

BUTTER AND CHEESE GRADINGS

					Butter (Creamery).		Cheese.	
					Tons.	Increase or Decrease on Previous Year.	Tons.	Increase or Decrease on Previous Year.
					Per Cent.		Per Cent.	
1945-46	..	..	..	..	103,977	16·93 (decrease)	88,185	14·048 (decrease)
1944-45	..	..	..	..	122,352	19·96 (increase)	95,548	11·787 (increase)
1943-44	..	..	..	..	101,992	4·60 (decrease)	85,473	11·735 (decrease)
1942-43	..	..	..	..	106,947	3·504 (increase)	96,837	36·738 (decrease)
1941-42	..	..	..	..	103,326	25·90 (decrease)	153,074	28·74 (increase)
1940-41	..	..	..	..	139,444	4·61 (increase)	118,899	26·90 (increase)

NOTE.—Owing to the diversion of supplies of butter and cheese in 1942-43 and later seasons to the Allied Forces in Pacific Area, a correct comparison between gradings for the 1942-43 and later seasons and gradings in previous seasons is not possible.

EFFECT OF THE RATIONING EMERGENCY REGULATIONS AS APPLIED TO BUTTER AND CHEESE

BUTTER

The butter ration has remained unchanged during the year ended 31st July, 1946, consumption being limited to 6 oz. per head per week. The estimated annual saving of 14,000 tons has proved of definite assistance to the people of Great Britain, where the consumption of all fats is still severely restricted by rationing.

CHEESE

Sales of cheese on the local market continue to be restricted to the levels of sales in the 1942-43 season.

PRODUCTION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS IN NEW ZEALAND DAIRY FACTORIES

The following figures are taken from the Census and Statistics Department's publications :—

TOTAL QUANTITIES OF BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCED IN NEW ZEALAND DAIRY FACTORIES (FACTORY WEIGHTS)

Season.					Creamery Butter.	Cheddar Cheese.	Whey Butter.
1945-46	..	..	..	..	123,972	94,530	2,737
1944-45	..	..	..	..	151,637	103,675	3,030
1943-44	..	..	..	..	133,650	92,149	2,747
1942-43	..	..	..	..	139,083	102,846	2,908
1941-42	..	..	..	..	129,854	157,659	3,910
1940-41	..	..	..	..	161,809	122,370	3,355

PROCESSED MILK

In last year's annual report reference was made to long-term contracts concluded with the United Kingdom Ministry of Food for the exportable surpluses of skim-milk powder and evaporated milk for the four years 1944-48. Prices were fixed for the two years 1944-45 and 1945-46, and thereafter subject to annual review.