

## CHAPTER XVIII.

## FARMYARD, DAIRY, AND BEE PRODUCTS.

## § 1. Introductory.

1. **General.**—The introduction of cattle into Australia, and the early history of the dairying industry are referred to in some detail in earlier issues of this work (see Official Year Book No. 6, p. 430). It may here be noted that the original stock has been crossed with specially imported stud cattle, while further judicious crossing of strains has resulted in an increased and improved milk supply. In Australia, dairy cattle thrive in the open throughout the year, local climatic conditions demanding no protection other than tree plantations for shelter, and rugging in the coldest weather. Indigenous and imported grasses furnish food during the greater part of the year, and winter fodder, when necessary, is given to the cattle in the fields. With the adoption of scientific methods in the treatment of animals and pasturages and in the processes of manufacture, coupled with effective State supervision, the dairying industry has shown rapid expansion.

2. **Official Supervision of Industry.**—Dairy experts, under the supervision of the various State Agricultural Departments, give instruction in approved methods of production, and inspect animals, buildings, and marketable produce. A high standard of cleanliness, both of personnel and *matériel*, prevails. Financial assistance of a temporary nature is also given, advances made being generally repaid with promptitude.

The export trade is regulated by the terms of the Commonwealth Commerce Act 1905 and regulations thereunder. The provisions of this Act are set out in detail in Official Year Book No. 6, pp. 431–2. It will be sufficient to note here that the true trade description, &c., must be marked on all produce intended for export, while official inspection ensures the maintenance of purity and quality. Upon request of the exporter the goods are certificated by the inspector.

3. **Mixed Farming.**—Dairying is not now, as formerly, wholly confined to farmers, since many graziers in a large way of business have lately given it their attention. In non-coastal regions it is generally carried on in conjunction with agriculture and sheep-raising, sufficient fodder being grown to carry the cattle through the winter months. Local wants are thus met, and in many places remote from the metropolis well-equipped factories have been established.

4. **Factory System.**—Cream separation and butter-making are often carried on together under the co-operative system. The creation of large central butter factories, supplied by numerous separating establishments or “creameries,” has resulted in a considerable reduction in the cost of manufacture, since improved appliances such as refrigerators may be profitably worked at the larger establishments. The product is also of a more uniform quality. The number of farmers who adhere to hand processes is rapidly diminishing. Formerly the average quantity of milk used per pound of hand-made butter was about 3 gallons, but separator butter requires only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  gallons.

5. **Butter and Cheese Factories.**—The factories in Australia for the manufacture of butter, cheese, and condensed milk numbered 585 in 1925–26. These were distributed in the various States as follows:—New South Wales, 173; Victoria, 183; Queensland, 127; South Australia, 60; Western Australia, 7; and Tasmania, 35.

## § 2. Dairy Cattle and Dairy Products.

1. **Dairy Herds.**—The dairy herds of Australia were severely depleted during the drought of 1914–15, when the number was reduced to 1,684,393. Following that year substantial increases have taken place, and the number recorded in 1925 represents a gain of 700,000 in the past decade. In New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania the proportion of dairy cattle to all cattle is high. In Queensland, the Northern Territory, and Western Australia there is a greatly preponderating number of other cattle, dairying not being firmly established in the tropical regions of the Continent. In Southern Queensland, however, the industry has developed remarkably during the past decennium, and the progress attained in that area has been largely responsible for the Australian increases since 1914.

### CATTLE AND DAIRY CATTLE.—NUMBER, 1921 TO 1925.

State.		1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
New South Wales	{ All Cattle ..	3,538,240	3,244,905	2,932,437	2,871,196	2,931,818
	{ Dairy Cows ..	815,579	796,957	784,824	834,557	840,930
Victoria	{ All Cattle ..	1,750,369	1,785,660	1,591,367	1,605,554	1,513,787
	{ Dairy Cows ..	719,473	794,898	738,149	760,207	727,940
Queensland	{ All Cattle ..	7,047,370	6,955,493	6,396,514	6,454,653	6,436,645
	{ Dairy Cows ..	554,208	593,693	512,529	584,886	551,426
South Australia	{ All Cattle ..	419,197	425,813	413,272	400,423	373,597
	{ Dairy Cows ..	131,054	135,450	136,438	133,619	127,670
Western Australia	{ All Cattle ..	893,108	939,596	953,784	891,564	835,911
	{ Dairy Cows ..	53,828	58,387	61,832	60,882	63,008
Tasmania	{ All Cattle ..	216,704	218,197	220,351	225,740	212,373
	{ Dairy Cows ..	68,595	69,991	70,497	70,073	70,382
Northern Territory	{ All Cattle ..	568,031	760,766	843,718	855,285	970,342
	{ Dairy Cows ..	70	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Federal Capital Territory	{ All Cattle ..	8,290	6,275	6,085	5,058	5,312
	{ Dairy Cows ..	414	443	375	413	646
Australia	{ All Cattle ..	14,441,309	14,336,673	13,357,508	13,309,473	13,279,785
	{ Dairy Cows ..	2,343,221	2,410,809	2,304,644	2,444,637	2,382,002

(a) Not available.

2. **Milk.**—The annual quantity of milk produced per dairy cow varies greatly with breed, locality and season, reaching as high as 1,000 gallons, but averaging for the whole of Australia for all dairy cows and for all seasons prior to 1916 considerably under 300 gallons per annum. Of late years an improvement in the grade of dairy cattle has taken place, and the 300 gallon mark has been exceeded on three occasions during the past quinennium, the yield of 363 gallons in 1924 constituting a record. The best yields over a series of years appear to be in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales, while Queensland and Tasmania in normal years are above Western Australia. In the following table the annual average yields per cow for the last five years are based on the number of dairy cows which were in milk during any part of the year. The average given is considerably below that for cows which were yielding during the greater part of the year. The highest averages were, of course, obtained in those States which have most extensively adopted scientific methods of dairying, such as systematic breeding, culling of herds, milk testing, etc.

## MILK PRODUCTION, 1921 TO 1925-26.

Heading.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Fed. Cap. Ter.	Australia. (b)
1921—								
Dairy Cows (a) .. No.	786,557	669,739	501,421	124,295	50,773	66,138	437	2,199,360
Production 1,000 gals.	285,166	245,181	151,081	41,398	11,329	21,000	105	755,260
Aver. per cow .. gals.	363	366	301	333	223	318	240	343
1922—								
Dairy Cows (a) .. No.	806,268	757,186	558,945	133,252	56,108	69,293	428	2,381,480
Production 1,000 gals.	226,864	249,322	134,032	42,054	11,932	21,000	106	685,310
Aver. per cow .. gals.	281	329	240	316	213	303	248	288
1923—								
Dairy Cows (a) .. No.	790,890	766,524	538,106	135,944	60,110	70,244	409	2,362,227
Production 1,000 gals.	225,395	260,953	104,204	47,621	13,048	21,200	111	672,532
Aver. per cow .. gals.	285	340	194	350	217	302	271	235
1924—								
Dairy Cows (a) .. No.	809,691	749,178	548,707	135,029	61,357	70,285	394	2,374,641
Production 1,000 gals.	316,810	294,765	170,074	45,426	13,363	21,840	116	862,394
Aver. per cow .. gals.	391	393	310	336	218	311	294	363
1925-26—(c)								
Dairy Cows (a) .. No.	837,744	744,074	568,156	130,644	61,945	70,227	530	2,413,320
Production 1,000 gals.	289,861	255,120	153,386	41,386	14,823	18,684	199	773,459
Aver. per cow .. gals.	346	343	270	317	239	266	375	320

(a) Mean for the year.

(b) Exclusive of Northern Territory.

(c) Year ended 30th June, 1926.

3. **Butter and Cheese.**—Although the quantity of dairy production is largely affected by the nature of the seasons, an important advance in the output of butter has taken place in the past decade. During that period the average annual production increased from 186,000,000 lb. for the quinquennium 1911-1915, to 263,000,000 lb. for the latest five years under review. The marked development of dairying in Queensland, where the butter production has nearly doubled since 1913, was responsible for the largest share of the increased butter output in Australia, while Victoria and New South Wales also made important contributions to the general progress. The maximum output of butter in Australia was recorded in 1924, when, as the result of a specially favourable season, 313,952,291 lb. were manufactured.

The manufacture of cheese has steadily increased throughout Australia during recent years, the production in 1921 of 32,653,003 lb. being the highest yet recorded, followed very closely by the 31,442,292 lb. returned for 1924. The output of cheese has grown from 18 to 28 million lb. during the past ten years, or by nearly 60 per cent.

The development in dairy production since 1896, and in the exports of butter from 1901 onwards are shown in the graphs on page 626. Particulars for the past five years are as follows :—

## BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION, 1921 TO 1925-26.

State.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925 26.
<b>BUTTER.</b>					
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
New South Wales .. .. .	a100,652,620	a73,705,349	a72,666,613	a117,195,871	106,953,339
Victoria .. .. .	a82,981,570	a84,355,940	a86,888,725	a100,849,382	81,747,291
Queensland .. .. .	60,923,194	53,785,599	40,659,634	a70,406,492	63,001,073
South Australia .. .. .	a14,565,599	a14,646,632	a17,244,389	a16,066,694	13,882,550
Western Australia .. .. .	2,658,153	2,766,533	3,005,491	2,962,630	2,591,818
Tasmania .. .. .	5,270,243	5,716,708	a6,183,521	a6,455,746	5,122,992
Federal Capital Territory .. .. .	a19,961	18,248	17,480	15,476	14,322
Australia .. .. .	267,071,340	234,995,009	226,665,853	313,952,291	273,313,685
<b>CHEESE.</b>					
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
New South Wales .. .. .	a7,367,057	a5,198,905	a5,912,656	a7,705,596	6,462,535
Victoria .. .. .	a5,675,909	a3,754,960	a7,216,936	a6,193,135	5,279,009
Queensland .. .. .	15,200,527	10,560,316	7,221,355	a12,643,863	12,580,942
South Australia .. .. .	a3,392,400	a3,261,565	a3,679,552	a3,743,628	3,636,278
Western Australia .. .. .	1,073	212	4,365	4,055	3,818
Tasmania .. .. .	1,016,037	934,601	a1,345,661	a1,152,015	836,738
Australia .. .. .	32,653,003	23,710,559	25,380,525	31,442,292	28,799,320

(a) For year ended 30th June of year following.

4. Concentrated Milk.—“Condensed” or “concentrated” milk represents milk the bulk of which is reduced by evaporation. The industry is of comparatively recent growth, the quantity of milk treated in 1901 being negligible, but production increased annually until in 1911 the output nearly doubled that of the previous year. Thenceforward rapid progress was made, the greatest development taking place in Victoria, where the industry is most largely established. There is still an import of milk, but the exports in each year far outweigh the quantity imported. No condensed or concentrated milk is made in South Australia, Western Australia, or Tasmania. In New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland the returns for the last five years were as follows :—

CONDENSED, CONCENTRATED, OR POWDERED MILK MADE, 1921 TO 1925-26.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	Australia.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1921 .. .. .	a6,860,466	a48,354,210	15,168,652	70,383,328
1922 .. .. .	a3,544,565	a38,314,260	9,601,914	51,460,739
1923 .. .. .	a7,158,537	a49,099,632	8,131,648	64,389,817
1924-25 .. ..	5,804,191	45,693,120	10,511,919	62,009,230
1925-26 .. ..	5,745,454	43,646,852	8,831,623	58,223,929

(a) For year ended 30th June of year following.

5. Oversea Trade in Butter, Cheese, and Milk.—The following tables give the imports, exports, and net exports of butter, cheese, and milk. In each of the five years dealt with the exports of butter, cheese, and condensed milk exceeded the imports.

BUTTER, CHEESE, AND MILK, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.—AUSTRALIA, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Products.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
IMPORTS.					
Butter .. .. . lb.	732,336	2,955,934	2,368,102	19,717	2,991,243
.. .. . £	58,982	237,149	191,828	1,340	246,703
Cheese .. .. . lb.	85,601	499,125	1,422,148	356,717	1,487,023
.. .. . £	7,518	27,345	71,379	37,448	111,827
Milk—concentrated and preserved(a) lb.	130,592	417,054	373,866	367,073	348,178
.. .. . £	14,658	28,371	26,652	32,359	20,398

EXPORTS.					
Butter .. .. . lb.	127,570,797	79,571,151	65,984,020	145,281,326	97,899,824
.. .. . £	7,928,558	5,896,715	4,919,664	10,004,741	6,760,830
Cheese .. .. . lb.	12,671,029	5,454,466	3,831,269	10,397,392	6,884,347
.. .. . £	438,372	231,007	142,820	365,764	271,973
Milk—concentrated and preserved(a) lb.	36,705,320	21,234,027	17,765,480	29,172,996	25,908,328
.. .. . £	2,132,580	1,328,762	1,080,088	1,694,634	1,476,422

NET EXPORTS.(b)

Butter .. .. . lb.	126,847,461	76,615,217	63,615,918	145,261,609	94,908,581
.. .. . £	7,928,576	5,896,715	4,727,836	10,004,741	6,760,127
Cheese .. .. . lb.	12,585,428	4,955,341	2,409,121	10,040,675	5,397,324
.. .. . £	430,854	204,562	71,441	328,316	160,146
Milk—concentrated and preserved(a) lb.	36,574,728	20,816,973	17,391,614	28,805,923	25,560,150
.. .. . £	2,117,922	1,300,391	1,053,436	1,682,275	1,456,024

(a) See definition above.

(b) Excess of exports over imports.

6. **Local Consumption of Butter and Cheese.**—The total production of butter and cheese, with the subtraction or addition of the net export or import for the corresponding period gives approximately the quantity available for consumption in Australia. The figures for the past five years are as follows :—

**BUTTER AND CHEESE.—LOCAL CONSUMPTION, 1921 TO 1925-26.**

Products.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925-26.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Butter .. Total ..	139,491,543	158,379,792	163,049,935	168,690,682	178,405,104
.. .. Per head of population ..	25.32	28.12	28.36	28.72	29.77
Cheese .. Total ..	19,981,974	18,755,218	22,971,404	21,401,617	23,401,996
.. .. Per head of population ..	3.63	3.33	4.00	3.64	3.91

The quantity available for consumption in 1925-26 averaged 29½ lb. of butter and 3.9 lb. of cheese, or a total of 33½ lb. per head of population, an amount probably unsurpassed anywhere. The consumption of butter and cheese in the United Kingdom in normal times is given as about 22½ lb. per head per annum.

**§ 3. Pigs and Pig Products.**

1. **Pigs.**—The number of pigs in Australia from 1921 to 1925 is shown below :—

**PIGS.—NUMBER, 1921 TO 1925.**

State.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
New South Wales (a) ..	383,326	340,579	322,762	339,378	382,331
Victoria ..	230,770	294,962	259,795	288,509	339,601
Queensland ..	145,083	160,617	132,243	156,163	199,598
South Australia ..	(a) 87,667	(a) 75,520	(a) 73,414	80,988	90,794
Western Australia ..	63,001	67,561	61,478	66,375	74,316
Tasmania ..	49,743	46,056	47,101	47,305	41,009
Northern Territory ..	452	361	647	1,000	382
Federal Cap. Territory (a)	343	274	434	291	343
 Australia ..	 960,385	 985,930	 897,874	 980,009	 1,128,374

(a) As on 30th June of year following.

For many years the number of pigs in Australia has fluctuated considerably. There was a heavy falling off in 1915, followed by substantial increases during the next two years, the number in 1917, viz., 1,169,365, being the highest recorded in Australia. From 1917 onwards the numbers declined for a time, but during the past five years they have remained fairly constant at about one million. The number of pigs per head of population, and the number per square mile, will be found in the tables of live stock, page 610.

2. **Bacon and Ham.**—(i) *Production.* The production of bacon and ham is increasing fairly rapidly, the averages for the past three quinquennia being 51,000,000, 58,000,000, and 67,000,000 lb. respectively. No increase in the volume of exports has taken place, the extra production being needed to supply the local demand, which is expanding with the population and the increasing consumption per head.

BACON AND HAM.—PRODUCTION, 1921 TO 1925-26.

State.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925-26.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
New South Wales ..	a20,413,330	a19,234,681	a19,044,294	a21,068,976	22,949,531
Victoria ..	a17,396,798	a19,269,125	a22,540,973	a21,993,869	21,213,925
Queensland ..	12,386,417	15,130,545	16,219,969	a15,640,561	18,326,728
South Australia ..	a5,089,424	a5,002,199	a5,095,970	a5,374,457	5,600,760
Western Australia (b) ..	1,962,621	2,050,220	2,420,585	2,797,151	2,960,139
Tasmania ..	1,356,329	1,778,015	a2,271,141	a2,428,966	2,314,756
Federal Cap. Territory ..	a9,540	a11,185	a7,815	a7,820	8,840
<b>Total</b> ..	<b>58,614,459</b>	<b>62,475,970</b>	<b>67,600,747</b>	<b>69,311,800</b>	<b>73,374,679</b>

(a) For year ended 30th June of year following. (b) A portion only from pigs slaughtered in the State; balance imported and subsequently cured.

(ii) *Local Consumption.* From about 1904 onwards the production of bacon and ham has been sufficient to meet the local demand, and provide a small surplus for export. The total home consumption and the average per head of population for the last five years are given hereunder :—

BACON AND HAM.—LOCAL CONSUMPTION, 1921 TO 1925-26.

Particulars.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925-26.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Total ..	55,926,806	60,753,826	66,372,107	67,969,350	72,205,137
Per head of population ..	10.15	10.78	11.54	11.57	12.05

3. *Oversea Trade in Pig Products.*—The oversea trade in pigs and pig products for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

PIG PRODUCTS.—AUSTRALIAN TRADE, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Particulars.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
Pigs.					
Imports ..	No. 31	31	13	10	6
..	£ 194	596	376	150	250
Exports ..	No. 119	67	38	65	320
..	£ 990	510	288	676	1,951
Net Exports ..	No. 88	36	25	55	314
..	£ 796	-86	-88	526	1,701

BACON AND HAM.

Imports ..	lb. 25,292	149,270	320,030	322,106	509,101
..	£ 1,610	8,414	19,005	18,492	33,773
Exports ..	lb. 2,712,945	1,871,414	1,548,670	1,664,556	1,678,643
..	£ 223,067	158,414	132,581	124,891	139,864
Net Exports ..	lb. 2,687,653	1,722,144	1,228,640	1,342,450	1,169,542
..	£ 221,457	160,000	113,576	106,399	106,091

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) signifies net imports.

PIG PRODUCTS.—AUSTRALIAN TRADE, 1921-22 TO 1925-26—*continued.*

Particulars.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
LARD.					
Imports .. .. lb.	115,659	505,827	574,733	112,084	244,517
„ .. .. £	3,625	12,905	17,181	4,080	8,787
Exports .. .. lb.	2,909,658	1,358,291	651,530	1,523,530	1,953,796
„ .. .. £	88,753	38,491	24,027	42,744	56,630
Net Exports .. lb.	2,793,999	852,464	76,797	1,411,446	1,709,279
„ .. .. £	85,128	25,586	6,846	38,664	47,843
FROZEN PORK.					
Imports .. .. lb.	..	370,094	1,679,278	962,639	466,425
„ .. .. £	..	14,486	63,908	35,695	20,066
Exports .. .. lb.	152,584	144,796	53,142	61,393	90,106
„ .. .. £	7,414	6,282	2,099	2,749	3,647
Net Exports .. lb.	152,584	-225,298	-1,626,136	-901,246	-376,319
„ .. .. £	7,414	-8,204	-61,809	-32,946	-16,419

NOTE.—The minus sign (—) signifies net imports.

The output of pig products in Australia is usually sufficient to meet local requirements, and provide a small surplus for export. During the last five years the value of the average annual net export amounted to £157,295, the bulk of the shipments consisting of bacon, ham and lard.

## § 4. Total Dairy Production.

The total dairy production of Australia in 1925-26 is shown below:—

## TOTAL DAIRY PRODUCTION.—AUSTRALIA, 1925-26.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Fed. Cap. Ter.	Total.
MILK.								
Used for—	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
Butter ..	225,221,292	187,261,350	127,951,808	29,660,424	5,013,840	11,756,000	45,592	587,810,306
Cheese ..	6,563,459	5,322,930	11,074,073	3,652,225	4,300	834,000	..	27,450,987
Condensing and concentrating ..	2,787,604	15,346,890	2,313,848	..	..	..	..	20,448,342
Other purposes ..	55,288,398	47,188,890	12,046,629	8,073,216	8,904,586	6,094,000	153,655	137,749,374
Total ..	289,860,753	255,120,060	153,386,358	41,385,865	14,822,726	18,684,000	199,247	773,459,009
BUTTER.								
In Factories On Dairy and other Farms ..	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
..	101,698,205	77,012,622	60,491,765	10,146,858	1,248,497	3,528,412	..	254,126,359
..	5,255,134	4,734,669	2,509,308	3,735,992	1,343,321	1,594,580	14,322	19,187,326
Total ..	106,953,339	81,747,291	63,001,073	13,882,850	2,591,818	5,122,992	14,322	273,313,685

TOTAL DAIRY PRODUCTION.—AUSTRALIA, 1925-26—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Fed. Cap. Ter.	Total.
<b>CHEESE.</b>								
In Factories	lb. 6,321,111	lb. 4,889,116	lb. 12,565,572	lb. 3,636,181	lb. ..	lb. 656,519	lb. ..	lb. 28,068,499
On Dairy and other Farms ..	141,424	389,893	15,370	97	3,818	180,219	..	730,821
Total ..	6,462,535	5,279,009	12,580,942	3,636,278	3,818	836,738	..	28,799,320

## CONDENSED, CONCENTRATED, OR POWDERED MILK.

In Factories	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
	5,745,454	43,646,852	8,831,023	..	..	..	..	58,223,929

## BACON AND HAM.

In Factories	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
On Dairy and other Farms ..	21,548,888	19,739,326	18,013,086	5,018,825	2,799,715	1,641,940	..	68,761,786
..	1,400,643	1,474,599	313,642	581,935	160,424	672,810	8,840	4,612,893
Total ..	22,949,531	21,213,925	18,326,728	5,600,760	2,960,139	2,314,756	8,840	73,374,679

(a) A portion only from pigs slaughtered in the State, the balance being imported and subsequently cured.

Particulars in regard to the production of other milk products are not available for all the States, but the following articles were made in Victoria during 1925-26:—Casein, 1,503,369 lb.; milk sugar, 152,783 lb.

## § 5. Poultry Farming.

1. *General.*—Poultry stocks are largely maintained by farmers, and production therefrom furnishes a considerable addition to the annual agricultural or dairying returns. During recent years, however, poultry-keeping has assumed an independent position among rural industries, while it is also carried on in conjunction with pig-farming. Special poultry farms have been instituted for scientific breeding, poultry experts give lectures and instruction, and egg-laying competitions are conducted. Poultry for consumption is extensively reared, and the egg-producing qualities of the birds have been greatly improved by careful breeding. Co-operative egg-collecting circles have been formed in some districts; eggs are also delivered with the milk and cream to the local butter factories, and thence forwarded to market.

2. *Poultry Products.*—There is some difficulty in obtaining complete figures for the yield of poultry products. The following values relate to poultry and eggs:—

## POULTRY AND EGGS.—VALUE OF PRODUCTION, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania. (a)	Australia.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1921-22 ..	2,650,000	4,406,750	429,983	1,027,634	208,429	300,000	9,022,796
1922-23 ..	2,894,000	4,315,810	417,052	1,066,137	240,423	300,000	9,233,422
1923-24 ..	2,443,160	4,587,560	364,681	1,088,105	252,527	300,000	9,036,033
1924-25 ..	2,727,000	4,326,295	530,782	1,148,322	286,350	300,000	9,318,749
1925-26 ..	2,329,000	4,515,400	621,876	1,094,205	305,888	300,000	9,166,369

(a) Estimated.



3. **Oversea Trade in Poultry Products.**—The Australian oversea trade in poultry products is confined to eggs, which are mainly consigned from New South Wales to the United Kingdom. Other States are beginning to participate in this business which is increasing, the value of the shipments despatched in 1926-27 amounting to nearly one quarter of a million sterling. The exports of frozen poultry expanded during the three years ended 1922-23, but since that year the shipments have not been maintained. The oversea trade during the past five years was as follows :—

**POULTRY PRODUCTS, TRADE.—AUSTRALIA, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.**

Particulars.		1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
<b>LIVE POULTRY.</b>						
Imports .. ..	No.	663	791	881	459	384
" .. ..	£	1,170	1,534	3,981	1,084	1,475
Exports .. ..	No.	2,626	2,872	2,234	2,057	3,418
" .. ..	£	3,272	2,682	1,707	1,527	2,311
Net Exports ..	No.	1,963	2,081	1,353	1,598	3,034
" .. ..	£	2,102	1,148	-2,274	443	836
<b>FROZEN POULTRY.</b>						
Imports .. ..	lb.	2,712	4,784	5,438	11,591	12,367
" .. ..	£	178	223	269	752	741
Exports .. ..	pair	50,367	34,399	10,882	10,898	22,381
" .. ..	£	50,205	42,951	11,270	14,141	25,242
Net Exports ..		(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
" .. ..	£	50,027	42,723	11,001	13,389	24,501
<b>Eggs.</b>						
Imports .. ..	doz.	33,558	26,750	28,123	30,051	29,652
" .. ..	£	1,994	1,591	1,707	1,796	2,003
Exports .. ..	doz.	808,849	1,236,033	655,620	692,015	1,531,744
" .. ..	£	75,857	102,946	52,743	53,538	116,681
Net Exports ..	doz.	775,291	1,209,283	627,497	661,964	1,502,092
" .. ..	£	73,863	101,355	51,036	51,742	114,678
<b>EGG-CONTENTS.</b>						
Imports .. ..	lb.	26,590	33,672	34,418	32,105	21,495
" .. ..	£	4,091	5,250	7,845	7,190	4,313
Exports .. ..	lb.	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
" .. ..	£	12,116	38	212	144	95
Net Exports ..	lb.	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
" .. ..	£	8,025	-5,212	-7,633	-7,046	-4,218

NOTE.—The minus — signifies net imports. (a) Quantity not available.

**§ 6. Bee Farming.**

1. **General.**—As in the case with poultry-farming, bee-farming is frequently carried on in connexion with agriculture or dairying. The returns of honey from productive hives during 1925-26 gave an average of 55 lb. per hive, while the average quantity of wax was 0.77 lb. per hive.

2. Production of Honey and Beeswax.—The number of hives and the production of honey and beeswax during the year 1925-26 are given in the following table :—

## BEE-HIVES, HONEY, AND BEESWAX, 1925-26.

State.	Bee Hives.			Honey Produced.		Beeswax Produced.	
	Pro- ductive.	Unpro- ductive.	Total.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	No.	No.	No.	lb.	£	lb.	£
New South Wales ..	36,887	4,527	41,414	2,234,495	34,280	38,171	2,802
Victoria ..	44,405	7,941	52,346	2,114,807	44,058	28,812	2,160
Queensland ..	14,626	4,190	18,816	801,587	14,245	11,888	751
South Australia ..	15,582	14,332	29,914	1,360,916	15,594	11,772	650
Western Australia ..	8,636	2,967	11,603	311,492	5,410	3,737	273
Tasmania ..	5,295	2,722	8,017	116,392	2,910	1,566	50
Fed. Cap. Territory..	14	..	14	600	10	100	8
Australia ..	125,445	36,679	162,124	6,940,289	116,507	96,046	6,694

The table hereunder gives the production of honey and beeswax for the latest available five years :—

## HONEY AND BEESWAX PRODUCTION, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Season.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Fed. Cap. Ter.	Australia.
HONEY.								
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1921-22	2,986,574	2,712,675	598,357	791,324	196,440	82,920	2,500	7,370,790
1922-23	1,235,905	2,285,000	580,057	1,863,026	330,869	71,030	3,175	6,369,062
1923-24	590,800	2,110,713	505,346	721,640	395,047	133,330	180	4,457,056
1924-25	3,083,550	4,054,975	691,136	2,764,389	378,889	95,476	1,600	11,075,015
1925-26	2,234,495	2,114,807	801,587	1,360,916	311,492	116,392	600	6,940,289
BEESWAX.								
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1921-22	28,255	32,737	8,231	9,108	3,980	1,976	130	84,417
1922-23	28,244	27,182	8,895	19,111	5,391	1,473	198	90,494
1923-24	12,701	25,371	7,405	11,216	5,637	1,596	2	63,928
1924-25	40,043	47,117	9,883	27,837	6,844	1,666	65	133,455
1925-26	38,171	28,812	11,888	11,772	3,737	1,566	100	96,046

The quantity of honey and beeswax produced naturally varies from year to year according to the condition of the seasons. During the last five years New South Wales has produced 10,136,324 lb. of honey and 147,414 lb. of beeswax, while the Victorian figures amounted to 13,278,170 lb. and 161,219 lb. respectively for honey and beeswax. These two States together accounted for 62.67 per cent. of the total production of honey, and 69.74 per cent. of the beeswax. Next in order of importance were South Australia, Queensland, and Western Australia.

3. **Oversea Trade in Bee Products.**—In normal years the local production of honey exceeds Australian requirements, and a small quantity is available for export. During the past five years the value of the exports amounted to only £16,789, or an annual average of £3,358, owing to the decrease in production. Australian honey exhibited at the Franco-British Exhibition in London in 1908 obtained the highest award. The more general use of frame hives has affected the production of wax, and as a result the quantity imported has exceeded that exported during each of the past five years.

## BEE PRODUCTS.—IMPORTS, EXPORTS, ETC., AUSTRALIA, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Particulars.		1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
HONEY.						
Imports .. .. lb.		13,572	811	772	1,008	4,684
„ .. .. £		399	24	22	33	211
Exports .. .. lb.		94,471	57,638	41,584	137,116	113,401
„ .. .. £		4,448	2,718	2,060	3,807	3,756
Net Exports .. lb.		80,899	56,827	40,812	136,108	108,717
„ .. .. £		4,049	2,694	2,038	3,774	3,545
BEESWAX.						
Imports .. .. lb.		223,441	238,368	76,478	109,816	22,937
„ .. .. £		12,786	13,817	4,759	8,288	2,195
Exports .. .. lb.		2,259	671	2,046	1,956	1,577
„ .. .. £		154	61	149	187	131
Net Exports .. lb.		-221,182	-237,697	-74,432	-107,860	-21,360
„ .. .. £		-12,632	-13,756	-4,610	-8,101	-2,064

NOTE.—The minus sign (-) signifies net imports.

## § 7. Value of Farmyard, Dairy, and Bee Products.

The value of the farmyard, dairy and bee products raised in Australia in 1925-26 was as follows:—

## FARMYARD, DAIRY, AND BEE PRODUCTS.—VALUE, 1925-26.

Products.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.	Fed. Cap. Ter.	Australia.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Milk, consumed as such ..	3,225,157	2,752,685	702,720	470,938	519,434	355,483	..	8,963	8,035,380
Butter .. ..	8,050,500	6,181,050	4,921,950	1,124,990	207,130	374,190	..	1,080	20,860,890
Cheese .. ..	299,470	227,750	589,730	152,340	160	33,120	..	..	1,302,570
Condensed and concentrated milk	b 244,606	c 1,437,660	250,873	..	..	25	..	..	1,933,164
Bacon and ham	1,181,600	1,364,770	871,280	338,530	164,930	124,140	..	460	4,045,710
Pork .. ..	372,360	417,022	163,432	129,194	134,066	106,991	785	412	1,324,262
Lard .. ..	20,710	50,370	33,900	8,790	8,270	4,420	..	..	126,460
Livestock .. ..	42,953	127,730	32,576	19,612	19,852	..	..	52	242,775
Poultry and eggs	2,329,000	4,515,400	621,876	1,094,205	305,888	300,000	..	(a)	9,166,369
Honey and wax	37,082	46,218	14,998	16,244	5,683	2,960	..	18	123,201
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>15,803,438</b>	<b>17,120,655</b>	<b>8,203,333</b>	<b>3,354,843</b>	<b>1,365,413</b>	<b>1,301,329</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>10985</b>	<b>47,160,781</b>

(a) Included with New South Wales. (b) Includes other Milk Products made. (c) Includes casein £36,717, and milk sugar £9,632.

### § 8. Exports of Australian Farmyard, Dairy, and Bee Products.

The quantities and values of Australian farmyard, dairy, and bee products exported during each of the last five years are shown below:—

#### AUSTRALIAN FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTS.—EXPORTS, 1921-22 TO 1925-26.

Particulars.	1921-22.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1925-26.
<b>QUANTITY.</b>					
Beeswax .. .. . lb.	830	581	1,902	782	1,577
Butter .. .. . "	127,847,428	78,975,387	65,440,852	145,281,326	97,899,824
Cheese .. .. . "	12,670,782	5,454,415	3,787,714	10,353,950	6,872,761
Egg albumen and yolk .. .. . "	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Eggs .. .. . doz.	807,359	1,236,033	655,215	691,740	1,531,744
Feathers, undressed .. .. . "	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Honey .. .. . lb.	94,471	57,638	41,584	137,116	113,401
Lard .. .. . "	2,908,595	1,357,372	645,930	1,523,530	1,953,796
Meats—					
Bacon and Ham .. .. . "	2,712,911	1,871,414	1,548,670	1,664,556	1,678,643
Frozen Poultry .. .. . pair	50,367	34,399	10,882	10,898	22,381
Frozen Pork .. .. . lb.	152,584	137,946	53,142	61,393	88,058
Milk, concentrated and preserved .. .. . "	36,678,109	21,135,137	17,762,106	29,155,694	23,626,795
Pigs, living .. .. . No.	119	67	38	65	320
Poultry, living .. .. . "	2,624	2,858	2,174	2,057	3,418
<b>VALUE.</b>					
Beeswax .. .. . £	77	51	137	69	131
Butter .. .. . £	7,968,078	6,082,414	4,874,921	10,006,081	7,006,830
Cheese .. .. . £	438,350	231,898	140,715	363,757	270,712
Egg albumen and yolk .. .. . £	12,061	32	210	95	95
Eggs .. .. . £	75,764	102,946	52,715	53,518	116,681
Feathers, undressed .. .. . £	956	1,247	303	1,112	1,089
Honey .. .. . £	4,448	2,718	2,060	3,807	3,756
Lard .. .. . £	88,694	38,447	23,809	42,744	56,630
Meats—					
Bacon and Ham .. .. . £	223,065	158,414	132,581	124,891	139,864
Frozen Poultry .. .. . £	50,205	42,951	11,270	14,141	25,242
Frozen pork .. .. . £	7,414	6,003	2,099	2,749	3,579
Milk, concentrated and preserved .. .. . £	2,131,279	1,325,883	1,079,943	1,694,230	1,261,417
Pigs, living .. .. . £	990	510	288	676	1,951
Poultry, living .. .. . £	3,268	2,640	1,649	1,527	2,311
Total .. .. . £	11,004,649	7,996,214	6,322,700	12,309,302	8,890,288

(a) Quantity not available.

### § 9. British Imports of Dairy Products.

1. Quantities and Values.—The following table gives the quantities and values of the principal dairy products imported into the United Kingdom during the years 1921 to 1925:—

#### DAIRY PRODUCTS.—IMPORTS, UNITED KINGDOM, 1921 TO 1925.

Products.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
Butter .. .. . cwt.	3,523,976	4,268,561	5,095,511	5,287,244	5,853,245
" .. .. . cwt.	42,339,947	37,315,536	44,234,534	49,647,492	53,204,417
Cheese .. .. . cwt.	2,817,465	2,659,345	2,838,546	2,887,413	3,008,702
" .. .. . cwt.	17,446,521	12,437,818	15,280,707	13,552,406	15,696,800
Milk, concentrated and preserved .. .. . cwt.	2,350,610	2,059,050	2,366,532	2,333,701	2,413,350
" .. .. . cwt.	11,303,566	6,588,155	6,716,648	6,183,530	5,756,372
Bacon and ham .. .. . cwt.	6,804,875	7,365,394	9,540,241	9,509,399	9,002,912
Pork (a) .. .. . cwt.	51,745,149	44,115,900	46,536,807	45,050,619	50,774,719
" .. .. . cwt.	372,055	292,358	475,963	238,208	262,998
" .. .. . cwt.	1,863,027	1,102,304	1,898,233	952,057	1,133,648

(a) Frozen chilled, and salted.

2. *Butter.*—(i) *Imports.* Australia has for many years supplied a large proportion of the butter imported into the United Kingdom. The quantity shipped in 1925 amounted to 1,161,238 cwt., or nearly 20 per cent. of the total importation. The Australian contribution was valued at £9,484,977, and was exceeded only by that shipped from Denmark and New Zealand.

**BUTTER IMPORTS.—UNITED KINGDOM, 1925.**

Country from which Imported.	Quantity.	Value.	Country from which Imported.	Quantity.	Value.
	Cwt.	£		Cwt.	£
Denmark ..	1,658,052	17,110,534	Estonia ..	21,287	189,999
New Zealand ..	1,255,439	10,788,865	United States of America ..	11,843	110,372
<b>Australia ..</b>	<b>1,161,238</b>	<b>9,484,977</b>	Union of South Africa ..	5,860	51,659
Argentine Republic ..	484,503	4,030,324	Norway ..	3,824	38,883
Irish Free State ..	403,111	3,696,144	British Possessions, n.e.i. ..	1,102	7,279
Soviet Republics ..	292,226	2,448,095	Foreign Countries, n.e.i. ..	7,817	59,721
Finland ..	169,696	1,611,065			
Canada ..	162,523	1,518,167			
Sweden ..	81,436	813,823			
Netherlands ..	76,034	719,203			
France ..	30,996	291,432			
Latvia ..	26,258	233,875	<b>Total ..</b>	<b>5,853,245</b>	<b>53,204,417</b>

(ii) *London Prices.* The average price of the best quality Australian butter in London during the past ten years is shown in the following table :—

**AUSTRALIAN BUTTER.—LONDON PRICES, 1915 TO 1926.**

Year.	Average Top Price per cwt.	Year.	Average Top Price per Cwt.
	s. d.		s. d.
1915	144 6	1921	234 0
1916	169 6	1922	183 0
1917	(a) 206 0	1923	184 6
1918	(b) 252 0	1924	189 6
1919	(b) 252 0	1925	184 0
1920	(b) 299 9	1926	169 6

(a) Proclaimed price. (b) Flat rate for all imported butter.

Under contract the British Government purchased the surplus output of Australian butter during the period from 1st July, 1918, to 31st July, 1920. The price paid was 175s. per cwt. for butter scoring 90 points, a shilling per cwt. being added or deducted as the grading score exceeded or fell below that standard. On the 1st August, 1920, the contract was extended for a further period, the price of butter having been increased to 240s. per cwt., subsequently raised to 272s., and the grading price being likewise increased to 1s. 6d. per cwt. This contract terminated on the 31st March, 1921, butter thenceforward being sold in open market.

3. *Cheese.*—The value of cheese imported into the United Kingdom in 1925 was £15,696,800, of which £6,726,780 was received from New Zealand, and £6,719,559 from Canada. Small experimental shipments from Australia were made in 1908 and following years, fair prices being realized. The value of the imports from Australia has increased from £24,568 in 1913 to £393,436 in 1925.

4. *Bacon and Ham.*—Of a total import of bacon and ham valued in 1925 at £50,774,719, the United Kingdom received imports to the value of £22,167,587 from Denmark, £14,792,851 from the United States, and £7,932,014 from Canada. The import from Australia was small, experimental shipments only having been made during recent years.

5. *Pork.*—The value of the United Kingdom imports of pork (frozen and salted only) was £1,133,648 in 1925. There was no importation from Australia, the bulk of the supplies being forwarded from the United States, New Zealand, Canada, China, Argentine Republic and Denmark.

6. *Other Products.*—There was practically no shipment to the United Kingdom from Australia of beeswax, poultry, game, lard, or honey, but frozen rabbits to the value of £462,788, and eggs to the value of £142,075 were received from Australia in 1925.