

EXPORTS.

Of the total quantity of butter and cheese exported during the year under review, by far the major portion was shipped direct to the United Kingdom. Forty-three vessels were engaged in carrying this produce to the Home markets.

The total quantity of butter exported for the year was 396,419 cwt., a decrease of 7,425 cwt., or 1·8 per cent., over that of the preceding period. This may be accounted for owing to the quantities held in cold stores throughout the Dominion at the end of the year being very much greater than on the same date of last year. The value of the butter, however (based on London prices), shows an increase of £449,118, owing to the very much higher prices ruling. Cheese exports show an increase of 90,141 cwt., or 11·9 per cent., over the figures for the previous year. Values were also considerably advanced for cheese, the increase (taking London prices) amounting to £887,567. Butter and cheese thus show a combined increase in value of £1,336,685.

The following tables show the classes and quantities of dairy-produce exported during the year from the various grading-ports and the London market values of the produce:—

EXPORTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1916.

Creamery Butter for United Kingdom.

Port.	Total Packages.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.
Auckland	416,537	402,456	13,965	116
New Plymouth	118,629	117,238	1,372	19
Wanganui	8,397	7,825	572	..
Patea	4,058	3,598	413	47
Gisborne	6,943	6,943	..	..
Wellington	126,195	123,096	3,050	49
Lyttelton and Timaru	9,396	9,361	35	..
Dunedin	6,189	6,094	95	..
Totals	696,344	676,611	19,502	231

Whey Butter for United Kingdom.

Port.	Total Packages.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.
Auckland	2,203	864	1,339	..
New Plymouth	4,397	2,584	1,813	..
Wanganui	61	31	30	..
Patea	7,514	4,718	2,660	136
Wellington	2,329	456	1,873	..
Dunedin	321	265	56	..
Totals	16,825	8,918	7,771	136

Dairy Butter for United Kingdom.

Port.	Total Packages.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.
New Plymouth	1,164	877	281	6
Wellington	12	10	10	2
Totals	1,176	887	291	8

Milled Butter for United Kingdom.

Port.	Total Packages.	First Grade.	Second Grade.	Third Grade.
Auckland	716	230	439	47
New Plymouth	138	114	21	3
Wanganui	311	278	33	..
Wellington	1,269	953	316	..
Dunedin	776	756	20	..
Totals	3,210	2,331	829	50