

Comments on the variations in the direction of our trade and on individual items of export will be made under paragraphs relative to countries, but it is pertinent to remark that in the case of foreign countries the variations in the proportion of exports depend almost entirely on wool purchases by these countries.

IMPORTS.

The following table sets out the quantities and values of the principal items imported into New Zealand in each of the past two calendar years:—

Principal Imports (excluding Specie).

Item.				1935.		1936.	
				Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
					£(N.Z.)		£(N.Z.)
Wheat	Bushels	224,702	58,977	407,141	100,676		
Flour	Centals	244,733	202,855	152,083	135,190		
Sugar	Cwt.	1,703,826	710,639	1,751,243	663,285		
Tea	Lb.	9,972,438	648,535	11,242,534	750,026		
Whisky	Gallons	277,447	334,369	316,519	382,918		
Cigarettes	Lb.	923,170	343,349	1,021,489	382,188		
Tobacco	"	2,646,746	347,859	3,082,200	399,328		
Seeds	"	"	145,827	"	141,962		
Hosiery	"	"	193,742	"	246,536		
Apparel	"	"	1,107,546	"	1,261,519		
Boots and shoes	Doz. prs.	211,164	472,049	219,650	508,778		
Drapery	"	"	326,970	"	368,963		
Carpets	"	"	496,421	"	688,394		
Piece-goods—							
Cotton	"	"	1,667,074	"	1,829,589		
Silk	"	"	964,315	"	1,088,344		
Woollen	"	"	652,616	"	852,338		
Cornsacks	Doz.	448,032	165,476	364,089	125,628		
Other sacks	"	"	144,316	"	203,200		
Woolpacks	Doz.	60,225	87,927	45,776	54,085		
Kerosene	Gallons	5,355,622	87,531	6,076,443	88,949		
Motor-spirits	"	63,920,658	1,085,361	86,423,750	1,633,396		
Mineral lubricating oil	"	2,506,616	249,735	2,911,504	281,066		
Crude petroleum	"	40,736,100	311,130	30,075,252	230,415		
Coal	Tons	97,398	94,197	111,078	105,340		
Iron and steel—							
Bar, bolt, and rod	Cwt.	438,789	289,340	647,209	411,956		
Galvanized plate	"	434,981	406,644	541,166	513,665		
Hardware	"	"	651,986	"	802,411		
Electrical apparatus	"	"	1,276,316	"	1,841,500		
Wireless apparatus	"	"	319,446	"	440,604		
Timber—							
Sawn	Sup. ft.	15,898,729	206,164	20,062,369	276,021		
Sawn, other	"	"	195,722	"	154,210		
Paper—							
Newsprint	Cwt.	607,264	327,310	794,558	446,505		
Printing, other	"	129,663	222,966	144,363	238,963		
Other	"	"	578,925	"	677,196		
Manures—							
Phosphates	Tons	254,871	372,754	310,691	493,865		
Other	"	16,713	112,942	16,823	117,693		
Motor-vehicles	No.	20,845	3,207,431	30,264	4,547,065		
Tires for motor-vehicles	Lb.	7,068,325	735,042	6,603,969	669,746		
Other items	"	"	16,485,740	"	19,980,813		
Totals, imports			36,287,544		44,134,326		

The marked increase of almost £8,000,000 is accounted for by increased purchasing-power and consequent freer spending which is reflected in an increased volume and value of the imports of most commodities and, in particular, of motor-vehicles.