

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 pastures 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. The extent to which dairy cattle were run in conjunction with beef cattle, sheep, and pigs in 1955–56 is shown in the relevant tables published in a series of mimeographed bulletins *Size Classification of Rural Holdings, 1955–56*, and also appears in summarized form in *Primary Industries, Part I.—Rural Industries, 1956–57, Bulletin No. 51*.

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 of the numbers of temporary employees at 31st March of each year. Details of the numbers so engaged are given in Chapter XXII.—Agricultural Production, § 29.

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). ^(a)
	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
1953-54 ..	2,262,783	995,891	3,258,674	1,189.7	159,585	49,057	189,542
1954-55 ..	2,338,658	943,485	3,282,143	1,325.8	191,078	45,193	196,877
1955-56 ..	2,393,870	1,009,637	3,403,507	1,402.0	208,911	38,700	204,298
1956-57 ..	2,354,301	1,097,149	3,451,450	1,357.9	192,854	45,216	210,664
1957-58 ..	2,281,571	1,080,003	3,361,574	(c)1,261.1	(c)175,771	(c) 34,890	(c)213,716

(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 page 866 of Chapter XXII.—Agricultural Production.

§ 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 1953-54 to 1957-58.**—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.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58. (b)
Whole Milk used for—						
Butter (c)	22,550	57,004	67,801	78,559	66,991	61,661
Cheese(c)	1,505	10,077	9,218	8,585	9,398	7,688
Condensing, Concentrating, etc.	1,094	9,583	7,537	8,908	8,901	7,938
Other purposes	7,971	49,205	50,377	52,465	55,393	58,588
Subsidy Paid on Whole Milk for Butter and Cheese .. .. .	..	15,468	16,081	14,499	13,500	13,500
Total Whole Milk (including Subsidy)	33,120	141,337	151,014	163,016	154,183	149,375
Pigs Slaughtered	5,526	23,773	21,263	25,543	25,948	25,084
Dairy Cattle Slaughtered	1,591	8,437	9,652	9,625	8,721	10,907
Eggs	9,117	43,569	40,650	42,137	43,567	42,320
Poultry	2,386	11,396	10,835	11,666	11,432	13,150
Honey	154	1,473	1,465	1,801	2,371	1,793
Beeswax	10	120	133	132	157	115
Total.. .. .	51,904	230,105	235,012	253,920	246,379	242,744

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

2. Gross and Net Values, 1956-57 and 1957-58.—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.
(£'000.)

State.	Gross Production Valued at Principal Markets.	Marketing Costs.	Gross Production Valued at Farm.	Farm Costs.		Net Value of Production. (b)
				Fodder Fed to Farm Stock.	Value of Other Materials Used in Process of Production. (a)	
1956-57.						
New South Wales ..	81,901	11,458	70,443	12,209	(c) 382	57,852
Victoria ..	87,794	4,248	83,546	19,606	2,995	60,945
Queensland ..	35,445	1,518	33,927	5,891	2,200	25,836
South Australia ..	18,627	697	17,930	2,558	876	14,496
Western Australia ..	11,620	719	10,901	4,673	1,618	4,610
Tasmania ..	10,490	636	9,854	1,596	(c) 467	7,791
Northern Territory ..	81	4	77	10	..	67
Australian Capital Territory ..	421	21	400	129	1	270
Total ..	246,379	19,301	227,078	46,672	8,539	171,867
1957-58.(d)						
New South Wales ..	81,910	12,214	69,696	13,993	(c) 366	55,337
Victoria ..	86,914	4,309	82,605	(e)	(e)	58,997
Queensland ..	32,207	1,818	30,389	9,323	1,916	19,150
South Australia ..	18,640	788	17,852	4,833	1,691	11,328
Western Australia ..	11,734	909	10,825	4,893	1,743	4,189
Tasmania ..	10,907	641	10,266	1,967	(c) 498	7,801
Northern Territory ..	97	4	93	15	..	78
Australian Capital Territory ..	335	13	322	124	1	197
Total ..	242,744	20,696	222,048	(e)	(e)	157,077

(a) No allowance has been made 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 depreciation and maintenance. (c) No allowance has been made for costs of power, power kerosene, petrol and other oils. (d) Subject to revision. (e) Not available separately.

3. Net Value of Production, 1934-35 to 1938-39 and 1953-54 to 1957-58.—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)	Australia. (c)
NET VALUE. (£'000.)							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39	11,848	12,238	7,118	1,938	979	943	35,064
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	166,983
1955-56 ..	63,000	67,329	28,630	15,320	4,885	7,671	187,179
1956-57 ..	57,852	60,945	25,836	14,496	4,610	7,791	171,867
1957-58(d) ..	55,337	58,997	19,150	11,328	4,189	7,801	157,077
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
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 2	23 10 10	19 16 0	15 9 6	7 4 5	20 9 4	18 7 4
1955-56 ..	17 7 7	26 5 1	21 3 4	18 7 2	7 6 0	24 0 8	20 1 11
1956-57 ..	16 2 6	23 1 8	18 14 4	16 16 7	6 14 8	23 17 9	18 0 6
1957-58(d) ..	15 2 6	21 15 11	13 12 11	12 15 8	5 19 11	23 7 0	16 2 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) Prior to 1954-55 excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (d) Subject to revision.

4. Indexes of Quantum and Price of Farmyard, Dairy and Bee Production, 1953-54 to 1957-58.—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.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58.
<i>Quantum(a) of Production—</i>					
Milk	104	116	123	119	111
Other Products	113	117	115	114	120
<i>Total Farmyard and Dairy ..</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>114</i>
Total per Head of Population	83	88	89	84	80
<i>Price—</i>					
Milk	379	370	380	365	375
Other Products	435	375	423	438	455
<i>Total Farmyard and Dairy ..</i>	<i>395</i>	<i>371</i>	<i>392</i>	<i>386</i>	<i>398</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 3,258,674. Since then numbers have increased to a record level of 3,451,450 in March, 1957, and then fallen to 3,361,574 at 31st March, 1958. There is a preponderance of dairy cattle in Victoria and Tasmania whilst in New South Wales and South Australia the proportion of dairy to all cattle is high. In Queensland, the Northern Territory, and Western Australia, other cattle predominate, the main object in these areas being the production of beef. In South Australia, the proportion of dairy cattle has fallen in recent years. The numbers of dairy cows for 1954 to 1958 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)	1954.	1955.	1956.	1957.	1958.
N.S.Wales	{ All Cattle .. 3,054,164	3,554,016	3,460,692	3,678,634	3,910,827	3,736,300
	{ Dairy Cows .. 1,024,761	921,866	906,774	976,089	971,868	941,854
Victoria	{ All Cattle .. 1,892,465	2,370,184	2,456,303	2,616,587	2,765,049	2,749,611
	{ Dairy Cows .. 912,621	987,345	1,025,233	1,071,437	1,112,293	1,126,792
Queensland	{ All Cattle .. 6,047,726	7,086,207	7,238,062	7,330,021	7,461,717	7,187,195
	{ Dairy Cows .. 924,875	946,230	931,568	943,323	944,516	867,285
South Australia	{ All Cattle .. 331,488	490,945	523,817	566,055	621,577	597,241
	{ Dairy Cows .. 154,870	164,230	169,822	165,865	166,549	164,046
W. Australia	{ All Cattle .. 796,473	829,694	860,574	896,897	957,175	997,173
	{ Dairy Cows .. 121,127	134,129	134,696	134,517	134,478	134,239
Tasmania	{ All Cattle .. 260,267	295,178	319,417	331,589	354,170	371,409
	{ Dairy Cows .. 93,708	102,523	111,781	110,028	119,485	125,186
Nor. Territory	{ All Cattle .. 893,925	966,033	968,775	1,027,819	1,175,997	1,252,014
	{ Dairy Cows(b)					
Aust. Cap. Ter.	{ All Cattle .. 8,261	9,394	8,500	9,399	10,596	9,532
	{ Dairy Cows .. 1,019	2,351	2,269	2,248	2,261	2,172
Australia	{ All Cattle .. 13,284,769	15,601,651	15,836,140	16,457,001	17,257,108	16,900,475
	{ Dairy Cows .. 3,232,981	3,258,674	3,282,143	3,403,507	3,451,450	3,361,574

(a) 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. (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, 1956, 1957 and 1958. 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 ..	1956	693,112	282,977	194,397	143,385	23,944	1,337,815
	1957	686,949	284,919	191,476	147,398	23,468	1,334,210
	1958	673,289	268,565	201,655	141,013	23,045	1,307,567
Victoria	1956	780,132	291,305	308,874	239,192	43,045	1,662,548
	1957	773,273	339,020	315,506	248,031	44,734	1,720,564
	1958	741,415	385,377	317,003	235,794	44,256	1,723,845
Queensland	1956	664,443	278,880	225,627	186,900	27,889	1,383,739
	1957	630,558	313,958	215,201	187,138	27,819	1,374,674
	1958	608,142	259,143	217,770	177,736	27,178	1,269,969
South Australia ..	1956	102,507	63,358	47,217	42,416	8,805	264,303
	1957	103,976	62,573	44,831	45,307	8,797	265,484
	1958	98,640	65,406	45,672	40,485	8,595	258,798
Western Australia ..	1956	59,176	75,341	38,894	44,704	5,469	223,584
	1957	58,851	75,627	37,924	46,271	5,388	224,061
	1958	57,614	76,625	38,135	48,099	5,178	225,651
Tasmania	1956	93,163	16,865	30,884	37,817	4,873	183,602
	1957	99,315	20,170	30,333	41,573	4,503	195,894
	1958	101,165	24,021	30,897	44,095	4,595	204,773
Australian Capital Territory	1956	1,337	911	311	554	44	3,157
	1957	1,379	882	349	603	50	3,263
	1958	1,306	866	275	614	45	3,106
Australia ..	1956	2,393,870	1,009,637	846,204	694,968	114,069	5,058,748
	1957	2,354,301	1,097,149	835,620	716,321	114,759	5,118,150
	1958	2,281,571	1,080,003	851,407	667,836	112,892	4,993,709

Maps showing the distribution of dairy cattle in Australia at 31st March, 1955 and 1948, appeared on page 910 of Official Year Book No. 43 and page 906 of Official Year Book No. 39, respectively.

2. *Size of Dairy Herds.*—A series of special tabulations relating to rural holdings, undertaken for all States for the year 1955–56, covered, *inter alia*, a classification of holdings by size of dairy cattle herd and by area of holding, area of sown grasses and clovers, size of sheep flock, size of beef cattle herd, size of pig herd and number of milking machine stands. The tabulations have been published in full detail in a series of mimeographed bulletins *Size Classification of Rural Holdings, 1955–56*, and also appear in summarized form in *Primary Industries, Part I.—Rural Industries, 1956–57*, Bulletin No. 51.

3. *Total Dairy Production.*—The dairy production for each State in 1957–58 is shown below:—

DAIRY PRODUCTION, 1957–58.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Australia.
MILK ('000 GALLONS).								
Used for—								
Butter ..	(b)151,744	(c)405,006	(d)146,160	29,544	31,413	50,313	24	814,204
Cheese ..	9,055	29,401	11,419	22,800	2,323	832	..	75,830
Condensing and concentrating	15,027	52,747	} 50,128	26,797	19,785	13,510	{	829
Other purposes	113,586	78,673							76,875
Total ..	289,412	565,827	207,707	79,141	53,521	64,655	853	1,261,116

For footnotes see next page.

DAIRY PRODUCTION, 1957-58. (a)—continued.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Australia.
BUTTER (TONS).								
In Factories ..	(e) 29,940	(f) 86,179	(f) 32,261	6,898	6,747	10,622	..	172,647
On Dairy and other Farms ..	1,500	744	348	168	108	252	4	3,124
Total ..	31,440	86,923	32,609	7,066	6,855	10,874	4	175,771
CHEESE (TONS).								
In Factories ..	4,042	13,805	(g) 5,150	10,493	1,047	326	..	34,863
On Dairy and other Farms ..	..	12	..	..	3	12	..	27
Total ..	4,042	13,817	5,150	10,493	1,050	338	..	34,890

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

4. 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 1957-58, 65 per cent. of the total milk supply was used for butter, 6 per cent. for cheese, 6 per cent. for condensery products and 23 per cent. for other purposes.

Details of the production of whole milk for various purposes are shown in the following table for each year 1953-54 to 1957-58 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
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	1,402,012	962,397	84,021	71,324	284,270
1956-57	1,357,942	890,833	98,233	78,123	290,753
1957-58(a)	1,261,116	814,204	75,830	76,875	294,207

(a) Subject to revision.

In the following table, particulars of production of whole milk in the several States are shown for the years 1953-54 to 1957-58, compared with the average for the five years ended 1938-39. Victoria is the principal milk-producing State and in 1957-58 the output from that State, 565.8 million gallons, represented 45 per cent. of total production. Output from New South Wales was 289.4 million gallons, or 23 per cent. of the total, and that of Queensland 207.7 million gallons (17 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.	Australia.
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	331,963	402,447	278,226	63,538	40,394	32,797	332	1,149,697
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 ..	333,942	577,475	282,296	90,342	55,668	61,405	884	1,402,012
1956-57 ..	306,298	587,199	252,336	89,882	57,008	64,262	957	1,357,942
1957-58(a) ..	289,412	565,827	207,707	79,141	53,521	64,655	853	1,261,116

(a) Subject to revision.

(ii) *Production per Cow.* The quantity of milk produced by a dairy cow can be as high as 1,000 gallons a 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 averaged considerably less than 300 gallons per annum. In later 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 1957-58, the average yield was 370 gallons. 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.	Australia.
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	322	440	306	412	334	350	347	357
1953-54 ..	311	490	270	531	373	480	332	372
1954-55 ..	345	533	294	543	403	485	314	405
1955-56 ..	355	551	301	538	414	554	391	419
1956-57 ..	314	538	267	541	424	560	424	396
1957-58(a) ..	302	505	229	479	398	529	385	370

(a) Subject to revision.

5. *Factory System.*—(i) *General.* Cream separation and butter-making are often carried on together under the co-operative system. The establishment of large central butter factories either on the co-operative system or on an independent basis has resulted in a considerable reduction in the cost of manufacture. 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. In addition, subsidy payments by the Commonwealth Government are made only on factory produced butter. As a result, the production of farm made butter has declined substantially and in 1957-58, represented only about 1.8 per cent. of all butter made. A similar position exists in the cheese-making industry where a negligible amount is now made on farms.

(ii) *Number of Factories.* In 1956-57, the factories in Australia for the manufacture of butter, cheese and condensed milk numbered 371 and were distributed among the States as follows:—New South Wales, 75; Victoria, 131; Queensland, 83; South Australia, 42; Western Australia, 18; and Tasmania, 22. More details regarding numbers of factories, output, etc., are given in Chapter VI.—Manufacturing Industry.

6. *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 211,987 tons in 1939-40, the general trend of butter production declined until 1946-47, when 143,308 tons were produced. Output increased again in subsequent years and in 1955-56 was 208,911 tons, the highest figure recorded in post-war years. Production declined in the two following years and in 1957-58 amounted to 175,771 tons. The foregoing figures include butter produced on farms which has shown a decline from 8,714 tons in 1938-39 to 3,124 tons in 1957-58.

The following table shows production of butter in factories in each State for the years 1953-54 to 1957-58, 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.	Australia. (a)
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39	52,949	62,489	53,255	7,570	5,459	3,811	185,533
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	41,066	90,608	48,189	8,562	7,404	9,962	205,791
1956-57	33,826	88,598	41,089	8,440	7,462	10,426	189,841
1957-58(b)	29,940	86,179	32,261	8,898	6,747	10,622	172,647

(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 1953-54 to 1957-58. The annual output of farm butter is also shown.

PRODUCTION OF BUTTER IN FACTORIES AND ON FARMS: AUSTRALIA.

(Tons.)

Particulars.	1938-39.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58. (a)
Factories—						
July	9,415	6,941	6,917	8,479	9,242	7,569
August	11,645	8,906	10,903	13,277	13,775	11,257
September	15,531	12,781	16,288	18,197	17,294	16,851
October	20,485	17,481	21,819	24,311	24,207	21,181
November	22,561	19,640	25,011	26,166	24,431	22,953
December	20,710	18,585	24,715	25,276	24,087	20,699
January	15,872	17,038	19,681	23,919	22,166	17,385
February	15,816	15,410	16,598	20,036	16,332	14,927
March	17,729	15,465	16,658	15,887	14,158	14,611
April	16,583	9,933	12,358	12,329	10,523	10,509
May	15,568	7,646	9,435	9,845	7,727	7,846
June	12,871	6,291	7,627	8,069	5,899	6,859
Factory Total (b) ..	194,786	156,117	188,010	205,791	189,841	172,647
Made on Farms(c) ..	8,714	3,468	3,068	3,120	3,013	3,124
Grand Total ..	203,500	159,585	191,078	208,911	192,854	175,771

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Year ended June.

(c) Year ended March.

7. Cheese Production.—Until 1916, the annual production of cheese in factories and on farms 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 declined in the next two years to 38,700 tons, but recovered to 45,216 tons in 1956-57 mainly because of fluctuations in Victorian output. In 1957-58, production showed a considerable decline to 34,890 tons, the lowest since the end of the war.

The following table shows production of cheese in factories in each State in the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 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.	Australia. (a)
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39	3,332	6,177	5,071	5,437	390	1,210	21,617
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	3,379	13,996	7,579	12,633	763	331	38,681
1956-57	4,019	20,542	7,137	11,958	1,182	333	45,171
1957-58(b)	4,042	13,805	5,150	10,493	1,047	326	34,863

(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 1953-54 to 1957-58.

PRODUCTION OF CHEESE IN FACTORIES AND ON FARMS: AUSTRALIA.

(Tons.)

Month.	1938-39.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58. (a)
Factories—						
July	1,517	1,979	2,429	2,170	2,366	2,023
August	1,950	3,315	3,754	3,162	3,587	2,925
September	2,820	5,376	5,422	4,376	5,013	4,268
October	4,028	7,345	6,657	5,360	6,570	5,179
November	3,990	7,366	6,660	5,254	6,427	4,783
December	3,462	6,619	5,910	4,579	5,800	3,851
January	2,212	5,075	4,096	3,697	4,567	2,903
February	1,715	3,603	2,729	2,521	3,078	2,217
March	1,826	3,084	2,454	2,321	2,721	2,004
April	1,656	1,901	1,816	1,860	1,902	1,557
May	1,898	1,661	1,589	1,666	1,601	1,495
June	1,900	1,719	1,662	1,715	1,539	1,658
Factory Total(b)	28,974	49,043	45,178	38,681	45,171	34,863
Made on Farms(c)	330	14	15	19	45	27
Grand Total	29,304	49,057	45,193	38,700	45,216	34,890

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Year ended June.

(c) Year ended March.

8. **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 1956-57 was almost three times as high as in the three years ended 1938-39, while that of powdered milk (full cream and skim) was more than four 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 76.9 million gallons or by 131 per cent. These products are manufactured mainly in Victoria, which produced 69 per cent. of the total (in terms of whole milk equivalent) in 1957-58. New South Wales accounted for 19 per cent. and the remaining States for 12 per cent.

The following table shows details of the output of condensed, concentrated, powdered, etc., milk during the years 1953-54 to 1957-58, 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.					Milk By-products.	
	Condensed Milk (Sweetened and Un-sweetened).	Concentrated Whole Milk.(a)	Powdered Full Cream Milk.	Infants' and Invalids' Foods (including Malted Milk and Milk Sugar).	Total Whole Milk Equivalent of Full Cream Milk Products.	Powdered Skim Milk.	Powdered Butter-milk and Whey.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.	Tons.	Tons.
Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39	17,347	(b) 1,355	9,464	(c) 1,131	33,226	(d)	(e) 701
1953-54	42,386	19,464	18,905	11,739	75,995	19,804	5,358
1954-55	38,493	10,072	15,539	10,921	64,365	24,618	5,086
1955-56	44,361	16,265	17,211	12,861	71,324	30,893	4,990
1956-57	49,551	18,650	17,864	13,567	78,123	30,567	5,551
1957-58(f)	47,043	19,998	18,089	13,937	76,875	24,049	5,514

(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.

9. *Local Consumption of Butter and Cheese.*—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 31.2 lb. in 1951-52, and until 1955-56 fluctuated between 29 lb. and 31 lb. per head per annum. In 1956-57 and 1957-58, however, consumption fell to 28.0 lb. and 27.8 lb. per head respectively.

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. During the years 1952-53 to 1956-57, consumption varied between 5.3 lb. and 6.3 lb. per head, rising to 6.4 lb. per head in 1957-58.

The following table shows details of the production and disposal of butter and cheese for each of the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 compared with the average for the years 1936-37 to 1938-39:—

PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF BUTTER AND CHEESE: AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Changes in Stocks.	Production.	Exports. (a)	Consumption in Australia.	
				Total.	Per Head per annum.
				'000 tons.	lb.
BUTTER.					
Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39	(b)	191.0	(c) 90.0	101.0	32.9
1953-54	(d) -3.0	159.5	40.9	121.6	30.6
1954-55	(d) +4.9	191.1	63.7	122.5	30.2
1955-56	(d) +4.7	208.9	83.8	120.4	29.0
1956-57	(d) -4.3	192.9	77.8	119.4	28.0
1957-58(e)	(d) +2.6	175.8	52.2	121.0	27.8
CHEESE.					
Average, 1936-37 to 1938-39	(b)	24.9	11.5	13.4	4.4
1953-54	+2.7	49.0	22.4	23.9	6.0
1954-55	-1.6	45.2	21.4	25.4	6.3
1955-56	-1.8	38.7	16.6	23.9	5.7
1956-57	+5.6	45.2	17.1	22.5	5.3
1957-58(e)	-1.5	34.9	8.6	27.8	6.4

(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.

10. **Butter and Cheese—Equalization Schemes.**—(i) *Voluntary Plan* (1926–1934). 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 page 1028 of Official Year Book No. 38 and in earlier issues.

(ii) *Compulsory Plan* (1934–1936). On 1st May, 1934, the “Paterson Plan” was superseded by a compulsory price equalization plan, details of which were shown on page 1029 of Official Year Book No. 38 and earlier issues. This compulsory plan was invalidated in 1936 by the decision 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) *Voluntary Plan* (1936 to date). 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.

Details are given in para. 15 on page 972 of the returns realized on local and oversea sales and of the average equalization rate for the years ended June, 1954 to 1959. Details are also given in para. 12 of the wholesale prices of butter and cheese for home consumption as fixed by State Prices Authorities or as determined by the Dairy Produce Equalization Committee.

11. **Casein Equalization Scheme.** Following upon action taken in September, 1951, to include control of exports of casein in the powers of the Australian Dairy Produce Board, that body decided that the most equitable method of allocating permits for exports of casein was to ensure that the recipient was a party to an approved equalization scheme. Agreements were completed with all known manufacturers and the equalization of casein sales under this scheme commenced in January, 1952. The scheme is operated by the Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Ltd. A Casein Equalization Advisory Committee was appointed to consider matters relevant to the operation of the plan and to make recommendations to the operating company.

Average realizations under the scheme in 1953–54 were 162s. 4.3d. per cwt., 1954–55, 166s. 5.2d. per cwt., 1955–56, 180s. 9.9d. per cwt. and 1956–57, 184s. 6.6d. per cwt. An interim equalization value of 180s. 0d. per cwt. was fixed for 1957–58.

Prior to the operation of this scheme another plan had been operated by the Casein Equalization Committee from July, 1946, to September, 1949.

12. **Wholesale Prices of Butter and Cheese in Australia.**—Since 20th September, 1948, when the Commonwealth Government ceased to exercise price control, the fixation of the wholesale prices of butter and cheese has 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 Ltd. Details of prices operating in each of the States since 1st July, 1952, are shown in the following table.

WHOLESALE PRICES OF BUTTER AND CHEESE, AUSTRALIA.(a)

(s.d. per cwt.—Australian currency.)

Date from which Prices became Effective.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.
BUTTER.						
1st July, 1952	417 8	417 8	417 8	417 8	422 4	417 8
26th July, 1955	452 8	452 8	451 6	450 4	452 8	452 8
1st July, 1956	466 8	466 8	465 6	464 4	466 8	466 8
1st July, 1958	485 4	485 4	484 2	484 2	485 4	485 4
CHEESE.						
1st July, 1952	256 8	256 8	256 8	256 8	256 8	256 8
26th July, 1955	275 4	275 4	275 4	274 2	275 4	275 4
1st July, 1956	282 4	282 4	282 4	281 2	282 4	282 4
1st July, 1958	291 8	291 8	291 8	291 8	291 8	291 8

(a) Maximum prices fixed by State Prices Authorities or as determined by the Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Ltd., for choicest grade bulk butter and cheese.

13. **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 oversea 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 oversea 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 pages 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 pages 943 and 944 of Official Year Book No. 42 and in earlier issues.

14. *Commonwealth Subsidies and Stabilization Plans.*—(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 first of two five-year stabilization plans came into operation on 1st July, 1952. Under this plan, the Commonwealth Government, with the approval of the States, determined the ex-factory prices of butter and cheese, guaranteed 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 agreed to make available an amount by way of subsidy to lift the return on that part of output covered by the guarantee, to the guaranteed level. The second five-year stabilization plan which came into operation on 1st July, 1957, continued all the important features of the first plan. A new feature, however, was that any subsidy made available under the scheme should be on the basis of a fixed amount in any dairying year.

The actual amount of subsidy paid by the Commonwealth Government was in excess of its original commitment in 1955-56, when, to assist in offsetting a fall in export returns, the Government agreed to increase subsidy payments to a fixed figure of £14,500,000. In 1956-57 and 1957-58, a fixed amount of £13,500,000 was provided.

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.

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. For the current five year plan, the Committee has been re-appointed to determine the cost of efficient production of butter-fat only.

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. From 1st July, 1952, to 30th June, 1957, it was 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. The Act was amended in 1957 to enable the Board to use the fund for such other purposes as are approved by the Minister for Primary Industry. After allowing for outstanding debits, the amount standing to the credit of the Dairying Industry Stabilization Fund at 30th June, 1958, totalled approximately £1,509,000.

(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, page 1031.

15. **Average Returns from Butter and Cheese Sold and Assessed Farm Production Costs.**—The first of the two tables following shows in respect of butter and cheese, particulars of the rates realized on local, interstate and overseas sales and the average equalization and subsidy rates in operation for the years ended June, 1954 to 1958. The second table shows the distribution between factory and farm of the overall return to manufacturers for butter. The assessed farm production cost for commercial butter is also shown for comparison with the average returns to dairy farmers.

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.			
BUTTER.						
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 3.8	395 10.3	79 0.0	474 10.3
1956	438 1.5	419 7.3	353 0.2	400 10.5	65 1.0	465 11.5
1957	453 5.1	425 4.9	298 6.7	392 6.6	65 7.8	458 2.4
1958	(a)	(a)	(a)	b365 4.0	71 7.8	b436 11.8
CHEESE.						
1954	244 8.6	209 11.1	232 4.7	32 0.0	264 4.7	
1955	246 3.1	191 11.1	220 2.3	29 10.9	250 1.2	
1956	264 0.1	259 9.5	262 4.1	31 5.7	293 9.8	
1957	267 11.2	166 8.4	223 11.9	26 2.6	250 2.5	
1958	(a)	(a)	b212 8.0	35 11.2	b248 7.2	

(a) Not yet available. (b) Rates are of an interim nature only.

(Source: Commonwealth Dairy Produce Equalization Committee Limited.)

COMMERCIAL BUTTER: OVERALL RETURNS AND ASSESSED FARM PRODUCTION COSTS.
(Pence per lb.)

Year ended 30th June.	Average Overall Returns on Commercial Butter.			Assessed Farm Production Cost:(a)
	Rate of Overall Return to Manufacturer.	Manufacturing Cost.	Return to Dairy Farmer.	
1954.. ..	52.530	4.653	47.877	49.29
1955.. ..	50.878	4.253	46.625	49.29
1956.. ..	49.924	4.626	45.298	49.29
1957.. ..	49.093	4.626	44.467	51.00
1958.. ..	(b) 46.820	4.626	(b) 42.194	51.00

(a) Up to 1956-57 the figures shown are the guaranteed returns as recommended by the Dairy Industry Investigation Committee and accepted by the Commonwealth Government; from 1957-58 they represent the cost of production as found by the Dairy Industry Investigation Committee. (b) Rates are of an interim nature only.

16. **Dairy Industry Extension Grant.**—An annual grant of £250,000, to be expended by State Governments for the purpose of promoting improved farming practices in the dairying industry, was first made by the Commonwealth Government for the five years from 1st July, 1948. This assistance was continued by the Commonwealth Government for a further period of five years from 1st July, 1953, again by means of annual grants of £250,000.

17. **Dairy Industry Research and Sales Promotion.**—At the request of the Australian Dairy Industry Council, legislation was enacted in 1958 to provide for a sales promotion campaign for butter and cheese in Australia and also for research into industry problems.

The legislation provides for a statutory levy to be imposed on all butter and cheese manufactured in Australia. The maximum rates of levy are $\frac{3}{16}$ d. per lb. on butter and $\frac{3}{16}$ d. per lb. on cheese but the initial rates which commenced in November, 1958, are $\frac{1}{8}$ d. per lb. on butter and $\frac{1}{8}$ d. per lb. on cheese. The proceeds from the levy are divided equally between research and sales promotion.

The Commonwealth Government agreed to contribute one half of the costs incurred on approved projects included in the programme of research, with a maximum contribution of £1 for £1 against funds raised by way of levy and allocated to research. The sales promotion programme is financed solely by the levy.

The scheme is administered by the Australian Dairy Produce Board, which, in respect of research, is advised by a statutory committee—the Dairy Produce Research Committee.

18. *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 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 subsequent years and in 1957–58, 50,794 tons were shipped. In addition, small quantities of butter concentrate and 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 1957–58 amounted to 9,230 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 up till 1954–55. This increased again to 72,400 tons (88 per cent.) in 1955–56 but there was a slight decline again in 1956–57 to 62,553 tons (82 per cent. of the total butter exports) and a further decline to 41,509 tons (82 per cent. of the total butter exports) in 1957–58.

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 9,230 tons exported in 1957–58, 5,793 tons or 62 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 page 980.

(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, 1956–57, Bulletin No. 51.*

BULK BUTTER AND CHEESE GRADED FOR EXPORT: AUSTRALIA.
(Per Cent.)

Grade.	Butter.			Cheese.		
	1955–56.	1956–57.	1957–58.	1955–56.	1956–57.	1957–58.
Choicest	55.0	56.8	61.0	12.7	11.7	11.8
First Quality	34.3	32.9	28.2	74.1	70.9	72.0
Second Quality	7.9	7.7	8.1	13.2	17.4	16.2
Third Quality(a)	2.8	2.6	2.7	(b)	(b)	(b)
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(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 and, despite a set-back in 1956, they rose to 1,422,565 in 1958. Details of the number of pigs in each State and Territory for each of the five years 1954 to 1958, 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.	Australia.
Average, 1935 to 1939(b)	391,874	287,140	294,777	80,548	83,999	42,772	479	544	1,182,133
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
1957 ..	386,789	258,336	394,518	92,180	139,982	52,358	755	139	1,325,057
1958 ..	397,011	278,628	422,713	108,343	150,783	62,595	2,325	167	1,422,565

(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. Maps showing the distribution of pigs in Australia at 31st March, 1955 and 1948 appeared on page 912 of Official Year Book No. 43 and on page 908 of Official Year Book No. 39, respectively.

2. **Size of Pig Herds.**—A series of special tabulations relating to rural holdings undertaken for all States for the year 1955–56 covered, *inter alia*, a classification of holdings by size of pig herd and by area of holding, area of wheat grown for grain, and size of dairy cattle herd. The tabulations have been published in full detail in a series of mimeographed bulletins, *Size Classification of Rural Holdings, 1955–56*, and also appear in summarized form in *Primary Industries, Part I.—Rural Industries, 1956–57*, Bulletin No. 51.

3. **Pigs Slaughtered.**—The number of pigs slaughtered during each of the years 1953–54 to 1957–58 and the average for the years 1934–35 to 1938–39 are shown in the following table:—

PIGS SLAUGHTERED.

('000.)

Year.	Slaughterings Passed for Human Consumption.							Total Slaughterings (including Boiled Down).
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Australia. (a)	
Average, 1934–35 to 1938–39 ..	555	484	525	154	119	61	1,899	1,912
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 ..	576	395	459	132	160	88	1,817	1,828
1956–57 ..	541	382	438	124	157	82	1,730	1,740
1957–58(b) ..	614	463	455	169	216	90	2,014	2,024

(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 1953–54 to 1957–58 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.	Australia.
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	9,938	12,236	9,867	3,215	1,741	1,240	7	38	38,282
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 ..	14,952	10,709	8,016	3,247	3,529	2,215	67	204	42,939
1956-57 ..	14,840	10,676	6,734	2,724	3,322	2,093	59	200	40,648
1957-58(a) ..	16,751	12,946	7,709	3,650	4,508	2,366	65	200	48,195

(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. In 1954-55, consumption reached 10.2 lb., only slightly below the immediate pre-war average, but fell during each of the two following years to 8.6 lb. per head in 1956-57. Consumption in 1957-58 rose to 9.9 lb. per head, a figure which has only once been exceeded in post-war years. In the following table, details of the production and disposal of pork are shown for the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 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
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 ..	-0.7	42.9	1.1	2.2	40.3	9.7
1956-57 ..	+0.9	40.7	0.6	2.4	36.8	8.6
1957-58(b) ..	+0.8	48.2	1.0	3.4	43.0	9.9

(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 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, 36,400 tons being recorded in 1957-58. Details of production are shown by States in the following table for each year 1953-54 to 1957-58 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.	Australia
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	9,963	7,614	9,269	2,950	2,013	970	1	32,780
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 ..	11,463	7,929	10,224	3,587	3,231	1,040	..	37,474
1956-57 ..	10,322	7,721	9,901	3,415	3,054	917	..	35,330
1957-58(b) ..	11,361	8,285	9,645	3,296	2,949	864	..	36,400

(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. A decline to a relatively steady level of from 7 lb. to 8 lb. per head per annum followed. In 1957-58, consumption amounted to 6.9 lb. per head. Details of production and disposal of bacon and ham for the years 1953-54 to 1957-58 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
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	+0.4	37.5	0.7	5.1	31.3	7.5
1956-57	+0.3	35.3	0.5	4.8	29.7	7.0
1957-58(c)	-0.2	36.4	0.5	6.1	30.0	6.9

(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 1955-56 to 1957-58 are shown on page 980.

§ 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 1953-54 to 1957-58 are shown in the following table:—

**SHELL EGGS : PRODUCTION(a) RECORDED BY EGG BOARDS.
('000 Dozen.)**

State.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58.
New South Wales	51,884	55,057	51,635	52,334	49,168
Victoria	25,306	26,377	24,985	24,874	25,956
Queensland	8,555	8,312	7,848	8,848	7,894
South Australia	12,040	12,359	11,820	11,375	11,219
Western Australia	9,283	8,909	7,687	8,589	8,602
Tasmania	934	889	943	912	(b)
Total	108,002	111,903	104,918	106,932	(c) 102,839

(a) Recivals from consignors and sales by producer agents. (b) Not available. (c) Excludes Tasmania.

(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.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58.
New South Wales	20,942	17,057	14,649	18,755	13,198
Victoria	8,295	6,564	6,879	6,245	6,591
Queensland	3,703	2,419	2,901	3,302	1,658
South Australia	8,178	6,516	5,991	4,501	4,461
Western Australia	3,894	1,924	1,532	2,024	2,855
Tasmania	239	246	236	133	(a)
Total	45,251	34,726	32,188	34,960	(b) 28,763

(a) Not available.

(b) Excludes Tasmania.

In addition to liquid whole egg, production was also recorded of liquid egg whites and liquid egg yolks. Output in 1957-58 amounted to 513,927 lb. and 354,896 lb. respectively, compared with 571,184 lb. and 360,837 lb. respectively in the previous year. Output in 1957-58 excludes production for Tasmania which amounted to 4,084 lb. in 1956-57.

(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
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	15.4	87.9	21.1
1956-57	+0.9	115.8	6.3	16.9	91.7	21.5
1957-58	-0.7	111.8	7.3	13.9	91.3	21.0

(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.	1953-54.	1954-55.	1955-56.	1956-57.	1957-58.
Shell Eggs lb.	25.7	20.8	21.2	21.1	21.5	21.0
Liquid Whole Egg and Egg Powder ^(a) lb.	0.9	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.2
Total .. { lb.	26.6	22.3	22.8	22.4	23.0	22.2
{ Number ^(b)	243	204	209	205	210	203

^(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 and of the results of trading under free market conditions in the four years following appear in earlier issues of the Official Year Book.

In 1957-58, exports of shell eggs to the United Kingdom were at a much lower level than the previous year although unit returns were higher. Approximately 6,700 tons of egg pulp were shipped and sold on the open market. The price received for this on an f.o.b. basis averaged approximately £196 sterling per ton.

(ii) *Other Markets.* West Germany has been the second largest importer of Australian shell eggs in recent years and in 1957-58 exports to this country increased substantially. Singapore has also been an important market for Australian eggs.

(iii) *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 as laid down by the Australian Egg Board.

6. *Overseas Trade in Poultry Products.*—The Australian overseas 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 million dozen. Shipments were at a lower level in subsequent years and, in 1957-58, 11.8 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 after the close of the war there was a further expansion to 37.9 million lb. of egg contents in 1953-54. There was a decline in subsequent years and, in 1957-58, 17.9 million lb. 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 0.6 million lb. in 1957-58, 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) for the years 1955-56 to 1957-58, are shown on page 980.

§ 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 1957-58 showed an average of 104 lb. per hive and the average quantity of wax was 1.4 lb. per productive hive.

The number of hives and the production of honey and bees-wax during the year 1957-58 are shown in the following table.

BEEHIVES, HONEY AND BEES-WAX, 1957-58.

State or Territory.	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 ..	120	50	170	13,029	814	165	48
Victoria ..	73	31	104	5,884	429	67	21
Queensland ..	22	14	36	1,365	74	25	7
South Australia ..	56	28	84	4,151	195	86	20
Western Australia ..	35	6	41	7,313	246	87	17
Tasmania ..	4	2	6	481	32	5	2
Aust. Cap. Territory ..	1	..	1	55	3	1	..
Australia ..	311	131	442	32,278	1,793	436	115

The production of honey and bees-wax fluctuates considerably and is determined mainly by the flow of nectar from flora, particularly 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 1957-58 at 32,278,000 lb., although 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 1957-58 in comparison with the averages for the years 1934-35 to 1938-39.

HONEY AND BEES-WAX PRODUCTION.

('000 lb.)

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
HONEY.							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	3,827	3,600	689	3,388	1,125	181	(a) 12,810
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
1956-57 ..	14,946	8,210	3,075	8,169	5,650	372	(b) 40,458
1957-58 ..	13,029	5,884	1,365	4,151	7,313	481	(b) 32,278
BEES-WAX.							
Average, 1934-35 to 1938-39 ..	56	42	10	41	19	2	(a) 170
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
1956-57 ..	188	90	42	116	70	5	(b) 511
1957-58 ..	165	67	25	86	87	5	(b)(c) 436

(a) Excludes the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory.

(c) Includes the Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Excludes the 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 12.8 million lb. in 1956–57 and 19.6 million lb. in 1957–58.

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 1957–58, exports exceeded imports by an amount of 162,000 lb.

Total quantities and values of exports of honey and bees-wax for the years 1955–56 to 1957–58 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 1955–56 to 1957–58 are shown below.

EXPORTS OF FARMYARD, DAIRY AND BEE PRODUCTS: AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	Unit of Quantity.	Quantity.			Value (£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment).		
		1955–56.	1956–57.	1957–58.	1955–56.	1956–57.	1957–58.
Bees-wax	lb.	178,489	117,193	170,167	48	35	43
Butter	'000 lb.	185,112	170,834	113,779	28,968	25,824	15,639
Cheese	"	38,486	39,265	20,675	3,537	3,861	2,208
Eggs in shell ..	'000 doz.	16,071	10,142	11,828	2,847	1,997	1,851
Eggs not in shell—							
In liquid form ..	'000 lb.	21,182	20,457	17,897	2,440	2,568	1,967
Dry	"	61	8	43	15	10	19
Honey	"	27,162	12,828	19,685	1,567	841	936
Lard	"	137	126	397	15	15	23
Meats—							
Bacon and Ham (including canned) ..	"	4,143	2,612	2,896	912	620	686
Frozen Poultry ..	"	1,486	1,059	606	349	215	133
Frozen Pork ..	"	2,472	1,437	2,149	364	271	318
Milk—							
Condensed, Preserved, etc.—							
Sweetened Full Cream ..	"	52,353	63,234	67,995	3,700	4,222	5,101
Unsweetened	"	3,590	2,932	1,909	222	189	120
Dried or Powdered—							
Full Cream	"	15,130	15,269	13,898	2,151	2,155	2,128
Skim	"	50,804	45,417	29,795	2,041	2,181	1,182
Malted	"	5,508	6,088	5,343	815	906	750
Infants' and Invalids' Foods—							
Essentially of Milk ..	"	3,591	7,382	8,207	555	1,091	1,228
Other	"	6,374	7,246	6,388	1,067	1,334	1,238
Pigs, live	Number	1,066	918	1,030	29	25	27
Poultry, live(a) ..	"	37,764	50,823	143,869	6	7	20

(a) Including day-old chicks.

§ 8. Imports of Dairy and Farmyard Products into the 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, 1957 and 1958.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: IMPORTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM.

Product.	Unit of Quantity.	1939.		1957.		1958.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£'000.		£'000.		£'000.
Butter	'000 cwt.	8,737	48,424	7,306	99,483	8,459	97,469
Cheese	"	2,845	8,869	2,465	25,059	2,371	23,577
Milk, powdered and preserved	"		2,818		7,002		6,956
Bacon and ham	'000 cwt.	7,953	37,105	7,095	91,828	7,280	97,226
Pork(a)	"	989	3,036	497	4,642	370	3,409
Eggs in shell	'000 doz.	283,315	12,835	11,773	1,954	14,858	2,193
Eggs not in shell, liquid or frozen	'000 cwt.	800	2,292	417	5,806	473	5,444

(a) Excludes 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, but in 1956, it again amounted to 1,515,000 cwt., or 21.4 per cent. of the total United Kingdom imports. Shipments fell away again in subsequent years to 986,000 cwt., or 11.7 per cent. of the total United Kingdom imports, in 1958. New Zealand supplied 40.3 per cent. of the total quantity imported during 1958 and Denmark 22.5 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, 1957 and 1958, according to country of origin.

BUTTER: IMPORTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM.

Country from which Imported.	1938.		1957.		1958.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	'000 cwt.	£'000.	'000 cwt.	£'000.	'000 cwt.	£'000.
New Zealand	2,592	14,524	2,924	39,067	3,405	38,946
Australia	1,798	9,630	1,067	13,615	986	11,635
Other Commonwealth Countries and Republic of Ireland	423	2,455	316	4,479	373	4,474
Denmark	2,365	12,960	1,740	25,757	1,907	23,244
Netherlands	712	3,466	254	3,720	593	6,611
Other Foreign Countries	1,628	7,838	1,005	12,845	1,195	12,559
Total	9,518	50,873	7,306	99,483	8,459	97,469

3. Cheese.—The value of cheese imported into the United Kingdom in 1958 was £23,577,000. Of this, £14,519,000 was imported from New Zealand, £2,297,000 from Denmark, £1,909,000 from the Netherlands, £1,795,000 from Canada and £1,251,000 from Australia.

4 Bacon.—Of a total import, in 1958, of bacon (excluding bacon in airtight containers), valued at £85,642,000, the value of that supplied by Denmark was £56,825,000, Poland, £11,258,000, the Irish Republic, £7,993,000, and the Netherlands, £6,175,000.

5. Pork.—The value of the United Kingdom imports of pork (excluding pork in airtight containers) was £3,409,000 in 1958. Imports from Argentina valued at £927,000, Commonwealth countries (other than New Zealand), £878,000, and New Zealand, £568,000, comprised 70 per cent. of these imports into the United Kingdom.

6. **Eggs.**—In 1958, the value of eggs imported into the United Kingdom was £7,637,000, comprising eggs in shell, £2,193,000, and liquid or frozen eggs, £5,444,000. Eggs in shell were supplied principally by Denmark, £1,237,000.

7. **Milk Products.**—In 1958, the value of preserved milk imported into the United Kingdom was £5,244,000. Of this total, imports from New Zealand amounted to £2,766,000 Australia, £819,000, and the Netherlands, £699,000.

8. **Other Dairy and Farmyard Products.**—The imports into the United Kingdom from Australia of poultry, bees-wax, lard and honey in 1958 were unimportant.