debts, and other contingencies, and after making provision for the annual donation to the Provident Fund, are:— ... £585,223 16 2

aking provision f	or the annual d	onation to	o the	Provident	F'un	d,
re:	44 44	9.9	34.34	£585,223	16	2
From this has t	o be deducted—					
Interest on	Guaranteed Sto	oek		6,476	4	6
Leaving B	alance of Profit	for the	year	578,747	11	8
To which has to						
Balance bi	ought forward	from last	year	343,608	16	4
From which has	been paid:			922,356	8	0
	on Preference	£50,000	0 0			
	Dividend on C Perm Mortgage	7,031	5 0			
Long-	Dividend on D Term Mortgage	17,578	2 6			
	ividend on Pre- e B Shares	31,250	0 0			
	ividend on Or- 7 Shares	187,500	0 0	293,359	7	6
				628,997	0	6
	ble for distribut			020,001		U
This the Direct of as foll	ors propose shows:—	ıld be dis	sposed			
Mortga	on C Long-Term age Shares at 6 nt. per annum	7,031	5 0			
Mortga	on D Long-Term age Shares at 7½ nt. per annum	17,578	2 6			
Shares	on Preference B (making 00 for the year)	68,750	0 0			

Dividend at rate of 5 per cent. on Ordinary Shares (making £375,000 for the year, equal to 10 per cent.)

equal to 10 per cent.) 187,500 0 0

Leaving Balance to be carried forward .. 348,137 13 0

£628,997 0 6

Such dividends to be paid in New Zealand Currency.

During the year Agencies at Awatuna East, Market Street, (Napier), and Walton have been closed. Agencies have been opened at Guyton Street (Wanganui) and at Otaki Railway.

WM. WATSON, Chairman.

# Bank of New Zealand BALANCE SHEET AT 31st MARCH, 1935.

# PROFIT AND LOSS.

Dividend on C Long-Term Mortgage Shares Dividend on D Long-Term Mortgage Shares Dividend on Preference B Shares Dividend on Ordinary Share Capital	£ 7,031 17,578 68,750 187,500	8. 5 2 0 0	d. 0 6 0	£	8.		Balance at 31st March, 193	£ 34	8.	d. £	8. (		£ 1,468	s. d. 3 10
Balance carried down				343,608										
				£624,468	3	10						£624	1,468	3 10
Interest on Guaranteed Stock Dividend paid 8th December, 1934:— Dividend on Preference A Shares Interim Dividend on C Long-Term Mortgage Shares Interim Dividend on D Long-Term Mortgage Shares Interim Dividend on Preference B Shares Interim Dividend on Ordinary Shares Interim Dividend on Ordinary Shares	50,000 7,031 17,578 31,250 187,500	5 2 0	0 - 6 0	6,476	4	6	PROFITS for year ended 31st March, 1935, in- cluding recoveries, and after payment of and provision for, all inter- est due and accrued on deposits, provision for bad and doubtful debts,					348	3,608	16 4
THE PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PROPERTY OF TH	578,747 343,608	11	8	293,359	7	6	depreciation of furni- ture, and for the An- nual Donation to the Provident Fund are	1,468,370 1	1 1	1,468,37	0 11 1	L		
Less Dividend paid, as above	922,356 293,359	8 7		628,997	0	6	Salaries and Allowances at Head Office and 223 Branches and Agencies Directors' remunera- tion, including Lon- don Board and Local	520,911 1						
							Directors in Australia General Expenses, in- cluding rent, station- ery, telegrams, post- ages, travelling, re- pairs to premises, etc. Audit Expenses Account Rates and Taxes	9,937 10 117,710 10 3,148 0 231,438 1	8 0	883,140	5 14 11	585	,223 1	16 2
				£928,832	12	6						£928	,832 1	2 6

# RESERVE FUND.

g. s. d. 3,575,000 0 0	Balance per last Statement	S	3,575,000 0
23,575,000 0 0			£3,575,000 0

cenand, ao nereny ceruty.—

1. That, having carefully examined the foregoing Balance Sheel statements, I am satisfied that they have been correctly compiled he books and accounts of the Bank.

2. That I am also satisfied that the said Balance Sheet is a furfair Balance Sheet, properly drawn up, and exhibits a true and view of the state of the Bank's affairs at the date thereof

3. That I have verified so much of the cash, investments, s and assets of the Bank as at the date of the said Balance She held at the Head Office, in Wellington, and have had access to returns of so much thereof as were then held at the various Branc Agencies of the Bank, or were then in transit.

# BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF PROPRIETORS. HELD AT

# WELLINGTON on 14th JUNE, 1935.

Mr. William Watson, Chairman of Directors, presided and said:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,-

I presume you will, as usual, take the Report and Balance-sheet as read. I shall comment briefly on some of the items.

CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUND.

The 4% Guaranteed Stock, £529,988 10s. 6d., which was for so long included in our capital figures, fell due on 19th July last and was repaid from the Bank's London resources. The figures otherwise remain unchanged.

Notes in Circulation £503,778 10s. 0d., as compared with £4,259,149 at 31st March, 1934.

For a number of years the rate the banks paid for the right of Note Issue was 3 per cent. per annum on their notes outstanding as calculated from week to week, but five years ago the rate was raised to 4½ per cent., which, with the costs of the notes and expenses in connection with them, left little or no profit to the banks. On 1st August last the Reserve Bank exercised its sole right to issue notes in the Dominion, but until 1st August, 1936, the trading banks will continue to pay the tax on their unredeemed notes, after which date each bank will pay over to the Reserve Bank the face value of its notes outstanding and cease to pay further tax.

Large quantities of notes on which tax is now being paid have been destroyed in various ways, and while the trading banks will pay the full face values of these to the Reserve Bank, that Bank will, of course, never be called upon to repay the losers.

At 31st March, 1934, the trading banks' notes in circulation amounted to approximately £6,200,000: on the corresponding date this year they had been reduced to about £850,000, while the notes issued by the Reserve Bank totalled over £9,300,000. The larger amount is accounted for by the fact that the trading banks have to purchase Reserve Bank notes for till money. Our average holding for this purpose is well over £2,000,000.

DEFOSITS show a reduction of £1,129,390, the greater portion of which is accounted for by transfer of Government balances to the Reserve Bank.

Coin, Reserve Bank Notes, and Deposits with Bankers.

This item is lower by £567,086. The wording of the heading has been altered to include notes of the Reserve Bank.

Money at Call and Short Notice, Government Securities and Other Securities in London show an increase of £3,422,121, due to our purchases of London exchange having exceeded sales.

BILLS RECEIVABLE IN LONDON AND IN TRANSIT.

This item is less by £1,008,420, owing principally to lower prices for wool.

New Zealand Government Securities £3,147,671, are less by £5,567,861, due to repayment of New Zealand Government Treasury Bills.

Australian Government Securities show a reduction of £93,087.

Advances and Bills Discounted, etc., £21,490,731.

This item shows at slightly lower figures than a year ago. Loans to the State against Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Mortgages have been repaid. Our advances to the public show an increase.

## DIVIDEND.

An interim dividend of 5 per cent. was paid in December last. The profits permit the payment of a further

dividend of 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year—the same distribution as last year. It is, of course, earned on the whole funds and not on the capital alone.

The dividend on all classes of shares will be payable in Wellington to-morrow, and at branches on receipt of advice.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Sir Robert Anderson, I regret to say, found it necessary in April to retire from the Board owing to ill-health. Sir Robert had been a member since August, 1930, and had he remained in office, he would have been elected Chairman for the current year. The Board passed a minute regretting Sir Robert's retirement and expressing sincere appreciation of his services as a Director of the Bank.

Mr. A. T. Donnelly, of Christehureh, who you will be pleased to see is with us to-day, was appointed by the Government to fill the vacancy on the Board.

Sir Harold Beauchamp and Sir George Elliot were granted leave of absence to visit England, and while in London are associated with our Board there.

Your Board has done me the honour of electing me Chairman for the year.

We have again to express appreciation of the services of our London Board, and also of the services of Sir John Higgins and Sir Henry Braddon who are our Local Directors at Melbourne and Sydney respectively.

I am pleased to say that Sir George Schuster, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G., M.C., formerly Finance Member of Executive Council of the Viceroy of India, has joined our London Board.

We are pleased to have with us to-day Sir James Mills, a member of our London Board.

## STAFF.

The Board again desire to express appreciation of the efficient services of the staff at the various points during the year. The General Manager, Mr. F. W. Dawson, in his careful management of the Bank's affairs, has given ample proof of his ability.

The Staff in general is zealous and efficient.

At our last meeting, eulogistic references were made to the distinguished services of Sir Henry Buckleton, who a short time previously had retired from the position of General Manager. His sudden death in December last came as a great shock to us all, and I am sure you will share the Board's deep regret at his passing. Sympathetic messages were conveyed by the Board to Lady Buckleton and her family.

# RESERVES.

Banks as well as ordinary traders have been criticised in this Dominion for accumulating reserves out of profits, the deductions apparently being that beyond a narrow margin between the rates on deposits and advances, no profit should be made on the Bank's own funds, that we should not fully employ our resources, or that we should pay all profits away. Had such imprudent practices been universally adopted prior to the recent depression, not only would many trading establishments have been unable to continue paying their employees when trade was unprofitable, as happened in the early nineties of last century, but banks would have been unable to carry their customers through, or to face the losses which were unavoidable. New Zealand was fortunate in having strong banks which were able to carry on their customers and also extend considerable temporary assistance to the Government.

Our joint stock banking system is founded upon that of Great Britain, considered by Lord Snowden the best in the world, but there are people who think it antiquated and if they could get their way would dissipate the reserves; however, they are not men with a practical knowledge of banking. Not long ago a visitor to this Dominion was reported by the Press to have stated that our banking system was behind the age and would not be tolerated in his country: a little later on banks in his country failed by the thousand, while none failed in British lands. Shareholders, and also the Dominion, are to be congratulated on the strength of this institution, which strength is due to

the accumulation during many years of its various reserves, and has enabled it to perform an important part in the development of both land and industries.

In this connection, we have to thank Mr. Leslie Lefeaux, Governor of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, for his acknowledgment at that Bank's Annual Meeting, of the services which the trading banks render to the country. This is in pleasing contrast to the adverse propaganda of those who cannot be considered so well informed.

# EXCHANGE.

Exchange rates on London were raised by the Government on 20th January, 1933, from 10 to 25 per cent. on sterling, which latter rate had been for some time operative in Australia.

Uncertainty became general regarding the duration of the rates, which led to the Reserve Bank of New Zealand in July last announcing its intention to maintain them; it stated that its aim would be to keep the rates unchanged for a long period unless there should be a marked alteration in existing conditions.

As in Britain the currency had already dropped by 30 per cent. from coined gold value, it followed that in this Dominion the currency became about 45 per cent. below coined gold. As regards this Bank, one of the effects of the rises in the exchange was that our gold coin held here became worth about 36/- Dominion currency, and 29/-British currency per sovereign apart from the later rise in gold. We were not allowed, however, to ship our holding of £1,770,499, and were compelled by law to sell it to the Reserve Bank at 20/- Dominion currency per sovereign. On the other hand, the rises in exchange, if permanent, would benefit us in regard to our funds in Britain. Previous to the recent rises, exchange rates rarely varied more than 2 per cent., owing to the fact that gold could be shipped from one place to another at about that cost, and our funds in Great Britain and Australia were always stated in our books and balance-sheets at par values with

those in New Zealand. As the fixation of exchange is not now in the hands of the trading banks, nor is it dominated by gold, and there is no absolute certainty regarding future rates, we do not deem it advisable to alter the custom beyond dealing with certain transactions which took place during the past year. You will thus understand that the Bank's large London funds are a source of strength beyond what is stated in the present balance-sheet.

THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT BANKING ACCOUNT.

This account was kept by the Bank of New Zealand for over 70 years, and, we believe, with entire satisfaction to all the Governments. On 1st August, 1934, the account was taken over by the newly-formed Reserve Bank, but it was arranged that we should conduct the business at all places in the Dominion, with the exception of Wellington.

# IDLE MONEY.

Assertions have been made in speeches, and in correspondence to the Press, that there is much idle money in the trading banks, and some persons have gone so far as to say that money deposited in banks was equivalent to its abstraction from general use. The expression of such ideas is, of course, quite an erroneous one and apt to be misleading. Taking our own balance-sheet now before you, it will be seen that the whole funds of the Bank, including deposits, are put to use, excepting the proportions of deposits we are bound by law to place in the Reserve Bank, and the money we have to hold in hand against the exigencies of our business. Were it not so, it would be difficult indeed to pay the salaries and other expenses of the Bank, let alone any dividend to the proprietors. The principle of banking, like that of any other trade, is plain service to the public and, in the case of deposits, to receive them at interest and for safe keeping.

# BANKING AND TRADE FIGURES.

The banking figures of the six trading banks for the March quarter, compared with the corresponding period

of last year, disclose an increase of £2,307,485 in free deposits, a practically similar decrease in fixed deposits, and an increase of £1,501,589 in advancés. On November 2nd last the banks reduced their interest rates for fixed deposits received in New Zealand on or after that date by ‡ per cent., the revised rates being as follows:—

3	months		4.80	11%	per	annum.
6	"			$1\frac{3}{4}\%$	,,	,,
12	,,	12023		21%	33	22
24				21%		

From 1st December the minimum rate of overdraft on best accounts was reduced to  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

The average figures for 4 years of deposits and advances of the six trading banks for the March quarter are as follows:—

MARCH QUARTER.	FREE DEPOSITS. £	FIXED DEPOSITS. £	Advances.
1932	16,998,822	34,466,289	50,232,337
1933	17,461,282	35,208,988	48,500,274
1934	21,657,550	39,455,883	41,575,526
1935	23,965,035	37,135,308	43,077,115

While the total deposits at March last show practically no movement as compared with 1934, during the same period advances have increased somewhat, the excess of deposits over advances being £18,023,228, as compared with £19,537,907 a year ago.

The trade figures for the year ended 31st March, 1935, with those of the three preceding years added for purposes of comparison, are given below. The figures are in sterling:

YEAR TO				EXCESS OF
MARCH 3	1.	EXPORTS.	Imports.	EXPORTS.
1932	979	30,857,000	22,510,000	8,347,000
1933	4.4	32,677,000	22,049,000	10,628,000
1934		36,834,000	20,908,000	15,926,000
1935	275	35,985,000	26,082,000	9,903,000

It will be noticed that Exports show a reduction of £849,000 as compared with 1934, while Imports have increased £5,174,000, the excess of Exports over Imports being £9,903,000 sterling for the year.

# DAIRY PRODUCE.

In view of the serious outlook for dairy produce owing to low prices and the possibility of quotas, the Government last year set up a Commission to report upon the conditions of the dairy industry in New Zealand, and consequent thereon an Act was passed under the style of the "Agriculture (Emergency Powers) Act," providing for the establishment of an Executive Commission of Agriculture with power to regulate Marketing and Production and to coordinate the work of the several boards and other authorities exercising powers in relation to the Primary Products of New Zealand, and generally to enable effect to be given to the recommendations of the Dairy Commission.

The Act gives the reconstituted New Zealand Dairy Board, in addition to the powers conferred on it by the "Dairy Produce Export Control Act, 1923," authority to regulate and control the production of dairy produce in New Zealand and the handling, marketing, transport, and distribution of dairy produce intended for consumption in New Zealand. Expenditure is authorised out of Public Works Fund of moneys required for rehabilitation of the dairy industry.

The prices ruling for the season's butter and cheese have again been most unsatisfactory to producers. In the 1929-30 season the average top price in London for New Zealand butter was 157s. 3d. per cwt., and for cheese 88s. 3d. The average prices so far for the season just closing are much the same as those for the 1933-34 season being approximately 80s. 0d. per cwt., for butter, and 48s. 0d. per cwt. for cheese. Production this season is lower by probably 20,000 tons.

In the first three months of this year, owing to a temporary shortage in the domestic supplies, some 3473 tons of New Zealand butter were disposed of in America, as well as 18,000 casks of Continental butter. Shipments were made from both London and New Zealand and gave some relief to an overloaded market. During this period prices appreciated by about 10s. 0d. per cwt., but as soon

as buying on American account ceased, prices receded to their former level.

The exports of Butter and Cheese for the past two years were as follows:—

	Bt	TTER.	CHEESE.			
YEAR ENDED 31st March.		VALUE £ (N.Z.)	QUANTITY. CWTS.	VALUE £ (N.Z.)		
1934	2,740,973	11,691,541	1,964,535	4,683,480		
1935	2.701.320	10.928.353	1 937 228	4 645 863		

# FROZEN MEAT.

The killings for export of beef, mutton and lamb for the year ended 31st March, 1935, with the figures for the previous year are as follows:—

	1934/35	1933/34
Quarters of Beef	 391,232	362,366
Carcases of Mutton	2,318,930	1,695,057
Carcases of Lamb	9,398,659	8,406,994

These figures show big increases which are due in a large measure to stock being sent to freezing works much earlier on account of the dry weather conditions experienced over the greater part of the Dominion during the summer. The weight to be shipped, however, will not be increased to the same extent as, owing to the shortage of feed, all classes of stock are giving a lighter average this year. Later returns to hand indicate that the remainder of the killing season will not produce the same quantity as last year.

The early milk lambs from the Dominion were sold at Smithfield at a fraction over 8d. per lb. and the price had gradually declined to 6\(^3\)d. per lb. at 31st March, with no prospect of an early improvement owing to large stocks in store and afloat from all sources.

Mutton prices have declined a like amount over the same period.

There were 28,649,038 sheep of all descriptions in the Dominion on 30th April, 1934, which is an increase of 893,072 on the previous year's figures.

The export figures for the two years ended 31st March are:—

QUAN	TITY.	VALUE.				
1934.	1935.	1934.	1935.			
ewt.	cwt.	£ (N.Z.)	£ (N.Z.)			

 Beef (frozen incl. chilled)
 815,148
 849,176
 811,855
 922,404

 Lamb (frozen)
 2,625,820
 2,813,728
 6,733,112
 8,866,139

 Mutton (frozen)
 957,665
 999,575
 1,351,087
 1,828,011

The production of Pork for export, which is important to dairyfarmers, has been substantially increased during the year, the figures for the years ended 31st March, 1934 and 1935, being:—

		QUANTITY.	VALUE
		CWT.	£ (N.Z.)
1934	 272	377,863	869,478
1935	 	450,755	1,207,090

Particular care is taken with regard to the quality exported, and there is good reason to hope for much further extension of this industry.

## WOOL.

The greatly improved return for the 1933-34 wool-clip led to the hope that the improvement in prices would continue. Early last year, however, the ban on imports of wool imposed by the German Government caused great uncertainty and lack of confidence in the whole trade, and values thereafter generally declined.

Towards the end of the year some support was given to the market by the German section of the trade, but prices remained on a very low level.

It was in very unsettled circumstances that this season's Dominion wool sales opened. It was realised that the value of the current wool-clip would be greatly reduced.

Prices remained steady for the most part, but, towards the end of the season, there was a wider demand and a fairly substantial improvement in prices was recorded. Germany, one of the largest Continental consumers, has found a substitute which, mixed with wool, serves for clothing. Taking account of the impoverished state of most European peoples, any substantial advance in wool does not seem probable in the ordinary course of events.

The total number of bales sold at the local sales for the 1934-35 season was 471,512, realising a total of £4,401,010, and representing an average price per bale of £9 6s. 8d. and 6.498d. per lb.

The average value per bale and per pound of the wool sold in the Dominion sales for the last four seasons was as under:—

SEASON.		PER BALE.			PER POUND
		£	S.	d.	d.
1931-32	 	7	10	9	5.27
1932-33	 	7	10	6	5.18
1933-34	 	16	3	3	11.12
1934-35	 	9	6	8	6 498

# APPLE EXPORTS.

The apple exports for the two years ended 31st March, were:—

			VALUE
		LBS.	£ (N.Z.)
1934	 	47,862,496	599,266
1935	 	54,020,191	668,754

These figures show a satisfactory increase. The 31st March period, however, in each case includes portion of the previous season's shipments. Actually the present season's results will be less favourable, and the quantity of apples exported will probably show a considerable decline.

#### GOLD.

The exports of gold (excluding specie) show a slight decrease, the figures being:—

YEAR ENDED	3/		VALUE
31st March.		Ozs.	£ (N.Z.)
1934	12712	182,335	1,366,380
1935		161,345	1,334,912

MORTGAGE CORPORATION OF NEW ZEALAND. RURAL MORTGAGORS' FINAL ADJUSTMENT.

The establishment by Parliament of a financial institution to be called the Mortgage Corporation of New Zealand, and a second Act to provide for a final adjustment of the Liabilities of Rural Mortgagors are two measures of such importance that it is only right that I should make some reference to them, particularly for the information of shareholders overseas.

The Mortgage Corporation has an original capital of one million pounds, divided into shares of one pound each; five hundred thousand of such shares are to be allotted at par to the Minister of Finance on behalf of the Crown, and the balance has been taken up by the public at par. Dividends are limited to 4½% per annum cumulative. The management of the Corporation will be in the hands of eight directors, four of whom will be appointed by the State, three by the shareholders, and the eighth a Treasury official. Of the State directors, one will be Chairman of Directors, and two Joint Managing Directors.

The Corporation may issue bonds, stock, or other securities constituting a floating charge on all its assets to an amount equal to fifteen times the sum of the subscribed capital and the amount then standing to the credit of the General Reserve Fund, to which Fund is to be transferred from the State Advances Department (but by way of loan only) its local body debentures or securities, having a face value of approximately £2,750,000. The bond-issuing power of the Corporation will thus be £56 millions to commence with. The securities issued by the Corporation are made by the Act trustee securities, but they are not guaranteed by the State.

The Corporation may make loans up to two-thirds of the value of a security, as determined by the Board, but in the case of an application for a loan to repay a mortgage debt on land used for agricultural, horticultural or pastoral purposes, the amount advanced may be 80 per cent. of the value, on condition that the Minister of Finance shall guarantee the Corporation against any loss which may be attributable to the excess of the loan over two-thirds of the value of the security. The values of farming properties are to be determined by the earning capacity of such lands. Loans are to be on a table mortgage basis up to a period of 50 years, but the Board may in special cases grant fixed loans against a mortgage of land for a term not exceeding 5 years.

The net rate of interest on all mortgages of land shall not exceed by more than 1% the rate of interest payable by the Corporation on its last issue of bonds or other securities. Mortgagors are required to pay to the credit of the General Reserve Fund an amount equal to two per cent. of the amount of the loan.

Mortgages at present vested in the State Advances Department or in the Crown, in respect of loans under the "Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act, 1915" or Part 1 of the "Land Laws Amendment Act, 1929," are to be transferred to the Corporation in exchange for the Corporation's stock which will bear interest at the same rate as the bonds or stock first issued to the public, the Crown remaining liable for any losses suffered by the Corporation in respect of the securities transferred.

The "Rural Mortgagors Final Adjustment Act" is stated to be an Act to provide for a final adjustment of the liabilities of rural mortgagors and applies to those farmer mortgagors whose normal income is derived solely or principally from the use of lands for agricultural and pastoral purposes, the general purpose of the Act, it is stated, being to retain efficient farmers in the use and occupation of their farms, and to make provision for the adjustment of all their liabilities, whether secured or unsecured.

The Act provides for the establishment of a Court of Review of Mortgagors' Liabilities of three members, one of whom must be a Supreme Court Judge or be eligible for appointment as such. Part 2 provides that a farmer mortgagor who desires his liabilities adjusted may make application to the Court on prescribed form with full list of his creditors and debtors, a copy of which application is to be furnished to the mortgagee. Similarly, a mortgagee may make application to have a mortgagor's liabilities adjusted. The Registrar of the Court will then refer the application to the District Adjustment Commission, who will call a meeting of the mortgagor and his creditors. If 75% in value of creditors agree as to terms of adjustment, the Adjustment Commission may approve and confirm such adjustment, if it is of opinion that the terms are equitable. A dissenting creditor has the right of appeal to the Court.

Part 3 applies in any case where negotiations to secure a voluntary adjustment of liabilities have not been successful. The Adjustment Commission, if it considers that the mortgagor should be retained in the use and occupation of his farm as an efficient producer, may issue a Stav Order, the effect of which is to protect the mortgagor against action by his creditors. A trustee of the mortgagor's estate is to be appointed by the Commission who has the sole right to receive any moneys payable to the mortgagor and shall make disbursements on account of the mortgagor. The farmer will work on budget. Before any payment is made in respect of rates, taxes and rent, reasonable living expenses and adequate working expenses must be provided. Current rates and taxes take precedence over interest to mortgagees.

The Stay Order may be discharged by voluntary adjustment; at the end of 5 years, if not previously discharged, the Court shall proceed to make a final adjustment of the mortgagor's liabilities, on the basis of the productive value of his property, to be determined by the Adjustment Commission, subject to the right of the mortgagee to appeal to the Court. If the basic value of the farm is less than the amount of the mortgage, the amount of the mortgage is to be reduced to the basic

value. If, however, the Court determines that the mortgagor shall not be entitled to continue in the use and occupation of the property, the mortgagee shall be given the right to take it over, subject to prior encumbrances (exclusive of any arrears of rates, taxes, interest or other charges), and subject to the payment to the mortgagor of an amount of compensation as remuneration for his services during the operation of the Stay Order. The amount of such remuneration (if any) shall be fixed by the Court, having regard to the financial position of the mortgagor and mortgagee and to the degrees of hardship suffered by them respectively.

I have summarised the main provisions of these Acts for your information, as you are no doubt wondering what effect the legislation may have on the Bank's business. It will possibly occur to you that the Mortgage Corporation may prove to be a formidable competitor for advances against farming properties—a class of lending, I may say, which constitutes a considerable portion of our loan business. I do not anticipate, however, that the operations of the Corporation will affect to any material extent the volume of our advances to sound farming customers, the majority of whom will, I consider, prefer to continue working on overdraft rather than on table or fixed mortgage. Neither do I think that other than relatively a small number of our farming customers will need to take advantage of the provisions of the "Rural Mortgagors Final Adjustment Act."

# GENERAL OUTLOOK.

You will probably expect me to say something as to the outlook.

As far as the Bank of New Zealand is concerned, I see no reason to anticipate any decline in its progress.

Ordinary trade and the manufacturing industries have improved during the year, no doubt partly owing to more confidence as regards the exchange rate, and also to the favourable prices obtained for last season's wool. The Public Accounts disclose that for the past financial year the revenue amounted to £26,126,000 and the expenditure to £24,500,000, leaving a surplus of £1,626,000 principally due to profits on the sale of portion of the gold taken over from the Banks and unusually high receipts from death duties.

Although the prices of our main products generally are at low levels, and our principal market is threatened with restriction as regards dairy produce and meat, it is better to be hopeful than pessimistic regarding the future and to strive for, and look forward to, better things.

A visitor with experience of South America recently told us that our land values were too high. He was only stating what a great many people in New Zealand believe to be the fact.

Easy and plausible remedies are suggested to restore good times. Industry and thrift seem to have little place in some of these ideas which, were they put into operation, would make the position of the people very much worse. It is surely better to face our difficulties than look for easy and futile ways of avoiding them.

New Zealand is in many respects a very favoured country. It should be borne in mind that ups and downs are the common lot of a people, and that our present difficulties, unpleasant though they may be, are not beyond the power of men to overcome.

I now beg to move the adoption of the Report and Balance-sheet, and will ask Mr. Donnelly to second the motion. (Applause).

# Mr. A. T. Donnelly said:-

The Chairman has honoured me—a late recruit to your Board—by asking me to second his motion for the adoption of the Report and Balance-sheet. I do so gladly, but with a feeling of humility when I reflect that for a period nearly as long as my lifetime, you, Mr. Chairman, have served the country, the bank, and the shareholders, with honour to yourself and satisfaction to everyone else.

I am among you to-day as a layman and an average representative of the community. May I pay a tribute to the trading banks—to their system and policy, their present management, their past prudence in the assembling of resources. In the hard and bitter years now behind us, these resources, hidden and disclosed, have been used to soften, when they could no longer avert, the shock of the depression upon the nation as a whole.

I congratulate you upon the strength and soundness of your Bank, and in the absence of catastrophe we can look to the future with security and with confidence.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your kind reference to me in your speech, and I have now formally to second the motion for the adoption of the Report and Balance-sheet. (Applause).

The motion was carried unanimously.

# MR. L. S. W. McKenzie said:-

It gives me very great pleasure to propose a vote of thanks to the directorate, the management and the staff of the Bank of New Zealand for their excellent work during the year.

I think in doing so, I voice the opinion of all the share-holders here when I say that the Report and Balance Sheet which are before us are very gratifying to us all and show unquestionably that the Country is emerging from the dark woods into brighter daylight, and certainly should give a very much stronger confidence in the finances of New Zealand.

The Chairman has referred to the times of adversity that we have passed through, and are passing through. It has been a blizzard, the like of which probably has not hit the world before. Mr. Montagu Norman, the Governor of the Bank of England said we have had no precedent to work upon, and that is true. But such adversity as we have seen brings forth schemes, ideas and theories and I think we owe a great deal of thanks to the directorate and management of this bank that they have stuck to the old banking principles of England—principles that have not

been the work of any man, but the accumulation of judgment, thought and care of bankers of very many generations. These principles have stood the severest test possible—the test of time—which is the prover of all things.

We turn over a page in the history of the bank, and in turning that page over, as the Chairman remarked, we have seen the failures of many banks in many countries. These failures leave nothing but trails of sorrow behind them, but I am happy to say that in this Country there has not been a client of this bank, there has not been a shareholder of this bank, or a member of the community who has had reason to lose any sleep over the bank's financial stability.

I remember being in France when Britain came off the gold standard. At that period the pound sterling was worth 124.75 francs. English visitors in France next morning had a rude awakening to find one of the largest banking institutions in the world refusing to eash a British pound note, while the other banks offered 45 francs. Returning from the Continent to Great Britain, we found all the factories working at pressure and the only worry that faced the managers of those great factories was how long their stocks of raw materials would last.

I think you will agree with me that we owe to the bank a great deal of gratitude. As the Chairman has remarked, we have heard the bank blamed by men in high places for its judgment and its foresight in building up strong reserves which have carried us on. We have heard issued from the Chair warnings by the bank's directors of the times that were coming. They were not heeded, yet the bank directorate and the management are blamed, because they had the foresight to set aside reserves, which unquestionably have carried this country over the stony roads that it has had to tread during these last few years. Just imagine what would have happened to the country had they not built up these reserves.

I am glad to be associated with the shareholders of this bank in proposing a vote of thanks to the directors, management and staff, and, Sir, it gives me a personal pleasure in doing so, because the Chairman of this bank was a very honoured friend of my respected father. (Applause).

The vote was seconded by Mr. E. A. Kellow and carried with acclamation.

In acknowledging the vote of thanks, the Chairman said:—

On behalf of the Board, I thank you very much for your very gratifying vote. Business has been a little more pleasant during the year under review than in the previous year, but there is still very much left to be desired. Our work will be lightened by the knowledge of your kind vote of appreciation.

As a personal matter, I take this opportunity to say that the term for which I was last elected as one of the shareholders' representatives on the board will expire on 31st March next; I shall again place myself in your hands for re-election and trust to receive the usual mark of your confidence. (Applause).

Mr. F. W. Dawson, General Manager, thanked the shareholders for their expression of thanks. He said that the staff was a very good one, and there were a lot of young men coming on who would replace the older men as time went on, with credit to themselves.

This concluded the business.

# HEAD OFFICE - - WELLINGTON

General Manager:

F. W. DAWSON.

Assistant General Manager:

H. R. H. CHALMERS.

Chief Inspector: JOHN SHAW.

Inspector:

J. C. MORRISON.

Sub-Inspectors:

W. L. C. BAKEWELL, H. H. FEATHERSTONE, A. G. HENDER-SON, K. G. HUME, F. L. KENRICK, G. E. MURPHY T. McLAREN, K. M. OLLIVIER.

Produce Manager: H. A. KEELING.

Accountant:

A. W. HALL.

# LONDON OFFICE:

No. 1 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, MANSION HOUSE, E.C. 4

Manager: D. F. REID.

Produce Manager: A. L. ROBERTSON.

# BRANCHES AND AGENCIES

IN NEW ZEALAND.

AUCKLAND .. .. .. Manager, W. G. Miller Asst. Mngr., N. Wallace Sub.-Mngr., G. T. Simpson

AKAROA .. .. Manager, H. W. Oliver

ALEXANDRA .. .. " F. R. Whitelock

APITI, AGENCY OF KIMBOLTON. ARROWTOWN, AGENCY OF QUEENSTOWN.

ASHBURTON .. .. Manager, C. A. Cuff AVONDALE, AGENCY OF AUCKLAND.

AWANUI, AGENCY OF KAITAIA. BALCLUTHA .. .., .. Manager, F. M. Poynter BALFOUR, AGENCY OF GORE. BIRKENHEAD, AGENCY OF AUCKLAND.

BLUFF, AGENCY OF INVERCARGILL. BULLS .. .. .. Manager, A. T. J. Shaw CAMBRIDGE .. .. , F. E. Coote CARTERTON .. .. " C. C. Callender CHRISTCHURCH .. .. " P. L. Porter Asst. Mngr., H. E. Garth CLINTON, AGENCY OF BALCLUTHA. CLYDE, AGENCY OF ALEXANDRA. COROMANDEL .. .. Manager, J. W. R. Penney CROMWELL .. .. " E. A. Cowey CUSTOMS ST. EAST, AUCKLAND, AGENCY OF AUCKLAND. DANNEVIRKE .. .. Manager, R. L. Grant DARFIELD, AGENCY OF CHRISTCHURCH, DARGAVILLE .. .. Manager, E. R. Munn DEVONPORT .. .. " H. Corbett DOMINION ROAD, AGENCY OF SYMONDS ST. DUNEDIN .. .. Manager, J. G. Dykes DUNEDIN NORTH .. ,, R. A. Prisk DUVAUCHELLES BAY, AGENCY OF AKAROA. EKETAHUNA .. .. Manager, A. D. Murray ELLERSLIE, AGENCY OF AUCKLAND. ELTHAM .. .. " J. B. L. Brown FAIRLIE, AGENCY OF TIMARU. FEATHERSTON .. .. .. H. R. Bloxam FEILDING ... .. " T. S. Goldsmith FOXTON .. .. .. .. E. W. T. Thane GERALDINE .. .. ,, J. D. McKechnie GISBORNE .. .. .. " A. H. Wilson GORE .. .. , J. Hunter GREEN ISLAND, AGENCY OF DUNEDIN. GREYMOUTH .. .. Manager, A. N. Baker GREYTOWN ... .. ,, J. W. Barnard GUYTON STREET, WANGANUL AGENCY OF WANGANUL HAMILTON .. .. " E. C. Sare HAMILTON NORTH .. .. " H. J. Baker HAMPDEN, AGENCY OF PALMERSTON (OTAGO). HASTINGS .. .. Manager, R. McLaughlin HAWERA .. .. " F. B. Wylds HELENSVILLE .. .. " C. II. Fastier HENDERSON, AGENCY OF AUCKLAND. HERIOT, AGENCY OF TAPANUI. HIKURANGI, AGENCY OF WHANGAREI. HIKUTAIA, AGENCY OF PAEROA.

BLENHEIM .. .. Manager, A. A. Edwards

HOKITIKA	12.00		M	anager,	R. G. Millen
HUNTERVILLE		140 H	. M	anager,	A. J. Petrie
HUNTLY	4.4	1404	* *	2)	E. V. Daldy
INGLEWOOD	600	**	*:*:	27	S. H. Wanklyn
INVERCARGILL		0.00	* *	- 99	A. H. J. Wyatt
KAIAPOI	C40.60	**	**	,,	H. R. Aspinall
KAIKOHE			F. (B)	"	R. D. MacLean
KAIKOURA	*.*:			,,	J. C. Smith
KAIPARA FLA	TS, A	GENCY	OF WAR		*
KAITAIA		***	M	anager,	J. O'Sullivan
KAITANGATA,					
KAPONGA	74.47		M	anager,	F. W. Fallows
Катікаті, Ас					
KAWHIA			M	anager,	H. Raine
Kelso, Agen	CY OF	TAPAN	UI.		
KILBIRNIE, A					
KIMBOLTON			M	anager,	F. H. Billing
коникони				,,	T. C. Bowler
Kumara, Age	ENCY C	F Hok	ITIKA.		
Lauder, Agen					
LAWRENCE					E. A. Winchester
LEESTON		8.5			S. Bongard
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LEVIN					W. Smaill
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LEVIN LITTLE RIVER LOWER HIGH	ST.,	OF OF	CHRIST	" CHURCH AGENO	W. Smaill . y of Christchurch.
LEVIN  LITTLE RIVER LOWER HIGH LOWER HUTT	ST., C	OF WIN	CHRISTOCHURCH, M	" CHURCH AGENO	W. Smaill . y of Christchurch.
LEVIN  LITTLE RIVER LOWER HIGH LOWER HUTT LUMSDEN, AG	ST., GENCY	NCY OF CHRISTO OF WIN	CHRISTOCHURCH, M	" CHURCH AGENC anager,	W. Smaill  y of Christchurch.  J. P. White
LEVIN  LITTLE RIVER LOWER HIGH LOWER HUTT LUMSDEN, AG LYTTELTON	ST., C	NCY OF CHRISTO OF WIN	CHRISTOCHURCH, M	" CHURCH AGENC anager,	W. Smaill  y of Christchurch.  J. P. White
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MT. ALBERT,	AGENO	Y OF S	Зүмо	NDS STREE	r.
MT. EDEN, A	GENCY	OF SYN	IOND	STREET.	
MURCHISON	***	74.9	***	Manager,	R. I. C. McGregor
NAPIER		10(0)	* *	"	L. C. Friend
Naseby, Age	NCY OF	RANF	URLY		
NELSON			2.2	,,	J. N. Smith
NEWMARKET	(Auck	LAND)		Manager,	C. H. Worth
NEW PLYMOU	TH	* (4)	934	27	A. M. Thomson
NEWTON (Auci	KLAND)	(0)	4.4		J. W. Probert
NGARUAWAHL	A	16.41	44	,,	W. G. Adams
NGATEA, AGE	NCY OF	THAN	IES.		
NIGHTCAPS, .					
NORTH-EAST		02			
NORTH END (	WELLIN	GTON)	**		
OAMARU				,,	B. Roll
OHAEAWAI, A	AGENCY	of K	IKOH	E.	
OHAKUNE		* (*)		. 99	W. E. Westlake
OHURA		631		-31	R. C. Salmond
OMAKAU		18.60	**	39.	W. Harper
ONEHUNGA	***	100	403	-33	A. H. Orwin
ONGA ONGA,	AGENC	Y OF V	VAIPA	WA.	
OPOTIKI		(4/4)	1414	,,	H. Rowland
OPUNAKE	9.9	10.00		"	J. J. E. Downey
OREPUKI, AG					
Ormondville					
OTAHUHU	* *			Manager,	C. P. Downey
OTAKI				**	W. Morton
OTAKI RAILW	YAY, AC	ENCY (	OF O	CAKI.	
OTANE, AGEN					
OTAUTAU		(0.00)	**	22	F. L. Smith
OTOROHANGA		(***	**	,,,	A. C. Thompson
OUTRAM, AGI	ENCY O	F Mose	IEL.		
OWAKA				"	A. S. Bell
OXFORD	212	(4/4)	4.4	***	W. A. Virtue
PAEROA		54747	V.	27	O. M. Samuel
PAHIATUA		174740		39	D. O. L. Howden
PALMERSTON	(OTAGO	)	300	397	W. J. Mann
PALMERSTON 1	NORTI	Ι		- 32	F. G. Major
PAPAKURA		(*(*)	*.*	391	B. C. Carpenter
PATEA	* *	***		233	W. C. A. Bargrove
PETONE				"	M. J. Daniel
PICTON				"	H. Fulton
Pio Pio, Age			UITI.		
PONGAROA	**	**	***	Manager,	D. Campbell

		-2/27			
Ponsonby, A					
PORT CHALM					T. D. Tomasu
PUKEKOHE	70.6				L. R. Jordan
PUTARURU	* (*)	(*(*)	*/*	Manager,	A. P. Delargey
QUEENSTOWN	* *	1,4(4)	***	- ***	A. H. Cooke
RAETIHI				. 22	W. G. McDowell
RAHOTU, AGE	NCY OF	OPUN.	AKE.		
RAKAIA		(4.4)		.,,	A. S. Henderson
RANFURLY			12/12	"	G. A. Wilson
RANGIORA	***	1000	(4/3	.,,	D. Appleby
REEFTON		74.4	4.0	. 31	P. Kane
REMUERA, AC					
RICHMOND, A					
RIVERSDALE,	AGENCY	OF GO	RE.		
RIVERTON	* *	(***)	* *	22	A. D. Angus
RONGOTEA	**		0.0	395	W. J. Amies
Ross, Agenc	Y OF H	OKITIK	Α		
ROTORUA					J. M. Roberts
ROTORUA NOR'	TH (R	OTORUA	) St	B-BRANCH.	C T D
					G. F. Pott
ROXBURGH				Manager,	E. A. H. Scolon
Sanson, Age					D T O D
SHANNON				3.6	B. J. S. Brann
Southbridge, South Dunei					
STRATFORD					N N D Groop
					F. J. Pender
SYDENHAM (CI				33.	
SYMONDS STRI				22	R. T. Everard
TAIHAPE		55.50		.22	F. Dewhirst
TAKAKA (NELS			88	22	P. T. C. Hill
TAKAPAU (HAV				22	O. H. Bjorngaard
TAKAPUNA, A					
TANEATUA, A					
TAPANUI	1,5-31	505		Manager,	J. F. Harrison
TAUMARUNUI			* *	33	W. G. Cunningham
TAURANGA		14.0	* *	33	C. A. L. Smith
TE ARO (WELLI		1414/	47.4	27	F. T. Glasgow
TE AROHA		1979	***	"	R. W. Stevens
TE AWAMUTU		39.93	270	,,	F. W. Bevin
TE KAUWHAT		NCY OF			
TE KUITI		11.5	12:23	Manager,	P. H. Passau
TEMUKA			•)•	22.	C. L. Fraser
TE PUKE		**		n	D. George
THAMES	2/2/	24.4		22	A. F. Steedman
THORNBURY,	AGENCY	of RI	VERT	ON.	

TIMARU Manager, D. H. Marsha	di .						
TIRAU, AGENCY OF MATAMATA.							
TOKOMARU BAY " L. K. K. Ro	skruge						
TUAKAU, AGENCY OF PUKEKOHE.							
TURUA, AGENCY OF THAMES.							
URENUI, AGENCY OF WAITARA.							
WAHAROA, AGENCY OF MATAMATA.							
WAIHI " E. H. Payze							
WAIKAKA, AGENCY OF GORE.							
WAIKARI, AGENCY OF CHRISTCHURCH.							
WAIKOUAITI Manager, G. A. de Lau	tour						
WAIMATE Manager, D. T. Larnac	h						
WAIPAWA " G. Taylor							
WAIPUKURAU, F. J. Dunbar							
WAITAHUNA, AGENCY OF LAWRENCE.							
WAITARA Manager, J. A. W. Ha	mlin						
	III.						
WAKEFIELD, AGENCY OF NELSON.							
WANGANUI " L. Brinkman							
WARKWORTH , E. McIntyre WELLINGTON , B. A. Moore							
WELLINGTON "B. A. Moore  Asst. Mngr., F. E. Ashby							
WELLINGTON SOUTH (WELLINGTON).							
Manager, R. A. Dixon							
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WOODVILLE " L. J. Whitti	ngton						
WYNDHAM " J. C. Mills							
IN AUSTRALIA.							
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Manager, F. R. Dunsf	ord						
SYDNEY, 339 GEORGE STREET. Manager, R. W. West	by						
IN FIJI.							
	owe						
LEVUKA Manager, C. E. Redgr	ave:						
IN SAMOA.	100000000000000000000000000000000000000						
APIA Manager, W. Blennerh	assett						
777 777 V 7777 T 7005							

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