

monetary loss which is thus incurred. We are informed that in some of the consignments shipped last season this loss amounted to 5s. per hundredweight of cheese. When it is known that scale-boards can be purchased for a fraction over one farthing each, and that only four are required for each crate—a total cost of, say, one penny—it is difficult to understand why any dairy company allows its cheese to leave New Zealand without this protection.

With a view to showing the extent to which cheese has been damaged through the non-use of scale-boards some photographs have been forwarded by Mr. W. Wright, the London Inspector, and are reproduced here, with explanatory notes. These illustrations demonstrate the necessity for the provision of scale-boards in all crates of cheese far better than any argument in their favour could do.

Not only should every dairy company making cheese in New Zealand insist upon the provision of scale-boards, but the managers should take particular pains to see that not a single crate of cheese leaves the factory without such protection. One rather common mistake is to make the cheese too large to permit the scale-boards to be slipped in at each end of the cheese, but the size of the latter should be so regulated to leave room for this purpose.

All progressive dairymen will agree that no fault in the packing of our cheese should be allowed to continue, because they recognize that faults of this nature are easy to remedy. Then, again, it should be remembered that damaged produce causes great annoyance to the trade, owing to the difficulty in disposing of it. Ordinary traders have no sale for damaged goods, and thus do not want them. Direct representations on these lines have been made in the quarters where most needed, and it is hoped that no cheese will leave New Zealand for the Home market during the coming season without being protected against damage and loss by the use of scale-boards.

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At the Department's Albany experimental area, situated on the Waitemata gumlands, the John Bull swede gave the best results among the varieties tested last season. In general, swedes have done better than turnips on the plots. Rape did splendidly where the ground had been heavily limed the previous year, but was a complete failure on a piece of land that had been left unlimed. Among the kales the Giant Early Field variety was a striking success, throwing a great bulk of forage. Of the lucerne varieties, Colonial, Hunter River, Arabian, Peruvian, Salt Lake City, Grimms, and Dryland have maintained a fairly even growth through the summer and winter, while American, Turkestan, Hungarian, French, and Russian were more or less dormant in the winter.