

in the cattle account. The position is uniformly lower over the whole range, which indicates that the average conditions obtaining on Dargaville farms offer considerable scope for improvement.

Table 7.—Gross Returns: Farms grouped according to Butterfat-production per Acre (Productive).

Butterfat per Acre—Range.		Gross Returns per 100 Acres.	Number of Cows milked per 100 Acres.	Gross Returns per Cow.
lb.		£		£
140-159.9	1,000	67.2	14.88
120-139.9	1,006	51.0	19.73
100-119.9	828	51.5	16.08
80-99.9	709	45.5	15.58
60-79.9	530	35.3	15.01
40-59.9	402	30.8	13.05
20-39.9	261	20.9	12.49

MAINTENANCE EXPENSES.

Expenses of maintenance are lower in the Dargaville than in the Ruawai group. Drainage rates affect only five farms, which materially reduces costs. Owing to the fact that farms are generally larger and contain at least a proportion of dry land, wintering-off is not so extensively practised. Of the whole group only twenty-nine farms winter stock away, resulting in a distinct saving in annual expense. Although a reduction in maintenance expenses has been effected in this way, it is undoubtedly mainly responsible for the lesser per-acre production as compared with the Ruawai group, and the adoption of more wintering-off in the Dargaville area is a question worthy of consideration.

Table 8.—Expenses: Farms grouped according to Butterfat-production per Acre (Productive). (All Figures per 100 Acres.)

Butterfat per Acre—Range.	Manure.	Rates.	Fences.	Culti-vation.	Power.	Winter Grazing.	Depre-ciation.	Sun-dries.	Total.	Cost per Cow milked.
<i>Actual Cost.</i>										
lb.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
140-159.9	46.2	33.8	5.1	10.3	27.2	7.0	11.7	44.2	185.5	2.76
120-139.9	55.1	37.9	21.3	2.5	21.1	5.0	16.6	33.8	193.3	3.79
100-119.9	49.7	36.0	9.8	16.2	15.2	14.9	17.9	24.1	184.1	3.57
80-99.9	34.9	35.4	7.8	8.2	19.7	13.2	13.2	18.8	151.2	3.32
60-79.9	33.9	23.0	4.3	6.8	11.7	2.1	11.6	15.7	109.1	3.09
40-59.9	24.3	19.2	11.2	5.4	7.5	4.8	10.8	10.9	94.1	3.06
20-39.9	17.9	15.2	3.6	7.1	6.2	2.4	7.1	11.1	70.6	3.38
<i>Percentage of Total.</i>										
140-159.9	24.9	18.2	2.7	5.6	14.7	3.8	6.3	23.8	100	..
120-139.9	28.5	19.6	11.0	1.3	10.9	2.6	8.6	17.5	100	..
100-119.9	26.9	19.6	5.3	8.8	8.3	8.1	9.7	13.3	100	..
80-99.9	23.1	23.4	5.2	5.4	13.0	8.7	8.7	12.5	100	..
60-79.9	31.1	21.1	4.0	6.2	10.7	1.9	10.6	14.4	100	..
40-59.9	25.8	20.4	11.9	5.7	8.0	5.1	11.5	11.6	100	..
20-39.9	25.3	21.5	5.1	10.1	8.8	3.4	10.1	15.7	100	..