

It is seen that butter dominates the position in so far as our exports are concerned, and, in fact, of the total importations into Jamaica of this product, amounting to 1,099,629 lb., the quantity supplied by New Zealand was 1,059,422 lb., or 96 per cent. This export trade in butter has doubled since the visit of the New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner in Toronto in 1933. There appears, further, to be a market for other lines of New Zealand produce, as is evident from recent agency inquiries received from Jamaica, and close touch is being maintained by the New Zealand Trade Commissioner with this market.

Hurricanes during the year affected the banana industry, and the reduced quantities available for export seriously reduced the national income. With reasonably good seasons it may be anticipated that increased purchasing-power will increase the consumption of products which New Zealand can supply.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICA.

The trade between New Zealand and South American countries is set out for the past three years in the table below, imports being shown according to country of origin :—

	Exports.			Imports.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
Argentina	4,079	3,401	11,795	20,412	16,586	18,746
Bolivia	..	..	..	2,091	3,576	1,413
Brazil	13,080	11,517	5,937	12,665	27,559	15,955
Chili	11,500	76	2,520	10,446	10,625	7,560
Ecuador	..	281	1,161	3,042	5,003	6,624
Paraguay	..	..	..	6	10	20
Peru	7	..	72	81	196	161
Uruguay	10,722	14,268	36,081	12	..	..
Totals	39,388	29,543	57,566	48,755	63,555	50,504

The marked increase in the exports of New Zealand produce to South American countries, as shown by the 1936 figures, is due in the main to shipments of potatoes to Uruguay. Crop failures in the Argentine and Uruguay have necessitated importation. During the calendar year 1936, 4,711 tons, valued at £23,687, were exported from New Zealand. For the first six months of 1937 a quantity of 6,882 tons, valued at £54,119, was exported to Uruguay and 497 tons, valued at £3,233, to Argentina. It must be remembered that of the exports consigned to Uruguay a large proportion may ultimately be consumed in the Argentine.

Other exports to these countries are fresh apples and sheep. Imports from these countries comprise the following :—

Argentina : Undressed hides, pelts and skins, crude tanning-materials, and seeds.

Bolivia : Edible nuts.

Brazil : Edible nuts and raw cocoa-beans.

Chili : Nitrate of soda.

Ecuador : Raw cocoa-beans.

ISLAND TRADE.

The trade with the Pacific Islands, while comparatively small in actual value, is nevertheless of considerable importance, and particulars are given hereunder of the trade of the more important islands and dependencies.

Fiji.

Trade with Fiji during the calendar year 1936 showed a marked improvement over 1935, as is disclosed by the table of total trade shown hereunder. Exports to the Island have increased by £15,885, or 18·4 per cent., and imports from Fiji by £15,712, or 19·6 per cent., over the 1935 figures.

Total Trade with Fiji.

Year ended 31st December,	Exports to Fiji.	Imports from Fiji.	Total Trade.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
1931	89,245	112,955	202,200
1932	88,693	116,645	205,338
1933	87,435	106,096	193,531
1934	85,493	103,166	188,659
1935	86,191	80,090	166,281
1936	102,076	95,802	197,878