

The final draft of the legislation was unanimously approved by the representatives of the dairy industry, and the Dairy Products Marketing Commission Act was passed on 31st July, 1947. Under the Act a Dairy Products Marketing Commission was set up consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister of Marketing, as under:—

One member to be Chairman.

Three members to be selected from a panel of names submitted by the New Zealand Dairy Board.

Three other members.

The Commission was to take over all the functions of the Export and Internal Divisions of the Marketing Department in respect of butter and cheese sold on the local market or exported from New Zealand, subject only to the Commission complying with the general trade policy of the Government. In addition, to the Commission was delegated the responsibility of fixing the guaranteed price after giving regard to the same considerations as had been set out in section 20 of the Marketing Act, 1936, provided always that if the accounts of the Commission disclose a debit or are likely to disclose a debit within the succeeding twelve months, the Commission, before it fixes prices, must consult the Minister of Marketing.

The following members of the Commission were appointed on 7th August, 1947:—

Chairman: Mr. W. Marshall. *Messrs.* H. E. Blyde, A. M. Candy, W. G. McCartney, B. C. Ashwin, C. Morgan Williams, and F. P. Walsh.

At its first meeting on 26th August, 1947, the Commission appointed as General Manager the Acting Director of Export Marketing, Mr. G. M. Pottinger, and as Secretary, Mr. F. Lingard, Secretary to the Economic Stabilization Commission.

Pending the appointment of a complete staff, the Commission agreed to appoint the Export and Internal Divisions of the Marketing Department to act as its agents.

GUARANTEED PRICES, 1946-47 SEASON

The guaranteed purchase-prices paid to dairy companies by the Marketing Department for butter and cheese manufactured during the 1946-47 season and exported were:—

<i>Creamery Butter—</i>					Pence per Pound.
Finest Grade—					
94 points and over	..	..	..	..	15·515
93 to 93½ points (basic price)	..	..	..	..	15·39
First Grade—					
92 to 92½ points	..	..	..	..	15·3275
90 to 91½ points	..	..	..	..	15·14
Second Grade	..	..	..	..	14·64
<i>Whey Butter—</i>					
First Grade	..	..	..	..	13·89
Second Grade	..	..	..	..	13·39
<i>Cheese—</i>					
Finest Grade—					
94 points and over	..	..	..	..	8·88625
93 to 93½ points	..	..	..	..	8·855
First Grade—					
92 to 92½ points (basic price)	..	..	..	..	8·73
91 to 91½ points	..	..	..	..	8·6675
Second Grade	..	..	..	..	8·48

NOTE.—These purchase-prices for butter and cheese are the same as those applying for the previous (1945-46) season.