

Principal Imports into the United Kingdom of Products of New Zealand Origin, with Percentage of Total Imports of such Commodities into United Kingdom.

Item.	Unit.	1935.			1936.		
		Quantity.	Percentage of Total Imports.	Value.	Quantity.	Percentage of Total Imports.	Value.
				£(stg.)			£(stg.)
Chilled beef	Cwt.	110,697	1·3	177,964	228,263	2·6	320,301
Frozen beef	..	464,758	27·1	606,849	277,900	18·6	344,007
Boned beef	..	217,617	36·6	302,853	210,453	31·6	285,586
Tongues, &c.	..	22,257	3·35	48,797	23,299	3·18	49,820
Veal, chilled and frozen ..	..	101,297	56·3	168,092	107,561	56·2	179,534
Mutton, frozen and chilled ..	..	1,041,563	60·7	1,754,720	888,864	66·1	1,616,778
Lamb	..	2,591,399	51·9	8,063,996	2,641,880	53·3	8,266,051
Pork, chilled or frozen ..	..	490,301	53·5	1,279,103	579,086	56·5	1,500,208
Cheese	..	1,762,915	64·9	4,198,564	1,681,147	62·8	4,773,989
Butter	..	2,637,502	27·4	11,571,543	2,791,914	28·6	13,445,227
Apples	..	296,130	4·08	443,902	377,480	6·67	434,136
Wool, crossbred	1,000 lb.	150,992	45·5	5,890,527	208,269	56·0	8,389,333
Tallow	Tons.	6,523	47·8	170,165	10,316	61·3	254,884
Hides and skins—							
Ox and cow	Cwt.	77,097	7·43	181,684	59,419	5·6	150,475
Sheep and lamb, woolled ..	..	89,285	20·3	259,562	62,884	13·96	258,512
Other than woolled	No.	3,885,367	64·5	299,911	2,890,356	58·3	314,435

The table above discloses the fact that New Zealand dominates the market in so far as frozen and chilled mutton, lamb, cheese, crossbred wool, hides and skins (other than woolled) are concerned, while in the case of pork, butter, and tallow she is the largest single exporter to the United Kingdom.

The declared policy of the United Kingdom to encourage home production of dairy-produce and the safeguarding of the live-stock industry of Great Britain may have a very important bearing on the trade of New Zealand with the Mother-country in these primary products.

The strong sentiment of the Dominion for closer trade relations with the Empire, and particularly with the United Kingdom, is evidenced in a practical manner by the fact that 73 per cent. of our total imports were of Empire origin in 1936, the imports from the United Kingdom being 49·5 per cent. As the result of discussions at the Imperial Economic Conference and of the trade mission of the Hon. Walter Nash, it is hoped that intra-Imperial trade will be still further increased.

TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

Our total trade with Australia still continues to expand, as is shown by the table hereunder, which sets out the value of this trade over the past five years, together with the visible trade balance :—

Total Trade with Australia.

Year ended 31st December,	Total Trade.	Exports to Australia.	Imports from Australia.	Excess of Imports over Exports.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
1932	3,813,153	1,444,860	2,368,293	923,433
1933	3,969,403	1,393,311	2,576,092	1,182,781
1934	5,120,640	1,882,516	3,238,124	1,356,608
1935	5,739,209	1,781,811	3,957,398	2,175,487
1936	6,784,788	1,843,475	4,941,313	3,097,838

While the value of New Zealand's exports to Australia increased by only £61,664 in 1936 as compared with 1935, the imports from Australia increased by £1,049,579; the percentage taken by Australia of our total exports shows a further decline from 3·83 per cent. in 1935 to 3·25 per cent. in 1936. Imports, on the other hand, show an increase of from 10·90 per cent. to 11·19 per cent. of total imports.

The increasing industrialization of Australia has had the effect of augmenting the quantity and value of manufactured articles imported from that source into the Dominion, and it may be mentioned that imports of hardware and machinery, steel, dried fruits, cut tobacco, timber sleepers, and cream of tartar show major increases.

The Department, acting in collaboration with the Customs Department, is keeping the closest possible watch on importations, particularly of goods of a class which are already being made in New Zealand, in order to ascertain the effect of any increased importations upon the present position and future development and expansion of those local industries. In a number of instances where circumstances have warranted it action has been taken to open negotiations with the Governments of the countries concerned.