

It is anticipated that a sufficient clearance will be made by the end of the year to enable freezing-works to treat without great difficulty all fat stock offering during the following season.

The following table shows the number of insulated steamers which have sailed from the Dominion during the years 1914–19 inclusive, together with their total insulated carrying-capacity :—

Year.				Number of Steamers.	Total Insulated Capacity (60 lb. Freight Carcases).
1914	..	..	..	99	8,800,700
1915	..	..	..	84	7,682,000
1916	..	..	..	78	7,322,500
1917	..	..	..	62	5,626,350
1918	..	..	..	52	4,926,300
1919	..	..	..	79	7,694,000

The New Zealand Overseas Shipowners' Committee, which has been responsible for the allocation of space in overseas steamers loading in the Dominion, has continued to meet daily, and has carried out its onerous duties with strict impartiality according to the requirements of the various districts.

PRODUCE IN STORE AWAITING SHIPMENT.

The following table shows the quantities of meat, cheese, and butter in store and awaiting shipment on the 31st March, for the last five years :—

Date.				Frozen Meat (60 lb. Carcases).	Cheese (Crates).	Butter (Boxes).
31st March, 1916	..	..	..	2,152,250	73,927	87,678
31st March, 1917	..	..	..	2,409,541	185,417	224,506
31st March, 1918	..	..	..	3,398,364	363,790	350,315
31st March, 1919	..	..	..	6,482,529	474,754	93,729
31st March, 1920	..	..	..	6,628,789	274,411	77,482

SHIPMENT OF LAMBS SOLD TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Sales have been made by the Imperial Government to the United States of America of lambs in store in New Zealand for shipment as under :—

Steamer.				Number of Carcases.
" Northumberland "	..	..	..	27,290
" Armagh "	..	..	..	251,798
" Suffolk "	..	..	..	222,568
				501,656

to be followed by the s.s. " Surrey," " Durham," " Somerset," and " Hororata."

WOOL.

REQUISITION AND DISPOSAL.

Greasy Clip.

The method of purchase followed for the 1919–20 clip was on the same lines as that adopted during the previous years.

VALUATION.

Valuations have continued to be carried out with general satisfaction to growers, there being very few appeals.

Remuneration paid to the valuing staff was at the same rate as last season.

Valuations were made at the following centres: Auckland, Tokomaru Bay, Tolaga Bay, Gisborne, Napier, Wairoa, Waitara, Wanganui, Wellington, Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dunedin, Timaru, Oamaru and Invercargill.