

Quantities of Butter exported for the Years ended March, 1919 and 1920.

Port.	1919-20.	1918-19.	Decrease, 1919-20.	Increase, 1919-20.	Net Total De- crease, 1919-20.
	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.
Auckland	337,734	647,847	310,113	..	..
Gisborne	4,720	15,363	10,643	..	..
New Plymouth	47,058	112,536	65,478	..	..
Patea	8,720	11,420	2,700	..	..
Wanganui	15,542	22,050	6,508	..	..
Wellington	66,194	121,934	55,740	..	..
Lyttelton and Timaru	34,239	34,453	214	..	..
Dunedin	9,694	19,603	9,909	..	..
Totals	523,901	985,206	461,305	..	461,305

Quantities of Cheese exported for the Years ended March, 1919 and 1920.

Port.	1919-20.	1918-19.	Decrease, 1919-20.	Increase, 1919-20.	Net Total In- crease, 1919-20.
	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.	Packages.
Auckland	150,281	118,386	..	31,895	..
New P.ymouth	206,483	114,745	..	91,738	..
Patea	243,626	142,008	..	101,618	..
Wanganui	16,726	12,813	..	3,913	..
Wellington	251,507	180,071	..	71,436	..
Lyttelton	27,747	16,915	..	10,832	..
Dunedin	37,873	30,067	..	7,806	..
Bluff	96,839	64,170	..	32,669	..
Totals	1,031,082	679,175	..	351,907	351,907

Quantities of Butter and Cheese forwarded to Grading-s'tores for Grading.

Port.	Year 1919-20.		Year 1918-19.	
	Butter.	Cheese.	Butter.	Cheese.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Auckland	210,611	211,321	245,504	192,680
Gisborne	8,325	..	5,676	..
New Plymouth	38,278	222,798	44,702	214,040
Patea	5,898	280,940	4,496	240,390
Wanganui	9,825	17,840	8,164	17,300
Wellington	48,576	284,906	64,706	292,077
Lyttelton and Timaru	17,942	31,236	24,293	31,300
Dunedin	8,976	51,120	12,695	46,471
Bluff	..	115,824	..	109,932
Totals	348,431	1,215,985	410,236	1,144,190

THE CHEESE INDUSTRY.

As the result of the rapid extension in the manufacture of Cheddar cheese which has taken place during recent years New Zealand now ranks as one of the principal countries engaged in the export of this valuable food-product. In view of the increasing demand on the world's markets for other milk-products, including butter, condensed milk, and dried milk, it is impossible to say at this juncture to what extent a further rapid development in cheese-production will take place in this country even in the immediate future. All will depend upon the relation of the prices obtainable for the respective milk-products, and the net return to the farmers who favour this branch of dairying in preference to others which may be considered equally profitable.

It may be mentioned, however, that during the period under review preparations have been continued for the future extension of the cheese industry in many districts where dairying is being commenced on land not formerly used for this purpose. Moreover, many of the dairy companies already in existence have also decided to enlarge their cheese-factories in order to cope with an increased supply of milk. Therefore the present outlook is by no means unfavourable towards the continued production of a large annual output of cheese, and so long as the quality of this product can be maintained at a comparatively high average standard remunerative prices may be expected.

The total quantity of cheese dealt with at all grading-ports for the year amounted to 60,799 tons. This was manufactured in 384 factories, of which 260 are situated in the North Island. Of these factories 347 are carried on by co-operative dairy companies and the remainder are in proprietary ownership.