

The balance of meat in store and on loading-berth at the 31st March, 1921, was as follows:—

Beef (quarters)	214,881
Mutton (carcases)	73,033
Lamb (carcases) ¹	4,408
Other meat (in 60 lb. carcasses)	2,387

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 was continued, the payment of the balance of 25 per cent. being effected at time of shipment upon presentation of the usual documents, these payments being made free of exchange either to the freezing companies direct or by direction of freezing companies to the companies' clients.

The following statement furnishes particulars of frozen meat in store and of shipments made in the equivalent of 60 lb. carcasses from the 3rd March, 1915, to the 31st March, 1921:—

In store on—	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
April 30 ..	1,792,362	2,304,258	2,946,781	4,082,323	7,265,253	7,075,306
May 31 ..	2,048,454	2,642,362	3,290,072	4,794,787	7,931,103	7,420,307
June 30 ..	2,165,342	2,480,846	3,483,324	5,230,000	7,934,921	7,150,820
July 31 ..	1,865,283	1,892,504	3,383,235	5,314,602	7,780,394	6,238,953
Aug. 31 ..	1,410,167	1,396,540	2,949,545	5,233,308	6,960,556	5,342,946
Sept. 30 ..	665,992	816,933	2,873,277	4,970,053	5,923,654	4,488,679
Oct. 31 ..	199,936	367,975	2,557,881	4,576,942	4,953,429	3,494,387
Nov. 30 ..	140,836	161,311	1,890,489	4,446,726	4,321,729	2,668,521
Dec. 31 ..	597,817	451,361	1,915,451	4,293,315	4,466,364	1,386,477
Jan. 31 ..	1,093,300	1,137,438	1,954,490	4,992,719	5,131,901	983,207
Feb. 28 ..	1,575,336	1,901,085	2,609,618	5,766,815	5,912,670	794,127
Mar. 31 ..	2,152,250	2,409,541	3,398,364	6,567,871	6,628,789	600,956
Shipments during—						
April ..	498,971	540,204	340,374	490,339	423,003	530,955
May ..	389,223	500,097	338,507	365,688	572,871	318,142
June ..	302,293	605,890	239,793	94,855	745,147	489,293
July ..	761,641	740,845	229,402	75,290	308,049	911,867
Aug. ..	602,647	555,630	453,178	98,327	823,780	896,007
Sept. ..	795,766	609,362	96,059	264,780	1,037,465	854,267
Oct. ..	474,055	465,983	321,127	394,722	971,223	994,292
Nov. ..	282,450	321,497	743,065	133,486	663,906	825,866
Dec. ..	241,734	235,316	394,941	369,577	405,525	1,282,044
Jan. ..	514,036	440,168	904,810	217,749	419,553	403,270
Feb. ..	498,964	272,910	369,043	317,679	369,143	189,080
Mar. ..	542,586	800,539	335,303	549,936	638,129	193,171
	5,904,366	6,088,441	4,765,602	3,372,428	7,377,794	7,888,254

The total payments for meat to the 31st March, 1921, including storage and advances, amounted to £53,039,535, which was distributed as follows:—

	£	£
Auckland	4,575,345	
Poverty Bay	5,578,413	
Hawke's Bay	5,331,147	
Taranaki	2,107,096	
Wellington	15,610,007	
North Island		33,202,008
Marlborough	354,109	
Nelson	226,373	
Canterbury	12,247,677	
Otago	3,806,469	
Southland	3,202,899	
South Island		19,837,527
Grand total		<u>£53,039,535</u>