

## CHAPTER XXIV.

## FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTS.

NOTE.—Values of Australian oversea trade shown throughout this chapter are expressed as £A. f.o.b. Port of Shipment, except where otherwise indicated.

## § 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 publication. It may be noted here that an increased and improved milk supply has resulted from the crossing of imported stud cattle with the original stock and from the further judicious crossing of strains. In Australia, dairy cattle thrive in the open throughout the year, local climatic conditions demanding no protection other than tree plantations for shelter and, in certain districts, 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 wider application of scientific methods in the treatment of animals and pasturages and in the processes of manufacture, coupled with herd testing and effective State supervision, the dairying industry has shown rapid expansion. It has been demonstrated that Australian production and marketing methods do not adversely affect the vitamin content of the butter and that the loss during cold storage even for as long as two years is insignificant.

2. **Mixed Farming.**—Dairying is not, as formerly, wholly confined to agriculturists since many graziers also give 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. The extent to which dairy cattle were run in conjunction with pig raising and wheat growing in 1947–48 is shown in the relevant tables published in the section “Special Tabulations Relating to Rural Holdings, 1947–48” of *Primary Industries 1947–48*, Bulletin No. 42.

3. **Employment.**—The numbers of persons employed in rural industries are ascertained at the annual census of rural production. The particulars collected are in respect of those persons who were permanently engaged in the actual work of the farm and include owners, lessees, tenants or sharefarmers, relatives over 14 years of age not receiving wages, and other permanent employees, including managers and relatives, working for wages or salary. For some earlier years, and uniformly from March, 1950, particulars have also been collected as to numbers of temporary employees at 31st March of each year. Details of the numbers so engaged are given in Chapter XXII.—Agricultural Production, § 28.

For the years up to 1939–40, information was also collected which enabled the classification of each holding according to the chief purpose for which it was used, thus obtaining a distribution of employment in the three main classes, Agriculture, Pastoral and Dairying.

However, because of difficulties in determining with precision the chief purpose for which holdings are used, this information has since been omitted from the schedules. Consequently, it has not been possible to continue to compile details of employment in the dairying industry from data obtained from this source.

Persons who described themselves at the population census as being engaged in dairy farming comprised 96,508 males and 10,018 females, a total of 106,526 persons at the Census of 30th June, 1947, and 100,553 males and 11,004 females, a total of 111,557 persons, at the Census of 30th June, 1954.

4. **Growth of the Dairying Industry.**—The following table gives some indication of the growth of the dairying industry since 1918–19:—

**DAIRYING INDUSTRY : AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Number of Dairy Cows at 31st March.			Production of—			Milking Machines (No. of Stands). <sup>(a)</sup>
	In Milk.	Dry.	Total.	Milk for all Purposes.	Butter (Factory and Farm).	Cheese (Factory and Farm).	
				Million Gallons.	Tons.	Tons.	
1918–19 ..	1,319,588	582,448	1,902,036	529.6	81,162	10,621	(b)
1928–29 ..	1,744,728	600,342	2,345,070	815.4	129,817	13,490	(b)
1938–39 ..	2,600,707	608,812	3,209,519	1,189.9	203,500	29,304	(b)
1948–49 ..	2,339,885	818,725	3,158,610	1,208.9	165,830	43,202	144,916
1951–52 ..	2,098,560	874,192	2,972,752	1,047.4	135,319	40,598	171,712
1952–53 ..	2,223,410	863,133	3,086,543	1,215.2	167,480	46,606	179,853
1953–54 ..	2,262,783	948,215	3,210,998	1,189.7	159,585	49,057	189,542
1954–55 ..	2,338,658	897,949	3,236,607	1,325.8	191,078	45,193	196,877
1955–56 ..	2,393,870	929,517	3,323,387	(c)1,405.2	(c)208,590	(c)38,693	204,369

(a) "Number of Stands" indicates the number of cows that can be milked simultaneously—i.e., the cow capacity of installed milking machines. (b) Not available. (c) Subject to revision.

5. **Official Supervision of Dairying Industry.**—Dairy experts 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.

The export trade is regulated by the terms of the Commonwealth Customs Act 1901–1954 and the Commonwealth Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act 1905–1950, and regulations thereunder. It will be sufficient to state here that the true trade description, etc., 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 given a certificate by the inspector.

6. **Australian Agricultural Council.**—General information on the constitution and functions of the Australian Agricultural Council is given on p. 822 of Chapter XXII—Agricultural Production. Details were given on pp. 833–4 of Official Year Book No. 40, of the production aims for the five-year period ending 1957–58 (including specific targets for the principal dairy products) as set by the Council at its 36th Meeting in April, 1952.

## § 2. Value of Farmyard, Dairy and Bee Production and Indexes of Price and Quantum of Production.

1. **Gross Value of Farmyard, Dairy and Bee Production, 1936–37 to 1938–39 and 1950–51 to 1954–55.**—The following table shows the gross value of recorded farmyard and dairy production at the principal markets in Australia.

GROSS VALUE OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTION: AUSTRALIA.(a)  
(£'000.)

Particulars.	Average 1936-37 to 1938-39.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.
Whole Milk(b) used for—						
Butter .. .. .	22,550	35,044	36,009	58,995	57,004	67,801
Cheese .. .. .	1,505	5,506	6,872	9,377	10,077	9,218
Condensing, Concentrating, etc. .. .. .	1,094	6,223	7,948	10,860	9,583	7,537
Human Consumption and other purposes .. .. .	7,971	28,315	37,261	46,092	49,205	50,377
Subsidy Paid on Whole Milk for—						
Butter, Cheese, Condensing, Concentrating, etc. .. .. .	..	15,169	17,735	15,265	15,468	16,081
Human Consumption .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Whole Milk (in- cluding Subsidy) .. .. .	33,120	90,257	105,825	140,589	141,337	151,014
Pigs Slaughtered .. .. .	5,526	15,358	18,516	21,703	23,773	21,263
Dairy Cattle Slaughtered .. .. .	1,591	4,872	5,966	6,569	8,437	9,652
Eggs .. .. .	9,117	28,047	37,534	43,637	43,569	40,650
Poultry .. .. .	2,386	9,408	10,985	11,231	11,396	10,835
Honey .. .. .	154	871	800	1,113	1,473	1,465
Beeswax .. .. .	10	71	62	84	120	133
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>51,904</b>	<b>148,884</b>	<b>179,688</b>	<b>224,926</b>	<b>230,105</b>	<b>235,012</b>

(a) Prior to 1954-55 excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory, details for which are not available. (b) Excludes Commonwealth subsidy which is shown separately below.

2. Gross and Net Values, 1954-55.—The values of dairy, poultry and bee farming on gross, local and net bases are shown in the following table. Further information on values, including definitions of the terms used, is given in Chapter XXX.—Miscellaneous.

GROSS, LOCAL AND NET VALUE OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE  
PRODUCTION, 1954-55.  
(£'000.)

State.	Gross Production Valued at Principal Markets.	Marketing Costs.	Gross Production Valued at Farm.	Farm Costs.		Net Value of Pro- duction. (a)
				Fodder Fed to Farm Stock.	Value of Other Materials Used in Process of Pro- duction.	

DAIRY PRODUCTION.

New South Wales .. .. .	57,426	6,792	50,634	5,642	(b) 244	44,748
Victoria .. .. .	62,001	2,323	59,678	10,466	2,784	46,428
Queensland .. .. .	34,296	1,204	33,092	4,033	3,989	25,070
South Australia .. .. .	12,519	209	12,310	871	773	10,666
Western Australia .. .. .	8,171	368	7,803	3,116	1,461	3,226
Tasmania .. .. .	7,319	341	6,978	1,157	(b) 311	5,510
Northern Territory .. .. .	22	1	21	..	..	21
Australian Capital Ter- ritory .. .. .	175	10	165	35	1	129
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>181,929</b>	<b>11,248</b>	<b>170,681</b>	<b>25,320</b>	<b>9,563</b>	<b>135,798</b>

(a) No deduction has been made for depreciation and maintenance. (b) No allowance has been made for costs of power, power kerosene, petrol and other oils.

GROSS, LOCAL AND NET VALUE OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTION, 1954-55—*continued.*

(£'000.)

State.	Gross Production Valued at Principal Markets.	Marketing Costs.	Gross Production Valued at Farm.	Farm Costs.		Net Value of Production. (a)
				Fodder Fed to Farm Stock.	Value of Other Materials Used in Process of Production.	
POULTRY PRODUCTION.						
New South Wales ..	20,765	2,694	18,071	5,232	(b)	12,839
Victoria ..	19,824	1,487	18,337	6,541	(b)	11,796
Queensland ..	2,535	312	2,223	1,052	74	1,097
South Australia ..	3,864	411	3,453	1,747	(b)	1,706
Western Australia ..	2,605	383	2,222	859	(b)	1,363
Tasmania ..	1,711	171	1,540	659	(b)	881
Northern Territory ..	57	3	54	9	..	45
Australian Capital Territory ..	124	16	108	48	..	60
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>51,485</b>	<b>5,477</b>	<b>46,008</b>	<b>16,147</b>	<b>(c) 74</b>	<b>29,787</b>

## BEE PRODUCTION.

New South Wales ..	816	80	736	..	} (b) }	736
Victoria ..	437	84	353	..		353
Queensland ..	80	10	70	..		70
South Australia ..	142	16	126	..		126
Western Australia ..	106	9	97	..		97
Tasmania ..	16	1	15	..	15	
Northern Territory ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Australian Capital Territory ..	1	..	1	..	..	1
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>1,598</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>1,398</b>

## TOTAL FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTION.

New South Wales ..	79,007	9,566	69,441	10,874	(d) 244	58,323
Victoria ..	82,262	3,894	78,368	17,007	2,784	58,577
Queensland ..	36,911	1,526	35,385	5,085	4,063	26,237
South Australia ..	16,525	636	15,889	2,618	773	12,498
Western Australia ..	10,882	760	10,122	3,975	1,461	4,686
Tasmania ..	9,046	513	8,533	1,816	311	6,406
Northern Territory ..	79	4	75	9	..	66
Australian Capital Territory ..	300	26	274	83	1	190
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>235,012</b>	<b>16,925</b>	<b>218,087</b>	<b>41,467</b>	<b>9,637</b>	<b>166,983</b>

(a) No deduction has been made for depreciation and maintenance. (b) Not available.  
(c) Incomplete, Queensland only. (d) Incomplete, see individual industries above.

3. Net Value of Production, 1934-35 to 1938-39 and 1950-51 to 1954-55.—In the following table the net values of farmyard, dairy and bee production (total and per head of population) are shown by States.

## NET VALUE OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTION.(a)

Year.	N.S.W. (b)	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.(b)	Total.
NET VALUE. (£'000.)							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39	11,848	12,238	7,118	1,938	979	943	35,064
1950-51	38,852	39,650	21,141	8,513	3,886	2,755	114,797
1951-52	44,508	51,935	19,412	11,029	5,265	3,955	136,104
1952-53	60,642	57,842	31,402	11,708	5,460	4,970	172,024
1953-54	58,985	60,595	29,758	12,525	5,540	5,761	173,164
1954-55	58,323	58,577	26,237	12,498	4,686	6,406	c 166,983
NET VALUE PER HEAD OF POPULATION. (£ s. d.)							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39	4 8 3	6 12 2	7 4 7	3 5 11	2 3 0	4 0 10	5 2 11
1950-51	11 19 11	17 13 7	17 10 4	11 15 10	6 16 3	9 14 4	13 17 10
1951-52	13 8 10	22 9 9	15 13 3	14 16 8	8 18 6	13 9 7	16 0 8
1952-53	18 0 3	24 7 6	24 13 8	15 5 6	8 18 8	16 8 7	19 15 10
1953-54	17 6 5	25 0 3	22 17 8	15 18 8	8 15 8	18 12 5	19 11 1
1954-55	16 17 1	23 10 10	19 15 11	15 9 6	7 4 5	20 9 4	c 18 7 4

(a) No deduction has been made for depreciation and maintenance or for costs of materials used in the process of production in the Poultry (for States other than Queensland) and Bee-farming Industries.  
 (b) No deduction has been made for costs of power, power kerosene, petrol and other oils.  
 (c) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

4. Indexes of Quantum and Price of Farmyard, Dairy and Bee Production, 1950-51 to 1954-55.—For details of the methods of calculating these indexes and of the weights used see Chapter XXX.—Miscellaneous.

## INDEXES OF QUANTUM (a) AND PRICE OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTION: AUSTRALIA.

(Base: Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Particulars.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.
<i>Quantum(a) of Production—</i>					
Milk .. .. .	105	92	107	104	116
Other Products .. .. .	109	108	110	113	117
<i>Total Farmyard and Dairy ..</i>	<i>106</i>	<i>97</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>117</i>
Total per Head of Population	88	78	85	83	88
<i>Price—</i>					
Milk .. .. .	244	319	373	379	370
Other Products .. .. .	295	363	423	435	375
<i>Total Farmyard and Dairy ..</i>	<i>258</i>	<i>332</i>	<i>387</i>	<i>395</i>	<i>371</i>

(a) Indexes of value at constant prices, i.e. quantities revalued at average unit values of base years (1936-37 to 1938-39).

## § 3. Dairy Cattle and Dairy Products.

1. Dairy Herds.—Lack of uniformity in the schedules used by the various States in the collection of livestock statistics makes it impossible to measure with complete accuracy the growth of dairy herds prior to 1943. Statistics of dairy cows—which form the largest part of herds—are, however, available on a comparable basis for a series of years. These statistics show that in 1918-19 there were 1,902,036 dairy cows (in milk and dry), compared with 2,345,070 in 1928-29 and 3,209,519 in 1938-39. The numbers remained at this level until March, 1944, but declined in succeeding years and did not regain the level of 1944 until 31st March, 1954, when the number recorded was 3,210,998. Numbers at 31st March, 1955 and 1956 were 3,236,607 and 3,323,387 respectively. In New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania, the proportion of dairy to all cattle is high. In Queensland, the Northern Territory, and Western Australia, there is a great preponderance of other cattle, the main object in these areas being the production of beef. Since 1939, there has been a substantial decrease in the number of dairy cows in New South Wales. The numbers of dairy cows for 1952 to 1956 shown in the following table refer to those recorded by farmers as being in milk and dry as at 31st March. The figures shown for the years 1935 to 1939 cover the same categories, but the period differs in some States (see footnote (a)). To this extent the figures lack comparability.

NUMBER OF CATTLE AND DAIRY COWS (IN MILK AND DRY) AT 31st MARCH.

State.		Average, 1935-39. (a)	1952.	1953.	1954.	1955.	1956.
N.S.Wales	All Cattle ..	3,054,164	3,620,953	3,648,733	3,554,016	3,460,692	3,678,634
	Dairy Cows..	1,024,761	820,518	847,932	874,190	861,193	895,924
Victoria	All Cattle ..	1,892,465	2,214,530	2,297,208	2,370,184	2,456,303	2,616,587
	Dairy Cows..	912,621	914,809	947,061	987,345	1,025,233	1,071,437
Queensland	All Cattle ..	6,047,726	6,434,374	6,751,395	7,086,207	7,238,062	7,330,021
	Dairy Cows..	924,875	859,434	903,621	946,230	931,568	943,323
South Australia	All Cattle ..	331,488	437,468	482,578	490,945	523,817	566,055
	Dairy Cows..	154,870	152,192	155,956	164,230	169,822	165,865
W. Australia ..	All Cattle ..	796,473	851,534	846,261	829,694	860,574	896,897
	Dairy Cows..	121,127	130,625	133,923	134,129	134,696	134,517
Tasmania	All Cattle ..	260,267	266,263	275,131	295,178	319,417	331,589
	Dairy Cows..	93,708	92,833	96,040	102,523	111,781	110,028
Nor. Territory	All Cattle ..	893,925	1,057,906	935,602	966,033	968,775	1,027,819
	Dairy Cows(b)						
Aust. Cap. Ter.	All Cattle ..	8,261	10,293	9,700	9,394	8,590	9,489
	Dairy Cows..	1,019	2,341	2,010	2,351	2,314	2,293
Australia	All Cattle ..	13,284,769	14,893,321	15,246,608	15,601,651	15,836,230	16,457,091
	Dairy Cows..	3,232,981	2,972,752	3,086,543	3,210,998	3,236,607	3,323,387

(a) As at 31st March for New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory; 1st January for Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. (b) No information available; assumed to be "nil".

In the next table, the dairy cattle in each State are shown in various categories as at 31st March, 1954, 1955 and 1956. Information in this detail was not collected uniformly in all States prior to 1943.

NUMBER OF DAIRY CATTLE.

State.	At 31st March	Dairy Cows.		Dairy Heifers 1 year and over.	Dairy Calves under 1 year.	Dairy Bulls.	Total Dairy Cattle.
		In Milk.	Dry.				
New South Wales	1954	663,945	210,245	200,540	139,233	24,557	1,238,520
	1955	668,610	192,583	203,583	130,437	23,840	1,219,053
	1956	693,112	202,812	194,397	143,385	23,944	1,257,650
Victoria	1954	685,084	302,261	286,632	225,802	40,951	1,540,730
	1955	757,080	268,153	299,627	233,804	41,057	1,599,721
	1956	780,132	291,305	308,874	239,192	43,045	1,662,548
Queensland	1954	661,256	284,974	214,325	194,510	28,143	1,383,208
	1955	655,307	276,261	226,437	191,269	27,940	1,377,214
	1956	664,443	278,880	225,627	186,900	27,889	1,383,739
South Australia	1954	109,210	55,020	48,576	39,452	8,772	261,030
	1955	109,379	60,443	47,060	43,259	8,780	268,921
	1956	102,507	63,358	47,217	42,416	8,805	264,303
Western Australia	1954	58,621	75,508	41,836	47,495	6,056	259,516
	1955	60,432	74,264	39,708	47,991	5,850	228,245
	1956	59,176	75,341	38,894	44,704	5,469	223,584
Tasmania	1954	83,280	19,243	28,426	38,274	4,372	173,595
	1955	86,496	25,285	30,766	42,652	4,512	189,711
	1956	93,163	16,865	30,884	37,817	4,873	183,602
Australian Capital Territory	1954	1,387	964	303	712	55	3,421
	1955	1,354	960	339	610	49	3,312
	1956	1,337	956	311	599	44	3,247
Australia	1954	2,262,783	948,215	820,638	685,478	112,906	4,830,020
	1955	2,338,658	897,949	847,520	690,022	112,028	4,886,177
	1956	2,393,870	929,517	846,204	695,013	114,069	4,978,673

A map showing the distribution of dairy cattle in Australia at 31st March, 1955, appears on p. 910. A similar map showing the distribution at 31st March, 1948, appeared on p. 906 of Official Year Book No. 39.

2. **Size of Dairy Herds.**—A series of special tabulations relating to rural holdings, undertaken for all States for the year 1949-50, covered, *inter alia*, a classification of holdings with dairy cattle according to size of herd. Details of these tabulations are published in *Primary Industries 1949-50*, Bulletin No. 44.

3. **Factory System.**—(i) *General.* Cream separation and butter-making are often carried on together under the co-operative system. The creation of large central butter factories has resulted in a considerable reduction in the cost of manufacture, since improved appliances such as refrigerators, etc., may be profitably worked at the larger establishments. The product is also of a more uniform quality and, whereas formerly the average quantity of milk used per pound of hand-made butter was about 3 gallons, factory butter requires less than 2½ gallons.

(ii) *Number of Factories.* In 1954-55, the factories in Australia for the manufacture of butter, cheese and condensed milk numbered 379 and were distributed among the States as follows:—New South Wales, 77; Victoria, 134; Queensland, 89; South Australia, 41; Western Australia, 17; and Tasmania, 21. More details regarding numbers of factories, output, etc., are given in Chapter VII.—Manufacturing Industry.

4. **Butter and Cheese—Stabilization Schemes.**—(i) *Voluntary Plan.* During the period from January, 1926 to April, 1934, a voluntary scheme known as the "Paterson Plan" was in operation which had the effect of stabilizing the price of butter in Australia. Details of this scheme may be found on p. 1028 of Official Year Book No. 38 and in earlier issues.

(ii) *Compulsory Plan.* On 1st May, 1934, the "Paterson Plan" was superseded by a compulsory price equalization plan, details of which were shown on p. 1029 of Official Year Book No. 38 and earlier issues. This compulsory plan was invalidated by the decision in 1936 of the Privy Council which declared in the James (Dried Fruits) Case that the Commonwealth had no power under the Constitution to regulate trade between the States.

(iii) *Equalization Scheme.* Since the Privy Council decision, the butter price equalization scheme has continued to operate by voluntary action based on the agreements between the manufacturers and the Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Limited. The Committee, which comprises members of the State Dairy Products Boards and other persons representing the industry, enters into agreements with manufacturers to secure to them equal rates from sales of butter and cheese, and for this purpose may fix basic prices at which these products sold in Australia or abroad are to be taken into account. The effect is that local and export trade are distributed in equitable proportions among the manufacturers by means of quotas. The Committee fixes basic prices and equalizes returns to factories through an Equalization Fund. The States originally participating in the scheme were New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania in respect of both butter and cheese, and South Australia in respect of cheese. South Australia and Western Australia entered the scheme in respect of butter on 1st April, 1946 and Western Australia extended its participation to include cheese in January, 1947.

The home consumption prices of butter and cheese were fixed by the Commonwealth Prices Commissioner up to 19th September, 1948, from which date they have been a matter for State Prices Authorities. At present, however, the power to fix prices is being exercised in only two States, Queensland and South Australia, the prices in all other States being determined by the Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee.

5. **Commonwealth Subsidies.**—(i) *Butter, Cheese and Processed Milk Products.* Under the provisions of the various Dairy Industry Assistance Acts, the first of which was passed in 1942, the Commonwealth Government has provided subsidies on milk supplied for the manufacture of butter, cheese and processed milk products. Subsidies were paid on a seasonal basis prior to 1st April, 1946, but from that date have been on a flat rate basis. Subsidies are distributed by the Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Limited through factories to milk producers by payments on butter, cheese and processed milk products manufactured. Subsidy on milk supplied for the manufacture of processed milk products was discontinued from 1st July, 1948 to 30th June, 1949 and again from 1st July, 1952.

The following table shows in respect of butter and cheese, particulars of the rates realized on local, interstate and oversea sales and the average equalization and subsidy rates in operation for the years ended June, 1939 and 1952 to 1956.

**BUTTER AND CHEESE: RATES REALIZED ON SALES, AVERAGE EQUALIZATION RATES AND RATES OF COMMONWEALTH SUBSIDY UNDER DAIRY INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE ACTS.**

(Rates s. d. per cwt.)

Year ended 30th June.	Rates Realized on Sales.			Average Equalization Rate.	Rate of Subsidy.	Rate of Overall Return to Manu- facturers.
	Local.	Interstate.	Overseas.			
<b>BUTTER.</b>						
1939 .. ..	154 5.5	146 5.5	121 7.5	136 3.5	..	136 3.5
1952 .. ..	291 9.6	291 7.6	429 1.1	307 8.9	121 4.2	429 1.1
1953 .. ..	404 6.0	381 4.0	389 0.0	398 0.4	85 0.0	483 0.4
1954 .. ..	404 7.3	380 4.0	401 4.6	400 5.1	89 10.3	490 3.4
1955 .. ..	403 4.2	384 1.1	386 3.9	395 10.3	79 0.0	474 10.3
1956(a) .. ..	(b)	(b)	(b)	394 0.0	65 1.0	459 1.0
<b>CHEESE.</b>						
1939 .. ..	(c) 94 8.6		59 3.2	71 7.6	..	71 7.6
1952 .. ..	184 1.1		240 4.2	208 11.6	31 4.6	240 4.2
1953 .. ..	244 3.3		203 4.1	232 4.8	32 0.0	264 4.8
1954 .. ..	244 8.6		209 11.1	232 4.7	32 0.0	264 4.7
1955 .. ..	246 3.1		191 11.1	220 2.2	29 11.0	250 1.2
1956(a) .. ..	(b)		(b)	248 4.0	31 5.6	279 9.6

(a) Rates are of an interim nature only. (b) Not yet available. (c) A lower rate was determined for cheese sold for processing for local consumption.

(Source: Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Limited.)

Following representations by industry organizations, the Commonwealth Government established the Joint Dairy Industry Advisory Committee in November, 1946, comprising a chairman nominated by the Government, four representatives of Commonwealth Government Departments and four industry representatives from the several States. The Committee's functions, broadly, were to advise and assist in conducting cost and other surveys of dairy farm production and to act as an advisory body to the Government in these matters. From 1st April, 1947, to 30th June, 1952, the rates of overall return to milk producers determined by the Commonwealth Government for the purpose of subsidy payments were based on recommendations made by the Committee following surveys of production costs in the dairy industry.

Under the Five-year Stabilization Plan, which came into operation on 1st July, 1952, the Commonwealth Government, with the approval of the States, determines each season the ex-factory prices of butter and cheese, guarantees to dairy farmers a return, based upon costs of efficient production, in respect of quantities of butter and cheese sold within the Commonwealth, plus an additional 20 per cent. (if produced), and hence determines the amount of subsidy it will make available to lift the return on that part of output covered by the guarantee to the guaranteed level.

Early in 1953, the Dairy Industry Investigation Committee, an independent body consisting of three members, was appointed to advise the Commonwealth Government on the guaranteed return to producers during 1953-54. The Committee was re-established in March, 1954, to advise the Government on the guaranteed return for each year of the remaining three year period of the Stabilization Plan.

Amounts realized on exports of butter and cheese in excess of the f.o.b. equivalent of the guaranteed return have been credited to the Dairying Industry Stabilization Fund, which was established in July, 1948 for the purpose of stabilizing returns from exports. During 1951-52, the Stabilization Fund met the deficiency in respect of all exports which did not return sufficient to meet the basic return to the factory. Since 1st July, 1952, it has been available to the industry to be used, in whatever manner considered desirable by it, to make good any deficiency in respect of all exports other than the 20 per cent. provided for under the Commonwealth Government's Five-year Stabilization Plan. After allowing for outstanding debits, the amount standing to the credit of the Dairying Industry Stabilization Fund at 30th June, 1956, totalled approximately £1,400,000.

(ii) *Whole Milk.* In addition to the subsidies referred to above, the Commonwealth Government subsidized the production of whole milk consumed directly from 1943-44

to 1948-49. Details of the amounts distributed during each year will be found in Official Year Book No. 38, p. 1031.

6. Total Dairy Production.—The dairy production for each State in 1954-55 and 1955-56 is shown below:—

## DAIRY PRODUCTION.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Total.
1954-55.								
MILK ('000 GALLONS).								
Used for—								
Butter ..	(a)192,284	(b)371,456	(c)213,022	36,639	33,388	39,836	27	886,652
Cheese ..	5,762	44,230	17,451	28,163	2,415	548	..	98,569
Condensing and concentrating	11,574	48,047	} 45,132	25,897	18,391	11,638	{ ..	64,365
Other purposes	106,099	73,102						
Total ..	315,719	536,835	275,605	90,699	54,194	52,022	725	1,325,799
BUTTER (TONS).								
In Factories ..	(d) 38,688	(e) 79,418	(e) 45,915	8,510	7,145	8,334	..	188,010
On Dairy and other Farms ..	1,440	764	308	194	121	237	4	3,068
Total ..	40,128	80,182	46,223	8,704	7,266	8,571	4	191,078
CHEESE (TONS).								
In Factories ..	2,508	20,290	(f) 7,921	13,101	1,083	275	..	45,178
On Dairy and other Farms ..	..	12	..	..	3	..	..	15
Total ..	2,508	20,302	7,921	13,101	1,086	275	..	45,193
1955-56. (g)								
MILK ('000 GALLONS).								
Used for—								
Butter ..	(a)201,670	(b)426,113	(c) 219,592	37,429	34,512	47,385	36	966,737
Cheese ..	7,594	29,509	16,961	27,172	1,926	612	..	83,774
Condensing and concentrating	17,020	47,622	} 46,338	26,508	19,140	12,962	{ ..	72,631
Other purposes	108,950	75,249						
Total ..	335,234	578,493	282,891	91,109	55,578	60,959	913	1,405,177
BUTTER (TONS).								
In Factories ..	(d) 41,065	(e) 90,676	(e) 48,186	8,517	7,427	9,969	..	205,840
On Dairy and other Farms ..	1,260	745	273	139	115	214	4	2,750
Total ..	42,325	91,421	48,459	8,656	7,542	10,183	4	208,590
CHEESE (TONS).								
In Factories ..	3,390	13,945	(f) 7,572	12,636	844	292	..	38,679
On Dairy and other Farms ..	1	10	..	..	3	..	..	14
Total ..	3,391	13,955	7,572	12,636	847	292	..	38,693

(a) Includes milk, the produce of New South Wales, sent as cream to factories in Victoria and Queensland. (b) Includes milk, the produce of Victoria, sent as cream to New South Wales. (c) Includes milk, the produce of Queensland, sent as cream to New South Wales. (d) Includes butter made from cream, the produce of Victoria and Queensland. (e) Includes butter made from cream, the produce of New South Wales. (f) Includes cheese made in establishments not classified as factories. (g) Subject to revision.

7. **Whole Milk.**—(i) *Production and Utilization.* During the five years ended 1938–39 approximately 80 per cent. of Australia's milk supply was used for making butter, 4 per cent. for cheese manufacture, 2 per cent. for condensery products and 14 per cent. for fluid consumption and other purposes. There has since been a considerable decline in the proportion of milk used for butter-making, with corresponding increases in the quantities used for other purposes. In 1955–56, 68 per cent. of the total milk supply was used for butter, 8 per cent. for cheese, 6 per cent. for condensery products and 18 per cent. for other purposes.

Details of the production of whole milk for various purposes are shown in the following table for each year 1951–52 to 1955–56 in comparison with the average for the years 1934–35 to 1938–39:—

**PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION OF WHOLE MILK: AUSTRALIA.**

(’000 Gallons.)

Year.	Total Production.	Quantity used for—			
		Butter (Factory and Farm).	Cheese (Factory and Farm).	Condensery Products.	Other purposes.
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39	1,149,697	913,754	48,595	28,116	159,232
1951–52 .. .. .	1,047,376	626,560	87,360	76,496	256,960
1952–53 .. .. .	1,215,241	771,522	100,224	83,655	259,840
1953–54 .. .. .	1,189,652	737,474	105,870	75,995	270,313
1954–55 .. .. .	1,325,799	886,652	98,569	64,365	276,213
1955–56(a) .. .. .	1,405,177	966,737	83,774	72,631	282,035

(a) Subject to revision.

In the following table, particulars of production of whole milk in the several States are shown for the years 1951–52 to 1955–56, compared with the average for the five years ended 1938–39. Victoria is the principal milk-producing State and in 1955–56 the output from that State, 578.5 million gallons, represented 41 per cent. of total production. Output from New South Wales was 335.2 million gallons or 24 per cent. of the total and that of Queensland 282.9 million gallons (20 per cent.). Production in the remaining States accounted for 15 per cent. of the total Australian output.

**TOTAL PRODUCTION OF WHOLE MILK.**

(’000 Gallons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Total.
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39	331,963	402,447	278,226	63,538	40,394	32,797	332	1,149,697
1951–52 .. .. .	241,209	446,818	181,148	86,482	48,937	42,189	593	1,047,376
1952–53 .. .. .	317,385	436,417	285,533	84,249	49,830	41,139	688	1,215,241
1953–54 .. .. .	282,187	474,358	249,712	85,014	49,996	47,642	743	1,189,652
1954–55 .. .. .	315,719	536,835	275,605	90,699	54,194	52,022	725	1,325,799
1955–56(a) .. .. .	335,234	578,493	282,891	91,109	55,578	60,959	913	1,405,177

(a) Subject to revision.

(ii) *Production per Cow.* The quantity of milk produced by a dairy cow reaches as high as 1,000 gallons per year, varying greatly with breed, locality and season. For the whole of Australia for all dairy cows and for all seasons prior to 1916 production has averaged considerably less than 300 gallons per annum. In recent years, not only has there been an

improvement in the quality of the cattle, but the application of scientific methods has been continually extended, and the 300-gallon average has been exceeded in each year since 1924. In 1955-56, the average yield of 428 gallons constituted a record. The annual average yields per cow shown in the following table are based on the approximate number of dairy cows which were in milk during any part of the year. The average shown is, therefore, less than that for cows which were yielding during the greater part of the year. It should be noted that there are many difficulties attending the collection of particulars of the total quantity of milk obtained during any year. In addition, there is the further difficulty of ascertaining with reasonable accuracy the average number of cows in milk during the same period. The average yield per cow shown hereunder may be accepted as sufficiently reliable to show the general trend :—

**AVERAGE MILK PRODUCTION PER DAIRY COW.**  
(Gallons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Average, 1934-35 to								
1938-39 .. ..	322	440	306	412	334	350	347	357
1951-52 .. ..	288	481	198	554	379	457	262	342
1952-53 .. ..	380	469	324	547	377	436	316	401
1953-54 .. ..	328	490	270	531	373	480	341	378
1954-55 .. ..	364	533	294	543	403	485	311	411
1955-56(a) .. ..	382	552	302	543	413	550	396	428

(a) Subject to revision.

8. **Butter Production.**—There was a steady increase in the annual output of butter for many years prior to the 1939-45 War. The average annual production rose from 126,000 tons for the five years ended 1928-29 to 195,000 tons for the five years ended 1938-39.

Following the record output of 211,988 tons in 1939-40, the general trend of butter production declined until 1946-47, when 143,308 tons were produced. Output increased again to 173,599 tons in 1949-50, but was at a lower level in subsequent years. A substantial increase was recorded to 191,078 tons in 1954-55 and to 208,590 tons in 1955-56 due to a recovery in New South Wales and Queensland and a considerable increase in production in Victoria. The foregoing figures include butter produced on farms which has shown a decline from 8,714 tons in 1938-39 to 2,750 tons in 1955-56.

The following table shows production of butter in factories in each State for the years 1951-52 to 1955-56, compared with the average for the five years ended 1938-39.

**BUTTER PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES.**  
(Tons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aust.(a)
Average, 1934-35 to							
1938-39 .. ..	52,949	62,489	53,255	7,570	5,459	3,811	185,533
1951-52 .. ..	23,438	59,236	27,850	7,767	6,705	6,170	131,166
1952-53 .. ..	37,087	57,323	49,008	7,630	6,480	6,059	163,587
1953-54 .. ..	29,713	63,616	41,797	7,586	6,142	7,263	156,117
1954-55 .. ..	38,688	79,418	45,915	8,510	7,145	8,334	188,010
1955-56(b) .. ..	41,065	90,676	48,186	8,517	7,427	9,969	205,840

(a) Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory; nil.

(b) Subject to revision.

The table below shows the monthly production of factory butter in Australia in each of the years 1938-39 and 1951-52 to 1955-56. The annual output of farm butter is also shown.

**PRODUCTION OF BUTTER IN FACTORIES AND ON FARMS: AUSTRALIA.**  
(Tons.)

Particulars.	1938-39.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56. (a)
<i>Factories—</i>						
July .. ..	9,415	7,013	7,862	6,941	6,917	8,479
August .. ..	11,645	9,119	10,325	8,906	10,903	13,280
September .. ..	15,531	11,511	15,139	12,781	16,288	18,203
October .. ..	20,485	16,748	19,329	17,481	21,819	24,318
November .. ..	22,561	16,051	19,468	19,640	25,011	26,173
December .. ..	20,710	13,889	19,537	18,585	24,715	25,284
January .. ..	15,872	12,337	16,905	17,038	19,681	23,925
February .. ..	15,816	9,501	15,052	15,410	16,598	20,041
March .. ..	17,729	10,197	14,063	15,465	16,658	15,890
April .. ..	16,583	9,132	10,440	9,933	12,358	12,332
May .. ..	15,568	8,219	8,286	7,646	9,435	9,846
June .. ..	12,871	7,449	7,181	6,291	7,627	8,069
<i>Factory Total (b)</i> ..	<i>194,786</i>	<i>131,166</i>	<i>163,587</i>	<i>156,117</i>	<i>188,010</i>	<i>205,840</i>
<i>Made on Farms(c)</i> ..	<i>8,714</i>	<i>4,153</i>	<i>3,893</i>	<i>3,468</i>	<i>3,068</i>	<i>2,750</i>
<b>Grand Total</b> ..	<b>203,500</b>	<b>135,319</b>	<b>167,480</b>	<b>159,585</b>	<b>191,078</b>	<b>208,590</b>

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Year ended June.

(c) Year ended March.

9. Cheese Production.—Until 1916, the annual production of cheese had not reached 10,000 tons. From 1916 to 1932-33, it ranged between about 10,000 and 16,000 tons, rising in subsequent years with some reversals of trend to an output of 44,796 tons in 1949-50. Production decreased in 1950-51 and 1951-52 but by 1953-54 had risen to a record output of 49,057 tons. Production in 1954-55 declined to 45,193 tons and in 1955-56 to 38,693 tons due to a decline in Victorian output. The States contributing chiefly towards the general increase over the years are Victoria and South Australia.

The following table shows production of cheese in factories in each State in the years 1951-52 to 1955-56 in comparison with average output during the years 1934-35 to 1938-39:—

**CHEESE PRODUCTION IN FACTORIES.**

(Tons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aust.(a)
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 .. ..	3,332	6,177	5,071	5,437	390	1,210	21,617
1951-52 .. ..	1,995	22,240	4,700	10,615	624	408	40,582
1952-53 .. ..	3,162	22,377	9,439	10,454	895	265	46,592
1953-54 .. ..	3,210	25,977	6,746	11,612	1,205	293	49,043
1954-55 .. ..	2,508	20,290	7,921	13,101	1,083	275	45,178
1955-56(b) .. ..	3,390	13,945	7,572	12,636	844	292	38,679

(a) Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory: nil.

(b) Subject to revision.

The monthly production of cheese in factories in Australia, together with the annual output from farms, is shown in the table below for 1938-39 and each of the years 1951-52 to 1955-56.

**PRODUCTION OF CHEESE IN FACTORIES AND ON FARMS: AUSTRALIA.**  
(Tons.)

Month.	1938-39.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56. (a)
<i>Factories—</i>						
July .. ..	1,517	2,135	2,218	1,979	2,429	2,174
August .. ..	1,950	3,050	3,607	3,315	3,754	3,166
September .. ..	2,820	4,666	5,246	5,376	5,422	4,380
October .. ..	4,028	6,290	6,837	7,345	6,657	5,363
November .. ..	3,990	6,112	6,923	7,366	6,660	5,253
December .. ..	3,462	5,158	6,297	6,619	5,910	4,575
January .. ..	2,212	3,715	4,869	5,075	4,096	3,690
February .. ..	1,715	2,442	3,287	3,603	2,729	2,515
March .. ..	1,826	2,165	2,616	3,084	2,454	2,317
April .. ..	1,656	1,682	1,739	1,901	1,816	1,859
May .. ..	1,898	1,565	1,474	1,661	1,589	1,668
June .. ..	1,900	1,602	1,479	1,719	1,662	1,719
<i>Factory Total(b)</i>	<i>28,974</i>	<i>40,582</i>	<i>46,592</i>	<i>49,043</i>	<i>45,178</i>	<i>38,679</i>
<i>Made on Farms(c)</i>	<i>330</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>14</i>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>29,304</b>	<b>40,598</b>	<b>46,606</b>	<b>49,057</b>	<b>45,193</b>	<b>38,693</b>

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Year ended June.

(c) Year ended March.

10. **Condensed, Concentrated and Powdered, etc., Milk Production.**—The manufacture of these products has expanded greatly since 1938-39 to meet the needs of the Services during the 1939-45 War and for export purposes since the war. The output of condensed milk (sweetened and unsweetened) in 1955-56 was more than double that in the three years ended 1938-39 while that of powdered milk (full cream and skim) was more than five times as high. Over the same period, the quantity of whole milk used in the manufacture of the products shown below increased from 33.2 million gallons to 72.6 million gallons or by 119 per cent. These products are manufactured mainly in Victoria, which produced 66 per cent. of the total (in terms of whole milk equivalent) in 1955-56. New South Wales accounted for 23 per cent. and the remaining States for 11 per cent.

The following table shows details of the output of condensed, concentrated, powdered, etc., milk during the years 1951-52 to 1955-56, compared with the available details for the years 1936-37 to 1938-39.

**PRODUCTION OF CONDENSED, CONCENTRATED AND POWDERED, ETC., MILK: AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Full Cream Milk Products.				Total Whole Milk Equivalent of Full Cream Milk Products. '000 gals.	Milk By-products.	
	Condensed Milk (Sweetened and Unsweetened).	Concentrated Whole Milk.(a)	Powdered Full Cream Milk.	Infants' and Invalids' Foods (including Malted Milk and Milk Sugar).		Powdered Skim Milk.	Powdered Butter-milk and Whey.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	Tons.
Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39	17,347	(b) 1,355	9,464	(c) 1,131	33,226	(d)	(e) 701
1951-52 .. ..	52,467	16,743	15,121	12,066	76,496	10,887	2,938
1952-53 .. ..	55,385	14,493	22,393	10,042	83,655	16,103	4,073
1953-54 .. ..	42,386	19,464	18,905	11,740	75,995	19,804	5,358
1954-55 .. ..	38,493	10,476	15,730	11,294	64,365	24,633	5,086
1955-56(f)	45,399	14,870	17,423	13,125	72,631	30,634	4,586

(a) Mainly for ice-cream manufacture. (b) Incomplete. (c) Malted milk and milk sugar only. (d) Not available separately; included with powdered full cream milk. (e) Excludes powdered whey. (f) Subject to revision.

11. **Local Consumption of Butter and Cheese.**—The production of butter and cheese less net exports and adjusted to account for movements in stocks, represents the quantity available for consumption in Australia.

A system of butter rationing introduced as a war-time measure and retained until 16th June, 1950, had the effect of considerably reducing civilian consumption. In the last year of rationing, 1949–50, consumption was 25.3 lb. per head per annum compared with an average of 32.9 lb. during the years 1936–37 to 1938–39. Following the cessation of rationing, consumption rose sharply to 30.9 lb. per head in 1950–51 and to 31.2 lb. in 1951–52, and has since fluctuated between 29 lb. and 31 lb. per head per annum. In 1955–56, consumption amounted to 29.3 lb. per head.

Cheese consumption rose considerably during the period of butter rationing, from 4.4 lb. per head pre-war to 6.3 lb. per head in 1949–50. There was a further increase in certain years after the cessation of butter rationing, the maximum rate being achieved in 1953–54 when 6.6 lb. per head were consumed. This was followed by a decline in the next two years, the level in 1955–56 being only 5.5 lb. per head.

The following table shows details of the production and disposal of butter and cheese for each of the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 compared with the average for the years 1936–37 to 1938–39.

**PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF BUTTER AND CHEESE: AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Changes in Stock.	Production.	Exports. (a)	Consumption in Australia	
				Total.	Per Head per annum.
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	lb.
<b>BUTTER.</b>					
Average, 1936–37 to 1938–39	(b)	191.0	(c) 90.0	101.0	32.9
1951–52 .. .. .	(d) +3.5	135.3	12.9	118.9	31.2
1952–53 .. .. .	(d) +2.5	167.5	50.5	114.5	29.4
1953–54 .. .. .	(d) –3.0	159.6	40.9	121.7	30.6
1954–55 .. .. .	(d) +4.9	191.1	63.7	122.5	30.2
1955–56(e) .. .. .	(d) +3.1	208.6	83.8	121.7	29.3
<b>CHEESE.</b>					
Average, 1936–37 to 1938–39	(b)	24.9	11.5	13.4	4.4
1951–52 .. .. .	– 0.1	40.6	17.9	22.8	6.0
1952–53 .. .. .	– 0.1	46.6	23.7	23.0	5.9
1953–54 .. .. .	+ 0.4	49.0	22.4	26.2	6.6
1954–55 .. .. .	..	45.2	21.4	23.8	5.9
1955–56(e) .. .. .	– 0.9	38.7	16.6	23.0	5.5

(a) Figures for butter include ghee expressed as butter as well as butter shipped as ships' stores. Figures for cheese include ships' stores after allowance for a small quantity of cheese imported. (b) Not available. (c) Excludes ghee. (d) Includes allowance for movements in stocks other than those held in main cold stores. (e) Subject to revision.

12. **Marketing of Dairy Products.**—(i) *The Dairy Produce Export Control Act 1924–1954.* Introduced at the request of the dairying industry, this Act was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament with the object of organizing the overseas marketing of Australian dairy produce. A Dairy Produce Control Board was appointed and was in existence from 1924 to 1935. In the course of its functions, the Board regulated shipments to ensure regularity of supply in the London market, controlled forward selling, obtained reductions in overseas freights and insurance rates and participated in an advertising campaign in the United Kingdom.

Prior to the appointment of the Dairy Produce Control Board, a voluntary body—the Australian Dairy Council—was established to advise and make recommendations to the Governments on problems connected with the production, manufacture and quality of dairy produce, pasture improvements and diseases of dairy cattle.

Following a recommendation by the Australian Agricultural Council, the functions of these bodies were combined by an amending Act of 1935 under the Australian Dairy Produce Board and provision was made for the allocation of money from the Board's

funds for research and investigation into pastures, diseases of dairy cattle and the quality of butter. The functions of the Board were later extended to enable it to advise the Government in connexion with the transport of dairy produce, the securing of new markets, the expansion of existing markets and other matters.

The Australian Dairy Produce Board was re-constituted in 1947 by an amendment to the Dairy Produce Export Control Act, its membership being reduced from seventeen to twelve. The functions of the Board were extended to enable it to purchase and sell, on behalf of the Commonwealth, dairy produce intended for export, and to control all matters concerning the handling, storage, protection, treatment, transfer and shipment of the produce so purchased or sold. In 1953, the direct farmer representation on the Board was increased from two to three members, thus raising the total membership from twelve to thirteen.

In April, 1954, the Act was further amended to prepare for the implementation of an export marketing plan to follow the expiration of the United Kingdom-Australia Butter and Cheese Contract. The amendment enabled the Board to purchase dairy produce intended for export to the United Kingdom and to sell such produce on behalf of the dairying industry in lieu of its present function of selling on behalf of the Commonwealth Government. In the interests of the stability of the industry, the Act provides that the Board may be the sole Australian exporter of butter and cheese to the United Kingdom.

(ii) *The Dairy Produce Export Charges Act 1924-1937.* This Act provides for the imposition of a levy on all butter and cheese exported from Australia to cover the administrative expenses of the Board and for advertising and other purposes. The rate of the levy is fixed by regulation.

(iii) *Butter and Cheese Contracts.* Details of the war-time contracts arranged between the United Kingdom and Australian Governments, whereby the former undertook to purchase Australia's surplus butter and cheese, were shown on pp. 985 and 986 of Official Year Book No. 37. The purchase of butter and cheese from 1944-45 to 1954-55 was covered by the Long-Term Purchase Agreement. Details of this Agreement and of the prices paid for various grades of butter and cheese each year under the Agreement were given in pp. 943 and 944 of Official Year Book No. 42 and in earlier issues of the Official Year Book.

13. *Oversea Trade in Butter, Cheese and Milk.*—(i) *General.* The production of butter and cheese in Australia is considerably in excess of local requirements and consequently a substantial surplus is available for export overseas. In normal circumstances, the extent of this surplus is chiefly dependent upon the seasonal conditions. Exports of butter, which averaged 90,000 tons in the three years prior to the 1939-45 War, were maintained to a certain extent during the war and post-war years by the restriction of supplies for local consumption, but because of lower production they nevertheless fell as low as 41,800 tons in 1944-45. In the last year of rationing, 1949-50, exports were 79,200 tons, but they fell to 11,300 tons by 1951-52. There was a substantial increase in exports in each subsequent year and in 1955-56, 82,600 tons were shipped. In addition, small quantities of ghee have been exported during the post-war period. Exports of cheese, which averaged 11,500 tons pre-war, rose to a maximum of 26,000 tons in 1948-49, but they subsequently fell and in 1955-56 amounted to 17,200 tons.

During 1938-39, 96,900 tons of butter (95 per cent. of all butter exported) were shipped to the United Kingdom. With the decline in total exports, there was also a substantial reduction in the proportion shipped to the United Kingdom. This has now increased again and in 1955-56 amounted to 72,400 tons (88 per cent. of the total butter exports).

In 1938-39, exports of cheese totalled 16,000 tons of which 15,500 tons or 97 per cent. were exported to the United Kingdom. Of the total of 17,200 tons exported in 1955-56, 13,600 tons or 79 per cent. were shipped to the United Kingdom.

Total quantities and values of exports of Australian origin of butter, cheese and condensed, concentrated, etc., milk and cream are shown on p. 941.

(ii) *Butter and Cheese Exports graded according to Quality.* All butter and cheese exported comes under the provisions of the Exports (Dairy Produce) Regulations and is subject to the supervision, inspection and examination of officers appointed for that purpose. These commodities are graded according to quality which has been fixed by regulation as

follows:—Flavour and aroma, 50 points, texture, 30 points, and condition, 20 points. Butter and cheese graded at 93 to 100 points is of choicest quality, at 90 to 92 points, first quality, at 86 to 89 points, second quality, and at 80 to 85 points, pastry or cooking quality or, in the case of cheese, third quality.

In the following table, particulars are given of the relative proportions of butter and cheese graded for export according to quality. Further details, which include actual quantities by States, are to be found in *Primary Industries, Part I.—Rural Industries, 1954–55, Bulletin No. 49.*

#### BULK BUTTER AND CHEESE GRADED FOR EXPORT: AUSTRALIA.

(Per Cent.)

Grade.	Butter.			Cheese.		
	1953–54.	1954–55.	1955–56.	1953–54.	1954–55.	1955–56.
Choicest .. ..	46.3	52.0	55.0	1.7	1.1	12.7
First Quality .. ..	42.7	36.8	34.3	82.9	81.6	74.1
Second Quality .. ..	8.6	8.3	7.9	15.4	17.3	13.2
Third Quality(a) .. ..	2.4	2.9	2.8	(b)	(b)	(b)
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

(a) Includes rejected.

(b) Included with Second Quality.

#### § 4. Pigs and Pig Products.

1. **Pigs.**—The number of pigs in Australia first reached a million in 1905. It fluctuated about this level up to 1940, when it reached 1,455,341 while in 1941 the record number of 1,797,340 was recorded. There was a decline in the following two years but the numbers rose again to 1,746,721 in 1944; thereafter there was an almost continuous decline until 1953 when the number of pigs was only 992,532. Numbers increased in succeeding years to 1,296,502 in 1955 but decreased again in 1956 to 1,165,830. Details of the number of pigs in each State and Territory for each of the five years 1952 to 1956, together with the average for the five years 1935 to 1939, are given in the following table :—

#### NUMBER OF PIGS.

As at 31st March.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.(a)	A.C.T.	Total.
Average, 1935 to 1939(b)	391,874	287,140	294,777	80,548	83,999	42,772	479	544	1,182,133
1952 .. ..	292,829	213,670	316,529	64,903	86,224	46,926	794	249	1,022,124
1953 .. ..	298,690	182,824	335,809	58,657	76,195	39,378	799	180	992,532
1954 .. ..	371,608	232,384	384,453	60,619	100,912	46,256	1,132	276	1,197,640
1955 .. ..	375,019	263,666	406,879	84,502	107,039	58,382	911	104	1,296,502
1956 .. ..	343,030	227,223	372,871	72,920	99,097	49,498	1,076	115	1,165,830

(a) As at 1st January. (b) As at 31st March for New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory; 1st March for Victoria; 1st January for Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Further details relating to pig numbers are given in Chapter XXIII.—Pastoral Production. A map showing the distribution of pigs in Australia at 31st March, 1955 appears on p. 912. A similar map showing the distribution at 31st March, 1948, appeared on p. 908 of Official Year Book No. 39.

2. **Size of Pig Herds.**—A series of special tabulations relating to rural holdings undertaken for all States for the year 1949–50 covered, *inter alia*, a classification of holdings carrying pigs according to size of herd. Full details of these tabulations were published in *Primary Industries 1949–50, Bulletin No. 44.*

3. **Pigs Slaughtered.**—The number of pigs slaughtered during each of the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 and the average for the years 1934–35 to 1938–39 are shown in the following table:—

**PIGS SLAUGHTERED.**  
(<sup>'000.</sup>)

Year.	Slaughterings Passed for Human Consumption.							Total Slaughterings (including Boiled Down).
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.(a)	
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39 ..	555	484	525	154	119	61	1,899	1,912
1951–52 ..	468	339	370	108	132	66	1,488	1,500
1952–53 ..	458	297	400	115	122	66	1,463	1,474
1953–54 ..	492	298	461	104	115	59	1,534	1,545
1954–55 ..	615	422	499	136	182	79	1,939	1,951
1955–56(b) ..	576	395	459	132	160	88	1,817	1,828

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Subject to revision.

4. **Pork.**—(i) *Production.* In the following table, details of the production of pork in each State are shown for the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 compared with average production during the years 1934–35 to 1938–39.

**PRODUCTION OF PORK (BONE-IN WEIGHT).**  
(Tons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total.
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39 ..	9,938	12,236	9,867	3,215	1,741	1,240	7	38	38,282
1951–52 ..	10,382	8,716	8,604	2,551	2,550	1,981	70	170	35,024
1952–53 ..	9,611	6,925	6,548	2,836	2,436	1,920	60	132	30,468
1953–54 ..	12,949	7,332	7,216	2,253	2,032	1,399	69	146	33,396
1954–55 ..	17,026	11,078	8,948	3,521	4,362	2,027	65	192	47,219
1955–56(a) ..	14,629	11,047	7,708	3,452	3,481	2,193	68	192	42,770

(a) Subject to revision.

(ii) *Consumption.* As in the case of other meats, pork was subject to rationing during the 1939–45 War and immediate post-war years and consumption was at a much lower level than pre-war. By 1948–49, it had returned to about 7 lb. per head, remaining at this level until 1951–52. In 1952–53, consumption fell to 5.8 lb., but rose again in 1953–54 to 7.7 lb. per head, and in 1954–55 to 10.2 lb., only slightly below the immediate pre-war average. In 1955–56, it fell again to 9.6 lb. per head. In the following table details of the production and disposal of pork are shown for the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 compared with averages for the three years 1936–37 to 1938–39.

**PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF PORK (BONE-IN WEIGHT) : AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Changes in Stock.	Production. (a)	Exports.	Canning.	Consumption in Australia.	
					Total.	Per Head per annum.
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	lb.
Average, 1936–37 to 1938–39 ..	..	45.5	13.7	..	31.8	10.4
1951–52 ..	+0.4	35.0	1.7	5.3	27.6	7.3
1952–53 ..	+0.8	30.5	1.5	5.5	22.7	5.8
1953–54 ..	-1.1	33.4	1.2	2.8	30.5	7.7
1954–55 ..	-0.5	47.2	2.9	3.4	41.4	10.2
1955–56(b) ..	-0.7	42.8	1.1	2.3	40.1	9.6

(a) Includes an estimate of trimmings from baconer carcasses.

(b) Subject to revision.

5. **Bacon and Ham.**—(i) *Production.* As in the case of pork, the increased demand for bacon and ham during the 1939–45 War stimulated production to a level not previously attained. Production reached its peak in 1944–45 when 56,246 tons of bacon and ham were cured. This was followed by a continuous decline in output in each succeeding year to 36,628 tons in 1951–52. Production has been maintained at about this level in subsequent years, amounting to 37,279 tons in 1955–56. Details of production are shown by States in the following table for each year 1951–52 to 1955–56 compared with the average production for the five pre-war years ended 1938–39.

**PRODUCTION OF BACON AND HAM (CURED WEIGHT)(a)**  
(Tons.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Aust.
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39 .. .. .	9,963	7,614	9,269	2,950	2,013	970	1	32,780
1951–52 .. .. .	12,514	8,964	7,669	2,969	3,683	829	..	36,628
1952–53 .. .. .	13,228	8,165	9,510	3,063	3,693	886	..	38,545
1953–54 .. .. .	11,875	7,044	10,655	3,024	3,443	949	..	36,990
1954–55 .. .. .	11,769	8,074	10,807	3,378	3,316	1,027	..	38,371
1955–56(b) .. .. .	11,426	7,774	10,217	3,586	3,236	1,033	..	37,272

(a) Pressed and canned bacon and ham have been converted to bone-in weight, except in pre-war years.  
(b) Subject to revision.

(ii) *Consumption.* Consumption per head declined in the early stages of the 1939–45 War from the pre-war average of 10.2 lb. per annum, but subsequently increased to 12.7 lb. in 1946–47. Since that year, there has been a decline to a relatively steady level of from 7 lb. to 8 lb. per head per annum. In 1955–56, consumption amounted to 7.5 lb. per head. Details of production and disposal of bacon and ham for the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 compared with average production and disposal for the period 1936–37 to 1938–39 are shown in the following table:—

**PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF BACON AND HAM (CURED WEIGHT)(a): AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Changes in Stock.	Production.	Exports.	Canning.	Consumption in Australia.	
					Total.	Per Head per annum.
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	lb.
Average, 1936–37 to 1938–39 .. .. .	(b)	32.5	1.0	..	31.5	10.2
1951–52 .. .. .	+0.2	36.6	2.8	6.1	27.5	7.2
1952–53 .. .. .	–0.7	38.5	2.0	8.9	28.3	7.3
1953–54 .. .. .	+0.4	37.0	1.6	6.5	28.5	7.2
1954–55 .. .. .	–0.2	38.4	1.0	5.4	32.2	7.9
1955–56(c) .. .. .	+0.4	37.2	0.7	5.1	31.0	7.5

(a) Pressed and canned bacon and ham have been converted to bone-in weight, except in pre-war years.  
(b) Not available. (c) Subject to revision.

6. **United Kingdom Contracts.**—Details relating to the several war-time contracts and the more recent Long-term Purchase Agreement between the Governments of the Commonwealth and the United Kingdom for the sale of Australia's surplus production of meats (including pigmeats) are included in Chapter XXIII.—Pastoral Production.

7. **Oversea Trade in Pigs and Pig Products.**—Total quantities and values of exports of Australian origin of pigs and pig products (bacon and ham, lard and frozen pork) for the years 1953–54 to 1955–56 are shown on p. 941.

### § 5. Poultry-farming.

1. **General.**—Poultry-farming has been carried on in Australia for many years and the State Departments of Agriculture have encouraged its development by appointing experts to advise on the care and management of poultry and by conducting egg-laying competitions. Originally the industry was conducted in conjunction with other branches of rural activity, mainly dairying, but it is now a specialized and distinct industry and it is from this source that the bulk of the commercial production is obtained. Practically all farms keep poultry for the purpose of supplying their own domestic requirements and in many cases some supplies from this source are also marketed. In addition, many private homes keep small numbers of fowls in backyard runs and this helps to maintain domestic needs particularly when eggs are in short supply.

2. **Numbers of Poultry.**—In pre-war years, the numbers of the principal kinds of poultry were a normal feature of the annual census of livestock in all States except Victoria and Tasmania. These data were collected on a restricted scale by all States in 1942–43, the details obtained being confined to farms of one acre or more producing eggs or poultry for sale. The collection has since been discontinued in some States. Because of their incompleteness, details of poultry numbers are not published.

3. **Recorded Production and Disposal of Eggs.**—(i) *Shell Eggs.* Available statistics of the production and disposal of eggs in Australia are restricted to those recorded by the Egg Boards of the several States. As Boards were not set up in all States until 1943, comparable statistics of recorded production of eggs for Australia as a whole are not available prior to 1943–44. Details of production in the respective States as recorded by these authorities for the years 1951–52 to 1955–56 are shown in the following table:—

#### SHELL EGGS : PRODUCTION(a) RECORDED BY EGG BOARDS.

('000 Dozen.)

State.	1951–52.	1952–53.	1953–54.	1954–55.	1955–56.
New South Wales .. ..	50,271	50,884	51,884	55,057	51,635
Victoria .. .. .	23,492	24,701	25,306	26,377	24,985
Queensland .. .. .	8,426	7,860	8,555	8,312	7,848
South Australia .. ..	10,741	11,359	12,040	12,359	11,820
Western Australia .. ..	8,077	8,783	9,283	8,909	7,687
Tasmania .. .. .	1,027	1,107	934	889	943
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>102,034</b>	<b>104,694</b>	<b>108,002</b>	<b>111,903</b>	<b>104,918</b>

(a) Receipts from consignors and sales by producer agents.

(ii) *Egg Pulp.* Prior to the 1939–45 War, production of egg pulp was about 7 million lb. per annum. This was used almost entirely for the manufacture of cakes, pastry and biscuits, only negligible quantities being exported. Production was expanded greatly during the war years to meet the requirements of the Armed Services and has since been maintained at a high level for export purposes and to meet increased local requirements.

Particulars of the production of whole egg pulp as recorded by the Egg Boards in the several States are shown in the following table.

#### LIQUID WHOLE EGG : PRODUCTION RECORDED BY EGG BOARDS.

('000 lb.)

State.	1951–52.	1952–53.	1953–54.	1954–55.	1955–56.
New South Wales .. ..	12,357	16,991	20,942	17,057	14,649
Victoria .. .. .	6,559	6,467	8,295	6,564	6,879
Queensland .. .. .	2,278	2,315	3,703	2,419	2,901
South Australia .. ..	5,629	6,284	8,178	6,516	5,991
Western Australia .. ..	2,878	3,490	3,894	1,924	1,532
Tasmania .. .. .	249	359	239	246	236
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>29,950</b>	<b>35,906</b>	<b>45,251</b>	<b>34,726</b>	<b>32,188</b>

In addition to liquid whole egg, production was also recorded of liquid egg whites and liquid egg yolks. Output in 1955-56 amounted to 540,643 lb. and 337,844 lb. respectively compared with 1,568,999 lb. and 1,043,545 lb. respectively in the previous year.

(iii) *Egg Powder.* The production of dried egg powder was established in Australia in 1942, to treat Australia's surplus eggs so as to maintain exports under war-time conditions to the United Kingdom. Production was continued after the end of the war for export purposes, but since 1946-47 has declined to negligible proportions.

4. **Production and Consumption of Eggs.**—Statistics of total egg production must necessarily be accepted with some reserve. The production shown in the following table together with details of exports and consumption is based upon the records of Egg Boards of production from areas under their control plus estimates of production from uncontrolled areas and from "back-yard" poultry-keepers.

**ESTIMATED PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF EGGS IN SHELL(a) :  
AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Changes in Stock.	Estimated Total Production.	Exports.	For Drying and Pulping.(b)	Consumption in Australia as Human Food.	
					Total.	Per Head per Annum.
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	lb.
Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39 .. .. .	(c)	89.5	7.6	3.2	78.7	25.7
1951-52 .. .. .	+1.1	106.9	8.5	14.9	82.4	21.6
1952-53 .. .. .	-1.2	108.6	12.6	16.8	80.4	20.6
1953-54 .. .. .	+0.2	111.8	7.9	21.0	82.7	20.8
1954-55 .. .. .	-0.2	115.4	12.2	17.5	85.9	21.2
1955-56 .. .. .	..	113.2	9.9	16.3	87.0	20.9

(a) The average weight of an egg in Australia is taken as 1.75 oz. (b) Includes wastage.  
(c) Not available.

Details of the consumption of shell eggs, liquid whole egg and total shell egg equivalent (expressed in lb. and in number of eggs) per head of population per annum are shown in the following table:—

**SUPPLIES OF EGGS AND EGG PRODUCTS(a) MOVING INTO CONSUMPTION :  
AUSTRALIA.**

(Per Head per Annum.)

Commodity.	Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.
Shell Eggs .. .. lb.	25.7	21.6	20.6	20.8	21.2	20.9
Liquid Whole Egg and Egg Powder(a) .. .. lb.	0.9	2.3	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.3
Total .. {	26.6	23.9	22.3	22.3	22.8	22.2
	Number(b)	243	219	204	204	209

(a) In terms of weight of shell eggs.  
1.75 oz.

(b) The average weight of an egg in Australia is taken as

5. **Marketing of Eggs.**—(i) *United Kingdom Market.* Details of the annual contracts entered into between the United Kingdom and Australian Governments up to 1952-53 will be found in Official Year Book No. 38, pp. 1048-9 and No. 40, p. 930. The results for 1953-54 and 1954-55, the first two years after the return to free market conditions, will be found in Official Year Book No. 42, pp. 949-50.

The 1955-56 export season for shell eggs was a successful one. Prices in the United Kingdom market were well above the level of the previous year although there was some falling off in the quantity of exports to this market. Under a bulk sales and purchase arrangement with the United Kingdom Ministry of Food, 8,500 tons of egg pulp were shipped to the United Kingdom during the year 1955-56 at the contract price of £213 15s. sterling per ton f.o.b.

(ii) *Egg Export Control Act 1947.* Following the termination of Commonwealth control over the production and marketing of eggs on 31st December, 1947, functions relating to the local marketing of eggs reverted to State Egg Boards which became responsible

for stabilizing prices and marketing of eggs produced in the respective States. In order to assist in marketing Australia's surplus production of eggs under the Long-term Purchase Agreement with the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth established the Australian Egg Board under the Egg Export Control Act 1947. The Board, which commenced to operate on 1st January, 1948, was empowered to buy and sell, on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, eggs and egg products intended for export which comply with the provisions of the Export (Dairy Produce) Regulations. In addition, the Board was authorized to deal with all matters relating to the export of eggs and egg products from Australia, to make such experiments as are likely to lead to the improvement of the quality of Australian eggs and to promote their sale overseas. The Board consisted of ten members, including six representatives of egg producers and one representative of the Commonwealth Government.

Due to the discontinuance of inter-Governmental trading in eggs and egg products, the Egg Export Control Act was amended in April, 1954, to provide for the reconstruction of the Australian Egg Board and the implementation of an egg export marketing scheme. The new Board, established on 17th June, 1954, comprises nine members including a representative of the Commonwealth Government and representatives from each State Egg Marketing Board (except Tasmania). The Board is empowered to act as a trading authority selling eggs and egg pulp as agent for State Egg Boards. However, any State Board desiring to export on its own account may do so subject to general terms and conditions to be laid down by the Australian Egg Board.

**6. Oversea Trade in Poultry Products.**—The Australian oversea export of poultry products has been confined in the past chiefly to eggs in shell and egg contents, which are consigned mainly to the United Kingdom. In 1949–50, exports of eggs in shell reached the record level of 23.0 million dozen. Shipments were at a lower level in subsequent years and, in 1955–56, 16.1 million dozen were exported.

Prior to the 1939–45 War, exports of egg contents were small and in 1939–40 there was an excess of imports. During the war years, exports expanded greatly, mainly to meet Service requirements, and since the close of the war there has been a further expansion to 37.9 million lb. of egg contents in 1953–54. There was a decline in 1954–55 and 1955–56, when 22.5 and 21.2 million lb. respectively were exported.

Since the close of the war, there has also been a considerable increase in the exports of frozen poultry. Exports, which amounted to 1.5 million lb. in 1955–56, were however much lower than in preceding years.

Total quantities and values of exports of Australian origin of poultry products (live poultry, frozen poultry, eggs in shell, egg pulp and powder and undressed feathers) for the years 1953–54 to 1955–56, are shown on p. 941.

## § 6. Bee-farming.

**1. Production of Honey and Bees-wax.**—Although practised as a separate industry, bee-farming is also carried on in conjunction with other branches of farming, but its place in Australia's rural economy is not very significant. The returns of honey from productive hives during 1955–56 showed an average of 102 lb. per hive and the average quantity of wax was 1.3 lb. per productive hive.

The number of hives and the production of honey and bees-wax during the year 1955–56 are shown in the following table.

**BEEHIVES, HONEY AND BEES-WAX, 1955–56.**

State.	Beehives.			Honey Produced.		Bees-wax Produced.	
	Pro- ductive.	Unpro- ductive.	Total.	Quantity.	Gross Value.	Quantity.	Gross Value.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000 lb.	£'000.	'000 lb.	£'000.
New South Wales ..	140	37	177	15,207	789	184	60
Victoria ..	78	26	104	7,011	497	78	26
Queensland ..	24	11	35	2,329	107	34	9
South Australia ..	62	15	77	5,115	247	70	20
Western Australia ..	28	6	34	4,482	203	57	14
Tasmania ..	3	1	4	302	17	4	2
Aust. Cap. Territory ..	1	1	2	18	1	..	..
<b>Australia ..</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>34,464</b>	<b>1,861</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>131</b>

The production of honey and bees-wax fluctuates considerably and is determined mainly by the flow of nectar from flora of the eucalypts, which varies greatly from year to year. In recent years, there has been a pronounced upward trend in the output of honey, the 1948-49 figure, 53,200,000 lb., being an all-time record. Production in 1954-55 at 33,633,000 lb. and in 1955-56 at 34,464,000 lb., although much lower than in 1948-49, was still higher than pre-war.

The table hereunder shows the production of honey and bees-wax for the five years ended 1955-56 in comparison with the averages for the years 1934-35 to 1938-39.

### HONEY AND BEES-WAX PRODUCTION.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aust.
HONEY ('000 lb.).							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	3,827	3,600	689	3,388	1,125	181	(a) 12,810
1951-52 ..	6,814	5,208	706	4,191	3,480	254	(a) 20,653
1952-53 ..	8,046	6,235	2,166	7,656	3,393	309	(b) 27,810
1953-54 ..	10,381	9,382	2,888	6,378	6,325	365	(b) 35,737
1954-55 ..	16,411	8,834	1,732	3,671	2,721	243	(b) 33,633
1955-56 ..	15,207	7,010	2,329	5,115	4,482	302	(b) 34,464
BEES-WAX ('000 lb.).							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	56	42	10	41	19	2	(a) 170
1951-52 ..	86	56	15	58	45	3	(a) 263
1952-53 ..	94	72	30	103	40	3	(b) 342
1953-54 ..	123	101	43	78	73	4	(b) 422
1954-55 ..	194	94	37	60	52	4	(b) 441
1955-56 ..	184	78	34	70	57	4	(b) 427

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Excludes Northern Territory.

2. **Oversea Trade in Bee Products.**—Prior to the 1939-45 War, the production of honey exceeded Australian requirements and a small quantity was available for export. In 1948-49, the record quantity of 32.1 million lb., was exported. Exports amounted to 23.5 million lb. in 1954-55 and to 27.2 million lb. in 1955-56.

The wider use of frame hives has reduced the production of wax, and as a result the quantity of bees-wax imported generally exceeded that exported up to 1945-46. During each year since 1946-47, however, with the exception of 1951-52, production has been high on account of exceptionally good seasons, and exports have exceeded imports by substantial margins. In 1955-56, exports exceeded imports by an amount of 166,000 lb.

Total quantities and values of exports of Australian origin of honey and bees-wax for the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 are shown in § 7 below.

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

The quantities and values of Australian farmyard, dairy and bee products exported during the years 1953-54 to 1955-56 are shown below.

## AUSTRALIAN FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTS: EXPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN ORIGIN.

Particulars.	Unit of Quantity.	Quantity.			Value (£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment).		
		1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.
Bees-wax .. ..	lb.	178,707	260,275	178,489	39	63	48
Butter .. ..	'000 lb.	88,030	140,017	185,103	16,052	24,589	28,966
Cheese .. ..	"	50,959	49,543	38,485	5,329	5,057	3,537
Eggs in shell .. ..	'000 doz.	12,902	20,266	16,063	2,751	3,521	2,846
Eggs not in shell— in liquid form .. ..	'000 lb.	37,147	21,496	21,182	5,775	2,315	2,440
Dry .. ..	"	728	972	61	124	160	15
Honey .. ..	"	14,362	23,471	27,162	634	1,039	1,567
Lard .. ..	"	501	208	137	24	20	15
Meats—							
Bacon and Ham (including canned) .. ..	cwt.	90,640	57,265	28,032	2,875	1,808	683
Frozen Poultry .. ..	'000 lb.	3,560	3,300	1,486	676	546	349
Frozen Pork .. ..	cwt.	24,687	58,167	22,075	463	781	364
Milk—							
Condensed, Preserved, etc.—							
Sweetened Full Cream .. ..	'000 lb.	57,277	42,753	52,353	4,912	3,714	3,700
Unsweetened .. ..	"	3,451	1,795	3,590	265	131	222
Dried or Powdered—							
Full Cream .. ..	"	17,917	14,664	15,024	2,349	2,101	2,137
Skim .. ..	"	34,885	40,793	50,804	1,599	1,573	2,041
Malted .. ..	"	3,613	5,280	5,508	551	788	815
Infants' and Invalids' Foods—							
Essentially of Milk .. ..	"	5,107	2,686	3,591	929	436	555
Other .. ..	"	4,365	5,271	6,372	808	980	1,067
Pigs, live .. ..	Number	611	1,009	1,066	15	19	29
Poultry, live .. ..	"	66,469	67,170	37,764	8	10	6

## § 8. Imports of Dairy and Farmyard Products into United Kingdom.

NOTE.—Values of imports in this section are expressed in £ sterling at the landed c.i.f. point.

1. Summary, Principal Products.—The following table shows the quantities and values of the principal dairy products imported into the United Kingdom during the years 1939, 1954 and 1955.

## DAIRY PRODUCTS: IMPORTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM.

Product.	Unit of Quantity.	1939.		1954.		1955.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Butter .. ..	'000 cwt.	8,737	£'000. 48,424	5,624	£'000. 97,675	6,192	106,663
Cheese .. ..	"	2,845	8,869	2,640	27,361	2,580	25,949
Milk, powdered and preserved .. ..	"	..	2,818	..	5,951	..	3,653
Bacon and ham .. ..	'000 cwt.	7,953	37,105	6,286	77,369	6,411	75,902
Pork(a) .. ..	"	989	3,036	652	7,980	749	8,967
Eggs in shell .. ..	'000 doz.	283,315	12,835	119,733	19,578	83,909	13,628
Eggs not in shell, liquid or frozen .. ..	'000 cwt.	800	2,292	579	7,977	277	3,020

(a) Excluding pork in airtight containers.

2. **Butter.**—Until 1950, Australia had regularly supplied between 20 and 30 per cent. of the butter imported into the United Kingdom. After 1950, when butter rationing was abolished in Australia, the quantity shipped was considerably lower until 1955 when it amounted to 1,464,000 cwt. or 23.6 per cent. of the total United Kingdom imports. New Zealand supplied 40.0 per cent. of the total quantity imported during 1955 and Denmark 27.4 per cent.

In the following table, particulars of the quantity and value of butter imported into the United Kingdom are shown for the years 1938, 1954 and 1955, according to country of origin.

**BUTTER: IMPORTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM.**

Country from which Imported,	1938.		1954.		1955.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	'000 cwt.	£'000.	'000 cwt.	£'000.	'000 cwt.	£'000.
New Zealand .. .. .	2,592	14,524	2,433	41,661	2,478	41,911
Australia .. .. .	1,798	9,630	583	9,964	1,464	25,041
Other Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland .. .. .	423	2,455	106	1,986	41	762
Denmark .. .. .	2,365	12,960	2,025	35,428	1,697	30,067
Netherlands .. .. .	712	3,466	285	5,305	211	4,018
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	1,628	7,838	192	3,331	301	4,864
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>9,518</b>	<b>50,873</b>	<b>5,624</b>	<b>97,675</b>	<b>6,192</b>	<b>106,663</b>

3. **Cheese.**—The value of cheese imported into the United Kingdom in 1955 was £25,949,000. Of this £14,920,000 was imported from New Zealand, £3,927,000 from Australia, £2,644,000 from Denmark and £1,574,000 from the Netherlands.

4. **Bacon.**—Of a total import in 1955 of bacon (excluding bacon in airtight containers) valued at £70,517,000, the value of that supplied by Denmark was £53,685,000, Poland, £8,325,000 and the Netherlands, £7,571,000.

5. **Pork.**—The value of the United Kingdom imports of pork (excluding pork in airtight containers) was £8,967,000 in 1955. Imports from Republic of Ireland, valued at £2,844,000, New Zealand, £1,123,000, and Denmark, £2,601,000, comprised 73 per cent. of the imports into the United Kingdom.

6. **Eggs.**—In 1955, the value of eggs imported into the United Kingdom was £16,648,000, comprising eggs in shell, £13,628,000, and liquid or frozen eggs, £3,020,000. The Australian share in this trade amounted to £4,521,000. Eggs in shell were supplied principally by Denmark, £8,237,000, and Australia, £2,083,000.

7. **Milk Products.**—In 1955, the value of preserved milk imported into the United Kingdom was £3,141,000. Of this total, imports from Australia amounted to £528,000.

8. **Other Products.**—The imports into the United Kingdom from Australia of poultry (excluding poultry meat in airtight containers) amounted to £154,000, while those of bees-wax, lard and honey in 1955 were unimportant.