APPENDIX H.

Department of Agriculture, Wellington, 8th October, 1920.

At the last meeting of the Committee a request was made that particulars should be obtained of the steamer freights charged from Australia for various classes of produce. I enclose herewith a statement showing the Australian rates, together with the New Zealand rates for several of the classes of produce mentioned.

C. J. Reakes, Director-General.

The Secretary, Agricultural, Pastoral, and Stock Committee, Parliament Buildings.

Comparison of Freight Rates from Australian Ports to the United Kingdom and New Zealand Ports to the United Kingdom.

—	Australian Ports.	New Zealand Ports.
Lamb	2d., plus 10 per cent.	2d., plus 10 per cent.
Beef	$1\frac{3}{4}$d., plus 10 per cent.	$1\frac{3}{4}$d., plus 10 per cent.
Muttom tegs, pork, veal, boned beef, and sundries in crates	$1\frac{7}{8}$d., plus 10 per cent.	$1\frac{7}{8}$d., plus 10 per cent. (mutton).
Wool, greasy	$1\frac{5}{8}$d.	$1\frac{5}{8}$d.
Wool, scoured	$1\frac{7}{8}$d.	$2\frac{1}{8}$d.
Butter*	5s. 4d. box, plus 10 per cent.	5s. 4d. box, plus 5 per cent.
Cheese*	$1\frac{1}{4}$d. lb., plus 10 per cent.	$1\frac{1}{4}$d. lb., plus 5 per cent.
Tallow and pelts	180s. ton weight	195s. ton weight, plus 10 per cent.
Hides	$1\frac{1}{2}$d.	
Preserved meats	120s. ton measurement	120s., ton measurement, plus 10 per cent.
Rabbits and poultry	175s. ton measurement, plus 10 per cent.	
Sheep-skins	$1\frac{5}{8}$d.	

* Being revised, and likely to advance.

APPENDIX I.

Copy of Cablegram from the High Commissioner, London, to the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, dated 14th October, 1920.

With reference to your telegram of 4th October, my telegram 6th October, after careful inquiry regret reliable information as to actual annual profits unobtainable, as steamship companies are merged into and controlled by big combines, from whose accounts it is impossible to obtain particulars you desire. In addition dividend figures, &c., available to you as per my telegram 6th October, our brokers have ascertained that New Zealand Shipping Company dividends have been—year 1913, 10 per cent. with bonus of $56\frac{1}{4}$ in shares; 1914 to 1917, 8 per cent., all free of tax. It has been stated that twenty-three representative passenger steamship lines showed in 1919 Reserve Fund of $57\frac{3}{4}$ millions on a capitalization of $33\frac{3}{4}$ millions, while the average dividend over fourteen years was 9·03 per cent.

By Authority: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer, Wellington.—1920.