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Casein.—The business of casein-manufacture is claiming increased attention in this country. The Midhirst Co-operative Dairy Company has installed—under the supervision of Mr. J. Pedersen, who investigated casein-manufacture in Europe for the Department—a thoroughly up-to-date precipitating plant, while the Bunnythorpe Co-operative Dairying Company has established several precipitating-stations. A number of North Taranaki dairy companies have now under consideration the question of initiating the business on an extensive co-operative scale. Individual dairy companies in other parts of the Dominion are also making full inquiries into the subject. The companies which have lately taken up the business are having the green curd dried and packed at the recently erected drying-factory of the New Zealand Casein Company at Aramoho. The quality of the casein being manufactured is of a highly satisfactory character, and should have the effect of establishing a good name for the New Zealand product from the very outset of the industry. The casein is officially graded prior to export, and each package is then provided with a special Government seal indicative of its quality.

There are 226 South Island farmers co-operating with the Department in the conduct of field experiments this season. Altogether 3,739 experiments will be conducted on southern farms.

From the 12th May to the 31st December of last year 315 letters from farmers were received at the Ruakura Farm of Instruction, asking for information in regard to lucerne.