

The activities of the New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner in Brussels have been largely responsible for increased quantities of New Zealand apples being admitted into the Netherlands and Germany, which latter country during 1936 took apples to the value of £17,096, as against none at all in 1935. In the case of casein, crayfish, honey, butter, milk-powder, and meats the Trade Commissioner has been successful in expanding our Continental market. The increasing trade in New Zealand grass and clover seeds is gratifying, and it may be stated that a definite interest is now being evinced by the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, and Sweden.

The difficulties of developing New Zealand business with the Continent owing to the various restrictions imposed by Continental authorities, lack of direct shipping, and consequent transshipment with its attendant drawbacks, have received, and are receiving, the very close attention of the New Zealand Trade and Tourist Commissioner in Brussels. It is hoped that as the result of recent trade discussions and personal contact many of the present difficulties will be overcome and that trade expansion of direct benefit to New Zealand will thereby be facilitated.

TRADE WITH THE EAST.

The total trade with undermentioned Eastern countries for each of the calendar years 1933, 1934, 1935, and 1936 is shown in the table hereunder.

Total Trade with Eastern Countries.

	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Export to—	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
Dutch East Indies	5,496	2,548	2,235	1,894
British Malaya	22,929	49,727	63,771	71,383
Burma	743	208	618	946
Ceylon	2,670	393	1,528	1,401
Hong Kong	15,143	16,238	11,249	22,176
India	34,326	65,161	60,956	125,826
China	54,564	19,099	7,718	32,854
Japan	354,462	856,014	432,495	1,554,837
Philippine Islands	413	2,493	3,945	5,983
Totals	490,746	1,011,881	584,515	1,817,300
Imports from—				
Dutch East Indies	998,224	1,381,974	1,437,379	1,722,802
British Malaya	63,181	64,826	81,457	97,246
Burma	17,239	11,622	9,679	11,361
Ceylon	551,388	585,689	633,594	750,982
Hong Kong	6,299	9,681	10,356	17,695
India	576,915	667,552	571,627	554,102
Japan	675,571	836,595	1,100,150	1,328,199
China	72,785	98,454	97,244	151,299
Philippine Islands	7,033	13,268	10,837	14,824
Totals	2,968,635	3,669,661	3,952,333	4,648,510

In considering these figures one is struck with the marked increases in exports to Japan (£1,122,342), India (£64,870), China (£25,136), Hong Kong (£10,927), British Malaya (£7,612) over the corresponding figures for 1933.

Increased exports to India are accounted for by tallow £89,751 (£30,994), butter £15,743 (£11,664), and wool £5,614 (£1,390); figures in parentheses relating to 1935 export values. Imports from this source decreased by £16,500.

In the case of China, wool to the value of £18,081 was exported in 1936, whereas no wool was exported to that country in 1935. Similarly, tallow valued at £2,136 was exported in 1936. In the case of butter the exports increased from £5,230 in 1935 to £7,988 in 1936.

Total imports from China are stated at an unduly high figure, due to the importation of a collection of antiques, the imports under this heading being £27,570. Imports of walnuts increased from £12,019 in 1935 to £24,354 in 1936.

Of the exports to Hong Kong, that of butter shows an increase of £9,396 to £13,480, while there have been increases in the importation of electric lamps and boots and shoes from that source.

Increased imports of tea amounting to £112,859, which bring the total imports of tea from Ceylon to £723,355 for 1936, account for the increase in imports from that country.

Increased imports of motor-spirit from the Dutch East Indies amounting to £384,376 brought the total to £1,008,227 in 1936. Sugar imports fell by £178,498 to £402,386.