

In spite of innumerable difficulties due to shortage of labour and materials, production on the average, increased during the war, as is shown in the following table :—

**LIVE-STOCK PRODUCTION**  
(In long tons)

—	Butterfat : Year ended 31st July.	Meat : Year ended 30th September.	Wool : Year ended 30th June.
Average of five seasons, 1934–39 ..	189,900	470,000* (Three seasons only)	134,000
Average of six seasons, 1939–45 ..	191,600	528,000	151,000

\* Years ended 30th June.

**CASH CROPS : ACRES IN CROP**

—	Areas threshed.					Commercial Areas outside Boroughs.		
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Peas and Beans.	Potatoes.	Onions.	Total.
Average of five seasons, 1934–39	214,200	63,400	22,400	6,900	19,100	21,900	800	348,700
Average of six seasons, 1939–45	243,900	61,000	31,200	8,200	35,100	22,200	1,100	402,700

During the war years the chief directing influence was secured through District Primary Production Councils. They carried out the policy of the National Council, which acted in an advisory capacity to the Minister on matters pertaining to seasonal production programmes as required by the exigencies of war and which organized rationing of essential supplies and the provision of labour. Production Councils were disbanded subsequent to the cessation of hostilities, and an arrangement has been made to secure the co-operation of the Federated Farmers whereby the Dominion programme for production is being diffused to producers through the Federation's district organizations so that all factors which may limit production can be fully investigated and rectified, as far as is possible.

**PROGRAMME FOR THE 1946–47 SEASON**

The difficulties created by the past summer's drought in the North Island (and which might have severely curtailed next season's dairy and meat production) have been largely overcome by bountiful autumn pasture growth and fodder-supplies transported to the northern dairying districts from the South Island. Although the autumn weather did not favour the preparation of land for autumn-sown cereals in the South Island, the essential features of the following production programme should be capable of fulfilment :—

Meat	..	..	..	..	530,000 tons.
Butterfat	..	..	..	..	190,000 "
Wool	..	..	..	..	160,000 "
Wheat	..	..	..	..	250,000 to 300,000 acres.
Oats for threshing	..	..	..	..	50,000 acres
Malting-barley	..	..	..	..	40,000 "
Feed barley	..	..	..	..	15,000 "
Maize	..	..	..	..	12,000 "
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	25,000 "
Onions	..	..	..	..	1,000 "
Peas	..	..	..	..	45,000 "