

1920.
NEW ZEALAND.

DEPARTMENT OF IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS COVERING THE PERIOD FROM THE 1ST APRIL, 1919, TO THE
31ST MARCH, 1920, INCLUDING AN APPENDIX SHOWING RESULTS TO THE 30TH JUNE, 1920.

Laid on the Table of the House of Representatives by Leave.

SIR,—

Wellington, 30th June, 1920.

I have the honour to submit a review of the operations of the Department of Imperial Government Supplies from the 1st April, 1919, to the 31st March, 1920.

FROZEN MEAT.

The revised schedule of prices agreed to in October, 1916, by the Imperial Board of Trade and the freezing companies concerned has remained operative.

In October, 1919, instructions were received from the Imperial Government that the system of telescoping carcasses of mutton and lamb should be discontinued.

In December, 1919, the Imperial Board of Trade advised that in order to relieve the congestion existing in New Zealand freezing-stores it was proposed to ship considerable quantities of New Zealand lamb to the United States of America on Imperial Government account. Subsequently definite advice was received of sales effected to American purchasers, and up to the 31st March, 1920, two shipments had been made in accordance with the Imperial Government's instructions—viz., 27,290 carcasses per s.s. "Northumberland," and 251,798 carcasses per s.s. "Armagh," which steamers sailed on the 13th and 27th March respectively for New York and Boston.

The total quantities of meat purchased and shipped from the 1st April, 1919, to the 31st March, 1920, were—

Beef (quarters)	432,784
Mutton (carcasses)	3,906,751
Lamb (carcasses)	3,761,166
Other meat (in 60 lb. carcasses)	31,922

The total quantities of meat purchased and shipped from the inception of the requisition (3rd March, 1915) to the 31st March, 1920, were as follows:—

Beef (quarters)	2,885,043
Mutton (carcasses)	12,299,080
Lamb (carcasses)	13,625,510
Other meat (in 60 lb. carcasses)	286,471

The total payments for meat to the 31st March, 1920, including storage and advances, amounted to £44,344,503, which was distributed as under:—

	£	£
Auckland	3,900,627	
Poverty Bay	4,729,446	
Hawke's Bay	4,663,971	
Taranaki	1,748,384	
Wellington	13,252,319	
North Island	28,294,747	
Marlborough	307,958	
Nelson	191,134	
Canterbury	9,845,052	
Otago	3,077,235	
Southland	2,628,377	
South Island	16,049,756	
Grand total	£44,344,503	

The quantities of meat which had either arrived at destination or were *en route* as at the 31st March, 1920, were—

Beef (quarters)	..	..	..	..	2,851,319
Mutton (carcasses)	..	..	..	..	12,170,253
Lamb (carcasses)	..	..	..	..	13,533,299

The balance is accounted for by quantities then on board steamers loading in New Zealand, and by losses in steamers s.s. "Clan MacTavish," "Rotorua," "Westmoreland," and "Hurunui."

The respective quantities of meat shipped from each port from the inception of the requisition to the 31st March, 1920, are set out in the following table:—

Port of Shipment.	1914-15 Season.			1915-16 Season.			1916-17 Season.			1917-18 Season.		
	Beef.	Mutton	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.
	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.
Whangarei ..	23,694	..	..	41,457	11,323	3,222	25,067	4,271	3,155	34,595	9,991	1,079
Auckland ..	52,533	41,264	74,983	186,587	42,975	108,104	76,063	22,942	9,464	146,239	30,534	40,040
Whakatane ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,721	..	..
Tokomaru Bay	6,463	58,460	41,897	8,950	107,846	67,526	7,742	33,186	..	4,071	50,905	..
Gisborne ..	25,024	220,038	101,073	62,261	325,172	165,752	33,933	143,881	13,562	35,811	190,555	100,023
Napier ..	34,802	208,775	151,982	64,802	377,599	301,282	33,092	248,209	88,516	30,702	263,763	211,958
Waitara ..	46,612	49,485	28,250	77,680	54,929	44,126	34,608	13,918	13,389	61,543	33,832	26,198
New Plymouth	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,531	12,761	2,567	12,952	9,043	9,345
Wanganui ..	17,812	95,713	38,012	26,783	88,569	67,766	56,011	65,784	24,004	57,900	176,227	121,674
Wellington ..	58,979	610,073	411,351	166,931	734,540	782,383	88,287	395,542	402,350	134,810	420,894	257,605
Total North Island ports	265,919	1,283,808	847,548	635,451	1,742,953	1,540,161	363,334	940,494	557,007	525,344	1,185,744	767,922
Nelson ..	521	10,312	20,549	4,763	16,623	21,563	4,256	1,671	1,684	2,646	8,526	10,324
Pictou ..	..	22,410	31,035	..	27,650	42,392	..	17,592	23,217	1,099	25,419	23,690
Lyttelton ..	11,128	244,750	772,152	38,162	274,884	770,312	52,205	237,954	352,344	37,049	312,976	588,620
Timaru ..	2,618	153,374	623,925	7,624	102,373	334,357	15,507	158,713	248,520	7,038	88,455	283,701
Oamaru ..	..	29,871	97,868	..	10,095	32,402	..	9,541	2,527	..	61,636	28,670
Dunedin ..	11,876	85,884	214,387	22,246	102,716	189,680	30,388	107,912	54,700	8,316	82,697	112,692
Bluff ..	45,673	156,552	282,044	61,634	144,396	217,847	52,018	101,723	75,507	31,455	105,744	55,825
Total South Island ports	71,816	703,153	2,041,960	134,429	678,737	1,608,553	154,374	635,106	758,499	87,603	685,453	1,103,522
Grand totals	337,735	1,986,961	2,889,508	769,880	2,421,690	3,148,714	517,708	1,575,600	1,315,506	612,947	1,871,197	1,871,444

Port of Shipment.	1918-19 Season.			1919-20 Season.			Total.		
	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.
	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.	Quarters.	Carcasses.	Carcasses.
Whangarei ..	24,767	..	..	..	35,929	2,362	149,580	61,514	9,818
Auckland ..	83,115	188,406	105,879	20,613	53,631	10,135	565,150	379,752	348,605
Whakatane ..	23,550	29,626	1,067	6,028	26,685	5,599	36,299	56,311	6,666
Tokomaru Bay	14,209	67,050	49,581	..	67,751	3,134	41,435	385,198	162,138
Gisborne ..	83,815	278,026	75,681	4,609	205,747	92,543	245,453	1,363,419	548,634
Napier ..	46,709	590,811	238,409	5,428	196,131	88,782	215,535	1,885,288	1,080,929
Waitara ..	20,425	97,825	35,968	7,688	..	2,961	248,556	249,989	150,892
New Plymouth	24,440	43, 60	14,406	8,895	42,564	10,628	54,818	108,028	36,946
Wanganui ..	43,595	173,034	163,484	17,392	84,135	41,551	219,493	683,462	456,491
Wellington ..	97,341	1,013,251	633,110	31,963	316,027	286,607	578,311	3,490,327	2,773,406
Total North Island ports	461,966	2,481,689	1,317,585	102,616	1,028,600	544,302	2,354,630	8,663,288	5,574,525
Nelson ..	5,014	15,762	9,133	..	..	..	17,200	52,894	63,253
Pictou ..	948	38,815	70,410	..	..	..	2,047	131,886	190,744
Lyttelton ..	20,833	284,920	992,907	3,203	71,542	328,132	162,580	1,427,026	3,804,467
Timaru ..	4,370	175,727	609,155	7,461	92,108	153,837	44,618	770,750	2,255,495
Oamaru ..	..	..	..	..	..	47,368	..	111,143	208,835
Dunedin ..	14,772	73,970	107,011	..	26,617	16,274	87,598	479,796	694,744
Bluff ..	25,570	112,003	166,999	20	41,879	35,225	216,370	662,297	833,447
Total South Island ports	71,507	701,197	1,955,615	10,684	232,146	582,836	530,413	3,635,792	8,050,985
Grand totals	533,473	3,182,886	3,273,200	113,300	1,260,746	1,127,138	2,885,043	12,299,080	13,625,510

The system of payment of advances, representing 75 per cent. of the value of killings which have remained in freezing-chambers for a period of six weeks, still continues, the payment of the balance of 25 per cent. being effected at time of shipment upon presentation of the usual documents.

Payments are made to freezing-companies free of exchange in accordance with the arrangement made with the associated banks at the inception of the requisition, and this arrangement has application also to payments made to the companies' clients on account of shipments and advances.

The following statement furnishes particulars of frozen meat in store and of shipments made in the equivalent of 60 lb. carcasses from 3rd March, 1915, to 31st March, 1920 :—

In store on—		1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.
April	30	1,792,362	2,304,258	2,946,781	4,082,323	7,265,253
May	31	2,048,454	2,642,362	3,290,072	4,794,787	7,931,103
June	30	2,165,342	2,480,846	3,483,324	5,230,000	7,934,921
July	31	1,865,283	1,892,504	3,383,235	5,314,602	7,780,394
August	31	1,410,167	1,396,540	2,949,545	5,233,308	6,960,556
September	30	665,992	816,933	2,873,277	4,970,053	5,923,654
October	31	199,936	367,975	2,557,881	4,576,942	4,953,429
November	30	140,836	161,311	1,890,489	4,446,726	4,321,729
December	31	597,817	451,361	1,915,451	4,293,315	4,466,364
January	31	1,093,300	1,137,438	1,954,490	4,992,719	5,131,901
February	28	1,575,336	1,901,085	2,609,618	5,766,815	5,912,670
March	31	2,152,250	2,409,541	3,398,364	6,567,871	6,628,789
Shipments during—		1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.
April	..	498,971	540,204	340,374	490,339	423,003
May	..	389,223	500,097	338,507	363,688	572,871
June	..	302,293	605,890	239,793	94,855	745,147
July	..	761,641	740,845	229,402	75,290	308,049
August	..	602,647	555,630	453,178	98,327	823,780
September	..	795,766	609,362	96,059	264,780	1,037,465
October	..	474,055	465,983	321,127	394,722	971,223
November	..	282,450	321,497	743,065	133,486	663,906
December	..	241,734	235,316	394,941	369,577	405,525
January	..	514,036	440,168	904,810	217,749	419,553
February	..	498,964	272,910	369,043	317,679	369,143
March	..	542,586	800,539	335,303	549,936	638,129
		5,904,366	6,088,441	4,765,602	3,372,428	7,377,794

The freezing companies in the Dominion have further increased the storage capacity of their works during the period under review by 313,095 freight carcasses, making the total refrigerated storage accommodation 7,718,367 60 lb. freight carcasses, represented by 5,089,656 in the North Island and 2,628,711 in the South Island.

CHEESE.

The requisition of cheese on behalf of the Imperial Government came into operation on the 4th November, 1915, and has continued during the interval.

The conditions of purchase for the 1919-20 season's output are the same in all respects as those for the previous season, and provide for the payment on delivery of the cheese f.o.b. ocean steamer, subject to an advance of 90 per cent. in the event of the cheese remaining in store for a period of fourteen days prior to shipment.

All insurance risks up to the point of shipment are borne by factories, but liability for storage is accepted by the Imperial Government should the average period during which the cheese remains in store exceed two months.

The present contract expires on the 1st July, 1920.

The following table shows the number of crates and the value of all cheese purchased from the inception of the requisition up to the 31st March, 1920 :—

Season.	Number of Crates.	Value. £
1915-16	189,502	918,104
1916-17	518,327	3,271,982
1917-18	756,142	5,013,295
1918-19	789,550	5,634,389
1919-20	644,773	4,269,096

The figures for the present season include 274,411 crates awaiting shipment on the 31st March, a portion of which has been advanced against in accordance with the conditions of purchase.

BUTTER.

The prices fixed for the purchase of the 1919-20 season's output are as follows :—

Creamery Butter.—First grade, 181s. per hundredweight, with a reduction of 6d. per hundredweight for each half grade point by which the butter falls below first grade.

Whey and Dairy Butter.—First grade, 162s. 4d. per hundredweight, with a reduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound for second grade.

Milled Butter.—First grade, 148s. 4d. per hundredweight, with a reduction of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per pound for second grade.

No provision was included in this contract regarding any division of profits, and the prices quoted above represent the final payment to the exporting factories.

As in the case of cheese, arrangements were made for the payment of advances representing 90 per cent. of the purchase price in respect of produce which had remained in store for a period of fourteen days.

Insurance risks are borne by factories until the butter has been placed l.o.b. ocean steamer, but liability for storage is accepted by the Imperial Government beyond an average period of two months based over all consignments throughout the season.

The following table shows the number of boxes and the value of all butter purchased from the inception of the requisition up to the 31st March, 1920 :—

Season.	Number of Boxes.	Value. £
1917-18	724,699	2,829,032
1918-19	667,114	2,926,139
1919-20	483,099	2,387,929
	1,874,912	£8,143,100

The figures for the present season include 77,482 boxes in store advanced against and awaiting shipment on the 31st March.

The present contract for the purchase of butter by the Imperial Government expires on the 31st July, 1920.

EQUALIZATION FUNDS.

As indicated in my previous annual report, the 50-per-cent. profits arising out of the proceeds of butter requisitioned by the Imperial Government for the 1917-18 season formed an Equalization Fund for the purpose of equalizing the profits of the manufacturers who sold creamery butter for local consumption with those who exported their produce under the requisition scheme.

The amount of such fund was £307,919, and from this sum payments were made to manufacturers representing approximately $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. per pound in respect of all creamery butter exported, and of $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per pound in respect of butter sold locally, equalizing the returns to factories for export or local sales to 1s. $5\frac{3}{4}$ d. per pound at factory-door.

Under the authority of section 16 of the Appropriation Act, 1919, the New Zealand Government assumed the liability of equalizing the profits on local butter-sales, the sum of £340,000 being appropriated for this purpose by Parliament for the 1918-19 and 1919-20 seasons.

The rate required to be paid to such manufacturers amounted to 1.955d. per pound, and this was duly distributed on 1918-19 season's creamery butter sold for local consumption, after the returns of all factories throughout the Dominion had been duly audited by the Department's travelling auditors. The total payments made out of the fund in respect of this season amounted to £211,815.

A similar arrangement obtains in respect of the 1919-20 season, and an interim payment of $1\frac{3}{4}$ d. per pound is being made on monthly returns forwarded by the factories. The payments made on account of this season to date total £64,344.

The provisions contained in the *Gazette* governing the distribution of moneys from the Equalization Fund have recently been amended in the direction of authorizing the Department to make equalization payments in respect of sales made at prices in excess of the equivalent of 1s. 5d., factory-door (the price fixed by Order in Council dated 16th April, 1918), subject to a deduction to the extent of such excess.

SCHEELITE.

The contract for the purchase of scheelite by the Imperial Government, which commenced on the 20th September, 1915, was determined on the 30th April, 1919, and the Imperial Ministry of Munitions agreed to pay compensation on the basis of 50 per cent. of the deliveries during the preceding twelve months, or, in certain cases, on the estimated production during the six months following the date mentioned above.

The total compensation distributed to the various producers concerned amounted to £19,128.

The total quantity of scheelite shipped under the terms of the contract amounts to 774 tons, and the payments, inclusive of the compensation referred to above, amount to £175,970, distributed to various districts as under:—

	£
Glenorchy	87,713
Macrae's Flat	38,063
Otago Central	7,416
Marlborough	34,077
Charges	8,701
	£175,970

Final accounts in respect of the last shipment to leave New Zealand have not yet been received from London.

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.

The total disbursements by the Department from the 3rd March, 1915, to the 31st March, 1920, were as follows:—

	£
Frozen meat	44,344,503
Cheese	19,106,866
Butter	8,143,100
Scheelite	175,970
Wool	49,600,913
Freezing companies' slipe wool	5,880,344
Sheep-skins	2,573,155
Hides	735,663
Miscellaneous	2,530,726
Grand total	£133,091,240

The salaries, postages, cables, telegrams, office expenses, rent, stationery, and all other incidental charges connected with the internal administration of the Department since its inception to the 31st March, 1920, have amounted to £63,497 0s. 10d., representing 0·0477 per cent. on above disbursements, or less than one shilling for each £100 of business done.

SHIPPING.

As forecasted in my last report, the shipping position has improved during the past year, and, so far as provision for general cargo has been concerned, the number of steamers available has very considerably reduced the quantity of cargo awaiting shipment.

Insulated tonnage has been provided in increased quantity, but, owing to congestion at ports in the United Kingdom causing delays in discharging at that end, the stocks of frozen meat have not been reduced sufficiently to enable freezing-works to cope with all the fat stock offering.

Urgent efforts have been made during the year to have the quantity of insulated space allotted to New Zealand increased, and in consequence vessels have been transferred from the South American and Australian trade to relieve stocks in the Dominion.

It is anticipated that a sufficient clearance will be made by the end of the year to enable freezing-works to treat without great difficulty all fat stock offering during the following season.

The following table shows the number of insulated steamers which have sailed from the Dominion during the years 1914–19 inclusive, together with their total insulated carrying-capacity :—

Year.				Number of Steamers.	Total Insulated Capacity (60 lb. Freight Carcases).
1914	..	..	..	.. 99	8,800,700
1915	..	..	..	.. 84	7,682,000
1916	..	..	..	.. 78	7,322,500
1917	..	..	..	.. 62	5,626,350
1918	..	..	..	.. 52	4,926,300
1919	..	..	..	.. 79	7,694,000

The New Zealand Overseas Shipowners' Committee, which has been responsible for the allocation of space in overseas steamers loading in the Dominion, has continued to meet daily, and has carried out its onerous duties with strict impartiality according to the requirements of the various districts.

PRODUCE IN STORE AWAITING SHIPMENT.

The following table shows the quantities of meat, cheese, and butter in store and awaiting shipment on the 31st March, for the last five years :—

Date.				Frozen Meat (60 lb. Carcases).	Cheese (Crates).	Butter (Boxes).
31st March, 1916	..	..	..	2,152,250	73,927	87,678
31st March, 1917	..	..	..	2,409,541	185,417	224,506
31st March, 1918	..	..	..	3,398,364	363,790	350,315
31st March, 1919	..	..	..	6,482,529	474,754	93,729
31st March, 1920	..	..	..	6,628,789	274,411	77,482

SHIPMENT OF LAMBS SOLD TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Sales have been made by the Imperial Government to the United States of America of lambs in store in New Zealand for shipment as under :—

Steamer.				Number of Carcases.	
"Northumberland"	27,290
"Armagh"	251,798
"Suffolk"	222,568
					501,656

to be followed by the s.s. "Surrey," "Durham," "Somerset," and "Hororata."

WOOL.

REQUISITION AND DISPOSAL.

Greasy Clip.

The method of purchase followed for the 1919–20 clip was on the same lines as that adopted during the previous years.

VALUATION.

Valuations have continued to be carried out with general satisfaction to growers, there being very few appeals.

Remuneration paid to the valuing staff was at the same rate as last season.

Valuations were made at the following centres: Auckland, Tokomaru Bay, Tolaga Bay, Gisborne, Napier, Wairoa, Waitara, Wanganui, Wellington, Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch, Dunedin, Timaru, Oamaru and Invercargill.

WOOL BOUGHT AND SHIPPED.

From the commencement of the requisition up to the 31st March, 1920, wool has been bought and disposed of as under :—

Total number of bales valued (as per valuation certificates received)	2,039,157
Number of bales lost in transit	9,668
Number of bales arrived at destination (in 211 steamers)	1,090,393
Number of bales <i>en route</i> to Great Britain (in six steamers)	30,202
Number of bales shipped to America	10,321
Number of bales shipped on account of other Governments	110,994
Number of bales of greasy wool delivered to scourers for treatment	357,434
Number of bales of greasy wool available for shipment or scouring	430,145
	2,039,157
Number of bales of scoured and fellmongers' slipe wool shipped	282,185
Number of bales of scoured and fellmongers' slipe wool available for shipment	56,142
Total number of bales paid for	2,031,092

The sum of £49,600,913 was disbursed in payment of the 2,031,092 bales referred to above.

WOOL FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

Acting under instructions from the Imperial Government, the undermentioned quantities of wool have been selected for other Governments :—

For the Government of—	Bales.
France	85,422
United States of America	112,401
Canada	32,466
	230,289
Total	

Of the above quantities, shipments to the respective Governments have been effected as follows :—

To the Government of—	Bales.
France	49,207
United States of America	58,658
Canada	32,466
	140,331
Total	

The balance of selections unshipped—namely, 89,958 bales—has been cancelled and the wool held for shipment to the United Kingdom.

The prices charged for the wool shipped were arranged by the Imperial Government.

WOOL FOR LOCAL MILLS.

The arrangement whereby local mills were enabled to select such wool as they required, prior to valuation, at the Imperial Government rates plus the cost of valuation, has been continued, up to the average quantity of wool used by each woollen-mill during the previous two years.

For any wool purchased in excess of the average for the years ending 31st October, 1918, and 31st October, 1919, the local woollen-mills are required to pay an additional price, representing half the net average margin between appraised values in New Zealand, plus charges and London sale values.

WOOL-SCOURING ARRANGEMENTS.

The arrangements made for scouring locks, pieces, lambs' and heavy conditioned fleece wool have been continued as in previous years, and the following shows the quantities distributed to or set aside for wool-scourers up to the 31st March, 1920 :—

Season 1916–17	80,951
Season 1917–18	107,739
Season 1918–19	121,064
Season 1919–20 (to 31st March)	60,354

Scourers were required to sort, classify, scour, dry, and pack the wool treated by them, and their remuneration was fixed at the following scale: Fleece, 1½d. per pound on scoured weight; bellies, locks, stained pieces, and second pieces, 1¾d. per pound on scoured weight; merino, ¼d. per pound advance on above.

Owing to the heavy increased cost of labour and material an increase in the scale was granted for the 1919-20 season of ¼d. per pound on wool of 48/50's quality and upwards, and ⅓d. per pound on lower grades.

The result of scouring for 1918-19 season showed that 121,064 bales greasy wool at an average weight of 374·21 lb., equal to 45,297,123 lb., were reduced to 100,011 bales scoured wool of an average weight of 297·70 lb., equal to 29,772,652 lb. — a saving in shipping space of 21,053 bales and 15,524,471 lb. weight.

The average yield of scoured wool was 66·27 lb. per 100 lb. of greasy wool.

The amount paid to wool-scourers for treatment of this wool was £213,369.

CONDITION OF 1919-20 CLIP.

The condition of the 1919-20 clip as reported by the Chief Supervising Wool-valuer at the 31st January, was as follows:—

Auckland.—Auckland wool is not quite as well grown as in the previous season, but the condition is good, with a tendency to be a shade finer. Very little seedy wool has been submitted to valuation up to the present.

Poverty Bay and Hawke's Bay. The growth of the clip generally has suffered from the effects of the drought conditions, wools coming in shorter in staple, with a decided break. The condition of the wools valued up to date has been dry and generally satisfactory, there being no excess of yolk. Many of the clips were a little dull and dusty. There is no change to note in the character of the wools except that there is a large proportion of "hunger fine" wools, and in much of the clip the effect of the shortage of feed is emphasized by a half-perished and rough tip to the wool.

The southern portion of the Hawke's Bay and Wairoa do not appear to have suffered so much as the rest of the district, and many of the wools from these parts have been well grown and light in condition. Lambs' wool generally has been short in staple and not nearly up to the standard of good seasons.

Wellington. Owing to the very dry autumn the wool this season is short and shows a good deal of tenderness. There has been a very marked absence of seedy wool this season. The lambs' wool is better than an average season's, being bright and clean and free from seed.

Wanganui. The same remarks apply to this district as to Wellington.

Waitara. This district is showing a good improvement each season, owing to the burnt country getting cleaned up and very little new burning going on at present.

Nelson.—There has been part tender wool in this district, but not so pronounced as in other places. Taken all round the clip is a good average one, being clean and bright, and free from seed.

Blenheim.—Parts of this district have suffered from the dry autumn, particularly where farmers have been overstocked. On the other hand, a large proportion of the coast and back-country wools came in in first-class order, being well grown, clean and bright, particularly some of the merino wools.

Taking the whole of the Wellington Valuation District, the wool not having grown so well, the fleeces are smaller and finer. In consequence of this fact the grower, although receiving more money per pound of wool, will possibly yet receive a smaller cheque this season for the same flock as shorn last season, there being less bulk of wool.

Christchurch and Timaru.—Growth of wool: The wool is of a more robust type than could be said of last season's, particularly three-quarter-bred grown in the Timaru district, but not quite so marked in Christchurch on three-quarter bred. Half-bred and merino also show good growth, and are a better style of wool generally than last season's.

Condition: Generally speaking condition is good, almost entirely free from tender fleeces, and yields should be better than the average season's in Canterbury. This is shown in the lesser number of bales that are being put out for scouring so far this season, particularly of fleece wool.

Character: Generally good. Wool grown in South Canterbury has shown a marked improvement in the past two seasons or so.

Oamaru, Dunedin, and Invercargill.—Evidence of a severe winter and shortage of feed owing to the failure of the turnip crop have had a very marked effect on the wool-clip in Dunedin, Oamaru, and Invercargill districts. Wools for the most part are poorly grown and very much shorter in staple. Also, a very marked feature is the fineness of the clip: what were usually 44/46's this year run out at 46/48's quality. Hoggets are poorly grown and very tender with few exceptions. A big proportion of last year's preparing-wool is only carding this season. It has also run finer in quality, and a large proportion is off colour and drabby in appearance.

The condition of the wool is lighter than in a normal year, being fluffy in character and badly grown. Sheep have produced a less weight of wool per head, the staple being finer and shorter and having a starved appearance. The above remarks apply particularly to farmers' lots, although some of the station wools also show these characteristics.

The character of the wool on a whole is poorer, but the fineness in quality will help growers to some extent, and the enhanced price will help to make up shortage in weight.

There is a much larger proportion of inferior wool than usual, and some growers' wool cheques will be much smaller than in previous years.

Strangely enough, the high-country clips are in better condition than last year, and this is accounted for by the previous year's severe snowstorms having killed a large number of high-country sheep, and this country has been greatly under-stocked during the past year. In many cases the merino wool is much superior to that of the past two or three seasons.

There is a noticeable absence of new seed in the clips offered up to the present date, but a large quantity of wool contains last year's seed. However, on the whole the wools are not quite so seedy as last year.

FREEZING COMPANIES' SLIPE WOOL.

Valuations of freezing companies' slipe wool have been continued through the present season. The following table indicates the extent of the Department's operations in this section from the inception of the requisition:—

		Payments to Date, £	
<i>Purchased for valuation in the United Kingdom:—</i>			
Number of bales advanced against .. .. .	.. .. .	68,880	2,013,123
Shipped to Great Britain .. .. .	.. .. . 67,085		
Shipped on account of other Governments .. .. .	.. .. . 1,795		
	68,880		
<i>Purchased under New Zealand valuations:—</i>			
Number of bales purchased .. .. .	.. .. .	138,406	3,867,221
Shipped to Great Britain .. .. .	.. .. . 80,789		
Shipped on account of other Governments .. .. .	.. .. . 7,604		
Awaiting shipment .. .. .	.. .. . 50,013		
	138,406		
Totals .. .. .	.. .. .	207,286	£5,880,344

TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS.

The contracts for the purchase of New Zealand wool by the Imperial Government cover all wool clipped or pulled on or before the 30th June, 1920.

SHEEP-SKINS.

The purchase of sheep-skins has been continued on the same terms and conditions as in previous seasons. The skins have been allocated to fellmongers for treatment as hitherto, and the resulting wool and pelts have been delivered to the Government through their agents at the customary shipping-ports, branded and casked as directed. To the 31st March, 1920, the number of skins purchased and distributed to fellmongers was 6,380,501; value, £2,573,155. The requisition of this class of produce on behalf of the Imperial Government ceases in respect of sheep-skins from stock killed up to the 30th June, 1920.

FELLMONGERING.

Results for the 1918-19 season show that 2,220,901 skins, valued at £761,548, an average cost of 82·29d. per skin, were issued to fellmongers for treatment. The average pull of wool was 4·09 lb., and the average percentage of valueless pelts was 9·13.

Fellmongers have been paid for their services at the following rates: Fellmongering, 2¼d. per pound on weight of wool; curing pelts, 3s. 9d. per dozen (casks extra). From the 1st January, 1920, owing to the higher cost of labour and material, these rates have been increased by ¼d. per pound on slipe wool, 48/50s and upwards, and by ⅓d. per pound on lower grades; while the rate for curing has been increased by 9d. per dozen.

The total amount paid to fellmongers for slipping wool and curing pelts was £116,204.

STAFF AND ORGANIZATION.

The staff of Wool and Sheep-skin Valuers and Inspectors of Wool-scouring and Fellmongering Works have throughout given the greatest care and attention to their important duties.

Members of the office staff have worked at high pressure throughout the year and have been indefatigable in the careful discharge of the work entrusted to them. This loyal co-operation has contributed materially to the efficiency of the Department.

I regret to have to record that serious ill health compelled the retirement of the Chief Accountant, Mr. D. Rutherford, in February, 1920, and his death occurred on the 6th June. Mr. Rutherford, who had been Chief Accountant from the inauguration of the Department in March, 1915, always devoted himself unsparingly to his duties, and his demise at the early age of thirty-three is deeply regretted.

I have also to record the resignation in April, 1920, of Mr. F. H. Taylor from the position of Assistant Controller, which he had held from the inception of the Department, and whose work was always characterized by special thoroughness and enthusiasm.

Mr. T. R. Lees, late Officer in Charge of the Wool and Sheep-skin Section, has been appointed Assistant Controller, and Mr. G. C. Smith, late Assistant Accountant, has been appointed Chief Accountant.

I have pleasure in again placing on record the indebtedness of the Department to wool-brokers, freezing companies, and others for their co-operation and willingness at all times to afford assistance.

I have, &c.,
ROBERT TRIGGS,
Controller.

The Right Hon. Minister in Charge,
Department of Imperial Government Supplies, Wellington.

(1.) WOOL 1916-17, 1917-18, 1918 19 AND 1919-20 CLIPS.

STATEMENT SHOWING PARTICULARS OF TOTAL WOOL PURCHASED (EITHER BY THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OR LOCAL WOOLLEN-MILLS) DURING THE ABOVE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, AND AVERAGE VALUES IN EACH VALUING CENTRE.

	Auckland.	Tokomaru Bay.	Tolaga Bay.	Gisborne.	Napier.	Waikato.	Wairarapa.	Wellington.
Number of bales valued—								
1916-17	35,929	4,581	3,969	36,349	89,267	6,586	24,945	115,390
1917-18	43,046	7,799	6,934	40,816	85,169	8,321	34,380	115,119
1918-19	40,518	7,779	6,350	42,133	86,096	8,330	40,418	110,718
1919-20	35,976	5,513	5,583	40,723	67,782	8,483	40,621	96,326
Weight in pounds—								
1916-17	12,601,067	1,792,598	1,483,836	13,685,819	33,982,491	3,370,527	9,641,697	44,639,733
1917-18	15,397,618	3,235,486	2,575,937	15,499,303	32,433,780	3,101,635	13,369,531	44,706,351
1918-19	14,661,236	3,215,217	2,351,937	15,644,606	33,022,811	3,243,214	15,900,283	43,264,398
1919-20	12,721,495	2,200,820	2,008,063	14,987,505	25,171,741	3,270,510	15,828,835	36,845,724
Value—								
1916-17	£764,018	£110,412	£88,966	£809,667	£2,037,143	£132,063	£560,018	£2,746,053
1917-18	£913,961	£191,531	£153,477	£913,089	£1,952,775	£179,592	£791,328	£2,763,361
1918-19	£883,788	£189,812	£142,812	£945,599	£2,018,402	£194,965	£972,240	£2,701,185
1919-20	£770,359	£134,291	£122,908	£904,789	£1,545,930	£201,175	£986,271	£2,319,238
Average value per pound—								
1916-17	14.55d.	14.78d.	14.39d.	14.20d.	14.39d.	13.37d.	13.94d.	14.75d.
1917-18	14.24d.	14.21d.	14.48d.	14.14d.	14.45d.	13.90d.	14.20d.	14.83d.
1918-19	14.46d.	14.16d.	14.58d.	14.50d.	14.67d.	14.43d.	14.67d.	14.98d.
1919-20	14.53d.	14.64d.	14.68d.	14.48d.	14.74d.	14.76d.	14.95d.	15.10d.
Average value per bale—								
1916-17	£21 5 3	£21 1 9	£22 8 4	£22 5 6	£22 16 5	£20 1 0	£22 9 0	£23 15 11
1917-18	£21 4 8	£24 11 2	£22 8 5	£22 7 5	£22 18 7	£21 16 11	£23 0 3	£24 0 1
1918-19	£21 16 3	£24 8 0	£23 9 9	£23 8 10	£23 8 10	£23 8 1	£24 1 1	£24 7 11
1919-20	£21 8 3	£24 7 2	£22 0 4	£22 4 4	£22 16 2	£23 14 4	£24 5 7	£24 1 6
Average weight per bale, in pounds—								
1916-17	351	391	374	377	380	360	386	387
1917-18	358	415	371	380	381	377	389	388
1918-19	362	413	371	371	384	389	383	391
1919-20	353	399	360	368	371	386	390	383
	Marlborough.	Nelson.	Christchurch.	Timaru.	Oamaru.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.	Total (Doubtless).
Number of bales valued—								
1916-17	8,136	6,130	65,303	26,096	10,119	49,674	30,565	513,042
1917-18	15,083	7,644	72,316	29,726	12,619	54,047	33,554	566,482
1918-19	16,600	7,818	71,863	33,290	12,469	51,437	31,560	567,379
1919-20	14,251	7,004	68,925	32,625	12,178	50,135	26,101	512,226
Weight in pounds—								
1916-17	2,710,386	2,064,103	22,412,468	8,982,870	3,546,554	16,244,522	9,485,008	185,663,809
1917-18	4,987,041	2,539,155	24,197,602	10,192,050	4,270,560	18,254,534	10,817,838	205,378,421
1918-19	5,472,730	2,619,688	23,995,426	11,487,781	4,171,331	16,940,372	9,378,141	205,371,286
1919-20	4,656,921	2,251,147	22,958,066	11,406,323	4,129,320	16,761,918	8,215,956	183,414,344
Value—								
1916-17	£341,452	£124,247	£1,462,069	£578,799	£211,343	£1,020,377	£582,912	£11,404,910
1917-18	£376,537	£154,427	£1,652,354	£691,412	£271,232	£1,153,073	£681,522	£12,806,586
1918-19	£320,431	£164,164	£1,670,674	£790,123	£269,080	£1,100,486	£624,803	£13,044,760
1919-20	£15,65d.	£143,143	£1,642,568	£809,315	£269,256	£1,112,462	£520,691	£11,802,827
Average value per pound—								
1916-17	16.43d.	14.44d.	15.65d.	15.46d.	14.30d.	15.08d.	14.75d.	14.74d.
1917-18	16.51d.	14.59d.	16.38d.	16.28d.	15.24d.	15.16d.	15.12d.	14.95d.
1918-19	16.51d.	15.04d.	16.71d.	16.51d.	15.48d.	15.59d.	15.25d.	15.25d.
1919-20	16.51d.	15.26d.	17.17d.	17.02d.	15.64d.	15.92d.	15.21d.	15.44d.
Average value per bale—								
1916-17	£21 14 8	£20 5 5	£22 7 9	£22 3 7	£20 17 9	£20 10 10	£19 1 5	£22 4 7
1917-18	£22 12 9	£20 4 0	£22 17 0	£23 5 2	£21 9 10	£21 6 9	£20 6 3	£22 12 2
1918-19	£22 13 8	£20 19 11	£23 4 11	£23 11 8	£21 11 7	£21 7 11	£19 16 0	£22 19 10
1919-20	£22 9 8	£20 8 9	£23 16 7	£24 16 2	£22 2 2	£22 3 9	£19 19 0	£23 0 10
Average weight per bale, in pounds—								
1916-17	333	337	343	344	350	327	310	362
1917-18	330	332	335	343	338	322	322	363
1918-19	329	335	334	345	335	330	297	362
1919-20	327	321	333	350	339	334	315	358

N.B.—Freezing companies' slip wool is not included in above returns.

(2.) WOOL—1916-17, 1917-18, 1918-19, AND 1919-20 CLIPS.
STATEMENT SHOWING PARTICULARS OF PURCHASES ON IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT DURING ABOVE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, AND AVERAGE VALUES IN EACH VALUING CENTRE.

	Auckland.	Tokonaru Bay.	Tolaga Bay.	Gisborne.	Napier.	Waitara.	Wanganui.	Wellington.
Number of bales valued—	1916-17 .. 34,871	4,584	3,969	36,349	87,947	6,586	24,945	114,261
	1917-18 .. 42,563	7,799	6,934	40,816	84,157	8,221	34,389	114,717
	1918-19 .. 40,043	7,779	6,350	42,133	84,906	8,330	40,418	110,375
	1919-20 .. 35,335	5,513	5,583	40,723	65,945	8,483	40,621	95,709
Weight in pounds—	1916-17 .. 12,238,489	1,792,508	1,483,856	13,683,819	33,467,148	2,370,527	9,641,697	44,235,643
	1917-18 .. 15,210,941	3,235,486	2,575,937	15,499,303	32,034,484	3,101,635	13,369,531	44,848,682
	1918-19 .. 14,486,275	3,213,217	2,351,092	15,644,606	32,569,111	3,243,214	15,900,283	43,135,776
	1919-20 .. 12,512,290	2,200,820	2,008,063	14,987,505	24,493,960	3,270,510	15,828,835	36,618,702
Value—	1916-17 .. £745,221	£110,412	£88,966	£809,667	£2,011,281	£132,063	£560,018	£2,722,347
	1917-18 .. £904,596	£191,531	£153,477	£913,089	£1,932,519	£179,592	£791,358	£2,755,057
	1918-19 .. £875,945	£189,812	£142,812	£943,399	£1,993,749	£194,965	£972,240	£2,693,583
	1919-20 .. £756,410	£134,291	£122,908	£904,789	£1,507,837	£201,175	£986,271	£2,304,518
Average value per pound—	1916-17 .. 14.61d.	14.78d.	14.39d.	14.20d.	14.42d.	13.37d.	13.94d.	14.77d.
	1917-18 .. 14.27d.	14.21d.	14.48d.	14.14d.	14.47d.	13.90d.	14.30d.	14.84d.
	1918-19 .. 14.50d.	14.16d.	14.58d.	14.50d.	14.69d.	14.43d.	14.67d.	14.99d.
	1919-20 .. 14.50d.	14.64d.	14.68d.	14.48d.	14.77d.	14.76d.	14.95d.	15.10d.
Average value per bale—	1916-17 .. £21 7 5	£24 1 9	£22 8 4	£22 5 6	£23 17 5	£20 1 0	£22 9 0	£23 16 6
	1917-18 .. £21 5 0	£24 11 2	£22 8 5	£22 7 5	£22 19 3	£21 16 11	£23 0 0	£24 0 4
	1918-19 .. £21 17 6	£24 8 0	£22 9 9	£22 8 1	£23 9 7	£23 8 1	£24 1 1	£24 8 1
	1919-20 .. £21 8 2	£24 7 2	£22 0 4	£22 4 4	£22 17 4	£23 14 4	£24 5 7	£24 1 7
Average weight per bale, in pounds	1916-17 .. 351	391	374	377	380	360	386	387
	1917-18 .. 357	415	371	380	380	377	389	388
	1918-19 .. 362	413	370	371	383	389	393	390
	1919-20 .. 354	399	360	368	371	386	390	383

	Marlborough.	Nelson.	Christchurch.	Timaru.	Oamaru.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.	Total (Dominion).
Number of bales valued—	1916-17 .. 7,878	6,130	59,746	24,139	9,820	44,961	30,035	496,221
	1917-18 .. 14,794	7,644	65,866	26,917	11,673	46,755	33,045	545,790
	1918-19 .. 16,038	7,818	65,241	30,707	11,222	46,018	31,180	548,558
	1919-20 .. 13,271	7,004	60,847	27,262	11,343	43,574	25,775	486,988
Weight in pounds—	1916-17 .. 2,619,519	2,064,103	20,465,800	8,283,467	3,438,868	14,554,925	9,292,473	179,636,842
	1917-18 .. 4,892,032	2,539,155	21,839,388	9,223,335	3,951,117	15,666,880	10,626,145	198,314,051
	1918-19 .. 5,281,265	2,619,688	21,796,762	10,611,537	3,725,853	15,117,917	9,242,691	198,950,247
	1919-20 .. 4,332,794	2,251,147	20,309,108	9,538,343	3,815,638	14,438,698	8,102,190	174,708,605
Value—	1916-17 .. £171,022	£124,427	£1,340,929	£537,302	£204,267	£922,807	£575,707	£1,056,256
	1917-18 .. £333,266	£154,427	£1,493,926	£617,608	£248,558	£987,493	£673,808	£1,332,275
	1918-19 .. £360,929	£164,164	£1,510,545	£726,096	£237,779	£979,427	£618,681	£1,2,606,326
	1919-20 .. £293,970	£143,143	£1,439,688	£663,925	£246,339	£955,610	£514,151	£1,174,125
Average value per pound—	1916-17 .. 15.67d.	14.45d.	15.73d.	15.56d.	14.25d.	15.22d.	14.87d.	14.77d.
	1917-18 .. 16.35d.	14.59d.	16.42d.	16.07d.	15.11d.	15.13d.	15.22d.	14.92d.
	1918-19 .. 16.40d.	15.04d.	16.63d.	16.42d.	15.32d.	15.55d.	16.06d.	15.21d.
	1919-20 .. 16.28d.	15.26d.	17.01d.	16.68d.	15.49d.	15.88d.	15.23d.	15.35d.
Average value per bale—	1916-17 .. £21 14 2	£20 5 4	£22 8 11	£22 5 2	£20 16 0	£20 10 6	£19 3 4	£22 5 7
	1917-18 .. £22 10 6	£20 4 0	£22 17 1	£22 18 11	£21 5 10	£21 2 5	£20 7 9	£22 11 11
	1918-19 .. £22 10 1	£20 19 11	£23 3 1	£23 12 11	£21 3 10	£21 5 8	£19 16 10	£22 19 7
	1919-20 .. £22 3 0	£20 8 9	£23 13 3	£24 6 5	£21 14 4	£21 18 7	£19 19 0	£22 18 11
Average weight per bale, in pounds—	1916-17 .. 333	337	343	343	350	324	309	362
	1917-18 .. 331	332	342	342	338	325	321	363
	1918-19 .. 329	335	334	345	332	328	296	363
	1919-20 .. 326	321	334	349	336	331	314	359

N.B.—Freezing companies' slipe wool is not included in above return.

(3.) WOOL—1916-17, 1917-18, 1918-19, AND 1919-20 CLIPS.

STATEMENT SHOWING PARTICULARS OF GREASY WOOL SOLD TO LOCAL WOOLLEN-MILLS DURING ABOVE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, AND AVERAGE VALUES IN EACH VALUING CENTRE.

	Auckland.	Napier.	Wellington.	Marlborough.	Christchurch.	Timaru.	Oamaru.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.	Total (Dominion)
Number of bales valued—										
1916-17 ..	1,058	1,320	1,129	258	5,557	1,957	299	4,713	530	16,821
1917-18 ..	483	1,012	402	289	6,950	2,809	946	7,292	509	20,692
1918-19 ..	475	1,190	343	562	6,622	2,583	1,247	5,419	380	18,821
1919-20 ..	641	1,837	617	980	8,078	5,363	835	6,561	326	25,238
Weight in pounds—										
1916-17 ..	362,578	515,343	424,090	91,067	1,946,668	697,403	107,686	1,689,597	192,535	6,026,967
1917-18 ..	186,677	399,296	157,669	95,009	2,358,214	968,715	319,443	2,587,654	191,693	7,264,370
1918-19 ..	168,961	453,700	128,622	191,465	2,198,664	876,244	445,478	1,822,455	135,450	6,421,039
1919-20 ..	209,205	677,781	227,022	324,127	2,648,958	1,867,978	313,682	2,323,220	113,766	8,705,739
Value—										
1916-17 ..	£18,796	£25,862	£23,706	£5,802	£121,140	£41,498	£7,076	£97,569	£7,205	£348,654
1917-18 ..	£9,365	£20,255	£8,304	£8,185	£158,428	£73,804	£22,674	£165,581	£7,714	£474,310
1918-19 ..	£7,843	£24,653	£7,902	£15,608	£160,128	£64,027	£31,301	£121,059	£6,212	£438,433
1919-20 ..	£13,949	£38,093	£14,720	£26,461	£202,880	£146,291	£22,916	£156,852	£6,540	£628,702
Average value per pound—										
1916-17 ..	12.44d.	12.04d.	13.41d.	15.29d.	14.93d.	14.28d.	15.77d.	13.86d.	8.98d.	13.88d.
1917-18 ..	12.04d.	12.17d.	12.64d.	20.67d.	16.12d.	18.28d.	17.04d.	15.35d.	9.66d.	15.67d.
1918-19 ..	11.14d.	13.04d.	14.18d.	19.56d.	17.47d.	17.53d.	16.86d.	15.94d.	11.00d.	16.38d.
1919-20 ..	16.00d.	13.48d.	15.56d.	19.59d.	18.34d.	18.79d.	17.53d.	16.20d.	13.79d.	17.33d.
Average value per bale—										
1916-17 ..	£17 15 4	£19 11 10	£20 19 11	£22 9 9	£21 16 0	£21 4 1	£23 13 4	£20 14 0	£13 11 10	£20 14 6
1917-18 ..	£19 7 9	£20 0 4	£20 13 2	£28 6 5	£22 15 11	£26 5 6	£23 19 4	£22 14 2	£15 3 1	£22 18 5
1918-19 ..	£16 10 3	£20 14 4	£22 3 3	£27 15 5	£24 3 8	£24 15 9	£25 2 0	£22 6 10	£16 6 11	£23 5 11
1919-20 ..	£21 15 3	£20 14 9	£23 17 2	£27 0 0	£25 2 4	£27 5 7	£27 8 11	£23 18 2	£20 1 3	£24 18 3
Average weight per bale, in pounds—										
1916-17 ..	343	390	375	353	350	356	360	358	363	358
1917-18 ..	386	394	392	329	339	345	338	355	376	351
1918-19 ..	356	381	375	341	332	339	357	336	356	341
1919-20 ..	326	369	368	331	328	348	376	354	349	345

N.B.—Freezing companies' slipe wool is not included in above return.

(4.) FREEZING COMPANIES' SLIPE WOOL—1917-18, 1918-19, AND 1919-20 SEASONS.

STATEMENT SHOWING PARTICULARS OF TOTAL WOOL REQUISITIONED (EITHER PURCHASED BY THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OR LOCAL WOOLLEN-MILLS) DURING ABOVE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, AND AVERAGE VALUES IN EACH VALUING CENTRE.

	Auckland.	Tokomaru Bay.	Gisborne.	Napier.	Waikato.	Wanganui.	Wellington.
Number of bales valued—							
1917-18	1,575	587	2,396	1,543	533	2,746	5,418
1918-19	3,709	859	5,058	6,976	1,017	4,887	13,702
1919-20	4,567	1,227	7,151	7,092	1,335	6,379	14,288
Weight in pounds—							
1917-18	579,430	211,295	818,557	581,071	217,451	963,948	2,025,469
1918-19	1,409,423	308,022	1,708,079	2,569,330	429,206	1,687,715	4,815,521
1919-20	1,700,409	472,210	2,366,974	2,632,699	538,310	2,266,921	5,044,444
Value—							
1917-18	£42,380	£15,210	£58,509	£42,764	£15,867	£69,122	£152,200
1918-19	£101,749	£21,607	£122,157	£182,536	£31,819	£121,292	£369,532
1919-20	£125,223	£33,399	£173,046	£191,235	£40,066	£164,894	£384,537
Average value per pound—							
1917-18	17-55d.	17-28d.	17-15d.	17-67d.	17-51d.	17-21d.	18-03d.
1918-19	17-32d.	16-84d.	17-05d.	17-05d.	17-79d.	17-25d.	18-42d.
1919-20	17-67d.	16-97d.	17-54d.	17-43d.	17-86d.	17-45d.	18-29d.
Average value per bale—							
1917-18	£26 18 2	£25 18 3	£24 8 4	£27 14 4	£29 15 4	£25 3 5	£28 1 10
1918-19	£27 8 8	£25 3 1	£24 3 0	£26 3 4	£31 5 9	£24 16 5	£26 19 5
1919-20	£27 8 2	£27 4 5	£24 4 0	£26 19 4	£30 0 3	£25 17 0	£26 18 3
Average weight per bale, in pounds—							
1917-18	368	360	342	377	408	351	374
1918-19	380	359	338	368	422	345	351
1919-20	372	385	331	371	403	355	353
							Total (Dominion).
	Picton.	Nelson.	Christchurch.	Timaru.	Oamaru.	Dunedin.	Invercargill.
Number of bales valued—							
1917-18	295	Nil	7,045	2,564	1,323	1,734	1,970
1918-19	444	30	13,225	7,229	3,692	3,570	4,015
1919-20	553	17	15,332	7,242	2,615	3,373	4,093
Weight in pounds—							
1917-18	122,049	Nil	2,518,208	971,799	437,060	591,407	695,194
1918-19	189,736	11,047	4,716,344	2,689,857	1,232,193	1,245,881	1,408,348
1919-20	230,942	7,928	5,346,655	2,606,481	935,502	1,146,107	1,399,817
Value—							
1917-18	£8,854	Nil	£212,416	£77,633	£34,051	£45,034	£54,947
1918-19	£13,739	£566	£400,481	£218,118	£98,468	£97,404	£109,716
1919-20	£16,926	£327	£461,306	£219,837	£75,046	£90,384	£110,502
Average value per pound—							
1917-18	17-41d.	Nil	19-18d.	19-18d.	18-70d.	18-27d.	18-96d.
1918-19	17-37d.	12-30d.	19-46d.	19-18d.	19-18d.	18-76d.	18-66d.
1919-20	17-58d.	9-88d.	20-70d.	20-24d.	19-25d.	18-92d.	18-94d.
Average value per bale—							
1917-18	£30 0 2	Nil	£30 3 0	£30 5 7	£25 14 9	£25 19 5	£27 17 9
1918-19	£30 18 11	£18 17 7	£30 5 8	£30 3 5	£26 13 5	£27 5 8	£27 12 3
1919-20	£30 12 2	£19 4 3	£30 1 9	£30 7 1	£28 14 0	£26 15 11	£27 14 6
Average weight per bale, in pounds—							
1917-18	414	Nil	337	379	330	341	353
1918-19	427	368	372	360	333	349	357
1919-20	418	466	319	360	358	340	342

N.B.—The wool purchased by local woollen-mills and included in above return totals 337 bales drawn from Oamaru and Dunedin.

(5.) SHOWING RESULTS TO 30TH JUNE, 1920.

FROZEN MEAT, SCHEELITE, BUTTER, CHEESE, WOOL, SHEEP-SKINS, Etc.

MEAT.

(Operations commenced 3rd March, 1915.)

	Beef (Quarters).	Mutton (Carcases).	Lamb (Carcases).
1. Shipped per steamers lost in transit	18,829	106,260	91,080
2. Arrived at destination in 351 steamers	2,907,794	12,505,041	14,014,936
3. <i>En route</i> to destination in 9 steamers	65,742	434,557	516,360
4. Meat aboard steamers now on loading-berth .. .. .	..	14,391	90,111
5. Total payments made to date, £48,719,056.			
6. Totals	2,992,365	13,060,249	14,712,487
7. MEAT IN STORE on 15th June, 1920, for which no space has been allocated in overseas steamers—			
North Island		4,300,937	
South Island		2,078,827	
Total in 60 lb. carcasses			6,379,764
Total shipments to date—			
During 1914-15 season	337,735	1,986,961	2,889,508
During 1915-16 season	769,880	2,421,690	3,148,714
During 1916-17 season	517,708	1,575,600	1,315,506
During 1917-18 season	612,947	1,871,197	1,871,444
During 1918-19 season	533,473	3,182,886	3,273,200
During 1919-20 season	220,622	2,021,915	2,214,115
Totals	2,992,365	13,060,249	14,712,487

CHEESE.

(Operations commenced 4th November, 1915.)

1915-16 season—		Crates.
1. Total shipped and arrived at destination		189,502
2. Total payments, £918,104.		
1916-17 season—		
3. Shipped and lost in transit		16,440
4. Shipped and arrived at destination		501,887
5. Total payments, £3,271,982.		
6. Totals		518,327
1917-18 season—		
7. Shipped and lost in transit		46,406
8. Shipped and arrived at destination		709,736
9. Total payments, £5,013,295.		
10. Totals		756,142
1918-19 season—		
11. Total shipped and arrived at destination		789,550
12. Total payments, £5,662,567.		
1919-20 season—		
13. Shipped and arrived at destination		452,887
14. <i>En route</i> to destination		85,589
15. On board steamers now loading		21,080
16. Total payments, £5,916,266.		
17. Totals		559,556
Totals—		
18. Shipped and lost in transit		62,846
19. Shipped and arrived at destination		2,643,562
20. <i>En route</i> to destination		85,589
21. On board steamers now loading		21,080
22. Total payments made to date, £20,782,214.		
23. Grand totals		2,813,077
24. CHEESE IN STORE awaiting shipment on account of Imperial Government on 28th June, 1920—		Crates.
North Island		263,757
South Island		39,491
Total in crates		303,248

BUTTER.

(Operations commenced 20th November, 1917.)

	Boxes.
1917-18 season—	
1. Shipped and lost in transit	49,847
2. Shipped and arrived at destination	674,852
3. Total payments, £2,829,032.	
4. Totals	<u>724,699</u>
1918-19 season—	
5. Total shipped and arrived at destination.. .. .	667,114
6. Total payments, £2,928,346.	
1919-20 season—	
7. Shipped and arrived at destination	476,137
8. <i>En route</i> to destination	36,003
9. Total payments, £2,788,853.	
10. Totals	<u>512,140</u>
Totals—	
11. Shipped and lost in transit	49,847
12. Shipped and arrived at destination	1,818,103
13. <i>En route</i> to destination.. .. .	36,003
14. Total payments to date, £8,546,231.	
15. Grand totals	<u>1,903,953</u>
16. BUTTER IN STORE advanced against awaiting shipment on account of Imperial Government on 26th June, 1920—	Boxes.
North Island	117,640
South Island	1,310
Total in boxes	<u>118,950</u>

SCHEELITE.

(Operations commenced 20th September, 1915.)

	Tons.
1. Shipped and lost in transit	18
2. Arrived at destination	756
3. Total payments made to date, £178,479.	
4. Total	<u>774</u>

WOOL.

(Operations commenced 1st December, 1916.)

1. Total number of bales valued (as per valuation certificates received)	2,059,834
2. Number of bales lost in transit	9,668
3. Number of bales arrived at destination in 225 steamers	1,161,421
4. Number of bales <i>en route</i> to Great Britain in 7 steamers	41,625
4A. Number of bales shipped to America	10,321
5. Number of bales shipped on account of other Governments	110,994
6. Number of bales of greasy wool delivered to scourers for treatment	391,044
7. Number of bales of greasy wool available for shipment or scouring	334,761
	<u>2,059,834</u>
8. Number of bales of scoured and fellmongers' slipe wool shipped	309,358
9. Number of bales of scoured and fellmongers' slipe wool available for shipment	67,777
10. Total payments, £50,412,409.	
11. Total number of bales paid for	<u>2,059,193</u>

SLIPE WOOL (Freezing Companies').

(Operations commenced 31st March, 1917.)

PURCHASED FOR VALUATION IN UNITED KINGDOM.

1. Total number of bales advanced against	68,880
2. Number of bales shipped	67,085
3. Number of bales shipped on account of other Governments	1,795
4. Total payments to date, £2,013,123.	

PURCHASED UNDER NEW ZEALAND VALUATIONS.

5. Total number of bales	173,533
6. Total number of bales shipped	99,936
7. Number of bales shipped on account of other Governments	7,604
8. Total payments to date, £4,880,045.	

SHEEP-SKINS.

(Operations commenced 5th February, 1917.)

1. Number of skins purchased and distributed to fellmongers	6,913,431
2. Total payments to date, £2,820,347.	

HIDES.

(Operations commenced 19th March, 1917.)

1. Number of hides purchased	370,509
2. Number of hides shipped	150,826
3. Number of hides sold	212,627
4. Total payments to date, £735,663.	

PAYMENTS.

(Total to date.)

	£
Frozen meat	48,719,056
Cheese, 1915-16 season	918,104
Cheese, 1916-17 season	3,271,982
Cheese, 1917-18 season	5,013,295
Cheese, 1918-19 season	5,662,567
Cheese, 1919-20 season	5,916,266
Butter, 1917-18 season	2,829,032
Butter, 1918-19 season	2,928,346
Butter, 1919-20 season	2,788,853
Butter equalization funds	856,214
Scheelite	178,479
Wool	50,412,409
Freezing companies' slipe wool	6,893,168
Sheep-skins	2,820,347
Hides	735,663
Sundries	968,952
Other business (non-Imperial)	767,564
Grand total	<u>£141,680,297</u>

STATEMENT SHOWING THE QUANTITIES OF FROZEN MEAT SHIPPED AT EACH PORT FROM THE INCEPTION OF THE SCHEME—i.e., 3RD MARCH, 1915—TO 30TH JUNE, 1920.

Port of Shipment.	1914-15 Season.			1915-16 Season.			1916-17 Season.			1917-18 Season.		
	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.
Whangarei ..	Quarters. 23,694	Carcases. ..	Carcases. ..	Quarters. 41,457	Carcases. 11,323	Carcases. 3,222	Quarters. 25,067	Carcases. 4,271	Carcases. 3,155	Quarters. 34,595	Carcases. 9,991	Carcases. 1,079
Auckland ..	52,533	41,264	74,983	186,587	42,975	108,104	76,063	22,942	9,464	146,239	30,534	40,040
Whakatane ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,721	..	..
Tokomaru Bay	6,463	58,460	41,897	8,950	107,846	67,526	7,742	33,186	..	4,071	50,905	..
Gisborne ..	25,024	220,038	101,073	62,261	325,172	165,752	33,933	143,881	13,562	35,811	190,555	100,023
Napier ..	34,802	208,775	151,982	64,802	377,599	301,282	33,092	248,209	88,516	30,702	263,763	211,958
Waitara ..	46,612	49,485	28,250	77,680	54,929	44,126	34,608	13,918	13,389	61,543	33,832	26,198
New Plymouth	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,531	12,761	2,567	12,952	9,043	9,345
Wanganui ..	17,812	95,713	38,012	26,783	88,569	67,766	56,011	65,784	24,004	57,900	176,227	121,674
Wellington ..	58,979	610,073	411,351	166,931	734,540	782,383	88,287	395,542	402,350	134,810	420,894	257,605
Total North Island ports	265,919	1,283,808	847,548	635,451	1,742,953	1,540,161	363,334	940,494	557,007	525,344	1,185,744	767,922
Nelson ..	521	10,312	20,549	4,763	16,623	21,563	4,256	1,671	1,684	2,646	8,526	10,324
Picton ..	..	22,410	31,035	..	27,650	42,392	..	17,592	23,217	1,099	25,419	23,690
Lyttelton ..	11,128	244,750	772,152	38,162	274,884	770,312	52,205	237,954	352,344	37,049	312,976	588,620
Timaru ..	2,618	153,374	623,925	7,624	102,373	334,357	15,507	158,713	248,520	7,038	88,455	283,701
Oamaru ..	..	29,871	97,868	..	10,095	32,402	..	9,541	2,527	..	61,636	28,670
Dunedin ..	11,876	85,884	214,387	22,246	102,716	189,680	30,388	107,912	54,700	8,316	82,697	112,692
Bluff ..	45,673	156,552	282,044	61,634	144,396	217,847	52,018	101,723	75,507	31,455	105,744	55,825
Total South Island ports	71,816	703,153	2041960	134,429	678,737	1,608,553	154,374	635,106	758,499	87,603	685,453	1103522
Grand totals	337,735	1,986,961	2889508	769,880	2,421,690	3,148,714	517,708	1575600	1315506	612,947	1,871,197	1871444

Port of Shipment.	1918-19 Season.			1919-20 Season.			Total.		
	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.	Beef.	Mutton.	Lamb.
Whangarei ..	Quarters. 24,767	Carcases. ..	Carcases. ..	Quarters. 35,929	Carcases. 2,362	Carcases. 35,929	Quarters. 149,580	Carcases. 61,514	Carcases. 9,818
Auckland ..	83,115	188,406	105,879	35,690	56,920	10,141	580,227	383,041	348,611
Whakatane ..	23,550	29,626	1,067	9,702	26,685	5,599	39,973	56,311	6,666
Tokomaru Bay	14,209	67,050	49,581	..	83,233	3,134	41,435	400,680	162,138
Gisborne ..	83,815	278,026	75,681	5,739	302,842	120,251	246,583	1,460,514	576,342
Napier ..	46,709	590,811	238,409	13,582	244,685	181,239	223,689	1,933,842	1,173,386
Waitara ..	20,425	97,825	35,968	15,328	5,029	2,961	256,196	255,018	150,892
New Plymouth	24,440	43,660	14,406	14,242	67,164	13,281	60,165	132,628	39,599
Wanganui ..	43,595	173,034	163,484	22,847	159,644	76,219	224,948	758,971	491,159
Wellington ..	97,341	1,013,251	633,110	52,384	453,271	444,420	598,732	3,627,571	2,931,219
Total North Island ports	461,966	2,481,689	1,317,585	169,514	1,435,402	859,607	2,421,528	9,070,090	5,889,830
Nelson ..	5,014	15,762	9,133	..	..	..	17,200	52,894	63,253
Picton ..	948	38,815	70,410	..	16,628	13,655	2,047	148,514	204,399
Lyttelton ..	20,833	284,920	992,907	7,943	214,233	650,899	167,320	1,569,717	4,127,234
Timaru ..	4,370	175,727	609,155	9,367	144,691	403,241	46,524	823,333	2,502,899
Oamaru ..	..	..	..	..	..	47,368	..	111,143	208,835
Dunedin ..	14,772	73,970	107,011	18,175	72,711	61,005	105,773	525,890	739,475
Bluff ..	25,570	112,003	166,999	15,623	138,250	178,340	231,973	758,668	976,562
Total South Island ports	71,507	701,197	1,955,615	51,108	586,513	1,354,508	570,837	3,990,159	8,822,657
Grand totals	533,473	3,182,886	3,273,200	220,622	2,021,915	2,214,115	2,992,365	13,060,249	14,712,487

(6.) STATEMENT SHOWING THE QUANTITIES AND WEIGHTS OF MEAT KILLED IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1920.

	Wether, First Quality, 72 lb. and under.		Wether, First Quality, over 72 lb.		Wether, First Quality, 86-98 lb.		Wether, Second Quality.		Ewes, First Quality, 72 lb. and under.		Ewes, First Quality, over 72 lb.		Ewes, Second Quality.	
	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.
Auckland ..	119,121	6,677,903	4,484	344,471	314	28,155	12,233	572,776	103,181	5,692,289	3,456	235,037	17,593	825,186
Gisborne ..	330,567	17,685,799	6,675	495,163	435	36,070	17,005	744,571	237,085	12,669,130	6,552	490,089	27,954	1,286,113
Hawke's Bay ..	334,931	18,344,329	13,345	1,029,177	1,358	123,936	18,112	884,771	206,481	11,097,880	4,974	384,705	18,955	860,000
Taranaki ..	98,966	5,729,015	6,007	470,189	268	24,185	11,895	634,672	65,839	3,690,336	2,087	162,975	11,615	540,196
Wanganui ..	168,029	9,731,382	12,528	966,357	772	68,636	21,249	1,153,983	86,696	4,941,061	4,629	358,466	25,828	1,359,321
Wellington ..	541,817	31,664,801	34,321	2,624,762	2,988	270,632	16,107	817,911	332,250	18,825,365	10,255	793,727	29,850	1,464,890
Totals, North Island ..	1,593,431	89,833,229	77,360	5,930,119	6,135	551,614	96,601	4,808,684	1,031,532	56,916,061	31,953	2,424,949	131,795	6,335,706
Nelson and Marlborough ..	17,411	874,351	218	16,799	19	1,751	3,685	152,429	15,328	768,442	175	13,448	2,629	107,756
Canterbury ..	207,126	11,452,127	7,961	611,786	678	61,385	21,694	1,032,907	348,026	18,556,429	11,683	902,916	72,136	3,214,356
Otago ..	85,934	5,018,884	9,539	737,789	552	49,311	7,501	371,759	102,134	5,793,755	6,732	519,956	27,400	1,314,208
Southland ..	99,203	5,739,029	10,001	768,079	822	74,105	5,833	288,530	76,836	4,329,040	5,094	393,088	21,695	1,041,467
Totals, South Island ..	409,674	23,084,391	27,719	2,134,453	2,071	186,552	38,713	1,845,625	542,324	29,447,666	23,684	1,829,408	123,860	5,677,787
Grand totals ..	2,003,105	112,917,620	105,079	8,064,572	8,206	738,166	135,314	6,654,309	1,573,856	86,363,727	55,637	4,254,357	255,655	12,013,493

	Lamb, Specially Prime and Canterbury Quality.		Lamb, First Quality, 42 lb. and under.		Lamb, First Quality, over 42 lb.		Lamb, Second Quality.		Beef, Prime Ox.		Beef, Second and Heifer.	
	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Carcasses.	lb.	Quarters.	lb.	Quarters.	lb.
Auckland ..	41	1,604	808,971	101,589	16,148	467,420	110,622	17,485,130	21,204	2,461,443	5,655	824,880
Gisborne ..	8,417	284,499	4,001,272	93,364	42,645	1,171,528	52,184	9,236,534	3,431	503,090	7,661	1,026,398
Hawke's Bay ..	10,714	391,755	4,754,609	97,133	37,029	989,800	31,940	5,967,434	5,370	860,132	7,953	1,173,191
Taranaki ..	495	18,597	1,424,063	85,934	14,492	442,191	35,162	5,777,829	6,180,823	5,370	860,132	
Wanganui ..	1,031	38,606	3,382,674	182,802	41,437	1,234,857	32,806	6,180,823	11,757,153	7,953	1,173,191	
Wellington ..	18,965	691,609	309,202	10,215,695	52,373	1,521,750	62,582	11,757,153	51,274	6,859,134	2,668	309,366
Totals, North Island ..	39,663	1,426,670	760,573	24,587,284	204,124	5,847,546	325,296	56,404,923	3,221	468,562	12,089	1,465,696
Nelson and Marlborough ..	1,087,967	38,554,194	20,570	695,766	53,071	277,519	3,221	468,562	3,056,392	2,668	309,366	
Canterbury ..	136,698	4,973,193	88,784	3,208,456	6,770,423	239,074	19,980	3,056,392	1,671,588	5,139	633,877	
Otago ..	208	7,898	92,113	3,311,412	2,107,857	84,406	10,737	1,671,588	1,998,435	9,162	1,163,228	
Southland ..	208	7,898	92,113	3,311,412	53,243	1,672,119	12,980	1,998,435	29,058	3,572,167		
Totals, South Island ..	1,224,873	43,535,285	201,467	7,215,634	386,253	11,931,069	46,918	7,194,977	80,332	10,431,301		
Grand totals ..	1,264,536	44,961,955	962,040	31,802,918	590,377	17,778,615	372,214	63,599,900	29,058	3,572,167		

(6.) STATEMENT SHOWING THE QUANTITIES AND WEIGHTS OF MEAT KILLED IN EACH DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1920—continued.

—	Beef, Boning, in Quarters.		Beef, Cow, Prime.		Beef, Cow, Second.		Beef, Boneless.		Mutton, Pieces.		Lamb, Pieces.		Total	
	Quarters.	lb.	Quarters.	lb.	Quarters.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	60 lb. Carcasses.	lb.
Auckland	8,395	1,212,259	66,641	8,419,545	23,443	2,516,626	703,623	39,334	6,074	810,001	48,600,035			
Gisborne	186	36,218	16,922	2,368,041	3,084	365,831	..	63,995	9,017	864,534	51,872,064			
Hawke's Bay	789	130,207	6,809	943,384	1,231	144,884	18,387	42,020	..	778,459	46,707,521			
Taranaki	4,331	597,665	32,992	3,997,866	11,157	1,227,147	520,804	144,821	..	441,913	26,514,823			
Wanganui	814	142,299	4,922	693,640	4,548	551,034	1,400	528,473	..	539,933	32,395,946			
Wellington	8,569	971,965	21,884	3,197,330	6,742	844,314	54,978	793,829	..	1,471,346	88,280,758			
Totals, North Island	23,084	3,090,583	150,170	19,619,806	50,205	5,649,836	1,299,192	1,612,472	15,691	4,906,186	294,371,147			
Nelson and Marlborough	1,844	195,898	2,297	279,085	1,286	130,676	..	231	..	72,419	4,345,150			
Canterbury	5,632	841,094	11,197	1,486,704	5,585	639,077	14,589	38,697	4,271	1,600,113	96,006,751			
Otago	2,079	258,223	4,898	645,569	2,944	328,051	155,163	9,982	10,073	508,090	30,485,417			
Southland	2,111	290,777	8,357	1,094,908	2,703	299,183	136,164	65,988	934	391,026	23,461,583			
Totals, South Island	11,666	1,585,992	26,749	3,506,266	12,518	1,396,987	305,916	114,898	15,278	2,571,648	154,298,901			
Grand totals	34,750	4,676,575	176,919	23,126,072	62,723	7,046,823	1,605,108	1,727,370	30,969	7,477,834	448,670,048			

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