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THE AGRICULTURAL REGISTER 1935–6

BEING A RECORD OF
LEGISLATION, ORGANIZATION, SUPPLIES
AND PRICES

OXFORD
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
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1936

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FOREWORD

IN this, the third issue of *The Agricultural Register*, it has been assumed, for the most part, that readers are familiar with the fundamental legislation which introduced the new agricultural policy. This was fully described in the first issue, for 1933–4, and it was recapitulated in the issue for 1934–5. The present volume deals only with the events of the past year except in so far as reference to earlier years is needed to make them clear. The plan of the volume has not been altered.

The Director and his colleagues desire to express their cordial thanks to all those who have assisted in the supply of information necessary for the compilation of the volume. It is impossible to name them all, but particular mention must be made of the help received from the Markets Division and Economics Intelligence Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Department of Agriculture for Scotland and the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, the Market Supply Committee, and the Executives of the Marketing Boards, Reorganization Commissions, and Committees, without whose generous co-operation it could not have been completed. Readers' criticisms and suggestions, too, have been welcome, and effect has been given to them so far as was practicable. The Director will be glad of further suggestions to improve the usefulness of future issues.

C. S. ORWIN,
Director.

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March 1936.

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I. INTRODUCTORY REVIEW

THE year 1935 witnessed a good deal of progress in agricultural organization under the new orientation of national policy inaugurated by the Agricultural Marketing Acts and other legislation of recent years; but it has been progress, mainly, within the industry itself and within the Boards by which the production and sale of its more important products are regulated. Parliament has not been occupied so much with the affairs of British farming as in 1934, nor have agricultural politics loomed so large in the news. An experience, at the time of the General Election in November, may be quoted to illustrate this change of emphasis. In response to an inquiry by the Agricultural Economics Research Institute addressed to the offices of the three Party organizations as to the agricultural programme of each, the Conservative office furnished a copy of Mr. Baldwin's election address; the Labour office sent pamphlets dealing with national planning of agriculture, together with an invoice; and the Liberal office made no response at all.

The introduction to *The Agricultural Register* last year contained a brief summary of the position of the principal agricultural commodities, the production of which was protected or regulated, and of the forms in which State assistance had been given. It may be convenient to take up the story where it was left at the end of 1934 and to pass very briefly in review the principal changes and developments introduced in 1935, the full details of which are set out later in this volume.

Sugar Beet has emerged successfully from the ordeal of the United Kingdom Sugar Industry Inquiry. A majority of the Committee reported early in the year against any further subsidy to this mushroom industry which had made such

phenomenal growth in the previous ten years. The economic arguments with which their advice was supported would be very difficult to refute. Here is a commodity available, apparently, in quantities almost unlimited at prices far below the cost of production in this country, a commodity, moreover, which packs and travels well, and which is the principal product of some of our own dependencies. Small wonder, then, if a Committee called on to examine these facts should find it impossible to ignore the plain economic issue. But while this was the issue before the Committee, the Government had, perhaps, a wider question to decide, involving the extinction of a new industry of considerable proportions, which, although it had disappointed their expectations of becoming self-supporting, had brought salvation to a section of the farming community and was in a fair way to become for many of it the pivot in the farming system. On many farms in East Anglia to-day sugar beet determines not only the crop rotation but, to a large extent, the feeding of live stock. Faced with the alternatives of having to carry over a bad speculation and to pay differences indefinitely, or of cutting its losses and thereby disorganizing a large section of the arable farming of the country, the Government decided that as, for better or worse, the home-grown sugar industry is with us it must be maintained. But the nation's unlimited liability has gone, and the subsidy is to be restricted in the future to a definite quantity of home-grown sugar, and this will impose a correlative restriction on the acreage of sugar beet.

Wheat also survived an inquiry into the amount of the subsidy which it enjoys under the Wheat Act, 1932. This Act provided that a Committee should be set up not later than 1 March 1935 to advise the Minister upon any change in the amount of the standard price of 45*s.* a quarter, upon which the farmers' deficiency payments are based. This

Committee found no reason for recommending any revision of the figure, and the only danger to the security which wheat-growers should enjoy during the next few years is that which may arise from competition amongst themselves. The indications at present are, however, that the expansion of the wheat acreage under the stimulus of the price guaranteed by the Wheat Act has reached its limit.

Potatoes are controlled more rigidly than any other agricultural commodity except hops. Under the restriction of acreage implicit in the Potato Marketing Board's acreage quota scheme and the prohibition of imports except under licence, prices for home-grown potatoes have been maintained at remunerative levels. Consumers may be interested to know that licences authorizing dealers to import specified quantities of foreign potatoes are said to change hands freely in the market at considerable premiums.

Hops have presented no new problems. Under the agreement reached with the brewers, prices are stabilized for a term of years, imports are taxed, and the restriction of acreage prevents any competition between growers.

Milk production for sale went on at an increasing rate throughout the contract year, October 1934 to September 1935, under the Scheme administered by the Milk Marketing Board. But except for the quantity taken under the operation of the Milk-in-Schools Scheme, liquid consumption remained practically stationary, so that the greater part of the increase, which amounted to 137 million gallons in all, went to swell the proportion sold at low prices for manufacture. Taking the year as a whole, 35 per cent. of the total production was diverted to manufacturing uses, compared with 27 per cent. in the previous contract year, the proportion being highest, at 46 per cent., in the month of June 1935, and lowest, at 26 per cent., in the month of November 1934.

It is interesting to note where the greatest increases in production in 1935 occurred. All regions produced more than in the previous contract year, the percentage increases being: Far Western 53, South Wales 36, North Wales 34, Northern 29, Eastern 21, North-Western 18, West Midland 16, East Midland 15, Mid-Western 14, Southern 13, South-Eastern 7.

These figures suggest that milk can be produced more cheaply in the warm, wet, and grassy regions of England, regions, too, in which the small producer working largely with family labour is found, than in the colder, drier parts of the country, in which, too, farming is conducted in larger units with a greater dependence on wage labour. Formerly the regions of lower costs were devoted largely to summer milk production, for calf-rearing, cheese- and butter-making, because, until the development of scientific handling and rapid transport, they were cut off from the liquid market in the industrial and residential centres. Under the price pooling system of the Milk Marketing Scheme, however, the producers in the remoter regions now share virtually on equal terms with the more expensive producers supplying milk for liquid sale all the year round, with the result that their returns are enhanced and there is every inducement to them to increase their output and to divert supplies from calf-rearing and farm cheese and butter manufacture into the wholesale milk market. In the absence of any material increase in liquid consumption, all increase in production must be sold at manufacturing prices, and this depresses the average pool prices.

Thus it will be understood that when the Milk Marketing Board had to arrange the milk contract for the year 1935–6 it was in the dilemma of having to increase the price to the consumer of milk or to reduce the margin between wholesale and retail prices allowed to the distributors, if it were unwilling to concur in the reduction of prices to producers

which would follow on their own action in increasing their output.

The Milk Marketing Board held that any increase in prices to the public could not be entertained. On the other hand, producers were insistent that farm prices must be maintained, and so the Board offered the distributors a contract for the year 1935–6 which said, in effect, that the Trade was charging too much for its services to the public and that their margin must be reduced. This offer was rejected by the Trade, though it is interesting to note that the representatives of the Industrial Co-operative Societies have stated their willingness to accept a reduction in their margin if the advantage would be passed on to the consumer instead of back to the producer. The difference between the Milk Marketing Board and the Trade has gone to arbitration, and judgement has not yet been pronounced.

Whichever way it goes, it is clear that it will not be a final solution of the Milk Marketing problem so long as the efforts of the Board to maintain the average pool price result only in the production of more and more milk.

Pigs for the bacon trade have not had an easy passage during the year. Under the terms of the contract between the Pigs and the Bacon Marketing Boards, curers may repudiate contracts (and this would smash the Marketing Scheme) if these do not ensure them a supply equivalent to 72 per cent. at least of their factory requirements—unless the Pigs Marketing Board allow them to make up the deficit by purchases on the open market. In some months the pigs contracted have been insufficient to exclude the curers from purchasing in the open market, and it has happened that a farmer has been selling 'free' pigs on the market to a curer at prices so much as 15*s.* per pig more than he was getting from the same curer for his contract pigs. This difference between prices in the free and in the contract markets gives support to the

feeders' complaint against the operation of the Marketing Scheme, while the readiness of the curers to pay higher prices suggests that the price formula might be amended in the feeders' favour.

Beef Cattle are still without a Marketing Scheme. It is understood that the Government have in mind proposals for a levy-cum-subsidy when they are free to negotiate a fresh bargain with Argentina and the Dominions. In the meantime, the subsidy on fat cattle was continued throughout the year, and while it has raised the prices received by the producer, it has not increased them to the full amount of the subsidy. In other words, prices of fat cattle have dropped.

Poultry and Eggs, too, are still unregulated. The Reorganization Commissions for England and Wales and for Scotland reported early in the year, and a United Kingdom Reorganization Commission was immediately appointed to make general recommendations. This body reported in the autumn, and its findings are summarized later in this volume. No action has followed yet. Half a million producers are a large number to organize.

Assistance to agriculture by import duties and the quantitative regulation of imports has been given to many products, apart from the more direct action taken under the foregoing schemes and subsidies, and the help in these forms is very considerable. To give an example, the duty on imported broccoli and cauliflowers is equivalent to a preference of some £25 an acre in favour of the home producer. A list of the Statutory Rules and Orders affecting farmers and a full account of all new trade agreements made during the year will be found later in this volume. It must be remembered, however, that the protection of home industries operates sometimes against the farmer, and many farm requisites,

such as certain fertilizers, feeding-stuffs, machinery, &c., of foreign origin, are taxed.

Sanctions imposed by the League of Nations against Italy towards the end of the year call for some mention here as representing an element entirely new in inter-State trade relations, though it may be doubted whether they have exerted any measurable influence on British agriculture. The principal food imports into this country from Italy were cheese, wheat products, lemons, and tinned tomatoes, and of these only the first and second named are competitive. The following table shows the comparative rate of imports in the last five months of the years 1934 and 1935:

Imports from Italy

	Cheese		*Wheat products (meal and flour)*	
	1934	*1935*	*1934*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Aug.	6,668	5,586	41,187	68,656
Sept.	6,273	6,165	31,972	45,544
Oct.	8,922	9,648	33,403	38,272
Nov.	6,967	6,881	10,646	30,449
Dec.	7,674	13	45,528	3,804

The declines in the month of December 1935 are significant, and while exports from Italy of these two commodities are of little importance in the total import of cheese and wheat products into this country, the cheese export is mainly of one variety, Gorgonzola, not manufactured elsewhere. Here was obviously a chance to capture a new market, if only a small one, and merchants of those fine English cheeses, Stilton, blue-mould Cheshire, Wensleydale, may be taking it. What seems more likely is that it has been left to the Danes to meet the public demand for a blue-mould cheese, for one quite new to English consumers has appeared of late,

and frequenters of restaurants are now offered a choice of 'Cheddar or Danish Blue' instead of the familiar 'Cheddar or Gorgonzola'. Cheese imports from Denmark, which were 959 cwt. in October and 999 cwt. in November, jumped to 2,977 cwt. in December and to 3,343 cwt. in January 1936. During the same period there was no material difference in quantities consigned from the remaining countries grouped under 'Other Foreign Countries' in the monthly *Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom*.[1]

Agriculture and Public Health. Throughout the reorganization of national policy towards the home agricultural industry there has been no discrimination in the assistance given. The policy of the Government appears to be to provide a protective cover for the industry in all its manifestations, and if there be any commodities still unaffected by subsidies, duties, or regulation of competing imports, it is only because effective means have not yet been devised or because there is no demand.

It has been shown that during 1935 this policy received further endorsement by the decisions taken on the wheat subsidy and the future of the home-grown sugar industry. At the same time, there were indications of a growing appreciation of an alternative to the policy of subsidizing prices and restricting production at a time when a large proportion of the population is admittedly under-nourished. This is especially true of perishable products, for the supply of which the home farmer is obviously well equipped.

The appreciation of the varying values of foods has developed from the work of Sir Frederick Gowland Hopkins, and others following him during the past 20 years, on vitamins and their nutritional importance. The application of this work to the planning of agricultural production in Britain, given the end of *laisser-faire* and a Government concerned

[1] From details supplied by courtesy of the Statistical Office, H.M. Customs and Excise.

to foster the industry, was stated very clearly some time ago by Sir Daniel Hall:

'It is represented by those scientific men who can speak with most authority on matters of diet that the defects of physique and general health in our population are to a very large extent the direct result of malnutrition, particularly in childhood and youth. It is not that food has been insufficient, but that it has been deficient in vitamins and mineral food accessories that are requisite for healthy growth and the proper functioning of the body. Our national diet has been directed too exclusively to cereals and potatoes, to sugar, to cooked and preserved meats, and modern habits of housekeeping and the congregation of the population into cities increases the dependency upon tinned and pre-cooked foods with a low vitamin content. While the young are chiefly affected, mature people experience a lower standard of health and of resistance to disease from these deficiencies in their normal diet. There is need for a national campaign of enlightenment and instruction amongst all classes as a potent means of raising the standard of health and efficiency of the nation. Of course, this applies most to young children and to expectant mothers, but there is ample experience to show that most adults would benefit by alterations in their customary diet. What is significant is that the dietetic reform calls for just those products from the land that scientific planning from a purely economic point of view would encourage—that is, milk and milk products, meat and eggs, green vegetables and fruit, with a lesser dependence upon mere energy suppliers like cereals and sugar.'[1]

This statement of the case for discriminating protection was repeated by Lord de la Warr, then Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, a month later:

'The problem of to-day', he said, 'was to bring together the over-producer and the under-consumer. If we were to succeed in doing this our first step must be to consider agriculture and public health as two aspects of the same problem. The energy thrown into dealing with the surplus food must be united with the energy that was battling with sickness and disease—all too much of it caused by under-nourishment in the early years of life.'[2]

[1] 'The Planning of Agricultural Production', Sir Daniel Hall, K.C.B., F.R.S., LL.D., *The Nineteenth Century and After*, October 1934, vol. cxvi, pp. 426–33.

[2] *The Times*, 26 November 1934.

Throughout 1935 Government spokesmen emphasized their growing conviction that the prosperity of agriculture depended upon increasing consumption at home. Frequently this argument was used as a defence of a levy-cum-subsidy policy rather than of a policy designed to supply cheap food to those who needed it for nutritional reasons. It was argued that the levy-cum-subsidy would make it possible to supply food at reasonable prices to the consumer while giving the home producer, at the same time, an adequate return.

In the last quarter of the year, however, Ministers referred more frequently to the possibilities of a nutrition policy. During the summer the necessity for such a policy had been stated by various authorities. Since 1925 the Health Organization of the League of Nations had been studying the relation of nutrition to public health, and from the end of 1932 it had concentrated on the effects of the economic crisis on public health, and especially on nutrition. A report published in June 1935[1] stated that no country in the world could claim that the whole of its population was satisfactorily fed, and that the so-called 'protective' foods, which were richest in minerals and vitamins—milk, green vegetables, fresh fruit, and eggs —were also the most expensive and beyond the means of great masses of the population. It found that between 10 per cent. and 25 per cent. of the population in Great Britain 'cannot afford a diet of the type and quality now known to be essential as a safeguard against malnutrition and disease'. It emphasized that so long as such conditions prevailed overproduction of foodstuffs in the world as a whole could not be said to exist. Finally, it noted that there was a tendency for Governments to assume greater responsibility for the health of their peoples, and it suggested that one of the greatest needs of modern statesmanship was to find quickly

[1] Barnet, E., and Aykroyd, W. R., 'Nutrition and Public Health', *Quarterly Bulletin of the Health Organization, League of Nations*, vol. iv, no. 2, June 1935.

some basis of agreement between Governments seeking to dispose of food and those needing such produce for the health of their citizens.

This report was used as a basis of discussion at the Assembly of the League of Nations. In Committee, Mr. Bruce, the Australian delegate, emphasized the need for 'marrying agriculture and public health' in the interests of the latter, and urged that State subsidies should be used to increase consumption rather than to restrict production.

A Commission of Experts from seven countries was appointed by the Health Committee of the League, with Professor E. P. Cathcart, Professor E. Mellanby, and Sir John Boyd Orr as the members for the United Kingdom. This Commission, which reported in December,[1] declared its agreement with the conclusions given in the previous report, summarized the nutritive requirements of persons of different sex and age, and enumerated the 'protective' foods, rich in minerals and vitamins, in which modern diets are more frequently deficient than in energy-bearing foods, rich in calories. It emphasized the importance of milk, whole or skimmed, and eggs, recommended an extended use of the potato and of unmilled rather than milled cereals, and stated that fresh vegetables or fruit should always be constituents of the normal mixed diet.

Meanwhile, in England an Advisory Committee had been set up to study the diet of the people and any changes in it which appeared to be desirable.[2]

The importance of a national food policy, to which Sir Daniel Hall had first drawn attention, was urged again by Sir John Orr. In an address to the British Association in September 1935 he deplored the tendency in the past to keep agricultural planning and public health planning in separate,

[1] *Report on the Physiological Bases of Nutrition by the Technical Commission appointed by the Health Committee.* League of Nations, Health Organization, Geneva, 1935.

[2] See p. 360.

water-tight compartments when a section of the population still lived at bare subsistence level. He noted that before a national food policy could be developed more knowledge was required on the extent to which consumption could be increased and health improved by the increased consumption of certain foodstuffs. If, however, preliminary conclusions, based on work being done by the Market Supply Committee, were valid, then there was a strong case for a new national food policy. Sir John Orr suggested that the problem of how to pay the farmer remunerative prices and at the same time make food available at retail prices within reach of the poorest might be solved by modifying the functions of the Marketing Boards in the direction of making them public utilities running the processing centres, and subsidized, if necessary, by the State, in the interests of public health rather than of agriculture.

These investigations influenced the speeches of members of the Government. At the Conference of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations in October the Minister of Agriculture stated that,

'in their campaign that autumn they ought to make it clear that the policy, such as had been considered and discussed by Sir John Orr and others, of an increased consumption of healthy foodstuffs in this country was a Tory policy and was their party's policy.'[1]

In December Lord Eustace Percy, Minister without Portfolio, told a deputation from the Children's Minimum Committee that,

'it was agreed that a broad nutrition policy must be one of the main aims of social administration in the immediate future'.[2]

So far, however, except for the Milk-in-Schools Scheme,[3] the policy has not advanced beyond consideration, and practical measures to give effect to it have not yet been devised.

[1] *The Times*, 5 October 1935. [2] *The Times*, 20 December 1935.
[3] See p. 151.

II. LEGISLATION

Only Public and General Acts are included, and these only so far as they are of agricultural interest.

A. Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1935

(25 Geo. V, c. 12, 28 March 1935)

This Act extended by not more than 6 months (i.e. until 30 June 1935, or, subject to the making of an Order before that date,[1] until 30 September 1935) the period for which payments for cattle or carcasses might be made from the Cattle Fund. The Treasury was authorized to advance to the Cattle Fund during April, May, and June 1935 not more than £1,050,000, repayable before 15 August 1935.

B. Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 39, 2 August 1935)

This Act extends by not more than 13 months (i.e. until 30 June 1936, or, subject to the making of an Order before that date, until 31 October 1936) the period for which payments for cattle or carcasses are payable from the Cattle Fund.

C. British Sugar (Subsidy) Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 37, 2 August 1935)

This Act extends by 12 months (i.e. until 31 August 1936) the period for which the home-grown sugar subsidy is payable, the rate of subsidy being amended to apply as follows:

5*s.* 0*d.* per cwt. of sugar exceeding 98° polarization whenever the weekly average price of imported raw sugar is 4*s.* 6*d.*

[1] See S.R. and O. No. 622, 1935, p. 362.

per cwt. The rate of subsidy to be decreased or increased by 1/60th for each penny by which the raw sugar price exceeds, or falls short of, 4*s*. 6*d*. per cwt. Reduced rates for sugar of 98° polarization or less to be calculated on the basis of the Customs duty scale, viz. down to 2*s*. 5½*d*. for 76° sugar when raw sugar is 4*s*. 6*d*. The subsidy on molasses is discontinued. The Act does not apply to Northern Ireland.

D. Diseases of Animals Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 31, 2 August 1935)

Main provisions:

(*a*) Subject to modifications, the Act extends the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1927, to poultry.[1] The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is empowered to regulate the separation of diseased poultry from healthy poultry and the notification of disease in poultry. He may order diseased or suspected poultry to be slaughtered and compensation to be paid in certain cases. He may control the imports of poultry and eggs for hatching, and may charge fees to meet the expenses of the examination of imported birds. He may prescribe the cleansing of receptacles and vehicles used for poultry and he may make orders for protecting poultry from suffering when exposed for sale, &c. Powers of entry are given to inspectors.

(*b*) The Minister is empowered to provide export quarantine stations for animals or poultry. He is given power to have animals or birds, which have been in contact with disease, treated with serum or vaccine.

(*c*) The manufacture, &c., of veterinary therapeutic substances, the purity or potency of which cannot be adequately tested by chemical means, is regulated.

The Act does not extend to Northern Ireland.

[1] i.e. domestic fowls, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowls, and pigeons.

E. Finance Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 24, 10 July 1935)

Among other provisions:

(*a*) withdraws the rebate on heavy oils used for road transport,
(*b*) enacts reduced licence duties on heavy-oil vehicles,
(*c*) removes soya-beans from the 'free list',
(*d*) lays down principles by which goods are to be valued for the purpose of *ad valorem* duties (see S.R. and O. No. 689, under Import Duties Act, 1932, p. 367),
(*e*) empowers the Treasury to charge reduced duty in lieu of general *ad valorem* duty in exceptional cases,
(*f*) authorizes imprisonment (as an alternative to payment of penalty) for evasion of customs duties, &c.,
(*g*) alters income tax in certain particulars (the standard rate remaining at 4*s*. 6*d*. in the pound).

F. Isle of Man (Customs) Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 34, 2 August 1935)

Among other provisions:

(*a*) removes soya-beans from the 'free list',
(*b*) provides for the continuation of certain annual duties (e.g. on ale, beer, hops, spirits, &c.),
(*c*) provides for the continuation of duties on cattle and other animals, and on meat, imported from the Irish Free State,
(*d*) lays down principles by which goods are to be valued for the purpose of *ad valorem* duties (see S.R. and O. No. 852, p. 364),
(*e*) empowers the Governor to charge reduced duty in lieu of general *ad valorem* duty in exceptional cases.

G. National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions Act, 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 44, 2 August 1935)

The two main objects of the Act are:

(1) to secure that persons who have been contributing to National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions for a sufficiently long period shall not forfeit pension or insurance rights if they become unemployed, and

(2) to provide that insured persons shall not suffer reduction or suspension of sickness, disablement, or maternity benefits by reason of arrears of contributions due to unemployment.

An insured person on becoming unemployed shall have, as before, a 'free insurance period' (of 21 months on average), but for those who have been continuously insured for 10 years before becoming unemployed this period is now extended year by year so long as unemployment continues. During these 'extended insurance periods', pension rights, medical benefit, maternity benefit, and additional treatment benefit continue. Sickness or disablement benefit cease, but are regained by 26 contributions during not more than 4 consecutive half years of insurable employment. For those who have been insured for 4 years, and have paid 160 contributions, pension rights continue for 1 year after the end of the free insurance period.

All (instead of half) arrears of contributions due to unemployment are excused in full, so that (*a*) any person who remains unemployed throughout a free insurance period suffers no reduction of benefits during that period by reason of unemployment, and (*b*) there is no reduction in the benefits of persons who, although in fairly regular employment, have varying periods of unemployment during a contribution year.

To meet the increased cost, 'The Unemployed Arrears

Fund' is to be built up, half by a levy on contributions paid by members of Approved Societies, and half by an annual Exchequer grant.

Various minor amendments of existing Acts are also included.

The Act applies to Scotland, but not to Northern Ireland unless the Parliament or the Governor of Northern Ireland in Council makes provision to that effect. (See National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions Act (Northern Ireland), 1935, p. 18.)

H. Land Drainage (Scotland) Act, 1935

(25 Geo. V, c. 19, 11 April 1935)

This Act extends until 15 April 1937 the period during which Schemes under the Act of 1930 may be undertaken.

I. Diseases of Animals (Therapeutic Substances) Act (Northern Ireland), 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 23, 13 November 1935)

This Act controls the manufacture and sale of vaccines, sera, antitoxins, &c., being substances capable of being used for veterinary purposes, the purity or potency of which cannot be adequately tested by chemical means. (Note: Northern Ireland is excluded from the clauses of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1935, which provide similar legislation for Great Britain.)

J. Drainage Act (Northern Ireland), 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 21, 13 November 1935)

Amends the Drainage Acts (Northern Ireland), 1925 to 1933, particularly as to (*a*) the variation or amendment of drainage schemes which have already taken effect, (*b*) the acquisition of additional land for schemes which have been

already confirmed, (*c*) the method of assessing the compensation payable for property compulsorily acquired or interfered with, &c., in pursuance of drainage schemes.

K. Labourers Act (Northern Ireland), 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 22, 13 November 1935)

This Act prolongs, until 31 December 1940, the operation of the Labourers Acts (Northern Ireland), 1883 to 1930, thus continuing the Parliamentary grants in aid of certain schemes for the provision of cottages and allotments under the Labourers Acts (Northern Ireland), 1883 to 1927.

L. National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions Act (Northern Ireland), 1935

(25 & 26 Geo. V, c. 14, 16 July 1935)

The Act anticipates the National Health Insurance and Contributory Pensions Act, 1935, of the United Kingdom (q.v., p. 16), and its main purpose is to extend that Act, subject to minor adaptations, to Northern Ireland.

III. MARKETING REORGANIZATION

A. GENERAL

THE schemes for the reorganization of agricultural marketing in the United Kingdom have been drawn up under the provisions of seven principal Acts.[1] Six of these have been detailed in previous issues of the *Agricultural Register*.

The Isle of Man. An Act was passed in the Isle of Man[2] on 14 September 1934, which follows the general lines of the Agricultural Marketing Acts in Great Britain and Northern Ireland though differing in a number of administrative details. The control of all schemes under this Act is centralized in an Isle of Man Agricultural Marketing Society, consisting of two members nominated by the Board of Agriculture, twelve members elected by farmers, and three members nominated by the Association of registered producers of each product regulated. For each scheme the Society appoints an Executive Committee of five members, including the three nominated by the registered producers of that commodity. The marketing and general powers of the Marketing Associations in these schemes do not differ materially from those in Great Britain.

At the beginning of 1935, eleven schemes were in operation in the United Kingdom, one of which started in 1932, six in 1933, and four in 1934. During 1935 a Pig Industry Council commenced operations in Northern Ireland, established under a special Act. Towards the end of the year the Northern Ireland Bacon Marketing Scheme was wound up,

[1] The Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931; The Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933; The Agricultural Marketing (No. 2) Act, 1933; The Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933; The Milk and Milk Products Act (Northern Ireland), 1934; The Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934; The Agricultural Marketing Act (Isle of Man), 1934.

[2] The Agricultural Marketing Act, 1934.

its functions being replaced by the Council. In the Isle of Man, two Marketing Schemes were started, one for milk and one for potatoes.

Marketing Schemes in Operation in the United Kingdom

Area of scheme		*Date of operation*
Great Britain	Pigs Marketing Board	9 Sept. 1933
	Bacon Marketing Board	9 Sept. 1933
	Potato Marketing Board	9 March 1934
	Bacon Development Board	7 Sept. 1935
England and Wales	Hops Marketing Board	6 Sept. 1932
	Milk Marketing Board	6 Oct. 1933
Scotland	Scottish Milk Marketing Board	1 Dec. 1933
	Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Board	1 Aug. 1934
	North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board	1 Oct. 1934
Northern Ireland	Pigs Marketing Board	1 Oct. 1933
	Bacon Marketing Board	1 Oct. 1933
	Milk Industry Council	16 Aug. 1934
	Pig Industry Council	1 Jan. 1935
Isle of Man	Milk Marketing Association	25 April 1935
	Potato Marketing Association	12 June 1935

No further schemes were started in Great Britain, the only new step being the formation, towards the end of the year, of a Bacon Development Board.

The only amendments to the Schemes in Great Britain during the year were in the Scottish Milk Marketing and in the Pigs and Bacon Marketing Schemes. Proposals for any drastic changes in most of the Schemes dealing with milk were postponed pending the report of a Reorganization Commission which was appointed in February 1935.

Proposed Schemes. A Reorganization Commission for Eggs and Poultry, for Great Britain, reported during the year, preparatory to the formulation of marketing schemes for these products. Proposals were continued or initiated for

schemes for milk (Moray and Banff), dairy products, live stock, sugar beet, fruit, raspberries, and tomatoes.

The various statutory Committees established under the Agricultural Marketing Acts, the Consumers' Committees, Committees of Investigation, and the Market Supply Committee were at work during the year and reported on various subjects.

B. SCHEMES IN OPERATION

1. Milk

THE MILK MARKETING SCHEME, ENGLAND AND WALES[1]

The Milk Marketing Scheme came into full operation on 6 October 1933. It is based on the principle that all milk, with certain exceptions including Grade A (T.T.) and Certified milk, and sales by producer retailers, must be sold through the Board, which charges substantially different prices according to the uses to which the milk is put, whether sold for liquid consumption or for various manufacturing purposes. The returns are pooled in each of eleven regions, contributions are exacted from producer-retailers, adjustments are made between regions by means of an Inter-Regional Compensation Fund, and the remaining sums, less expenses and reserves, are distributed monthly to the producers in each region proportionately to the milk supplied by each.

The first contract period ran from 6 October 1933 to 31 March 1934 and was followed by a second contract from 1 April to 30 September.

During 1935 the retiring members of the Milk Marketing Board were all re-elected. Some 480 members attended the Annual General Meeting held on 6 June, and, after considerable discussion, fixed the remuneration of the Chairman,

[1] See *The Home Farmer*, The Official Organ of the Milk Marketing Board.

Vice-Chairman, and members at the same figures as in the previous year. Early in August, on the request of 500 registered producers, a poll was taken on whether or not the scheme should remain in force. Rather under 60 per cent. of the total number of registered producers voted, of whom 81 per cent., owning 86½ per cent. of the cows, voted against revocation of the Scheme. It therefore remained in force.

The Third Contract Period, 1 October 1934 to 30 September 1935.

The contract terms which were negotiated in September 1934 applied for the twelve months October 1934 to September 1935.[1]

The wholesale price in all regions was fixed at 1*s.* 5*d.* per gallon for December 1934 to February 1935, 1*s.* 4*d.* in October and November 1934 and March, April, and September 1935, 1*s.* in May[2] and June, and 1*s.* 1*d.* in July and August 1935. During the winter months these prices averaged ½*d.* per gallon more than those charged in the South-Eastern region in the previous winter, and 1*d.* per gallon more than those charged in other regions. For the summer they averaged about 1*d.* per gallon above prices in the South-Eastern region in the previous summer, and nearly 1¾*d.* above those in other regions. A transit risk deduction of ½*d.* per gallon for liquid milk sold from approved depots was allowed in all regions.

Retail prices were also fixed, varying, according to the size of town and the time of year, from 2*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* per gallon. This, again, represented an increase in prices compared with the previous year. Lower prices were permitted in 354 areas. Semi-wholesale, semi-retail, and manufacturing prices were also established.

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 76.

[2] ½*d.* was charged for publicity.

The prices fixed for manufacturing milk were the same as those for the previous contract period. They varied from 9*d.* per gallon for 'other products' to a price based on the average price of Canadian and New Zealand Finest White cheese,

Prices Realized for Milk in the Third Contract Period, October 1934–September 1935

		Manufacturing				*Unweighted average of pool prices*	
				Average			
	Liquid	*Cheese*	*Butter*	*With subsidy*	*Without subsidy*	*1934–5*	*1933–4*
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Oct. 1934	16	3 72	3 72	6 23	4 95	13 5	*13 5*
Nov.	16	4 04	4 04	6 30	5 06	13 8	*14 0*
Dec.	17	4 25	4 25	6 37	5 27	14 3	*14 3*
Jan. 1935	17	3 93	3 93	6 36	5 00	14 5	*14 0*
Feb.	17	4 23	4 23	6 27	5 09	14 0	*13 6*
Mar.	16	4 19	4 19	6 22	4 98	12 9	*12 0*
*Oct.–Mar.** 1934–5	16·5†	4 07	4 08	6 29	5 05	13 8	*13 6*
*Oct.–Mar.** *1933–4*	*15 5‡,†*	*3 52*	*3 50*		*5 27*		
Apr.	16	3·12	4 18	5 23	4 64	12 1	*10 6*
May	12§	3 04	4 26	4 83	4 36	9 3	*10 0*
June	12	2 91	4 04	5 19	4 56	9 6	*10 3*
July	13	3 00	4 00	5 38	4 76	9 9	*10 5*
Aug.	13	3·79	3 79	5 73	5 06	10 0	*10 8*
Sept.	16	3 67	3 93	5 54	4 90	12 7	*10 8*
*Apr.–Sept.** 1935	13 7†	3 16	4 06	5 26	4 67	10 6	*10 5*
*Apr.–Sept.** *1934*	*12 0‡,†*	*3 64*	*3 67*	*5 56*	*4 81*		
Oct.	17	4 14	3 75‖	5 99	4 89	13 4	*13 6*
Nov.	17	4 70	3 75‖	5 80	5·01	13 4	*13 8*
Dec.	17	4 13	3 75‖	5 93	4 92	13 5	*14 3*

* Weighted averages. † Unweighted averages.
‡ In regions other than the South-Eastern. § ½*d.* for publicity. ‖ Cornwall 4 25.

less 1¾*d.* for milk made into cheese and butter.[1] As permitted by the contract terms, the basis of price for milk made into cheese was altered after 1 April, following a request by the distributors. On arbitration by Mr. Edward Shortt, K.C., it was decided that during the months of April to July 1935 it should be based on the average price of Finest White New Zealand cheese only, and during August and September, as

[1] See p. 33.

before, on the average price of Canadian and New Zealand cheese, but excluding exceptional prices for Canadian cheese and including the new season's make of Canadian cheese. The effect of this decision was to lower the price charged for milk made into cheese below the cheese milk price specified in the Milk Act, upon which the Government's advances were based, and thus to lower the gross return to the Board for milk made into cheese in these months below 5*d.* per gallon.

The average realization values for milk made into butter amounted to 4·1*d.* per gallon both in the winter and summer compared with 3·5*d.* in the previous winter, and 3·7*d.* in the previous summer. The average realization value for milk made into cheese, however, which had been the same as that of butter in the winter, fell to 3·2*d.* in the summer, compared with 3·6*d.* in the previous summer.

So far as manufacturing prices are concerned the Board only determine directly the price of milk sold for manufacture, and are not responsible for the prices of the products. A Milk Products Marketing Board[1] has been suggested to undertake the marketing of these products. In the meanwhile, in order to prevent undercutting in the cream market, the Board negotiated, with the other interests concerned, minimum wholesale prices for cream delivered, varying from 12*s.* per gallon for daily quantities of 1 gallon or less to 9*s.* per gallon for English, 8*s.* 9*d.* for Scottish, and 8*s.* 3*d.*[2] for Irish cream when delivered in daily quantities of 151 gallons or over.

Criticisms in 1935.

The terms of this contract were criticized on several accounts during the twelve months of its operation. Producers in some areas considered that the Scheme had made them worse off, and protested that prices were too low. Some

[1] See p. 110.

[2] 8*s.* 6*d.* until 15 March.

of them demanded a poll in January as to whether the Scheme should remain in force. The Board, however, exercised their statutory right to refuse a poll during the first two years of the operation of the Scheme. Early in the summer, however, they announced their willingness to take a poll then, rather than in October, the first month when they would be obliged by law to take it, in order not to interfere with the negotiation of the new contract terms. The poll was held in August, and was favourable to the Board.[1] While many producers were dissatisfied with the operation of the Scheme, few of them were prepared to have no scheme at all.

Producer-retailers also complained at their mounting levies. These had averaged, for the eleven regions, about $1\frac{3}{4}d.$ per gallon in the winter of 1933–4, and $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ in the summer of 1934; in the winter of 1934–5 they averaged $2\frac{1}{4}d.$ and in the summer of 1935 $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ A National Federation of Producer-Retailers was formed, which claimed representation on the Board and a reduction of levies. The Board showed sympathy with their demands, suggested the possibility of reducing levies by a quarter to all producer-retailers who paid promptly, but postponed any final decision until after the Reorganization Commission for Milk for Great Britain should have reported.

The level of retail prices once more drew forth an adverse report from the Consumers' Committee,[2] and the Minister submitted this Report to the Reorganization Commission for Great Britain.

Attempts to increase consumption.

Efforts were made during the year to expand the consumption of liquid milk. The most important of these was the Milk-in-Schools Scheme, financed jointly by the Milk Marketing Board and the Exchequer, through which children

[1] See p. 22.

[2] See p. 116, and *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 169–71.

in schools, who so desired, were provided with ⅓ pint of milk daily for ½*d.*[1] This payment represented 1*s.* per gallon, or approximately half the normal retail price. The scheme was taken up rapidly, and sales of milk under it rose from 1·97 million gallons in October 1934 to 2·39 million gallons in March 1935, with declines during the school holidays.

In connexion with this scheme, and in collaboration with the Scottish Milk Marketing Boards, a Milk Nutrition Committee[2] was set up, to study the effect of feeding different amounts of raw or pasteurized milk to children in elementary schools, and to conduct feeding experiments on animals.

A publicity campaign, financed partly by the levy of ¼*d.* per gallon on liquid sales made for that purpose in May, and partly by the Treasury, was undertaken in the spring with the collaboration of the Advisory Committee on Milk Publicity set up in 1934. The campaign was estimated to cost £60,000, of which £42,000 was to be spent on press publicity. An additional form of publicity was the opening of milk bars in London and some other large cities.

The Board contemplated, further, an experiment on the lines of that conducted by the Potato Marketing Board in Bishop Auckland,[3] to ascertain the elasticity of demand for milk in a distressed area. It endeavoured to obtain the collaboration of dealers in order to retail milk at a low price in a South Wales special area. The distributors were not prepared to accept a substantial cut in their margins, and the scheme was abandoned, for the time being.

Finally, it was hoped to encourage the sale of liquid milk by improving its quality. The Board's plan of Accredited herds[4] came into force on 1 May. Producers who fulfilled

[1] See p. 151, and *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 195.
[2] See p. 153.
[3] See p. 105.
[4] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 80.

the necessary conditions, equivalent to those in force for Grade A milk, were to be paid a bonus of 1*d.* per gallon. This bonus was to be financed out of the Board's pools. By December 13,655 producers were participating in the Scheme, and the bonus was equivalent to a levy of 0·273*d.* per gallon of milk pooled.

Sales in the Third Contract Period.

Liquid milk sales were greater during the twelve months 1934–5 than in the previous year, increasing by 4 per cent. to 659,246,831 gallons, of which 554,314,703 gallons were sold on wholesale contract and 104,932,128 gallons by producer-retailers paying a levy on a gallonage basis. Recorded producer-retailer sales declined 5 per cent., and liquid wholesale sales rose by 6 per cent.[1] Part of this increase was due to the Milk-in-Schools Scheme;[2] if sales of milk under this scheme be excluded the increase in wholesale sales amounted to 2 per cent. The monthly variation in liquid sales was small.

Total sales through the Board, including sales by producer-retailers and farm-house cheesemakers, increased much more rapidly. In the twelve months October 1934 to September 1935 they amounted to 974,941,187 gallons, or 15 per cent. more than in the previous year. Of this total, 856,003,704 gallons were sold wholesale through the Board, or 19 per cent. more than in the preceding year. The number of contracts made with the Board, as shown by the table on p. 28, was 10 per cent. greater than in the previous year, while the increase both in sales and in number of contracts was greatest in the Far-Western and Northern regions, and in Wales, where farm butter and cheese making were localized. The Milk Marketing Board has estimated that 30 per cent. of the increase in sales was due to larger output by previous contractors and 70 per cent. to new contracts, of which a large

[1] See Appendix, p. 386. [2] See p. 152.

number were made by producers previously making butter or cheese. Total wholesale sales varied substantially from month to month, from a minimum of 2,185,370 gallons daily in February 1935 to a maximum of 2,878,785 gallons daily in May. Part of this difference was due to an alteration in the number of contracts.

As total sales increased more rapidly than liquid consump-

Utilization of Milk sold under Wholesale Contracts in the various Regions, 1 October 1934 to 30 September 1935

	Used liquid	*Manufactured*	*Total*	*Percentage manufactured*	*Per cent. increase on previous year of*	
					**Total sales*	*Average no. of contracts*
	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Northern	37,608	16,956	54,564	31 1	28 5	21 2
North-Western	151,491	80,854	232,345	34 8	17 5	5 7
Eastern	33,491	6,661	40,152	16 6	20 5	11 5
East-Midland	48,973	16,635	65,608	25 4	15 3	1 8
West-Midland	34,745	40,459	75,204	53 8	16 3	4 3
North Wales	8,981	9,684	18,665	51·9	33 6	19 6
South Wales	21,095	12,747	33,842	37 7	35 9	22 0
Southern	55,190	11,353	66,543	17 1	13 2	3 8
Mid-Western	65,534	79,048	144,582	54 7	13 9	3 5
Far-Western	15,270	23,223	38,493	60 3	52 8	49 4
South-Eastern	81,937	4,069	86,006	4 7	7 4	1 2†
Total	554,315	301,689	856,004	35 2	18 1	9 9

* October 1933 was adjusted to 31 days for this calculation. † Decrease.

tion an increasing proportion had to be manufactured. Sales for manufacture in 1934–5 amounted to 301,689,001 gallons, 57 per cent. more than in the previous year, and 35 per cent. of total sales wholesale, compared with 27 per cent. in the previous year. During the twelve months the percentage manufactured varied from 26 per cent. in October and November 1934 to 46 per cent. in June 1935.

The percentage manufactured varied greatly from region to region, as the accompanying table shows. During the twelve months 60 per cent. was manufactured in the Far-

Western region, compared with 5 per cent. in the South-Eastern. The extreme difference of monthly percentages manufactured ranged from 70 per cent. in the Far-Western region in June 1935, to 3 per cent. in the South-Eastern region in October and November 1934.[1]

The 301,689,001 gallons of milk manufactured were used mainly for butter, cheese, condensed milk, and fresh cream. During the contract period 1934–5, 31 per cent. was used for cheese, 28 per cent. for butter, 19 per cent. for condensed milk, 15 per cent. for cream and ice-cream, and the remaining 7 per cent. for milk powder, tinned cream, and other goods. Production of all the important manufactured products had increased since the previous year, that of cream less than the average, and that of butter more.

In addition, 14,005,355 gallons of milk, or 1·4 per cent. of total sales were made into cheese on farms under the farm-house cheese agreement, and qualified for the payment made by the Board.[2] This represented a decline of 26 per cent. on the previous year, in which the farm-house cheese scheme was only in operation in the six summer months. Summer production in 1935 was 39 per cent. below that of the previous year.

Pool returns in the Third Contract Period.

The level of pool prices depends upon three factors, the various class prices, the proportions devoted to different uses, and the levies made.

Levies fall into two classes: those paid on total sales for the Accredited Milk Scheme, for expenses and reserves, and for publicity; and the levy on liquid sales only, for the purposes of inter-regional compensation. The levy to finance the accredited producers' scheme has already been referred to; starting in May, the levy for this scheme had risen to

[1] See Appendix, p. 387.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 77.

0·2*d.* per gallon by September. A levy of $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per gallon to cover the expenses of the Board and provide for a reserve fund was made in eight months, and one of $\frac{1}{8}d.$ per gallon on producers and $\frac{1}{8}d.$ on distributors for publicity purposes in one month.

The average level of pool prices, as shown by the table on p. 23, was 13·8*d.* per gallon in the winter months of 1934–5, or 0·2*d.* higher than in the previous winter, and 10·6*d.* in the summer of 1935, or about 0·1*d.* more than in the previous summer. The average varied from 14·5*d.* per gallon in January 1935 to 9·3*d.* in May or by 5·2*d.* per gallon compared with a range of 4·3*d.* in the previous year.

The level of pool prices in the different regions was adjusted by means of the Inter-regional Compensation Fund, financed by a levy on liquid sales and used in each month to augment the pool prices in the regions of heaviest manufacture. This levy was fixed at $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per gallon in October 1934, increased to 1*d.* in November, $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ in December, and January and February 1935, and $1\frac{3}{4}d.$ in March. During these six months the unweighted average of pool prices varied from 13·25*d.* per gallon in the Far-Western region to 14·5*d.* in the South-Eastern. The maximum range in pool prices in any month[1] was $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ between the South-Eastern and Far-Western regions in October, and the minimum range $\frac{3}{4}d.$ in February.

In February it was agreed that the levy should be adjusted so that pool prices in the various regions should not vary by more than 1*d.* per gallon in any month. In April the levy was raised to $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon, and lowered again to $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ in May and July, and $1\frac{1}{4}d.$ in June and August, and then raised once more to $1\frac{3}{4}d.$ in September. During the six months the simple average of pool prices varied from 10·3*d.* in the Far-Western and West-Midland regions to 11·2*d.* in the South-Eastern.

[1] See Appendix, p. 389.

The 1935–6 Contract Terms.

Contracts expired at the end of September, and throughout that month the Board discussed the future terms with the Central Milk Distributors Committee, the National Association of Creamery Proprietors and Wholesale Dairymen, and the Co-operative Conference. It was found impossible to reach an agreement. The Board suggested wholesale prices for liquid milk of 1*s.* 5*d.* per gallon from October 1935 to March 1936, 1*s.* 4*d.* per gallon in April and September 1936, and 1*s.* 1*d.* in the remaining four summer months.[1] The suggested winter price of 1*s.* 5*d.* per gallon was $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon above the average for the preceding winter, and the suggested summer average, 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon, $\frac{1}{3}d.$ per gallon above the previous summer. Thus, the proposed annual average price, 1*s.* $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon, represented an average increase of $\frac{5}{12}d.$ per gallon on the previous year. Minimum retail prices were to remain unchanged, so that the increase in the wholesale price was to come out of the distributors' margins, which the Board regarded as excessive.

In addition, they proposed that the 'transit risk' charge payable by farmers supplying country milk depots should be reduced from $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per gallon.

The distributors, however, were not prepared to accept these terms. They stated that the increase in price in the previous autumn had been urged on the grounds that the hay crop was short and that the prices of feeding stuffs had increased; these conditions had disappeared, and they saw no justification for an increase in price to the farmer. They offered a wholesale price averaging 1*s.* $2\frac{5}{12}d.$ per gallon, or $1\frac{1}{12}d.$ per gallon below the price proposed by the Board, and $\frac{2}{3}d.$ per gallon below the average for the preceding year. If these terms were accepted they were willing to reduce retail prices in certain districts for two months in the year, while

[1] $\frac{1}{8}d.$ per gallon more was to be charged in May, to be used for publicity.

demanding an increase in retail prices for all towns with a population of 10,000 and under, and for Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham. Thus the distributors' proposals involved that the whole of the proposed reduction in retail prices should be financed by the farmer, and that in certain towns distributors' margins should actually be increased.

The Board, however, were not prepared to acquiesce in what they considered an unfair division of the consumers' price, and used their statutory power to impose the prices they had suggested.

The contracts which they issued for the twelve months October 1935 to September 1936 included other alterations. First, it was provided that milk might be sold retail at the farm-house door at 4*d.* per gallon below the appropriate retail price for the area. Secondly, it was provided that, while the ½*d.* per gallon level delivery premium to producers with no more than a 10 per cent. variation, each way, was to be retained, producers who agreed to supply an exact quantity of milk each day were to receive a 1*d.* per gallon premium, and producers who contracted to adjust their daily deliveries to the distributors' requirements, a 1½*d.*, 4*d.*, or 6*d.* per gallon premium according to the quantity delivered.

Finally, the conditions under which rebates would be paid for milk manufactured were tightened, to prevent rebates on milk which was, in fact, sold liquid, and the schedule of manufacturing prices was slightly altered. The modification in the price of milk made into factory cheese decided upon by the arbitrator in the preceding spring[1] was continued, the modified price to prevail, however, from March to August, inclusive, instead of from April to July. Other manufacturing prices, shown in the accompanying table, were not substantially altered. A fixed price was provided for milk made into butter, of 4¼*d.* per gallon in Cornwall, and 3¾*d.* elsewhere; the price of milk made into tinned cream was increased from

[1] See p. 23.

5*d.* to 6*d.* per gallon; special prices for milk made into chocolate and into condensed milk for export were dropped, and prices of 6*d.* per gallon provided for milk made into natural sterilized milk for export, and into bottled cream.

Prices per Gallon for Milk for Manufacture, except Milk made into Cheese other than Soft Curd Cheese and Cream Cheeses. 1934–5 and 1935–6.

Milk made into	*1934–5*	*1935–6*
	d.	*d.*
Butter, in the County of Cornwall	*	4¼
Butter, elsewhere	*	3¾
Condensed milk for export	†	‡
Milk Powder	4½	4½
Condensed milk	6	6
Natural sterilized milk for export	‡	6
Tinned cream	5	6
Fresh and bottled cream	7½	7½
Soft curd cheese and cream cheese	7½	7½
Ice cream	7½	7½
Chocolate	8	‡
Other products	9	9

* The average price per lb. for the previous month of Finest White Canadian and New Zealand cheese, less 1¾*d.*

† Cheese price, with a minimum of 4*d.* per gallon.

‡ Not provided for.

At the same time, a contract was issued for farm-house cheese-makers. From 1 October 1935, the Government subsidy on farm-house cheese was to be payable to producers with a minimum of 6, instead of 8 milch cows. The Board offered to pay to such producers who would agree to keep all their milk on the farm during the five months May to September 1936, and during at least one other month of the contract year, a bonus on each lb. of cheese sold by them. This bonus was to equal the quality premium under the Accredited Producers' Scheme, if the producer had qualified for it, and, in addition, 5½*d.* per lb. from 1 October 1935 to

30 April 1936, and 4½*d.* per lb. from 1 May to 30 September 1936 for hard cheese, and ½*d.* per lb. less for Caerphilly or soft cheese.[1] It was assumed that 1 gallon of milk was equal to 1 lb. of cheese. These bonuses were higher than those paid in the previous year, in which the unweighted averages of the sums paid on hard cheese amounted to just over 4¾*d.* per lb. from October to April and about 3¾*d.* from May to September.

The distributors were not prepared to accept the terms laid down by the Board, and appealed to the Minister of Agriculture, who referred the question to the Committee of Investigation. They objected to the increase in liquid prices, to the reduction in the 'transit risk' charge, to the new provisions for arriving at manufacturing rebates, and to other minor provisions of the contracts. The Co-operative Congress also objected; they considered that distributive charges might be reduced, but that the whole of the reduction should be passed on to the consumer, as they saw no grounds for an increase in price to the producer. They also considered that a 'transit risk' charge of ¼*d.* per gallon was too low.

It appeared for a short time that the disagreement might lead to the cessation of milk deliveries when the old contracts expired at the end of September, and the Milk Marketing Board began preparations for a service. At the same time, it was announced that if the distributors would sign the contract the Board would agree to make retrospective any alterations in the terms which the Minister of Agriculture might prescribe after receiving the report of the Committee of Investigation. Before the end of September the distributors agreed to sign, on the addition of two clauses, one embodying the above offer and the other providing that the distributors might withdraw from the contract if they felt themselves aggrieved by any order made by the Minister. In addition the Board agreed not to exercise their powers to examine

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 77.

manufacturers' claims for rebate to a greater extent than they had done before 30 September.

The Committee of Investigation held meetings from 7 to 10 October, and then adjourned until 11 November, on the request of the Central Milk Distributive Committee, which required more time to prepare its evidence. The General Election necessitated an adjournment until 2 December, and a further postponement until 10 December was caused by the death of the Chairman, Mr. Edward Shortt.

The Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme

The Scottish Milk Marketing Board, applying to Scotland south of the Grampians, began on 1 December 1933. The Board established by the Scheme consists of ten members; eight of these are elected, not directly by the registered producers, but by a Selection Committee of fifty members elected by the producers; the remaining two members are co-opted after consultation with the Market Supply Committee.

Substantially all the sales of ordinary milk at wholesale must be made through the Board, which charges the buyer according to the use to which the milk is put. The receipts from the sales through the Board are pooled and supplemented by contributions from producer-retailers, producer-wholesalers, and producers of Certified milk, and then distributed to the ordinary producers. The Board fixes prices not only for milk sold for liquid or manufacturing uses, but also minimum prices for retail, semi-retail, and semi-wholesale sales by producers who are exempt from selling directly through the Board.

The Board has operated four contracts, for the periods December 1933 to March 1934; April to September 1934; October 1934 to September 1935; and October 1935 to September 1936. The Board was not able on any of these occasions to agree with the distributors on prices; for the first three contracts it accepted the decision of the arbitrator who

was called in; for the last contract period, however, it was not prepared to accept his decision, and the question of prices was referred to the Committee of Investigation.

Early in its operations the Board took over nineteen creameries and milk depots formerly belonging to farmers' co-operative associations. It has continued to develop its own manufacturing outlets, and attaches much importance to its manufacturing policy.

Changes in the membership of the Scottish Milk Marketing Board during 1935 were occasioned only by resignations and death; at their meeting on 12 June the Selection Committee re-elected the two retiring members. Mr. W. J. Harvey, one of the co-opted members, died during the year, and Mr. John Dallas, the other, resigned; the Board co-opted in their place, on the nomination of the Secretary of State for Scotland, Surgeon Commander J. Donald Pollock, M.D., O.B.E., R.N.V.R., and Mr. F. A. Rottenburg. In July the Earl of Stair resigned as Chairman and member of the Board, and Mr. T. G. Wilson, the Vice-Chairman, was appointed as Chairman, and Mr. J. B. Douglas as member.

The Third Contract Period, October 1934 to September 1935.

At the beginning of 1935 the Board was operating the contract agreed upon in the autumn of 1934, on the advice of the consultant, Mr. D. A. Richmond, as modified by order of the Secretary of State for Scotland. This contract was to run for twelve months from October 1934 to September 1935. It provided for a standard price to producers of 1*s.* 3*d.* per gallon for the four winter months November to February, 1*s.* 2*d.* for the four months October, March, August, and September, and 1*s.* 1*d.* for the four summer months of April to July. The average of 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon equalled the fixed Standard Price prevailing in the previous year since the beginning of the scheme in December 1933. The prices of

Grade A, Grade A (T.T.), and of Certified milk were also determined, as were semi-wholesale and semi-retail prices and premiums for special services.[1]

The prices fixed by the Board for milk for manufacture are given in the table on p. 38. Milk made into margarine fetched the highest price, 9*d.* per gallon, the same as that of the previous year. Most of the milk made into cream was also sold at the same price as in the previous year, 7½*d.* per gallon. Higher prices, up to 10½*d.* per gallon, were, however, charged to small buyers whose daily turnover was not enough to entitle them to a manufacturer's licence. Lower prices, ranging from 5½*d.* per gallon, were charged for milk made into cream at the Board's creameries or used by certain country manufacturers for making cream for bulk sales to England.

Two prices were charged for milk made into butter, the lower, based on the price of imported cheese, when there was no outlet for the skim milk. Since April, however, it was based on the prices realized for butter sold from the Board's creameries. The average of the lower prices charged in the winter of 1934–5, 3·9*d.* per gallon, was nearly ¾*d.* per gallon above the average for the previous winter, while the average for the summer of 1935, 3·35*d.* per gallon, was between ¼*d.* and ½*d.* per gallon below that of the previous summer.

Milk made into tinned cream was sold at 4½*d.* per gallon, the price to which it had been reduced in June 1934, except in three months when only 4*d.* was realized. An endeavour was made to obtain 5*d.* per gallon for milk made into condensed milk instead of the 4*d.* or 4½*d.* charged in the summer of 1934. It was not possible, however, to realize such a price in face of the competition of English and overseas manufacturers, and a charge was made based on the realization value at the Board's condenseries. This price rose in the second half of the year as the result of an agreement among

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 93 and 94.

Prices per Gallon for Milk for Manufacture, October 1934 to December 1935

	Margarine	*Fresh cream*	*Butter*	*Tinned cream*	*Condensed milk*	*Milk powder*	*Cheese*	*Average*	
								Excluding Government grant	*Including Government grant*
1934	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Oct. . .	9	6½–10½	4–7·50	4½	5	4½	3·50	5·24	6·20
Nov. . . .	9	6–10½	3·75–7·50	4½	5	4¼	3·50	5·52	6·26
Dec. . .	9	6–10½	3·50–7·50	4½	5	..	3·50	5·98	6·43
1935									
Jan. . . .	9	6–10½	3·95–7·50	4	5	..	3·22	5·55	6·27
Feb. . . .	9	6–10½	4·23–6·00	4	5	..	3·05	5·41	6·10
Mar. . . .	9	5½–9	4·19–5·00	4½	4¾	3¾	3·15	4·95	5·87
Apr. . .	9	6–9	3·48–6·48	4½	4½	..	3·03	4·47	4·91
May . .	9	5½–9	3·40–6·40	4½	4–4½	3¾	2·63	3·97	4·45
June . .	9	5½–9	3·07–6·07	4½	4–6	..	2·31	3·74	4·35
July . .	9	5½–9	3·32–6·32	4½	4–6	3¾	2·34	4·26	4·83
Aug. .	9	5¾–9	3·26–6·26	4½	4–6	3¾	2·58	4·56	5·18
Sept.	9	5¾–9	3·60–6·60	4	4–6	3¾	3·59	5·31	5·72
Oct. . . .	9	6¼–9	4·42–6·42	6	4–6	4	4·56	5·91	6·47
Nov. . . .	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	6·05	6·44
Dec. . .	9	..	.	.	..	..	.	6·14	6·59

manufacturers for the prevention of under-cutting. Little milk was made into milk powder, prices ranging from $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon.

Milk made into factory cheese fetched the lowest prices, averaging $3{\cdot}3d.$ in the winter of 1934–5 and $2{\cdot}7d.$ in the summer of 1935, compared with $3{\cdot}25d.$ and $3{\cdot}2d.$ in the previous winter and summer.

The average realization value of milk used for manufacture varied during the six winter months from $5d.$ to $6d.$ per gallon, and during the summer from $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $5\frac{1}{4}d.$, while during the summer of 1934 it had varied from $4d.$ to $5\frac{1}{4}d.$ If the Government grant be included the average return varied from $5\frac{3}{4}d.$ to $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ in the winter of 1934–5, and from $4\frac{1}{4}d.$ to $5\frac{3}{4}d.$ in the summer of 1935.

The Board renewed the arrangement by which it makes a payment to farm-house cheese-makers to induce them to keep off the liquid milk market.[1] Instead, however, of basing payments during the months of February to May, inclusive, on the difference between the pool price and the price of colonial cheese, the difference between the pool price and the price of home-made cheese was used as a base in all months. Further, the payment to makers of Dunlop cheese depended on the price of farm-made Dunlop cheese, and not, as in the previous year, on the price of farm-made Cheddar. The price of Cheddar cheese averaged $4{\cdot}9d.$ per lb. during the season of 1935, and of Dunlop $4{\cdot}5d.$, compared with a cheese price of $5{\cdot}4d.$ in the previous year. The net return to producers of Dunlop cheese was $8{\cdot}8d.$ from March to October 1935, or $0{\cdot}3d.$ more than the net return to the liquid milk producer, while that to the producers of Cheddar and other cheese averaged $9{\cdot}4d.$ from February to October 1935, compared with $8{\cdot}8d.$ to the liquid milk producers. This agreement applied only to sales of cheese in lots of not less than 5 cwt. The number of producers using the Scheme was 418,

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 86.

compared with 487 in the previous year. Part of the decline was due to the licensing as Grade A (T.T.) producers of a number of farmers who made cheese in 1934.

Adjustments to the Scheme in 1935.

The contract terms were modified during 1935 by order of the Secretary of State, acting on the authority of Parliament. The alterations included a bonus of ½*d.* per gallon to producers who carried out an undertaking to supply no more than 10 per cent. more milk in any month in 1935 than in December 1933; the establishment of twelve new haulage centres, all in the East, thus reducing the haulage charges to be paid by producers in their vicinity; and the fixing of levies to be paid by producer-retailers and producer-wholesalers at £4 per cow per year if they sold no milk otherwise than retail or wholesale, or £5 per cow if they sold partly through the Board, with a rebate on the levy on sales made through the Board.[1] This rebate was fixed by the Board at 1½*d.* per gallon.

The object of all these amendments was to improve the position of the level producers in the Eastern counties while they made the adjustments in their productive methods necessitated by changed conditions. The East of Scotland Milk Producers' Federation had protested at the existing price arrangements, and the Committee of Investigation for Scotland had reported on these objections. The revised terms were not entirely acceptable either to the East or to the West. The East continued to maintain that in spite of the concessions the Scheme had made them worse off; the West insisted that this was inevitable whether a Scheme had been introduced or not, and complained that the Secretary of State had yielded to political pressure by conceding to the East more than the Committee of Investigation had recommended. The Western producers were prepared, however, to tolerate the concessions for the year for which they had been granted, pending

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 96 and 97.

the Report of the Reorganization Commission for Milk for Great Britain, which was considering the whole question of the relationship of prices in the East and in the West. The Board announced that it would refrain from objecting to the amendments on these two grounds.[1] As the Reorganization Commission had not reported by the end of the year, the amendments were continued in 1936,[2] on the advice of the Committee of Investigation, to whom the matter had been referred.

Some 320 producers out of about 8,000 members had qualified for the level delivery bonus by the end of September, and 30 per cent. of the milk on which the bonus was paid was produced in the area of the East of Scotland Milk Producers' Federation. These producers were also favourably situated as regards the payment of haulage charges; in March 26 per cent. of them paid only $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon, 29 per cent. paid $\frac{3}{4}d.$, and 45 per cent. paid $1d.$ Throughout the Board's area as a whole, 6 per cent. paid $\frac{1}{2}d.$, 11 per cent. paid $\frac{3}{4}d.$, 42 per cent. paid $1d.$, 8 per cent. paid $1\frac{1}{4}d.$, and 33 per cent. paid the maximum rate of $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ The high rates were all in the South-Western corner of Scotland, and in Argyll and Bute. Of the 778 producers benefiting from the increase in the number of haulage centres, 295 had this charge reduced by $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per gallon, 305 by $\frac{1}{2}d.$, 135 by $\frac{3}{4}d.$, and 43 by $1d.$; 598 of these producers were in the area of the East of Scotland Milk Producers' Federation.

The change in the method of assessing levies on producer-retailers and producer-wholesalers to a cow basis undoubtedly represented a substantial concession. During the first year of the Board's existence, when the levy on producer-retailers varied from $2d.$ to $5d.$ per gallon, according to season, a pro-

[1] *Official Journal of the Scottish Milk Marketing Board*, vol. ii, no. 1, 21 January 1935, p. 2.

[2] The Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 1246/S. 55.

ducer calculated that, had all of his stalls been full throughout the year, his levy would have amounted to £10 10*s.* 1*d.* per stall, as against the new rate of levy on producer-retailers of £4 or £5 per cow.[1] At the end of October 42 per cent. of the 2,829 category producers were paying the levy on a gallonage basis, 28 per cent. were paying £4 per cow, 29 per cent. £5 per cow, and only 1 per cent. were producers of Certified milk paying a levy of ½*d.* per gallon. A determined effort had to be made early in the year to obtain payment from producer-retailers who were in arrears with their levies for 1934. Decrees were obtained against 892 producers, and by the end of November arrears were halved.

One further concession was made to a special group of producers. On the recommendation of the Committee of Investigation the levy on producers of Certified milk, but not on producers of Grade A (T.T.) milk, who had also appealed to the Committee, was reduced to ½*d.* per gallon from an amount equal to nine-tenths of the ordinary levy. The necessary amendment to the Scheme[2] came into force on 1 August 1935, but its action was made retrospective, in effect, to 1 May 1934 by the payment of a bonus equal to the difference between the actual levy paid and ½*d.* per gallon. As from 1 October the Board withdrew the exemption from the principal provisions of the Scheme which it had granted to sales of Grade A (T.T.) milk to England, placing them on the same footing as similar sales in Scotland.

The terms of the contract fixing the liquid prices also came in for criticism. The Consumers' Committee once more deprecated a retail price of 2*s.* during the summer, especially in view of the increasing supplies in the summer period.[3] Hospitals and institutions also protested at the increase in

[1] *The Glasgow Herald*, 2 January 1935.

[2] The Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 691/S. 31.

[3] See p. 119, and *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 172 and 176.

their milk bills caused by the Scheme.[1] Neither of these protests, however, was effective.

Efforts to increase liquid sales.

The Scottish Milk Marketing Board, like the English Board, made efforts during the year to expand the consumption of liquid milk. The Milk-in-Schools Scheme[2] was introduced in November 1934, and gradually extended throughout 1935. The amount consumed in the schools rose from 20,467 gallons in November 1934 to 363,182 gallons in May 1935; the school holidays led to a decline, for not enough children appeared to make the distribution worth while. After the holidays consumption did not return to its previous level, and at its next peak, November 1935, it was only 297,000 gallons. The policy of the Board to supply the children with Grade A (T.T.) milk was not always possible in spite of the increase in the number of licensed herds. Moreover, in Glasgow the Medical Officer of Health insisted on all supplies being pasteurized. By the end of the year about 70 per cent. of the milk supplied to schools was Grade A (T.T.).

A publicity campaign, on which £17,000 was to be spent, was launched during the spring and summer in conjunction with the Milk Marketing Boards of Aberdeen and District and of the North of Scotland to stimulate the sales of milk. Press advertising was undertaken, milk was supplied in ⅓ pint bottles to factories and workshops at the ordinary retail price, posters were displayed, lectures given, circulars and cookery books sent out, and an attempt made to popularize ice-cream by pressing for legislation for a minimum cream content.

Sales in the Third Contract Period.

Liquid milk sales during the twelve months October 1934 to September 1935 amounted to 70,903,000 gallons, of which 53,947,000 gallons, or 76 per cent., were sold through the

[1] See p. 123. [2] See p. 151.

Board, and the remaining 16,956,000 gallons were sold by category producers.[1] Liquid sales increased slowly throughout the year: during the six summer months of 1935 they were 4 per cent. more than in the previous summer, sales through the Board rising by 7 per cent., and sales by category producers falling by 4 per cent. It is not possible to make a similar comparison for the winter months, for it was not until March 1934 that some producers were free of contracts entered into before the Scheme came into operation and thus came under the control of the Board.

Sales of all milk through the Board, including sales by category producers and by farm-house cheese-makers, amounted to 115,517,000 gallons[2] in the contract period 1934–5; of this amount 73 per cent. was sold through the Board. Total monthly sales varied from 7,294,000 gallons in February 1935 to 12,756,000 gallons in June. During the six summer months sales were 7 per cent. more than in the previous summer, a figure which bears no comparison with the great increase in supplies in England and Wales.[3]

As total production increased more rapidly than liquid sales, an increasing proportion of the total had to be manufactured. Of total sales 46 per cent. was applied to factory products or farm-house cheese in the summer of 1935 against 45 per cent. in the previous summer and 28 per cent. in the winter of 1934–5. The total amount manufactured in the contract period 1934–5 was 44,614,000 gallons, of which 21 per cent. was made into cheese on farms. The monthly quantity manufactured varied from 1,811,000 gallons in January 1935, or 24 per cent. of the total sales, to 6,529,000 gallons in June, or 51 per cent. of the total. Total manufacturing sales were 9 per cent. more in the summer of 1935 than in that of 1934, and factory manufacture 19 per cent. more; farm-house cheese-making declined by 10 per cent.

[1] See Appendix, p. 390.
[2] See Appendix, p. 386.
[3] See p. 27.

Of the 35,320,000 gallons used in factories in 1934–5, 37 per cent. was for cheese, 34 per cent. for fresh cream, 14 per cent. for butter, 8 per cent. for condensed milk, 5 per cent. for tinned cream, and the remaining 2 per cent. for other products. The percentage utilization of the manufacturing milk differed substantially in the various months;[1] while cheese, for instance, absorbed 51 per cent. in May 1935 compared with only 17 per cent. in December 1934, cream took only 21 per cent. in June compared with 62 per cent. in December 1934. The different manufacturing outlets were also developed at different rates. Condensed milk absorbed 232 per cent. more milk in the six summer months of 1935 than in the previous summer, butter 136 per cent. more, tinned cream 39 per cent. more, cheese 5 per cent. more, while fresh cream, milk powder, and other products suffered declines of 5 per cent., 96 per cent., and 13 per cent., respectively.

The Board has not relied, as has the English Board, on manufacturers to absorb the bulk of the milk surplus to liquid requirements. In the contract period 1934–5 just half the milk manufactured into factory products was used in the Board's own creameries. As the table on p. 46 shows, the Board has produced the bulk of the tinned cream, more than half the condensed milk, fresh cream, and factory cheese, and about a quarter of the butter, and less than 10 per cent. of other products. Its creameries have sold also some 5 per cent. of the liquid milk, excluding sales by category producers.

To carry out this programme the Board continued to develop its manufacturing policy throughout the year. In 1934 it had taken over creameries and milk depots valued at £200,000. During 1935 work began on a depot near Glasgow, equipped to handle liquid milk and to manufacture cream, butter, casein, &c. A building was adapted as a depot and cheese factory at Abernethy, and existing creameries were improved. The Chairman of the Board estimated, in June,

[1] See Appendix, p. 391.

that these undertakings would cost about £160,000. Additional factories were built by private firms, of which the largest was an evaporated milk factory at Dumfries.

Utilization of Milk sold directly by the Scottish Milk Marketing Board, October 1934 to September 1935

	In Board's creameries	*By distributors*	*Total*	*Percentage in Board's creameries*
	000 galls.	000 galls.	000 galls.	per cent.
Used liquid	2,812	51,135	53,947	5
Manufactured into				
Fresh cream	6,320	5,761	12,081	52
Tinned cream	1,831	33	1,864	98
Condensed milk	1,571	1,235	2,806	56
Cheese	6,860	6,203	13,063	53
Butter	1,201	3,781	4,982	24
Milk powder	1	15	16	8
Other products	46	462	508	9
Total manufactured	17,830	17,490	35,320	50
Total	20,642	68,625	89,267	23

The arrangement for a payment by the English Milk Marketing Board as compensation to Scottish producers for keeping off the English liquid milk market was continued.

Prices under the Scheme.

The result of all these arrangements was that the pool prices paid by the Board rose from 11½*d.* per gallon in October 1934, when the Standard Price was 1*s.* 2*d.*, to 1*s.* 1*d.* in December and January 1935, when the Standard Price was 1*s.* 3*d.*, fell to 8½*d.* in June and July, when the Standard Price was 1*s.* 1*d.*, and recovered to 11¼*d.* in September. Pool prices for the winter months averaged 12·3*d.* per gallon, a little higher than in the previous year, and those for the summer months 9·5*d.*, which was rather lower. The average for the

ten months, December 1934 to September 1935, was 10·65*d.*, compared with 10·625*d.* in the corresponding months of the previous year.

Standard and Pool Prices per Gallon, December 1933 to December 1935

	Standard		*Pool*	
	1933–4	*1934–5*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Oct.	*	14	*	11½
Nov.	*	15	*	12¾
Dec.	14	15	12	13
Jan.	14	15	12	13
Feb.	14	15	12	12½
Mar.	14	14	11	11¼
Oct.–Mar.†	14‡	14·7	11·8‡	12·3
Apr.	14	13	10	9¾
May	14	13	9	8¾
June	14	13	9	8½
July	14	13	9¾	8½
Aug.	14	14	10½	10
Sept.	14	14	11	11¼
Apr.–Sept.†	14	13·3	9·9	9·5
Oct.–Sept.†	14·0§	14·0	10·6§	10·9

* Scheme not in operation. † Unweighted average.
‡ Four months only. § Ten months only.

The Fourth Contract Period, October 1935 to September 1936.

In September it was necessary to fix the terms of the new contract, and, as in previous years, the Permanent Joint Committee of representatives of the Board and of distributors was unable to agree on prices. Each party was willing that an experiment should be tried and that in May and June the retail price should be reduced to 1*s.* 8*d.* per gallon from the 2*s.* which had been charged throughout the previous year, and which was to be maintained in the other ten months of

the new contract period. But, while the Board demanded a Standard Price of 1*s.* 3*d.* from November to February, 1*s.* 2*d.* in October, March, April, August, and September, and 1*s.* in May and June, the distributors offered 1*d.* less in four months. Thus, the Standard Price suggested by the Board averaged 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon, as in the previous year, so that the cost of lowering retail prices by an amount averaging $\frac{2}{3}$*d.* per gallon per month was to be borne by the distributors. The prices suggested by the distributors, however, divided the lower return equally between themselves and the producers.

The question was referred to the consultant, Mr. D. A. Richmond, who stated that as neither party to the dispute had taken steps to provide him with figures of costs, although he had asked for them a year before, he was once more without the facts necessary to make a decision. He was, however, of the opinion that, as the experiment of cheaper retail prices was designed to benefit both sides to the dispute, both should share equally in its cost.

The Board, however, were not prepared to accept this decision, and determined Standard Prices according to their original suggestion. The distributors then referred the matter to the Committee of Investigation and accepted the contract pending its report, on the addition of two clauses. The first enabled the Secretary of State to make retrospective any adjustment which he might direct on receiving the report, while the second permitted any distributor to withdraw from his contract should the directions of the Secretary of State prove unacceptable to him.

The other provisions of the contract were substantially the same as those in the previous year, except for the modifications necessarily introduced by the alteration of the Standard Price from April to July and the retail prices in May and June. The details are shown in the accompanying table.

Producer-wholesalers selling whole milk received 2*d.* per gallon more than ordinary producers, instead of 1*d.* more, while the wholesale price of whole milk sold in bottles of less than a pint to distributors buying 50 gallons or less daily was

Additions to Standard Price per gallon for the Contract Period October 1935 to September 1936

	Producer's	*Wholesale bulk*	*Retail*		
			Nov.–Feb.	*May and June*	*Other months*
For Whole Milk	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Where the distributor's average daily purchases are:					
(*a*) 20 gallons and under	2	3*	9	8	10
(*b*) 50 gallons and under	0	3*	9	8	10
(*c*) Over 50 gallons	0	2†	9	8	10
For Grade A (T.T.) Milk					
Where the distributor's average daily purchases are:					
(*a*) 20 gallons and under	3	6‡	13	12	14
(*b*) Over 20 gallons	3	5‡	13	12	14
For Certified Milk	10	..	17	16	18

* ½*d.* lower in May and June for bulk milk; 1*d.* more for milk bottled in pints and quarts in May and June, and 2*d.* more in other months; 2*d.* more for milk bottled in less than pints in May and June, and 3*d.* more in other months.

† 1½*d.* more for milk bottled in pints and quarts in May and June, and 2*d.* more in other months; 2½*d.* more for milk bottled in less than pints in May and June, and 3*d.* more in other months.

‡ 2*d.* more if bottled in pints and quarts; 4*d.* more if bottled in less than pints and quarts.

reduced from 4*d.* to 3*d.* per gallon above the corresponding price for milk sold in bulk. Wholesale prices for milk bottled in pints, quarts, but not in less than pints, continued to be 1*d.* lower than the listed price if the buyer supplied the bottles. Institutions were again permitted to buy all three grades of milk at the producers' price. The level delivery

premium of 1*d.* per gallon, with a daily variation of 5 per cent. each way, and the wholesale premium of 2*d.* for the supply of a specified quantity of milk each day, were retained. Producers' prices for Certified milk, however, were to vary with the standard price, with an addition of 10*d.* per gallon, instead of remaining constant as in the previous year.

Semi-retail prices were also fixed once more, as shown in the accompanying table. The only modifications, compared with the previous contract period, were those made necessary by the smaller margin allowed between producers' and retail prices in May and June, and by the decision to let semi-retail prices vary to a certain extent with the variation in standard prices.

Additions to Standard Price per Gallon in Semi-retail Sales for the Contract Period October 1935 to September 1936

	Whole			*Grade A (T.T.)*	*Certified*
	Nov.–Feb.	*May and June*	*Other months*		
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Where the quantity delivered in any one consignment is,					
(*a*) 10 gallons and under	9	8	10	14†	18†
(*b*) Over 2 gallons and not more than 10 gallons	5*	6*	6*	9*	16
(*c*) Over 10 gallons and not more than 50 gallons	3*	5*	4*	6*	14
(*d*) Over 50 gallons	2*	4*	3*	5*	

* 2*d.* per gallon extra when bottled.

† 1*d.* per gallon less in November–February; 2*d.* per gallon less in May and June.

Manufacturing prices were also fixed; the contract entered into greater detail than in the preceding year, but the basis of prices was substantially the same. The price for milk made into fresh cream of 50–52 per cent. butterfat was fixed

again at 7½*d.* per gallon, and of milk made into margarine at 9*d.* per gallon. In determining the prices for milk made into cheese or butter the Board was able to use its experience in its own creameries, and to derive any advantage it could from its attempts at improving quality. They were to be based on the average prices realized for these products sold wholesale each month by the Board's creameries. Manufacturing allowances of 1⅜*d.* per lb. for cheese, and 1½*d.* per lb. for butter were to be deducted. The conversion figures were to be taken as 1 gallon of milk to 1 lb. of cheese, and 2·5 gallons of milk to 1 lb. of butter in October to March, and 2·6 gallons of milk to 1 lb. of butter from April to September. Manufacturers buying 10,000 gallons of milk, or less, monthly, for manufacture into butter were to pay an extra 1*d.* per gallon, and those buying 7,500 gallons of milk or less, an extra 2*d.* The price of other products was to be determined by the Board from time to time.

The Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Scheme

The Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Scheme was originally submitted by an agricultural co-operative marketing society, the Aberdeen and District Milk Agency. Under the Scheme, a Board of nineteen members was formed consisting of the committee of management of the co-operative, four additional members as representatives of producers who were not members of the co-operative, and two co-opted members. The Scheme came into operation on 1 August 1934.[1]

All producers who wish to sell milk, excepting certain small producers, must register, and each producer, excluding producer-retailers, and producers of Certified milk, is allotted a basic quantity. This is based on sales by each producer during the preceding November, December, and January. The producer is paid a Standard Price for his basic quantity

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 100.

milk, and any amount surplus to this quantity is paid for at such price as the Board may determine. A contribution or levy is paid on each gallon of milk controlled.

Producer-retailers and producers of Certified milk may, unlike other producers, sell to whom they please, but at prices not less than those fixed by the Board. They also contribute to the Board at the rate of £2 per cow per annum.

At the end of 1935 there were 823 registered producers under the Scheme, consisting of 394 members who sold to wholesalers, 421 producer-retailers, 95 of whom also sold some milk to wholesalers, and 8 producers of Certified milk.

At the first Annual General Meeting held in March the four members representing the producers who are not members of the Aberdeen and District Milk Agency, Ltd., retired and were re-elected.

The First Contract Period, 1 November 1934 to 31 October 1935.

At the beginning of 1935 the Board was operating the contract determined for the twelve months 1 November 1934 to 31 October 1935.[1] The Standard Price to distributors had been determined at 1*s.* 3*d.* per gallon except for June, July, and August, when it was 1*s.* 2*d.*[2] Minimum retail prices had been fixed at 2*s.* per gallon. Hospitals and institutions under the control of Local Authorities could purchase supplies at not less than 1*d.* per gallon over the Standard Prices, while hospitals and institutions supported by voluntary contribution were charged at Standard Price.

The distributors lodged an objection to the contract prices with the Committee of Investigation, maintaining that Standard Prices should not exceed 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon, the

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 100.

[2] The Standard Price at Peterhead was fixed at 1*s.* 4*d.* throughout the year.

price charged by the Aberdeen and District Milk Agency in the previous year. The Board were only prepared to charge the old price until 1 January 1935. Pending the Report of the Committee, however, they increased the levy on producers by 1*d.* per gallon in the first five months of the year, and thus, in effect, put into reserve the additional 1*d.* per gallon charged to distributors. The findings of the Committee were available in August; it upheld the Board's decision in regard to the increase in the Standard Price, the scale of haulage rates, and the higher Standard Price in the Burgh of Peterhead; it found, however, that the Board's refusal to charge for manufacturing milk at manufacturing rates was not in the public interest.

New haulage rates prevailing in 1935 resulted, according to the Board, in a saving to producers of £340 monthly.

The principal prices under the Scheme are shown in the table on p. 54. The producer receives the Standard Price, less the contribution to the Board, for his output up to his basic amount, and the surplus price, less the same amount, for any output in excess of this. The Board must adjust the surplus price and the contributions so that the sums it receives from contributions and from the sales of the manufactured products and of liquid milk outside the area of the Scheme, enable it to pay its expenses and the Standard Price for basic amounts as well as the surplus price for amounts greater than this.

Producers' contributions varied from so low as 1½*d.* in February to 3*d.* when there was a large proportion of manufacturing milk. Thus, the price to producers for their basic milk, delivered to the city, including the extra 1*d.*, rose from 1*s.* per gallon in October to December 1934, to 1*s.* 1½*d.* in February 1935, fell to 11*d.* in June, and then rose again to 1*s.* 1*d.* in October and November.

The surplus price, however, was from 6*d.* to 8*d.* per gallon lower than the Standard Price, so that producers received

for their surplus milk, at the city, amounts varying from 6*d.* per gallon in January to March to 3*d.* per gallon in June and July. It is not surprising, then, that producers endeavoured to keep their surplus milk on the farms, and that the 'surplus' on the market never rose to more than 5 per cent. of any month's total sales.

Prices and Contribution per Gallon under the Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Scheme, October 1934–December 1935

	Standard	*Surplus*	*Producers' contributions*	*Received for basic milk*	*Received for surplus milk*
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Oct. 1934	14	8	2	12	6
Nov.	14	7	2	12	5
Dec.	14	7	2	12	5
Jan. 1935	15	9	3†	12§	6§
Feb.	15	8½	2½†	12½§	6§
Mar.	15	9	3 †	12§	6§
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935*	14·5	8 1	1 9‡	12·5‖	6 2‖
Apr.	15	7	3†	12§	4§
May	15	7	4†	11§	3§
June	14	6	3	11	3
July	14	6	3	11	3
Aug.	14	8	2	12	6
Sept.	15	7	2½	12½	4½
Apr.–Sept.*	14 5	6 8	2 6‡	11 9‖	4 3‖
Oct.	15	7	2	13	5
Nov.	15	7	2	13	5
Dec.	15	7½	1½	13½	6

* Unweighted average.
† 1*d.* of this levy was put to reserve and subsequently paid to producers.
‡ Excluding the 1*d.* put to reserve in some months.
§ Afterwards raised by 1*d.* per gallon.
‖ Including the 1*d.* subsequently paid in some months.

Various modifications were made in the prices fixed by the Board during the year. The Board, in announcing its scale of prices, had stated that it was considering lower prices in rural areas. In February it met this point in part by exempting from the Scheme those producers whose total sales were less than two gallons daily sold to not more than six domestic consumers. In July it stated that it would permit producer-

retailers in 27 specified districts to retail milk at a minimum price of 1*s.* 4*d.* per gallon—a concession which was strongly approved by the Consumers' Committee for Scotland.[1] Further, a system was approved by which private traders were allowed to pay bonuses similar to the Co-operative dividend. But as complaints were received that the semi-retail prices fixed by the Board allowed an inadequate margin to shopkeepers who sold milk in bottles, it was decided to augment them by allowing 3*d.* per gallon over the Standard Price where bottles were supplied by the buyer, or of 4*d.* over where bottles were supplied by the seller.

To encourage the use of full cream milk in ice-cream the Board announced in May that it would supply manufacturers who used at least 250 gallons per week for this purpose at 9½*d.* per gallon, and manufacturers who took a smaller quantity at the Standard Price.

Sales in the First Contract Period.

The turnover of the Board is shown in the table on p. 56. The monthly figures of sales show considerable fluctuations, as varying amounts of sales, mainly by producer-retailers, made in previous months, are included for the months in which the returns were received.

During the first seventeen months of the Scheme total sales amounted to 11,613,836 gallons, of which 77 per cent. was contributed by ordinary producers, 21 per cent. by producer-retailers, and 2 per cent. was graded milk.

Of the milk sold by ordinary producers, 5,830,291 gallons were sold to distributors and 2,088,975 gallons were sold outside the area of the Scheme, mainly in England. If it be assumed that the bulk of this milk and also that of producer-retailers and graded producers was used on the liquid market, then sales of liquid milk amounted to 92 per cent. of total

Sales and Disposal of Milk in the Aberdeen and District Milk Scheme

	Sales by ordinary producers	*Sales by producer-retailers*	*Sales of graded milk*	*Total sales*	*Utilization of milk other than producer-retailed and graded*		
					Sold to distributors	*Sales outside the area*	*Manufactured and shrinkage*
1934	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons
Aug. . . .	508,063	152,432	10,485	670,980	369,018	112,724	26,321
Sept. . . .	479,868	150,885	10,699	641,452	342,106	120,240	17,522
Oct. . . .	506,961	145,072	10,707	662,740	361,106	127,094	18,761
Nov. . . .	493,643	148,685	10,925	653,253	344,960	127,932	20,751
Dec. . . .	521,626	149,010	12,384	683,020	338,858	94,004	88,764
1935							
Jan. . . .	529,977	141,487	16,929	688,393	335,355	131,284	63,338
Feb. . . .	480,271	110,533	13,636	604,440	313,227	129,875	37,169
Mar. . . .	544,339	136,701	18,323	699,363	342,562	121,223	80,554
Apr. . . .	532,721	136,810	18,288	687,819	333,016	102,743	96,962
May . . .	585,487	144,212	18,956	748,655	346,742	106,130	132,615
June . . .	569,219	149,035	18,155	736,409	333,133	141,784	94,302
July . . .	571,177	153,831	17,879	742,887	337,496	151,403	82,278
Aug. . . .	536,441	152,789	19,384	708,614	362,694	118,428	55,319
Sept. . . .	493,721	140,932	18,958	653,611	338,356	94,743	60,621
Oct. 1934–Sept. 1935	6,365,583	1,709,097	194,524	8,269,204	4,087,505	1,446,643	831,434
Oct. . . .	522,763	141,340	19,194	683,297	346,632	124,960	51,171
Nov. . . .	522,180	132,416	18,580	673,176	338,987	141,145	42,048
Dec. . . .	548,090	114,860	12,778	675,728	346,043	143,263	58,784

Note: Stock in hand—1 August 1934, 36 gall.; 31 December 1935, 1,008 gall.

Manufacturing and waste milk amounted to 1,027,280 gallons, of which 985,697 was manufactured. 630,919 gallons was basic quantity milk, paid for at Standard Price, for which there was no liquid market. The bulk, 735,641 gallons, was manufactured by, or on behalf of, the Board, only 250,055 gallons being sold for manufacture by other agencies.

Utilization of Milk manufactured by the Aberdeen and District Board

	Basic quantity milk used for manufacture	*Surplus milk*	*Total*	*Used for*			
				Ice-cream	*Cream*	*Butter*	*Cheese*
1934	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons
Aug. . .	16,513	8,504	25,017	..	12,591	12,426	..
Sept. . .	5,412	10,494	15,906	.	8,310	7,146	450
Oct. . .	3,070	13,992	17,062	..	6,387	9,815	860
Nov. . .	1,263	17,817	19,080	..	15,086	3,994	..
Dec. . .	62,932	22,858	85,790	..	43,290	27,060	15,440
1935							
Jan. . .	36,940	24,131	61,071	..	31,600	19,291	10,180
Feb. . .	15,870	19,381	35,251	..	29,991	4,300	960
Mar. . .	51,997	26,545	78,542	..	48,692	19,800	10,050
Apr. . .	70,582	23,430	94,012	348	40,399	32,905	20,360
May . .	96,136	32,966	129,102	925	31,557	61,920	34,700
June . .	57,771	32,025	90,696	6,025	30,903	29,748	24,020
July . .	53,741	24,946	78,687	11,456	32,636	31,475	3,120
Aug. . .	40,374	12,737	53,111	10,971	29,976	11,694	470
Sept. . .	49,736	9,366	59,102	4,826	41,461	12,005	810
Oct. 1934–Sept. 1935 . .	540,412	261,094	801,506	34,551	381,978	264,007	120,970
Oct. . .	33,821	15,114	48,935	..	35,727	13,208	..
Nov. . .	11,723	26,902	38,625	..	34,058	4,207	360
Dec. . .	23,038	32,669	55,707	..	47,091	8,616	..

The utilization of the manufacturing milk is shown in the accompanying table. Some 3·55 per cent. was used for ice-cream, 52·7 per cent. for cream, 31·40 per cent. for butter, and 12·35 per cent. for cheese. Milk sold for the manufacture of cream and butter was charged at 9*d.* per gallon from December 1934 to August 1935, and 7½*d.* from September to October; milk made into cheese was sold at 4*d.* Milk was

sold for ice-cream manufacture at 9½*d.* from June to September 1935.

But for the outside market for liquid milk, basic quantity milk surplus to the local liquid markets would have been approximately 2,720,000 gallons in the seventeen months.

The Second Contract Period, 1 November 1935 to 31 October 1936.

Negotiations between producers and distributors as to the new contract terms for the twelve months November 1935 to October 1936 proved abortive, as they had for both the English and the Scottish Milk Marketing Boards. The distributors suggested a Standard Price of 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon throughout the year, less an allowance of 5 per cent. of total requirements at manufacturer's price, with a retail price of 2*s.*, or, alternatively, the prices fixed for the area of the Scottish Milk Marketing Board.

The Board, however, fixed Standard Prices at the same level as in the previous period, except that May was included and August excluded from the summer price. The Standard Price was thus 1*s.* 3*d.* per gallon, except in May to July, when 1*s.* 2*d.* was to be charged; in Peterhead a price of 1*s.* 4*d.* was to persist.

Minimum retail prices for ordinary milk were to be 2*s.* per gallon, except in twenty-nine rural districts, where 1*s.* 8*d.* was permitted, and nine districts, where so little as 1*s.* 4*d.* might be charged. Hospitals, both those controlled by local authorities and those supported by voluntary contributions, were to pay at the same rate as in the previous year.

Wholesale prices for milk in bottles supplied by the buyer were fixed at 3*d.* per gallon over Standard Prices and 4*d.* per gallon over when the bottles were supplied by the seller. A semi-retail price where the quantity delivered in any one consignment was not less than 2 gallons was fixed at 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon.

The following prices were also determined for graded milk:

	Certified per gallon	*Grade A (T.T.) per gallon*
	s. d.	*s. d.*
Producers' price:		
in bulk	. .	1 6
in bottles	1 10	1 10
Retail price	2 4	2 4
Institutions	2 2	1 6*

* For quantities of not less than 10 gallons.

Prices for manufacturing milk will be determined, as before, by the Board from time to time.

Finally, the Board also amended the exemption limit for small producers. Previously it applied to those persons selling less than 2 gallons a day to not more than six domestic consumers; this was altered to those who sell not more than 1 gallon daily to not more than four domestic consumers.

There was no Milk-in-Schools Scheme in operation during 1935, but one drawn up has now received the approval of the Secretary of State for Scotland. It was expected to come into operation on 1 February 1936.

The North of Scotland Milk Marketing Scheme

This Scheme, which covers the counties of Inverness, Nairn, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland, and Caithness, came into operation on 1 October 1934. A provisional Board of five elected and two co-opted members was formed under the Scheme, which held office until July 1935, when the same members were re-elected, with the exception of two elected members who retired. Two new members were elected in their place.

The provisions of the Scheme, as in the other Milk Marketing Schemes, empower the Board to regulate the sale and prices of all milk sold for liquid consumption and to

arrange for the disposal of milk surplus to the requirements of the liquid market.

There are no contracts between the Board and producers, and distributors' milk requirements are arranged on a monthly basis, but prices are determined for a year at a time. At the end of each month the distributor states his requirements of liquid milk for the following month, and for this he pays a Standard Price; further supplies may be obtained at 'accommodation prices'.

All producers and producer-retailers, except producers of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk, have been allocated basic quantities, calculated on production in September–December 1933, for which the Board must pay the Standard Price, and supplies of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk must be accepted at not less than the Standard Price.

A levy is paid by ordinary producers on liquid sales, which amounted to 1*d.* per gallon in October and November 1934, and subsequently to 1½*d.* per gallon until December 1935, when it was reduced again to 1*d.* Producer-retailers pay a levy to the Board fixed at seven-tenths[1] of that paid by ordinary producers, while producers of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk pay a levy fixed at nine-tenths[1] of that of ordinary producers. The proceeds of these levies are not used for equalizing payments on surplus milk but to guarantee the Standard Price for basic quantity milk which may be surplus to the distributors' requirements and may have to be sold by the Board at surplus prices.

In October 1935 there were 389 registered producers, of whom 251 were producer-retailers, 127 ordinary producers, and 11 producers of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk.

The first price period covered the three months October–December 1934.[2]

[1] Note: in *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 104, these fractions were wrongly transposed.

[2] Ibid., pp. 103–7.

The Second Price Period, January to December 1935.

Prices for 1935 were determined as follows:

A. Standard Prices to producers supplying retailers,

January, February, March, August, September, October, November, December	1*s.* 3*d.* per gallon delivered
April to July	1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon

This price is ½*d.* per gallon higher than at the end of 1934.

B. Retail prices

	per gallon
(1) to ordinary consumers	2*s.*
to hotels, restaurants, bakers, ice-cream manufacturers, institutions, nursing homes, hotels, &c.	
2 gallons and under	2*s.*
over 2 gallons and under 10 gallons	1*s.* 8*d.*
over 10 gallons	1*s.* 6*d.*
(2) to charitable institutions not supported out of Rates	1*s.* 3*d.*[1]

(3) Grade A (T.T.) milk, 2*d.* per gallon above the prices of ungraded milk.

(4) Certified milk, 4*d.* per gallon above the prices of ungraded milk.

C. Accommodation milk to distributors, 1*s.* 6*d.* per gallon for quantities under 10 gallons, and 1*s.* 4*d.* for 10 gallons or over.

Producers may make their own arrangements with distributors for remuneration for special services.

These prices resulted in a distributors' margin of 9*d.* for eight months in the year and 10*d.* from April to July.

The following table gives the prices at which manufacturing milk was sold, exclusive of cheese made by creameries acting for the Board, the returns for which had not been realized by the end of the year. Under the Milk Act, a price is guaranteed of 5*d.* per gallon in summer and 6*d.* per gallon

[1] Plus 1*d.* haulage charge.

in winter for milk made into butter and cheese. During the first year of operation, milk to be made into butter realized between 3*d.* and 4½*d.* per gallon, while milk for cream was sold at 7½*d.* to 10*d.*; milk was also manufactured and sold as cream and butter on behalf of the Board. The actual realization value of all milk manufactured, excluding that made into cheese, varied from 5·11*d.* in November to so high as 8·75*d.* in March, when the bulk of the surplus went as cream.

Prices at which Milk was sold for Manufacture and the Realization Value of all Milk Manufactured (Exclusive of Cheese)

	Butter	*Cream*	*Average price realized for all manufacturing milk*
	d.	*d.*	*d.*
1934 Oct.	4; 4½	7½	5·21
Nov.	3½; 4; 4½	7½	5·11
Dec.	3½; 4; 4½	7½	6·15
1935 Jan.	3½; 4½	7½; 10	7·76
Feb.	3; 3¼	8; 10	7·81
Mar.	3; 3½	7½; 8; 10	8·75
Apr.	3½; 4	10	8·05
May	3½; 4	10	7·14
June	3½; 4	10	7·95
July	3	10	9·00
Aug.	3	10	8·58
Sept.	3; 4	10	8·15
Oct.	..	10	10·00
Nov.	3½	10	9·42
Dec.	..	10	10·00

Sales during the first year.

The actual sales of milk under the Scheme are shown in the table on p. 63, and for the first year totalled 1,897,096 gallons. Some 1,764,912 gallons was sold at Standard Prices or above, of which 41·5 per cent. was sold through the Board, 49·9 per cent. by producer-retailers, and 8·6 per cent. was Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk.

Quantities and Utilization of Milk handled by the North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board, October 1934–September 1935

	Liquid milk sold through the Board	*Sold by producer-retailers*	*Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk*	*Total sold at Standard Price or over*	*Manufactured into*			
					Cheese	*Butter*	*Cream*	*Total*
1934	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons
Oct. . . .	53,559	72,070	10,321	135,950	4,270	4,878	5,280	14,428
Nov. . . .	49,918	64,700	12,053	126,671	481	4,746	5,998	11,225
Dec. . . .	49,965	71,459	11,229	132,653	2,281	2,844	7,062	12,187
1935								
Jan. . . .	49,634	70,345	10,949	130,928	1,847	2,793	7,541	12,181
Feb. . . .	44,982	70,578	10,353	125,913	3,613	2,160	5,824	11,597
Mar. . . .	56,158	69,929	11,272	137,359	750	1,688	7,730	10,168
Apr. . . .	67,416	69,955	12,782	150,153	1,285	3,145	7,302	11,732
May . . .	71,912	73,692	14,185	159,789	1,524	4,512	6,222	12,258
June . . .	72,060	74,367	15,288	161,715	1,748	3,165	6,560	11,473
July . . .	74,873	82,845	15,162	172,880	1,530	1,633	8,770	11,933
Aug. . . .	72,446	83,383	14,548	170,377	1,105	768	7,209	9,082
Sept. . . .	69,321	77,498	13,445	160,264	460	587	2,873	3,920
Oct. 1934–Sept. 1935 .	732,384	880,821	151,587	1,764,792	20,894	32,919	78,371	132,184
Oct. . . .	67,485	73,312	11,949	152,746	.	..	2,108	2,108
Nov. . . .	63,031	68,420	11,404	142,855	..	295	3,067	3,362
Dec. . . .	64,103	68,905	11,957	144,965	..	..	3,619	3,619

The amount of milk manufactured was 132,184 gallons, or 7·0 per cent. of the total, of which 34,966 gallons was manufactured by creameries acting for the Board and 97,218 gallons sold for manufacture. Of the total manufactured, 59·3 per cent. went as cream, 24·9 per cent. as butter, and 15·8 per cent. as cheese. Only 39,259 gallons was really surplus to basic quantities, the difference, 92,925 gallons, being milk for which the Standard Price had to be paid but which was surplus to the liquid market and which only realized surplus prices. The difference is made up by the levies on liquid sales.

A Milk-in-Schools Scheme was passed by the Board in December 1934, but did not come into operation until May 1935. The accompanying table indicates how much milk has been distributed, and the kind. At the end of October about 2,000 children were receiving milk.

Milk Distribution under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme

	Grade A (T.T.)	*Ordinary*	*Total*	*Areas*
	gallons	gallons	gallons	
May . .	330½	162¾	493¼	Inverness
June . .	1,000	..	1,000	,,
July* . .	..	..	..	,,
Aug.* . .	148½	..	148½	,,
Sept. . .	864½	565	1,429½	Inverness, Wick, and Brora
Oct. . .	878	1,203¾	2,081¾	Inverness, Wick, Brora, Helmsdale
Nov. . .	724	845½	1,569½	Inverness, Wick, Brora, Helmsdale
Dec. . .	582	564$\frac{7}{24}$	1,146$\frac{7}{24}$	Inverness, Wick, Brora, Helmsdale

* School holidays in July and August.

It is estimated that the 'loss' to the Board, compared with the regular price, is 10*d.* per gallon on Grade A (T.T.) milk and 8½*d.* on ordinary milk. As half this 'loss' is paid by the

Exchequer under the Milk Act, the Board receives a grant of 5*d.* on each gallon of Grade A (T.T.) and 4¼*d.* on ordinary milk supplied to the school children.

The Northern Ireland Milk Marketing Scheme

The Milk Marketing Scheme in Northern Ireland presents several very distinct features which are not found in the milk marketing schemes in Great Britain.

The scheme was not brought forward under the Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933,[1] but under special legislation, the Milk and Milk Products Act (Northern Ireland), 1934.[2] Secondly, the bulk of the milk produced in Northern Ireland, about 70 per cent., is used for manufacture and only about 30 per cent. is used for liquid consumption, so that a price pooling system would impose too heavy a tax on the liquid milk producer, and some other scheme was required. Thirdly, it was considered essential that any scheme should improve the quality of the milk supply. Fourthly, effective control of distribution was desired, so that milk produced clean should still be clean when it reached the consumer, and so that the efficiency of distribution could be increased.[3]

Increased safety of the liquid milk supply is achieved by establishing four grades of milk, A, B, C, and D, only the first three of which are allowed to be sold on the liquid market. Producers and distributors of these three grades are licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, and the standards for each grade of milk are laid down in the Act and Regulations.[4]

The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture, but certain important functions are performed by a Joint

[1] The counterpart of the Agricultural Marketing Acts in Great Britain.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 23–7 and 370–2.

[3] D. A. E. Harkness, 'The Evolution of Agricultural Policy', *The Ulster Year Book*, 1935.

[4] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 23–4.

Milk Council, established under the Milk and Milk Products (Northern Ireland) Act.[1]

The first Council took office at the end of 1934 for a period of one year. Elections were held in December 1935 for a new Council to hold office for two years; there was one change in each class of elected members, but the members nominated by the Ministers of Agriculture and Home Affairs were reappointed.

The functions of the Joint Milk Council are confined to fixing the prices, both to the producer and consumer, of the three grades of liquid milk, the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture being necessary for retail prices only, and to advising the Ministry on the standards of these grades and on kindred matters.

The sale of milk under licence started on 16 December 1934. There are about 65,000 milk producers in Northern Ireland, of whom about 7,000 have been licensed as producers of milk for the liquid market, 65 for Grade A, 850 for Grade B, and over 6,000 for Grade C. The remainder, who are not licensed, are producers of Grade D milk.

Levies, which increase from the highest to the lowest grade, are raised on sales of milk for liquid consumption which, together with a Milk Industry Assistance Grant from the British Treasury under the Milk Act and a levy from sales of butter and margarine, are paid into a Milk Fund which is utilized *inter alia* for equalization payments to creamery suppliers.[2]

The First Price Period, 16 December 1934 to 11 May 1935.

The Council first determined prices for the period 16 December 1934 to 11 May 1935, both for sales to distributors and to consumers.

The producers' price for milk delivered at a distributor's

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 23–4.
[2] Ibid., pp. 108–9.

premises was fixed at a minimum of 1*s.* 4½*d.* per gallon for Grade A, and at 1*s.* 2½*d.* for Grades B and C. As producers were subject to a levy of $\frac{1}{10}$*d.* per gallon for Grade A milk, 1*d.* for Grade B, and 3*d.* for Grade C, the prices actually received varied from a minimum of 1*s.* 4$\frac{2}{5}$*d.* for Grade A to 1*s.* 1½*d.* for Grade B and 11½*d.* for Grade C. If the milk was bottled on the farm in bottles supplied by the distributor the producer was entitled to 1½*d.* per gallon more.[1]

Levies and Prices per Gallon under the Northern Ireland Milk Marketing Scheme, December 1934–August 1936

	16 Dec. 1934–11 May 1935	*12 May 1935–31 Aug. 1935*	*1 Sept. 1935–31 Aug. 1936*
Producers' price for delivered milk sold loose:	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
(*a*) for level daily deliveries:			
Milk of Grade A (minimum price)	1 4½	1 0¾	1 2
Milk of Grades B and C	1 2½	10¾	1 0
(*b*) for varying daily deliveries:			
Milk of Grade A	*	1 3	1 5
,, Grades B and C	*	1 1	1 3
Consumers' prices:†			
Milk of Grade A (minimum price)	2 2	1 10	2 0
Milk of Grade B	2 0	1 8	1 10
,, ,, C	1 10	1 6	1 8
Levies on:			
Milk of Grade A	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{10}$
,, ,, B	1	¼	¼
,, ,, C	3	1¾	1¾

* Not provided for. † For Category I areas. Prices in Category II areas were 2*d.* per gallon lower, and in Category III areas 4*d.* per gallon lower, and in each of these Categories the prices for all these Grades are minimum prices.

By means of equalization payments, the cost of which was covered by the Milk Industry Assistance Grant, producers

[1] In the second and third price periods this charge became a minimum of 1½*d.*

supplying milk to creameries for manufacture were guaranteed a price of 5*d.* per gallon in summer and 6*d.* per gallon in winter until 31 March 1936. In addition, producers of Grade A, Grade B, and Grade C milk who were unable to find a liquid milk market and who sent their milk to creameries for manufacturing purposes received a bonus of 2*d.*, 2*d.*, and 1*d.* per gallon, respectively, in compensation. These bonus payments were made out of the Milk Fund.

Retail prices were also determined, and for this purpose the area of Northern Ireland was divided into three categories:

I. The County Boroughs of Belfast and Londonderry, together with the areas in the neighbourhood of Belfast in which the Belfast prices were normally operative prior to the coming into operation of the Scheme;

II. Urban districts, the population of which exceeds 2,500, and urban districts which are sea-side resorts;

III. The rest of Northern Ireland.

The retail prices in Category I areas varied from a minimum of 2*s.* 2*d.* per gallon for Grade A to 2*s.* for Grade B and 1*s.* 10*d.* for Grade C. Prices in Category II and Category III areas were 2*d.* and 4*d.* per gallon lower for each grade.[1]

Daily sales of milk exceeding one gallon and milk collected by the purchaser from dairies or shops might be sold at 4*d.* per gallon below these rates, while public hospitals might buy from producers at the producers' prices.

These terms expired on 12 May 1935 and were followed by lower prices, for the Council were anxious to expand liquid milk consumption.

[1] The retail prices of milk in Grade B and Grade C in Category II and Category III areas are minimum prices like those for Grade A in all areas.

Second Price Period, 12 May 1935 to 31 August 1935.

Producers' prices were reduced by 4*d.* per gallon on Grades A, B, and C milk; at the same time, however, the levies on Grades B and C sales were also reduced, to $\frac{1}{4}d.$ and $1\frac{3}{4}d.$ per gallon, so that these producers received a reduction of only $3\frac{1}{4}d.$ and $2\frac{3}{4}d.$ compared with the previous price period.

A second class of contract, the varying delivery contract, was added to suit farmers who supply milk to shops which demand different quantities on different days of the week or supplies on certain days of the week only. These prices were somewhat higher than those for level deliveries.

Milk bottled on the farm received an additional price of not less than $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon.

Retail prices were also reduced, by 4*d.* per gallon in each Category, though certain sea-side resorts previously in Categories II and III were placed, for the summer months, in Category I, when the reduction in retail price amounted to only 2*d.* per gallon for resorts in Category II, or disappeared altogether for those in Category III.

During the first price period the limit of daily retail sales, above which retail prices could be reduced by 4*d.* per gallon, had been raised from one gallon to two gallons. This arrangement was maintained. At the same time, this lower retail price was permitted to producers selling milk at their door or for milk collected by the purchaser at the shop.

Haulage rates (i.e. rates at which deductions may be made from the producer's price by a distributor who collects milk at his producer's premises or at a collecting-point) were also modified after the first price period, and this tended to reduce returns to producers near the purchasers' premises.

Maximum collecting charges per gallon were fixed as follows when the distance between the purchaser's premises, or within the city limits of Belfast, the city centre, and the point from which the milk was collected was—

	16 Dec. 1934–11 May 1935	*12 May 1935–31 Aug. 1936*
	d.	*d.*
Not more than 5 miles . . .	½	¾
More than 5 but not more than 10 miles	¾	1
„ 10 „ „ 15 „	1	1¼
„ 15 „ „ 20 „	1½	1½
„ 20 „ „ 25 „	1½	1¾
„ 25 „ „ 35 „	2	2

An extra ½*d.* per gallon might be charged for every additional 10 miles of distance above 35 miles.

Owing to a certain lag in the receipt of monthly returns of sales of liquid milk, it is difficult at this stage to calculate precisely the total annual sales of each of the three grades of milk used for human consumption. It has been estimated, however, that sales of Grade A milk will amount to about 1½ million gallons a year, of Grade B, 5 million gallons, and of Grade C, 8 million gallons.

Sales to creameries are available, and these indicate that there has been a considerable increase in supplies since the Scheme started.

Sales of Milk to Creameries in Northern Ireland, 1935
(000 gallons)

1935	*Grade A*	*Grade B*	*Grade C*	*Grade D*	*Total*
Feb. . .	..	0·7	86·6	535·9	623·2
Mar. . .	..	1·6	132·3	692·6	826·5
Apr. . .	0·9	3·5	230·8	946·8	1,182·0
May . .	0·5	9·5	499·7	1,886·3	2,396·0
June . .	0·4	13·4	677·4	2,517·6	3,208·8
July . .	0·4	8·7	738·4	2,816·7	3,564·2
Aug. . .	0·4	4·3	706·6	2,503·3	3,214·6
Sept. . .	0·1	8·9	599·5	2,082·1	2,690·6
Per cent. of total	..	0·3	20·7	79·0	100·0

The total receipts for these eight months amounted to 17,706,000 gallons, of which less than 0·1 per cent. was

Grade A, 0·3 per cent. Grade B, 20·7 per cent. Grade C, and 79·0 per cent. Grade D. Receipts during the same eight months of 1934 totalled only 13,198,000 gallons, so that the supply had increased over 30 per cent.

The bulk of the creamery deliveries are made into butter or cream, the latter mainly for export.

Third Price Period, 1 September 1935 to 31 August 1936.

Prices for the third period were determined by the Joint Milk Council for the twelve months 1 September 1935 to 31 August 1936.

Producers' prices, as shown in the table on page 67, were raised, minimum prices for Grade A milk being not less than 1*s.* 2*d.* for level deliveries and 1*s.* 5*d.* for varying deliveries. Standard Prices for Grades B and C became 1*s.* and 1*s.* 3*d.*, respectively. Levies remained as in the second price period.

The same minimum charge of 1½*d.* per gallon was made for bottling on the farm, and haulage rates were unaltered. Retail prices were raised by 2*d.* per gallon to a minimum of 2*s.* per gallon for Grade A,[1] 1*s.* 10*d.* for Grade B, and 1*s.* 8*d.* for Grade C in Category I areas. As before, retail prices were 2*d.* per gallon lower in Category II areas and 4*d.* per gallon lower in Category III areas. Sea-side resorts originally in Categories II or III, which are placed in Category I for the summer months, are returned to their original categories for the period 1 September 1935 to 31 May 1936.

The same allowances, a reduction of 4*d.* per gallon in retail prices, were permitted for sales exceeding two gallons to one customer, for milk sold from a dairy or shop and collected by the purchaser, and for milk sold by the producer to the purchaser at the former's premises. The retail price for milk sold to hospitals by producers was fixed at 1*s.* 2*d.* per gallon for Grade A and 1*s.* for Grades B or C.

[1] The price of 'Certified' milk, the corresponding milk in Great Britain, is, in some places, 5*s.* 4*d.* per gallon.

There is no Milk-in-Schools Scheme in force in Northern Ireland, but provision was made during the second price period whereby the holder of a producer's or distributor's licence could retail milk to education authorities for the purposes of any scheme for the provision of meals for children attending public elementary schools at the producer's price. Similar provision has been made for the third price period.

These various producers' and retail prices have resulted in differential returns, according to quality, for the producer, and according to service, for the distributor. A distributor of Grade B milk in an area in Category I who cools, bottles, and delivers milk to the purchaser receives a margin of 10*d.* per gallon; in such an area a distributor receives a margin of 8*d.* per gallon for Grade C milk uncooled, delivered loose, or 4*d.* per gallon if the milk is collected by the purchaser at the distributor's premises. In areas in the other categories where the retail prices are lower the distributor's margins are correspondingly reduced.

The Isle of Man Milk Marketing Scheme

The Milk Marketing Scheme was approved by Tynwald on 26 March 1935 and came into force on 25 April. An Executive Committee consisting of two members appointed by the Isle of Man Agricultural Marketing Society, together with three producers' members, is responsible for working the Scheme.

The following numbers of milk producers have been registered:

Producer-retailers	399
Producer-wholesalers	148
Summer suppliers	75
Total	622

A scale of prices was drawn up by the Committee under which the retail price was fixed at 6*d.* per quart delivered, or

5*d.* per quart collected at the producer's farm; a sliding scale was provided for milk at lower rates for bulk supplies.

A wholesale price was fixed at 1*s.* 4*d.* per gallon delivered or 1*s.* 3*d.* if collected at the producers' farm. Milk to hospitals and charitable institutions was also charged at this rate.

There have been negotiations with the English Milk Marketing Board following the loss of the export market for cheese, which was previously important to Manx milk producers, who do not have the subsidy which is paid to cheese-makers in Great Britain.

General Summary and Comparison.

Areas covered. Milk marketing schemes are now in operation in England and Wales, in three areas in Scotland, and in Northern Ireland, while one is under discussion for a fourth area in Scotland. So much as 98·7 per cent. of the dairy cows in the United Kingdom were in the areas of the schemes in operation on 4 June 1934; a smaller proportion of the milk production, however, was controlled, for the schemes apply only to milk sold liquid and allow for the exemption of some producers. In Scotland about 10 per cent. of the cows were outside the areas of the schemes, of which some two-fifths were in the area of the proposed Moray and Banff Scheme.

Prices. Under all the schemes the Boards which administer them fix the prices to be charged for liquid milk and for sales both to the wholesaler and the consumer. In addition, the English and the main Scottish Boards fix semi-wholesale and semi-retail prices. All Boards, except the English, fix prices for Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk as well as for ordinary milk. All the Boards, except the Joint Milk Council for Northern Ireland, now fix prices for milk used for manufacturing purposes, which are substantially lower than those charged for milk sold for liquid consumption. Except in Northern Ireland, where the Joint Milk Council includes representatives of producers, distributors, consumers, and

the Ministry of Agriculture, the distributors are consulted as to the prices charged, but the final decision rests with the Boards, subject only to reference to the Committees of Investigation should there be objections.

The average prices charged in the various areas for the year October 1934 to September 1935 for milk sold liquid to distributors and the average minimum retail prices for the largest cities are given in the table facing this page.

The Standard Prices varied from 1*s.* 3·1*d.* per gallon in England and Wales to 1*s.* 2½*d.* in Aberdeen and the North of Scotland, 1*s.* 2*d.* in Scotland south of the Grampians, and 1*s.* 0·8*d.* for Grades B and C in Northern Ireland.

The highest prescribed retail prices were 2*s.* 2·7*d.* per gallon in England and Wales, 2*s.* in all the Scottish areas, and 1*s.* 10·2*d.* for Grade B and 1*s.* 8·2*d.* for Grade C milk in Northern Ireland. In England and Wales the prescribed minimum retail prices for smaller towns and rural districts ranged down to 1*s.* 11·3*d.* per gallon, in Aberdeen after July 1935 to 1*s.* 4*d.*, and in Northern Ireland to 1*s.* 4·2*d.* per gallon.

Exemptions. The schemes, except in Northern Ireland, provide that registered producers must sell through their respective Boards. Producers exempt from the price provisions are exempt also from selling through the Board. In addition, producer-retailers in all areas and producer-wholesalers and producers of Graded milk in various of the Scottish areas are allowed to make their own sales.

The exemptions from the price provisions are also shown in the accompanying table. In England and Scotland all the schemes provide for the exemption of producers selling only to their employees or neighbours. In England, but not elsewhere, producers of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk and small producers selling milk wholesale are exempt. In Northern Ireland producers of Grade D milk are not subject to the price determinations of the Joint Milk Council but,

since they are prohibited from selling milk liquid, have no outlet except the creameries.

Methods of spreading the burden of surplus. All the schemes include some device for spreading, between producers, the burden of the milk surplus to the needs of the liquid market, which must be sold at lower prices. In England and Wales all sales are pooled by the Board in each of the eleven regions, and, after some adjustments have been made between the regions so as to make returns more nearly equal, they are divided equally between all producers in each region. In the main Scottish area one pool is operated; since the beginning of 1935, however, a premium of ½*d.* per gallon has been paid to producers who did not in any one month exceed their production in December 1933 by more than 10 per cent. In the Aberdeen and District and in the North of Scotland Schemes a different principle has been adopted. Producers are paid the full liquid price in any month for a 'basic' amount related to their production in three specified months in the previous winter, and a lower surplus price for any sales in excess of this amount. In Northern Ireland there is no pooling; sales on the liquid market are limited, however, to the three highest grades of milk, while some compensation is paid to producers of these grades of milk who cannot find a liquid outlet and have to sell to creameries.

Percentages of surplus. The burden of surplus, as shown by the table facing p. 74, is very different in the different areas. In the North of Scotland only 7 per cent., and in Aberdeen and District only 10 per cent., of the turnover during the year October 1934 to September 1935 was used for manufacture. In Aberdeen, however, this low percentage was maintained by selling milk for liquid consumption outside the area of the Scheme, mainly in England; during the twelve months 17 per cent. of the total turnover was disposed of in this way, so that 27 per cent. of the output is surplus to the requirements of the local market. In England and Wales 32 per cent.,

and in the main Scottish area 39 per cent., of the total turnover had to be manufactured. No exact figures are available for Northern Ireland, but it has been estimated that some 70 per cent. of the milk production goes to manufacturing outlets.

Expansion of output and sales. In England and Wales the problem of surplus production is becoming increasingly serious. While in the main Scottish area the total turnover only increased by some 6 per cent. between the summer of 1934 and that of 1935, the total turnover in England and Wales was 15 per cent. more in 1934–5 than in 1933–4; some 30 per cent. of this increase was due to a larger output by previous producers, and the remaining 70 per cent. to new contracts, of which a large number were made by farmers previously making farm-house butter and cheese. In England and Wales and in the main Scottish area subsidies have been paid to farm-house cheese-makers to induce them to continue to make cheese rather than to sell their milk liquid.

All the Boards have been making efforts to expand their sales of liquid milk. Only in Northern Ireland has a substantial reduction in retail milk prices been tried. In all the other areas price has shown an upward trend since the introduction of the schemes. The English and Scottish Boards have depended for their expansion of liquid milk sales upon supplying school-children with milk at about half the ordinary retail price and upon publicity in various forms. Liquid milk sales have increased, though only slightly.

2. Pigs and Bacon

The Pigs Marketing Scheme, Great Britain[1]

The Pigs Marketing Scheme came into operation on 9 September 1933 and applies to pigs sold for bacon throughout Great Britain. The Pigs Marketing Board prescribes the terms on which bacon pigs may be sold, but it does not

[1] The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Approval) Order, 1933, S.R. and O., 1933, No. 686.

control the market for pork pigs. Registered producers have to sell bacon pigs under contract confirmed by the Board and to agree to deliver a certain number of pigs each month.

The Annual General Meeting of the Pigs Marketing Board was held on 15 March 1935. Four of the district members who retired were re-elected. Lord Radnor—one of the special members—who also retired, was not re-elected, his place being taken by Captain E. T. Morris. Mr. J. A. Fox was re-elected Chairman and Mr. R. Rowland Vice-Chairman. The remuneration of the members of the Board for the year ending 31 March 1935 was fixed at £1,000 for the Chairman, £750 for the Vice-Chairman, and £300 for the other members, these figures being increases of £400, £350, and £100, respectively, on the previous year's remuneration.

The most important administrative change affecting the bacon industry during the year was the establishment of a Bacon Development Board with power to license factories for the production of bacon.[1]

In March the Pigs Marketing Board proposed amendments to the Pigs Marketing Scheme to bring it into line with the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933. Objections to the proposed amendments were raised by the Bacon Marketing Board, the Scottish Chamber of Agriculture, the National Federation of Meat Traders, and the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress. As a result, the Minister appointed Mr. N. L. C. Macaskie, K.C., to hold a public inquiry into the objections on 13–14 June. The amendments were presented to Parliament on 11 December; the motion for their approval was moved by the Minister of Agriculture on 17 December and passed by 190 votes to 99. It was claimed that these amendments—derived from two years' experience of the working of the Pigs Scheme—would conduce to its more efficient operation. They deal with the machinery for election of members of the Board, the procedure for the registration

[1] See p. 86.

and confirmation of contracts, and the manner in which pigs shall be insured and transported.[1] Opposition was centred mainly on the principle of a flat rate charge for insurance and transport, which had been introduced in the 1935 contract.

The Committee of Investigation for Great Britain considered an objection to the proposal that registered curers having contracts with the Board should agree to pay transport at a flat rate to the Railway Companies on all live pigs bought. The Committee decided that the flat rate system was necessary for the efficient operation of the schemes, and, though as a result of it some curers were paying more for transport, it was in the best interests of the pig industry as a whole. The Minister of Agriculture stated that the flat rate transport system was expected to save £50,000 in 1935, or 6*d.* per pig contracted for.

A complaint against the omission of the Board to provide for compulsory insurance of pigs sold by registered producers to registered curers was upheld by the Committee. The appropriate Ministers requested the two Boards to prepare a scheme of compulsory insurance for all pigs to be contracted for after 31 December 1935.

Third Contract Period, January to December 1935.

Details of the third contract, which began on 1 January 1935, and of previous contracts were given in the last issue of the *Agricultural Register*.[2]

The total number of bacon pigs contracted for in 1935 was 1,854,573, an increase of 15 per cent. on 1934. The original contract brought out 1,686,000 pigs. As the curers declined to accept this number and complained of the unequal distribution of pigs among themselves, the Board entered into a supplementary contract with producers and obtained an

[1] The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 1308.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 117–25.

additional 112,000 pigs. In January, however, curers were asking for a further 240,000 pigs, and a second supplementary contract was issued for pigs to be delivered between May and December, but only 58,000 pigs were obtained, or about one-quarter of the number asked for. As the total was still not sufficient for the curers' requirements, the Pigs Board decided to leave curers to buy pigs in the open market rather than to buy pigs itself to implement its contract with curers. Curers had begun buying pigs on the open market by the end of June and were required to make regular returns of their purchases to the Pigs Marketing Board. The numbers bought in the open market amounted to 116,989 by the end of the year.

The following table shows the number of pigs contracted for and delivered in each month of 1935.

*Number of Pigs Contracted for and delivered under the Great Britain Pigs Marketing Scheme, 1934 and 1935**

		Contracted for	*Delivered and accepted*	*Excess or deficiency*	
				No.	*Percentage*
1934	Total . .	1,605,154	1,475,607	−129,547	−8·1
1935	Jan. . .	120,176	114,015	−6,161	−5·1
	Feb. . .	131,467	108,091	−23,376	−17·8
	Mar. . .	157,519	130,824	−26,695	−16·1
	Apr. . .	184,906	178,730	−6,176	−3·3
	May . .	119,786	132,598	+12,812	+9·7
	June . .	135,671	126,542	−9,129	−6·7
	July . .	146,722	152,073	+5,351	+3·6
	Aug. . .	166,929	152,654	−14,275	−8·2
	Sept. . .	169,242	176,270	+7,028	+4·2
	Oct. . .	187,414	194,531	+7,117	+3·8
	Nov. . .	176,848	191,394	+14,546	+8·2
	Dec. . .	157,833	149,205	−8,628	−5·5
	Total . .	1,854,513	1,806,927	−47,586	−2·6

* Figures for 1934 from *Agriculture: the Home Market and National Security*, published by the National Farmers' Union; 1935 figures from the Pigs Marketing Board.

The distribution of the pigs contracted for throughout the year was much less uneven than in 1934. This was largely the result of the provision in the 1935 contract that not less than 25 per cent. of the total number of pigs contracted for must be delivered in the period January–April, and not more than 45 per cent. in the period September–December. In addition, bonuses were paid to producers on pigs delivered in January, February, March, and April. The first interim bonus payment was made in November and totalled £76,268; a further payment will be made at the beginning of 1936, and it is estimated that the total sum disbursed will be about £120,000. This fund has been created by a levy on curers of 2*d.* per score on all pigs delivered and accepted by them throughout the year.

The numbers contracted for in the first quarter were 409,162, compared with 331,158 in 1934, an increase of 23 per cent. In the second quarter the increase was 144,715, or 49 per cent. In the third quarter it was only 23,000, or less than 5 per cent., while the fourth quarter showed a slight decline on 1934. Thus almost the whole increase in supplies has come in the first six months of the year, when supplies are normally lowest, and a much better distribution of deliveries has been obtained from the curers' point of view.

The actual basic pig prices ruling in 1935 are shown in the accompanying table, along with the feeding-stuff and bacon prices on which they are based.

Basic pig prices were lower than in 1934 in every month except July, which was 4*d.* per score higher. The October 1935 price was 2*s.* less than in the previous year, following a heavy fall in the price of bacon to 82*s.* 2*d.* per cwt.

The basic price is exclusive of the curers' contribution of 1*d.* per score towards insurance and 2*d.* per score towards level delivery bonuses on pigs delivered during the first four months of the year.

Monthly Prices of the Standard Ration, of Wiltshire Green Bacon, and of a Basic Pig, 1935*

Month	Ration price per cwt.	Bacon price per cwt.	Basic pig price per score
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Jan.	9 2½	87 9	11 3
Feb.	8 11	89 0	11 5
Mar.	8 9½	91 9	11 11
Apr.	8 7½	87 3	11 0
May	8 4½	87 5	10 11
June	8 2	90 10	11 5
July	8 0½	95 5	11 9
Aug.	7 11½	92 4	11 4
Sept.	7 10½	88 9	11 0
Oct.	7 9	82 2	10 2
Nov.	7 9	90 3	11 4
Dec.	7 9	82 5	10 2

* Class 1, Grade C.

Fourth Contract Period, January to December 1936.

Negotiations between the Pigs and Bacon Marketing Boards for the 1936 contract began in July 1935. The Pigs Board prepared a list of proposed modifications of the 1935 contract to come into force in 1936, and the two Boards subsequently met to discuss them. At the end of September discussions were still proceeding, but by the middle of October agreement on the 1936 contract terms was reached. This was helped by a rise in the price of bacon and an assurance by the Minister that quotas would be more strictly enforced in the future, for it appeared that pig producers and bacon curers alike had been working at a loss. The latest date for receipt of contracts between producers and curers was fixed for 25 November, and for those between producers and the Board for 26 November.

The contract followed closely the lines of the previous ones, with some minor improvements. Basic pig prices were determined by a new formula including not only feeding-stuff

and bacon prices, but also the realization value of offals.[1] Any rise or fall in the value of offals from a 7-score pig will be added to or deducted from the ascertained bacon price for the purpose of arriving at the price to be paid for pigs. The introduction of a value for offals will probably improve prices in the winter and lower them in the summer; in the long run the price of offals is likely to decline if the number of pigs increases. It is estimated that producers will receive from 2*d.* to 4*d.* per score more for their pigs under the new formula. With bacon at 96*s.* and feeding-stuffs at 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. the basic price is 11*s.* 7*d.* The price difference of 3*d.* per score between Class 1 and Class 2 remains unchanged, but Class 3 pigs are to be paid the same price as Class 2. Class 4 is 6*d.* less than Class 3 and 9*d.* less than Class 1. In the first contract period the difference between Classes 1 and 4 was 1*s.* 6*d.* per score.

There are also changes in grading. A pig with an 'A' shoulder and a 'D' belly ranks for payment as C Grade in Classes 1 and 2. A pig with an 'A' shoulder and 'C' belly weighing 7 score 10 lb. and over receives a bonus of 3*d.* per score in the appropriate class. The payment grade of such pigs will be identified by the code letter 'S'. The maximum shoulder measurement for the *basic* pig in Class 3 is increased by $\frac{1}{8}$ in.

One pig in each delivery, if weighing 6 score 15 lb. to 6 score 19 lb., will be paid for at the basic price of Class 1 and other similar pigs in the same delivery at 6*d.* less, though the curer is not bound to accept such pigs. Additions and deductions of 1*s.* and 6*d.* between the grades remain as before.

Group contracts are discontinued. Instead, producers may contract direct with the Board instead of with a curer and will receive an extra 2*s.* per pig. The Board hopes, thereby, to have a pool of pigs at its disposal to even out the supplies between individual curers.

[1] See Appendix, p. 384.

As a result of the findings of the Committee of Investigation the Board has been obliged to make provision for compulsory insurance. Pigs must be insured from the time they leave the producers' premises; in return the curer is allowed to deduct 6*d.* per pig. The curer may insure with an insurance company at 1*s.* per pig.

There are increases in the cartage rebates where pigs are conveyed by road in producers' or curers' vehicles, though the flat rate is increased from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* station to station, and from 2*s.* 1*d.* to 2*s.* 3*d.* for pigs collected and delivered by road.

In addition, changes in the allowances for shrinkage from hot to cold weight were made. A pig weighing 12 score (hot) under the 1936 contract is subject to a deduction for shrinkage of 6 lb. only, compared with 7 lb. in 1935, and the additional deduction for each score over 12 score is ½ lb., instead of 1 lb.

Thus, the terms of the 1936 contract are definitely more favourable to the pig producer than those of the previous year, even if no allowance be made for the slight increase in price obtainable by the producer under the new formula.

The number of pigs forthcoming under the original 1936 contract was about 2,000,000, which was considerably short of curers' stated requirements and was, moreover, unequally distributed between them. Despite the 2*s.* bonus on direct contracts, few producers contracted with the Board. As the Board had undertaken to supply curers with at least 72 per cent. of their requirements, a supplementary contract was issued at the beginning of December, asking for 750,000 more pigs. This was to be a direct contract between producers and the Board, and was generally similar to the original 1936 contract.

To induce producers to sign the supplementary contract the Board granted a commission of 1*s.* per pig to accredited agents securing contracts. It enlisted the help of the National Farmers' Union by recognizing the Secretaries of the Pigs

Committees of the Union as accredited agents, who could, if they wished, delegate the work to canvassers.

Curers agreed to pay a premium of 1*s.* 6*d.* per pig to producers and 6*d.* to the Pigs Board, compared with the 2*s.* of the original contract. The Board added a further 6*d.* from its reserves, making a total of 1*s.* per pig available for accredited agents without causing any direct burden on the finances of the Board.

Under the supplementary contract producers are not required to deliver 25 per cent. of the total number of pigs for which they contract in the first four months of the year, but those who do not are debarred from participating in the level delivery bonus scheme.

The supplementary contract remained open till 15 January, but it is understood that few pigs were contracted for. The Board found no alternative but to default, and the curers were allowed to buy pigs on the open market sufficient to make their total supplies up to 72 per cent. of their requirements.

The Bacon Marketing Scheme, Great Britain[1]

A Bacon Marketing Board, elected by registered bacon curers, was established under this Scheme, which provides that registered curers may not, except under certain conditions, sell bacon from pigs produced in Great Britain except those bought from registered producers under contracts confirmed by the Pigs Marketing Board or from the Board itself. Further details concerning the Scheme and the various amendments to it were given in the *Agricultural Register, 1934–5*.[2] The Board consists of fourteen members elected by registered producers and two co-opted members.

The Annual General Meeting of the Board was held in February 1935. Mr. A. E. Marsh was re-elected Chairman

[1] The Bacon Marketing Scheme (Approval) Order, 1933, S.R. and O., 1933, No. 683.

[2] Pp. 126–7.

and Mr. J. F. Bodinnar, Vice-Chairman of the Board. The total remuneration of the Board for the year ending 31 March 1935 was fixed at £3,800, and for the year ending 31 March 1936 at £5,000—the remuneration to be apportioned as the Board may think fit.

During the year one of the co-opted members, the Hon. Jasper Ridley, retired from the Board and was subsequently re-elected, after consultation with the Market Supply Committee. Otherwise the constitution of the Board was unaltered.

Two amendments proposed by the Board at the end of 1934 were the subject of a public inquiry. On receiving the report of the inquiry the Minister asked Parliament to approve the proposed amendments and they came into force as from 3 August 1935.[1] They provided that if the Minister made an Order under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933, restricting home production, that restriction should be shared equally by farmers selling pigs to bacon factories and by processers producing their own pigs.

Negotiations with the Pigs Board over the 1936 contract terms began in July and continued until the end of October, when agreement was reached between the two Boards.

The contracts made for 1936 represent collectively only 56 per cent. of curers' requirements, though the distribution of contracts among curers is very uneven, representing a satisfaction of requirements ranging from nil to over 100 per cent. In January and February 1936 the Pigs Marketing Board notified curers of its intention to default on its contracts for those months, and curers were empowered to buy pigs on the open market up to 72 per cent. of their stated requirements.

The unsatisfactory position which has arisen in 1936 arose in previous contracts. The Bacon Marketing Board, accordingly,

[1] Bacon Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 791.

has suggested to the Pigs Marketing Board that all future contracts should be made between pig producers and the Pigs Marketing Board—instead of direct between producers and curers—and should be 'assigned by that Board, on a basis agreed with the Bacon Marketing Board, as far as possible proportionately amongst all registered curers'. The Bacon Marketing Board are also considering the advisability of determining the quantity of bacon which may be sold by individual registered curers.

In September the Board announced that it had obtained certain concessions from the Railway Companies in respect of the payment of the flat rate on contract pigs killed at producers' farms.

The output of bacon from Great Britain in 1935 was estimated to have increased by 36·3 per cent. compared with 1934, from 1,736,252 cwt. to 2,370,244 cwt.[1]

The Bacon Development Board

A draft Scheme for the establishment of a Pig Industry Development Board was submitted to the Minister in April 1934. Details of this Scheme were given in the last issue of the *Agricultural Register*.[2] Objections were received from eight different sources, the most important being those of the National Farmers' Union regarding the delegation of some of the powers of the Pigs Board to the Development Board without sufficient safeguard. Subsequently, the Minister announced in the House of Commons that the draft Scheme would be dropped, but the Pigs and Bacon Boards agreed on a revised Scheme which was published on 17 May 1935.

After a period for receiving producers' objections, the revised Scheme was approved at special meetings of the Pigs

[1] These figures, taken from the *Report of the Bacon Marketing Board*, do not agree exactly with those given in the *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, see p. 223.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 127–30.

and Bacon Marketing Boards held on 16 July. The Pigs Marketing Board held a public meeting at which 63 registered producers voted in favour of the Scheme and 16 against. The Bacon Board held a private meeting at which 53 curers voted in favour of the Scheme and 45 against; on an output basis, however, the voting was 2,242 in favour and 536 against, thus showing that most of the opposition came from the small curers. The total number of registered curers was 627, of whom 98 voted. Subsequently the Scheme was approved by the House of Commons by 108 votes to 35.[1]

The Scheme, which came into force on 7 September 1935, completes the plan recommended by the Reorganization Commission, which proposed that a Board should be set up to control new factory construction and extension, to formulate a common policy for the industry, and to act as arbitrator, if necessary, between the Pigs and Bacon Boards.

The Board consists of eleven members, three of whom were appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Scotland:

Lord Portal (Chairman).
Sir Francis Boys.
Sir Robert Greig.

Four appointed by the Pigs Marketing Board:

Mr. J. A. Fox.
Mr. R. Rowland.
Captain E. T. Morris.
Mr. J. H. Wain.

Four appointed by the Bacon Marketing Board:

Mr. A. E. Marsh.
Mr. J. F. Bodinnar.
Mr. H. Martin Lewis.
Mr. G. F. Spear.

[1] Bacon Development Scheme (Approval) Order, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 781.

The Board has appointed Mr. C. H. Blagburn to be Secretary, and Mr. A. N. Duckham to be Research Officer.

Objections raised by the Federation of Grocers' Associations to the 1934 Scheme led to provision in the revised Scheme for setting up a Retailers' Advisory Committee 'consisting of not more than twelve representatives of such organizations as the Board may consider best qualified to express the views of retailers of bacon'.

The Retailers' Committee consists of four representatives of the National Federation of Grocers' and Provision Dealers' Associations, three of the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress, two of the Scottish Federation of Grocers' and Provision Merchants' Associations, two of the United Kingdom Association of Multiple Shop Proprietors, and one of the National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations.

The main function of the Board is to license bacon factories. After 1 January 1936 no person shall produce bacon on any premises in Great Britain unless he is either exempt from registration under the Bacon Marketing Scheme or is licensed by the Bacon Development Board. If the licence-holder is not a registered producer under the Bacon Marketing Scheme the Development Board's licence will not permit the production of more than 40 cwt. of bacon in any two consecutive months, which is the exemption limit under the Bacon Marketing Scheme.

The Board may attach to licences such conditions as they consider necessary for the efficient production of bacon in the licensed premises or for preventing or reducing excessive production of bacon. The Board may revoke a producer's licence should he fail to comply with the prescribed conditions. It may also refuse a licence if in its view the premises are not required for the production of bacon, if the situation of the premises is unsuitable, or if the premises are inefficient. But the Board may not refuse to grant a licence,

during the first two years of the Scheme, for premises used for bacon production at any time during the six months previous to 17 May 1935. The Board is thus to have the power to control new factory production, and ultimately to close factories which are considered redundant, inefficient, or unsuitably situated.

Producers aggrieved by any action of the Board have the right to submit the matter to arbitration—the arbitrator to be mutually agreed upon, or, in default of such agreement, to be nominated by the Minister of Agriculture.

The Bacon Development Scheme, 1935, like the draft 1934 Scheme, provides for the assumption by the Development Board of certain powers held by the Pigs and Bacon Boards, though only if these Boards severally resolve that it should.

To meet the objection of the National Famers' Union regarding the delegation of the Pigs Board's powers without sufficient safeguards, a clause has been inserted in the Scheme which enables a poll of producers to determine whether the delegated powers shall be resumed by the Pigs Board. Subject to these resolutions, the 1935 Scheme provides that the Board may determine the kinds, varieties, or grades of pigs to be sold, and the prices at, below, or above which they may be sold; the manner in which pigs may be insured; the terms on which, and the form in which, contracts for the sale of pigs by registered producers may be made; the power to confirm contracts for the sale of pigs by registered producers; the kinds, varieties, and grades of bacon and the quantity of each kind, variety, or grade which may be sold; the exemption of sales of any specified class of bacon from the Scheme; the manner in which bacon is to be graded or marked; and the power to advertise bacon of any kind, variety, or grade.

The Development Board, to defray its expenses, may require the Pigs and Bacon Boards to pay a contribution not exceeding 4*d.* per pig, on all contract pigs delivered, and on every sale of pigs by the Pigs Board to a registered curer.

The amount of this contribution is to be the same for both Boards. It is prescribed, however, that the amount shall not be more than 1*d.* in 1935, or more than 2*d.* in any other year, unless a greater contribution has been authorized by the Pigs and Bacon Boards.

At the end of 1935 several applications for licences for new bacon factories came before the Board. On 5 December the Board refused licences for 38 factories. In January 1936 the Board reheard a number of applications for licences, 18 out of 26 of which were refused, and, in addition, 4 applications for the extension of existing premises were refused. Licences were granted for two new factories, in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, subject to specified conditions. Licences were also granted to a number of curers who wished to transfer operations to new and improved premises, provided that these did not represent any increase in production capacity.

The general principle underlying these decisions of the Board was that existing curing capacity in Great Britain is already greatly in excess of the supply of pigs. This has resulted in a low turnover and heavy overhead costs and it is an obstacle to the economic production of bacon in this country. On the other hand, the Board was confronted with the complaints of pig producers as to the long distances of many of them from factories. This, it was alleged, had kept pig producers from contracting.

The Northern Ireland Pigs Marketing Scheme

The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1933, was promoted under the Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933, and came into operation on 1 October 1933.[1] It aims principally at price control, the prevention of undercutting, and the guarantee of a market to registered producers. The Board had power to determine the grade of pigs which, and the prices at which, any particular grade

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 130–7.

might be sold. Their decision applied to all Northern Ireland producers whether registered or not. Producers were not required, however, to contract for their pigs with the curers as in Great Britain.

The Scheme was amended in 1934 by Orders of the Ministry of Agriculture.[1] In 1935 further amendments were made.[2] The first of these altered the definition of the word 'curer' in order to conform with the provisions of the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation) Act (N.I.), 1930, as amended by the Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934, and also enabled the Board, with the approval of the Ministry, to pay certain discounts or abatements. The second Order altered certain administrative sections of the Scheme, and enabled the Board to invest money in any business engaged in the production of pig products; it also deleted the provision empowering the Board to determine the price at, below, or above which, and the terms on which, pigs of any description might be sold. Further, it abrogated, as from 1 January 1936, the provisions for the registration of contracts by the Board, a function now of the Pig Industry Council.[3] The Board may still be an additional party, however, to any contract for the sale of pigs by a producer. Under this amendment, also, the Board is not bound to purchase live pigs from registered producers unless the Ministry and the Board shall agree on the amount of a levy to be imposed to meet any losses arising from such purchase.

The Pigs Marketing Board consists of fourteen members, of whom three are appointed by the Minister and eleven are elected by registered producers. A provisional Board held

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 131.

[2] The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order, 1935, S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, No. 50; and the Pigs Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1935, S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, No. 74.

[3] See p. 98.

office until 31 March 1934, when a new Board was installed. No district elections were due to be held in 1935. In April 1935 Sir Dudley M'Corkell, M.B.E., D.L., J.P., the Vice-Chairman of the Board, resigned, on his appointment as Chairman of the Pig Industry Council, and Captain T. H. Wallace, M.C., LL.B., J.P., was elected Vice-Chairman in his place. The Minister appointed Mr. W. A. Lane, M.A., as one of his three nominees on the Board in place of Sir Dudley M'Corkell.

During 1935 the Pigs Marketing Board were responsible for the fixing of prices from January until June, when the Pig Industry Council took over these duties. There are three main types of sale: dead pigs direct to curers, live pigs sold to the Board, and live pigs sold direct on contract to Wiltshire curers.

(*a*) Dead pigs. The system of marketing pigs in Northern Ireland is traditionally one of killing on the farm and selling the carcass to the curers. Standard dead pig prices were fixed by agreement between the Pigs and Bacon Marketing Boards, or, later, by the Pig Industry Council, based on a formula which takes into account the prices of feeding-stuffs, of bacon and hams, and the realization value of offals.[1] Differential payments are made for quality, based on four weight classes, each subdivided into three grades according to thickness of shoulder fat. Class III pigs are subject to a reduction of 3*s*. per dead cwt. and Class IV pigs 9*s*. per cwt., below the prices for Classes I and II. Grade A pigs have a premium of 3*s*. per dead cwt. over Grade B, while Grade C carcasses have a deduction of 3*s*. per cwt. Deductions of 5*s*. per cwt. are made for partly black pigs, and further deductions may be made for specifically damaged carcasses. Prices are also determined for pigs which do not fall within these grade specifications. Dead pigs are subject to a disease insurance fee of 6*d*. per pig. The monthly prices for a Grade B pig in

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 132–3.

Classes I and II are given in the first column of the table on page 95. These prices are subject to various levies, which will be noted later.

During 1935 prices rose until they reached a maximum in March, when supplies were lightest, and then fell until the end of the year. (Table on p. 95.)

(*b*) Live pigs. While the bulk of the trade in pre-Scheme years involved the sale of dead pigs, there was also some selling of live pigs. In the first few months of operation the Board had no control over the live pig trade, and open market prices rose out of line with the standard prices under the Scheme.[1] In November 1934 the Board took over the live pig trade. The increasing number of live pigs coming on to the market was lowering the price for dead pigs in spite of efforts to fix prices, and the Board found it more profitable to sell any surplus live pigs at a loss in Great Britain in order to keep up the dead pig price in Northern Ireland. The expectation was that this live pig export trade would disappear, and that the total home output of live pigs would be devoted to the production of Wiltshire or roll and ham bacon. In fact, however, the number of live pigs exported increased from 74,019 in 1934 to 84,214 in 1935.

Prices for live pigs, which are sold to the Board and not to the curers, were fixed in the same way as those for dead pigs, and are shown in the accompanying table. These prices are subject to a deduction of 2*s*. 6*d*. per pig for marketing expenses, in addition to the levies and contributions noted later. As for dead pigs, differential payments are made on the basis of weight and quality grade.

The numbers of pigs bought dead or alive for curing, apart from those exported, during 1935, was 511,863, compared with 413,651 in 1934.

Since the Scheme came into operation there has been a large increase in production. Previously the bacon output

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 133–4.

of Northern Ireland was mainly of the roll type, the market for which was relatively limited. Efforts have been directed, therefore, to increasing the output of Wiltshire cure bacon for the British market, the type of bacon previously supplied by foreign imports. Wiltshire curing factories have been established in Northern Ireland by two curing companies, Denny's and Bigger's. The former were guaranteed 7,000 pigs per month for the first half of 1935 and 9,000 per month for the last six months. The latter are purchasing about 1,000 pigs per week from the Board.

(*c*) To encourage the production of Wiltshire bacon from home-produced pigs, the Board, in January 1935, prescribed a new direct Wiltshire contract for producers who were willing to contract to sell light-weight pigs to Wiltshire curers. The contract was for monthly deliveries over periods of not less than three months, and the standard price was intended to be 3*s*. per cwt. less than the Great Britain standard price for Wiltshire pigs. But a bonus of 3*s*. per pig was paid throughout the year, so that in practice the price paid to Northern Ireland producers was the same as to producers in Great Britain.

Only Large White York type of pigs are accepted under the Wiltshire contract, but the Board must buy any live pigs which are rejected. Pigs had to weigh 1 cwt. to 1 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb., and the best prices were paid for pigs weighing 1 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb. to 1 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. dead weight. There were three grades, the standard price being paid for Grade 2 pigs, with 4*s*. per cwt. more for Grade 1 and 4*s*. per cwt. less for Grade 3 pigs. Grading and weighing were done by independent officials of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland. A 10 per cent. variation on total deliveries and a 20 per cent. variation on monthly deliveries were allowed. The penalty for wilful or negligent failure to fulfil the contract by the producer was £1 per pig, but the producer was safeguarded against penalization for unavoidable default.

The curer likewise was subject to a penalty of £1 per pig for failing to accept pigs which he had contracted to buy. The Board expects to work out a system of group contracts for small producers.

The prices for live pigs sold to Wiltshire curers are given in the accompanying table, together with figures, approximately comparable, for the Great Britain Wiltshire prices.

Pig Prices, per cwt., under the Northern Ireland Pigs Marketing Scheme, 1935

	Dead pigs			*Live pigs*		
	Northern Ireland		*Great Britain*			
	1 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. to 1 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. Grade B	*Wiltshire trade standard price 1 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lb. to 1 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.*	*Wiltshire trade 1 cwt. 1 qr. 0 lb. to 1 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.*	*Ordinary shipping trade Grade I 2 cwt. 0 qr. 1 lb. to 2 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.*	*Wiltshire trade Grade I 1 cwt. 2 qr. 0 lb. to 1 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.*	*Levies and contributions per pig*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Jan.	61 0	..	..	50 0*	..	2 6
Feb.	61 8	..	..	50 6*	..	2 6
Mar.	63 1	..	..	51 6*	..	2 6
Apr.	61 11	61 7	61 7	50 6*	..	2 6
May	60 6	61 1	61 1	50 0*	..	3 0
June	60 6	63 11	63 11	49 6†	53·0–51·6	3 0
July	60 6	65 10	65 10	49 6†	53 6	3 0
Aug.	59 4	63 5	63 5	48 6†	52 6	4 0
Sept.	57 2	61 7	61 7	46 6†	51 6	4 0
Oct.	57 2	56 11	56 11	46 0	51 6	5 0
Nov.	57 2	63 6	63 6	46 0	51 6	5 0
Dec.	56 0	56 11	56 11	45 0	50 6	5 0

* 1 cwt. 2 qr. 0 lb. to 2 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.
† 1 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. to 2 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

A revision of the contract terms was announced in June. To encourage direct contracts with Wiltshire curers the standard price was increased by 3*s.* per cwt., which brought it into line with the Great Britain Wiltshire bacon pig price. This resulted in the price of Wiltshire pigs bought by the Board being about 4*s.* per live cwt. better than that of pigs

bought for the shipping trade. From 1 September further encouragement was given by fixing the Board's Wiltshire price at 5*s.* per live cwt. better than the shipping pig price.

The operations of the Scheme have raised pig prices above those of 1933, the year before the start of the Scheme. An even greater indication of the Scheme's success—at any rate from the producers' point of view—is the increase in the total number of pigs in Northern Ireland from 380,348 in June 1934 to 457,878 in June 1935; the number of 'other pigs'—i.e. excluding breeding boars and sows—increased from 339,351 to 409,076 or about 21 per cent.; since 1932 the number of pigs has increased by over 100 per cent.

Levies and contributions raised on all pigs sold come under three headings: an Administrative levy, an Indemnification levy, and a Trading levy. The total has varied from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* during 1935.

The Administrative levy was 1*s.* per pig throughout 1935, of which about 4½*d.* goes to administrative costs, 2¾*d.* for grading, 1¼*d.* to research, and the remaining 3½*d.* has been placed to reserves.

The Indemnification levy, also 1*s.* per pig, was raised throughout 1935 to form a fund to compensate curers for the loss incurred in the autumn of 1933.[1] These losses were recouped by the end of 1935 and this levy has therefore ceased.

The Trading levy was introduced when the Board took over control of the live pig trade in November 1934. It is used to compensate the Board for the loss incurred in selling pigs in Great Britain at lower prices than those obtained in Northern Ireland. The Board estimated that had it not been able to control the live pig trade, the dead pig price in October 1935 would have been 49*s.* per cwt. against an actual price in Northern Ireland of 57*s.* 2*d.* The Trading levy is varied by Order of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 135.

Ireland, and the methods of payment are laid down in two Orders of the Ministry.[1]

Ten Orders were issued laying down the amount of the trading levy for 1935.[2]

1 January	to	2 March	6*d.*
4 March	,,	30 March	6*d.*
1 April	,,	4 May	6*d.*
6 May	,,	8 June	1*s.*
10 June	,,	20 July	1*s.*
22 July	,,	3 August	1*s.*
5 August	,,	31 August	2*s.*
2 September	,,	28 September	2*s.*
30 September	,,	2 November	3*s.*
4 November	,,	7 December	3*s.*–4*s.**
9 December	,,	end of year	4*s.*

* 3*s.* until the Compensation levy is dropped and subsequently 4*s.*

Even with a 3*s.* levy in October, the Board estimated that the producer gained 6*s.* per dead cwt. through the raising of the internal level of dead pig prices.

The Northern Ireland Bacon Marketing Scheme

A provisional Bacon Marketing Board was set up under the Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933, on 1 October 1933. It was followed by a new Board in April 1934 with a tenure of two years. This Board consisted of eleven members, elected by registered bacon curers, and three nominees of the Minister of Agriculture. Its principal functions have been the representation of curers' interests,

[1] The Pigs Marketing (Payment of Contribution or Levy) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935, S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, No. 17 and No. 93.

[2] The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 2) Order, 1934, S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1934, No. 124; and the Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10) Order, 1935, S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, Nos. 35, 51, 60, 75, 85, 94, 105, 112, 129, and 146.

the administration of bacon quotas among curers, and the negotiation of prices and terms of sale with the Pigs Marketing Board. The scheme was described in *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*.[1]

Since the inception of the Board the Pig Industry Council has been set up, on which there are three representatives of the Bacon Marketing Board. The Minister has now decided that the Pig Industry Council has rendered the existence of the Bacon Marketing Board unnecessary, and the Government intimated that the Board's power would expire as from 30 September 1935. An application has been made to the courts for a statutory winding-up. An arrangement has been made with the Ulster Curers' Association for that body to handle the interests of Northern Ireland curers, so far as these are not dealt with by the Pig Industry Council. The three nominees of the Bacon Board are to remain on the Council as the representatives of the curers until 31 May 1936, when they will be elected by curers.

The Pig Industry Council for Northern Ireland

When a Pigs Marketing Scheme and a Bacon Marketing Scheme were established under the Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933, the Minister of Agriculture for Northern Ireland appointed the same nominees to each Board in the hope that some link might be formed between the two Boards. Various difficulties arose, however, and some other means of co-ordination was considered necessary.

At the end of 1934 an Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act was passed which, in addition to increasing the powers of the Ministry of Agriculture, established a Pig Industry Council.[2] The principal duties of the Council are to fix prices for pigs, subject to the approval of the Ministry, to advise the Ministry as to the granting of licences for new

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 137–8.
[2] Ibid., pp. 28–30 and 136–7.

bacon factories, to deal with all matters relating to the production, marketing, and grading of bacon and pigs, and to encourage research. In general, the functions of the Council are very similar to those of the Bacon Development Board in Great Britain.

The Council consists of nine members, three appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, three by the Bacon Marketing Board, and three by the Pigs Marketing Board. The Chairman, Sir Dudley E. B. M'Corkell, M.B.E., is one of the Minister's nominees and was formerly Vice-Chairman of the Pigs Marketing Board. This Council holds office until 31 May 1936, when its members are eligible for reappointment.

The provisions of the Act came into force on 1 January 1935, with the exception of those defining the duties of the Council. An Order was issued on 9 May 1935 enabling the Council to advise and report to the Ministry on the granting of licences and various other matters.[1] The section of the Act empowering the Council to determine the prices at and the terms on which pigs may be sold was brought into force on 5 December 1935.[2]

During 1935 the general policy of the Council has been to allow the erection of new Wiltshire-cure establishments but to refuse to recommend licences for further roll-bacon curing centres. They have also promoted various research projects, and they have been engaged in fixing pig prices.

3. Potatoes

The Potato Marketing Scheme, Great Britain

The Potato Marketing Scheme passed through Parliament at the end of December 1933 and came into force on 9 March

[1] Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934. Appointed Day for the Operation of Certain Provisions. S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, No. 63.

[2] Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934. Appointed Day for the Operations of Certain Provisions. S.R. and O. of Northern Ireland, 1935, No. 147.

1934.[1] The powers and constitution of the Board have been described in the *Agricultural Register, 1934–5*,[2] and the following survey covers only developments during the last year. The activities of the Board may be grouped under the following heads—administration, riddle regulation, control of imports, control of marketing, and 'other activities'.

Administration.

On 31 August 1935 the Board consisted of 24 district members, five special members, and two persons co-opted by the Board after consultation with the Market Supply Committee. Under the terms of the Board's constitution eleven district members were due to retire at the end of October, and elections were held in five districts on 19 October. Eight of the retiring members were returned unopposed. In the South-Western district, however, Mr. N. E. J. Broad replaced Mr. J. G. Hawkey, and in the South-Eastern district Mr. H. Rochford replaced Mr. A. G. Daniels. Two special members—Mr. R. W. Halliday and Sir William Lobjoit—were re-elected. In June one of the co-opted members—Captain J. G. Stuart, M.V.O., M.C.—resigned, and Commander the Hon. A. D. Cochrane, M.P., was appointed in his place.

At the annual meeting of the Board on 31 October only 80 out of a total of 66,077 registered producers attended. There appeared to be little criticism of the Board's work, and the principal officers were all re-elected and their remuneration was voted as in the previous year.[3]

The Board, unlike the other Marketing Boards, acts mainly as a regulatory and not as a trading body. Its chief method of regulation is to prescribe minimum-sized riddles over which potatoes to be sold for human consumption must

[1] The Potato Marketing Scheme (Approval) Order, 1933, S.R. and O., 1933, No. 1186.

[2] pp. 150–5.

[3] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 151.

In 1934 the home crop amounted to [illegible]
2 per cent. less than in 1933. Until 10 Decembe[illegible]
mum riddle of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches remained in operation. [illegible]
though they fell in September owing to heavy marketings, improved in October after the Board had advised more gradual marketing. The riddle orders subsequently issued to regulate the sale of the 1934 crop were as follows:

(*a*) The first of the Board's Orders issued on 10 December 1934 prescribed a minimum riddle of $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches on the varieties King Edward, Red King, and Golden Wonder throughout Great Britain, a riddle of $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches on Majestics in Scotland and the North of England, a riddle of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches on Majestics in Wales and the South of England, and a riddle of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches on any other variety throughout Great Britain.

(*b*) On 29 January 1935 the minimum riddle for the varieties King Edward and Red King was raised from $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches (except for limestone potatoes), but the change only applied to Scotland, Norfolk, Lincolnshire, the Soke of Peterborough, and the Isle of Ely. The minimum riddle on all white varieties in Scotland, with the exception of Kerr's Pink and any Dunbar Red Soils, was raised to the riddle previously applicable to Majestics only, namely, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches.

(*c*) On 7 March 1935 a national minimum riddle of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches on the varieties King Edward, Red King, and Golden Wonder, and one of 2 inches on all other varieties was prescribed.

(*d*) On 23 May 1935 the minimum riddle for the varieties King Edward, Red King, and Golden Wonder was lowered to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and on all other varieties to $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

(*e*) On 1 August 1935 a national minimum riddle of $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches was prescribed for all varieties.

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...oard subsequently announced the terms on which ... ...tracts for the sale of 'seconds' would be made. 'Seconds' were defined as potatoes which pass through a riddle of $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches but stand on a riddle of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Permits were granted only if a producer could satisfy the Board that at least one-fifth of his ware potatoes as dressed over a $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch riddle consisted of 'seconds'.

(*g*) On 28 November 1935 the national minimum riddle was reduced to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches for all varieties.

Control of Imports.

One of the outstanding features of the 1934–5 season was the effective control secured by the Board over the imports of foreign potatoes. An Order was made by the Board of Trade as from 1 November 1934 prohibiting imports from the Irish Free State and from foreign countries except under licence. A Potato Supplies Consultative Committee—consisting of nominees of the Potato Marketing Board, importers, merchants, consumers, and retailers—was established.[1] This Committee considers the national supply situation with a view to determining the extent to which foreign imports are necessary, and it then advises the Board of Trade accordingly, though the latter is not bound to accept its advice.

The Board successfully resisted applications for increases in the import quotas for July and August, and the allocation of 18,000 tons of new potatoes for June, July, and August was the lowest figure yet agreed upon. In June, however, the Market Supply Committee decided to licence further

[1] See p. 178.

imports of old potatoes for the chip-potato trade, against the advice of the Potato Board.

The Board has negotiated also with producers in Jersey and Northern Ireland for the orderly marketing of imports from these countries, which, for various reasons, cannot be subject to the Board of Trade licensing system. In October it was announced that a Northern Ireland Potato Marketing Association was to be formed.

Control of Marketing.

The Board has, in addition to supply control, taken active steps to improve and co-ordinate potato marketing.

On 1 November 1934 the Board prohibited producers from selling potatoes except to authorized merchants, of whom there were about 3,700 on 31 August 1935. Towards the end of the year the Board started to consider applications for the renewal of licences and to examine the credentials of all authorized merchants.

Sales on commission were abolished, following a poll of producers on 1 September 1934, and on 1 August 1935 the prohibition was extended to new potatoes. It was decided to permit auctioneers in certain districts to sell on a commission basis after an investigation of the circumstances by an officer of the Board and subject to certain conditions. An authorized auctioneer is not to handle a greater quantity of potatoes in any one year than his average for the three years ending 31 December 1934, and his sales in any one month shall not be substantially heavier than his sales in the corresponding months of the previous years. In addition, a reserve price must be placed on each transaction, a price not lower than the wholesale price of potatoes sold to retailers in the districts. Returns of such sales and prices must be made as required by the Board.

The steps taken by the Board to eliminate price-cutting by distributors in Glasgow and the Clyde Valley led to the

setting up of a Marketing Co-ordination Committee to prepare a scheme to apply to the whole country. The outline of the proposed scheme is as follows:

(1) 'Markets Committees' to be set up in defined areas representing the authorized merchants established and trading in the area.

(2) Minimum prices, below which specified kinds of potatoes shall not be sold to retailers, to be recommended by these Committees from time to time. The minimum prices to be arrived at by reference to growers' delivered prices, and to cover use of bags and delivery to shops, and to rise or fall in sympathy with the market situation.

(3) The Committees' minimum prices to be notified to, and observed by, all authorized merchants trading in the area.

(4) Authorized merchants in any area who persistently ignore the plan to be reported to the Board by the Markets Committees, who may also recommend to the Board reforms in market practices.

The Board expects that the establishment of minimum prices will help to stabilize the market, reduce merchants' costs, and so result in a better return to producers. The agreement of wholesale distributors in all the important consuming centres has been secured.

Other Activities.

The Board decided not to fix minimum growers' prices, as this involved responsibility for finding a market for any potatoes that could not be sold at the fixed prices. The Board, on the advice of the Grading Sub-Committee, also decided against the introduction for the time being of compulsory standards of dressing for potatoes. It has, however, drafted a 'Voluntary Standard of Dressing' Scheme, details of which have been sent to all registered producers.

A census of farmers' stocks was taken three times during the season 1934–5, the results of which were:

Date	*Stock on farms (tons)*
10–11 November 1934	2,274,000
16–17 February 1935	1,185,000
4 June 1935	75,000

A census of the acreage in 1935 was taken in July and of farmers' stocks on 9 November.

The question of the manufacture of potatoes as a means to the utilization of surplus has been urged on many occasions. In March 1935 an agreement was reached with the Farmers' Marketing and Supply Company by which the latter undertook to erect a factory at Wisbech for manufacturing potatoes into cattle food and to take delivery of a given quantity of potatoes per week, the Board guaranteeing supplies. Operations were begun on 1 November 1935, and the contract price agreed with the Board was £1 per ton.

In January and February 1935 the Board conducted an experiment at Bishop Auckland in the provision of potatoes at specially reduced rates for the unemployed. In the report[1] which was subsequently issued it was shown that consumption increased by no less than 96 per cent. at the lower price-level or, if allowance be made for increases in stocks, by 69 per cent. This evidence shows that the elasticity of demand for potatoes among the unemployed is greater than was commonly supposed.

The Isle of Man Potato Marketing Scheme

This Scheme was approved by Tynwald on 11 June 1935 and came into force on 12 June 1935. An Executive Committee, consisting of five members, three of whom are

[1] *An Experiment in the Distribution of Potatoes at Bishop Auckland*, Potato Marketing Board, Miscellaneous Publications No. 2, 1935.

producers' members appointed by the Potato Marketing Association, and two appointed by the Isle of Man Marketing Society,[1] was set up to administer the Scheme. The Association consists of 705 registered producers.

Minimum potato prices have been prescribed from time to time, due regard being paid to the prices obtainable on the English market.

A Register of potato dealers has been drawn up, and a Dealers' Committee, comprising agricultural merchants, wholesale and retail potato merchants, has been established with whom the Executive Committee can confer on questions of potato marketing and price fixing.

The Executive Committee also has power to prescribe the agency through which potatoes may be sold, and it has accordingly approved a list of 134 authorized dealers, approval being subject to acceptance of various conditions on which they would sell the potatoes.

The Committee offered to advance to any registered producers, on certain security, sums not exceeding two-thirds of the expected realization value of a grower's potatoes, but no producer has requested such accommodation.

4. Hops

The Hops Marketing Scheme, which came into force on 7 July 1932, was the only Scheme established solely under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931.[2] Under its provisions a Marketing Board was established, the functions of which are to bargain with the brewers and to sell the crop. Hops accepted by the Board become the Board's property, and the sum realized from their sale, less expenses and reserves, is returned to the growers in proportion to the value contributed by each.

[1] See p. 19.

[2] The Hops Marketing Scheme (Approval) Order, 1932, S.R. and O., 1932, No. 505.

The Scheme was subsequently amended in July 1934 to provide for individual selling quotas, based on producers' previous production and on the demand for hops in any one season. The selling quotas for registered producers were granted for the five years ending 31 July 1939.[1]

Various terms, including the price for the next five years and the setting up of a Permanent Joint Committee, were the subject of a special agreement between the Hops Marketing Board and the Brewers' Society.[2]

The Hops Marketing Board consists of fourteen elected district members and four special members—Lord Wolmer, Lord Lloyd, Major C. M. Higgins, and Mr. W. J. Woolrich, who were all unanimously re-elected at the annual general meeting held in May 1935 at the same remuneration as before, viz. Chairman £800, special members £400 each, district members £200 each. Mr. J. W. Hely-Hutchinson was co-opted later as a special member upon the death of Major Higgins.

1934 Crop.

On 24 August the Permanent Joint Committee[3] estimated the market demand for 1934–5 at 215,000 cwt., and later the Board announced that the total estimated market demand for the 1934 crop, including contract hops not under the Board's control, was 224,000 cwt., being 97 per cent. of the total basic quotas issued to all producers. Consequently each individual's quota for the 1934 crop was put at 97 per cent. of his basic quota. The transference of annual quotas was permitted if notified to the Board before 2 October. The transfers actually made, according to an answer by the Minister

[1] The Hops Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1934, S.R. and O., 1934, No. 841.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 178–83.

[3] Consisting of representatives of the Hops Marketing Board and of the Brewers' Society, together with three members appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture. See p. 109.

to a question in the House of Commons, numbered 485, affecting less than 5 per cent. of the crop. A hop-grower, writing in *The Times*, estimated that the market value of an annual quota on sale in 1934 was £2 to £4 a cwt.

The amount of the 1934 crop consigned to the Board for sale was 245,506 cwt., of which 217,368 cwt. were quota hops and 28,138 cwt. non-quota hops—i.e. 88·5 per cent. and 11·5 per cent., respectively, of the total crop. This represents an increase of 51,489 cwt., or 26 per cent., on the amount of the 1933 crop, which was not divided into quota and non-quota hops. The valuation of the quota hops in the 1934–5 season was £9 3*s*. 7*d*. per cwt. and of non-quota hops £7 18*s*. 7*d*. per cwt., a total valuation of £2,218,443 and an average of £9 0*s*. 8½*d*. per cwt.

By the annual meeting in May 1935 sales amounted to 216,670 cwt., valued at £1,966,000. Though this equalled the estimated demand, growers did not receive payment in full for their quota hops. This was due partly to upward adjustments in basic quotas which had to be made after the allocation of the original quotas, consequent on the late date to which authority was given to the quota proposals, and partly to heavier warehouse and insurance charges. Producers, however, received 98 per cent. of the valuations of their annual quota growths. Any returns for non-quota hops will depend upon a demand arising to meet possible deficiencies in the 1935 crop.

During the year the Board appointed a Special Committee to inquire into the working of the quota proposals, which suggested only minor alterations.

At the annual meeting the Chairman, Mr. W. J. Woolrich, drew attention to the brewers' legal rights to grow hops for their own use, as extensive 'planting-up' by brewers would seriously affect the whole Scheme and the present five-year agreement between the brewers and the Board.

1935 Crop.

Producers were notified in May 1935 that their annual quotas for the 1935 crop would be 100 per cent. of their basic quotas, and that interchange of annual quotas could be allowed up to 15 October. The total acreage under hops returned in June was 18,251, an increase of 214 acres. But the yield was lower, and as a result the estimated total production of hops was 248,300 cwt., or 4 per cent. less than in 1934.[1]

As hops grown by brewers for their own use, or sold by producers under registered contracts, do not come under the Hops Marketing Scheme, the Hops Board did not have to dispose of the whole of this output. The quantity of the 1935 crop actually consigned to the Board for sale was 227,000 cwt., compared with 245,506 cwt. of the 1934 crop. This quantity was estimated to be 2,000 cwt. in excess of brewers' requirements.

Permanent Joint Committee.

This Committee was set up on the recommendation of the Provisional Hops Committee, which had been set up by the Minister of Agriculture to secure closer collaboration between brewers and hop-growers and which ceased to function after issuing its report in June 1934. The Permanent Joint Committee was appointed in October 1934, and consists of four representatives of the Brewers' Society:

Colonel George B. Winch,
Mr. S. O. Nevile,
Mr. F. Nicholson,
Mr. C. G. Tosswill;

four representatives of the Hops Marketing Board:

Mr. W. J. Woolrich,
Mr. G. H. Edwards,

[1] See p. 266.

Mr. C. J. Elgar,
Mr. S. May;

and three impartial members nominated by the Minister:

Sir John Chancellor, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., D.S.O. (Chairman),
Mr. F. D'Arcy Cooper,
Captain C. Lyttelton, D.S.O., M.C.

Details of the duties of the Committee were given in *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*.[1]

C. SCHEMES PROPOSED

1. Moray and Banff Milk Marketing Scheme

A meeting of Moray and Banff milk producers was held in October 1935, and after a long discussion it approved, by a large majority, the Moray and Banff Milk Marketing Scheme,[2] 1935, as finally adjusted by the promoters, and it has been submitted to the Secretary of State for Scotland. Further consideration has been delayed pending the issue of the Report of the Reorganization Commission for Milk, Great Britain.

2. Milk Products Marketing Scheme

In the summer of 1935 the National Association of Creamery Proprietors and Wholesale Dairymen, in conjunction with other large manufacturing interests, propounded a marketing scheme for secondary milk products produced in Great Britain. The Milk Marketing Board and the Scottish Milk Marketing Board expressed themselves as being generally favourable, provided that no power should be given to a Secondary Products Board which might result in a restriction of the production of milk, and that nothing should be included which would prevent or limit the primary Producers' Boards from themselves manufacturing any secondary product.

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 182.
[2] Ibid., pp. 110–12.

The Scheme has not yet been published, but its principal provisions were outlined in *The Milk Trade Gazette* of 12 October 1935. The Scheme is to apply to butter, cheese, condensed milk, sterilized cream, other cream, and dried milk, as well as to skimmed, condensed, and dried milk. The Board proposed is to consist of two members representing each of these products in England and Wales, two representing registered societies in England and Wales, four Scottish members, and two co-opted. The members representing the various products are to be elected by special committees of twelve members elected in equal proportions by small, medium, and large producers of the respective products.

Producers who make the regulated products on lands occupied solely for husbandry and from milk produced on such land, and producers who use less than 1,000 gallons of milk daily in producing the regulated products are to be exempt from the Scheme.

The Board is to draw up each year a 'record' showing the output of the included products produced by each registered producer during the preceding year and the gallonage of milk used in each. After the Scheme has been in operation for twelve months the Board may fix quotas on the production of condensed milk, sterilized cream, and dried milk based on each producer's output as shown by the record. Sales in excess of the quota are to be liable to a penalty of £100 plus half the price of the product sold.

Quotas are not to be fixed for butter, cheese, or cream, except sterilized cream, these exemptions being made so as not to hamper the manufacturing programmes of the Milk Marketing Boards.

The Board is to have power to prescribe prices for the regulated product, the descriptions which may be sold, and the persons to whom or through whose agency the products may be sold.

3. Live Stock Marketing Scheme

The preparation of a scheme for the marketing of live stock[1] in Great Britain, prepared by the National Farmers' Union, awaits more definite particulars of the Government's long-term policy for assistance to the industry.

The following resolution by the General Purposes Committee of the National Farmers' Union expresses the views of the Union on the submission of further Marketing Schemes:

'That the Council should in future refrain from submitting any Marketing Scheme unless satisfied to the best of their judgment that adequate protection of the regulated product will enable the Scheme to secure remunerative prices to registered producers.'

4. Eggs and Poultry Marketing Scheme

A Joint Committee of the National Farmers' Union and the National Poultry Council considered the recommendations of the Agricultural Marketing Reorganization Commission for Eggs and Poultry in England and Wales, whose report was issued at the beginning of the year.[2] The Committee's report was circulated to the various branches and societies of the two organizations, and amendments and suggestions were embodied in a second memorandum by the Committee. A drafting committee was appointed by the two organizations to prepare a Scheme on the lines recommended, but submission of the Scheme will not be made until the pronouncement of a definite undertaking for the adequate regulation of imports has been received from the Government.

5. Sugar Beet Marketing Scheme

A Scheme for the marketing of sugar beet was prepared by the National Farmers' Union under the Agricultural Marketing Acts and submitted to the Minister in May 1934.[3]

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 144.
[2] Ibid., pp. 144–7.
[3] Ibid., pp. 158–9.

During 1935 the promoters of the Scheme introduced certain modifications in view of the Government's policy for the organization of the sugar industry as a whole.

Later in the year promoters announced that if the Scheme were adopted, and so long as existing conditions in the industry remained, only a minimum of the powers conferred upon the Board would be used. Except for supplying seed, research, and the registration of contracts, the Board would not undertake any further functions beyond those at present covered by the National Farmers' Union Sugar Beet Committee.

The Scheme has not yet come before Parliament.

6. Fruit Marketing Scheme

In January the National Farmers' Union proposed to set up a Fruit Marketing Scheme, with a Board and Advisory Committees, similar to that considered in 1933.[1] Certain growers were to be exempted and the Scheme was to be financed by varying levies.

The Board was to authorize wholesalers, to promote market intelligence, and to negotiate the conditions and terms of all contracts with processors. It was to organize systems of grading, and to negotiate reduced transport and market charges. The export of fruit was to be encouraged, a national 'Eat More Fruit' campaign conducted, and research was to be initiated into the possible developments of by-products of fruit.

Finally, the Board was to make representations to the Market Supply Committee for the control of imports by tariffs and quotas, and to negotiate with Empire countries for voluntary regulation of supplies.

These proposals were submitted to the county branches, and although many of the replies were in favour of some

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 163.

regulation of fruit-growing and sale, the very strong opposition of some of the principal fruit-growing districts led to the abandonment of the Scheme.

7. Scottish Raspberry Marketing Scheme

A meeting of the promoters of the Scheme[1] was held in Perth on 28 January 1935. Objections had been lodged against the Scheme, in particular by the Food Manufacturers' Federation, and the promoters appointed a Committee to meet them.

Mr. Charles Mackintosh, advocate, was appointed by the Secretary of State for Scotland to hold a public inquiry into objections to the Scheme.

Private discussions have taken place between western and eastern producers in an attempt to find some measure of agreement on production quotas. These do not find favour in areas where raspberries are grown principally for the dessert fruit trade, and consequently the Lanarkhire growers decided in June to withdraw from the Scheme. Growers in other areas are apprehensive that the market might be flooded if there were no provisions for production control.

The submission of the Scheme has been delayed in consequence.

8. Tomato Marketing Scheme

After the withdrawal of the Fruit Marketing Scheme a special sub-committee was appointed by the National Farmers' Union to consider a separate Scheme for tomatoes.

After a conference with the Channel Island growers in November the Union delegates and the delegate from the Joint Committee of Scottish Fruit-Growing Associations proposed the promotion of a separate Tomato Marketing Scheme, contingent upon parallel legislation in the Channel Islands.

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 161–3.

The Council of the National Farmers' Union has endorsed the recommendation, and a Scheme is in course of preparation.

D. COMMITTEES

1. Market Supply Committee

The Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933, provided for the establishment of a Market Supply Committee for the United Kingdom, to review generally the circumstances affecting the supply of agricultural products in the United Kingdom and to make recommendations to Ministers for supply regulation. The Chairman, the Marquess of Linlithgow, resigned from the Committee during the year upon his appointment as Viceroy-Designate of India, and the vacancy has not yet been filled.

As in 1934 the Committee advised on the supply situation of main-crop and early potatoes, eggs, processed milk, lard, bacon, and hams. It has also reviewed supply conditions for a number of other commodities. The reports of the Committee are confidential, so that it is impossible to determine how far its recommendations have been adopted in the formulation of the import regulation policy.

In reviewing various problems the Committee has consulted the interests concerned with the distribution and marketing of the product and those with special knowledge of consumers' requirements, such as the Potato Supplies Consultative Committee.[1]

The Committee is also building up an information service, necessary for the efficient performance of its statutory duties. A continuous survey of the foreign press is maintained to give early intimation of changes in Government regulations, control measures, &c., which might effect the shipment of agricultural products to the United Kingdom.

Retail market inquiries have been undertaken, designed to

[1] See p. 178.

show variations in demand for particular foodstuffs, the trends of changes in demand, and similar questions. A study of food consumption in general and of various foods at different income levels has been made. Some preliminary results of this inquiry have been published.[1]

2. Consumers' Committees

The Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931, made provision for the appointment of Consumers' Committees whose duties are to report to the Minister upon the effect of the Marketing Schemes on consumers, and on complaints made by consumers. Three Committees have been appointed, one for schemes covering Great Britain, another for those in England and Wales, and a third for those in Scotland.[2]

(*a*) *Great Britain.* In January Professor Alexander Gray was appointed as a member to succeed Professor F. W. Ogilvie. Two additional members, the Hon. Mrs. Anthony Methuen and Miss J. B. Montgomery, were appointed in April. Towards the end of the year Sir Geoffrey L. Corbett, K.B.E., C.I.E., resigned the Chairmanship of the Committee, on his appointment as Adviser to the Egyptian Government; the appointment of a successor is under consideration.

No reports were made by the Committee during 1935.

(*b*) *England and Wales.* The Hon. Mrs. Anthony Methuen was appointed to the Committee in April. The Chairman, Sir Geoffrey L. Corbett, K.B.E., C.I.E., has resigned, and his successor has not yet been appointed.

This Committee again considered the question of milk prices under the Milk Marketing Scheme,[3] and, in February 1935, presented a report, which later was submitted by the

[1] Lloyd, E. M. H., *Food Supplies and Consumption at Different Income Levels.* Paper read at the Meeting of the Agricultural Economics Society, December 1935.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4,* pp. 16–17; ibid., *1934–5,* pp. 168–73.

[3] Ibid., pp. 169–71.

Minister of Agriculture to the Milk Reorganization Commission for Great Britain for consideration.

The Committee pointed out that the retail prices of milk had generally risen to a higher level than those ruling before the Scheme came into force, and that they were likely to rise still further under the conditions of the contract for the year October 1934 to September 1935. Although part of this rise might be attributed to the increase in regional wholesale prices, it appeared that there had been also an increase in the margins between retail and wholesale prices.

The review of the Committee of the trend of prices under the Scheme and the complaints which it had received pointed to the danger of a decreasing demand for liquid milk. Evidence from the distressed areas tended to show that the high prices had resulted in an appreciable transfer to condensed milk, which was having an adverse effect upon the health of the community.

Any decrease in demand or any increase in production, the report continued, would swell the manufacturing milk surplus and thereby depress the pool price; for the benefit to producers from the higher price of milk sold for liquid consumption would be offset by the low price of milk sold for manufacture. This might well lead to a demand from producers for a compensatory increase in the liquid price, and any such increase, unless accompanied by lower distributive margins, would cause still higher retail prices, which would set up a vicious circle by decreasing demand for liquid milk, throwing more milk on the manufacturing market and widening still further the gap between the pool and the liquid price.

A possible escape from this vicious circle would be to increase the proportion of milk going into liquid consumption, and one effective way to increase consumption would be to lower the retail price of liquid milk.

The success of the Milk-in-Schools Scheme led the

Committee to suggest its extension to children below school age and to expectant and nursing mothers. The Committee pointed out that both producers and consumers would benefit greatly if it could be arranged that some of the milk now going into manufacture could be available for liquid consumption at prices below the present prices for liquid milk, but nevertheless giving a better return than can be obtained from the manufacturing market.

The Committee had stated in previous reports[1] that if there were to be minimum retail prices or margins, either they should be fixed low enough to give not more than a reasonable return to the distributors in any area working under the most economical conditions or giving the least expensive service consistent with efficiency, or they should be fixed in relation to the different types of distributive service. The report shows that the minimum retail prices fixed under the current contract appear to provide, in general, for the more elaborate rather than for the simpler types of service. True, provision has been made whereby they can be reduced, but it rests with the distributors themselves to set the necessary machinery in motion, and the Committee declared that if it were not practicable to fix minimum prices that were fair to the consumer, it was not justifiable to fix them at all.

The Committee observed that, if the minimum retail prices were ordinarily intended to be actual prices, it might fairly be assumed that they were considered high enough to cover the cost of a normal distributive service. It had ascertained, however, that the service, in most of the areas to which complaints made to them related, fell short of what was considered normal in other areas. The Committee stated that final conclusions could not be reached in regard to distributive margins without an investigation into costs and profits in the milk distributive trade. Such an investigation is being under-

[1] See *The Agricultural Register*, *1934–5*, pp. 169–71.

taken. But it was evident that, in an area where there were different types of service, a margin which was high enough to satisfy retailers who gave the most elaborate service was excessive for retailers who did not.

Finally, the Committee recommended that a Scheme which may in effect determine the price which consumers will have to pay for a commodity, should provide for the adequate representation of their interests before the price is fixed.

(*c*) *Scotland.* There were four new appointments to the Consumers' Committee for Scotland in January. Professor Alexander Gray was appointed in place of Professor F. W. Ogilvie, Miss Montgomery in place of the late Miss Munro, and two additional members were also appointed, the Hon. J. K. Weir, B.A., and Mr. Thomas Bishop.

Only two reports have been issued, both concerned with milk prices. The first, issued on 11 May, contained a criticism of the continuance of a retail price of 2*s.* per gallon throughout the current year, regardless of the differences in costs between summer and winter.[1] The Committee stated that an investigation into the cost of production and distribution of milk in various districts was being conducted which would undoubtedly clarify the whole position, but that, pending the results of that examination, it wished again to emphasize the desirability of a lower summer price.

On 27 June a report was issued dealing with the price of milk in rural districts. The Committee complained that severe hardship was imposed upon the rural consumers because they are charged the same retail price (2*s.* per gallon), including the same distributor's margin (9*d.* or 10*d.*; 8*d.* in Borough of Peterhead), as is charged to urban consumers, although the services represented by the distributor's margin are not rendered to rural consumers to anything like the same extent. In fact, it has been estimated that rural consumers

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 172–3.

are paying 2*d.* or 3*d.* per gallon of the distributor's margin for services which they do not receive.

The Committee, therefore, recommended that steps should be taken to rectify this anomalous position, by a reduction in the present retail price to this class of consumer, where such reduction has not already been granted under the limits of exemption determined by the Scottish Milk Marketing Board.

3. Food Council

In January Professor Alexander Gray was appointed a member of the Council in place of Professor F. W. Ogilvie, and in April the Hon. Mrs. Anthony Methuen and Miss J. B. Montgomery were appointed additional members.

The Council are conducting an investigation into the margins between wholesale and retail milk prices, upon which the Consumers' Committee had made some observations.[1]

4. Committees of Investigation

The duties of these Committees are to consider and report to the Minister on any report made by the Consumers' Committees and any complaints outside the scope of Consumers' Committees. Their reports are confidential, but their findings are usually published.

If a Committee reports that the complaint is justified, the Minister, if he thinks fit, may, after consultation with the Board of Trade, amend or revoke the Scheme by Order, or order the Board concerned to rectify the matter; such orders are to be laid before Parliament.

Since 1933 there has been one Committee acting both for Great Britain and for England and Wales, and one Committee for Scotland.

(*a*) *Great Britain.* The Committee for Great Britain which dealt with various complaints on the Pigs Marketing Scheme consisted of:

[1] See pp. 116–19.

The Rt. Hon. Edward Shortt, K.C.,
Sir Percy W. Greenaway, Bt.,
Mr. C. J. G. Palmour,
Sir Arthur Pugh, C.B.E., and
Professor W. R. Scott, M.A., D.PHIL., LITT.D., F.B.A.

Since the death of Mr. Edward Shortt the chairmanship of this Committee has remained vacant.

The only complaints on which the Committee reported during 1935 were in connexion with the transport and insurance of pigs. The Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress and the National Federation of Meat Traders' Associations complained that they were suffering loss because the Pigs Marketing Board required registered curers to sign an agreement with the Railway Companies for the transport at a flat rate of all live pigs purchased by them. The Committee found that a flat rate transport system was necessary for the efficient operation of the Marketing Scheme, even though it was contrary to the complainant's interests. They found, however, that the Pigs Marketing Board was acting in the best interests of the pig industry and might therefore, in the absence of counter-balancing circumstances, be said to have acted in the public interest. The Minister and Secretary of State decided not to take any action in the matter.

The omission of the Pigs Marketing Board to provide for the compulsory insurance of pigs sold under contract resulted in a further complaint by the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress. On this point the Committee of Investigation decided that a system of compulsory insurance is necessary for the pig industry as a whole, and that its omission is contrary to the interests of the complainants and to the public interest.

The Minister and the Secretary of State requested the Pigs Marketing Board to prepare a scheme for the compulsory insurance of all pigs consigned to registered bacon

curers, and such a Scheme was incorporated in the 1936 contract.[1]

(*b*) *England and Wales.* On 3 December 1935 Mr. James Whitehead, K.C., was appointed, upon the death of Mr. Edward Shortt, Chairman of the Committee for England and Wales, which has the same membership as that for Great Britain.

On 7 October this Committee began to investigate complaints made by the Central Milk Distributive Committee and by the Parliamentary Committee of the Co-operative Congress against certain of the terms of contract prescribed by the Milk Marketing Board for the current contract year.

The Distributive Committee complained that the circumstances which led to fixing higher prices in the previous year, 1934–5, had disappeared, and that there was no justification for an increase in the 1935–6 contract. They complained also against the reduction of the transit risk charge from $\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per gallon, on the grounds that this risk could not be covered for the money. They also claimed that the prices to be paid for milk for manufacturing should be altered, and that a guarantee of a minimum quantity of milk should be given by the farmer, with a penalty for breach. They proposed that the spending of the allocated money to publicity should be decided by agreement with the Milk Publicity Board, and they demanded a variation of the clause under which school milk is purchased.

The wider powers sought by the Board to examine the books of firms claiming manufacturing rebates were also objected to.

The Co-operative Congress urged the necessity of a reduction in retail prices, and considered that any lowering of distributive margins—to which they were prepared to agree provided that the producers' price was also reduced—should be passed on to the consumer.

The investigation was still proceeding in February 1936.

[1] See p. 83.

(*c*) *Scotland.* The Committee of Investigation for Scotland consists of:

Mr. A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C.,
Mr. Francis Beattie,
Mr. Alexander M'Callum, O.B.E., M.A., LL.B.,
Professor W. R. Scott, M.A., D.PHIL., LITT.D., F.B.A., and
Sir Matthew Wallace.

Early in April the Committee issued a report dealing with milk sold to public institutions. This report followed the complaint made by the Corporation of Glasgow in the summer of 1934.[1] The Committee concluded that the Board had raised the price of milk to hospitals and other institutions and had imposed conditions which would be likely to diminish the use of milk, especially of Grade A (T.T). milk, and that such action was not in the public interest.

Cheaper milk could be justified not only by the beneficent work done by hospitals but also by the lower costs involved in selling to such institutions.

The Secretary of State referred the matter to the Milk Reorganization Commission on the grounds that special price terms to selected classes of consumers raised wide issues of policy.

Following a recommendation of the Committee an Order was made, in August, to amend the Milk Marketing Scheme so as to fix the contribution to the Board by the producers of Certified milk sold as such, at $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per gallon. This represents a substantial concession to Certified milk producers.[2]

The Committee also issued their findings on the complaints against the operation of the Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Scheme,[3] based on (*a*) the determination of standard prices; (*b*) the scale of haulage rates laid down by the Board; (*c*) the determination of a standard price of 1*s.* 4*d.* in

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 173 and 177.
[2] See p. 42.
[3] See pp. 52–3.

the Burgh of Peterhead; and (*d*) the sale of milk for manufacturing purposes. The Committee concluded that the action of the Board on the first three matters, though contrary to the interests of the complainants, was not contrary to the public interest. It found, however, that it would be in the public interest for the Board to fix prices for milk to be sold for manufacturing.

A complaint was also lodged by the East Kilbride Dairy Farmers, Ltd., in respect of the fixation of certain haulage rates, but the action of the Board was upheld.

Towards the end of the year the Committee had before them two more complaints: one by the East of Scotland Milk Producers' Federation regarding the continuance of the two 'Amendment' and 'Direction'[1] Orders made by the Secretary of State on 28 December 1934, and the other by the Distributors regarding the prices prescribed by the Board under the 1935–6 contract.[2] To meet the former the Orders made at the end of 1934 have been maintained for 1936, pending the publishing of the Report of the Reorganization Commission.

5. Reorganization Commission for Milk, Great Britain

In February 1935 the personnel and terms of reference of another Reorganization Commission for Milk were announced by the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Scotland.

The members of the Commission are:

Mr. A. E. Cutforth, C.B.E. (Chairman),
Professor A. W. Ashby, M.A.,
Sir Iain Colquhoun, Bt., D.S.O.,
Sir John Orr, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.D., D.SC., F.R.S., and
Miss D. S. Tomkinson, M.A., J.P.

Its terms of reference are:

(1) To consider the working of organized milk marketing in

[1] See p. 40 and *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 95–6.
[2] See p. 48.

Great Britain under Milk Marketing Schemes and its incidence on production, distribution, and consumption, and to make recommendations for further improvements.

(2) To consider and report on the extent to which, and the manner in which, organization could be facilitated by closer co-operation between the Marketing Boards concerned, or by the amalgamation of some or all of the schemes, including any schemes at present under consideration, or by other adjustments, and to prepare schemes for giving effect to any such adjustments.

(3) To consider and report on the extent to which, and the manner in which, the organization of milk marketing in Great Britain could be facilitated by closer co-operation between Milk Marketing Boards in Great Britain and the appropriate authorities in Northern Ireland.

The Commission has visited the areas of all the Milk Marketing Schemes, and is expected to report in May 1936.

During 1935 three major issues of policy have been referred to the Commission by the responsible Ministers; the protests of the Consumers' Committees about excessive retail prices;[1] proposed amendments to the England and Wales Milk Marketing Scheme submitted by the National Farmers' Union; and the modifications of the Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme in the interests of eastern producers.[2]

6. Reorganization Commission for Eggs and Poultry, Great Britain

On 25 January 1935 the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Scotland appointed an Agricultural Marketing Reorganization Commission for Great Britain, for Eggs and Poultry, consisting of:

Mr. F. N. Blundell, D.L., J.P. (Chairman),
Mr. A. F. Forbes, C.A.,
Mrs. Lindsey K. Huxley,
Mr. James Prentice, and
Major Mark Sprot of Riddell, D.L., J.P.,

with Mr. H. J. Johns, M.B.E., of the Ministry of Agriculture,

[1] See p. 117. [2] See pp. 40–1.

and Mr. J. C. Russell, of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, as Joint Secretaries.

It was charged with the duty of investigating and reporting on the manner in which the operation of the schemes for regulating the marketing of eggs and poultry prepared by the Reorganization Commissions for England and Wales and for Scotland could be facilitated:

(*a*) by co-operation between the Boards administering them and between them and any corresponding body in Northern Ireland; and

(*b*) by any measures affecting imports of eggs and poultry and other poultry products.

Soon after the appointment of the Reorganization Commission the Reports of the Reorganization Commissions for England and Wales and for Scotland respectively, were published. They both recommended the establishment of Marketing Schemes, and the establishment of packing stations for eggs. Their proposals were fully described in *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 144–50. The schemes were not proceeded with pending the report of the Reorganization Commission for Great Britain.

In accordance, however, with a recommendation of the Commissions for England and Wales and for Scotland, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Secretary of State for Scotland, jointly appointed a Committee at the end of September to consider the present methods of supply and distribution of hatching eggs, day-old chicks, and breeding stock in Great Britain, with particular reference to the reduction of poultry mortality. Mr. F. N. Blundell, D.L., J.P., Chairman of the Reorganization Commission for Great Britain, was appointed Chairman of the Committee, and Mr. P. A. Francis, O.B.E., Poultry Commissioner, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Secretary.

The Reorganization Commission for Great Britain reported[1] on 5 December 1935. In a preliminary survey of the

[1] *Eggs and Poultry. Report of the Reorganization Commission for Great Britain.* Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Series No. 43, 1935.

existing and recent position it described the supply and price situation, noting in particular the seasonal variations both of home-produced and imported eggs and poultry, and emphasizing the premiums which the home-produced products obtain over the imported, with which they compete only imperfectly. It attributed the decline in imports partly to tariffs, but partly also to the fall in price levels and the depreciation in sterling. It did not anticipate any further reduction in imports under the present level of duties.

The Commission considered that the control of imports would do more to expand the home industry than to raise prices. They argued that, if food production at home is to be expanded, egg production is particularly suitable for assistance; the demand for eggs is elastic, so that comparatively little assistance would be needed; they deteriorate with transportation; a large number of people are engaged in the industry. Too rapid an expansion of the industry was undesirable, however, and consideration must be paid to the interests of international trade and of consumers.

While the Commission emphatically stated its belief that reorganization at home holds much greater possibilities than import restriction as a means of opening up the new markets for home produce on which expansion must mainly depend, it concluded that assistance by means of an import duty is preferable in this industry to quantitative regulation.

It recommended that the existing import duties on eggs in shell from foreign countries should be increased by agreement or after the expiry of the present agreements on 31 December 1936 by 6*d.* per long hundred, and that a duty of 6*d.* per long hundred should be imposed on all eggs in shell imported from Empire countries now on the free list. No immediate recommendation was made for the alteration of the duties on *eggs not in shell*, although Mr. Prentice made a reservation on this point. The report suggested, however, that if the market for home-produced 'seconds' should

become seriously affected by the competition of egg products, home eggs should receive the same preference in the manufacturing market as proposed for those in the shell egg market.

Because of the possibility that the exporting countries might over-ride the import duties, the Commission recommended that 25 per cent. of the yield of the duties should be earmarked for the assistance of the home industry. Both the rates of duty and the percentage allocated to the industry were to be subject to review after three years.

To administer the fund appropriated from import duties and for certain other purposes a Permanent Commission of three independent persons nominated by the Ministers of Agriculture in England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland, respectively, was proposed.

The Commission considered that under the present circumstances the existing import duty of 3*d.* per lb. on table poultry affords a substantial margin of preference.

It advocated separate marketing schemes in England and Wales and in Scotland, but close co-ordination between them and the Northern Ireland scheme was essential. It was proposed to set up a Co-ordinating Committee consisting of five representatives of the English Board, two of the Scottish Board, two of the corresponding body in Northern Ireland, and the three members of the Permanent Commission.

The report endorsed the previous recommendation that imported cold-stored eggs should be specially marked.

In conclusion the Commission reiterated that the recommendations as to import policy were intended to supplement and to assist the reorganization of home marketing, not to avoid the need for it.

IV. SUBSIDIES AND LEVIES

A. General

THE Government has based much of its agricultural policy on market reorganization[1] and regulation of imports,[2] but for four commodities, sugar, wheat, milk, and fat cattle, it has found these measures either unsuitable or inapplicable owing to existing treaty arrangements. Schemes for more or less direct assistance have been instituted for these products, the necessary money being raised either by the Exchequer or by special funds.

For the first two the payments are part of a long-term policy, while those for fat cattle and, for the greater part, for milk are temporary, and more in the nature of loans, to tide the respective industries over difficult periods until such time as other types of assistance may be substituted.

Sugar. The production of sugar beet has been subsidized indirectly by the Exchequer under the Beet Sugar Subsidy Act since 1925, and exemption from Excise Duty was also granted to the industry. During the years 1925–6 to 1934–5 the subsidy, which is paid on sugar made from sugar beet, amounted to £34 million, and the loss to the Exchequer through duty rebates to nearly £13 million.

The subsidies for the years 1935–6 and 1936–7 have been estimated at about £3 million and £$2\frac{3}{4}$ million respectively, and the remission of excise at £$2\frac{1}{2}$–£3 million in each year.

Wheat. Wheat production has been assisted, under the Wheat Act, since 1932. Funds are raised by a levy on the output of flour, whether from imported or home-produced wheat, and on flour imports; this fund, collected by the millers and paid to a Wheat Commission, is then distributed to farmers on their sales of millable wheat in the form of a 'deficiency payment' which is the difference between the

[1] pp. 19–129. [2] 158–89.

ascertained average market price of British wheat and a 'Standard Price' of 10*s.* per cwt. If sales exceed 27,000,000 cwt. the deficiency payment is reduced proportionately. During 1935 a Committee, established under the Act, considered whether the 'Standard Price' should be varied, but recommended no change.

Deficiency payments in the first three years, 1932–3 to 1934–5, totalled about £18½ million. The total payments for 1935–6 are estimated at about £6¼ million.

Milk. The subsidy to milk production, under the Milk Act, 1934, is divided into three sections.

The first guaranteed, until 31 March 1936, a minimum price for manufactured milk and for milk used for farm-house cheese-making; the sums advanced under this section were to be repaid during the two years 1 April 1936 to 31 March 1938 if the cheese milk price rose by more than 1*d.* above the guaranteed Standard Price. The provisions of this section have been extended for a further eighteen months, 31 October 1937, and the date for repayment has also been extended. Payments under this section amounted to about £1¼ million in 1934–5, and are estimated at about the same figure for 1935–6 and at £2½ million for the next eighteen months.

The second section was designed to improve the quality of the milk supply, and was estimated not to exceed £750,000 over four consecutive years.

The third section was intended to increase the demand for liquid milk. Under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme provision is made for the Minister to pay not more than one-half of the expenses incurred by the Boards. The total assistance was originally limited to £1 million, but a further £500,000 were added when the period was extended to 31 October 1937.

The funds under this Act are all distributable only through the Marketing Boards.

Fat Cattle. The subsidy for fat cattle, paid under the

Cattle (Emergency Provisions) Act, began in September 1934, and provides for a payment of 5*s*. per live cwt. or 9*s*. 4*d*. per cwt. of dressed carcass on fat cattle reaching a certain dressing percentage. It was intended to end in April 1935, but it has been extended to 31 October 1936, when the Argentine Trade Agreement ends. Payments during the first year amounted to about £3½ million and are estimated at something less than £4½ million for the next fourteen months.

The periods over which all these payments are made do not coincide; the wheat year runs from 1 August–31 July, the first year of the cattle subsidy ran from 1 September–31 August, the sugar subsidy year covers 1 September–31 August, while the manufacturing milk year started on 1 April. The following table gives, therefore, an approximate summary of the assistance to Fat Cattle, Wheat, Milk, and Sugar during the year 1934–5, and estimates for the year 1935–6:

Estimated Amount of Assistance, 1934–5 and 1935–6

		1934–5	*1935–6*
		£	£
Fat cattle		3,600,000	3,860,000*
Wheat		6,800,000	6,300,000
Milk	Manufacturing milk	1,300,000	1,200,000
	Clean milk	†	‡
	Milk-in-schools, &c.	500,000	500,000
Sugar	Subsidy	4,430,000	2,770,000
	Revenue rebate	3,170,000	2,900,000
	Total	19,800,000	17,630,000

* $\frac{12}{14}$ of £4,500,000. † About £1,000. ‡ Not available.

B. Sugar

Under the British Sugar (Subsidy) Act of 1925 the production of sugar and molasses in Great Britain was to be subsidized, at a gradually decreasing rate, for a ten-year period ending 30 September 1934. In April 1934, when the subsidy period was nearing its end, the Chancellor of the

Exchequer and the Minister of Agriculture appointed a Committee consisting of,

Mr. Wilfred Greene, K.C. (now Lord Justice Greene) (Chairman),
Sir Kenneth Lee, and
Mr. C. E. Lloyd.

to enquire into the condition of the sugar industry in the United Kingdom, including both home-grown beet sugar and imported sugar and covering production, refining, and distribution and, having in mind the changes in the structure of the industry which would follow upon its reorganisation under the Agricultural Marketing Acts, to make recommendations for its future conduct and in particular as to the application of State aid in so far as this may be considered necessary.

Owing to the time taken in preparing the Committee's report, the Government was obliged to continue its temporary policy for another year, and passed the British Sugar Beet Subsidy Act, 1935. This Act granted a subsidy at the rate of 5*s*. per cwt. of white sugar, related to a raw sugar price of 4*s*. 6*d*. per cwt., with appropriate adjustments if the price of raw sugar should vary. Assistance was limited to the produce of 375,000 acres of sugar beet, and was calculated to provide a price to growers about 1*s*. per ton below that prevailing for the 1934 crop, and the subsidy on molasses was discontinued. The figure of 5*s*. per cwt. was based on the ascertained average cost of operation of the factories without allowance for capital charges. It was left to the United Kingdom Sugar Industry Inquiry Committee to decide what further allowance, if any, should be made to meet these charges.

The Committee reported in March 1935.[1] It was unable to agree on the major issue of continued assistance to the beet-sugar industry; the Majority Report, signed by the Chairman and Sir Kenneth Lee, held that the advantages of the in-

[1] *Report of the United Kingdom Sugar Industry Inquiry Committee*, Cmd. 4871, 1935.

dustry were insufficient to justify such assistance; in the Minority Report Mr. Cyril Lloyd took the opposite view. On the other main issue, that of reorganization, the Committee was in general agreement that neither the proposed Marketing Schemes[1] nor any possible reorganization within the existing framework of the Agricultural Marketing Acts would be wholly adequate, and put forward an alternative plan for consideration should it be decided to carry on the industry with State assistance. Mr. Lloyd differed from the majority on certain features of this plan.

The Majority Report first described the existing situation in the sugar industry. In dealing with the world situation it emphasized that State assistance was accorded almost universally both to cane and to beet sugar, and that the surpluses which constituted such a large part of the world's market supplies and determined the world price were, in effect, 'dumped' sugar. It saw no reason, however, to expect any substantial rise in raw sugar prices in the near future. In dealing with the home industry, the assistance granted to it was stated, and an attempt was made to assess the effect of the development of sugar-beet growing on farming practice, and particularly on agricultural employment. As to the sugar-refining industry, the Committee concluded that the changes made in the Finance Act, 1928, had placed the refineries in an unduly favourable position relatively to the beet-sugar factories. In its analysis of the consumption and distribution of sugar the Committee noted the fall in the price of sugar and the comparatively small margin of profit in distribution.

The Committee recommended that if State assistance were to be continued, then, in order to attain economies in operation and in the distribution of beet growing, the factories should be unified in a single Corporation which should buy all the beet delivered to it at a price negotiated with the

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 158–61.

growers (represented by the Sugar Beet Marketing Board or some other body). No further factories should be erected, and contracts should be limited to an acreage sufficient to produce a throughput necessary for the efficient operation of the existing factories; this area would be about 375,000 to 400,000 acres. Assistance from the State would be needed in order to provide for a reasonable price for beet and a fair rate of profit for the factory companies. This assistance should take the form of a subsidy as before.

In order, however, to keep the subsidy as low as possible, to safeguard the public interest, and to prevent the establishment of undesirable monopolies, the Committee recommended that a Sugar Commission should be set up by the Government to fix the rate of subsidy and supervise the working of the proposed Factory Corporation.

The Committee also made recommendations regarding the relationship between the proposed Factory Corporation and the refineries, and suggested, in particular, that the Sugar Commission should be given the power to provide either a maximum or a minimum, or both, for the refining margin. It made other suggestions as to the functions of the proposed Sugar Commission and recommended, *inter alia*, that it should promote education and research.

The Majority Report finally turned to the subject of continued State assistance to the industry. It reiterated its conclusion that the British industry could not stand unsupported in the face of competition from cane sugar, or even from sugar beet produced in countries with lower wages. It had received no evidence to suggest that the additional employment provided, either directly or indirectly, by the industry was any greater than would have been provided had the subsidy been expended elsewhere, or that the employment afforded—which in fact was mainly casual—was of a specially desirable character. Thus it rejected the suggested non-agricultural advantages of assistance and the technical agri-

cultural advantages as inadequate to justify the expenditure involved, and concluded that the principal value of the industry was that of a relief measure. As such the Majority considered that it had proved unsatisfactory, for the cash payments to the farmer for beet had only just equalled the assistance. Thus, State assistance was not adding something to the value of a crop which would anyhow have had a commercial value; rather was it almost wholly creating its value. Further, the assistance was haphazard and inequitable and largely confined to farmers within 25 miles of a factory. The Committee considered, moreover, that sugar beet was becoming the centre of a rotational system, which was undesirable for such a heavily subsidized crop, and that the granting of a subsidy necessitated the somewhat stringent form of control which it had proposed—a control which would prove unnecessary if the subsidy was discontinued.

The majority of the Committee thus unhesitatingly concluded that if the beet-sugar industry did not exist there would be no justification for creating it. It considered, further, that it would be preferable to face the dislocation which would follow the end of the subsidy rather than to continue it. It recommended accordingly that the subsidy should cease, and that home-produced sugar should pay an excise equivalent to the preferential duty on Colonial 'certificated' sugar. To tide beet-growers over the necessary change it suggested that they should be paid £3 an acre during the first year, £2 during the second year, and £1 during the third on the average acreage planted with beet during the years 1933–5.

Mr. Lloyd disagreed with his colleagues on the subject of continued assistance to the industry. In his Minority Report he doubted whether assistance on the scale suggested by the Majority Report would be necessary in order to maintain the industry, but contended that even so it would not be undesirable. The difference of opinion turned on the difference between free trade and protectionist policies, and he set more

weight than did his colleagues on both the agricultural and non-agricultural advantages of the industry. He recommended that the benefits of the assistance should be spread by paying a standard price for beet on the farm. He preferred a levy-cum-subsidy, on the lines of the Wheat Act, and a remission of excise rather than a direct subsidy. He favoured the general lines of reorganization suggested by the Majority, but proposed a form of control rather less rigid.

The Minister of Agriculture announced in the House of Commons on 30 July that the Government had decided, on agricultural grounds, to continue to assist the beet-sugar industry. Subsequently, on the second reading of the Sugar Industry Reorganization Bill on 10 February 1936 he stated that the fundamental reason why the Government had rejected the recommendation of the Majority Report to end the industry was that the Committee looked at sugar alone, but that the Government had to look at agriculture and, indeed, at employment as a whole. He maintained that the Committee's recommendation that farmers should turn to an alternative crop was impracticable as there was no alternative crop or alternative industry to which they could turn, and every industry now required and obtained protection against world competition.

The Government therefore decided to continue to assist the industry without any specific limitation of period; assistance, however, was to be confined to the equivalent of 560,000 tons of white sugar, the estimated production of 375,000 acres. This acreage, though 7 per cent. below that planted in 1934, was greater than that in any previous year.

In their other proposals, first embodied in a White Paper[1] published in July 1935, and subsequently, in a slightly modified form, in the Sugar Industry (Reorganization) Bill[2] and the accompanying Explanatory Memorandum,[3] the Govern-

[1] Cmd. 4964, 1935.
[2] 26 Geo. V, and 1 Edw. VIII.
[3] Cmd. 5080, 1936

ment followed, on the whole, the recommendations made by the Sugar Industry Inquiry Committee if assistance were to be continued.

The sugar factories were to be amalgamated into a single Corporation, the British Sugar Corporation, Ltd., under the supervision of a permanent Sugar Commission. This Commission was to keep under review the growing of sugar beet and the manufacture, refining, marketing, and consumption of sugar, was to advise the Government on the administration of the subsidy, and have a measure of executive authority on certain technical questions. It was also to promote education and research out of funds provided by the industry. The general expenses of the Commission, estimated at about £10,000 a year, were to be paid by the Exchequer.

It was anticipated that the amalgamation of the companies would be effected voluntarily; to assist this amalgamation and to advise the Government on any scheme proposed by the factories a temporary Sugar Tribunal was set up at the end of September, consisting of,

Lt.-Col. Sir Francis Henry Humphrys, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.B.E., C.I.E. (Chairman),
Sir Thomas D. Barlow, K.B.E., and
Mr. William E. Mortimer,

with Dr. C. Burgess, of the Ministry of Agriculture, as Secretary. If, however, amalgamation was not completed voluntarily within a reasonable period after the passing of the Bill it was to be undertaken in accordance with a scheme prepared by the Sugar Commission. As to the terms on which the Companies were to be taken over, the Minister of Agriculture laid it down as a general principle that it would not be reasonable for claims to compensation to be founded upon moneys which had been voted by the House on a terminable contract, but that the companies should be taken over as going concerns and not at scrap value.

As only fixed assets were to be taken over by the Corporation, it was proposed that provision should be made to supplement its working capital by a Treasury guarantee of debentures issued by the Corporation up to £1,000,000. No additional liability on public funds was anticipated from the guarantee.

The Government also made proposals for the relationship between the beet-sugar factories and the refineries which, while different from those recommended by the Inquiry Committee, were designed to have the same financial effects. They were not prepared to accept the Committee's recommendation that the Sugar Commission should be given power to prescribe either a maximum or minimum refining margin, or both, but had received an assurance from the refiners that they did not intend to raise the refining margin above the present level. They asked for powers to license factories, but stated that they would certainly not desire to impose a licensing system on an unwilling industry, nor introduce such a system unless they were satisfied that consumers' interests could be properly protected.

Financial assistance to the Corporation will depend on certain conditions:

(1) Paying the growers of sugar a contract price fixed for the year 1936–7 at 35*s*. and 36*s*. per ton, respectively, for beet delivered to factories which had contracted to pay 36*s*. and 38*s*., respectively, in 1935–6, and at 34*s*. per ton, free-on-rail, for beet consigned to the Cupar factory.[1] For subsequent years the contract terms to be determined after consultation with the Sugar Commission, by negotiation between the Corporation and a Sugar Beet Marketing Board,[2] or, if there be no such Board, representatives of the growers.

(2) Complying with proposals submitted to and approved

[1] These prices assume a factory output not exceeding 560,000 tons of white sugar, and may be reduced if such output is exceeded.

[2] See p. 112.

by the Sugar Commission with regard to the production and marketing of white sugar.

(3) Complying with any orders made by the Commission to ensure that purchases of machinery, plant, &c., are, so far as possible, of United Kingdom manufacture.

The first of these conditions is designed to ensure that the beet-growers obtained their share of the financial assistance. It is provided also that, in the event of a poor crop and an output of white sugar below 560,000 tons, additional payments equal to half the saving in cost to the Exchequer due to the smaller output of sugar should be made by the Exchequer to the Corporation for transmission to the growers, subject to a maximum payment of 1*s.* per ton of beet of 15½ per cent. sugar content.

The rate of assistance to the Corporation is to be based on certain standard conditions specified when this rate is fixed each year, as to the duty advantage or difference between the customs and excise duties, the price of raw sugar, the quantity of sugar manufactured by the Corporation from home-grown beet, and the maximum quota income derived by the Corporation from selling quotas to refiners. A specified alteration in the rate of assistance is to follow any change in these standard conditions. In particular, if the average price of raw sugar exceeds or falls short of the standard price determined for the year 1936–7 at 4*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., the rate of assistance is to decrease or increase by the amount of difference between the average and the standard price.

The prescribed rate of assistance is to be 5*s.* 3*d.* per cwt. in 1936, and in future years it will be prescribed by the Minister, after consultation with the Sugar Commission and with the consent of the Treasury, on the basis of the ascertained results of the previous year adjusted, if necessary, to take account of all possible economies in operation which the Corporation could be expected to make. Allowance is to be made for depreciation and for any other approved purpose

and for the payment of interest on the capital of the Corporation at rates considered reasonable by the Treasury. If the present price of raw sugar, 5*s.* per cwt., be maintained, the specified rate of assistance will be adjusted to 4*s.* 9*d.*, compared with 7*s.* 3*d.* in 1934–5.

The Government included in the Bill allowances for capital services for the year 1935, for which no provision was made in the British Sugar (Subsidy) Act, 1935. £240,000 is to be allowed for depreciation and £315,000 for interest, which, added to the rate of assistance authorized by the Act of 1935,[1] brings the total assistance for the 1935 crop to 5*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.

The amounts paid in subsidy since the passage of the British Sugar (Subsidy) Act of 1925, and the revenue abatements, together with estimates for next year, are shown in the following table:

Subsidy and Revenue Abatement on Home-Grown Sugar

Period	*Subsidy*	*Revenue abatement*
	£	£
10 years 1924–5 to 1933–4* . .	29,907,988	9,649,000
1934–5	4,430,000	3,170,000
1935–6†	2,775,000	2,900,000
1936–7†	2,750,000	2,900,000

* For annual figures see *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 203.
† Provisional.

The loss of revenue, estimated at £2,900,000 both in 1935–6 and 1936–7, depends upon the ratio between raw and white sugar, and is calculated upon the assumption that this ratio will remain unchanged. If the proportion of white sugar increases, the loss of revenue will decrease.

[1] 5*s.* per cwt., adjusted for an excess in the market price, of raw sugar over the specified standard price.

C. Wheat

The accounts of the Wheat Commission for the second quota period, 1 August 1933 to 31 July 1934, were published in 1935.[1] Quota payments by millers and importers of flour, less certain repayments, totalled £7,180,764 7*s*. 9*d*., compared with £4,774,207 13*s*. 1*d*. in the previous year, while deficiency payments amounted to £7,179,747 16*s*. 7*d*., compared with £4,510,946 0*s*. 8*d*. A balance of £221,038 2*s*. 5*d*. was brought forward from the previous year and, after allowing for various items of expenditure and income, £170,418 12*s*. 10*d*. was carried forward at 31 July 1934. Expenditure exceeded income during the year by £45,966 6*s*. 6*d*., while charges attributable to the previous year's trading amounted to £4,653 3*s*. 1*d*.

During the third quota period, 1 August 1934 to 31 July 1935, sales of millable wheat amounted to 35,920,000 cwt., compared with 29,570,000 cwt. in 1933–4 and 20,400,000 cwt. in 1932–3, and exceeded the amount on which the full deficiency payment could be made by nearly 9,000,000 cwt. The ascertained average price for the year was 4*s*. 10·873*d*. per cwt. This price had been estimated by the Minister in August 1934 at 5*s*. per cwt. and the anticipated supply at 29,000,000 cwt., though the latter figure was subsequently raised to 32,000,000 cwt.[2]

The final deficiency payment to growers was made in September 1935, advance payments having been made in December 1934 and in February, April, and July 1935. The total deficiency payments were estimated at £6,813,000, or an average of just over £72 to the 94,444 growers qualifying for payment. This was equivalent to 3*s*. 9·55*d*. per cwt. (17*s*. 1*d*.

[1] *Wheat Fund Accounts, 1933–4*, His Majesty's Stationery Office, 1935.

[2] Wheat (Anticipated Supply) No. 2 Order, 1934, S.R. and O., 1934, No. 882; Wheat (Anticipated Supply), No. 1 Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 74; Wheat (Ascertained Average Price) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 889.

per quarter), making the average return to farmers for home-grown millable wheat about 8*s.* 8½*d.* per cwt.

The payment for the 1934–5 year began at 19·2*d.* per cwt., but was changed on 17 March 1935 to 21·6*d.* per cwt.

As a result of the smaller 1935 crop, the payment was reduced to 19·2*d.* per cwt. from 29 September 1935, and to 16·8*d.* (3*s.* 6*d.* per sack) from 3 November.[1]

Estimated and Actual Supplies and Deficiency Payments under the Wheat Act for the Different Quota Periods

	1932–3	*1933–4*	*1934–5*	*1935–6*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Anticipated supply of wheat	19,800,000	29,000,000	32,000,000	30,400,000
,, flour supply	90,000,000	83,600,000	84,375,000	83,000,000
Estimated average wheat price	5*s.* 9*d.*	5*s.* 8*d.*	5*s.* 0*d.*	5*s.* 4*d.*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Actual sales of wheat	20,400,000	29,570,000	35,920,000	..
Ascertained average price	5*s.* 4 46*d.*	4*s.* 7 63*d.*	4*s.* 10 873*d.*	..
Deficiency payment	4*s.* 5 25*d.*	4*s.* 10 30*d.*	3*s.* 9 55*d.*	4*s.* 1¾*d.*†
Average return per cwt	9*s.* 9 71*d.*	9*s.* 5 93*d.*	8*s.* 8 423*d.*	9*s.* 5¾*d.*†
Payments to growers	£4,511,000	£7,180,000	£6,813,000*	£6,300,000†

* Provisional. † Estimated.

If the estimated average price of 5*s.* 4*d.* for the 1935–6 crop is correct payments to growers for 1935–6 will probably amount to about £6,300,000. The supply of home-grown millable wheat has been estimated by the Minister at 30,400,000 cwt.[2] If these estimates prove correct the deficiency payment should amount to 4*s.* 1¾*d.* per cwt., making a total return to growers of 9*s.* 5¾*d.* per cwt., about 9*d.* per cwt. higher than in 1934–5.

Certificates lodged with the Wheat Commission by registered growers from 1 August to 4 October 1935 covered

[1] Wheat (Quota Payments), No. 2 Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 950; Wheat (Quota Payments), No. 3 Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 1862.

[2] Wheat (Anticipated Supply), No. 1 Order, 1936, S.R. and O., 1936, No. 63.

5,979,258 cwt. of millable wheat, an increase of nearly 592,045 cwt., or 10 per cent., on the previous year. When it is remembered that the 1935 crop was considerably smaller than that of 1934 it will be seen that the proportion of the crop marketed during the first two months rose considerably.

An advance payment of £1,589,300 was made at the end of November in respect of 11,558,000 cwts. of millable wheat for which certificates were lodged with the Commission between 1 August and 1 November, being at the rate of *2s. 9d.* per cwt.

Sir Geoffrey L. Corbett, K.B.E., C.I.E., resigned his membership of the Wheat Commission in July 1935. In September Alderman S. Stephens of Plymouth was appointed to represent the interest of bakers.

A Committee known as the 'Standard Price Committee' was appointed in February to review the standard price provided in the Wheat Act. The Committee reported in June. It unanimously decided that it was undesirable to make any alteration in the 'Standard Price' at the present time, and considered the period of three years since the passing of the Wheat Act too short to enable definite conclusions to be reached regarding the future.[1]

Flour Millers' Corporation.

Under the Second Schedule of the Wheat Act provisions were made for setting up a Flour Millers' Corporation, and, as announced in the *Agricultural Register, 1934–5*,[2] a provisional corporation was appointed to hold office till a scheme should be prepared.

A scheme, which was called the Flour Millers' Corporation Scheme, 1935, was presented to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries in January 1936. It provided that the Corporation should publish annually a register of millers and that no

[1] See p. 144.

[2] See pp. 201–2.

miller who is not registered should be entitled to vote at an election of the members of the Corporation. Any miller making application is, however, entitled to be registered.

An election of members of the Corporation will be held in March 1936 and every third year thereafter. The Corporation will consist of five members—three being elected by registered millers who are members of the Incorporated National Association of British and Irish Millers Limited, one by millers who are members of registered societies, and one by millers who are neither members of the Incorporated National Association nor of registered societies. The Corporation must elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman annually at the first meeting held after 1 April in each year, and it may also appoint Committees from among its members.

Under the Wheat Act the main purpose of the Corporation was defined as that of buying from registered wheat-growers such stocks as are on hand at the close of the cereal year if the Wheat Commission makes such representations to the Minister in June of that year. In September 1935 the Wheat Commission announced that it was not necessary to ask the Flour Millers' Corporation to buy any stocks of home-grown millable wheat in respect of the year 1934–5.

Standard Price Committee.

The Standard Price Committee was appointed on 26 February 1935 by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Secretary of State for Scotland, and the Secretary of State for the Home Department under powers conferred on them by the Wheat Act, 1932. The personnel of the Committee was as follows:

Sir John Field Beale, K.B.E. (Chairman),
Sir William Henry Peat, K.B.E., M.A., F.C.A.,
W. R. Smith, Esq.,

with Mr. W. P. Hildred, O.B.E., of the Ministry of Agricul-

ture and Fisheries as Secretary. The Committee were asked to report as to the desirability of making any alterations in the standard price of wheat, which under the Wheat Act was fixed at 10*s*. per cwt. or 45*s*. per quarter. The Committee issued its report on 6 June 1935.[1]

This report first reviewed the effect of the Act on the wheat acreage, which increased from 1,343,000 acres in 1932 to 1,866,000 acres in 1934. Total wheat production increased in even greater proportion owing to the exceptionally high yields per acre in 1933 and 1934. The report pointed out, however, that the acreage under barley and oats, particularly the latter, declined considerably between 1931 and 1934, with the result that the total arable acreage in the United Kingdom did not increase during this period. On this evidence the Committee concluded that 'the Act has not encouraged cultivation on land unsuitable for the purpose'. It was for this reason that the framers of the Wheat Act set a limit to the quantity of wheat on which the standard price would be paid.

The report then reviewed the changes in general economic conditions and the conditions affecting agriculture since the passing of the Act, in order to 'reach some conclusion as to whether the charge of the quota payments on the consumer has materially changed . . . and if so, in what direction; and whether the change, if any, in general agricultural conditions has been such as to justify our recommending any change in the standard price'.

On the first point the Committee, after an examination of the indices of wholesale and retail prices, concluded that there has been little change in the purchasing power of sterling in terms of commodities. The increase in the price of the 2 lb. loaf between 19 June 1932 and 23 March 1935 averaged ¼*d*. This was calculated to be 7 per cent. of the price of bread (excluding quota) in 1934, which was equivalent to 0·3 per cent. in the food bill of the average consumer.

[1] *Report of the Standard Price Committee*, Cmd. 4932, 1935.

Moreover, the condition of the wage-earning classes had improved since 1932. They were bearing no greater burden, therefore, than when the wheat subsidy was first imposed.

The report then reviewed the world wheat situation and the circumstances which led to the signing of the International Wheat Agreement, which endeavoured to adjust the supply of wheat to effective world demand.[1]

The effects of the subsidy on domestic agriculture are, of course, difficult to measure. But it would seem that one result has been to increase the proportion of the wheat crop sold off the farm, and to reduce the proportion used for feed and seed. The cheapness of purchased foodstuffs and the subsidy on sales of millable wheat encouraged farmers to adopt this policy. A secondary result may also have been to improve the quality of seed wheat, for all purchased seed is subject to the germination test, whereas home produced seed is not.

The total disbursements for the three seasons 1932–3 to 1934–5 amounted to over £18 million, or 72*s.* 8*d.* per wheat acre, and this cannot fail to have improved the financial position of farmers, particularly in the Eastern counties, where wheat is a relatively important crop. Similarly, there are indications that agricultural wages in the wheat growing areas have increased to a greater extent than in England and Wales as a whole, while hours of work have declined 1 hour per week in the former and 0·4 in the latter areas. Moreover, the Committee had 'little doubt that a reduction in the standard price would have an adverse effect upon agricultural wages in the wheat growing areas, a consideration which cannot be overlooked'.

The report concluded that it is undesirable to make any alteration in the standard price at the present time, though it pointed out that the three years since the passing of the Wheat Act was too short a time to enable definite conclusions

[1] See pp. 179–81, also *Agricultural Register*, *1934–5*, pp. 40–4.

to be reached, especially in view of the exceptional harvests of 1933 and 1934. Moreover, the wheat subsidy cannot be considered apart from the Government's whole agricultural policy, particularly its policy in regard to the sugar-beet industry, with which the wheat growing is linked in many districts.

D. Milk

Since April 1934 payments have been made from the Exchequer to the milk industry, under the Milk Act, 1934.[1] These payments are used for three purposes:

(*a*) to raise the returns for manufacturing milk and farm-house cheese;
(*b*) to improve the quality of the milk supply;
(*c*) to increase the demand for milk.

In putting forward these proposals in the House of Commons the Minister of Agriculture said that the payments on manufacturing milk were to hold the position while the campaigns for improving the quality and increasing the demand were getting under way, and that the manufacturing market must be underpinned so as to break the vicious spiral by which lower manufacturing prices necessitated higher prices for liquid milk.

(*a*) *To raise the returns for manufacturing milk and farm-house cheese.*

This part of the Act (Sections 1, 2, 3, and 6) was intended to guarantee a minimum standard price for manufactured milk of 5*d.* per gallon in summer and 6*d.* per gallon in winter for two years ending in April 1936.[1]

These payments were estimated to cost from £1½ to £1¾ million yearly in Great Britain, and not more than £200,000 yearly in Northern Ireland, and were to be repayable to the Exchequer if, during any month in the two years beginning

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 192–7.

1 April 1936, the 'cheese-milk price' exceeded the guaranteed minimum price by more than 1*d.* per gallon.

The 'cheese-milk price' varied during the six months October 1934 to March 1935 from 3·72*d.* to 4·23*d.* per gallon, so that the greater part of the payments by the Government were made at rates varying from 2¼*d.* to 1¾*d.* per gallon. During the summer months of 1935 the 'cheese-milk price' varied from 3·79*d.* to 4·26*d.*, and the payments were made at from 1¼*d.* to ¾*d.* per gallon, compared with 1½*d.* to 1¼*d.* per gallon in the previous summer. In the last three months of 1935 the 'cheese-milk price' varied from 4·36*d.* to 4·85*d.*, and payments varied from 1¾*d.* to 1¼*d.* per gallon.

The quantities of milk upon which payments were due under Sections 1, 3, and 6 of the Act, and the actual payments, are shown in the table on p. 149, the larger volume of manufacturing milk in the summer of 1935 necessitating larger payments than in 1934. Payments due from April 1934 to September 1935, so far as they are available, amounted to £1,578,118 under Section 1, £215,000 under Section 3, and £264,341 under Section 6, a total of £2,057,959.

In addition, for the year April 1934 to March 1935, £5,924 was paid to the Milk Marketing Board, under Section 2 for 846,293 gallons of milk manufactured by it; in addition, advances amounting to £70,000 were made to the Scottish Milk Marketing Board for milk manufactured by them between April 1934 and October 1935, pending the final determination of the 'appropriate prices'.

When these sums are included, total payments under the Milk Act designed to raise the manufacturing price of milk during the period April 1934 to September 1935 amount to about £2,134,000.

Payments under this section are to be continued for an additional eighteen months, until 30 September 1937, while the period for repayment, in the event of these prices increasing, will be extended by the same period. The Minister

Gallonage of Milk upon which Payments were made, and Payments under the Milk Act April 1934–September 1935

	Quantities			*Payments*		
	Apr.–Sept. 1934	*Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935*	*Apr.–Sept. 1935*	*Apr.–Sept. 1934*	*Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935*	*Apr.–Sept. 1935*
Under Section 1:	000 galls.	000 galls.	000 galls.	£	£	£
to Milk Marketing Board	79,404	73,662	121,410	426,664	572,289	456,947
Scottish Milk Marketing Board	4,845	2,631	7,280	27,550	19,414	75,138
Aberdeen and District Milk Marketing Board*	..	..	1	..	..	3
North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board†	..	9	12	..	67	46
Total	84,249	76,302	128,703	454,214	591,770	532,134
Under Section 3:						
to Milk Marketing Board	16,045	2,322	2,287‡	92,720	19,950	7,566‡
Scottish Milk Marketing Board	9,256	1,009	8,280	53,383	8,723	33,158
Total	25,301	3,331	10,567§	146,103	28,673	40,724§
Under Section 6:						
to Northern Ireland	12,151	6,128	16,248	101,362	62,728	100,251
Grand Total, under Sections 1, 3, and 6	121,701	85,761	155,518§	701,679	683,171	673,109§

* Scheme came into operation on 1 August 1934.
† Scheme came into operation on 1 October 1934.
‡ April–June only.
§ Incomplete.

of Agriculture stated that it was not possible in the meantime to bring before Parliament the long-term legislation necessary for the milk industry, which would probably be based on a duty or levy. Such a policy was at present impracticable owing to the terms of the various Trade Agreements and to the fact that the Report of the Reorganization Commission for Milk was not yet ready.

It is estimated that an additional £2½ million will be required for this purpose in Great Britain, and £100,000 in Northern Ireland.[1]

(*b*) *To improve the quality of the milk supply.*

Under Section 9 of the Act the Exchequer may contribute a sum not exceeding £750,000, spread over four years, in order to secure, so far as practicable, that milk supplied for human consumption should be pure and free from infection of any disease.

On 1 February the Ministry of Agriculture started its Attested Herds Scheme, by which registered producers in the Milk Marketing Schemes, who could fulfil the necessary conditions, were paid a bonus of 1*d.* per gallon, in addition to any bonus to which they might be entitled under the Milk Marketing Board's Accredited Herds Scheme. Producers could qualify only if their herds showed no reactors to the tuberculin test. The Ministry made their tests without charge, but required two previous successful tests to have been made, at intervals of not less than six or more than twelve months, before they were prepared to undertake an official test.

The conditions were very generally regarded as unduly strict. It was pointed out that only herds already free, or nearly free, from tuberculosis could hope to profit during the period of the scheme, and that the 1*d.* per gallon bonus

[1] *Milk (Extension of Temporary Provisions). Memorandum on Financial Resolution.* Cmd. 5092, 1936.

was inadequate to cover the expense of eliminating reactors even from a herd containing only 10 per cent. of them. Moreover, as the scheme was limited to registered producers, producers of Certified and Grade A (T.T.) milk, who were exempted from the Scheme in England, could not profit from the bonus. In April Lord de la Warr announced in the House of Lords that only 78 applications had been received for inclusion in the list of Attested Herds, of which 27 had so far been granted.

No payments were made under this section in 1934, but in 1935 £578 was paid out in England and £674 in Scotland.[1]

(*c*) *To increase the demand for milk.*

Section 11 of the Act provides that the Exchequer may contribute equally with the Milk Boards a sum limited to £1,000,000, spread over two years, to increase the demand for milk.

When the Government proposed to extend for eighteen months the period during which payments were to be made to increase the returns for manufacturing milk, it also proposed to provide an extra £500,000 for increasing the demand for milk; this was to be used before 1 October 1937.

Three methods have so far been used to stimulate demand:

(i) the provision of cheap milk to school children,

(ii) an investigation into the nutritional value of milk, and

(iii) publicity.

(i) *The Milk-in-Schools Schemes.* These are by far the most important of the three methods; it is estimated that they will utilize at least six-sevenths of the available funds.

They are designed to supply children in grant-aided schools with one-third of a pint of milk daily, for a price of ½*d.*

Schemes came into force in England on 1 October 1934, in the main Scottish area on 5 November 1934, in the North

[1] From February to September.

of Scotland on 10 December 1934, and in Aberdeen and District on 17 January 1936. Sales of milk under the schemes are shown in the accompanying table.

Quantities of Milk Supplied under the Milk-in-Schools Scheme October 1934–September 1935

	Milk Marketing Board	*Scottish Milk Marketing Board*	*North of Scotland Milk Marketing Board*
1934	gallons	gallons	gallons
Oct. . .	1,970,485	..	..
Nov. . .	2,446,722	20,467	..
Dec. . .	1,769,568	34,442	..
1935			
Jan. . .	2,171,463	113,369	..
Feb. .	2,344,303	173,780	..
Mar. .	2,385,224	311,789	..
Apr. .	1,646,197	213,584	..
May . .	2,241,505	363,182	493
June	1,580,454	296,691	1,000
July . .	1,821,947	34,350	..
Aug. . .	446,810	82,769	149
Sept. . .	1,932,953	286,961	1,429
Year 1934–5 .	22,757,631	1,931,384	3,071
Payments	£	£	£
Year 1934–5 .	447,495	33,835	62

During the twelve months October 1934 to September 1935 22,757,631 gallons of milk were used under the Scheme in England and Wales, 1,931,384 gallons in the main Scottish area, and 3,071 gallons in the North of Scotland, where the Scheme only started in May 1935. Monthly sales varied substantially, partly because of the school holidays; there is also, however, an indication that sales, which were tending upwards until March in England and May in Scotland, have since begun to fall off.

Total payments under the Scheme amounted to £481,392 in the twelve months.

The ½*d.* paid by the children for each third of a pint amounts to 1*s.* per gallon, of which 6*d.* goes to the distributor. The methods of sharing the loss between the Exchequer and the Boards has not been changed during the year.[1] They are rather different in England and in Scotland, since in England ordinary milk is supplied to the children, and in Scotland, so far as possible, Grade A (T.T.) milk.[2]

The success of this scheme has led the Milk Boards to contemplate its extension to other classes of the population. In England it is hoped to include children under five, expectant mothers, and a number of consumers in the distressed areas. No official pronouncement has, however, been made on this matter.

(ii) *An Investigation into the Nutritional Value of Milk.* At the instance of the Advisory Committee on milk publicity proposals were made for testing the nutritive value of milk, and a Sub-Committee was entrusted with the scientific side of the investigation. It was decided to test the effect of different quantities of raw and pasteurized milk on the growth of school children in about five selected areas in Great Britain, where few children were participating in the Milk-in-Schools Scheme; four lots of 2,000 children were to be taken, and were to be given respectively biscuits but no milk, ⅓ pint of pasteurized milk, ⅔ pint pasteurized milk, or ⅔ pint raw milk daily. Four full-time Medical Officers were appointed to conduct the investigation in elementary schools. In addition, feeding experiments on animals are to be carried out at the Rowett Institute, Aberdeen, and the National Institute for Research in Dairying, Reading.

The cost of the survey is to be shared between the Exchequer and the Milk Boards. The Exchequer will pay a subsidy at the same rate as in the Milk-in-Schools Scheme on milk supplied to schools for the purpose of this survey, and

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 195–6.
[2] See p. 43.

will in addition contribute up to £5,000 for the purpose of meeting half of the cost of the overhead charges of the survey and half of the loss to the Boards where the child does not pay for the milk.

(iii) *Publicity*. In the early summer the Scottish, the Aberdeen and District, and the English Milk Marketing Boards inaugurated milk publicity schemes estimated to cost £17,000, £1,600, and £60,000 respectively, of which half was to be paid by the Exchequer. Of these amounts some £10,500, £800, and £42,000 respectively were to be spent on press advertising.

E. Fat Cattle

The Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1934, was designed to give assistance to the beef industry until a permanent levy-cum-subsidy scheme could be instituted.[1]

In March 1935 the Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1935, providing for an extension of the subsidy period, was passed through Parliament. The extension was limited to three months in the first instance, with a possible further extension to six months. On 13 June the Minister did, in fact, make an Order prolonging the subsidy period to 30 September 1935.

On 15 July, by a financial resolution of the House of Commons, authority was given for the introduction of a Bill providing for the extension of the subsidy period by not more than thirteen months to 31 October 1936, when the Trade Agreement with Argentina expires. In the period October 1935 to June 1936 the subsidy was estimated to cost not more than £3,000,000, and in the four months July–October 1936 the cost was estimated at a further £1,333,000, subject to the specific authority of Parliament. This measure, which was known as the Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) No. 2 Act, 1935, received Royal Assent on 2 August.

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 197–9.

The payments are made, and the subsidy is administered, by the Cattle Committee. This Committee acts in an advisory capacity to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Secretaries of State in Scotland and in Northern Ireland, and is also authorized by these Ministers to carry out the whole of the executive as well as the advisory duties in connexion with the Scheme.

In April Mr. R. Ross was appointed Secretary to the Committee in succession to Mr. C. T. Houghton, and Sir Robert Greig was appointed a member in place of Mr. W. J. Harvey.

On 8 May the Committee recommended that no change be made in the killing out standard of 54 per cent. to which it had been raised on 1 January, and the appropriate Ministers concurred in this recommendation.

The following table shows, quarterly, the number of animals qualifying for the subsidy and the payments per head for the period September 1934 to November 1935.

Total Numbers of Cattle Certified under the Subsidy from September 1934 to November 1935 and Payments thereon

	Live Weight Centres			*Dead Weight Centres*		
	Numbers	*Payments*	*Payment per head*	*Numbers*	*Payments*	*Payment per head*
		£	£ s. d.		£	£ s. d.
Sept.–Nov.	352,970	1,734,000		8,085	42,400	
Dec.–Feb.	371,962		2 7 10	8,829		2 10 1
Mar.–May	407,067	970,000	2 7 8	10,427	27,000	2 11 10
June–Aug	359,958	843,000	2 6 10	9,462	24,700	2 12 2
First Year	1,491,957	3,547,000	2 7 7	36,803	94,100	2 11 2
Sept.–Nov.	409,621	961,000	2 6 11	12,741	31,900	2 10 0

As to the distribution of marketings in the different countries, the percentage of animals certified in England and Scotland varied little from quarter to quarter. In Wales, however, marketings reached a maximum of 7 per cent. of the total for Great Britain in the autumn and winter and fell to 4 per cent. in the spring and summer.

The north-eastern and eastern divisions of England marketed about one-third of the year's supply in the three spring months, while the east-midland division marketed most in the autumn. In Wales two-thirds of the year's supply was marketed in the autumn and winter months, but in Scotland and Northern Ireland spring marketings were the heaviest, the winter fattening of cattle predominating in the latter areas.

Steers were the biggest class on which payments were made in Scotland, Northern Ireland, and eastern England, while, as might be expected in milk-producing districts, heifers formed the greatest proportion in the west and south-west of England.[1]

The average weight of the fat cattle qualifying for the subsidy in the period September 1934–August 1935 was 9 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb., ranging from 8 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb. in Northern Ireland to 9 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in Scotland. The total payments per head, being at a fixed rate per live or dead cwt., depend directly on the weight of the animals marketed. For the United Kingdom as a whole, payments per head at live weight centres averaged £2 7*s.* 10*d.* for the first six months of the subsidy, £2 7*s.* 8*d.* in the period March–May, and £2 6*s.* 10*d.* in the period June–August, averaging £2 7*s.* 7*d.* for the year September 1934–August 1935. At dead weight centres payments per head in the same periods were £2 10*s.* 1*d.*, £2 11*s.* 10*d.*, and £2 12*s.* 2*d.*, respectively, averaging £2 11*s.* 2*d.* for the year. Total payments in respect of the animals certified in the first year of the subsidy amounted to £3,641,000.

The procedure necessary to enable cattle to qualify for the subsidy has already been described. To minimize the risk of animals being certified more than once, the Cattle Committee announced in October that after 30 November it would not

[1] See article in the *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, November, 1935, pp. 793–800.

recognize as eligible for subsidy any animals marked in the right ear with a mark in a way which might be confused with the certification mark or a mutilation thereof, unless such animals were registered with the Committee.

There has been a demand by Welsh store breeders, which has been supported by the Council of the National Farmers' Union, that no subsidy should be paid on fat cattle imported as stores, but so far no action has been taken on the matter.

V. IMPORT REGULATION

A. GENERAL

THE principal measures adopted for the reorganization of British farming have been described in the two preceding sections under two categories, those aimed at the improved marketing and reduced marketing costs and those which give more direct assistance in the form of subsidies and levies.

With the exception of a few commodities such as liquid milk, main-crop potatoes, and certain fruits and vegetables, a substantial proportion of the total consumption of food is supplied by imports. Control of food supplies or prices immediately raises the question of control of imports.

The aim of the agricultural policy of this country was an increased output of home-grown food. Such a development necessitates, at least at the beginning, a rise in farm prices. While the original intention was to obtain this principally through marketing reorganization and the reduction of the margin between farm and retail prices, it was claimed that some sort of protection from overseas supplies should be afforded during the period of reorganization. The restriction of imports as a means of raising farm prices became, therefore, an essential part of the Government's agricultural policy.

The development of an Empire trade policy, concurrent with the expansion of the home output, necessitated the reduction in imports being confined almost entirely to supplies from foreign countries.

The table on p. 197 summarizes briefly the movements during the past few years in the volume of imports of those commodities which compete most directly with British farm produce. In 1931 the volume was 17 per cent. greater than the average imports in the three years 1927–9.[1] Since then

[1] In September 1931 the volume was actually 35 per cent. higher than in the corresponding period of 1927–9.

there has been a gradual decline in total imports and, in 1935, the index was 103, only 3 per cent. above the 1927–9 level and 12 per cent. less than in 1931. The index numbers for the Empire and foreign countries indicate that the net reduction of 12 per cent. in total imports is due entirely to the drop in supplies from foreign sources. The volume of foreign imports had diminished by 29 per cent. between 1931 and 1935, while the Empire shipments had increased by 17 per cent., and were, in fact, 37 per cent. higher than in 1927–9.

Several factors have tended to reduce imported supplies. The first was the departure from the Gold Standard in September 1931, which led to reduction in shipments from those countries whose currencies remained on gold and which were not in the sterling group.

More active measures have been taken, however, to restrict imports, and these fall into two main categories, import duties and quantitative regulation, details of which are given in the following sections. A further measure designed indirectly to reduce imports was the International Wheat Agreement, which was intended to reduce the production of wheat.

Distinct from these arrangements are the Trade Agreements with various foreign countries, the objects of which were the maintenance of international trade through bilateral agreements.

During 1934 and 1935 the general opinion upon import control and the raising of prices of home products began to change considerably. Some dissatisfaction centred on the failure of quantitative regulation and tariffs as effective measures to raise the prices of certain agricultural products, particularly beef cattle, and, later, the whole question of supply restriction as a constructive policy from the point of view of national health was raised both in this country and by the League of Nations.[1]

In a White Paper published in July 1934[2] the Government

[1] See pp. 8–12.

[2] *The Livestock Situation.* Cmd. 4651, 1934.

examined, for the purposes of raising beef cattle prices, the possibilities of:

(*a*) a drastic reduction of imports by means of quantitative regulation,

(*b*) the collection of a levy on meat imports to provide a fund from which the returns to home producers could be supplemented, imports being unregulated,

(*c*) a levy on imports and payments to producers, as above, coupled with some degree of supply regulation.

The Government was of the opinion that, for a long-term solution, the third of these possibilities would be best, and contemplated that the levy would not exceed 1*d.* per lb. Distribution of the levy fund would be under the control of a Permanent Commission, the proceeds being disbursed to producers as the market situation justified.

Under the Ottawa Agreements no import duty could be imposed upon meat from any part of the British Commonwealth before August 1937, nor upon meat from Argentina before November 1936, without consent. The only course open in the absence of such agreement would be further supply regulation, which was deemed unwise by that time. To allow of further discussions with representatives of the Governments concerned, and to relieve the position of the home producer, the Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act was passed, granting a subsidy until 31 March 1935.[1] This subsidy is in the form of a loan to be recovered from the proceeds of any levy made on imports.

During the early part of 1935 discussions took place between representatives of the United Kingdom, the Dominions, and Argentina, but no agreement was reached before the subsidy on fat cattle was due to expire. To allow time for further negotiation the period of the subsidy was extended, first, to 30 June, and afterwards, to 30 September. Finally

[1] See p. 154.

it was extended to 31 October 1936, the date on which the Trade Agreement with Argentina expires.

In March 1935 a second White Paper[1] was issued, in which the Government once again stressed the serious position of the British live-stock industry, which they considered to be no fault of its own, and its importance to the country. They also referred to the necessity of an expansion of exports of coal and manufactured products, and, therefore, the importance both of inter-Imperial and of foreign trade. They reiterated their conclusion that both these interests could best be served by a levy-cum-subsidy policy. They stated that

'the policy which His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom desire to bring into operation as soon as they are in a position to do so is to assist the United Kingdom live-stock industry, according to the needs of the market, from the proceeds of a levy on imports (with a preference to the Dominions), overseas producers being left free to regulate their exports to this market themselves.'

If agreement could be reached on the principle of the levy, two questions would arise—should all import regulation cease directly the levy came into operation or be removed gradually, and should the levy be imposed on all meat or only upon beef, veal, and live cattle.

Neither Australia nor Argentina were prepared to agree with the British Government's contention that their proposed policy would benefit alike the British Empire and Argentina, as all suppliers stood to lose from a collapse in British prices. Australia stated that the proposed Dominion preference no more than offset the difference in freight rates between Australia and Argentina, and asked for a quantitative limitation of supplies from Argentina which that country was not prepared to accept. No agreement had been reached by the end of the year.

The levy-cum-subsidy means of assistance is also to be

[1] *Imports of Meat into the United Kingdom*, Cmd. 4828, 1935.

adopted for bacon, and it is said that the principle of a levy has been accepted by Denmark. Mr. Elliot stated[1] that

'they were pledged to the Levy Subsidy scheme for beef, and that scheme they intended to put through. In the case of the other pledges they had made, such as the Levy Subsidy for bacon, that still remained part of their policy, and they were actually examining measures under which that could be carried into effect as soon as possible to-day.'

The Reorganization Commission for Eggs and Poultry for Great Britain has also recommended a levy on imports, the proceeds of which might form a fund for assistance to the poultry industry.[2]

In spite of the success claimed for the quotas in raising the prices of mutton and lamb, a very general desire appears to have arisen during 1935 to replace them so far as possible by other measures. The official attitude, as expressed by Mr. Baldwin, is:[3]

'the present Government, as any Governments would do, had been making experiments, and some of the experiments had been in a direction which he knew few of his hearers liked, and which he did not think the Government liked themselves—that was in the direction of quotas. . . . I think the tendency will be to get away from the quota system and to rely on the system of duties.'

B. IMPORT DUTIES

The powers to impose tariffs on agricultural and horticultural products have been derived from five main sources: the Horticultural Products (Emergency Customs Duties) Act, 1931; the Import Duties Act, 1932; the Ottawa Agreements Act, 1932; the Irish Free State (Special Duties) Act, 1932; and the Finance Acts of 1933, 1934, and 1935.

The duration of the first of these Acts was limited to one year and provided for duties up to 100 per cent. *ad valorem*

[1] *N.F.U. Record*, p. 121, February 1936.
[2] See p. 128.
[3] *The Times*, 26 March 1935.

on certain fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and flowers from foreign countries. Orders under this Act ended on 1 September 1932, and the duties were replaced by tariffs under the Import Duties Act.

The Import Duties Act, passed in March 1932, placed a 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on all goods from foreign countries except for certain commodities specified in the 'Free List'. Empire goods were allowed free entry until 15 November, a limitation imposed in view of the Ottawa Conference in July and August of that year. Under the same Act, an Import Duties Advisory Committee was established with powers to consider representations and recommend the imposition of additional duties. This Committee can also recommend additions and removals from the 'Free List'.

The Ottawa Agreements Act was passed in November 1932, first, to impose some new and additional duties on certain goods from foreign countries; secondly, to maintain the existing 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty on certain foreign goods; and thirdly, to maintain the free entry of Dominion goods after 15 November 1932.[1] No agreement was signed with the Irish Free State, so that products from that country became liable to the general 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty and any additional duties under the Import Duties Act.[2]

Though designed for revenue rather than protective purposes, the Irish Free State (Special Duties) Act which was passed in July 1932 has a special significance, for that country is an important source of fresh live-stock products which compete most directly with home-grown goods. The Act empowers the Treasury to impose by Order duties not exceeding 100 per cent. on imports from the Irish Free State.

The duties in force on the most important agricultural commodities are given in Appendix II, pp. 392–400.

[1] Subject to certain reservations for eggs, poultry, butter, cheese, and other milk products; see p. 189.

[2] The Ottawa duties do not apply to products from the Irish Free State.

During 1935 the Import Duties Advisory Committee recommended additional duties on dead turkeys, certain flowers, blocked, flaked, and puffed barley, sodium nitrate, ammonia liquor, sulphate of ammonia, various other synthetic nitrogenous fertilizers, and linseed oil. These duties were imposed. Exemptions from certain additional duties and drawbacks were granted to a small number of products, and farina, or potato flour, was placed on the free list.

The Committee also received applications for increased duties on tinned and canned pigmeat products, tomatoes, condensed milk, milk powder, other preserved milk products, and on track-laying tractors. These are still under consideration.

C. QUANTITATIVE REGULATION

Quantitative regulation of imports was begun at the end of 1932, and both compulsory and voluntary arrangements have been made, covering a number of agricultural products, with a number of countries.

(*a*) *Compulsory regulation.*

Compulsory regulation was first imposed on 1 January 1933, under the Ottawa Agreements Act, upon foreign imports of chilled beef, frozen beef, and frozen mutton and lamb; further voluntary restriction beyond the Ottawa Agreement levels was subsequently arranged for chilled beef. Voluntary agreements for bacon and hams were made from November 1932 to November 1933 when they were replaced by compulsory restriction under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933. The importation of cattle from the Irish Free State has been regulated under the same Act since 1 January 1934, and on the same date imports of beef and veal from the same source were prohibited. Imports of frozen pork from foreign countries, after a period of voluntary regulation, were subjected to compulsory regulation in March 1935. Volun-

tary arrangements for foreign potatoes were started in the autumn of 1933 but were replaced by compulsory regulation under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933, in November 1934, the Orders applying to the Irish Free State as well as to foreign countries.

(*b*) *Voluntary regulation.*

Arrangements with Empire countries for the voluntary quantitative regulation of frozen beef, frozen mutton, and lamb were made at the time of the Ottawa Conference, when it was agreed that no quotas could be imposed on Dominion exports until July 1934. These arrangements were maintained, with variations and additions, throughout 1935. Voluntary regulation was arranged with the principal foreign supplying countries and the Irish Free State for imports of processed milk from June 1933 and for eggs from March 1934. Agreement was reached in August 1933 for the voluntary limitation of imports of oats and oat products from Canada which has been maintained in principle throughout 1935.

1. Chilled Beef

(*a*) *Foreign sources.* Supplies of chilled beef have come in the past mainly from South America, under a voluntary agreement with importers to reduce their marketings by 10 per cent. as from the middle of November 1932. Under provisions of the Ottawa Agreements Act, which came into force on 1 January 1933, quarterly imports from foreign sources were to be limited to the quantities imported in the corresponding quarters of the 'Ottawa Year', 1 July 1931 to 30 June 1932. Arrangements were subsequently made for further reductions throughout 1933 and 1934.[1] The terms of the Argentine Trade Agreement, which lasts until November 1936, preclude restriction of supplies beyond 10 per cent.

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 46.

below the 'Ottawa Year' levels without a similar restriction on imports of chilled and frozen meat from all producing countries; they also prohibit the imposition of charges or levies on Argentine meat imports until the termination of the Agreement.

The arrangement for a 10 per cent. reduction below the Ottawa level was maintained throughout 1935. Imports from foreign sources in the 'Ottawa Year' were 8,845,368 cwt. The following figures indicate the permitted and actual imports for 1933, 1934, and 1935:

	Permitted[1]	*Actual*
	000 cwt.	000 cwt.
1933 . . .	8,017	8,029
1934 . . .	8,014	8,012
1935 . . .	8,005	8,007[2]

(*b*) *Empire sources.* Supplies of chilled beef from Empire sources, mainly from Australia, were negligible until 1933. There were none in the 'Ottawa Year', but in 1933 and 1934 they amounted to 142,073 cwt. and 238,445 cwt., respectively.

Arranged Imports of Chilled Beef from Empire Sources, 1935

(in 000 cwt.)

	Australia	*New Zealand*	*Canada*	*South Africa including SW. Africa*	*Southern Rhodesia*
Jan.–Mar. .	30·0	20·0	9·0	15·0	43·5
Apr.–June .	56·0	56·0	*	15·0	36·0
July–Sept. / Oct.–Dec. .	160·0	66·0	†	30·0	‡
Total for 1935	246·0	142·0	..	60·0	..

* Included in an allocation of 4,500 cwt. for all classes of meat, other than pork.

† Included in an allocation of 123,000 cwt. for all classes of meat (Canada's estimate).

‡ Included in an allocation of 91,000 cwt. for all classes of meat, with a request to keep chilled beef as low as possible.

[1] Subject to certain tolerances.

[2] Provisional figure.

Voluntary arrangements were made in 1935 for the first two quarters and the last half of the year to regulate shipments of chilled and frozen beef and veal from Empire sources, and it was arranged that chilled beef imports should not exceed the amounts given in the table on p. 166. For Canada and Southern Rhodesia allocations for certain periods covered all classes of meat and specific quantities of chilled beef were not laid down.

Preliminary figures indicate that receipts of chilled beef from Empire countries during 1935 were 481,719 cwt.

2. Frozen Beef

(*a*) *Foreign sources*. Regulation of imports of frozen beef and veal under the Ottawa Agreements Act came into operation on 1 January 1933. During 1933 and the first half of 1934 foreign supplies were subject to a scale of reductions increasing gradually, quarter by quarter, in accordance with the Ottawa Programme, from 10 per cent. to 35 per cent. of the quantities imported in the Ottawa Year. This arrangement at first applied only to carcass and boned beef and veal, but the increased importation of 'other descriptions' of beef, including frozen beef cuts, in the first half of 1933 led to arrangements being made by which beef cuts were subsequently included in the classes subject to the Ottawa Programme of reductions, and imports of offals were limited to the proportion which imports of offals have normally borne to imports of the regulated classes of beef and veal.

It was arranged that from June 1934 onwards imports of carcass and boned beef and veal should continue to be limited to 65 per cent. of the Ottawa Year quantities. As from 1 October 1934 a new arrangement for offals was made by which the principal importers from Argentina and Uruguay were given a 'global quota' covering both carcass beef and offals in each period of regulation and liberty, subject to certain conditions, to increase shipments of offals at the expense

of carcass beef, which remained subject to the 65 per cent. maximum.

Imports of frozen carcasses and sides, boned beef, and veal from foreign sources during 1933, 1934, and 1935, as compared with the quantities permitted under the Ottawa Programme, were as follows:

	Permitted Imports	*Actual Imports*
	cwt.	cwt.
1933 . . .	335,766	361,367
1934 . . .	231,439	217,563
1935 . . .	226,572	214,771 (provisional)

(*b*) *Empire sources.* At Ottawa the Australian Government agreed to attempt to limit their shipments of frozen beef in 1933 to not more than 10 per cent. above the 'Ottawa Year' level. The New Zealand Government made a very similar arrangement for the export season 1932–3. No arrangements were made with other Empire countries since supplies from these were negligible. In 1933 supplies from Australia were within the agreed limits, but supplies from New Zealand were more than 10 per cent. above the 'Ottawa Year' level.

Imports of Frozen Beef and Veal from Empire Sources, 1933–5

(in 000 cwt.)

Imports	*Australia*	*New Zealand*	*Others*	*Total*
'Ottawa Year' plus 10 per cent.	1,248	522	25*	1,795
1933	1,181	823	88	2,092
1934	1,599	1,023	110	2,732
1935†	..	807	..	2,403

* Actual imports from other Empire countries in the 'Ottawa Year'.
† Provisional.

Imports from Empire sources increased rapidly in 1934, and arrangements were made for a limitation of supplies of beef and veal in the four quarters of 1935 according to the accompanying table. Imports of frozen beef might be

increased at the expense of chilled beef; a limited quantity might be carried over from one period to another. So far as Australia and New Zealand were concerned, it was expected that these voluntary arrangements would reduce frozen beef and veal supplies by about 120,000 cwt. compared with 1934.

Arrangements for Imports of Frozen Beef and Veal from Empire Sources, 1935

(in 000 cwt.)

	Australia	*New Zealand*	*Union of South Africa*	*Canada*	*Southern Rhodesia*	*Bechuana-land*
Jan.–Mar.	157 0	140 0	2 0	10 2	7 5	15 0
Apr.–June	274 0	229·0	3 5	*	9 0	7 5
July–Sept. Oct.–Dec.	990 0	412 0	4 0	†	‡	15 0
Year	1,421 0	781 0	9 5	..	..	37 5

* Included in an allocation of 4,500 cwt. for all classes of meat, other than pork.
† Included in an allocation of 123,000 cwt. for all classes of meat (Canada's estimate).
‡ Included in an allocation of 91,000 cwt. for all classes of meat.

3. Live Cattle

Imports of live cattle from the Irish Free State became subject to regulation on 1 January 1934 under the Cattle (Import Regulation) Order, 1933, which at the same time prohibited the importation of beef and veal. Under the Order imports of fat cattle, store cattle, dry cows, and bulls showing permanent incisor teeth were prohibited except by licence. During 1934 the issue of licences for fat cattle for each quarter was limited to 50 per cent. of the numbers imported in the corresponding quarter of 1933. Licences for the other three types of cattle were issued up to the numbers imported in the corresponding quarters of 1933.

Discussions took place late in 1934 as a result of which the quota for Irish cattle during 1935 was increased; for fat cattle the rate was raised to 66⅔ per cent. of the 1933 quantities, and for the other regulated classes of cattle to 133⅓ per cent.

of the numbers imported in 1933. It was claimed that these would allow an increase in imports of about 148,000 head, including about 37,000 fat cattle and 5,000 dry cows and bulls and 106,000 store cattle.[1]

The permission to export more cattle was granted in exchange for an anticipation that in future all coal for the Irish Free State would be purchased in the United Kingdom.

Arrangements were made with Canada for voluntary limitation of live cattle imports during 1934,[2] but there were no similar arrangements for 1935. The rise in prices in the United States and a reduction in duties increased the attractiveness of the United States Market, and the total number of cattle imported from Canada dropped from 51,373 in 1934 to 6,478 in 1935.

4. Frozen Mutton and Lamb

(*a*) *Foreign sources.* Quantitative regulation of frozen mutton and lamb started in November 1932, when South American shippers agreed voluntarily to reduce their marketings during the last two months of the year. Subsequently foreign imports were regulated compulsorily under the Ottawa Agreements by the imposition of successive quarterly reductions from the 'Ottawa Year' level until, by June 1934, foreign quotas amounted to only 65 per cent. of the imports in the corresponding quarter of the 'Ottawa Year'.[3] This rate was maintained throughout the remainder of 1934 and through 1935. The following figures indicate the permitted and actual imports from foreign sources:

	Permitted	*Actual*
	cwt.	cwt.
1933 . . .	1,610,200	1,610,156
1934 . . .	1,296,800	1,296,879
1935 . . .	1,265,500	1,280,976[4]

[1] *Farmers' Weekly*, 11 January 1935.
[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 49.
[3] Ibid., pp. 46, 49–51.
[4] Provisional figure.

(*b*) *Empire sources.* At Ottawa Australia and New Zealand estimated that their shipments in 1933 would not exceed the level reached in the 'Ottawa Year'. Australia gave no indication of the probable 1934 shipments, while New Zealand estimated that exports would increase 5 per cent. in each of the two seasons following 1932–3. Exports in the 'Ottawa Year' were 5,398,000 cwt., while shipments were 6·6 per cent. below this figure in 1933 and 4·0 per cent. below in 1934.

Arrangements were made for voluntary limitation during 1935, based, as for beef and veal, on average quantities imported in 1932–3–4. The following table indicates the quarterly quotas for 1935, the object of the agreement being to maintain total supplies at the 1934 level. Provisional figures give the actual imports from Australia and New Zealand as 5,418,165 cwt.

Arrangements for Imports of Frozen Mutton and Lamb from Australia and New Zealand, 1935

000 cwt.

	Australia	*New Zealand*	*Total*
Jan.–Mar.	450	800	1,250
Apr.–June	450	1,289	1,739
July–Sept. / Oct.–Dec.	950	1,578	2,528
Year	1,850	3,667	5,517

Arrangements have also been made for imports in 1936. Australian supplies may amount to 1,750,000 cwt. and New Zealand to 3,900,000 cwt., a total of 5,650,000 cwt. This provisional figure is subject to adjustment in the light of later estimates of United Kingdom production and market capacity. The intention is again to maintain total supplies at approximately the 1934 level.

5. Bacon and Hams

(*a*) *Foreign sources.* Voluntary agreements for the quantitative regulation of bacon and hams were made with eleven

of the principal foreign supplying countries, and they took effect on 23 November 1932.[1] Reductions were made voluntarily until 10 November 1933, when further restriction was enforced under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933.[2] Quota allocations were made throughout 1934, the underlying principle being the maintenance of total supplies at about 10,670,000 cwt., the figure recommended by the Reorganization Commission for Pigs and Pig Products; foreign quotas were computed after home and Empire supplies had been estimated.

Compulsory regulation was continued throughout 1935. Allocations for the period January to April were announced in January, which represented a reduction of just under 4 per cent. on the rate during the last five months of 1934. Further quotas for May and June were announced in March and for July, August, and September in June. Allocations for the last three months of the year were made at the end of September. The quotas, subject to certain tolerances, are given in the table on p. 173. Gross imports from these eleven countries were 11,641,586 cwt. in 1932 and 6,672,501 cwt. in 1934. The 1935 quotas for these countries were 5,680,761 cwt., or a reduction of 51 per cent. on 1932 imports. The total, after making allowance for imports from foreign countries not scheduled in the Bacon (Import Regulation) Order, was 5,812,699 cwt. Gross imports of foreign bacon and hams during 1935 are given provisionally as 6,014,440 cwt.

Certain alterations were made in the administration of the quotas for 1935 with a view to tightening up their application, the most important being the arrangements by which imports from the five main exporting countries are now regulated for fortnightly periods instead of four-weekly.

(*b*) *Empire supplies.* Allocations were made to Canada,

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4*, pp. 122–5.
[2] Ibid., *1934–5*, pp. 51–3.

Australia, and New Zealand on the basis of their estimates of their probable shipments during the year.

The foreign quota has been continued for the first six weeks of 1936 at the rate prevailing in the last quarter of 1935.

Bacon and Ham Imports in 1932 and 1934, and the 1935 Quota Allocations

	1932	*1934*	*1935 Quota**
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
Denmark	7,676,741	4,287,836	3,687,684†
Netherlands	977,074	607,851	518,073
Poland	1,252,780	496,515	433,546
Sweden	423,670	296,641	256,311
Lithuania	512,007	251,572	160,876
Estonia	82,032	50,675	41,470
Finland	38,203	24,138	22,116
Latvia	18,795	43,111	38,706
U.S.S.R.	42,543	48,724	47,002
Argentina	88,645	48,002	38,706
United States	529,096	517,436	436,271
Total of 11 countries	11,641,586	6,672,501	5,680,761
Allowance for imports from foreign countries not scheduled in the Bacon (Import Regulation) Order	..	..	131,938
	..	..	5,812,699

* Includes tinned hams and salted pork.

† Includes adjustments due in respect of deficiencies in previous periods.

6. Frozen and Chilled Pork

(*a*) *Foreign sources.* Arrangements were made at the end of 1934 for voluntary quantitative regulation of imports of frozen pork from foreign countries by which supplies would be reduced to the average level reached in the corresponding quarters of 1932, 1933, and 1934. From 12 March imports were regulated compulsorily by Order under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933. The average for the three years 1932–4

amounted to about 328,500 cwt., compared with 580,743 in 1934.

(*b*) *Empire sources.* Arrangements were also made with Empire countries which send frozen pork, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, for voluntary limitation of imports according to the following table. Average Empire imports for the years 1932–4 were 361,000 cwt.

Arrangements for Imports of Frozen Pork from Empire Sources, 1935

000 cwt.

	Australia	*New Zealand*	*Canada*	*Total*
Jan.–Mar.	16·7	75·0	8·6	100·3
Apr.–June	15·5	60·0	4·2	79·7
July–Sept. / Oct.–Dec.	28·7	140·3	14·3*	183·3
Year	60·9	275·3	27·1	363·3

* Canadian estimate. The Canadian allocation for the second half of the year covered all classes of meat.

These arrangements do not apply to imports of chilled or frozen pork for curing which are covered by the regulations for bacon and ham imports.

7. Other Meats

Voluntary arrangements have also been made for the quantitative limitation of imports of canned beef, other than tongues, during 1935, to the level approximately of the 1933 supplies.

8. Processed Milk

(*a*) *Foreign sources.* Voluntary arrangements for the quantitative limitation of imports of processed milk and cream have been in operation since June 1933.[1] The principal

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4*, p. 145; ibid., *1934–5*, pp. 53–5.

foreign exporting countries were asked to limit their shipments to certain percentages, varying with the type of product and the period of the year, of their shipments in the year June 1932 to May 1933. There were reductions in 1934 of 24·4 per cent. in condensed skim milk, 25·7 per cent. in condensed whole milk, 39·0 per cent. in milk powder, and 31·0 per cent. in cream as compared with the basic year.

Voluntary agreements were made, on the same principle, for 1935 to secure the following percentage reductions in imports from the principal foreign supplying countries from the levels in the corresponding months of the basic year, June 1932 to May 1933:

	Jan.–Mar.	*Apr.–June*	*July–Sept.*	*Oct.–Dec.*
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Condensed whole milk	30	35	40	40
Condensed skimmed milk	30	40	40	40
Milk powder	25	30	35	35
Cream	35	40	45	50

Foreign countries with smaller interests in the market were requested not to increase their shipments.

(*b*) *Empire sources.* Imports of condensed whole milk, condensed skimmed milk, and cream from the Irish Free State were regulated by voluntary agreement in 1934 and 1935, the rates of reduction proposed being generally half as much as those applied to the principal foreign countries and calculated on the basis of the imports in the corresponding periods of 1933.

9. Eggs

Voluntary 'standstill' arrangements were made with certain foreign countries and the Irish Free State to limit their shipments of eggs in shell for the period 15 March–14 September 1934 to the amount sent in the corresponding period of 1933;

these were extended to the end of September. Subsequent arrangements proposed a reduction of 5 per cent. in foreign imports and 2½ per cent. in imports from the Irish Free State for the last quarter of that year from the level in the last quarter of 1933.

Voluntary limitation was proposed for the four quarters of 1935 on the following basis:

1935	*Percentage reduction from the imports in the corresponding quarter of the year, April 1933 to March 1934*	
	Foreign countries	*Irish Free State*
	per cent.	per cent.
Jan.–Mar. . . .	10	5
Apr.–June . . .	10	5
July–Sept. . . .	5	2½
Oct.–Dec. . . .	0	0

Other Dominion countries were asked not to increase their exports to the United Kingdom.

Increased imports from a few foreign countries, from the Netherlands in particular, in the first six months of the year more than counterbalanced the reduction in supplies from other foreign countries. Towards the end of the year, however, the Netherlands introduced a system of export control.

10. Potatoes

In the autumn of 1933 voluntary regulation of maincrop potato imports was arranged with the Netherlands, Belgium, and the Irish Free State. Arrangements were subsequently made to cover imports of early potatoes.[1] For the 1933–4 season allocations were made of 28,000 tons for maincrop and 94,500 tons for early potatoes. Actual imports did not come

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 57–9, and *Agricultural Statistics*, Part II, 1934.

up to the permitted quotas, however, and were 17,000 tons and 77,000 tons, respectively.

Voluntary arrangements were continued during the opening months of the 1934–5 season, but on 8 November 1934 an Order was issued by the Board of Trade under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1933,[1] prohibiting imports from foreign countries and the Irish Free State except under licence. It is understood that imports are to be limited to the extent by which the home crop departs from normal market requirements, a shortage in the home supply to be balanced by increased imports and vice versa. Unlike the bacon import regulations, no specific allocations are made to individual countries, but a 'global' quota is determined from time to time, and licences are issued to importers either directly by the Board of Trade or through an *ad hoc* body, the Potato Importers' Association. These licences are issued to individual importers on the basis of the volume of business previously transacted by them. By these means importers are free to obtain supplies, within the limits of their allocations, from any available source.

Global quotas for imports of maincrop potatoes during the 1934–5 season amounted to 19,500 tons, but imports reached only some 8,500 tons, including some 2,000 tons which had entered before the Order came into force.[2]

The quota for imports of early potatoes from February to August was fixed at 90,000 tons, of which 80 per cent. was available until 31 May to secure that the bulk would be off the market before the home crop became available. An additional allocation of 2,500 tons was made for the use of the 'crisp' trade during July and August. Total imports under licence during the season amounted to 90,400 tons.[2] Total

[1] Potato (Import Regulation) Order, 1934, S.R. and O., No. 1160, 1934.

[2] The *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, vol. xlii, no. 10, p. 1027. January 1935.

imports of early potatoes in the past three seasons have been:

	1933	*1934*	*1935*
	tons	tons	tons
Foreign countries and Irish Free State	93,300	77,250	90,400
Channel Islands	69,500	65,140	85,300
Other Empire countries	1,400	1,500	1,300
Total	164,200	143,890	177,000

A Committee, the Potato Supplies Consultative Committee, has been set up under the aegis of the Market Supply Committee, consisting of nominees of the Potato Marketing Board, importers, merchants, consumers, and retailers, which 'from time to time considers the national supply situation with a view to determining the extent to which foreign imports are necessary'.[1] Its views are conveyed to the Government Departments concerned.

The Potato Importers' Association, Ltd. The Association, which has over 500 members, is responsible for allocating import quotas. A few firms have elected to apply for their allocations direct to the Board of Trade. Every applicant was required to furnish certified returns of his imports of potatoes over the preceding three years. Special provisions are made for new importers, for whom a small proportion of the global quota is reserved. Members obtain a certificate from the Association in respect of each consignment, and the certificates must be used within ten days of issue. Allocations remaining unused at the end of the month for which they were made may be carried over for not more than two months. Members who cannot import the whole tonnage allotted to them may transfer it, wholly or in part, to other members.

[1] *Report on the Operation of the Potato Marketing Scheme*, Potato Marketing Board, 8 October 1935.

11. Oats

Arrangements were made by which the Government of Canada agreed to limit exports of oats and oat products to this country for the years August 1933–July 1934 and August 1934–July 1935[1] to quantities not exceeding 2,000,000 cwt. of oats, the average exports in the cereal years 1931–2 to 1932–3, and 570,000 cwt. of oat products, the average of exports in the calendar years 1931 and 1932.

Imports from Canada have been:

	Oats	*Oat products*
	cwt.	cwt.
Aug. 1933–July 1934 . . .	1,266,000	403,000
Aug. 1934–July 1935 . .	2,872,000	428,000

D. THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

The International Wheat Agreement began to operate f the crop year 1933–4. Wheat-exporting countries accep fixed export quotas which implied a commitment to re acreage; wheat-importing countries undertook (wh price of wheat imported into Great Britain rose to a maintained for 16 weeks at 63 U.S. gold cents per bu reduce their tariffs, to relax their quantitative restrictio not to expand home production beyond the existing acr Price has not risen to this level, and these agreements h not therefore had to be implemented.

The Wheat Advisory Committee, which was set up 'i watch over the working and application of the agreement' met six times up to the end of 1934. The chief results of these deliberations have been described in previous issues of the *Agricultural Register*.[2] Their main importance has consisted in providing a forum for the ventilation and exchange of

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 59.

[2] *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4*, pp. 57–60; ibid., *1934–5*, pp. 40–4.

views, and machinery which will facilitate agreement on positive action when the world wheat position makes such agreement feasible.

Importing countries announced, at the sixth meeting of the Committee in Budapest in November 1934, that they were willing to continue the Agreement beyond 31 July 1935. The export quotas for 1934–5 and basic quotas for 1935–6 and future years were left unsettled, however, owing to the dissatisfaction of Argentina with the proposed bases of allocation.

At the meeting of the Committee in Budapest in November 1934 the French Government announced that it had decided to abandon its internal minimum price system and become again an importing country. It was necessary, however, for France to export wheat temporarily in order to liquidate the surplus then existing, estimated at 80,000,000 ıshels. An arrangement was drawn up whereby France ould temporarily become an exporting country.

The seventh meeting of the Wheat Advisory Committee held at the Board of Trade in London on 22–5 May Reviewing the world wheat situation the Committee ıt 'while two successive crop failures in North America sulted in a temporary amelioration of the statistical ıion, the maintenance of the present level of world wheat eage must, given average yields per acre, result in the re-cumulation in wheat-exporting countries of further burensome surpluses'. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend to the various Governments the continuance of the framework of the Wheat Agreement through the maintenance of the Wheat Advisory Committee until 31 July 1936. It also forwarded to the Governments concerned the draft of a new agreement to take the place of the present one.

The French representative informed the Committee at their meeting in May 1935 that the endeavour to find markets abroad for French denatured wheat had largely failed; the

Committee agreed therefore that France's anticipated emergency exports of denatured wheat should be reduced from 22 to 9 million bushels. Anticipated exports of millable wheat were thus increased from 11 to 24 million bushels. France's actual *net* exports for 1934–5 amounted to 18·8 million bushels.

When the Committee adjourned in May, the next meeting was expected to take place in October. It was then postponed until the beginning of November or December, and finally postponed further until early in January. No meeting had been held by the middle of March.

E. TRADE AGREEMENTS

Following on the adoption of Protection in March 1932, the British Government expressed its readiness to negotiate trade agreements intended to give most-favoured-nation treatment to countries which were willing to meet various requirements as to the treatment of United Kingdom goods. The following notes deal only with agreements affecting imports of agricultural commodities into the United Kingdom.

Trade agreements were signed with Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Argentina, Norway, and Iceland during 1933, and with Egypt, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, France, Estonia, and Latvia during 1934. In addition, notes were exchanged with Germany and the Netherlands in 1934.[1]

During 1935, further agreements directly affecting imports of agricultural products were signed with Poland, Turkey, Uruguay, South Africa, and India. Agreements with Egypt and Salvador, which lapsed during the year, were extended. One treaty, with Guatemala, lapsed. Negotiations for Trade Agreements were carried on with representatives of the Spanish and Peruvian Governments.

[1] For further details see *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4*, pp. 45–56, and *1934–5*, pp. 31–40.

During the year, Payments Agreements, which, though they mainly concern exporters, affect imports indirectly, were in force with Argentina, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Roumania, Spain, and Brazil.

1. Poland

Negotiations for a Trade Agreement with Poland were begun in 1934; the agreement was finally signed on 27 February, came into force provisionally on 14 March, was ratified on 24 July, and came fully into operation on 14 August 1935.[1] It is similar in principle, and in the rates of duty established, to the agreements signed in the previous year with Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

The Government of the United Kingdom undertake not to regulate the imports of bacon and hams, butter, eggs, poultry, sugar, and other Polish agricultural produce, except in so far as such regulation is necessary for the effective operation of a scheme for regulating the marketing of home supplies of such products. In the event of such regulation Poland will be permitted an equitable share of foreign imports bearing in mind the position held in the past as a supplier of these products. Provision is also made that, if increased imports into the United Kingdom are permitted, Poland shall receive additional allocations not less favourable than those given to other countries. Control of exports will be left to the Polish Government so long as this control is effectual and satisfies the requirements of the United Kingdom Government.

In regard to individual commodities, it is agreed that imports of bacon from Poland shall not be less than 41·4 per cent. of the quantity imported from that country in 1932; that the imports of Polish eggs shall not be less than 13½ per cent. of the total permitted imports of eggs from foreign countries; and that imports of Polish butter will not be

[1] *Trade Agreement, Treaty Series No. 33 (1935)*, Cmd. 4984, 1935.

regulated in 1935 if they do not exceed in quantity the total butter imports in 1929 and 1·8 per cent. of the total foreign imports of butter. Should regulation be imposed during the currency of the Agreement, recognition should be given to the fact that Poland's exports in 1932 and 1933 were unusually low.

In a protocol attached to the agreement the hope is expressed that should regulation of imports between the two countries be necessary, it may be effected by voluntary co-operation between the two Governments.

Internal duties levied in the United Kingdom, whether for the benefit of the State or of local authorities or of corporations, on goods produced or manufactured in Poland shall not be other or greater than the duties levied in similar circumstances on the like goods produced or manufactured in the United Kingdom.

The agreement will remain in force until 31 December 1936, and thereafter until the expiration of six months after notice of termination has been given.

2. Turkey

A Trade and Payments Agreement between the United Kingdom and Turkey was signed at Angora on 4 June 1935.[1] It came into operation provisionally on 20 June, pending ratification by the United Kingdom Government. The Agreement was subsequently ratified on 11 October.

It provides that the United Kingdom Government shall not regulate imports from Turkey without first discussing the quotas to be allotted to Turkey with the Turkish Government.

Certain goods, including dried vegetables, fresh fruit, and eggs, may be the subject of private compensation transactions

[1] *Agreement regarding Trade and Payments, Turkey No. 1 (1935), 4 June 1935.* Cmd. 4925, 1935.

between persons in Turkey and persons in the United Kingdom. In respect of each such transaction, the value of United Kingdom goods imported into Turkey shall not exceed 70 per cent. of the value of Turkish goods imported into the United Kingdom. Such transactions are also to be subject to any quantitative restrictions imposed by either country.

The agreement is to remain in force for nine months after ratification, and thereafter until the expiration of two months from the date on which notice of termination is given.

3. Uruguay

A Trade Agreement was signed with Uruguay on 26 June 1935.[1] It is mainly concerned with the liquidation of sterling assets at present 'frozen' in Uruguay, and gives treatment in respect of customs duties levied on imports not less favourable than that accorded to similar goods of the most favoured foreign countries. The agreement is to remain in force for one year after ratification, and thereafter until the expiration of three months' notice of termination has been given.

4. South Africa

As a result of a new Customs Act in South Africa, passed in May 1935, the Governments of South Africa and the United Kingdom opened negotiations for a Trade Agreement, which was signed on 30 August 1935.[2]

The new Act provided for the institution of minimum, intermediate, and maximum duties, and the South African Government stated that the preferences accorded to certain United Kingdom goods under the Ottawa Agreements were provided for in the minimum tariff and that they were prepared, so far as other United Kingdom goods were concerned

[1] *Agreement regarding Trade and Payments, Uruguay No. 1 (1935), 26 June 1935.* Cmd. 4940, 1935.

[2] *Commercial Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Union of South Africa, 30 August 1935.* Cmd. 5012, 1935.

to apply the intermediate tariff, subject to the conclusion of an Agreement on a basis of reciprocity.

The United Kingdom Government concurred in the conclusion of an Agreement on these lines, and by their request the Agreement was extended to cover trade between the Union and the non-self-governing colonies, protectorates, and certain mandated territories. The United Kingdom Government undertake to give imports from the Union of South Africa not less favourable treatment than that accorded to the most favoured foreign countries.

Subject to its subsequent ratification by both Parliaments, the agreement is to have effect as from 1 July 1935 and to continue until after six months' notice of termination has been given by either side.

5. Irish Free State

An agreement was reached with the Irish Free State Government in January 1935, permitting increased exports of fat cattle to this country in return for an undertaking by the Free State in regard to its coal purchases.[1]

It was announced in February 1936 that this agreement would be continued during 1936. In return for various undertakings about purchases from this country, further concessions were granted to the Free State for exports of agricultural products.

No change was to be made in the number of licences to be issued for cattle imports, but bacon and ham quotas are to be 10 per cent. greater in 1936 than in 1935. In addition, duties on various products were to be reduced by 10 per cent. *ad valorem* and by a corresponding amount for specific duties. The actual rates of duties, to take effect from February 1936, are given in the Appendix.[2]

It is provided that if the duty chargeable on any goods

[1] See p. 169, and *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 48.

[2] See pp. 392–400.

should exceed the value of the goods, 'the schedule shall have effect as if for that duty there were substituted a duty of 100 per cent. of the value of the goods'.

In return the Free State Government removed the duty of 5*s*. per ton on British coal, reduced by 10 per cent. *ad valorem* the emergency duties on British goods, and allotted one-third of Irish cement imports to the United Kingdom. These arrangements came into force on 19 February 1936.

The export bounties which were paid by the Irish Free State Government on exports of certain products are to be discontinued, so that the remission of the various duties may have little or no net effect.

6. Other Agreements

India. An Agreement was signed on 9 January 1935 between the United Kingdom Government and the Government of India dealing mainly with duties on imports into India.[1] In return for various undertakings, the British Government will give consideration to steps that might be taken to develop the import from India of certain raw or semi-manufactured materials.

Brazil. An Agreement was signed on 27 March on behalf of the United Kingdom and Brazilian Governments for the settlement of commercial debts due to United Kingdom exporters.[2]

Egypt. The provisional Commercial Agreement with Egypt, which was concluded on 5–7 June 1930 and which was due to expire on 16 February 1935, is, by virtue of a further exchange of notes, to remain in force until 16 February 1936.

[1] *Board of Trade Journal*, vol. cxxxiv, no. 1990, p. 138, 24 January 1935.

[2] *Agreement respecting Commercial Payments.* Cmd. 4864 and 4911, 1935.

Salvador. The Commercial *Modus Vivendi* between the United Kingdom and Salvador, issued in 1931, lapsed on 15 September 1935, was then prolonged until 15 December, and subsequently for a further twelve months.

Guatemala. The Treaty of Commerce with Guatemala, which was signed on 22 February 1928, was denounced by the Guatemala Government and lapsed on 30 August 1935.

Peru. Negotiations were held during 1935 with representatives of the Peruvian Government for the preparation of a Trade Agreement.

Spain. A delegation appointed by the Spanish Government was received on 27 June to undertake negotiations for a Trade Agreement.

Yugoslavia. Special permission was granted to Yugoslavia to increase its exports of eggs, poultry, and bacon to this country, to compensate for the loss of trade following the imposition of sanctions against Italy.[1] The concessions took effect on 24 December.

For one year, exports of turkeys, amounting to 60,000 cwt., will be allowed at a duty of 1*d.*, instead of the regular 3*d.* per lb.; of these, not more than 30,000 cwt. must be imported between 24 December and 31 March 1936. Eggs in shell or fowls, up to 20,000 cwt., will be admitted, the former free of duty, the latter at a duty of 1*d.* per lb. The bacon quota is raised to 625 cwt. a week, an increase of about 400 cwt.

7. Summary

The most important of the Trade Agreements affecting British agriculture now in force are given on p. 188, with the dates on which they came into operation and on which they may terminate.

Twelve of these sixteen agreements may be terminated

[1] Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) (No. 4) Order, 1935, S.R. and O., 1935, No. 1248.

during 1936; otherwise the majority of them continue until terminated by notice.

Country	*Date of operation*	*Date of termination*
Germany	8 May 1933	Indefinite, but subject to 3 months' notice of termination.
Denmark*	20 June 1933	20 June 1936, extension subject to reconsideration before date of termination.
Iceland*	28 June 1933	28 June 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Norway*	7 July 1933	7 July 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Sweden*	7 July 1933	7 July 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Argentina	7 Nov. 1933	7 Nov. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Finland*	23 Nov. 1933	23 Nov. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Egypt	16 Feb. 1934	16 Feb. 1936.
U.S.S.R.	21 Mar. 1934	Indefinite, terminable at 6 months' notice.
France	1 July 1934	31 Mar. 1935, and thereafter subject to notice of 3–6 months.
Netherlands	1 Aug. 1934	Indefinite, terminable at 3 months' notice.
Lithuania*	12 Aug. 1934	31 Dec. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Estonia*	8 Sept. 1934	31 Dec. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Latvia*	12 Oct. 1934	31 Dec. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Poland	14 Mar. 1935	31 Dec. 1936, and thereafter subject to 6 months' notice.
Turkey	20 June 1935	20 Mar. 1936, and thereafter subject to 2 months' notice.

* These agreements may be terminated at 3 months' notice if undertakings regarding the purchase of coal from the United Kingdom are not fulfilled.

The Ottawa Agreements

Under the Ottawa Agreements, the majority of the provisions of which came into force in November 1932, the provisions in regard to tariffs last for at least five years and are

continued thereafter subject to notice of termination. Quantitative regulation of Empire meat supplies might be undertaken, subject to certain conditions, after June 1934. Free entry for Empire eggs, poultry, butter, cheese, and other milk products was guaranteed for three years certain; after November 1935 some system either of preferential duties or of quantitative regulation might be imposed after consultation with the Governments concerned.

VI. SUPPLIES AND PRICES

A. GENERAL

1. Demand

In 1935, as in 1934, one of the most important factors affecting the level of agricultural prices was the general recovery in money incomes and in demand. The impetus to this recovery was given by the reduction in the rate of interest, and the consequent stimulus to investment. Bank rate has been at 2 per cent. since July 1932, while, since the same date, short-term money rates have averaged well under 1 per cent. These rates exerted their influence on the long-term rate; the yield of the 5 per cent. Conversion loan, which had averaged just under $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in 1931, fell to $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. after the Conversion operation of June 1932, and in 1934 and 1935 averaged no more than 2·9 per cent. and 2·5 per cent. respectively.

This low rate of interest has been instrumental in stimulating demand mainly through its reaction on the building industry. Recovery in the building trade set in towards the end of 1932, and in 1933, 1934, and 1935 there was a boom in the construction of middle-class houses. The rate of increase is now slackening, but may rise again with further building for industrial purposes and to supply working-class houses. There is some indication, moreover, that investment is increasing in other directions.

The chief indices of demand and of employment seem to show that the check to recovery which occurred in the last half of 1934 has been succeeded since the spring of 1935 by a renewed upward trend. In the table on p. 191 all the indices bring this out. Industrial activity, as measured by the *Economist* index, was 6 per cent. higher in the fourth quarter of 1935 than in the first, and 4 per cent. higher in

1935 than in 1934. The index of employment showed the same tendency, though to a less marked extent; while the number of unemployed in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, excluding those transferred to Public Assistance, was 5 per cent. less in 1935 than in 1934, and in October 1935 fell below two million for the first time since June 1930.

Index Numbers and Measures of Industrial Activity

	'Economist' Index of Industrial Activity 1924 = 100	*'Economist' Index of Employment 1924 = 100*	*Numbers of unemployed 000* *	*Index of Money Wages December 1924 = 100* †	*Index of Consumers' Spending Power 1924 = 100* ‡	*Percentage change in retail sales compared with the previous year* §
1927–9 .	108 7	105 7	1,217	99 9	107	..
1930 .	106 5	103 0	2,014	98 3	102	..
1931 .	98 5	99 0	2,719	97 0	96	..
1932 .	96 0	98 0	2,813	95 3	93	−4 0
1933 .	101 0	101 5	2,588	94 0	95	−0 3
1934 .	109·5	106 5	2,221	94 1	100	+3 2
1935 .	113·5	108·9	2,106	95 1	103	+6·1
1st qr. .	110 3	107 2	2,327	94·25	101	+3 2
2nd qr. .	113 3	108 3	2,099	94·58	102	+6 1
3rd qr. .	113 7	109 7	2,033	95 75	105	+6 5
4th qr. .	116 8	110 3	1,966	95 75	105	+7 8

* In Great Britain and Northern Ireland; from the *Ministry of Labour Gazette.*

† From *London and Cambridge Economic Series.*

‡ From *The Effect of Butter and Cheese Supplies on 'Surplus' Milk Prices*, Cohen, R. L., and Murray, K. A. H., Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Oxford.

§ From *Statistical Supplement of the Bank of England.*

Money wages continued the rise which had begun in October 1934; by the end of 1935 the *London and Cambridge Economic Series* index of wage rates showed a level 2 per cent. above the minimum of 1932. An index of consumers' spending power, which takes into account both the level of money wages and the volume of employment, was 3 per cent. more in 1935 than in 1934, the greater part of the rise coming in the second half of the year. Finally, the value of retail sales, as collected by the Bank of England, continued to increase, and averaged 6·1 per cent. more in 1935 than in 1934; once

again the greater part of the improvement occurred after the first quarter of the year.

This renewal in 1935 of the recovery which was such a marked feature of 1934 can be attributed, in part, to the same causes, the improvement of the domestic market and a widening of the field of industry in which recovery was beginning. In part, also, it has been brought about by some improvement in conditions in the rest of the world, and by an increase in trade.

2. Supplies

World industrial activity, after reaching a low level in 1932, increased during 1933 and 1934, and this improvement was continued in 1935. The League of Nations index of industrial production for the first quarter of 1935 was 82 compared with 76 for the corresponding period of 1934. World production was still, however, well below the 1929 level.

Agricultural production in 1934 declined for the first time in many years, being 3 per cent. lower than in 1933, the production of raw materials falling more than that of foodstuffs. The drought and the restriction of production in the United States in 1934 has been the most important factor.

World stocks of wheat, coffee, and cotton were reduced between 1934 and 1935, but stocks of sugar and rubber increased.

The production of raw materials of non-agricultural origin increased, however, in 1934, as did also general industrial and manufacturing activity.

(*a*) Home Production

Live stock.

The production of *meat* in Great Britain, which had fallen slightly between 1932–3 and 1933–4, increased by 3 per cent. between 1933–4 and 1934–5. Both beef and veal and pig meat production rose, by 10 per cent. and 6 per cent. respectively, while mutton and lamb declined by 15 per cent.

*Estimated Production of Meat in Great Britain, 1924–5, 1930–1, 1932–3, 1933–4, and 1934–5**

Year ending 31 May	*1924–5*	*1930–1*	*1932–3*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*
	000 cwt.	000 cwt.	000 cwt.	000 cwt.	000 cwt.
Beef and veal . .	10,741	11,036	11,410	11,344	12,533
Mutton and lamb .	3,813	4,163	5,960	5,633	4,761
Pig meat . . .	7,193	5,247	6,862	6,711	7,114
Total . .	21,747	20,446	24,232	23,688	24,408

* Supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland.

The total output of *milk*, excluding that fed to calves, was estimated at 1,570 million gallons in 1934–5, 1·4 per cent. more than in the previous year, and 10 per cent. more than in 1930–1.

*Estimated Production of Eggs and Poultry on Holdings over One Acre in Size in Great Britain, 1924–5, 1930–1, and 1934–5**

Year ending 31 May	*1924–5*	*1930–1*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*
Eggs:	millions	millions	millions	millions
Hen . . .	1,617	2,826	3,481	3,435
Duck . . .	77	71	74	71
Total . .	1,694	2,897	3,555	3,506
Poultry:	thousands	thousands	thousands	thousands
Fowls . . .	17,000	24,000	32,000	34,200
Ducks, geese, and turkeys . .	3,330	3,460	4,170	3,817

* Supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland.

Estimates of egg and poultry production are extremely tentative. The production of *eggs* on agricultural holdings in Great Britain, which had been increasing steadily since annual estimates were first made available in 1924–5, declined for the first time in 1934–5 to 3,506 millions, being 1 per

cent. below the peak of the previous year. The output of *fowls* increased by 7 per cent., to 34·2 millions, while that of *ducks, geese, and turkeys* fell by 8 per cent., to 3,817,000.

The output of *wool* (greasy) in the United Kingdom in 1935 was 110 million lb., or 4 million lb. less than in 1934, 2 million lb. less than in 1930–1, but 10 million lb. more than in 1924–5.

Crops.

With the exception of wheat and sugar, the two assisted crops, the production of the principal crops in Great Britain in 1935 was below the ten-year average. Acreage had diminished with these two exceptions, and the yield of turnips, mangolds, hay, and hops was below the average. The three chief cereal crops had yields rather above the average, but for barley and oats not sufficiently so to offset the substantial fall in acreage.

*Estimated Crop Production in Great Britain, 1924–33, 1934, 1935**

					Percentage increase (+) or decrease (−) over 10-year average	
		1924–33	*1934*	*1935†*	*1934*	*1935*
Wheat	(000 tons)	1,330	1,859	1,742	+39·8	+31·0
Barley	,,	970	817	732	−15·8	−24·5
Oats	,,	2,069	1,761	1,819	−14·9	−12·1
Turnips and swedes	,,	14,872	9,206	10,301	−38·1	−30·7
Mangolds	,,	5,764	4,769	4,617	−17·3	−19·9
Potatoes	,,	4,032	4,464	3,805	+10·7	− 5·6
Hay	,,	7,793	6,653	7,582	−14·6	− 2·7
Sugar beet	,,	2,162‡	4,095	3,408	+89·4	+57·6
Hops	(000 cwt.)	281	259	248	− 7·8	−11·7

* Preliminary Agricultural Returns for 1935, and *Agricultural Statistics*, vol. lxix, Part I, 1934.

† Provisional. ‡ Average 1927–33.

Compared with 1934 production was increased for oats, turnips and swedes, and hay. All the other crops, and particularly barley and potatoes, showed declines.

The Expansion in Home Output since 1930–1.

The last Census of Agricultural output in Great Britain was taken in 1930–1; estimates of the production of individual products, however, have been made yearly since that date by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland. It is possible, by valuing these individual items at the prices obtained in 1930–1, to make an estimate of the total change in output between 1930–1 and 1934–5:

*Changes in the Agricultural Output of Great Britain from 1930–1 to 1934–5**

	Values of output at 1930–1 prices		
	1930–1	*1934–5*	*Change between 1930–1 and 1934–5*
	£000	£000	per cent.
Meat	85,140	101,514	+19
Dairy products	62,435	71,175	+14
Poultry and eggs	23,440	29,191	+25
Other live-stock products	1,895	1,736	− 8
Total live-stock products	172,910	203,616	+18
Total farm crops (excluding potatoes)	24,645	27,053	+10
Total farm products (excluding potatoes)	**197,535**	**230,669**	**+17**
Potatoes	14,910	19,517	+31
Fruit and vegetables	27,938	38,315	+37
Grand total	240,403	288,501	+20

* Output and value for 1930–1 calculated from *The Agricultural Output of England and Wales, 1930–1931*, Ministry of Agriculture, Cmd. 4605, 1934, and *The Agricultural Output of Scotland, 1930*, Department of Agriculture for Scotland, Cmd. 4496, 1934; output for 1934–5 from the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland.

The output of live-stock products increased by 18 per cent. over the four years, and that of farm crops, excluding potatoes, by 10 per cent.[1] Potatoes are included separately because the yield was low in 1930–1 and the value high, while in 1934–5 the yield was high. Thus the 31 per cent. increase between the two periods was due to the exceptional circumstances in the base year.

The output of total farm products, excluding potatoes, increased by 17 per cent. If fruits and vegetables,[2] which increased in supply by 37 per cent.,[3] and potatoes be added, the total output expanded by 20 per cent. between 1930–1 and 1934–5.

(*b*) Imports

Human foodstuffs.

The decline in imports of foodstuffs which had begun after 1931 continued in 1935.[4] Meat imports fell by a further 2 per cent.; the index of meat imports fell from 94 to 92, the decline in foreign supplies being more than compensated by the increase from the Empire. Dairy products decreased by 3½ per cent., the first decline since 1926, the index falling from 142 to 137; foreign supplies, particularly of butter, continued to decrease, while the expansion of Empire shipments was checked. Wheat and wheat flour imports fell by 3 per cent., due mainly to lower supplies from the Empire.

Supplies in the other three main groups all increased in 1935 compared with 1934, the index of egg imports rising by

[1] The increase in the sales of wheat off farms is partly accounted for by the larger proportion now being sold as compared with 1930–1, and therefore exaggerates the increase in output. To reduce this error and obtain a better measure of increased output, the net sales of wheat in 1934–5 are taken to be the sales off farms in 1930–1 plus the increase in production between 1930–1 and 1934–5.

[2] Output for Scotland estimated from that in 1930–1; output of vegetables estimated from acreage figures.

[3] Due largely to a heavy apple yield in 1934–5.

[4] See pp. 158–9.

4 per cent., from 81 to 84, of vegetables by 9 per cent., from 81 to 88, and of fruit by so much as 26 per cent., from 88 to 111.

Index Numbers of the Imports of Twenty-eight Agricultural Products which are also important British Farm Products, 1931–5 (1927–9 = 100)*

	Meat	*Dairy products*	*Wheat and flour*	*Eggs*	*Vegetables*	*Fruit*	*Total*
From foreign countries:							
1931 . .	117	112	114	104	172	115	116
1932 . .	114	109	56	80	154	99	99
1933 . .	95	110	63	68	75	49	86
1934 . .	81	114	76	77	70	43	84
1935 . .	73	107	75	85	77	71	82
From Empire countries:							
1931 . .	117	135	106	106	102	133	117
1932 . .	109	147	142	104	106	164	123
1933 . .	114	157	150	104	134	244	142
1934 . .	123	171	116	100	123	196	137
1935 . .	130	170	111	83	131	205	137
From all countries:							
1931 . .	117	123	110	104	156	120	117
1932 . .	112	127	96	84	142	118	111
1933 . .	101	133	103	76	87	107	107
1934 . .	94	142	95	81	81	88	104
1935 . .	92	137	92	84	88	111	103

* Weighted by values in 1927–9; for method of calculation see Murray, K. A. H., and Cohen, Ruth L., *The Planning of Britain's Food Imports: A Quantitative Study of the Effects of Recent Legislation*, issued by the Agricultural Economics Research Institute, Oxford, 1934.

The net result was a decline of 1 per cent. in the total, the index falling from 104 to 103. Imports from Empire sources remained as in 1934, while foreign imports declined by 2 per cent. Imports in all the main groups, except dairy products,

were less in 1935 than in 1931, the year before restrictions were imposed.

Of fruits and vegetables which compete directly with home-grown products, including potatoes, imports were higher in 1935 than in 1934. Of the remaining seventeen most important products only four, chilled beef, frozen mutton and lamb, live cattle, and eggs in shell, had larger imports in 1935 than in 1934; wheat, wheat flour, frozen beef, bacon and hams, frozen pork, live sheep and lambs, live swine, dead poultry, butter, cheese, condensed milk, both whole and separated, and eggs not in shell, all declined.

Feeding-stuffs, fertilizers, wool, and hops.

Imports of animal feeding-stuffs fell off a little between 1934 and 1935, from an aggregate of £31,000,000 to £30,800,000. If 1934 imports be recalculated at 1935 values, minimizing the effect of changes in value, the decline was just over 1½ per cent. Barley, oats, and maize rose a little, while rice, peas, beans, oat and maize products, and other farinaceous foods fell by 5 per cent., and by-products, cakes, and meals by 4 per cent.

Gross Values of Imports of Various Commodities

	1934	*1934 imports at 1935 values*	*1935*	*Percentage change*
	£ million	£ million	£ million	
Barley, oats, and maize	18·0	17·3	17·4	+0·6
Rice, peas, beans, oat and maize products, and other farinaceous substances	5·6	6·0	5·7	−5·0
Feeding-stuffs for animals	7·4	8·0	7·7	−3·8
Total	31·0	31·3	30·8	−1·6
Fertilizers	2·0	2·0	2·1	+5·0
Wool	37·1	32·5	35·6	+9·5
Hops	0·4	0·3	0·3	0·0

Imports of fertilizers rose from £2·0 million to £2·1 million, and those of wool, when 1934 imports were re-calculated at 1935 values, from £32,500,000 to £35,600,000, or by 9½ per cent. Hop imports were unchanged.

(*c*) Estimated Total Supplies

Live-stock products.

The total supplies of the most important live-stock products in Great Britain for the twelve months June 1934 to May 1935 are estimated in the table on p. 200. The gross output on agricultural holdings, *less* exports when these are available, is taken to represent home production; for eggs and poultry, however, an allowance is also made for production on non-agricultural holdings. Gross imports into the United Kingdom *plus* imports from Northern Ireland, *minus* re-exports from the United Kingdom, and *minus* imports into Northern Ireland, are taken to represent the supplies of imported products available in Great Britain. As, however, all these figures are not available for all the commodities the estimates are only approximate.

About 47 per cent. of the beef and veal supplies, 39 per cent. of the mutton and lamb, and 41 per cent. of the pigmeat were home produced.

Of all milk products, expressed in terms of milk equivalent, about 36 per cent. was produced at home; owing to the inadequacy of the available estimates of the utilization of the home-produced milk it is impossible to give accurate figures of the proportions of each product produced at home. Roughly speaking, however, the percentages may be taken as 100 for milk for liquid consumption, 83 per cent. for condensed whole milk, 29 per cent. for cheese, and some 6–9 per cent. for butter.

About 77 per cent. of poultry supplies, and 55 per cent. of egg supplies, including eggs imported not in shell, were produced at home.

Estimated Supplies of Live-stock Products in Great Britain; June 1934–May 1935

	Home production	*Imports*	*Total supplies*	*Per cent. home produced*
Meat:				
Beef and veal (000 cwt.)	12,532*	13,896†‡	26,428	47
Mutton and lamb ,,	4,761	7,379†‡	12,140	39
Pigmeat ,,	7,093*	10,241†‡	17,334	41
Milk and milk products, in terms of milk (million gallons)	1,560*	2,795†‡	4,355	36
Poultry and Eggs:				
Poultry (000 cwt.)	1,479*	619†‡	2,098	70
Eggs (millions)	4,380	3,553†‡	7,933	55
Wool (million lb.)	63*	550‡	612	10

* Exports deducted when known.

† Imports from Northern Ireland less imports into Northern Ireland included when known.

‡ Re-exports deducted when known.

Only some 10 per cent. of wool supplies were of home production; a large part of the domestic output was exported.

Crops.

The estimated total supplies of the most important crops are shown in the table on p. 201. Except for potatoes the home output is taken to be the production on agricultural holdings in Great Britain, less exports when these are known; for potatoes an allowance is made, equal to 13 per cent. of the production on agricultural holdings, for the output on allotments. Imports, calculated as for imports of live-stock products, are taken for the periods which most nearly coincide with the seasons of marketing of the home crops. These periods are September to August for wheat, barley, and oats, September to June for maincrop potatoes, February to August for early potatoes, and October to September for hops. It must be remembered that, to a greater extent than

for live-stock products, the proportions of the total supplies which are produced at home are likely to vary from year to year according to the crop yields.

About 23 per cent. of total wheat supplies, 56 per cent. of barley, and 91 per cent. of oats were home grown.

Estimated Supplies of Crops in Great Britain, 1934–5

	Home production	*Imports*	*Total*	*Per cent. home produced*
	000 tons	000 tons	000 tons	per cent.
Wheat* . . .	1,651‖	5,509††	7,160	23
Barley* . . .	817	651	1,468	56
Oats* . . .	1,758¶	179‡‡§§	1,937	91
Potatoes: Maincrop† .	4,498**	16§§	4,514	100
Earlies‡ .	431	178§§	609	71
Hops§ . . .	12**	2	14	86

* September–August. † September–June, see p. 259. ‡ 1935 Season, see p. 263. § October–September. ‖ Less exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat. ¶ Less exports of oats and oat products in terms of oats. ** Less exports. †† Including wheat flour in terms of wheat, less re-exports. ‡‡ Including oat products in terms of oats. §§ Including imports from, less imports into, Northern Ireland.

The estimates for potatoes are tentative, as the figures for home production do not distinguish between maincrop and earlies. Nearly all the maincrops, and about 71 per cent. of the earlies, were home produced.

Some 86 per cent. of hop supplies were produced at home.

3. Prices

(*a*) General Commodity Prices

Two main features stand out in price movements in 1935. The first is the slow upward movement in prices in the sterling and dollar bloc countries until September, brought about by cheap money and by trade recovery, and the second the

sudden upward movement in September and October, in the gold bloc as well as the sterling and dollar countries, brought about by the fear of war.

In the countries remaining fully on the Gold Standard, prices fell between January and July, in France by 4 per cent. and in Holland by 5 per cent.; in Switzerland, however, they were much the same in January and July. Then came the general rise, and by December prices were 2 per cent. higher in France than in January, and in Switzerland 4 per cent. higher. In Germany, also, prices moved little before August but then rose, and in December were 2 per cent. higher than in January.

In Italy, where the war in Abyssinia and the sanctions imposed both tended to limit supplies on the home market, prices moved sharply upwards throughout the year, and in October, the last month for which the Government permitted the publication of the index number, they were 26 per cent. higher than in January.

In the United States price movements were more gradual and the index for December no more than 2 per cent. above that for January.

In Great Britain, also, the wholesale price level was stable until September. The *Statist* index number, when 1913 is taken as 100, fell from 98·4 in January to 97·5 in March, rose to 100·2 in May, fell once more to 98·9 in August, and finally rose to 102·0 in December, a level nearly 4 per cent. above that of January. The average for the year, 99·5, was 3 per cent. above that of the previous year.

The prices of different commodities, however, showed very dissimilar movements. The *Statist* index of food prices fell by 1 per cent. between December 1934 and December 1935, a 6 per cent. fall for live-stock products and an 8 per cent. fall in sugar, coffee, and tea more than compensating for a 10 per cent. rise in vegetable foods. All the other groups rose, textiles by 15 per cent., and minerals and sundries by

6 per cent. These increases were particularly sharp at the end of the year.

(*b*) Retail Food Prices

The retail prices of the principal articles of food supplied in part or whole by the British farmer, as collected by the Ministry of Labour, are given in the table on p. 204; the figures quoted apply both to home-produced and to imported products, and distinguish these separately only for beef and mutton.

In 1933 retail food prices were still 20 per cent. above the level of July 1914, while wholesale prices, as measured by the *Statist* index number, were 9 per cent. lower. Between 1933 and 1935 both retail and wholesale food prices showed a net rise of 4 per cent.; while, however, wholesale prices increased 5 per cent. between 1933 and 1934 and then declined, retail prices rose by 2 per cent. both between 1933 and 1934 and between 1934 and 1935. In 1935 the index of retail food prices averaged 125 compared with 122 in 1934 and 120 in 1933.

Summer prices in 1935 showed their customary sag, the index falling from 125 in January to 118 in May; they then rose more sharply than usual, and finished the year at 131; compared with 1934 they were especially high in the last four months.[1]

The rise in the index during 1935 was due largely to higher retail prices for milk, bread, potatoes, and butter. Of the commodities included in the table only beef and cheese fell.

Beef prices were fairly constant during the year, the only alteration being a slight fall in both British and chilled and frozen in March. British ribs averaged 1*s.* 1½*d.* per lb. and chilled or frozen ribs 8¾*d.* per lb. over the year, ½*d.* and ¼*d.* per lb. respectively lower than in the previous year. These

[1] See p. 204.

*Average Monthly Retail Prices of Agricultural Produce in Great Britain, 1935**

(per lb. unless otherwise indicated)

	Jan.	*Feb.*	*Mar.*	*Apr.*	*May*	*June*	*July*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*Average†*		*Index Number‡*
													1935	*1934*	*1935*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	
Beef, ribs:															
British	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 2	136
Chilled or frozen	9	9	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	9	121
Mutton, legs:															
British	1 3	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3½	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 3½	1 3	146
Frozen	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	140
Bacon, streaky	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	1 2	1 2	1 1½	1 2	1 2½	1 1½	1 1½	1 1½	123
Flour, per 7 lb.	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 0½	1 1	1 1½	1 1½	1 0½	1 0½	120
Bread, per 4 lb.	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	7½	8	8½	8½	7½	7½	134
Milk, per quart	6½	6½	6½	6½	6	6	6	6	6	6½	6½	6½	6½	6½	181
Butter, fresh	1 1½	1 2	1 2	1 1½	1 1½	1 1	1 1½	1 1½	1 2	1 3½	1 4	1 3½	1 2	1 1	97
„ salt	11½	1 0½	1 0½	11½	11½	11½	11½	1 0½	1 0½	1 2½	1 2½	1 2½	1 0½	11½	88
Cheese§	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	8	8	8	8	8½	8½	8½	8½	8½	96
Eggs, fresh, each	2	1½	1½	1	1	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	2½	2½	1½	1½	131
Potatoes, per 7 lb.	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	6½	11	9	7	6½	6½	6½	6½	6	138
Index of all) 1935	125	124	122	119	118	120	126	126	125	128	131	131	125	..	125
food prices) 1934	124	122	120	118	116	117	122	123	126	125	127	127	..	122	..

* Compiled from the *Ministry of Labour Gazette*; prices are taken at the beginning of each month.
† Average of twelve months. ‡ July, 1914=100. § Usually Canadian or New Zealand.

averages were 36 per cent. and 21 per cent. above the level of July 1914. British leg of mutton averaged 1*s.* 3¼*d.* per lb., ¼*d.* more than in the previous year, all the increase being in the first half, while prices from July to October were below those in 1934. Frozen leg of mutton averaged 9½*d.* per lb., the same as the previous year, and 40 per cent. more than before the War, compared with 46 per cent. more for the British product.

Retail bacon prices, which had risen from 10*d.* per lb. in 1932 to 11½*d.* in 1933, and 1*s.* 1¾*d.* in 1934, averaged the same in 1935 as in 1934, being 23 per cent. above the pre-War level. Until 1934 the rise had been mainly in imported bacon, and the spread between English and imported tended to narrow; in 1935 the spread averaged much the same as in 1934.

Flour and bread rose slightly in price during the year; bread was ¼*d.* per 4 lb. loaf higher in nine months, and ½*d.* higher in two months. The average for the year, 7¾*d.*, was ¼*d.* more than in the previous year, and 34 per cent. above the pre-War level.

Milk still remains, relatively to 1914, the dearest food, except fish; in 1935 its price index averaged 181, compared with 125 for all food. The price averaged 6½*d.* per quart in 1935, an increase of ¼*d.* on 1934, and of ¾*d.* on 1933, the year of lowest milk prices. It fell from 6½*d.* in the first four months of the year to 6*d.* from May to September, and then rose again to 6¾*d.* for the last three months. Except for January and February the price was ¼*d.* per quart higher in every month than in the corresponding month of 1934. These prices were in most cases determined by the various Milk Marketing Schemes, and were the objects of criticism from the Consumers' Committees.[1]

Butter, both fresh and salt, was priced higher during 1935. The increase was particularly marked in the last quarter of

[1] See pp. 116–20.

the year, owing partly to shorter supplies from Australia than are normal at that time. The annual average prices, of 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb. for fresh butter and 1*s.* 0½*d.* for salt, were 1*d.* and 1¼*d.* per lb. respectively above those for 1934, though still 3 and 12 per cent. respectively below the pre-War average. Cheese, on the other hand, fell by a further ½*d.* per lb. to 8¼*d.* in 1935, or 4 per cent. below the pre-War level. Imports had decreased, but home production had expanded.

Egg prices varied seasonally as usual, falling from 2*d.* each in January to 1*d.* in April and May, and rising again to 2¼*d.* in November and December; the average for the year, 1½*d.* each, was the same as in 1934, and 31 per cent. above pre-War.

Potatoes fetched higher prices in all months except September and October, and averaged 6¾*d.* per 7 lb., ¾*d.* higher than in the previous year, and 38 per cent. more than before the War. The main-crop of 1934 fetched from 5½*d.* to 5¾*d.* per 7 lb. between January and May 1935, or about ½*d.* more than in the previous year. The May frost sent up the price of earlies from 6¼*d.* in June to 11*d.* in July, which were 1¼*d.* and 2¼*d.* above those of the previous year. Prices fell again to 7*d.* in September and to 6¼*d.* for the rest of the year, levels averaging about the same as in the corresponding period of 1934.

(*c*) Agricultural Prices

Agricultural prices, as reported by the Ministry of Agriculture, continued their upward course in 1935. Excluding the wheat and cattle payments the index number for 1935 averaged 117, when 1911–13 is taken as 100; this represented an increase of 3 per cent. over 1934 and of 9 per cent. over 1933. If the wheat and cattle payments be taken into account the index averaged 123, or 3 per cent. higher than in the previous year, and higher than in any year since 1930. Agricul-

tural prices were still above wholesale prices, which averaged only 102 in 1935.

The divergence between the index numbers of cereal and of live-stock products continued in 1935; for while cereal prices, including the deficiency payment, remained constant at 109, live-stock prices, including the cattle payments, rose by 2 per cent. to 126. Fruit prices rose sharply so that, in spite of a small decline in vegetable prices, the average index of fruits and vegetables, at 184, was 39 per cent. higher than in 1934.

Index Number of Wholesale and Agricultural Prices, 1927–35
(1911–13 = 100)

	Statist index of wholesale prices of all commodities	*Agricultural products*	*Cereals*	*Live-stock products*	*Fruits and vegetables*
1927–9	143	145	133	149	168
1930	115	134	106	147	121
1931	100	120	86	127	134
1932	96	112(114)†	87	114	175
1933	95	107(111)†	83(113)†	115	143
1934	98	114(119)‡	84(109)†	122(123)§	132
1935*	102	117(123)‡	97(109)†	121(126)§	184

* Provisional. † Including wheat subsidy.
‡ Including wheat and cattle payments.
§ Including cattle payments.

The Ministry of Agriculture's monthly and annual index numbers for 1935 of prices of the more important products are given in the table on p. 208. Eleven of the twenty-two commodities included rose in 1935 compared with 1934, two by more than 10 per cent., of which one—fruit—rose by so much as 52 per cent.; three commodities showed no change, while eight fell; two commodities, cheese and store pigs, declined by more than 10 per cent.

Monthly Index Numbers of the Prices of Agricultural Products in England and Wales, 1935 (corresponding months of 1911–13 = 100)*

		Jan.	*Feb.*	*Mar.*	*Apr.*	*May*	*June*	*July*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*1935*	*1934*
Wheat		65	63	62	64	67	69	68	60	64	80	78	77	68	64
Wheat (including deficiency payment)		123	121	121	119	109	109	107	117	124	126	124	127	118	125
Barley		101	101	95	93	91	94	88	103	121	110	101	100	100	109
Oats		100	99	96	98	97	98	99	92	90	89	87	83	94	88
Fat Cattle		95	91	88	86	89	90	93	92	94	92	92	91	91	99
Fat Cattle (including subsidy payment)		110	105	102	100	102	104	107	107	109	107	106	105	106	104
Fat Sheep		140	134	139	141	140	124	117	114	114	121	120	119	127	127
Bacon Pigs		117	120	114	108	104	105	101	98	93	90	93	98	103	112
Pork Pigs		128	125	120	113	106	103	97	97	98	99	103	110	109	120
Dairy Cows		105	102	101	99	98	100	100	102	105	107	103	104	102	103
Store Cattle		87	84	86	85	90	92	94	89	88	90	90	92	89	86
Store Sheep		111	109	113	107	105	100	113	111	124	120	112	106	111	102
Store Pigs		151	142	130	122	115	115	114	118	122	124	129	131	126	144
Eggs		95	96	94	96	99	107	114	133	119	118	109	110	109	102
Poultry		121	124	124	116	125	123	120	115	117	117	118	120	124	120
Milk		171	171	161	215	162	162	175	175	215	171	171	171	176	163
Butter		83	86	88	89	87	89	87	92	89	95	97	93	89	87
Cheese		97	94	91	91	94	98	99	85	78	82	87	87	89	103
Potatoes		121	116	108	95	113	137	166	137	147	152	160	185	133	119
Hay		101	102	103	99	100	100	99	101	95	91	84	84	97	97
Wool		88	87	83	83	83	85	86	89	89	89	91	91	80	80
Hops		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	105	101
Fruit		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	196	129
Vegetables		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	137	143
All agricultural products	1935	117	115	112	119	111	111	114	113	121	113	113	114	..	..
(excluding payments)	1934	114	112	108	111	112	110	114	119	119	115	114	113	117	114
All agricultural products	1935	124	122	119	126	117	117	120	120	128	120	119	121	..	..
(including payments)	1934	119	117	113	117	117	114	117	123	126	122	120	120	123	119

* *Agricultural Statistics* and *Agricultural Market Report.*

*Monthly Prices of First Quality Agricultural Products in England and Wales, 1935**

		Jan.	*Feb.*	*Mar.*	*Apr.*	*May*	*June*	*July*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*1935*	*1934*
	per	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Fat Cattle†‡	live cwt.	36 11	35 8	35 3	35 10	37 2	37 10	37 1	35 2	35 4	34 8	34 9	37 3	36 1	39 2
Fat Sheep§	lb. dead weight	12½	12½	13¾	13	12	10½	10½	9½	10	10½	10½	11	11¼	11
Fat Lambs†	lb. dead weight	..	15½	17½	16¾	14½	12	11½	11	11	11	11	..	13¼	13¼
Porkers†	score	14 4	14 5	13 11	13 0	12 1	11 7	11 0	11 3	11 7	11 9	12 3	13 1	12 6	13 9
Baconers‖	score	11 3	11 5	11 11	11 0	10 11	11 5	11 9	11 4	11 0	10 2	11 4	10 2	11 2	11 8
Baconers†	score	12 2	12 10	12 6	11 9	11 4	11 2	11 0	11 0	10 6	10 1	10 4	10 9	11 3	12 3
Eggs¶	120	13 6	12 1	8 1	8 1	8 11	10 5	12 3	15 10	15 10	18 1	21 6	20 2	13 9	13 0
Fowls¶	lb. dead weight	1 1	1 2	1 3	1 3	1 3	1 2	1 1	1 0	1 0	1 0	1 0½	1 1½	1 1¼	1 1
Liquid Milk**	gallon	1 5	1 5	1 4	1 4	1 0	1 0	1 1	1 1	1 4	1 5	1 5	1 5	1 3½	1 2
Manufacturing Milk††	gallon	5	5	5	4¾	4½	4½	4¾	5	5	5	5	5	4¾	5
British Butter¶	12 lb.	14 3	14 6	14 6	13 9	12 6	12 3	12 6	13 9	14 0	15 0	16 0	15 9	14 1	13 9
English Cheddar Cheese‡‡	cwt.	90 6	92 0	92 0	92 0	92 6	93 0	91 0	75 0	67 0	75 0	79 0	81 0	85 0	87 6
English Cheshire Cheese§§	cwt.	77 6	73 6	70 0	70 0	52 6	46 6	46 6	51 6	65 6	75 0	84 0	80 3	66 1	65 6
Wheat‖¶	cwt.	4 9	4 8	4 7	4 10	5 4	5 6	5 6	4 10	4 10	5 11	5 10	5 8	5 2	4 10
Barley‖‖	cwt.	8 1	8 2	7 6	7 2	7 0	7 0	6 7	7 10	10 1	9 4	8 7	8 3	7 11	8 8
Oats‖‖	cwt.	6 10	7 0	6 10	6 11	7 2	7 4	7 7	6 5	6 1	6 2	6 1	5 10	6 8	6 3
Maincrop potatoes¶¶	ton	92 6	89 6	85 0	86 0	101 6	129 0	185 0	110 0	108 6	109 6	113 6	132 6	105 0	..
Early potatoes***	cwt.	..	..	..	65 0	40 9	19 5	11 0	6 0	..	..	..	..	34 0$	31 11$

* Provisional prices from the Ministry of Agriculture. † At country markets. ‡ Short horn type. § Downs and Crossbreds at country markets. ‖ Price of Class I Grade C pig. ¶ At town and country markets. ** Price at buyer's station. †† Average realization value, excluding subsidy. ‡‡ Dairy cheese, wholesale price at Bristol and London. §§ Ungraded cheese, wholesale price at Liverpool. ‖‖ Gazette. ¶¶ Average of first and second quality King Edward VII and Majestic (wholesale). *** Average of first and second quality Channel Islands potatoes for April–June, and Sharpe's Express for July and August. $ Average price April–July.

The changes between 1934 and 1935 are given below:

Increases		*No change*	*Decreases*	
	per cent.			per cent.
Fruit	52	Fat sheep	Dairy cows	1
Potatoes	12	Hay	Vegetables	4
Store sheep	9	Wool	Bacon pigs	8
Milk	8		Fat cattle†	8
Eggs	7		Barley	8
Oats	7		Pork pigs	9
Wheat*	6		Store pigs	13
Hops	4		Cheese	14
Store cattle	3			
Poultry	3			
Butter	2			

* Including the deficiency payments, wheat prices fell by 6 per cent.
† Including the subsidy, fat cattle prices rose by 7 per cent.

B. COMMODITIES

1. Meat

Cattle and Beef

Total supplies of beef and veal in Great Britain, including imported fat cattle, for June–May 1934–5 were estimated at approximately 26,428,000 cwt., of which 12,532,000 cwt., or 47 per cent., was home produced and 53 per cent. was imported.[1]

Home production. The total production in Great Britain in 1934–5 was estimated at 12,533,000 cwt. compared with 11,344,000 cwt. in 1933–4,[2] an increase of 11 per cent. Compared with 1930–1 the increase was 14 per cent. At the June census the number of cattle in Great Britain was 1 per cent. less than the previous year. A further increase in output is suggested, however, by the numbers of fat cattle sold on representative markets during 1935, which were 12 per cent. more than in 1934.

[1] See p. 200.

[2] See p. 193.

Imports. Beef imports, excluding live cattle, totalled 12,511,800 cwt., which was 166,707 cwt., or 1 per cent., less than in 1934, and 354,450 cwt. less than in 1929–31. Chilled supplies rose slightly but were offset by smaller shipments of frozen beef. Total beef imports have shown remarkably little variation over the last few years. Since 1929–31 the percentage of the total imported as chilled beef has declined by from 72 per cent. to 68 per cent., while frozen beef has increased from 20 to 24 per cent. Tinned and canned beef, extracts and essences, have remained steady at about 8 per cent. of total imports, while fresh and salted beef now form only an insignificant proportion.

Imports of Beef into the United Kingdom 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

	Quantities				*Per cent. of total*	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Chilled	9,226,737	8,798,741	8,250,658	8,489,022	71 7	67 8
Frozen	2,515,978	2,563,417	3,409,540	2,979,691	19·6	23 8
Tinned, &c.	1,090,838	804,912	1,013,642	1,040,796	8 5	8 3
Fresh and salted	32,697	7,683	4,667	2,291	0 2	0 1
Total	12,866,250	12,174,753	12,678,507	12,511,800	100 0	100 0
Live cattle (nos.)	785,782	642,611	509,537	599,110	..	..

(*a*) *Live cattle.*

Supplies. As indicated previously, marketings of fat cattle in England and Wales were 12 per cent. higher during the year. The number of live cattle for food imported during the year was 599,110, an increase of 89,573, or 18 per cent., on 1934, but still much lower than in 1929–31. The increase was due entirely to increased shipments from the Irish Free State, which is by far the most important source of supply. The quota for fat cattle imported from the Irish Free State, which in 1934 was 50 per cent. of the 1933 imports, was

increased to 66⅔ per cent. in 1935, while increases were also allowed in imports of dairy and store cattle.[1] Cattle from the Irish Free State were subject to duties under the Irish Free State (Special Duties) Act.[2]

Imports of Live Cattle for Food into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Numbers				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
Irish Free State	774,500	625,887	458,164	592,632	98 6	98 9
Canada	10,728	16,724	51,373	6,478	1 4	1 1
Other Empire	554	..	..	..	..	..
Total	785,782	642,611	509,537	599,110	100 0	100 0

Shipments from Canada in 1935 numbered only 6,478, compared with approximately 51,000 in 1933 and 1934. The drop was due to the better prices prevailing in the United States and the lower tariff imposed by that country on Canadian cattle. Imports from Canada were 1·4 per cent. of total imports in 1929–31, 10 per cent. in 1934, but only 1·1 per cent. in 1935.

Prices. The Ministry's index of fat cattle prices in 1935 was 91, or 8 per cent. lower than in 1934. If, however, the subsidy payment is added to the price, the index is raised to 106, which was 2 per cent. higher.[3] The 1934 figure, however, only included four months of the subsidy, for which the index was 111, and compared with this the 1935 index shows a decline of 5 per cent.

Fat cattle of Shorthorn type averaged 36*s.* 1*d.* per live cwt., compared with 39*s.* 2*d.* in 1934, a decline of 8 per cent.[4] This is the sixth successive year in which a decline has been recorded.

[1] See p. 169.
[2] See p. 392, and *The Agricultural Register, 1933–4*, p. 29.
[3] See p. 208.
[4] See p. 209.

*Prices of First Quality Cattle and Beef, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Fat cattle live cwt.†	*Scottish short-sides per lb.*	*English long-sides per lb.*	*English cow and bull per lb.*	*Argentine chilled hind-quarters per lb.*	*Australian frozen hind-quarters per lb.*
	s. d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
1927–9	52 7	10⅞	8¾	6⅞	7	5⅝
1930 . .	52 1	10⅝	8⅞	7⅛	7⅛	5¼
1931 . .	47 6	10	8⅛	6⅜	6½	4½
1932 . .	44 10	9⅜	7⅞	6	6⅛	4
1933 . .	39 10	8½	7	5⅜	5⅞	3½
1934 . .	39 2	8⅜	7	5½	5⅞	3⅝
1935 . .	36 1	8	6½	4⅝	5¾	3¾

* From *Agricultural Statistics*, and the Ministry of Agriculture.
† Shorthorns.

Compared with the monthly figures for 1934 the decline was greatest in January, February, March, and August. In January, first quality Shorthorns realized 36*s.* 11*d.*, falling to 35*s.* 3*d.* in March. The price then rose to the maximum for the year of 37*s.* 10*d.* in June, from which it fell to 34*s.* 8*d.* in October. In December there was some improvement at an average of 37*s.* 3*d.* For animals qualifying for the cattle subsidy payment, 5*s.* per cwt. must be added to the above prices.[1]

Wholesale prices of three varieties of home-killed beef are shown in the above table and all are lower than in 1934. Scottish short-sides declined 4 per cent., English long-sides 7 per cent., and cow and bull beef 10 per cent. Prices of the higher grades were maintained better than those of lower grades. Compared with 1927–9 prices of fat cattle had fallen 31 per cent., Scottish short-sides 26 per cent., English long-sides 26 per cent., and cow and bull beef 31 per cent.

The Ministry's index number of store cattle prices for 1935 was 89 compared with 86 in 1934.[2]

(*b*) *Chilled beef.*

Supplies. Imports were 8,489,022 cwt., an increase of 238,364 cwt. over 1934, but 737,715 cwt., or 8 per cent., less

[1] See p. 154. [2] See p. 208.

than in 1929–31. Compared with 1934, shipments from the chief foreign countries—Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay—remained practically stationary, but Empire supplies increased by 243,274 cwt., or 102 per cent. Empire sources, which now yield 6 per cent. of the total imports, include New Zealand, South Africa, Canada, and Southern Rhodesia.

Imports of Chilled Beef into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Argentina .	7,933,108	7,804,366	6,942,113	6,937,209	86 0	81·7
Brazil . .	479,432	481,151	509,103	508,534	5·2	6 0
Uruguay .	813,529	503,855	560,997	561,560	8 8	6 6
Other Foreign	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Empire	668	9,369	238,445	481,719	..	5 7
Total Foreign	9,226,069	8,789,372	8,012,213	8,007,303	100 0	94 3
Total .	9,226,737	8,798,741	8,250,658	8,489,022	100·0	100 0

Compared with 1929–31, there has been a reduction in the proportion of total chilled beef imports from Argentina and Uruguay and an increase in the proportion from Brazil and the Empire countries. Argentina, however, still supplies 82 per cent. of the whole.

Imports of chilled beef from foreign sources were subject to regulation under the Ottawa Agreement Act and to subsequent voluntary reduction, while arrangements were also in force with Empire countries.[1]

Prices. Argentine chilled hind-quarters were highest in May, at 6⅜*d.* per lb., and lowest in July, at 5¼*d.* per lb., the average for the year being 5¾*d.* per lb., a reduction of 2 per cent. compared with 1934. The decline was less than that of any kind of home-produced beef. Though the price in 1935 was 1*d.* per lb. more than English cow and bull beef, whereas

[1] See p. 165.

in 1927–9 the price difference was only $\frac{1}{8}d.$, chilled beef prices were still, in 1935, $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb. below English long-sides and $2\frac{1}{4}d.$ below Scottish short-sides. Since 1927–9 the price of Argentine chilled hind-quarters has declined 18 per cent., compared with the 26 to 31 per cent. in British beef.

(*c*) *Frozen beef.*

Supplies. Imports of frozen beef and veal amounted to 3,159,408 cwt., of which 2,402,502 cwt., or 76 per cent., were from the Empire and 756,906 cwt., or 24 per cent., from foreign countries. The proportion coming from the Empire was slightly less than in 1934, but was 50 per cent. more than in 1929–31. Imports were 11 per cent. less than in 1934, a year of exceptionally heavy shipments, though still 20 per cent. more than in 1929–31.

Imports of Frozen Beef and Veal into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Australia	954,209	956,261	1,571,141	1,408,595	36·3	44 6
New Zealand	337,763	658,142	1,023,413	805,972	12 8	25·5
Other Empire	36,680	33,547	138,073	187,935	1 4	5 9
Argentina	782,485	662,442	544,508	524,291	29 8	16 6
Brazil	189,402	106,011	86,279	85,982	7·2	2 7
Uruguay	250,630	231,455	86,629	87,698	9·5	2 8
Other Foreign	78,007	52,378	93,208	58,935	3 0	1 9
Total Empire	1,328,652	1,647,950	2,732,627	2,402,502	50·5	76 0
Total Foreign	1,300,524	1,052,286	810,624	756,906	49·5	24 0
Total	2,629,176	2,700,236	3,543,251	3,159,408	100 0	100 0

Foreign supplies, except those from Uruguay, declined slightly. Australia sent 162,546 cwt. and New Zealand 217,441 cwt. less than in 1934, but 'other Empire' countries sent 49,862 cwt. more.

Quantitative regulation of frozen beef imports was in

operation in 1935. Imports from foreign countries were reduced under the Ottawa Agreements Act, while those from the Empire were subject to arrangements for voluntary limitation.[1]

Prices. Prices of Australian frozen hind-quarters varied between $3\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $4d.$ per lb. during the year, averaging $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb., compared with $3\frac{5}{8}d.$ per lb. in 1934, an increase of 2 per cent. Compared with 1933, the price had increased 7 per cent., but it was 30 per cent. less than in 1927–9.

(d) Tinned and canned beef, extracts and essences.

Imports of these commodities showed a slight increase at 1,040,796 cwt., though this was 50,042 cwt. less than in 1929–31. They formed 8 per cent. of total beef imports.[2]

Extracts and essences of beef are subject to a duty of 10 per cent. under the Import Duties Act. Canned beef imports were also subject to voluntary limitation to the level of supplies in 1933.[3]

Sheep, Mutton, and Lamb

Total supplies of mutton and lamb in Great Britain for the period June–May 1934–5, allowing for imports of fat sheep and lambs, were approximately 12,140,000 cwt., of which 4,761,000 cwt., or 39 per cent., was home produced and 61 per cent. imported.[4]

Home production. The output of mutton and lamb in Great Britain for the year June–May 1934–5 was 4,761,000 cwt.,[5] or 16 per cent. less than in 1933–4, but 14 per cent. more than in 1930–1. The numbers of sheep in Great Britain in June 1935 were very slightly higher than in June 1934,[6] a small decrease in England and Wales being offset by an increase in Scotland. There was, however, a decline in the number of ewes in both countries, and the slight increase was attribut-

[1] See p. 167. [2] See p. 211. [3] See p. 174.
[4] See p. 200. [5] See p. 193. [6] See p. 199.

able to a favourable crop of lambs. Marketings of sheep at representative markets in England and Wales in 1935 were 8 per cent. less than in the previous year.

Imports of Mutton and Lamb into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Fresh . .	22,523	7,249	12,882	53,347	0 3	0 8
Frozen .	6,374,365	6,927,074	6,478,794	6,699,159	97 5	95 8
Tinned and Canned .	43,199	39,573	47,016	63,901	0 7	0 9
Other Descriptions .	97,677	142,464	153,466	172,906	1 5	2 5
Total .	6,537,764	7,116,360	6,692,158	6,989,313	100 0	100 0
Live sheep and lambs (nos.) .	570,996	440,871	362,989	278,969	..	..

Imports. Imports of mutton and lamb, including live sheep, totalled 6,989,313 cwt. in 1935. This was an increase of 4 per cent. on 1934 and of 7 per cent. on 1929–31. All descriptions, except live sheep, showed an increase. Frozen mutton and lamb form 96 per cent. of the total, other sorts being relatively unimportant.

(*a*) *Live sheep and lambs.*

Supplies. Imports of live sheep and lambs from the Irish Free State numbered 278,969 in 1935, compared with 362,989 in 1934, a reduction of 23 per cent. and only about half of the 1929–31 imports. Carcasses of mutton and lamb from the Irish Free State, however, increased from 12,882 cwt. in 1934 to 53,347 cwt. in 1935.

Live sheep and lambs from the Irish Free State were subject to a duty of 10*s.* per head, mutton and lamb carcasses 10*s.* per carcass, sides 5*s.* per carcass, and other kinds 40 per

cent. *ad valorem*; these rates were altered at the beginning of 1936.[1]

Prices. The Ministry's index of fat sheep prices in 1935 was 127, the same as for 1934.[2] The index was higher in the first four months but lower in the remaining months when compared with 1934.

The average price of first quality Downs and Crossbreds was 11¼*d.* per lb., an increase of 2 per cent. on 1934 and of 28 per cent. on 1932, though still 20 per cent. below 1927–9. The price in January was 12¼*d.*, rising to 13¼*d.* in March. A decline followed to 9¾*d.* in August, after which it rose again to 11*d.* in December.[3] The seasonal fluctuation was rather more than in 1934.

Fat lambs averaged 13¼*d.* per lb. for the year, ¼*d.* more than in 1934. As with fat sheep, there was a considerable seasonal variation in price, with a maximum of 17½*d.* per lb. in March, when supplies were shortest, and a minimum of 11*d.* per lb. in the months August to November.[4]

*Prices per lb. Deadweight of First Quality Fat Sheep and Lambs, and Mutton and Lamb, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Fat sheep, Downs and Crossbreds	*Fat lambs, all breeds*	*Scottish mutton*	*Lambs*	
				British	*New Zealand frozen*
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
1927–9 . .	14	17½	12½	14	10
1930 . .	13⅞	17	12⅝	14⅝	9⅝
1931 . .	11⅝	14⅝	10⅞	13	7⅞
1932 . .	8½	11½	8½	10½	6⅝
1933 . .	9⅞	11⅝	9⅝	10⅝	7
1934 . .	11	13	10⅛	11⅞	7⅝
1935 . .	11¼	13¼	10	11⅝	7⅝

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The price of Scottish mutton declined by 1 per cent. to 10*d.* per lb. Averaging 10⅜*d.* per lb. in January, it rose to 12⅛*d.* in April and then fell to 8¾*d.* in September and

[1] See pp. 391–3. [2] See p. 208. [3] See p. 209. [4] See p. 209.

October, recovering to 9¼*d.* in December, or ¼*d.* less than in December 1934.

The average price of British lamb in 1935 at 11⅝*d.* per lb. was also 1 per cent. lower than in 1934. Prices were again highest in the spring—the maximum of 16¼*d.* being in March and the minimum of 9¼*d.* in October and November.

Fat lambs, Scottish mutton, and British lamb in 1935 were 23, 18, and 17 per cent. lower, respectively, than in 1927–9.

The index of store sheep prices in 1935 was 111, or 9 per cent. higher than in 1934.[1]

(*b*) *Frozen mutton and lamb.*

Supplies. Imports of frozen mutton and lamb in 1935 were 6,699,159 cwt., an increase of 220,365 cwt., or 3 per cent., compared with 1934. Of these, 5,418,183 cwt., or 81 per cent., came from Empire sources and 1,280,976 cwt., or 19 per cent., were foreign. While Empire supplies increased, foreign were smaller; in 1935 they represented only 58 per cent. of foreign imports in 1929–31, while Empire imports were 31 per cent. more.

Imports of Frozen Mutton and Lamb into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Australia .	977,668	1,152,092	1,627,107	1,785,232	15 3	26 7
New Zealand	3,169,563	3,906,842	3,554,576	3,632,933	49 8	54 2
Other Empire	1,041	958	242	18	..	..
Chile . .	308,611	296,147	206,325	207,880	4 8	3 1
Uruguay .	358,128	162,869	138,392	136,407	5 6	2.0
Argentina .	1,516,838	1,371,650	921,616	905,258	23 8	13 5
Other Foreign	42,515	36,516	30,536	31,431	0 6	0 5
Total Empire	4,148,272	5,059,892	5,181,925	5,418,183	65·1	80 9
Total Foreign	2,226,092	1,867,182	1,296,869	1,280,976	34 9	19·1
Total .	6,374,364	6,927,074	6,478,794	6,699,159	100·0	100 0

[1] See p. 208.

Imports from foreign countries in 1935 were subject to compulsory regulation to reduce them in any quarter to 65 per cent. of the corresponding quarter of the Ottawa year. Empire supplies were subject to voluntary limitation—the object being to maintain total supplies of mutton and lamb at the 1934 level.[1]

Prices. The average price of New Zealand frozen lamb was $7\frac{5}{8}d.$ per lb., the same as in 1934. Beginning at 8*d.* in January, there was a fall to 7*d.* in April and May and then a gradual rise to 8*d.* in October and November. The December price was $7\frac{7}{8}d.$ The average price for the year was 24 per cent. lower than in 1927–9. The premium of British over New Zealand lamb was 4*d.* in both periods.

(*c*) *Tinned and canned mutton and lamb.*

Imports of tinned and canned mutton and lamb were 63,901 cwt., an increase of 36 per cent. compared with 1934. Other descriptions, such as tongues, livers, kidneys, &c., were also heavier at 172,906 cwt., compared with 153,466 cwt. in 1934. But these categories form together only just over 3 per cent. of the total imports of mutton and lamb.

Canned meat and extracts and essences are subject to a duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* under the Import Duties Act.

Pigs and Pig Products

Total supplies of pigmeat in Great Britain in 1934–5, allowing for imports of fat pigs, were estimated at 17,334,000 cwt., of which 41 per cent. was home produced and 59 per cent. was imported.[2]

Home production. The output of *pigmeat* in Great Britain during the year June–May 1934–5 was estimated at 7,114,000 cwt.,[3] an increase of 6 per cent. on 1933–4 and of 36 per cent. on 1930–1. The pig population showed a further large increase of 15 per cent., reaching a record of 4,067,250 in Great

[1] See p. 170. [2] See p. 200. [3] See p. 193.

Britain and 457,833 in Northern Ireland. The number of fat pigs sold on representative markets in England and Wales, going mainly to the pork market, increased by 8 per cent., while the number of bacon pigs delivered under the Pigs Marketing Scheme rose 22 per cent.[1]

Imports of Pigmeat into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

	Quantities				*Per cent. of total*	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Bacon . .	9,534,326	11,390,839	7,598,262	6,925,654	82 5	77 0
Hams . .	954,321	801,349	728,273	676,779	8 3	7·5
Fresh Pork .	322,810	262,151	143,771	142,841	2 8	1 6
Frozen Pork.	338,258	341,021	1,105,420	915,219	2 9	10 2
Salted . .	71,204	34,238	*	*	0 6	*
Tinned, Canned, &c.	332,808	333,317	402,561	337,168	2 9	3 7
Total .	11,553,727	13,162,915	9,978,287	8,997,661	100·0	100 0
Live Pigs (nos.) .	401,543	302,760	133,913	127,990	..	..

* Not distinguished separately.

Imports. Total imports of pigmeat were 8,997,661 cwt., which was 980,626 cwt., or 10 per cent., less than in 1934, and 2,556,066 cwt., or 22 per cent., less than in 1929–31.

In 1935 bacon was 77 per cent. of the total imports and hams 7·5 per cent. compared with 82·5 and 8 per cent. in 1929–31. Fresh and salted pork formed a smaller proportion of the total in 1935, while the quantity of tinned and canned meat was practically the same as in 1929–31, though as a proportion of the total it increased. Imports of frozen pork accounted for 10 per cent. of the total, but after the very rapid growth in imports in 1933 and 1934 there was a decline of 17 per cent. in 1935. Live pig imports from the Irish Free State totalled 127,990 cwt., or 4 per cent. less than in 1934.

[1] See p. 79.

Porkers and pork.

Imports of fresh pork, which come entirely from the Irish Free State, amounted to 142,841 cwt., rather less than in 1934; they formed only 2 per cent. of the total imports of pigmeat. Live pigs, which also come from the Irish Free State, declined by 6,000 to 127,990. Imports of both fresh pork and live pigs are subject to duties.[1]

Imports of frozen pork were 915,219 cwt., or 10 per cent. of the total pigmeat imports, a decline of 17 per cent. compared with 1934. Seventy per cent. came from Empire sources, principally New Zealand and Australia, and Argentina and the United States were the main foreign shippers. From 12 March 1935 foreign frozen pork imports were subject to compulsory regulation; supplies from Australia, New Zealand, and Canada were limited voluntarily.[2]

Prices. The Ministry's index of porker prices, after rising from 109 in 1933 to 120 in 1934, declined to 109 in 1935.[3] First quality porkers averaged 14*s.* 4*d.* per score in January compared with 15*s.* 3*d.* a year before.[4] In February the average was 14*s.* 5*d.*, after which it dropped steadily to a minimum of 11*s.* 0*d.* in July. There was the usual seasonal rise towards the end of the year, and the December price was 13*s.* 1*d.* The average for the year was 12*s.* 6*d.*, compared with 13*s.* 9*d.* in 1934, a reduction of 9 per cent.

Pork prices at an average of 8¼*d.* per lb. for the year were also lower, the decline being 7 per cent. British pork fell from 9¼*d.* per lb. in January to 7*d.* in July, rising again to 8⅞*d.* in December, the seasonal variation being the same as for porkers and controlled by the reduced demand for pork in the summer months. Porker prices have declined 29 and pork prices 27 per cent. compared with 1927–9.

New Zealand first quality frozen pork was also cheaper.

[1] See pp. 192–3.
[2] See p. 173.
[3] See p. 208.
[4] See p. 209.

From January to August the price fluctuated irregularly with a maximum of 6½*d.* per lb. in January and a minimum of 5⅝*d.* per lb. in July. As in the previous year there was a marked rise in the last four months to a maximum of 7¼*d.* in December. The average for the year was 6¼*d.* per lb., or 4 per cent. less than in 1934. The price margin between New Zealand and British pork is now 2*d.*, which is smaller than in any recent year except 1932.

*Prices of First Quality Pigs, Pork, and Bacon, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Pigs		*Pork*		*Bacon*	
	Porkers per score	*Baconers per score*	*British per lb.*	*New Zealand per lb.*	*British Green Wiltshire per cwt.*	*Danish Green sides per cwt.*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9 .	17 8	16 1	11½	..	125 0	104 0
1930 . .	19 0	16 6	12½	9½	126 6	97 0
1931 . .	14 3	11 10	9½	6¾	95 0	66 0
1932 . .	11 7	10 4	7½	6	86 6	61 6
1933 . .	12 9	11 3	8⅜	5⅞	91 0	77 6
1934 . .	13 9	11 8†	8⅞	6½	97 0	93 0
1935 . .	12 6	11 3†	8½	6½	94 11	92 5

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.
† For Class I, Grade C pigs under Pigs Marketing Scheme.

Baconers, Bacon, and Hams.

The output of *bacon* in Great Britain in 1935 was 2,360,911 cwt., an increase of 23 per cent. Of this quantity home pigs contributed 2,014,943 cwt., an increase of 22 per cent. on 1934, and 85 per cent. of the total output of bacon, while 345,968 cwt. were derived from imported pigs and carcasses compared with 250,824 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 38 per cent.

After inclusion of the Northern Ireland output and allowances for exports, the total supplies in the United Kingdom were 10,548,421 cwt., which was rather less than the 1934 figure of 10,685,785 cwt., or the total of 10,670,000 cwt. recommended by the Lane-Fox Commission.[1] The increase

[1] *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, vol. xlii, no. 11, February 1936.

in home production in 1935, therefore, was more than offset by lower imports.

Total imports of bacon and hams were 7,602,433 cwt. This was 724,102 cwt., or 9 per cent., less than in 1934. Foreign imports at 6,014,440 cwt. were 12 per cent. less than in 1934, while Empire supplies increased by 9 per cent. to 1,587,993 cwt. Compared with 1929–31, bacon and hams showed a reduction of 28 per cent. Imports from foreign countries have been subject to compulsory regulation since 1932, with the object of stabilizing total supplies at about 10,670,000 cwt. There is, however, no restriction at present on imports from Empire sources,[1] except from the Irish Free State.

Imports of Bacon and Hams into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Irish Free State	390,862	214,837	380,882	478,630	3·7	6 3
Canada	200,686	324,447	1,075,001	1,108,715	2 0	14 6
Other Empire	3,405	1,984	969	648	..	..
Denmark	6,146,984	7,676,741	4,287,836	3,826,516	58 6	50 3
United States	1,188,474	529,096	517,017	439,123	11·3	5·8
Netherlands	915,549	977,074	607,827	508,950	8·7	6 7
Poland	679,597	1,252,780	496,487	452,326	6 5	5·9
Sweden	502,356	423,670	296,641	257,409	4 8	3·4
Lithuania	147,027	512,007	251,572	165,318	1 4	2 2
U.S.S.R.	95,911	42,543	48,724	46,509	0 9	0 6
Argentina	80,068	88,645	48,152	48,567	0 7	0 6
Latvia	48,341	18,795	43,111	32,810	0 6	0·4
Estonia	37,932	82,032	50,675	45,521	0·4	0 6
Finland	13,435	38,203	24,138	22,292	0·1	0 3
Germany	16,957	1,588	51,323	..	0 1	..
Norway	387	203	24,991	20,290	..	0 3
Other Foreign	20,676	7,543	121,189	148,809	0·2	2·0
Total Empire	594,953	541,268	1,456,852	1,587,993	5·7	20 9
Total Foreign	9,893,694	11,650,920	6,869,683	6,014,440	94·3	79 1
Total	10,488,647	12,192,188	8,326,535	7,602,433	100·0	100·0

[1] See p. 171.

Danish imports were reduced to 3,826,386 cwt., or 11 per cent. less than 1934 and 50 per cent. less than 1932, which was the peak year of Danish imports. Denmark provided 50 per cent. of the total imports in 1935, Canada coming next with 1,108,715 cwt., an increase of 3 per cent. on 1934. Imports from the United States, the Netherlands, and Poland were reduced to 5·8, 6·7, and 5·9 per cent. of the total, compared with 11·3, 8·7, and 6·5 per cent. in 1929–31. Supplies from the Irish Free State, however, showed a further increase and were more than twice as much as in 1932, notwithstanding a duty at the rate of 40 per cent. *ad valorem*. Sweden and Lithuania are the only other countries from which any considerable quantity of bacon and ham is received. Both sent less in 1935 than in 1934, and they contributed 3·4 and 2·2 per cent. of the total imports, respectively.

Prices. According to the Ministry's index, prices of bacon pigs were about 8 per cent. lower in 1935 than in 1934, a fall from 112 to 103.[1]

The average price of Class 1, Grade C pigs under the Pigs Marketing Scheme was 11*s*. 2*d*. per score, compared with 11*s*. 8*d*. in 1934.[2] The price, which was 11*s*. 3*d*. in January, reached its maximum at 11*s*. 11*d*. in March, and fell to 10*s*. 11*d*. in May. In October and December the price was 10*s*. 2*d*., and in the remaining months it fluctuated between 11*s*. and 11*s*. 9*d*.[3] In the open market first quality baconers averaged 11*s*. 3*d*., the same as in 1933, but 1*s*. less than in 1934.[4] Prices in the 'open market' were considerably higher in the first three months of the year owing to the purchase of pigs by curers to make up for deficiencies in their contracted supplies. In the latter months, however, the 'open market' price was generally below the Pigs Marketing Board's price.

Prices of store pigs declined even more, the Ministry's index being 126, compared with 144 in 1934, a reduction of over 12 per cent.

[1] See p. 208. [2] See p. 209. [3] See p. 209. [4] See p. 223.

Bacon prices were slightly lower than in 1934. British Green Wiltshire averaged 94*s.* 11*d.* for the year, compared with 97*s.* in 1934, a reduction of 2 per cent.[1] The January price of 97*s.* was 6*d.* higher than in the corresponding month of 1934, but in the latter months prices dropped below 90*s.*, the December average being only 84*s.*

Danish bacon opened at 92*s.* in January, fell to 86*s.* 6*d.* in March, and rose to a maximum of 100*s.* in June. The fall in the last months of the year was less than that of British bacon, and in the months October–December Danish Green Sides were from 1*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. more than the British product. For the year as a whole British bacon enjoyed a premium of 2*s.* 6*d.* over Danish, compared with 4*s.* in 1934, 13*s.* 6*d.* in 1933, and 29*s.* in 1931, but Danish second quality bacon commanded a premium of 6*s.* 4*d.* over second quality British, the difference being least at the beginning and most at the end of the year.

2. Dairy Products

Liquid Milk

Home production. The output of milk in Great Britain for 1934–5 was estimated at 1,570 million gallons, of which England and Wales produced 1,399 million gallons and Scotland 171 million gallons. The total output was 1·4 per cent. more than in 1933–4. Only part of the output, probably rather more than 1,000 million gallons, was consumed liquid, the rest being manufactured into milk products. Sales of milk by the various Milk Marketing Boards are given elsewhere,[2] but such sales do not cover all producers nor the whole of Great Britain, and do not agree, therefore, with the Ministry's figures.

There are practically no imports of liquid milk.

Prices. Prices in England and Wales, in Scotland south of the Grampians, in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, and in

[1] See p. 223.

[2] See pp. 56, 63, 386, and 390.

the North were controlled by Milk Marketing Boards, and in Northern Ireland by a Joint Milk Council.[1] In England the Ministry of Agriculture's index number of milk prices averaged 176, compared with 163 in 1934, an increase of 8 per cent.[2]

The price to the buyer varies substantially according to the use to which the milk is to be put. In the table on p. 228 the prices charged for liquid milk for the years from 1933–4 onwards are compared with the liquid prices under the Permanent Joint Milk Committee agreement in previous years. They are not strictly comparable, for the liquid price under the Committee's agreement was not necessarily paid for all milk sold liquid. Prices have continued to rise, both in winter and in summer, since the introduction of the Milk Marketing Scheme. In the winter of 1934–5 the average price was 1*s.* 4½*d.* per gallon, the same as the average from 1927–8 to 1929–30, while it was ½*d.* per gallon more than the price in the South-Eastern region in the previous winter, and 1*d.* per gallon more than in other regions. In the summer of 1935 prices averaged 1*s.* 1⅝*d.* per gallon, being 1⅛*d.* above the average for 1928–30, 1*d.* above the summer price in the South-Eastern region in 1934, and 1⅝*d.* above those in other regions. The prices established by the Milk Marketing Board for 1935–6, pending the report of the Committee of Investigation, averaged 1*s.* 5*d.* in winter and 1*s.* 2*d.* in summer, representing further increases of ½*d.* per gallon in winter and ⅜*d.* in summer.

The table also shows the average realization value for manufacturing milk, compared with the manufacturing price under the Permanent Joint Milk Committee agreements in earlier years. Excluding the Government subsidy, this realization value was 5*d.* per gallon in the winter of 1934–5, ¼*d.* lower than in the previous winter, and 3½*d.* below the average from 1927–8 to 1929–30. The subsidy raised the return by

[1] See pp. 23, 47, 54, 61, and 67. [2] See p. 208.

1¼*d.* to 6¼*d.* in the winter of 1934–5. In the summer of 1935 the realization value of manufacturing milk, excluding the subsidy, was 4⅝*d.* per gallon, only ⅛*d.* less than in the previous summer, but 4*d.* per gallon lower than in 1928–30. Including the subsidy, the summer price in 1935 was raised to 5¼*d.* per gallon, being ¼*d.* less than the corresponding price in the previous summer.

Prices per Gallon for Liquid and Manufacturing Milk, 1927–8–1929–30 to 1935–6

	Liquid milk at buyer's station		*Manufacturing milk at seller's station*	
	Oct.–Mar.	*Apr.–Sept.*	*Oct.–Mar.*	*Apr.–Sept.*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–8 to 1929–30 .	1 4½*	1 0½*	8½	8⅝
1930–1 . . .	1 4¼†	1 0†	5½	4½
1931–2 . . .	1 2½†	1 0¼†	4⅞	4⅝
1932–3 . . .	1 3¾†	1 0¼†	5	5
1933–4 . . .	1 4‡	1 0⅝‡	5¼‖	4⅜‖
1934–5 . . .	1 4½	1 1⅝	5‖	4⅝‖
1935–6 . . .	1 5§	1 2§	..	..

* In 1929–30 for Class II. † For Class II*b*. ‡ In South-Eastern region. § Prices established pending the Report of the Committee of Investigation. ‖ Weighted average manufacturing prices, excluding Government subsidy.

The movements in liquid and manufacturing prices do not alone explain the changes in the prices received by the producer, for the proportion manufactured has increased substantially. The average of the pool prices paid to producers in the various regions was 13·8*d.* per gallon in the winter of 1934–5, and 10·6*d.* in the summer. The average for the year, 12·2*d.*, was slightly more than that for the previous year, as the rise in liquid prices more than compensated for the decline in manufacturing prices and the increasing proportion manufactured. No figures are available by which to compare these prices with those realized in earlier years.

CREAM

Home production. The output of *creamery-made* cream in Great Britain has increased substantially since the introduction of the Milk Marketing Schemes. In 1930–1 it accounted for only 57 per cent. of the total output compared with 43 per cent. made on farms; it is probable, though no recent figures are available as confirmation, that the production of cream *on farms* in 1935 has declined, with the advent of the Milk Marketing Schemes, from the 1,714,000 gallons produced in 1930–1.

The output of fresh cream by *creameries* in Great Britain in 1935 was estimated at 348,000 cwt. and that of tinned cream at 146,000 cwt.[1] These figures represent increases of 12 and 40 per cent., respectively, compared with 1934. The amount of milk sold for manufacture into fresh cream in the areas of the two principal Milk Marketing Schemes was 54 million gallons, while 10·5 million gallons were sold for manufacture into tinned cream. The output of fresh cream was greatest in July and December.

Imports. Imports have been declining steadily since the peak year, 1931. Imports into the United Kingdom were 74,739 cwt. in 1935, 12 per cent. less than in 1934, and about half those of 1927–9. The equivalents in gallons were 609,000 and 698,000 for 1935 and 1934, respectively. Fresh cream, coming almost entirely from the Irish Free State, accounted for 45 per cent. of the total, the remainder being tinned and coming almost entirely from Denmark. The Irish Free State sent 13 per cent. less than in 1934 and 54 per cent. less than in 1929–31, while imports from Denmark declined by 10 and 21 per cent., respectively. Total foreign imports were 40,583 cwt. in 1935, or 12 per cent. less than in 1934 and 47 per cent. less than in 1929–31. The Netherlands, which was once

[1] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 37, 14 February 1936.

an important supplier of cream, now sends only a negligible quantity.

Imports of Cream into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Irish Free State	74,389	73,223	39,342	34,155	49 2	45 7
Other Empire	37	..	28	1	..	..
Denmark	50,728	60,160	44,764	40,229	33 5	53 8
Netherlands	18,606	2,905	*	*	12 3	*
Other Foreign	7,505	331	1,264	354	5 0	0 5
Total Empire	74,426	73,223	39,370	34,156	49 2	45·7
Total Foreign	76,839	63,396	46,028	40,583	50 8	54·3
Total	151,265	136,619	85,398	74,739	100 0	100 0

* Included in Other Foreign.

The Irish Free State sent 45·7 per cent. of the total imports, compared with 49·2 per cent. in 1929–31, while Denmark sent 53·8 compared with 33·5 per cent. Thus, unlike most other imports, the proportion coming from foreign countries increased. This was partly because imports of fresh cream, coming from the Irish Free State, declined more rapidly than those of tinned cream as a result of the prohibition of any form of preservatives in cream under the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations of 1927, and partly because of the higher duties imposed on Irish than on foreign imports. For, while imports from the Irish Free State were subject to a duty of 40 per cent. *ad valorem*, the duty on foreign imports was only 10 per cent.

Imports from foreign countries were also subject to a voluntary reduction to 50 per cent. of the amount in 1932–3, while supplies from the Irish Free State were also controlled.[1]

[1] See p. 174.

Prices. As cream was not a regulated product under the Milk Marketing Scheme, its price was liable to undercutting on the English market by supplies from Scotland and Ireland. As reported in the last issue of the *Agricultural Register*,[1] an agreement on cream prices was reached between interested parties in England, Scotland, and Ireland in August 1934. In January 1935 the English Milk Marketing Board announced that it had concluded agreements fixing the wholesale price of cream until 31 March. The agreements were continued, with slight modifications, to 30 September.

The prices in the accompanying table refer to cream sold in England, Wales, and Scotland. For daily consignments up to 9 gallons the prices are the same whether the cream was produced in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, or the Irish Free State. For larger consignments the price of English cream was dearer than Scottish, which was, in turn, dearer than Irish.

Wholesale Prices per Gallon of Cream in Great Britain, 1935

Daily quantities in one consignment	*England*	*Scotland*	*Irish Free State*	*Northern Ireland*
gallons	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1	12 0	12 0	12 0	12 0
2	11 6	11 6	11 6	11 6
3 to 9	11 0	11 0	11 0	11 0
10 to 20	10 6	10 6†	10 0	10 0
21 to 40*	9 9	9 9†	9 3	9 3
41 to 150*	9 3	9 0	8 9	8 9
Over 150	9 0	8 9	8 3‡	8 3‡

* Until 31 March, 21 to 50 and 51 to 150 gallons, respectively.
† Until 31 March, 10*s.* 3*d.* and 9*s.* 6*d.*, respectively.
‡ Until 31 March, 8*s.* 6*d.*

The price charged by the English Milk Marketing Board for milk sold for manufacture into cream in 1935 was 7½*d.* per gallon. In Scotland most of the milk made into cream

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 243.

realized the same, but a small quantity was sold at prices varying from 5½*d.* to 10½*d.* per gallon.[1]

Butter

Home production. The quantity of milk sold for manufacture into butter under the English Milk Marketing Board and the main Scottish Board was 100 million gallons, equivalent to about 356,500 cwt. of butter,[2] or nearly twice as much as in 1934, and between five and six times as much as in 1930–1. No figures of the output of farm butter are available for 1935, hence it is impossible to estimate the total home production. In 1930–1, 702,800 cwt. of butter was made on farms, but it is certain that the output is now very much lower, as the pool prices paid under the Milk Marketing Schemes have encouraged the sale of liquid milk in what were formerly the main butter-producing areas.

Imports. Imports of butter into the United Kingdom decreased in 1935 for the first time since 1927, while the proportion of world butter exports taken by this country declined still more; total imports amounted to 9,608,620 cwt., a decrease of 86,774 cwt. or 1 per cent. compared with 1934, but still more than in any preceding year, and 2,515,638 cwt. or 35 per cent. more than in 1929–31. These imports compete more closely with home-produced creamery butter, the output of which had increased, than with farm butter, in which there was a decline.

Foreign supplies declined to 4,173,183 cwt., 5 per cent. less than 1934, but 8 per cent. more than in 1929–31. Danish imports were 12 per cent. lower at 2,186,350 cwt., and formed only 23 per cent. of total imports compared with 33 per cent. in 1929–31. Cow stock had decreased, and a poor fodder crop in 1934 had reduced butter production in the first half

[1] See p. 37.

[2] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 37, 14 February 1936.

of the year. Further, butter imports into Germany had increased, thus diminishing the supplies available for the British market.

Imports of Butter into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Australia	1,092,236	1,795,465	2,103,366	2,113,650	15·4	22·0
New Zealand	1,597,947	2,140,280	2,676,794	2,637,535	22 5	27 5
Irish Free State	489,723	314,663	468,381	488,476	6 9	5 1
Canada	26,107	19,299	54	63,463	0 4	0 7
South Africa	25,975	59,107	21,423	82,349	0 4	0 9
Other Empire	5,587	7,744	13,772	49,964	..	0·5
Denmark	2,329,541	2,583,664	2,485,810	2,186,350	32 8	22 8
U.S.S.R.	286,711	322,887	491,470	503,192	4 0	5 2
Sweden	246,533	175,771	302,296	184,385	3·5	1 9
Latvia	56,575	112,556	155,756	192,500	0·8	2·0
Netherlands	105,009	46,990	301,137	464,508	1·5	4 8
Finland	240,390	216,620	150,849	115,707	3·4	1·2
Lithuania	24,332	68,130	141,101	180,499	0·4	1 9
Estonia	110,652	83,153	122,919	119,179	1 6	1 2
Norway	6,737	14,938	100	..	0 1	..
Poland	55,667	3,004	50,163	99,158	0 8	1·0
Argentina	363,622	391,027	111,546	69,354	5 1	0 7
Other Foreign	29,638	9,069	98,457	58,351	0 4	0 6
Total Empire	3,237,575	4,336,558	5,283,790	5,435,437	45·6	56 7
Total Foreign	3,855,407	4,027,809	4,411,604	4,173,183	55·4	43·3
Total	7,092,982	8,364,367	9,695,394	9,608,620	100 0	100 0

The next largest foreign source of supply was Russia, which had sent steadily increasing quantities since 1929–31 and supplied 503,192 cwt. in 1935, forming 5·2 per cent. of the total. Imports from the Netherlands have also increased from 105,009 cwt. in 1929–31 and 46,990 cwt. in 1932 to 464,508 cwt. in 1935. Other foreign countries from which increased shipments were received were Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland. Decreases were recorded from Sweden, Finland, Estonia, and Argentina. The proportion from all

foreign countries declined from 55 per cent. in 1929–31 to 43 in 1935.

Imports from the Empire in 1935 were 5,435,437 cwt., an increase of 3 per cent. on 1934 and 68 per cent. on 1929–31. New Zealand remained the largest supplier, sending 28 per cent. of the total compared with 23 per cent. from Denmark and 22 per cent. from Australia. Her shipments of 2,637,535 cwt. represented a slight decline on 1934. The dry weather in the early part of the year had decreased production, while the reduced production in the United States necessitated imports from New Zealand at this time of year. Shipments from Australia amounted to 2,113,650 cwt., an increase of 0·5 per cent.; in the latter half of the year dry weather reduced production. Imports from the Irish Free State increased by 20,095 cwt., or 4 per cent. between 1934 and 1935; those from other Empire countries were also greater. Total Empire butter shipments accounted for 57 per cent. of all imports, compared with 55 per cent. in 1934 and 46 per cent. in 1929–31.

Foreign imports were subject to a tariff of 15*s.* per cwt. Empire imports were admitted free, except for those from the Irish Free State, which were subject to a duty of 40 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Prices. The Ministry's index of butter prices was 89 compared with 87 in 1934, an increase of 2 per cent.[1] First-quality British farm butter averaged 131*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., which was 4*s.*, or 3 per cent. higher. It will be seen from the table on p. 235 that prices, which fell steadily from 1927–9 to 1934, have now begun to rise. Total supplies from all sources were rather smaller in 1935 than in 1934, while consumption was well maintained. The price of British butter fell from 14*s.* 3*d.* per 12 lb. in January to 12*s.* 3*d.* in June, rose again to 16*s.* in November, and then declined to 15*s.* 9*d.* per 12 lb. in December, compared with 14*s.* 6*d.* in

[1] See p. 208.

December 1934. The average for the year was 14*s.* 1*d.*, or 3 per cent. more than in 1934, but the year finished, however, at prices considerably above those at the end of 1934.

*Prices per cwt. of First Quality Butter, 1927–9 to 1935**

	British Farm	*Danish*	*New Zealand*	*Australian*
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
1927–9 . .	206 6	187 6	176 0	172 0
1930 . .	180 6	155 0	137 0	135 6
1931 . .	158 6	135 0	120 0	116 6
1932 . .	149 6	124 0	108 6	105 0
1933 . .	137 6	108 6	87 6	87 0
1934 . .	127 6	102 6	78 0	75 6
1935 . .	131 6	117 6	96 0	94 6

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Although supplies of home-produced creamery butter were considerably higher, its price showed a rise of 8 per cent., averaging 1*s.* 0¾*d.* per lb. in 1935, compared with 11¾*d.* in 1934, and the difference between the prices of farm and creamery butter was reduced from 2¼*d.* to 1½*d.* Creamery butter prices tended to follow those of imported butter more closely than did farm butter,[1] and imports declined in 1935.

The price of Danish butter rose by 13 per cent. to 117*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., but supplies from Denmark had declined and the premium of British over Danish butter, which had been 29*s.* in 1933 and 25*s.* in 1934, fell to 14*s.* in 1935. The Danish price fell from 125*s.* 6*d.* in January to 97*s.* in May and rose again to 136*s.* in October. The December price of 131*s.* 6*d.* was 5*s.* more than in 1934.

New Zealand butter, at an average of 96*s.* per cwt., was 18*s.* or 23 per cent. higher than in 1934, but the increase in price was not accompanied by any marked decrease in supplies. Australian butter rose by 25 per cent. to 94*s.* 6*d.*

[1] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 33, 17 January 1936.

in face of an increase in supplies. The spread between English farm butter and New Zealand butter prices was 35*s.* 6*d.*, compared with 49*s.* 6*d.* in 1934 and 30*s.* 6*d.* in 1927–9. The average prices of Australian and New Zealand butter rose to the high levels of 122*s.* 6*d.* and 123*s.* 6*d.* in October, though they declined to 96*s.* and 96*s.* 6*d.*, respectively, in December.

Compared with 1927–9, British farm butter was 37, Danish 37, New Zealand 45, and Australian 45 per cent. lower in 1935.

Cheese

Total supplies of cheese in Great Britain in 1935 may be estimated at 3,790,000 cwt., 29 per cent. of which was home produced and 71 per cent. was imported. This is some 4 per cent. less than in 1934.

Home production. With the introduction of the Milk Marketing Schemes there has been a marked change in the production of cheese in Great Britain; the farm-house output has declined, while the factory output has increased, the total production remaining fairly constant. The total home output was estimated at 1,132,000 cwt. compared with 1,017,000 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 11 per cent.[1] Details are given in the following table:

Home Output of Cheese, 1934 and 1935

	1934		1935	
	Factory	*Farm-house*	*Factory*	*Farm-house*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
England and Wales	623,000	196,000	817,000	130,000
Scotland . .	106,000	92,000	106,000	79,000
Great Britain .	729,000	288,000	923,000	209,000
Total . .	1,017,000		1,132,000	

[1] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 34, 24 January 1936.

. As the figures supplied by the Marketing Board did not include cheese made by farmers owning less than 8 milch cows up to 1 October or less than 6 after that date, and as the Scottish Scheme does not cover the whole of Scotland, the figures do not represent the total output of cheese in Great Britain, though the error is probably not large. According to these figures factory production was 27 per cent. more in 1935 than 1934, while farm-house production was 28 per cent. less.

Imports. Total imports have been very steady in recent years; in 1935 they were 2,713,322 cwt., a reduction of 9 per cent. compared both with 1934 and 1929–31 and the lowest figure since 1922. Empire shipments were 12 per cent. and 8 per cent. smaller than in 1934 and 1929–31 respectively; those from New Zealand fell by 328,954 cwt. or 16 per cent. owing to a bad season, and their proportion of total imports fell from 70 to 65 per cent. New Zealand, however, still

Imports of Cheese into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
New Zealand	1,831,570	1,849,132	2,092,044	1,763,090	61·1	65·0
Canada	702,778	747,478	520,223	469,331	23·5	17·3
Australia	55,133	73,534	114,473	134,249	1 8	4 9
Other Empire	12,393	18,725	7,873	30,394	0·4	1·1
Netherlands	182,335	170,034	127,679	199,204	6·1	7·3
Italy	136,150	106,094	93,688	79,893	4·6	3 0
Switzerland	36,552	14,549	14,154	14,712	1·2	0 6
Other Foreign	40,471	23,567	18,405	22,449	1·3	0 8
Total Empire	2,601,874	2,688,869	2,734,613	2,397,064	86 8	88·3
Total Foreign	395,508	314,244	253,926	316,258	13·2	11·7
Total	2,997,382	3,003,113	2,988,539	2,713,322	100·0	100·0

supplies nearly four times as much as Canada, the next most important source of supply. Canadian imports were 10 per cent. lower, but Australian shipments continued to increase,

being 17 per cent. higher than in 1934, and 143 per cent. more than in 1929–31. Canadian shipments accounted for 17 per cent. and Australian for 5 per cent. of the total imports.

Foreign imports were up by 62,332 cwt. or 25 per cent., compared with 1934, but this was 20 per cent. below the average of 1929–31. The Netherlands sent 56 per cent. more than in 1934, and provided 7 per cent. of the total. Shipments from Italy were 15 per cent. lower.

As a result of these changes, Empire supplies, which formed 92 per cent. of total imports in 1934, accounted for only 88 per cent. in 1935, though this was a rise of 1 per cent. over the figures of 1929–31.

Under the Ottawa Agreements Act foreign supplies of cheese were subject to a duty of 15 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Prices. The Ministry's index of cheese prices which is based on the price of second quality dairy Cheddar cheese was 89, compared with 103 in 1934, a decline of 14 per cent.[1] This fall is much more than that of best quality English Cheddar, and it may be due to the increasing competition of lower grade dairy cheese with the factory cheese which is now coming on to the market in increasing quantities.

The price of English ungraded Cheshire averaged 66*s*., the same as in the previous year.[2] The January price of 77*s*. 6*d*. was 5*s*. 6*d*. less; prices were higher in February and March, but the lowest price of 46*s*. 6*d*. in June and July was lower than the prices of 50*s*. and 51*s*. 6*d*. in the corresponding months of 1934. In September, October, and November prices were once more 5*s*. to 10*s*. per cwt. higher, but in December the average of 86*s*. 3*d*. was 3*s*. 9*d*. less than in 1934. Caerphilly cheese at Highbridge Fair averaged 41*s*. 3*d*., or 13 per cent. less than in 1934, in spite of supplies being practically the same.

First quality English dairy Cheddar cheese averaged 85*s*.

[1] See p. 208. [2] See p. 209.

for the year, 4 per cent. less than in 1934.[1] From January to May the price remained at about 92*s.* per cwt., which was lower than in 1934, but owing to the later arrival of the new season's cheese it was maintained at the same level in June and July, whereas it had fallen to 70*s.* in June 1934. From August onwards prices were generally below the 1934 level. Factory Cheddar, of which the supply had greatly increased, averaged 2 per cent. less than in 1934, and is now lower than either Canadian or New Zealand cheese.

*Prices per cwt. of First Quality Cheese, 1927–9 to 1935**

	English Ungraded† Cheshire	*Caer-phılly*	*English Cheddar*		*Canadian*	*New Zealand*
			Dairy	*Factory*		
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9 .	115 6	100 0	125 6	103 0	105 0	98 6
1930 .	94 6	82 0	105 6	84 6	95 0	82 0
1931 .	94 6	75 6	97 0	70 0	75 6	63 6
1932 .	104 0	84 0	105 6	67 6	72 0	64 0
1933 .	76 6	64 0	95 6	65 0	65 6	52 6
1934 .	66 0	47 0	89 0	52 0	60 0	50 0
1935 .	66 0	41 3	85 0	51 0	65 0	52 0

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.
† At Liverpool.

Canadian cheese averaged 65*s.* per cwt., or 8 per cent. more than in 1934. The seasonal variation in price is much less marked compared with British cheeses, the minimum being 62*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. in January and the maximum 69*s.* 6*d.* in July, a range of only 7*s.* per cwt.

New Zealand cheese prices increased by 4 per cent. They ranged from 47*s.* in July to a maximum of 58*s.* in December, averaging 52*s.* for the year. The December price was 10*s.* higher than in 1934.

The price of ungraded Cheshire cheese was 43 per cent. lower than in 1927–9; dairy Cheddar prices fell by 32, factory Cheddar by 50, Canadian by 38, and New Zealand by 47 per cent. during the same period.

[1] See p. 209.

Processed Milk

Total supplies of condensed whole milk were about 2,240,000 cwt., of which 83 per cent. was home-produced and 17 per cent. imported. This was 30 per cent. more than in 1934. Total supplies of milk powder made from whole milk were 145,000 cwt., almost all of which was home-produced. No estimates are available of total supplies of the skimmed milk products.

Home production. The output of home-produced condensed milk increased still further in 1935. In the areas covered by the Milk Marketing Schemes, the production of whole condensed milk was estimated at 2,144,000 cwt. compared with 1,587,000 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 35 per cent. Of this, 42,999 cwt. of unsweetened and 241,780 cwt. of sweetened condensed whole milk, were exported mainly to tropical countries. This export trade has been expanding rapidly, and it was 28 per cent. more than in 1934, representing 13 per cent. of the home production. The output of milk powder increased from 108,000 cwt. to 148,000 cwt. between 1934 and 1935, or by 37 per cent. Exports showed little change at 3,105 cwt., compared with 3,277 cwt. in 1934. It is probable that there was also an increase in the production of skimmed condensed milk, but figures are not available, as this product does not come within the Schemes.[1]

Imports. Imports of condensed whole milk (sweetened and unsweetened) were 381,690 cwt. compared with 466,565 cwt. in 1934, a reduction of 16 per cent. The import was thus 96,911 cwt. more than the export. Imports of *sweetened condensed milk* fell by 28 per cent. and amounted to only 37 per cent. of the 1929–31 level. The Irish Free State, the Netherlands, and Denmark were the principal suppliers; shipments from all countries were lower than in 1934. Foreign

[1] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 35, 31 January 1936.

imports were subject to a duty of 5*s*. per cwt., *plus* the duty on the sugar content, while Irish shipments paid a 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty, as well as the sugar duty.

*Imports of Condensed Milk, &c., into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935**

	Quantities				*Percentage from Empire*	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Sweetened whole condensed. .	238,530	205,413	122,564	87,712	7 8	13 2
Unsweetened whole condensed. .	430,404	397,229	342,001	293,978	5·5	47 0
Sweetened skimmed condensed. .	2,016,984	2,138,756	1,628,200	1,404,624	3 1	4 7
Milk powder (unsweetened) .	288,693	320,312	251,913	219,230	48 7	78 8
Preserved milk other kinds (unsweetened) . .	4,228	6,054	363	8	†	†

* From *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 35, January, 1936.
† Not available.

Imports of *unsweetened condensed milk* fell by 14 per cent. Empire supplies, however, increased by 7 per cent. to 138,135 cwt., while foreign supplies were 27 per cent. lower. The Netherlands, Canada, Denmark, and New Zealand were the chief supplying countries. Shipments from Belgium dropped to 7,863 cwt., only about one-fifth of their 1934 level. Empire supplies continue to rise, and they comprised 47 per cent. of the total imports, compared with 38 per cent. in 1934 and 5·5 per cent. in 1929–31. Foreign countries paid a duty of 6*s*. per cwt., and the Irish Free State one of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Imports of *condensed skimmed milk* were 14 per cent. lower. Empire supplies, coming exclusively from the Irish Free State, formed a greater proportion of the total than in 1934 or 1929–31 but were still less than 5 per cent. of all imports. The Netherlands is the principal source of supply, sending

85 per cent. of the total. Shipments were, however, 13 per cent. less than in 1934, and Danish shipments were down by 16 per cent. Both foreign countries and the Irish Free State were liable to a duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, or the duty on the sugar content, whichever was the greater.

Imports of *unsweetened milk powder* were less by 13 per cent. The reduction was confined mainly to foreign supplies which were 39 per cent. less; they were subject to a duty of 6*s*. per cwt. Supplies from the Netherlands, the chief foreign source, were 33 per cent. less. Shipments from New Zealand and Canada increased slightly, but those from Australia and the Irish Free State, the latter subject to a duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, declined. As a result of the lower foreign imports, Empire supplies, though smaller in quantity, accounted for 79 per cent. of the total in 1935 compared with 70 per cent. in 1934 and 49 per cent. in 1929–31.

Imports of other kinds of preserved milk are now negligible.

Imports of processed milk from foreign sources have been subject to quantitative regulation during 1935. Reductions in shipments from the Irish Free State were arranged also, amounting to one-half those imposed on foreign countries.[1]

Prices. The price at which milk was sold for manufacture into condensed milk under the English Milk Marketing Scheme was 6*d*. per gallon for both the 1934–5 and 1935–6 contract periods. Milk manufactured into milk powder realized 4½*d*. per gallon in the same periods.[2]

Under the Scottish Scheme very little milk was sold for manufacture into milk powder, prices ranging from 3¾*d*. to 4½*d*. per gallon. Milk for manufacture into condensed milk realized 5*d*. in January and February, 4¾*d*. in March, 4½*d*. in April, 4*d*. to 4½*d*. in May, and 4*d*. to 6*d*. for the rest of the year.[2] The Board tried to obtain a price of 5*d*. per gallon for milk made into condensed milk, but this proved to be impossible in the face of English and foreign competition.

[1] See p. 174.

[2] See pp. 33 and 38.

3. Eggs and Poultry

Eggs

Total supplies of eggs in Great Britain in 1934–5 were about 7,933 million, or 1 per cent. less than in 1933–4; 55 per cent. were home-produced.[1]

Home production. The output of eggs in the United Kingdom in 1935 was provisionally estimated at 4,560 million or some 5 per cent. less than in the previous year.[2] Imports (including eggs not in shell) amounted to 3,400 million, making a total supply of 7,960 million of which 57 per cent. were home-produced, compared with 59 per cent. in 1934. Total supplies were 4 per cent. less than in 1934.

Considering only eggs in shell, the total supply was 6,933·5 million, comprising 2,373·5 million imported and 4,560 million home-produced. Home production, then, accounted for 66 per cent. of the total, while the corresponding figure for 1934 was 68 per cent.

For the first time for many years the numbers of poultry returned at the June Census showed a decrease, which may reflect changes in economic factors or the increasing incidence of disease in poultry flocks.

Of the total output in 1934–5 on agricultural holdings in England and Wales, duck eggs were estimated at 58 million and in Scotland at 13·3 million, making a total for Great Britain of 71·3 million, a reduction of 4 per cent. compared with 1933–4. The output of hen eggs was 3,435 million, a reduction of 1 per cent. on 1933–4.[3]

Imports. Total imports of eggs in shell were 19,778,764 great hundreds, or 5·6 per cent. more than in 1934, but 23 per cent. less than in 1929–31; 76 per cent. were foreign and 24 per cent. Empire eggs.

[1] See p. 200.

[2] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 33, 17 January 1936.

[3] See p. 193.

Foreign supplies were 16 per cent. more, but 25 per cent. less than in 1929–31. Denmark continued to be the most important source of supply, and sent 3 per cent. more than in 1934, and only 1 per cent. less than in 1929–31. As a result, the proportion of Danish to total imports rose from 26 per cent. in 1929–31 to 33 per cent. in 1935. Shipments from the Netherlands increased by 184 per cent. in the year, though they were still 25 per cent. below the 1929–31 level. Polish imports increased 4 per cent. and Belgian showed the large increase of 419 per cent., but Chinese were smaller compared with 1934.

Imports of Eggs in Shell into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935 (in great hundreds)

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	gt. hds.	gt. hds.	gt. hds.	gt. hds.		
Irish Free State	4,790,425	3,948,328	3,194,394	2,395,351	18 6	12 1
South Africa	483,432	526,047	300,262	360,901	1 9	1·8
Australia	616,004	1,515,542	2,098,943	1,921,198	2 4	9 7
Canada	46,889	5,426	177,001	104,392	0 2	0·5
Other Empire	17,734	19,873	32,830	40,621	..	0 2
Denmark	6,616,558	6,392,302	6,383,211	6,564,130	25 6	33·2
Poland	2,894,791	1,874,311	1,941,836	2,014,888	11 2	10 2
Netherlands	3,563,091	1,402,979	944,166	2,678,970	13 8	13 6
Belgium	2,456,079	1,583,777	49,021	254,601	9 5	1·3
China	1,611,280	850,023	1,415,019	1,226,085	6 3	6 2
Other Foreign	2,714,008	1,876,067	2,197,526	2,217,627	10 5	11 2
Total Empire	5,954,484	6,015,216	5,803,430	4,822,463	23·1	24·3
Total Foreign	19,855,807	13,979,459	12,930,779	14,956,301	76·9	75 7
Total	25,810,291	19,994,675	18,734,209	19,778,764	100·0	100 0

Empire supplies at 4,822,463 cwt. were 17 per cent. lower than in 1934 and 19 per cent. lower than in 1929–31. Thus, eggs are one of the few commodities of which supplies from the Empire have declined in recent years. Most of the decline, however, has been the result of reduced shipments from the Irish Free State which are now 50 per cent. less than in

1929–31, when they accounted for 19 per cent. of total imports; last year the proportion was 12 per cent. One-half of the Empire supplies, however, still came from the Irish Free State. Shipments from South Africa were 20 per cent. higher, but had not regained their 1932 level, while Australian supplies though 8 per cent. less than in 1934 were higher than in 1933 or any previous year, and formed 10 per cent. of the total compared with 2 per cent. in 1929–31. Canadian shipments were also lower.

Eggs from the Irish Free State were subject to a duty of 40 per cent. *ad valorem*, while other Empire supplies were admitted duty free. There were duties on foreign imports of 1*s.* to 1*s.* 9*d.* per great hundred according to weight.[1] Imports from the Irish Free State and from foreign countries were also subject to voluntary limitation.[2]

Prices. Egg prices, on the whole, were rather higher; the Ministry's index rose from 102 to 109.[3] The increase was mostly in the latter months of the year. British first-quality eggs averaged 13*s.* 9*d.* for the year, which was 6 per cent. more than in 1934; and National Mark Specials were 2*s.* dearer than first quality eggs, compared with a difference of 2*s.* 3*d.* in 1934. First quality British eggs fell from 13*s.* 6*d.* in January to 8*s.* 1*d.* in April and 8*s.* 11*d.* in May; they reached a maximum of 21*s.* 6*d.* in November and finished the year at 20*s.* 2*d.* compared with prices of 21*s.* 3*d.* and 17*s.* 11*d.* in 1934.[4] From March to August the price averaged 10*s.* 7*d.*, which was 6 per cent. more than in 1934.

Danish eggs averaged 11*s.* 1*d.* per great hundred, a penny less than in 1934. From March to August, however, the price averaged 8*s.* 11*d.*, an increase of 5 per cent. on 1934. Seasonal variations in Danish eggs are less marked than in British, the price being only 6*d.* per great hundred less in April, but 5*s.* 4*d.* less in November.

Dutch eggs averaged 10*s.* 7*d.* for the year; there is no

[1] See p. 394. [2] See p. 175. [3] See p. 208. [4] See p. 209.

*Prices per Great Hundred of Eggs, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Average for year				*Average for March–August*			
	British First Quality	*British National Mark Special*	*Danish 15–16 lb.*	*Dutch 15–16 lb.*	*British First Quality*	*British National Mark Special*	*Danish 15–16 lb.*	*Dutch 15–16 lb.*
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1927–9 . .	19 0	†	16 3	16 5	14 2	18 1	12 4	13 10
1930 . .	17 3	19 11	†	13 10	13 4	15 9	11 6	11 1
1931 . .	14 9	17 3	12 5	†	11 4	13 8	9 4	9 4
1932 . .	13 9	16 2	†	†	10 8	12 6	8 10	8 11
1933 . .	13 6	15 9	†	†	10 3	12 6	8 7	9 2
1934 . .	13 0	15 3	11 2	†	10 0	12 0	8 6	8 7
1935 . .	13 9	15 9	11 1	10 7	10 7	12 8	8 11	8 8

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.
† Not available.

comparable figure for 1934. For the period March–August the average was 8*s.* 8*d.*, which was 1*d.* more than in 1934.

Compared with 1927–9, prices of British first quality eggs were 28, Danish 32, and Dutch eggs 36 per cent. lower in 1935.

POULTRY

Total supplies of poultry in Great Britain in 1934–5 were approximately 2,098,000 cwt., of which 1,479,000 cwt., or 70 per cent. was home-produced and 30 per cent. imported.[1]

Home production. Estimates of the output of home-produced poultry on agricultural holdings in Great Britain are made by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture for Scotland. For the period June–May, 1934–5, the output of fowls was 34·2 million, of which Scotland accounted for 2·2 million and England and Wales for 32 million. Ducks were estimated at 2·4 million in England and Wales and at about 108,000 in Scotland, a total of rather more than 2½ million in Great Britain. There were 620,000 geese in Great Britain; to which total Scotland contributed 20,000, while the 689,000 turkeys in Great Britain included 59,000 in Scotland. It has been estimated that a further 27 per cent. of fowls are kept on holdings under 1 acre in England and Wales and 14 per cent. in Scotland, which are not included in the official output figures. If allowance be made for these, then the total output of dead fowls is about 43·1 million. No estimates are available of the output of ducks, geese, and turkeys on non-agricultural holdings. Converted to a dead-weight basis,[2] these numbers give an output of 1,250,000 cwt. from fowls, 112,000 cwt. from ducks, 55,000 cwt. from geese, and 74,000 cwt. from turkeys, a total of 1,491,000 cwt. of dead poultry.

Imports. Total imports of poultry were 422,334 cwt., a

[1] See p. 200.

[2] Conversion figures as given in *Report of the Reorganization Commission for Eggs and Poultry for England and Wales*, p. 161.

reduction of 29,859 cwt. or 7 per cent. compared with 1934. Supplies from the Irish Free State were a quarter of the total, but they were 24 per cent. lower than the high level reached in 1934; other Empire supplies, though small, increased by over 50 per cent. Shipments from Hungary, the Netherlands, the United States, and Argentina were lower, while those from Russia, Yugoslavia, and France increased.

Imports of Dead Poultry into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Irish Free State	117,311	104,326	138,530	105,054	19·7	24·9
Other Empire	2,060	19,984	18,402	27,963	0 3	6 6
Hungary .	82,765	105,863	128,029	118,696	13 9	28 1
U.S.S.R. .	143,174	116,508	9,618	13,974	24 0	3 3
Yugoslavia .	19,347	30,980	56,489	72,820	3 2	17 2
Netherlands .	41,454	25,147	10,061	7,223	6 9	1 7
France. .	46,935	18,190	1,463	2,234	7·9	0 5
United States	12,385	2,594	8,718	3,425	2 1	0 8
Argentina .	6,519	16,149	22,330	17,716	1·1	4·2
Other Foreign	124,563	74,147	58,553	53,229	20 9	12 6
Total Empire	119,371	124,310	156,932	133,017	20 0	31 5
Total Foreign	477,142	389,578	295,261	289,317	80 0	68 5
Total .	596,513	513,888	452,193	422,334	100 0	100 0

Empire supplies comprised 32 per cent. of the total compared with 35 per cent. in 1934 and 20 per cent. in 1929–31. The largest foreign supplier was Hungary with 28 per cent., and Yugoslavia the next largest with 17 per cent. of the total.

Of the total imports of dead poultry, 36 per cent. were chickens, 52 per cent. turkeys, and 12 per cent. other kinds.[1]

Imports of *turkeys* were 219,445 cwt., a decrease of 16 per cent.; about 60 per cent. of the year's imports arrived in December for the Christmas market. Most of the birds

[1] *Weekly Dairy Produce Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. vii, no. 35, 31 January 1936.

came from the Irish Free State, Hungary, Yugoslavia, and Argentina. Shipments from the Irish Free State were 37 per cent. lower than in 1934, and supplies from Argentina and Hungary were also less, while Yugoslavia sent 23 per cent. more. Shipments from Australia and Lithuania also increased considerably. The import duty on turkeys was raised from 1*d.* to 3*d.* per lb. from 2 May 1935.[1] Imports from the Irish Free State were subject to a duty of 5*d.* per lb. throughout the year.

Imports of *chickens* were 150,989 cwt. compared with 145,156 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 4 per cent. Irish Free State supplies, which were subject to a duty of 4*d.* per lb., declined by 28 per cent., compared with an increase of 66 per cent. between 1933 and 1934. Shipments from Canada were almost doubled, and there were large increases from Hungary, the Netherlands, and Yugoslavia. Russian supplies increased by one-third from their low level in 1934, but Polish shipments fell by 42 per cent. Altogether, the Empire provided 42 per cent., and foreign countries 58 per cent. of the total import. Foreign imports were subject to a duty of 3d. per lb.

Imports of *other kinds* of poultry (ducks and geese) were 51,900 cwt., compared with 45,939 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 13 per cent. The proportion coming from the Empire, 32 per cent., was the same as in 1934. Imports from Hungary and the Irish Free State—the main sources of supply—were higher by 18 and 12 per cent. respectively. Supplies from the United States declined by one-half, but those from Argentina increased fivefold and those from Austria were doubled. Foreign ducks and geese were subject to a duty of 3*d.* per lb. and those from the Irish Free State to one of 4*d.* per lb.

Statistics of the imports of live poultry and game are no longer available, but they are only a small fraction of dead poultry imports. They are subject to duty at the rate of 10

[1] See p. 164.

per cent. if from foreign countries and of 40 per cent. if from the Irish Free State.

Prices. The Ministry's index of poultry prices in 1935 was 124 compared with 120 in 1934, an increase of 3 per cent. First quality fowls at country markets averaged 1*s.* 1½*d.* per lb. for the year, ½*d.* more than in 1934, but 3½*d.* less than in 1927–9. The seasonal prices of fowls vary inversely with those of eggs, being highest in the spring and lowest in the autumn. In 1935 prices at country markets were at their maximum of 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. in March, April, and May and at a minimum of 1*s.* in August, September, and October. In December there was a sharp rise to 1*s.* 1¾*d.* per lb., which was 1¾*d.* more than in the previous December.[2]

Duck prices at an average of 1*s.* 1*d.* for the year were the same as in 1934. The seasonal variation in price is the same as for fowls, but rather more pronounced, varying by 5*d.* per lb. from 1*s.* 4*d.* in April and May to 11*d.* in September, compared with a range of 3*d.* in fowl prices.

*Wholesale Prices per lb. of First Quality Poultry, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Fowls	*Ducks*	*Geese*	*Turkeys*†
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9 . . .	1 5	1 4	1 0	1 9
1930 . . .	1 4	1 4	11	1 6
1931 . . .	1 4	1 3	1 0	2 1
1932 . . .	1 2	1 1	11	1 7
1933 . . .	1 1	1 1	10	1 4
1934 . . .	1 1	1 1	10	1 4
1935 . . .	1 1½	1 1	10	1 11½

* Prices at country markets from *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture. † December only.

Geese at 10*d.* per lb. were unchanged compared with the previous year. Prices were again lowest in the August-November period.

[1] See p. 208.

[2] See p. 209.

The average price of turkeys in December 1935 was 1*s.* 11¼*d.* per lb. compared with 1*s.* 4*d.* in 1934, an increase of 45 per cent. This was due primarily to lower supplies, particularly lower imports, which were 17 per cent. less than in December 1934. In January 1935 turkeys were quoted at 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb. or 1*d.* less than in the preceding January, and in February at 1*s.* 1*d.* Quotations are not available for the other months.

4. Crops

Wheat

Total supplies of wheat in Great Britain in 1934–5 were 143,200,000 cwt., of which approximately 33,020,000 cwt. or 23 per cent. was home-produced and 77 per cent. was imported.[1]

Home production. The wheat crop in Great Britain was 34,840,000 cwt., compared with 37,180,000 cwt. in 1934, and with an average of 26,440,000 cwt. in the ten years 1923–32. The estimated supply of home-grown millable wheat in the 1935–6 season is 30,400,000 cwt.,[2] compared with an actual supply of 35,920,000 cwt. in 1934–5.

Imports. Imports of wheat and wheat flour, in terms of wheat, amounted to 112,310,871 cwt., 3 per cent. less than in 1934, and 11 per cent. less than in 1929–31. Of this total, 101,226,546 cwt. consisted of wheat, and 11,084,325 cwt. of wheat flour (in terms of wheat).

Supplies from the Empire accounted for 56 per cent. of the total, as compared with 42 per cent. in 1929–31. They were 19½ per cent. higher and those from foreign sources 34 per cent. lower than in 1934. Canadian wheat and flour provided 38 per cent. of the total, and Australia and Argentina 18 and 20½ per cent. respectively. The sum of the imports from

[1] See p. 201.

[2] Wheat (Anticipated Supply) No. 1 Order, 1936. S.R. and O., 1936, No. 63.

these three countries was 76½ per cent. of the total. Shipments from Australia and Argentina declined, the former by 17 per cent. and the latter by 35 per cent., but Canadian showed a small increase of 3 per cent.

Imports of Wheat and Wheat Flour (in Terms of Wheat), 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Canada .	32,427,396	52,372,967	41,573,009	42,765,660	25 6	38 1
Australia .	18,862,776	28,048,992	24,334,398	20,205,708	14 9	18·0
India . .	1,321,462	..	166,368	159,532	1·0	0·1
Other Empire	236,185	39,227	10,291	5,034	0·2	..
Argentina .	28,055,266	21,280,364	35,422,888	23,032,308	22 1	20 5
United States	21,787,525	5,277,334	310,093	717,373	17 2	0 6
U.S.S.R. .	15,882,739	3,274,960	2,095,212	6,904,110	12 5	6 2
France. .	2,667,794	639,513	1,785,269	1,233,110	2·1	1 1
Germany .	1,653,775	4,728,811	2,019,340	171,992	1 3	0 2
Other Foreign	3,989,366	1,821,538	8,029,502	17,116,044	3·1	15·2
Total Empire	52,847,819	80,461,186	66,084,066	63,135,934	41·7	56 2
Total Foreign	74,036,665	37,022,520	49,662,304	49,174,937	58·3	43 8
Total .	126,884,484	117,483,706	115,746,370	112,310,871	100·0	100 0

The Ottawa Agreements Act, 1932, imposed a duty of 2*s.* per quarter upon foreign wheat. A 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty was levied on flour under the Import Duties Act, 1932, and quota payments were made under the Wheat Act, 1932.[1]

Prices. The Ministry of Agriculture's index number of wheat prices in England and Wales was 68, compared with 64 in 1934, an increase of 6 per cent. The index number *including the deficiency payment* averaged 118 as compared with 125 in 1934, a reduction of 6 per cent.[2]

The 'Gazette' price of wheat varied between 4*s.* 7*d.* and 5*s.* 11*d.* per cwt., averaging 5*s.* 2*d.* for the year.[3] It dropped to its lowest point in March and then rose steadily to 5*s.* 6*d.*

[1] See pp. 141–3.
[2] See p. 208.
[3] See p. 209.

per cwt. in June and July. In August and September it fell again to 4*s.* 10*d.* per cwt., but a sharp rise in October brought it to its maximum of 5*s.* 11*d.* per cwt. By December it had fallen to 5*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.

*Prices per cwt. of Wheat, Barley, and Oats, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Wheat	Barley				Oats	
	'Gazette'	'Gazette'	Malting	Feeding	Imported Feeding	'Gazette'	Imported Feeding
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1927–9 .	10 5	10 7	11 4	9 7	9 10	9 5	9 8
1930 .	8 0	7 11	8 7	6 8	5 8	6 2	6 2
1931 .	5 9	7 11	8 11	6 2	5 0	6 3	6 1
1932 .	5 11	7 7	8 0	6 9	6 5	7 0	7 1
1933 .	5 4	7 11	7 5	5 11	5 1	5 7	5 10
1934 .	4 10	8 8	8 9	6 8	6 0	6 3	6 10
1935 .	5 2	7 11	8 6	6 1	5 7	6 8	7 1

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The deficiency payment made under the Wheat Act raised the return for the 1934–5 wheat crop from 5*s.* to 8*s.* 8½*d.* per cwt. The estimated market price for 1935–6 is 5*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.; this, *plus* an expected deficiency payment of 4*s.* 1¾*d.*, will give a total return of 9*s.* 5¾*d.* per cwt., an increase of 9¼*d.* per cwt. on the 1934–5 payment.[1]

The movement of wheat prices depends in the main upon world conditions. World stocks of wheat, excluding Russia, which had reached a peak of 1,158 million bushels on 1 August 1934, fell abruptly by 24 per cent. to 885 million bushels a year later,[2] while a further reduction is expected during 1935–6. This substantial improvement in the position is due almost wholly to low yields in North America in 1933, 1934, and 1935, brought about by unfavourable weather, and to the exceptionally low Argentine crop of 1935, again the result of bad weather.

[1] See p. 142.

[2] *The World Wheat Situation, 1934–5*, Wheat Studies of the Food Research Institute, vol. xii, no. 4, December 1935.

Wheat prices have responded to this reduction. Wheat futures rose in March and April, fell sharply in July when the proposal to set up a Canadian Grain Board became known, but recovered later in the month on the news of deterioration of the North American crop through rust, and of poor crop prospects in Argentina and Australia.

During August and September prices continued to advance steadily upon the announcement by the Argentine Government of a large reduction in wheat acreage and further reports of crop deterioration and loss. This rise was assisted by the Italo-Abyssinian dispute and the belief that sanctions against Italy were inevitable, and throughout October prices fluctuated with the daily political developments.

Prices rose steadily in November, after the publication of the revised estimate of the Canadian harvest at 16 million bushels below previous estimates and the announcement by the Danubian countries that the export surplus was very much less than previously expected. In December the full extent of the failure of the Argentine crop became apparent, and in the last week of the year world shipments of wheat and flour were the smallest since the War. Old crop reserves in Argentina and Australia were practically exhausted, and the Southern Hemisphere shipping season began with a reduction of about 40 million bushels in carry-over reserves, apart from a net reduction of about 72 million bushels in the aggregate new crop surplus. It is not surprising, therefore, that futures were rising steadily at the end of the year.

The change in the world position is brought out by the following table, which shows that the improvement is due wholly to declines in production in the exporting countries, for the importing countries have increased their production. The declines in the exporting countries being caused by unfavourable climatic conditions, the improvement in the market conditions can only be superficial and temporary. The root of the wheat problem lies in the tendency to relative over-

production stimulated by economic nationalism, which has prompted the importing countries to render themselves less dependent upon foreign supplies. It is evident, therefore, that although the present position favours a further advance in prices during the next few months, there can be no permanent rise until production is adjusted more nearly to demand.

*World Production, Trade, and Stocks of Wheat**

(millions of bushels)

	World production†		*World exportable supplies*‡			
	Exporting countries	*Importing countries*	*Season's surplus*	*Total (including carry-over from previous season)*	*World import requirements*	*World exportable end-of-season stocks*
1926–7	2,397	999	..	1,010	819	191
1927–8	2,534	1,077	869	1,060	808	252
1928–9	2,849	1,077	1,123	1,375	888	444
1929–30	2,242	1,223	618	1,062	669	434
1930–1	2,686	1,062	890	1,324	825	499
1931–2	2,579	1,126	831	1,330	808	523
1932–3	2,371	1,362	735	1,258	629	624
1933–4	2,200	1,440	500	1,124	545	579
1934–5	1,977	1,360	321	900	529	371
1935–6 (forecast)	2,005	1,338	389	760	540	220

* From the *Economist*, vol. cxxii, no. 4822, 25 January 1936.
† Including U.S.S.R., China, Turkey, Iran, and Iraq.
‡ Including U.S.S.R.

BARLEY

Total supplies of barley in Great Britain in 1934–5 were 29,360,000 cwt., of which 16,340,000 cwt., or 56 per cent., was home-produced.[1]

Home production. The output in Great Britain was 14,640,000 cwt. compared with 16,340,000 cwt. in 1934, a reduction of 10 per cent. The crop was 27 per cent. less than the average of 1923–32.

[1] See p. 201.

Imports. Imports of barley were 17,107,118 cwt. compared with 15,476,301 cwt. in 1934, an increase of 11 per cent. Empire supplies were 18 per cent. of the total. The largest single supplier was Soviet Russia, whose shipments increased by no less than 5,430,788 cwt. over the previous year, being 36 per cent. of the whole.

Imports of Barley into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Australia .	197,219	312,496	581,220	449,548	1·4	2 6
Canada .	916,299	2,442,751	1,369,954	2,320,582	6·5	13·6
Other Empire	159,402	133,552	348,807	242,890	1·1	1 4
U.S.S.R. .	3,836,077	2,726,482	783,882	6,214,670	27 0	36 3
Roumania .	1,578,013	529,471	1,182,840	292,667	11·1	1 7
Persia . .	1,031,026	1,483,332	3,306,699	71,954	7·3	0 4
United States	3,742,330	1,595,241	2,390,917	2,381,749	26 3	13 9
Chile . .	430,136	259,560	777,277	214,986	3·0	1·3
Argentina .	137,291	318,432	2,701,148	1,521,270	1 0	8 9
Other Foreign	2,177,919	276,801	2,033,557	3,396,802	15 3	19 9
Total Empire	1,272,920	2,888,799	2,299,981	3,013,020	9 0	17 6
Total Foreign	12,932,792	7,289,319	13,176,320	14,094,098	91 0	82 4
Total .	14,205,712	10,178,118	15,476,301	17,107,118	100 00	100 0

Canada, the United States, and Argentina remained important suppliers, while imports from Persia, Roumania, and Chile declined sharply. Canadian shipments increased by 950,628 cwt., but those from Argentina showed a reduction of 1,179,878 cwt.

Imports of barley and of certain barley products are subject to tariff duties.[1] Applications were made during the year to the Imports Duty Advisory Committee for increased duties on malting and feeding barley, but the decision of the Committee has not yet been announced.

Prices. The Ministry of Agriculture's index number of

[1] See p. 395.

barley prices averaged 100 in 1935, compared with 109 in 1934.[1] The average 'Gazette' price was 7*s.* 11*d.* per cwt. compared with 8*s.* 8*d.* in the previous year.[2] Prices fell from 8*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. in February to 7*s.* in May and June, but rose again to 10*s.* 1*d.* in September. By December prices had dropped to 8*s.* 3*d.* per cwt., following the usual seasonal decline.

The average price of English malting barley was 8*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. compared with 8*s.* 9*d.* in 1934. Prices remained fairly steady throughout the year, declining gradually from 8*s.* 7½*d.* in January to 8*s.* 1½*d.* in May. The quality of the crop was poor, and the September price was only 8*s.* 10½*d.* per cwt. compared with 10*s.* in the previous year. In October the price dropped to 8*s.* 3*d* per cwt., but it rose again in November and December to 8*s.* 10½*d.* and 8*s.* 9*d.* respectively.

English feeding barley was 6*s.* 1*d.* per cwt., a decline of 7*d.*, or 9 per cent., from the previous year. Prices remained fairly uniform throughout the year, but in September they were only 6*s.* 1*d.* per cwt. compared with 7*s.* 8*d.* in 1934, and in December 5*s.* 10*d.* compared with 6*s.* 3*d.* the year before. Imported feeding barley prices also showed reductions, the average being 5*s.* 7*d.* compared with 6*s.* in 1934.

Oats

Total supplies of oats and oat products in Great Britain in 1934–5 were 38,740,000 cwt., of which 35,160,000 cwt., or 91 per cent., was home-produced.[3]

Home production. The yield in Great Britain was 36,380,000 cwt., compared with 35,220,000 cwt. in 1934, and 41,580,000 cwt. for the average of 1923–32; this was 3 per cent. more than 1934, and 13 per cent. less than the ten-year average.

Imports. Imports were 3,553,526 cwt., compared with 3,210,213 cwt. in 1934, and 8,438,059 cwt. in 1929–31, an increase of 11 per cent. on the former, and a decline of 58 per

[1] See p. 208. [2] See p. 209. [3] See p. 201.

cent. on the latter. Practically all came from the Empire, being so much as 99·8 per cent. compared with about 61 per cent. in 1934. The increase was due to an expansion of Canadian shipments, which formed 94 per cent. of the total compared with 60 per cent. in 1934. The Soviet Union, Argentina, and Chile, which sent 15, 14, and 7 per cent. respectively of imports in 1934, sent negligible quantities during 1935.

Imports of Oats into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Canada .	802,752	2,479,949	1,941,102	3,321,759	9 5	93 5
Irish Free State	389,066	47,653	*	*	4 6	*
Other Empire	7,036	45,477	14,654	223,029	0 1	6 3
U.S.S.R. .	1,854,426	113,357	487,392	..	22 0	..
Germany .	1,856,792	86,943	64,186	..	22 0	..
Chile . .	569,351	236,239	222,829	..	6 8	..
Argentina .	2,591,617	3,155,952	461,473	23	30 7	..
Other Foreign	367,019	306,279	18,577	8,715	4·3	0 2
Total Empire	1,198,854	2,573,079	1,955,756	3,544,788	14 2	99 8
Total Foreign	7,239,205	3,898,770	1,254,457	8,738	85·8	0·2
Total .	8,438,059	6,471,849	3,210,213	3,553,526	100 0	100 0

* Included in 'other Empire' imports.

Foreign supplies of oats and oat meal were subject to duties which remained unchanged during the year, 3*s.* per cwt. on oats in grain, and 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. on oat meal. Exports of oats and oat products from Canada were subject to voluntary limitation during the 1934–5 season.[1]

Prices. The Ministry's index number of the prices of oats in 1935 was 94 compared with 88 in the previous year, an increase of 7 per cent.[2]

The 'Gazette' price averaged 6*s.* 8*d.* for the year compared

[1] See p. 179.

[2] See p. 208.

with 6*s*. 3*d*. for 1934.[1] Opening at 6*s*. 10*d*. per cwt. in January, the highest price since August 1932, the figure rose to 7*s*. 7*d*. in July, and then declined as the new crop came on the market to 5*s*. 10*d*. in December, being 10*d*. less than in December 1934.

Imported feeding oats were also dearer during the year, the average price being 7*s*. 1*d*., 4 per cent. more.[2]

Main-crop Potatoes

Total supplies of main-crop potatoes in Great Britain may be estimated at 4,514,000 tons for 1934–5,[3] of which 4,498,000 tons were home-produced and only 16,000 tons, or less than one-third per cent., were imported. Total supplies were 13 per cent. less than in 1933–4.

Home production. The 1935 crop of both main-crop and early potatoes in Great Britain was 3,805,000 tons, which was 6 per cent. below the average for the ten years 1924–33; the 1934 crop had been 11 per cent. above this average.[4]

It is difficult to separate the production of main-crop and early potatoes, but if earlies be taken at 381,000 tons,[5] the output of main-crop potatoes was about 3,424,000 tons.

The acreages of the different varieties are available from the annual census taken by the Potato Marketing Board. The figures refer only to production on holdings which grow 1 acre or more of potatoes.

The acreage in all three groups was less than in 1934. Second earlies fell by 26 per cent., first earlies by 7 per cent., and main-crops by 5 per cent., the average fall for all varieties being 6 per cent. The total acreage as returned by the Ministry of Agriculture was 594,700, but this includes all holdings over 1 acre, whatever the acreage of potatoes grown on them.

[1] See p. 209. [2] See p. 201. [3] See p. 253.
[4] See p. 194. [5] See p. 263.

*Acreage of Early and Main-crop Potatoes in Great Britain, 1934 and 1935**

	Acreage on holdings with more than 1 acre				*Per cent. of total*	
	1934	*1935*			*1934*	*1935*
	Great Britain	*England and Wales*	*Scotland*	*Great Britain*	*Great Britain*	*Great Britain*
First Earlies .	78,281	57,330	15,616	72,946	14 5	14 4
Second Earlies .	53,208	27,073	12,167	39,240	9 9	7 7
Main-crop . .	407,584	309,283	77,973	387,256	75 5	76 3
Other varieties .	757	6,776	1,125	7,901	0 1	1 6
Total . .	539,830	400,462	106,881	507,343	100 0	100·0

* From *The Area under Potatoes in Great Britain*, Potato Marketing Board. Miscellaneous Publications, no. 3, January 1936.

Imports. Total imports were 3,816,377 cwt., of which 3,540,000 cwt. were early potatoes.[1]

Imports for the 1934–5 season and for previous years are given in the following table. They were 196,000 cwt. in 1934–5, of which 104,000 cwt., or more than half, came from the Irish Free State, and 70,000 cwt., or 36 per cent., from the Netherlands. Imports from foreign countries and the Irish Free State were only permitted under Board of Trade licence;[2] foreign supplies were subject to a duty of £1 per ton and those from the Irish Free State to a 10 per cent. *ad valorem* tax. Imports were only 59 per cent. of those in 1933–4, about 1 per cent. of the exceptionally high imports in 1931–2, and only about one-tenth of the average in 1928–9 to 1930–1.

Imports from September to December 1935 were 154,051 cwt. compared with 63,874 cwt. in the same period of 1934. There were much larger shipments in November and December, amounting to 134,723 cwt. compared with 24,837 cwt. in 1934. Increased imports were permitted in these months because of the low estimated output of the home crop.

Prices. The average wholesale price of King Edwards and

[1] See p. 263. [2] See p. 176.

*Estimated Imports of Main-crop Potatoes into the United Kingdom 1928–9 to 1930–1, 1931–2, 1933–4, and 1934–5**

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1928–9 to 1930–1	*1931–2*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*	*1928–9 to 1930–1*	*1934–5*
	000 cwt.	000 cwt.	000 cwt.	000 cwt.		
Irish Free State . .	†	649	120	104	†	53·1
Netherlands . . .	673	4,912	213	70	36·4	35·7
Germany . . .	673	5,018	..	..	36·4	..
France	79	127	..	..	4·3	..
Belgium	†	3,261	1	1	†	0·5
Other Countries . .	424	1,901	5	21	22·9	10·7
Total . . .	1,849	15,868	339	196	100·0	100·0

* For method of calculation 1928–9 to 1931–2, see *Agricultural Register*, 1933–4, p. 165; for 1933–4 and 1934–5 imports of early potatoes are obtained from the *Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes* and subtracted from total imports to obtain imports of main-crop potatoes. The figures are liable to a substantial degree of error.

† Included in 'Other Countries'.

Majestics for 1934–5 was 97*s.* 9*d.* per ton. This was 24 per cent. more than in 1933–4, though the crop was only 2 per cent. smaller. Throughout the season supplies of potatoes coming on to the market were regulated by the Potato Marketing Board by means of its riddle regulations.[1] Prices fell gradually from 117*s.* 3*d.* per ton in September 1934 to 85*s.* in March 1935, but rose to 101*s.* 6*d.* in May, after the heavy late frost.[2] For the period September–December 1935 prices averaged 116*s.* compared with 106*s.* 6*d.* a year previously, when the crop had been 17 per cent. more. The December price of 132*s.* 6*d.* was 37 per cent. more than in the previous year.

*Average Prices per ton of First and Second Quality Main-crop Potatoes, Seasons of 1927–8—1929–30 to 1935–6**

	Wholesale		*Growers*‡	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Sept.–May.				
1927–8 to 1929–30 . . .	105	6	78	6
1930–1	128	3	106	6
1931–2 . . .	192	0	163	9
1932–3 . . .	85	3	66	0
1933–4 . . .	79	0	59	9
1934–5 . . .	97	9	76	3
1935–6† . . .	116	0	97	9

* From *Agricultural Statistics*, the Ministry of Agriculture, and *The Agricultural Market Report*.

† Four months. ‡ f.o.r. Wisbech.

Growers' prices f.o.r. Wisbech averaged 76*s.* 3*d.* for the season compared with 59*s.* 9*d.* in 1933–4, an increase of 28 per cent. The seasonal variation was the same as for wholesale prices, with a minimum of 65*s.* per ton in March and a maximum of 93*s.* in May. As a result of the smaller home crop in 1935, prices in the last four months of the year were higher than in 1934, averaging 97*s.* 9*d.* per ton.

[1] See p. 101. [2] See p. 209.

The margin between growers' and wholesale prices was 21*s.* 6*d.* per ton in 1934–5. This compares with a margin of 19*s.* 3*d.* in 1933–4, 21*s.* 9*d.* in 1930–1, and 27*s.* for the average of the seasons 1927–8 to 1929–30.

Early Potatoes

In previous years the production of early potatoes in Great Britain has been estimated at 6·6 per cent. of the total home production of potatoes. As, however, the acreage of early potatoes has expanded considerably in recent years this figure is no longer accurate.

The average yield of first earlies, as given in the *Agricultural Statistics* for the years 1926–33 was 4·6 tons per acre, being 70 per cent. of the yield per acre of all potatoes. In 1935 the acreage of first earlies was 14·5 per cent. of the total acreage. Assuming that the yields of early and main-crop potatoes fluctuate together, the production of early potatoes on agricultural holdings in 1935 may be estimated at about 10 per cent. of the total production, or 381,000 tons. The output for 1934, calculated in the same way, was 446,000 tons.

The imports of early potatoes in 1935 were 178,000 tons, so that total supplies in 1935 may be estimated at about 609,000 tons, of which 71 per cent. were home-produced.[1]

Imports. Imports were 23 per cent. more than in the preceding year, but 33 per cent. less than the average of the years 1929–31. On the basis of the above calculations of home production, imports account for about 32 per cent. of total supplies.

The increased imports came mainly from the Channel Islands and Spain, caused by the high prices following the frost in May. Channel Islands shipments increased from 1,303,000 cwt. in 1934 to 1,706,000 cwt. in 1935, while Spanish rose from 1,165,000 cwt. to 1,416,000 cwt., though this figure was still lower than any in the years 1931–3. Imports from the Netherlands increased slightly from 184,000

[1] See p. 201.

cwt. to 197,000 cwt., but those from other countries, including the Irish Free State, declined.

Imports of Early Potatoes into the United Kingdom, 1929–31 to 1935

(000 cwt.)*

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
Channel Islands	1,075	1,010	1,302	1,706	20·2	48·2
France	2,197	..	..	..	41·4	..
Spain	1,174	3,185	1,165	1,416	22·1	40·0
Canary Islands	182	249	162	164	3·4	4·6
Netherlands	423	900	184	197	8·0	5·6
Other Countries	263	1,025	65	57	4·9	1·6
Total	5,314	6,369	2,874	3,540	100·0	100·0

* From the *Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes* and from the *Monthly Trade and Navigation Accounts*.

Imports of new potatoes from foreign countries and the Irish Free State were controlled by Board of Trade licence, while those from the Channel Islands were the subject of voluntary regulation.[1] Shipments from Guernsey arrive in April and May, and those from Jersey mainly in May and June. The Potato Marketing Board hoped the Jersey crop would be finished by 30 June, but the lateness of the season and the heavy crop upset this expectation. However, though shipments continued till the third week in July, their competitive effect was offset by the lateness of the home crop. It is the object of the Board, however, to bring shipments from Jersey to an end in future years by 30 June. Duties on imported new potatoes remained the same as in previous years.[2]

Prices. The unweighted average of prices from April to July was 34*s.*, or 1*s.* 8*d.* more than in the previous year, and only 7*d.*

[1] See p. 177. [2] See p. 395.

less than in 1927–9. In April prices were lower than in either 1934 or 1927–9, but they were higher in May, June, and July. The frosts in May retarded the usual seasonal decline in prices. The indications are that the seasonal fluctuations in the prices of new potatoes are tending to diminish, due, partly, to changes in the sources of imports and partly to the efforts of the Potato Marketing Board to improve the marketing of the home crop.

*Wholesale Prices per cwt. of Early Potatoes in England and Wales, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Channel Islands						*Sharpe's Express*					
	Apr.		*May*		*June*		*July*		*Aug.*		*Apr.–July*†	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
1927–9 .	81	0	30	6	14	2	7	9	5	6	34	7
1930 .	58	6	21	6	9	0	7	7	5	5	24	2
1931 .	70	0	43	0	18	0	10	5	6	7	35	4
1932 .	59	6	42	6	20	0	8	5	4	9	32	7
1933 .	53	0	27	0	12	9	6	0	4	0	24	8
1934 .	72	0	34	6	14	4	8	5	6	9	32	4
1935 .	65	0	40	9	19	5	11	0	6	0	34	0

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and *The Agricultural Market Report*.
† Unweighted.

HOPS

Home production. The total home production of hops in 1935 was 248,300 cwt., 4 per cent. less than in the previous year. The acreage was rather more, being 18,251 acres compared with 18,037 in 1934. The average yield per acre was estimated to be 13·6 cwt. compared with 14·4 cwt. in 1934, and an average of 12·3 cwt. for the previous ten years.

Imports. Imports were lower than in 1933–4, being 40,061 cwt., compared with 57,430 cwt. in the preceding crop year, a decline of 30 per cent. However, imports in October–December 1935 showed an increase of 5 per cent.

Exports were 15,315 cwt., compared with 14,566 cwt. in

1934–5, a 5 per cent. increase, though in the last three months of the year they were 4 per cent. lower than for the corresponding period in 1934. The duties were unchanged, namely, £4 per cwt. full duty, and £2 13*s.* 4*d.* per cwt. preferential duty.[1]

Production, Imports, Exports, and Prices of Hops, 1927–9 to 1935

	Home production	*Imports Oct.–Sept.*	*Exports Oct.–Sept.*	*Price per cwt.*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	*s.*
1927–9 . . .	285,000	78,770	18,078	142†
1930 . . .	253,000	47,655	23,134	80†
1931 . . .	169,000	42,743	17,151	110†
1932 . . .	188,000	15,797	21,444	177‡
1933 . . .	216,000	57,430	14,566	302‡
1934 . . .	259,000	40,661	15,315	181‡
1935 . . .	248,300	28,634*	2,167*	180§

* October–December.
† Average price from *Agricultural Statistics*.
‡ Average price paid by merchants under the Hops Marketing Scheme.
§ Approximate price.

Prices. The average price paid to growers under the Hops Marketing Scheme during the 1934–5 season was estimated at £9 0*s.* 8½*d.* per cwt., being slightly above the average price of £9 per cwt. originally fixed by the Provisional Joint Hops Committee.

Sugar Beet[2]

Home production. The acreage and production of sugar beet and certain financial and other statistics relating to the home beet-sugar industry in 1935 are given in the table on page 268, together with the corresponding statistics for previous years.

[1] See p. 396.
[2] For other information connected with the beet-sugar industry see pages 131–40.

In England and Wales the terms for the 1935–6 beet contract, under a standard form of contract agreed between the National Farmers' Union and the Beet Sugar Factories Committee, were a fixed price of 36*s*. per ton of washed beet of 15½ per cent. sugar-content, delivered at the factory, except for five factories (Allscott, Brigg, Kidderminster, Poppleton, and Selby) where the price was 2*s*. per ton higher. Variations in the fixed price for sugar-content above or below 15½ per cent. were fixed at the rate of 2*s*. 6*d*. for each 1 per cent.

For 1935–6 the subsidy is limited to the produce of 375,000 acres, and penalties are to be imposed in respect of beets not grown under contract but delivered to the factories, and each grower must, if required, furnish statistical information as to his beet acreage. In order to minimize the risks of disease, particularly from eelworm, a new clause was inserted in the contract by which beet must not be sown on the same land consecutively without the consent of the factory.

In Scotland, after negotiations with the National Farmers' Union and the Second Anglo-Scottish Beet Sugar Corporation, Ltd., the terms for 1935–6 were 36*s*. a ton of beet of 15½ per cent. sugar-content, free on rail. This was 1*s*. less than the 1934 fixed price contract. The acreage offered was 7,835, being the 1934 acreage, less the percentage reduction imposed by the Government limitations.

As a result of these contracts the area grown in 1935 was 374,753 acres (367,304 acres in England and Wales, and 7,449 acres in Scotland), being slightly under the prescribed area for which beet is subsidized; this area was 29,131 acres less than the record acreage of 1934, and of this fall 29,044 acres were in England and Wales and 87 acres were in Scotland.

The 1935 season was not nearly so good as 1934, and the yield fell from 10·2 tons of washed beet per acre to 9·1 tons per acre in England and Wales and from 9·5 tons per acre to 8·9 tons per acre in Scotland, giving an average yield for Great Britain of slightly over 9·1 tons per acre. The sugar-

Sugar-beet: Production and Financial Statistics: Great Britain, 1928–30 to 1935

	Average 1928–30	*1931*	*1932*	*1933*	*1934*	*1935**
A. *Production*:						
Area of beet	252,507	234,174	255,648	365,774	403,884	374,600
Number of growers	32,556	32,897	34,452	39,828	46,054	44,800
Acres per grower	7 8	7 1	7 4	9 1	8 8	8 4
Tonnage of beet	2,144,622	1,667,288	2,232,061	3,298,119	4,094,707	3,407,500
Yield of beet, per acre, tons	8 5	7 1	8 7	9 0	10 1	9 1
Sugar-content, per cent. of beet	17 2	17 3	16 9	16 4	17 1	16 4
Sucrose per acre, lb.	3,265	2,759	3,305	3,312	3,888	3,340
Sugar produced, tons	300,419	251,760	330,325	463,039	614,798	487,320
Sugar produced, per cent. of beet	14 0	15 1	14 8	14 0	15 0	14·3
Extraction, per cent. of sucrose	81 5	87 0	88 0	86 0	88 0	87 0
Sugar produced per acre, lb.	2,663	2,408	2,894	2,836	3,410	2,910
By-products						
Molasses (tons)	76,407	53,124	78,441	128,380	147,225	123,800
Pulp dry (tons)	145,188	127,314	159,791	244,490	313,462	276,700
wet (tons)	31,038	17,524	25,296	77,284	143,327	116,300
expressed as plain dried, tons	125,562	100,469	123,517	190,909	244,000	..
B. *Financial*:						
Subsidy, total	£4,399,749	£1,790,063	£2,376,932	£3,387,000	£4,429,565	£2,775,000†
Subsidy, per acre	£17 8*s.*	£7 13*s.*	£9 6*s.*	£9 5*s.*	£10 19*s.*	£7 8*s.*
Subsidy, per ton of beet	41*s.* 0*d.*	21*s.* 6*d.*	21*s.* 4*d.*	20*s.* 6*d.*	21*s.* 8*d.*	16*s.* 3*d.*
Subsidy, per ton of sugar	£14 13*s.*	£7 2*s.*	£7 4*s.*	£7 6*s.*	£7 4*s.*	£5 14*s.*
Paid to growers:						
total	£5,495,333	£3,529,000	£4,762,000	£6,528,000	£8,343,000	£6,600,000
per acre	£21 15*s.*	£15 1*s.*	£18 12*s.*	£17 17*s.*	£20 13*s.*	£17 12*s.*
per ton of beet	51*s.* 3*d.*	42*s.* 4*d.*	42*s.* 8*d.*	39*s.* 7*d.*	40*s.* 9*d.*	38*s.* 9*d.*
per ton of sugar	£18 4*s.*	£14 0*s.*	£14 8*s.*	£14 2*s.*	£13 11*s.*	£13 11*s.*
C. *General*:						
Number of factories	19	18	17	18	18	18
,, ,, days worked	91	64	80	107	122	98
,, ,, workers employed in factories	8,975	7,900	8,100	9,000	9,600	9,500

* Provisional.

† Subsidy now on sugar only. Includes provision for £555,000 capital services (£315,000 interest charges and £240,000 depreciation), made under Clause 16 (1) of the Sugar Industry (Reorganization) Bill.

content for 1935 was also lower, being 16·4 per cent. against 17·1 per cent. in 1934. The price per ton and return per acre will therefore be considerably below the figures of 1934. The total production of sugar-beet is estimated to be 3,407,500 tons, and the output of sugar 487,320 tons.

The subsidy for 1935–6 is estimated to amount to £2,775,000,[1] equal to £7 8*s.* per acre and 16*s.* 3*d.* per ton of beet. These figures compare with a total of £4,429,565, £10 19*s.* per acre, and 21*s.* 8*d.* per ton, in the previous year.

The combined balance sheets of the factory companies up to the end of March 1935, together with those of the three previous years, are shown in the following table.

*Summary of Balance Sheets of British Beet-Sugar Companies as at 31 March 1932, 1933, 1934, and 1935**

	As at 31 March			
	1932	*1933*	*1934*	*1935*†
Liabilities:	£	£	£	£
Share capital	4,445,954	4,445,954	4,445,954	4,550,954
Mortgages and debentures	1,545,951	1,479,536	1,384,522	1,319,017
Banks and other loans	902,050	821,901	1,082,930	453,848
Sundry creditors and outstandings	722,573	736,859	1,050,701	1,187,445
Reserves	1,447,717	1,392,555	1,455,912	1,557,483
Profit and loss balances before appropriation of dividends, less deficits	402,060	331,083	537,982	907,207
Total liabilities	9,466,305	9,207,888	9,958,001	9,975,954
Assets:				
Beet-sugar factories and equipment, less depreciation	5,632,172	5,372,308	5,195,365	5,113,757
Investments	820,462	815,287	854,501	966,028
Stocks and stores	1,960,294	1,896,353	2,362,024	1,796,860
Sundry debtors and pre-payments	601,066	538,055	980,107	748,674
Cash balances	452,311	585,885	566,004	1,350,635
Total assets	9,466,305	9,207,888	9,958,001	9,975,954

* From the *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*. † Provisional.

The expenditure on plant, machinery, and equipment, less depreciation at 31 March 1935, was £5,113,757 (total expenditure £9,219,866, less depreciation £3,945,821 and

[1] The total subsidy to 1935–6 is given on page 140.

*British Beet-Sugar Factory Income, Expenditure, and Profits, four years to 31 March 1935**

Income, Expenditure, and Profit	*Per ton of beet*			
	1931–2	*1932–3*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Net income from sugar (less excise duty)	34 5	34 0	31 2	31 1
Molasses	5	10	8	6
Pulp	4 8	5 4	5 5	6 0
	39 6	40 2	37 3	37 7
Add Subsidy	21 6	21 4	21 2	22 0
Total income	61 0	61 6	58 5	59 7
Less cost of beets	42 4	42 8	39 7	40 9
Balance to factories	18 8	18 10	18 10	18 10
Less manufacturing costs and overhead charges	15 6	12 11	11 11	11 3
Trading profit	3 2	5 11	6 11	7 7
Profit on subsidiary industries	9	(loss) 3	6	7
Total profit	3 11	5 8	7 5	8 2
Appropriation of Profit:				
Interest charges	10	10	7	2
Directors' fees	3	3	2	9
Depreciation	2 4	2 6	2 0	1 9
Income tax	6	4	1 0	1 2
Dividends	2 4	2 2	2 3	2 6
Reserves	2	1 0	1 0	1 4
Other appropriations	8	..	5	1 1
	7 1	7 1	7 5	8 2
Less transfer from reserves and amounts taken from credit balances	3 2	1 5	..	..
	3 11	5 8	7 5	..
Tons of beet produced	1,667,288	2,232,061	3,298,119	4,094,707

* From the *Journal of Ministry of Agriculture*.

written off on reconstruction £153,288). The corresponding amount at 31 March 1934 was £5,195,365. The profit and loss balances rose from £331,083 in 1933 to £537,982 in 1934, and to £907,208 in 1935.

The income, costs, profits, and appropriations of all the factories for the four years to 31 March 1935 are shown in the table on p. 270, expressed per ton of beet. The total income from products in 1934–5 was 37*s.* 7*d.* compared with 37*s.* 3*d.* in 1933–4. The cost of beets was, however, 1*s.* 2*d.* more than in 1933–4, the subsidy was also greater by 10*d.* and the balance to factories in 1934–5 was therefore 18*s.* 10*d.*, the same as in the previous year. Costs of manufacturing were 8*d.* less at 11*s.* 3*d.*, leaving a trading profit of 7*s.* 7*d.*, or including the profit on subsidiary industries, of 8*s.* 2*d.* per ton of beet. This compares with 7*s.* 5*d.* in 1933–4 and 5*s.* 8*d.* in 1932–3. The total profit before making appropriations in 1934–5 was £1,680,259 compared with £1,224,095 in 1933–4.

Details of the manufacturing costs in the last four years to 1934–5 were as follows:

Manufacturing Costs and Overhead Charges, for the Campaign Years 1931–2 to 1934–5, per ton of beet*

	1931–2	*1932–3*	*1933–4*	*1934–5*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Coal and Coke	2 10	2 8	2 6	2 5
Limestone	7	6	6	6
Bags	1 1	1 1	1 2	1 4
Other manufacturing supplies	1 0	8	8	6
Repairs and maintenance	1 4	11	10	1 0
Salaries and Wages	6 0	4 9	4 2	3 10
Rates and Insurance	7	5	4	3
Other general charges	11	8	6	6
Beet expenses	1 2	1 3	1 3	11
	15 6	12 11	11 11	11 3

* *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, February 1934, May 1935, and March 1936.

Imports. Total imports of all sugar amounted to 39,448,921 cwt., a slight increase of 0·4 per cent. on 1934, and of 1 per cent. on 1929–31 average. Of this amount 1,031,713 cwt., or 3 per cent. was refined sugar. Empire supplies were 14 per cent. lower than the previous year, but were still 31 per cent. above the 1929–31 average. Supplies from South Africa nearly doubled, but shipments from most other parts of the Empire declined, especially those from Australia which were 31 per cent. less. Foreign supplies amounted to 59 per cent. of the total compared with 68 per cent. in 1929–31. Cuba continued to be the largest foreign supplier, with St. Domingo, imports from which had more than doubled in 1935, ranking second.

Imports of Sugar into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

	Quantities				*Per cent. of total*	
Source	*1929–31*	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Australia	4,249,497	4,124,352	6,884,699	4,742,775	10 9	12 0
Mauritius	3,771,856	3,888,767	4,345,324	3,721,598	9 7	9 4
South Africa	2,193,490	998,873	1,580,865	3,111,917	5 6	7 9
British West Indies	1,012,742	2,454,078	2,734,087	1,744,223	2 6	4 4
British Guiana	591,427	1,529,424	1,712,771	1,120,562	1·5	2 9
Fiji Islands	491,770	1,012,010	1,327,514	1,503,437	1 3	3 8
Other British	1,078	766	305,686	236,167	..	0 6
Cuba	12,774,723	15,425,981	10,799,870	10,944,905	32 7	27 8
Europe	4,247,532	2,389,395	1,143,824	329,955	10 9	0 9
St. Domingo	3,819,416	5,519,467	3,051,598	6,181,249	9 8	15 7
Peru	2,790,906	3,684,133	2,921,442	2,893,127	7 2	7·3
Java	1,205,351	4,942,481	392,752	329,465	3 1	0 8
Brazil	642,329	522,024	461,734	602,703	1 6	1 5
United States	448,847	499,764	619,001	246,587	1 1	0 7
Mexico	72,870	12,883	*	*	0 2	*
Other Foreign	693,985	566,633	992,379	1,690,251†	1 8	4 3
Total Empire	12,311,860	14,008,270	18,890,946	16,180,679	31 6	41 0
Total Foreign	26,695,959	33,562,761	20,382,600	23,268,242†	68·4	59·0
Total unrefined	37,880,432	47,013,986	38,254,676	38,417,208	97·1	97 4
Total refined	1,127,387	557,045	1,018,870	1,031,713	2 9	2 6
Total	39,007,819	47,571,031	39,273,546	39,448,921	100 0	100 0

*Included in Other Foreign. † Including small quantity Empire refined.

Since the expiry of the Chadbourne Scheme on 1 September 1935 attempts have been made to reopen international negotiations, and to call a conference of world sugar producers to consider the question of production with a view to action which might conduce to an improvement in values from the present low level.

Prices. The average price of raw sugar was 4*s.* 8¼*d.*, compared with 4*s.* 9*d.* in 1934. Prices fluctuated throughout the year from 4*s.* 3*d.* at the end of January to 5*s.* 1½*d.* during April and May. In July they fell again to 4*s.* 3*d.*, but rose in October to 5*s.*, and by the end of December to 5*s.* 1½*d.* Wholesale prices of Tate's cubes moved more or less in sympathy with raw sugar prices, and averaged 22*s.* 2½*d.* for the year, the same as in 1934.

*Prices per cwt. of Sugar, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Raw centrifugals 96° polarization c.i.f. London	*Wholesale prices Tate's cubes London (duty included)*
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*
1927–9	11 4	30 2
1930	6 5	24 5¼
1931	6 5¼	23 6
1932	5 7	23 2½
1933	5 3	23 0
1934	4 9	22 2¾
1935	4 8¼	22 2½

* From the *Statist*.

Total visible stocks on 1 September 1935 were 19 per cent. lower than in 1934, but stocks in Europe had increased considerably. This growth is due chiefly to the increased production of sugar beet in many European countries. The severe decline in stocks in non-European countries, which more than offset the European increase, was caused by a large contraction in the cultivated area in Java, and an abnormal

export from Cuba. Consumption continued to expand, and the recovery which occurred in Europe in 1933–4 spread to the non-European countries in 1934–5. This general increase gives rise to a more hopeful outlook for the world sugar position.

*Visible Stocks of Sugar on 1 September**

(in thousands of tons)

	Europe	*Ex-Europe*	*Total*
1927–9 .	1,115	3,417	4,532
1930 . . .	1,580	5,118	6,698
1931 . . .	2,598	2,499	8,097
1932 . . .	2,314	6,341	8,655
1933 . . .	1,916	6,013	7,929
1934 . . .	1,724	5,885	7,609
1935 . . .	2,108	4,049	6,157

* From *Monthly Crop and Agricultural Statistics*, International Institute of Agriculture, year xxvi, no. 11, November 1935.

5. Fruit

Home production. Since the last issue of *The Agricultural Register* the output of the 1934 fruit crop for England and Wales has become available. The production of apples was 10,532,000 cwt., of pears 585,000 cwt., of cherries 380,000 cwt., and of plums 3,177,000 cwt. Among the soft fruits the output of strawberries was estimated at 549,000 cwt., of raspberries 145,000 cwt., of black currants 198,000 cwt., of other currants 89,000 cwt., and of gooseberries 562,000 cwt. The yield of fruit was exceptionally high, and the total output was considerably higher than in the previous year. Figures for Scotland are not available.

In 1935 the total acreage under orchard fruits in England and Wales, 262,115, was 3 per cent. more than in 1934. The area under small fruit, however, 59,848 acres, is a decline of nearly 2 per cent. Strawberries, which accounted for 45 per cent. of the total soft fruit acreage, and black currants

increased, but these were offset by a substantial reduction in the acreage of gooseberries, raspberries, and red and white currants.[1]

Estimates of the output in 1935 are not yet available, but the severe frost in May and dry weather later in the year did considerable damage, varying in different parts of the country, and the output of all fruits was, consequently, considerably below that of last year.

Imports. Total imports of all fruits amounted to 29,593,032 cwt., an increase of more than 9 per cent. over the previous year and nearly 12 per cent. above the 1929–31 level. Of this amount more than 20 million cwt. consisted of bananas, citrus fruits, grapes and the like, which do not offer direct competition to the home-producer. About 9 million cwt. consisted of fruits which are also grown in this country, but a large proportion of these do not enter while the home crop is on the market.

About 50 per cent. of the total fruits, and 57 per cent. of the fruits which are also grown in this country, came from Empire sources.

All fruits from foreign countries are subject to import duties; these remained unchanged during 1935.[2]

Imports of *apples* were 7,272,255 cwt., which was practically 1½ million cwt., or 13 per cent., more than in 1934, when the home crop was exceptionally large. Foreign supplies, coming predominantly from the United States, showed an increase of 94 per cent. and accounted for 37 per cent. of the total apple imports. Empire supplies, mainly from Australia and Canada, were practically the same as in 1934, and the Empire share of the market declined from 77 per cent. in 1934 to 63 per cent. in 1935. The proportion from the Empire is, however, still considerably above the 1929–31 percentage.

[1] *Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes*, vol. ix, no. 28, 9 October 1935.

[2] See pp. 396–8.

*Imports of Raw Fruit into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935**

Fruit	Quantities				Per cent. from Empire	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Apples.	6,509,199	8,090,780	5,892,163	7,272,255	47 6	63 4
Pears . .	1,114,944	1,112,221	1,008,022	1,276,826	20 7	39 1
Plums, greengages, and damsons .	469,217	343,869	254,824	421,931	7 7	21 8
Apricots .	102,994	109,323	75,759	63,024	0 5	..
Peaches, nectarines .	60,681	100,499	92,513	107,000	36 1	..
Cherries .	87,284	12,059	11,247	11,463	..	..
Gooseberries	20,294	10,943	7,933	14,102	2 3	.
Currants .	122,371	47,032	21,859	25,252	0·1	.
Strawberries.	79,263	40,825	6,121	18,561	0 3	..
Total .	8,566,247	9,867,551	7,370,441	9,210,414	39 6	56 5
Total other fruits† .	17,986,474	18,114,253	19,698,037	20,382,618	22 2	50 4
Grand total .	26,552,721	27,981,804	27,068,478	29,593,032	27 8	52 3

* *Monthly Trade and Navigation Accounts*, December 1935, and *Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes*, 30 October 1935.
† 1 bunch of bananas = 34 lb.

Imports of *pears* were 1,276,826 cwt., 26 per cent. more than in 1934. Imports from foreign countries, mainly the United States and Belgium, increased by 26 per cent., the former sending 13 per cent. and the latter 19 per cent. more than in 1934. Empire supplies increased by 27 per cent., shipments coming from South Africa, Australia, and Canada. The proportion of the total imports which came from Empire sources was 39 per cent., the same as last year.

Imported supplies of *plums* increased by 66 per cent., the home crop being considerably smaller. Foreign imports were 329,814 cwt., an increase of 87 per cent.; imports from Spain, the principal foreign supplier, increased by 58 per cent. Total Empire shipments were 92,117 cwt., an increase of 17 per cent., and a decline of 12½ per cent. in supplies from South Africa was more than offset by an increase from other

Empire countries. The Empire share of the imported supplies was 22 per cent., compared with 8 per cent. in 1929–31.

Apricots were the only fruit of which imports were lower in 1935 than in 1934. Even though Italian supplies were more than four and a half times as much as in 1934, a decrease in the imports from Spain, which supplied 94 per cent. of the total, resulted in a decline in total imports of 17 per cent.

Imports of *peaches and nectarines* showed an increase of 15 per cent. South African supplies, which arrive in the early part of the year, declined 54 per cent., but foreign supplies, coming mainly from Italy and arriving between June and October, increased 73 per cent.

Imports of soft fruits are supplied almost wholly by European countries. Though subject to the same duties as in the previous year,[1] imports showed a small increase.

Cherries totalled 11,463 cwt., 2 per cent. more than in 1934, but as much as 87 per cent. below the 1929–31 average. About 89 per cent. came from Italy.

Imports of *gooseberries*, mainly from the Netherlands, amounted to 14,102 cwt., nearly twice as much as in 1934, but still less than half the amount imported in 1929–31.

Imported *currants* were 25,252 cwt., or 15 per cent. more than in 1934. France, the chief source of supply, and Belgium sent rather less, while supplies from the Netherlands, Norway, and Spain showed substantial increases.

Imports of *strawberries* were more than four times as much as in 1934, amounting to 18,561 cwt., though this was less than one-quarter of the imports in 1929–31. About 90 per cent. came from the Netherlands and 8 per cent. from France.

Prices. The Ministry of Agriculture's index of wholesale fruit prices at large market towns rose sharply in 1934, averaging 196, compared with 129 in 1934, an increase of about

[1] See pp. 396–8.

52 per cent.[1] This sharp rise was largely due to the comparative failure of the home crop and in spite of a rise in imports.

The prices of all types of *apples* rose higher than at any time since before 1927–9. All varieties of home-grown apples, especially Cox's Orange Pippin, suffered severe frost and gale damage and the home crop, except in Kent, turned out badly. Prices of cooking apples were more than doubled, and those of dessert apples rose 75–89 per cent. compared with 1934.

*Seasonal Wholesale Prices per cwt. of First Quality Apples, Pears, and Plums, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Apples			*Pears*	*Plums*	
	Cox's Orange	*Worcester Pearmain*	*Lane's Prince Albert*	*William*	*Victoria*	*Egg*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9	75 0	27 0	18 9	31 0	50 0	25 9
1930	61 6	28 0	18 3	24 6	23 6	7 2
1931	78 6	34 0	22 6	31 6	44 0	18 3
1932	72 0	34 6	19 0	..	52 6	29 0
1933	72 0	25 6	15 6	28 6	28 6	8 9
1934	45 0	20 0	11 0	21 6	25 6	8 1
1935	85 0	35 0	22 8	34 0	56 0	†

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture. † Not available.

Prices of *pears* also rose; the home crop was very patchy and variable but, in general, it was much smaller than in 1934. The average price of William pears rose from 21*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. to 34*s.* in 1935.

The *plum* crop was similarly affected by the early mid-May frost, especially in Essex and Worcestershire, and the yield was considerably lighter than in 1934 in all districts. The price of Victoria plums averaged 56*s.* per cwt. compared with 25*s.* 6*d.* in 1934.

The acreage of all soft fruits, except strawberries, was lower than in the previous year and the yields were reduced by the same factors which affected the orchard fruits.

[1] See p. 208.

The *strawberry* crop was slightly better than normal in the early districts, such as Devon, Somerset, and Southampton, but yields were considerably less than in 1934 in the later districts. Prices averaged 1*s.* 1*d.* per lb. for the season compared with 11*d.* in 1934.

Prices of *cherries* also rose substantially as the home crop in all districts was lighter than in 1934, particularly in west Worcestershire and parts of Kent.

Both *black and red currants* rose in price, the former by 44 per cent. and the latter by 25 per cent. The home output of both crops was much reduced by the cold spring and the dry summer.

*Seasonal Wholesale Prices per cwt. of First Quality Soft Fruits, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Cherries Black	*Currants*		*Goose-berries*	*Straw-berries per lb.*
		Black	*Red*		
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9 . .	72 0	73 6	51 0	40 0	10¾
1930 . .	62 6	39 0	33 0	30 0	9¾
1931 . .	55 0	48 0	36 0	31 6	8¼
1932 . .	86 0	76 6	48 0	38 0	9¾
1933 . .	65 0	69 6	47 0	33 6	10¾
1934 . .	62 6	52 6	42 6	29 6	11
1935 . .	71 6	78 6	54 0	53 0	1 1

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The price of *gooseberries*, which averaged 29*s.* 6*d.* in 1934, rose to 53*s.* in 1935, a poor home crop being obtained in all areas with the exception of Wisbech.

6. Vegetables

Home production. The acreage of vegetables in England and Wales was rather higher than in 1934. The area planted with some of the more important crops was estimated at 233,698 acres compared with 216,606 acres in the previous

year, an increase of 7 per cent.[1] The most notable increases were among peas and beans picked green, but there were reductions in the areas planted with carrots, onions, cauliflowers, celery, and rhubarb. The vegetable acreage in Scotland declined 16 per cent. to 1,744 acres; figures are only available of the acreages of three crops—carrots, onions, and rhubarb, of which only the latter showed an increase.

Imports. The total value of vegetable imports, excluding potatoes, amounted to £6,305,799, of which tomatoes accounted for 65 per cent., onions for 21 per cent., and other vegetables for 14 per cent.

Imports of Tomatoes into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.		
Channel Islands	790,683	828,671	1,114,559	1,078,187	27·2	36 2
Other British	645	426	112	763	..	..
Netherlands	668,716	467,201	229,315	307,721	22 9	10 4
Spain	98,252	10,604	52	..	3 4	..
Canary Islands	1,302,434	1,116,237	1,437,474	1,591,940	44 7	53 4
Other Foreign	52,606	8,976	995	899	1 8	..
Total British	791,328	829,097	1,114,671	1,078,950	27 2	36 2
Total Foreign	2,122,008	1,603,018	1,667,836	1,900,560	72 8	63 8
Total	2,913,336	2,432,115	2,782,507	2,979,510	100 0	100 0

Imports of *tomatoes* were 2,979,510 cwt., 7 per cent. above last year's total and 2 per cent. above the 1929–31 average. Empire supplies, coming almost entirely from the Channel Islands, amounted to 1,078,950 cwt., and were 3 per cent. below 1934 but 36 per cent. above the average of 1929–31. Foreign imports were 1,900,560 cwt., 14 per cent. above 1934 and 10½ per cent. below the 1929–31 average. The bulk of

[1] See p. 296.

the shipments came from the Canary Islands and showed an increase of 11 per cent. on the previous year. The percentages of total imports coming from the Empire and from foreign countries were 36 per cent. and 64 per cent., respectively, as compared with 27 per cent. and 73 per cent. in 1929–31. Import duties were levied on foreign supplies.[1]

Total imports of *onions* were 10,450,627 bushels, only 2 per cent. more than in 1934 and 1 per cent. less than in 1929–31. So much as 99·9 per cent. of the total imports were foreign, coming mainly from Spain, the Netherlands, and Egypt, and being subject to an import duty.[2] Imports from Spain showed an increase of 22 per cent. compared with 1934, and those from the Netherlands a decrease of 10 per cent.

Imports of Onions into the United Kingdom, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935

(in bushels)

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
British Countries	12,538	39,225	20,133	6,801	0 1	0·1
Netherlands	3,112,293	2,552,468	3,891,339	3,523,156	29 5	33 7
Spain	4,754,129	4,769,346	3,568,998	4,332,515	45 1	41 5
Egypt	1,971,979	2,139,665	1,951,022	2,170,126	18 7	20 7
Other Foreign	695,679	539,370	817,485	418,029	6 6	4 0
Total Foreign	10,534,080	10,000,849	10,228,844	10,443,826	99 9	99 9
Total	10,546,618	10,040,074	10,248,977	10,450,627	100 0	100 0

The value of other imported vegetables amounted to £885,153, 4 per cent. more than in 1934. Duties were paid on foreign imports and on imports from the Irish Free State.[3]

Prices. The Ministry's index number[4] of wholesale vegetable prices at large town markets was 137 in 1935, compared

[1] See p. 399.
[2] See p. 399.
[3] See pp. 398–9.
[4] See p. 208.

with 143 in 1934 and 162 during 1927–9. This decline was due to falls in the prices of carrots and onions. The former declined from an average of 7*s.* 5*d.* per cwt. in 1934 to 5*s.* 6*d.* in 1935. The lower price for carrots was due to a weakness at the beginning of the year; the 1935 crop was poorer than the previous one and prices at the end of the year were considerably higher than at the end of 1934. Onion prices did not decline to quite the same extent, the average price being 6*s.* 7*d.* per cwt. for first quality produce, compared with 7*s.* 2*d.* in the previous season. Cabbage prices for 1935 were slightly higher than in 1934; the acreage was a little lower and the condition of the crop was not so good.

*Seasonal Wholesale Prices of First Quality Vegetables, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Cabbage per doz.	*Cauli-flower per doz. heads*	*Brussels Sprouts per cwt.*	*Celery per bundle*	*Carrots per cwt.*	*Onions British per cwt.*	*Peas Market Garden per cwt.*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1927–9 . .	1 10	4 0	20 0	2 7	7 0	10 7	25 0
1930 . . .	1 9	3 9	20 6	2 4	4 9	6 2	22 0
1931 . . .	1 8	3 4	18 6	2 4	5 5	7 7	21 6
1932 . . .	1 4	3 3	15 9	1 11	8 1	12 0	18 6
1933 . .	1 7	3 7	15 6	1 10	7 11	7 8	22 0
1934 . . .	1 6	3 3	17 9	1 10	7 5	7 2	18 6
1935 . . .	1 9	3 8	18 0	2 0	5 6	6 7	..

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Other vegetables, such as cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and celery, were all slightly dearer than in 1934. The rise was due mainly to the influence of a smaller crop.

Prices of home-grown tomatoes were much the same as in 1934. Opening at about 25*s.* 6*d.* per 12 lb. for first quality produce in April, the price fell to 4*s.* 4*d.* in September, compared with 24*s.* 6*d.* and 3*s.* 4*d.* in 1934. By the end of the year the price had risen to 7*s.* 6*d.*, about 7*d.* per 12 lb. cheaper than in December 1934. Channel Island, Canary Island, and Dutch supplies were all cheaper than in 1934.

7. Wool

The estimated production of home-grown wool in the United Kingdom in the calendar year 1935 was 110 million lb. calculated as greasy, of which 56 million lb. were exported, leaving 54 million lb. for home consumption. Of the total imports of 864 million lb., 283 million lb. were re-exported, so that retained imports were 581 million lb. In addition 11 million lb. were pulled from imported skins. Thus, total raw wool supplies in the United Kingdom were 646 million lb., compared with 603 million lb. in 1934, an increase of 7 per cent. In addition there was available 108 million lb. of wool recovered from rags, much the same quantity as in the previous year.

Home production. The total output of 110 million lb. was 4 million lb., or 4 per cent. less than in 1934. Increased exports reduced the retained quantity of home-produced wool to 14 million lb., or 21 per cent. less than in the previous year.

Exports of Home-grown Wool, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935, in million lb.

Destination	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	1932	1934	1935	1929–31	1935
Canada	1 54	1·67	2 40	2 94	5 0	5 2
Other Empire	0 51	0 48	0 55	0 31	1·7	0 5
Germany	4 01	6 80	5 99	7 52	13 0	13·4
Belgium	3 10	3 26	3 42	2 43	10 1	4 3
France	1·35	5 39	7 16	5 05	4·3	9 0
Italy	4 56	10·29	12 00	2 62	14 7	4 7
United States	10 01	3·37	4 83	26 23	32·4	46·8
Other Foreign	5 80	4 27	9 45	9 01	18 8	16 1
Total Empire	2 05	2 15	2 95	3 25	6 7	5 7
Total Foreign	28 83	33·38	42 85	52·86	93 3	94 3
Total	30 88	35·53	45·80	56 11	100 0	100 0

Exports. More than half the home output was exported, this being a considerable increase. Total exports at 56 million lb. were 22 per cent. more than in 1934 and 82 per cent. more

than in 1929–31. The main feature of the export trade was the large increase in purchases by the United States. Exports to that country rose from 5 million lb. in 1934 to 26 million lb. in 1935, and now account for 47 per cent. of the total. Canada and Germany also took more, but other countries, especially Italy, bought less.

Imports. Gross imports were 864 million lb., or 9 per cent. more than 1934 and 6 per cent. greater than 1929–31. This increase was due to larger imports from Australia, which were 106 million lb. more than in 1934. Shipments from New Zealand were down, but total Empire supplies increased by 13 per cent., while foreign supplies fell 6 per cent. Australia supplied 41 per cent. of the total imports and New Zealand 20 per cent., the total proportion coming from the Empire being 83 per cent., compared with 80 per cent. in 1934.

*Gross Imports of Wool, 1929–31, 1932, 1934, and 1935, in million lb.**

Source	Quantities				Per cent. of total	
	1929–31	*1932*	*1934*	*1935*	*1929–31*	*1935*
Australia	272·3	302·0	252·2	358·2	33·4	41·4
New Zealand	185·7	201·1	216·4	171·6	22·8	19·9
South Africa	152·2	211·3	105·9	118·9	18·7	13·7
India	41·3	34·6	36·9	37·8	5·1	4·4
Other Empire	11·7	12·2	19·9	30·1	1·4	3·5
Argentina	68·6	90·4	84·3	80·6	8·4	9·3
Uruguay	26·4	16·2	15·2	16·4	3·3	1·9
Chile	23·7	24·8	20·7	12·9	2·9	1·5
Other Foreign	32·9	25·7	37·0	37·7	4·0	4·4
Total Empire	663·2	761·2	631·3	716·6	81·4	82·9
Total Foreign	151·6	157·1	157·2	147·6	18·6	17·1
Total	814·8	918·3	788·5	864·2	100·0	100·0

* From *Wool Intelligence Notes*, Imperial Economic Committee, vol. iii, no. 10, January 1936.

Of retained imports merino wool accounted for 55 per cent. and crossbred for 34 per cent., compared with 43 and

45 per cent., respectively, in 1934. The demand for merino has increased at the expense of crossbred.[1]

Prices. The Ministry's index of wool prices was 80, the same as in the previous year but 21 per cent. higher than in 1933. The average price of British wool at country sales was $9\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb., the same as in 1934 but 21 per cent. more than in 1933.

Average Annual Prices per lb. of Wool in Great Britain, 1927–9 to 1935

	Merino*	Medium crossbred†	Southdown‡		Half-bred‡		Welsh‡		Black face unwashed‡
			Washed	Unwashed	Washed	Unwashed	Washed	Unwashed	
	d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
1927–9	$47\frac{1}{4}$	$22\frac{3}{4}$	$23\frac{1}{2}$	$17\frac{3}{4}$	$18\frac{3}{4}$	$15\frac{1}{8}$	$14\frac{3}{4}$	$12\frac{3}{8}$	$11\frac{3}{4}$
1930	$25\frac{1}{2}$	$11\frac{3}{4}$	$13\frac{1}{8}$	9	$10\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{3}{8}$	$9\frac{3}{8}$	$7\frac{3}{8}$	$6\frac{1}{8}$
1931	$21\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$	$6\frac{1}{8}$	$6\frac{1}{4}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$	$5\frac{5}{8}$	$3\frac{7}{8}$	5
1932	$19\frac{3}{8}$	$7\frac{5}{8}$	$9\frac{5}{8}$	6	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{3}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	3	$4\frac{1}{8}$
1933	$25\frac{1}{4}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	$12\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{1}{8}$	$6\frac{1}{8}$	$7\frac{1}{8}$	$5\frac{1}{8}$	$5\frac{3}{8}$
1934	$27\frac{1}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$	$11\frac{5}{8}$	$10\frac{1}{2}$	9	$7\frac{5}{8}$	8	$6\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{7}{8}$
1935	$26\frac{1}{2}$	$9\frac{3}{4}$	$13\frac{1}{8}$	$9\frac{3}{4}$	$9\frac{1}{4}$	$7\frac{5}{8}$	$7\frac{7}{8}$	$6\frac{5}{8}$	$4\frac{3}{4}$

* From *Wool Intelligence Notes.*
† From *The Scottish Farmer.*
‡ From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Merino wool was $\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb. lower at $26\frac{1}{2}d.$, while crossbred averaged $9\frac{3}{4}d.$, the same as in 1934. The price of both increased steadily throughout the year. Merino began at $22\frac{1}{2}d.$ in January and finished at $29\frac{1}{2}d.$ in December, while crossbred, after declining from $8\frac{1}{2}d.$ in January to $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ in March, rose to a maximum of $11\frac{1}{4}d.$ in December.

The strengthening of prices in 1935 occurred in spite of heavier supplies, and it must be attributed, therefore, to a revival of demand. The main factors at work appear to have been the activity of the United Kingdom industry, the pres-

[1] *Wool Intelligence Notes*, vol. iii, no. 10, January 1936.

sure of Japanese demand, and the increased consumption in the United States. Moreover, stocks had reached a low level in all the consuming centres. At the end of the year, however, there was some slackening of demand, and in December prices for some types of wool were slightly lower than in November.[1]

C. REQUISITES

1. Fertilizers

All kinds of fertilizers were almost the same price as in 1934. The Ministry's index was 88, or 2 per cent. lower. There was no marked change, however, in prices to be recorded and the greatest drop was one of 3*s*. per ton in Nitrate of Soda and Kainit.

*Prices per ton of Fertilizers, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Nitrate of Soda (N. 15½%)	*Sulphate of Ammonia* (N. 20·6%)	*Basic slag* (P.A. 14%)	*Super-phosphate* (S.P.A.13½%)	*Kainit* (14% potash)
	£ *s.*	£ *s.*	£ *s.*	£ *s.*	£ *s.*
1927–9 .	11 3	10 14	2 4	2 16	2 19
1930 .	9 12	9 14	2 2	3 0	3 2
1931 .	9 1	8 4	2 3	2 17	3 1
1932 .	8 11	6 5	2 4	2 13	3 5
1933 .	8 0	6 14	2 5	2 13	3 5
1934 .	7 11	7 3	2 7	2 14	2 18
1935 .	7 8	7 2	2 7	2 13	2 15

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

In December 1934 the duty on superphosphates was increased to an inclusive rate of 10*s*. per ton, or 20 per cent. of the value of the goods, whichever was the greater.[2] In July 1935 the Import Duties Advisory Committee made an order for an import duty of £4 per ton on most of the products of the synthetic nitrogen industry, including sulphate of ammonia, synthetic sodium nitrate, ammonium nitrate, all ammonium phosphates, and compound fertilizers and manures.

[1] *Wool Intelligence Notes*, vol. iii, no. 9, December 1935.

[2] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 294.

2. Feeding Stuffs

The Ministry's index of feeding-stuff prices at 87 was 4 per cent. lower than in 1934, but 2 per cent. higher than in 1933. The rise, which began at the end of 1933 and was maintained during 1934, has thus been checked. The general index, which was 98 in January, fell steadily to 80 in August, rose to 86 in October, and fell to 82 in December.

All feeding stuffs shared in the decline between January and August, maize being most affected, the index falling from 87 to 65. Not all commodities, however, shared in the rise between August and September, for barley and oats continued to fall. Average prices of feeding stuffs in 1935 and similar figures for previous years are given in the accompanying table.

*Prices per ton of Feeding Stuffs, 1927–9 and 1931–5**

	1927–9	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Barley, imported	9 16	5 1	6 9	5 3	6 0	5 12
Oats, imported	9 14	6 2	7 1	5 16	6 17	7 2
Maize (Argentine)	9 0	4 5	4 16	4 9	5 1	4 8
Milling offals:						
Middlings	8 14	5 17	6 14	5 13	6 2	6 4
Bran (British)	7 17	5 10	6 7	5 10	5 19	6 0
Oilcakes:						
Linseed Cake (English)	12 11	8 11	8 7	8 10	9 1	8 10
Cottonseed cake (English)	7 18	5 8	5 11	5 11	4 16	4 17
Cottonseed cake (Egyptian)	7 9	4 16	5 2	5 1	4 9	4 8
Grains, dried ale	8 3	4 14	5 15	5 0	5 1	5 4
Maize meal	10 3	5 9	5 17	5 7	5 19	5 7
Barley meal	10 18	6 7	7 10	6 3	6 14	6 10

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Barley, maize, linseed cake, cottonseed cake (Egyptian), maize meal, and barley meal were cheaper than in 1934, while oats, milling offals, cottonseed cake (English), British bran, and brewers' grains were dearer.

The hay crop in England and Wales was estimated at

6,633,000 tons, compared with 5,705,000 tons in 1934. In Scotland the output, 949,000 tons, was practically the same as in the previous year. The output was, however, 7·6 per cent. less than the average for the ten years 1924–33. Stocks on farms on 1 January 1936, as estimated by the Ministry of Agriculture, were 4,431,000 tons, some 672,000 tons more than a year before.

The prices of both clover and meadow hay were higher. Nevertheless, first quality clover hay, after fetching 118*s.* 6*d.* per ton in January and 120*s.* in February, fell steadily until November and closed at 101*s.* in December. The average for the year was 114*s.* Meadow hay fell steadily from 103*s.* 6*d.* in January to 76*s.* in December, averaging 94*s.* Prices at the beginning of 1935 were, however, exceptionally high owing to the light 1934 crop.

*Wholesale Prices per ton of First Quality Hay and Straw, 1927–9 to 1935**

	Hay (trussed)		*Straw (baled)*	
	Clover	*Meadow*	*Wheat*	*Oat*
	s. *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*	*s.* *d.*
1927–9	125 0	109 6	62 0	65 6
1930	124 0	110 0	66 6	72 6
1931	90 0	78 6	60 0	62 6
1932	75 6	65 6	50 6	52 0
1933	83 6	66 0	44 0	45 0
1934	108 6	84 0	41 0	46 6
1935	114 0	94 0	38 6	52 0

* From *Agricultural Statistics* and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Straw stocks on farms in England and Wales on 1 January 1936 were estimated at 2,384,000 tons, a decrease of 154,000 tons, or 6 per cent., on the previous year. The price of wheat straw fell still further during 1935. Beginning at 41*s.* per ton in January, it dropped to 34*s.* in October and then rose to 35*s.* 6*d.* in December, the average for the year being 38*s.* 6*d.*,

or 2*s*. 6*d*. less than in 1934. The downward trend in the price of wheat straw has been continuous since 1927–9.

Oat straw averaged 52*s*. per ton, or 5*s*. more than in 1934. Rising from 52*s*. 6*d*. in January to 55*s*. in May and June it had fallen to 47*s*. 6*d*. by December.

VII. STATISTICS

A. CROPS AND GRASS

LAYING land down to grass has come to be regarded as an inevitable feature of British agriculture. The statistics of the year 1935 are notable, therefore, so far as England and Wales is concerned, for the arable area increased at the expense of permanent grass. Whether this is the forerunner of a more extensive movement, or merely a temporary phase, it is, of course, impossible to say; excluding the exceptional period of the Great War, a temporary rise in the arable area accompanied by a decline in permanent grass has occurred only twice for very many years, namely, in 1912 and in 1897. Contrary to the trend of recent years, the area of rough grazings showed a small decrease. Other important features of the statistics for 1935 were the further rise of the wheat acreage, although less than in the years 1933 and 1934; a sharp break in the acreage of barley occurring after a recovery in the previous year; a small rise after several years of decline in the acreage of oats; a fall in the potato and sugar-beet areas; a further decline in turnips and swedes; a marked increase in the acreage of cabbage, &c.; an increase in temporary grasses, both for hay and for grazing, and in 'other crops'; and finally, a sharp fall in the area of bare fallow.

The area of *arable land* in Great Britain, which had declined continuously since 1918, rose by 139,569 acres (1·1 per cent.). The increase was 148,236 acres (1·6 per cent.) in England, but in Scotland the area fell by 8,667 acres (0·3 per cent.). The area of *permanent grass* declined by 215,233 acres (1·2 per cent.). There was actually a slight increase of 6,774 acres (0·4 per cent.) in Scotland, so that the decline in England and Wales was 222,001 acres (1·4 per cent.). This decline in England and Wales continues from the previous year, but the

increase of grassland in Scotland has proceeded with but one interruption, in 1932, since 1919.

The acreage of *wheat* rose by 16,001 acres (0.9 per cent.), thus continuing the increase recorded since 1931. The rise, which occurred both in England and Wales and Scotland, was smaller than in the preceding three years. The acreage in Great Britain is now 626,300 or slightly more than 50 per cent. above the last low point of 1,246,700 acres in 1931.

In 1934 the acreage of *barley* in Great Britain had shown a recovery from the remarkably low level to which it had fallen in 1933, but this recovery was not maintained in 1935 and there was a serious decline of 88,682 acres (9·3 per cent.). In England and Wales the fall was 68,945 acres (8·0 per cent.) and in Scotland 19,737 acres (20·5 per cent.).

Oats showed an increase of 27,021 acres (1·2 per cent.). Both England and Wales and Scotland contributed to the increase in about the same proportions. For Great Britain this is the first increase since 1929.

The *total corn crops* area in Great Britain, including wheat, barley, oats, mixed corn, rye, beans and peas, declined by 52,430 acres (0·99 per cent.) to 5,396,688 acres. The decline was due largely to the drop in the barley acreage already noted and to a smaller extent to a fall in the acreage of peas and mixed corn.

The last high peak year for *potatoes* was in 1933 when the acreage in Great Britain was 671,400 acres. It fell in 1934, and the fall was continued in 1935 in which the acreage was 594,392, a decline of 33,164 acres (5.3 per cent.), of which 24,762 acres (5·1 per cent.) were in England and Wales and 8,402 acres (6·0 per cent.) in Scotland. The distribution of the potato acreage between early and maincrop potatoes is given for the first time in the *Agricultural Statistics* of 1935, for England and Wales. First earlies amount to 55,100 acres and second earlies and maincrop are 407,600 acres. The corresponding figures for Scotland are first earlies, 16,200

Acreage under Crops and Grass on 4 June: in Thousand Acres

	England and Wales			*Scotland*			*Great Britain*		
	1935	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935*	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935*	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*
	thousand acres	thousand acres	per cent.	thousand acres	thousand acres	per cent.	thousand acres	thousand acres	per cent.
Total acreage under crops and grass*	24,956·7	25,030·5	−0·3	4,598·5	4,600·4	−0·04	29,555·3	29,630·9	−0·3
Arable Land	9,397·9	9,249·6	+1·6	2,982·9	2,991·6	−0·3	12,380·8	12,241·2	+1·1
Permanent grass:									
For hay	4,642·7	4,822·6	−3·7	178·8	180·7	−1·1	4,821·5	5,003·4	−3·6
Not for hay	10,916·2	10,958·2	−0·4	1,436·8	1,428·1	+0·6	12,353·0	12,386·3	−0·3
Total	*15,558·9*	*15,780·9*	*−1·4*	*1,615·6*	*1,608·9*	*+0·4*	*17,174·5*	*17,389·7*	*−1·2*
Rough grazings	5,419·9	5,424·0	−0·1	10,383·1	10,404·5	−0·2	15,803·0	15,828·5	−0·2
Wheat	1,772·3	1,759·4	+0·7	100·7	97·6	+3·2	1,873·1	1,857·1	+0·9
Barley	791·6	860·6	−8·0	76·5	96·2	−20·5	868·2	956·8	−9·3
Oats	1,418·6	1,402·0	+1·2	826·9	816·5	+1·3	2,245·5	2,218·5	+1·2
Mixed corn	93·9	96·4	−2·6	1·9	2·1	−10·2	95·8	98·5	−2·8
Rye	20·5	17·5	+16·8	2·7	2·7	−0·4	23·1	20·2	+14·5
Beans	154·0†	151·9	+1·4	3·2	2·6	+23·8	157·2	154·4	+1·8
Peas	133·0‡	143·0	−7·0	0·8	0·5	+50·3	133·7	143·5	−6·8
Potatoes	462·8§	487·5	−5·1	131·6	140·0	−6·0	594·4	627·5	−5·3
Turnips and swedes	497·6	520·4	−4·4	352·2	353·9	−0·5	849·8	874·3	−2·8
Mangolds	251·0	246·4	+1·9	2·4	1·7	+38·6	253·4	248·1	+2·1

Sugar beet	367·3	396·3	−7·3	7·4	7·5	−1·2	374·7	403·9	−7·2
Cabbage, savoys, and kale for fodder, kohl rabi and rape	169·6	136·9	+23·9	17·1	15·7	+8·9	186·7	152·6	+22·3
Vetches or tares	53·8	52·6	+2·3	7·5	8·4	−11·4	61·3	61·1	+0·4
Lucerne¶	36·0	34·2	+5·1	..	..	..	36·0	34·2	+5·1
Hops	18·2	18·0	+1·2	..	..	..	18·2	18·0	+1·2
Small fruit**	59·5	61·0	−2·5	9·5	9·6	−0·2	69·0	70·6	−2·2
Orchards**	262·4	254·9	+2·9	1·2	1·1	+3·3	263·5	256·0	+2·9
Clover, sainfoin, and grasses under rotation:									
For hay	1,388·6	1,289·6	+7·7	396·4	393·8	+0·7	1,785·0	1,683·4	+6·0
Not for hay	945·4	783·2	+20·7	1,024·0	1,022·9	+0·1	1,969·5	1,806·1	+9·0
Total	*2,334·0*	*2,072·8*	*+12·6*	*1,420·4*	*1,416·7*	*+0·3*	*3,754·5*	*3,489·5*	*+7·6*
Other crops	236·3	222·5	+6·2	8·0	6·9	+16·7	244·3	229·4	+6·5
Bare fallow	287·7	339·9	−15·4	13·9	12·7	+9·3	301·6	352·7	−14·5

* Not including rough grazings.

† Including beans for market or canning, 20,700 acres.

‡ Including peas for canning or packeting, green or dried, 26,902 acres; and green peas for market, 63,626 acres.

§ In England and Wales, first earlies, 55,100 acres; maincrop, including second earlies, 407,600 acres. In Scotland, first earlies, 16,200 acres; second earlies, 12,700 acres; maincrop, 83,900 acres; and undefined, 19,200 acres.

‖ Turnips for stock feeding or seed, 199,000 acres; swedes for stock feeding or seed, 276,300 acres; and turnips and swedes for human consumption, 22,100 acres.

¶ In Scotland included under 'other crops'.

** Including small fruit in orchards.

acres; second earlies, 12,700 acres; maincrops, 83,900 acres; and the remainder, approximately 19,000 acres, is unspecified.

The record acreage of sugar beet in 1934, 403,884 acres, was not maintained in 1935. This may be attributed to the limitations imposed by the Government on the acreage of sugar beet the produce of which would be eligible for subsidy. The fall was 29,131 acres (7·2 per cent.), almost all of which was in England and Wales.

Among the fodder roots and forage crops *turnips and swedes* declined. In England and Wales the fall was 22,753 acres (4·4 per cent.) and it continued the severe decline recorded now for many years, and a new low record was thus established. In Scotland the acreage fell by 1,769 acres (0·5 per cent.), after small increases in the two previous years. A division of the turnips and swedes area has been made in the *Agricultural Statistics* for England and Wales in 1935. Of the total acreage of 497,638, *turnips for stock feeding and seed* amounted to 199,000 acres, *swedes for stock feeding and seed* to 276,300 acres, and *turnips and swedes for human consumption* to 22,100 acres. The *mangold* acreage continued its rise in both countries. In England and Wales the rise was 4,615 acres (1·9 per cent.), and in Scotland, where the crop is of much less importance, it was 671 acres (38·6 per cent.). *Cabbage, savoys, and kale for fodder, kohl rabi and rape* again showed a substantial increase of 34,080 acres (22·3 per cent.). Both countries showed an increase, but it was proportionately more in England and Wales (23·9 per cent.) than in Scotland (8·9 per cent.). *Vetches and tares* increased slightly in Great Britain; there was a decline in Scotland of 959 acres and a rise in England and Wales of 1,189 acres. The whole of the fodder roots and forage crops area, which had remained almost stationary between 1933 and 1934, decreased in 1935 by about 14,000 acres. In England and Wales the decrease was 13,300 acres; in Scotland there was the small decline of 657 acres.

The area of *bare fallow* again showed a substantial fall in England and Wales of 52,272 acres (15·4 per cent.), following a decline in the previous year of 118,000 acres. In Scotland there was a rise of 1,184 acres (9·3 per cent.) which follows an increase in 1934.

Contrary to the downward movement since 1931 the area of *rotation grasses* increased substantially in Great Britain. There was a gain of 264,978 acres (7·6 per cent.) of which 261,252 acres (12·6 per cent.) was in England and Wales.

The *utilization* of the permanent grass and rotation grass areas shows considerable changes. The area of permanent grass reserved for *hay* was reduced in Great Britain by 181,900 acres (3·6 per cent.), in England and Wales by 179,947 acres and in Scotland by 1,953 acres, but rotation grasses increased by 101,665 acres (6·0 per cent.), in England and Wales by 99,022 acres and in Scotland by 2,643 acres, thus showing a net fall of 80,235 acres. The *grazing* area after declining by

Acreage of Small Fruit: 4 June: 1931, 1933 to 1935

	1931	*1933*	*1934*	*1935*
(*a*) England and Wales:	acres	acres	acres	acres
Strawberries	23,032	23,871	25,481	24,063
Raspberries	6,137	6,456	6,767	5,691
Currants and gooseberries	28,714	24,013	23,597	20,906
Loganberries and cultivated blackberries	*	*	*	2,513
Others, including mixed areas	4,140	5,639	5,188	6,312
Small fruit in orchards	28,006	25,707	24,877	22,411
	90,029	85,686	85,910	81,896
(*b*) Scotland:				
Strawberries	2,118	1,760	2,004	2,064
Raspberries	4,581	5,408	6,173	6,174
Currants and gooseberries	1,110	997	952	902
Others, including mixed areas	353	417	434	411
	8,162	8,582	9,563	9,551

* Not specified.

377,100 acres (284,400 acres from permanent grass and 92,700 acres from rotation grasses) in 1934, increased by 129,980 acres in 1935. There was again a decline in the grazing area of permanent grass of 33,333 acres (0·3 per cent.), made up of a loss of 42,060 acres in England and Wales and a gain of 8,727 acres in Scotland. The gain in the total area of grazing came therefore from the rotation grasses, which rose by 163,313 acres (9·0 per cent.), and almost all of this was in England and Wales.

Acreage of Certain Vegetable Crops: 4 June: 1931, 1933 to 1935

	1931	*1933*	*1934*	*1935**
(*a*) England and Wales:	acres	acres	acres	acres
Carrots	9,430	12,868	16,432	15,750
Onions	1,534	1,941	2,099	1,704
Cabbage, &c., for human consumption	35,702	33,101	36,981	37,520
Brussel sprouts	35,580	35,890	34,048	34,083
Cauliflower or broccoli	15,783	20,695	20,107	19,538
Celery	7,310	7,348	7,510	6,350
Rhubarb	7,843	8,175	8,233	7,547
Beans picked green	13,218†	14,281†	16,833†	20,678‡
Peas picked green	57,445†	63,671†	74,363†	26,902§ 63,626‖
	183,845	197,970	216,606	233,698
(*b*) Scotland:				
Carrots	353	574	1,009	666
Onions	142	151	180	132
Rhubarb	843	866	895	946
	1,338	1,591	2,084	1,744

* Provisional. In addition to the crops listed 22,100 acres of turnips and swedes are grown for human consumption.

† Including a proportion cut green for fodder. These crops are included under 'peas' and 'beans' respectively in the main table on pages 292 and 293, and not under 'other crops'.

‡ Beans for market or canning.

§ Peas for canning or packeting green or dried.

‖ Green peas for market.

Since 1932 the acreage of hops has risen, and 1935 saw an increase over 1934 of 214 acres (1·2 per cent.).

The acreage of *Small fruit* fell by 2·2 per cent., but in the *Orchards* acreage another increase is reported, of 2·9 per cent. (See Table, p. 293.)

'*Other crops*', which includes the market gardening crops, show an increase of 14,924 acres (6·5 per cent.), both countries contributing, although it was proportionately more in Scotland (16·7 per cent.) than in England and Wales (6·2 per cent.). The area under the chief market gardening crops for the years 1931 and 1933 to 1935 is shown in Table, p. 296.

B. LIVE STOCK

The principal feature of live-stock statistics in Great Britain in 1935 was the very large increase in the number of pigs, bringing them to a new record. The number of 'horses used for agriculture' continued to decline. Dairy stock rose to a new record number, but there was another sharp fall in 'other cattle under one year', and a rise in the number of sheep after two years of decline. There was also a sharp drop in the number of fowls, which is significant as marking the end of a long period of annual increase.

Horses.

Again there was a fall in the total number of horses on agricultural holdings in Great Britain, amounting to 12,774 (1·2 per cent.). In 1934 the fall was due to a decline in the number of horses used in farm work, whereas in 1935 there was also a decline in 'other horses on agricultural holdings'. *Horses used for agriculture* fell by 11,389 (1·6 per cent.); England and Wales 1·7 per cent., and Scotland 1·3 per cent. The revival of horse breeding which started in 1930 was again in evidence, and the number of *stallions being used for service* showed the large increase of 1,971 (34·4 per cent.),

though it was confined almost entirely to England and Wales. *Unbroken horses, one year and above* and *under one year* also increased, the former by 4,976 (5·1 per cent.) and the latter by 3,401 (6·8 per cent.), both countries showing increases.

Cattle.

For the first time since 1930 there was a reduction in the total number of cattle, which was 7,859,638, or 113,713 (1·4 per cent.) less than in 1934. This decline was confined entirely to England and Wales (1·8 per cent.), Scotland showing a slight increase of 5,298 (0·4 per cent.). An increase was again recorded in the *dairy herd*, the number reaching a new maximum figure. Including in the dairy herd the first three categories shown in the table on page 299, the numbers in England and Wales were 3,051,168 in 1935, an increase of 56,007 (1·9 per cent.). Scotland, with 497,238 head, showed a small increase of 1,011 (0·2 per cent.). In Great Britain the increase in the number of cows and heifers in milk and in calf was rather less than in 1934, but heifers-in-calf showed a much larger rise than in the previous year. There was a decline in the number of *bulls being used for service* of 10,947 (9·6 per cent.), the whole of which occurred in England and Wales.

Other cattle, two years and above fell by 21,083 (2·2 per cent.) in England and Wales, while there was a rise of 2,916 (1·5 per cent.) in Scotland, the net loss in Great Britain being 18,167 (1·6 per cent.). Thus the rise of 1934 was not maintained.

Other cattle, one year and under two, which had risen in both countries in 1934, showed the considerable drop in 1935 of 49,998 (3·0 per cent.). As there was a slight rise (1·6 per cent.) in Scotland the loss was all in England and Wales, where the numbers fell by 55,342 (4·0 per cent.). A sharp decline in the number of *other cattle, under one year* in Eng-

Numbers of Live Stock on 4 June: in Thousands

	England and Wales			*Scotland*			*Great Britain*		
	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*
	Thousands	Thousands	per cent.	Thousands	Thousands	per cent.	Thousands	Thousands	per cent.
Horses used for agriculture	586 4	596 3	− 1·7	110·6	112·0	− 1 3	697 0	708 3	− 1·6
Stallions being used for service	7·2	5 3	+37 0	0·5†	0 5‡	+ 5 6	7·7	5 7	+34·4
Unbroken horses:									
One year and above	86·5	82 5	+ 4 9	15 5	14 5	+ 6 4	102 0	97 0	+ 5·1
Under one year	47·0	43 8	+ 7 4	6 1	6 0	+ 2 4	53·2	49 8	+ 6·8
Other horses on agricultural holdings	146 7	157 7	− 7 0	14 3	15 0	− 4 7	161 0	172 8	− 6·8
Total of horses	873 9	885 6	− 1 3	147 0	148 1	− 0 7	1,020 8	1,033 6	− 1·2
Cows and heifers in milk	2,232 1	2,213 9	+ 0 8	370 8	368 9	+ 0·5	2,602 9	2,582 8	+ 0·8
Cows in calf but not in milk	382 2	363 9	+ 5 0	55 8	55·4	+ 0 7	438·1	419 3	+ 4 5
Heifers in calf	436·8	417 3	+ 4 7	70 6	72 0	− 1 8	507·5	489 2	+ 3·7
Bulls being used for service	85 8	96 8	−11·3	17 6	17 6	..	103 4	114·4	− 9 6
Other cattle:									
Two years and above	923 5	944 6	− 2 2	195 2	192·3	+ 1 5	1,118 7	1,136 9	− 1.6
One year and under two	1,313 7	1,369 1	− 4 0	329 7	324 4	+ 1 6	1,643 5	1,693·5	− 3 0
Under one year	1,166·9	1,254 6	− 7 0	278 7	282 7	− 1 4	1,445 6	1,537 2	− 6·0
Total of cattle	6,541·1	6,660 2	− 1 8	1,318 5	1,313 2	+ 0 4	7,859 6	7,973 3	− 1·4
Ewes kept for breeding	7,124 7	7,308 4	− 2 5	3,340 7	3,354 4	− 0 4	10,465 3	10 662 7	− 1·9
Rams and ram lambs to be used for service	225 7	218 2	+ 3 5	96 1	96 8	− 0 7	321 9	315 0	+ 2 2
Other Sheep:									
One year and above	1,531 2	1,484 4	+ 3 2	941 6	924 6	+ 1 8	2,472 8	2,409 0	+ 2·6
Under one year	7,595 4	7,516 1	+ 1 1	3,388 1	3,279 7	+ 3 3	10,983 5	10,795 7	+ 1·7
Total of sheep	16,477 0	16,527·0	− 0 3	7,766 4	7,655 5	+ 1 4	24,243 4	24,182 5	+ 0·3
Sows kept for breeding	494 3	450 4	+ 9 8	32 0	28 3	+13 0	526 3	478 7	+10 0
Boars being used for service	39 6	30 8	+28 4	3 1	2 8	+ 7 9	42 6	33·7	+26·7
Other pigs	3,279 5	2,839 0	+15 5	225 2	175 1	+28 6	3,504·6	3,014 1	+16·3
Total of pigs	3,813 4	3,320 2	+14 9	260 2	206 3	+26 1	4,073 6	3,526·4	+15·5

* Provisional. † 507. ‡ 480.

land and Wales in 1934, was followed by a greater decline, 87,646 (7·0 per cent.), in 1935, and as there was also a loss of 3,973 (1·4 per cent.) in Scotland, against a gain in 1934, the total decline for Great Britain was 91,617 (6·0 per cent.).

The stocks of *sheep* in Great Britain showed a small gain of 60,897 (0·3 per cent.). *Ewes kept for breeding* fell in both countries, by 183,683 (2·5 per cent.) in England and Wales and by 13,709 (0·4 per cent.) in Scotland. This followed a fall of rather less than half a million in 1934. A feature of post-war statistics has been the severe decline in the numbers of *Other sheep, one year and above*. In 1935, however, there was a rise in this class of 63,770 (2·6 per cent.), 46,807 in England and Wales and 16,913 in Scotland. *Other sheep, under one year*, rose by 79,297 (1·1 per cent.) in England and Wales and by 108,429 (3·3 per cent.) in Scotland. In the previous year there was a fall in both countries.

Pigs.

A further considerable expansion occurred in the number of pigs in Great Britain. In 1934 the number then recorded, 3,526,437, was a record. In 1935 the number was just over 4 million, an increase of 15·5 per cent. Both countries contributed to the rise—although it was greater proportionately in Scotland (26·1 per cent.) than in England and Wales (14·9 per cent.)—and all classes of pigs shared in it. In England and Wales, *sows kept for breeding* increased by 9·8 per cent., *boars* by 28·4 per cent., and *other pigs* by 15·5 per cent. In Scotland, the increases were 13·0 per cent., 7·9 per cent., and 28·6 per cent. in each of these classes.

Poultry.

The number of *poultry* decreased in 1935 by 3,375,493 (4·6 per cent.), of which 3,101,574 (4·7 per cent.) was in England and Wales and 273,919 (3·3 per cent.) was in Scotland.

Numbers of Poultry on 4 June: in Thousands

	England and Wales			*Scotland*			*Great Britain*		
	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*	*1935**	*1934*	*Increase + or decrease −*
	No. 000	No. 000	per cent.	No. 000	No. 000	per cent.	No. 000	No. 000	per cent.
Fowls .	58,288 3	61,329 9	− 4 9	7,788 6	8,029 1	− 3 0	66,076 9	69,359 0	− 4 7
Ducks .	2,486 2	2,451 7	+ 1 4	254 7	238 2	+ 6 9	2,740 9	2,689 8	+ 1 9
Geese .	646 5	650·4	− 0 6	23 8	28 6	−16 9	670 2	679 0	− 1 3
Turkeys	697 4	787 9	−11 5	81 6	126 7	−35·6	779 0	914 6	−14 8
	62,118 4	65,219 9	− 4 7	8,148 7	8,422 6	− 3 3	70,267 0	73,642·4	− 4 6

* Provisional.

In 1934 there had been a small increase in the number of *fowls* which was confined to England and Wales, Scotland showing a small decline. The figures for 1935 show a substantial decline, the first after many years of steady annual increase.

Ducks increased in both countries, but their total was still below the figures for 1934. The number of *geese* again fell slightly in England and Wales, and there was a substantial decline of 4,840 (16·8 per cent.) in Scotland. *Turkeys*, which fell in 1934 from a high level in 1933, declined very substantially. Numbers fell by 11·5 per cent. in England and Wales, and by no less than 35·6 per cent. in Scotland.

C. WEATHER AND YIELD OF CROPS

The weather conditions of 1935 are expressed in the following statement from the Meteorological Office.[1]

'The year, 1935, was mild on the whole. The general precipitation was well above the average in Great Britain.

'Among the most notable features were the severe frost and unusual snowfall of mid-May, the warm, sunny, and

[1] Monthly weather report of the Meteorological Office for the year 1935. Vol. lii., No. 13.

mainly very dry period from about 20 June to 22 August, the excessive and frequent rainfall of the three autumn months, the violent gales of 16–18 September and 18–20 October, the severe frost and widespread fog of the period 17–24 December and the floods in many parts of England in the last week of the year.'

England and Wales.

The arable farmer was seriously hindered by unfavourable weather conditions, and on the whole did not have such a good year as in 1934. Autumn-sown crops wintered well, but were checked by cold spells in March and April. Conditions for cultivation were generally good, though in the north little work was possible during February, owing to wet weather. Spring sowing was delayed by rain, except on light soils, and did not become general until the end of March. Except for late sowings, the season was favourable. Corn crops, generally, suffered from the dry, cold weather which persisted during the greater part of May; growth was retarded and plants lost colour. The higher temperatures of late June and July effected a rapid improvement and corn ripened quickly, often before the ears had filled.

The corn harvest, which in some areas commenced towards the end of July with the cutting of winter oats, became general early in August and was practically completed by the end of the month. Weather conditions were ideal and the grain was harvested in good condition. Wheat was high in quality, but a little thin on the lighter soils, the yield being lower than in 1934, though slightly higher than the decennial average. Barley, while of fair quality, was 'steely' and short in the straw in many districts. The yield was slightly above the average, though not quite so good as in the previous year. Oats were of good quality, and though spring oats were light in the grain, the yield was slightly higher than in 1934 and the ten years' average.

Yield of Principal Crops per Acre: England and Wales

Crop	1935*	1934	*Average of the ten years 1925–34*
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Wheat	18·3	19·9	17·7
Barley	16·6	16·9	16·2
Oats	16·1	15·9	15·7
Mixed corn	15·3	16·0	15·7
Beans	†	17·2	16·7
Peas	†	16·3	14·8
Seeds hay	25·9	24·1	27·3
Meadow hay	20·8	17·2	19·7
	tons	tons	tons
Potatoes	6·3	7·1	6·4
Turnips and swedes	9·3	9·0	11·9
Mangolds	18·3	19·2	18·8
Sugar-beet	9·1	10·2	8·6

* Preliminary figures. † Not available.

The harvesting of root crops was very protracted, owing to the wet autumn. Although the unseasonable frosts in May caused less damage to early potatoes than had been anticipated and only a small part of the crop was totally destroyed, the yield was light. Lifting was delayed until July in the hope of some improvement. Main-crop potatoes were little affected by frost, but dry conditions in July and August retarded growth, and although later rains brought about some improvement, tubers were small. Lifting, which in many areas was difficult and prolonged, did not become general until October, and was completed by the end of November. Condition and quality were fairly good, but there are doubts about the keeping-capacity of the tubers; blight and damage by slugs and wireworms was noticed in supplies sent to market. Yields were about average, but were lower than last year.

Fodder roots were poor. They were checked, first by the cold weather of late spring and later by the summer drought, and although early autumn rains made some improvement, yields were below the average. Attacks of mildew were common, particularly on swedes. The yield of turnips and swedes was slightly better than last year, but appreciably below the ten years' average. The lifting of mangolds was delayed by wet weather, but most of the crop had been harvested by the end of November, in many cases in a wet and dirty condition. The quality was good, but roots were smaller than usual and the yield was slightly lower than the average. A large proportion of the sugar beet crop was lifted under very difficult conditions in November. Subsequently work was brought to a complete standstill by the severe frosts and heavy rains which were general during the second half of December, and at the end of the month the harvest had not been completed. Roots were on the small side and the yield was considerably below the record of last year, but slightly higher than the ten years' average. The sugar content at 16·4 per cent. also showed a decrease compared with last year, when it was 17·1 per cent.

Conditions were very unfavourable for autumn cultivation and sowing, particularly on heavy land. Fortunately the early harvest allowed operations to be started sooner than usual, for little work was possible during November except on light soils. Some progress was possible during the first half of December, but at the end of the year work was not so far forward as usual. The protracted sugar-beet harvest delayed, in some places, the sowing of corn. Germination, however, was good and plants appeared strong and healthy except on low-lying land.

The stock farmer was helped by weather conditions which were on the whole more favourable than in 1934. Lambing amongst lowland flocks took place under exceptionally favourable conditions. The fall of lambs was about normal, and

owing to the absence of disease, the mortality of ewes and lambs was less than usual except in south-east England, where cold and stormy conditions increased the losses. Lambing amongst hill flocks in April and May was satisfactory, though weather conditions were not very favourable.

Winter keep, which was none too plentiful, was not drawn upon to any great extent until the last week of February, more stock than usual being kept out during the winter months. Pastures showed signs of growth towards the end of March, though they were somewhat bare in exposed places and where grazed during the winter. Cold winds during April and May checked growth, but cattle and sheep, except in upland districts and on thin soils where keep was short, maintained their condition remarkably well until the end of July, when pastures were very bare and in some districts badly scorched. There was a shortage of grass during August and in some areas also a shortage of water. Milk yields were maintained with difficulty in May and were below normal in July and particularly in August, when hand-feeding was resorted to in some cases.

Until the beginning of June seeds and meadow grass made little growth, but subsequent rains were responsible for rapid bottom growth and cutting was delayed by many farmers in order to secure a heavier crop. The bulk of the hay crop was secured in excellent condition during the last week of June and during July under exceptionally favourable conditions. Where an earlier start had been made considerable interruption was experienced. The yield both of seeds hay and meadow hay was appreciably higher than last year, though only meadow hay was above the decennial average. Very few second cuts were taken.

Pastures improved considerably during September and afforded a bite for stock during the remainder of the year, though their feeding value was low in many districts. Cattle and sheep only did moderately well during November and

December, and hand-feeding was necessary for most stock. Winter keep was drawn upon to a substantial extent during December.

Scotland.

The arable farmer had, on the whole, rather a better year than in 1934, though at times weather conditions were very unfavourable to the work on hand. Autumn-sown wheat wintered well, and conditions early in the year were very favourable for spring cultivation. Periods of heavy rain and high wind during February, March, and early April delayed spring sowing, which was completed by the end of April for wheat and oats and early in May for barley. Corn was adversely affected by the cold, dry conditions which were general during May, but the warm, moist weather of late June effected a rapid recovery. A hot, dry July caused premature ripening of all grain crops, but the harvest was somewhat delayed by rain during the last week of August and particularly by the broken weather of September. Corn remained in stook longer than usual in several districts, and many crops which looked promising were seriously damaged by wind and rain. In some areas grain crops were still in the fields at the end of October. Wheat, in most places, was harvested in good condition by the end of September. The yield was slightly higher than last year and the decennial average. The harvesting of barley and oats was completed during the latter half of September, except in several areas in the north and west and in some hilly districts elsewhere, where it was not concluded until the third week in October. Barley, generally, was a good crop as regards condition and quality, with a slightly better yield than last year, when it approximated the average. Where harvested early, the oat crop was satisfactory, but where harvesting was delayed, crops were badly weathered and in some places spoiled by heavy rain. The yield was better than in 1934, which was an average crop.

Yield of principal crops per acre: Scotland

Crops	1935*	1934	Average of the ten years 1925–34
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.
Wheat	23·5	22·6	21·6
Barley	19·8	18·6	18·3
Oats	16·5	15·8	15·7
Beans	16·1	19·1	18·3
Hay from rotation grass	34·6	34·3	32·9
Hay from permanent grass	24·2	24·7	26·3
Hay from timothy meadows	42·3	43·6	44·3
	tons	tons	tons
Potatoes	6·7	7·3	6·9
Turnips and swedes	16·2	12·9	16·0
Mangolds	21·1	20·6	19·6
Sugar-beet	8·9	9·5	7·8†

* Preliminary figures. † Average of 7 years only.

The condition of last season's potato stocks varied, but generally tubers were found to be fairly sound and healthy except in some eastern and south-eastern districts where they kept badly and disease was prevalent. The mild winter caused sprouting in some areas, particularly in the east. The growth of main-crop potatoes was retarded by the cold, dry conditions of May and the drought of July and August, and subsequent rains were too late to increase bulk. Lifting was seriously hindered by wet and stormy weather, and by the end of October a large area had still to be harvested. The yield was lower than last year but was nearly up to the ten years' average. Turnips and swedes were much improved by late August rains, and with the help of a mild, moist autumn they developed into a better crop than had been anticipated. Lifting was seriously hindered by continuous rain in November and broken weather in December. Consequently, storage work was behind that of a normal year. Turnips, particularly in the north-east, were a good crop of sound quality and

elsewhere crops were above the average. Swedes were a good average crop except in coastal districts. The yield of turnips and swedes was slightly above the average, and very much higher than last year's exceptionally low yield. Mangolds did not suffer so much from the summer drought as turnips and swedes, and in most districts they were a sound crop of good quality and above the average in yield. Lifting and storing were completed in most areas by the end of November, but roots were often rather dirty. The sugar-beet crop was lifted under very wet and difficult conditions, and the yield was lower than last year though it exceeded the seven years' average.

Autumn cultivation and farm work generally were seriously hindered by heavy rains during October and November and by frost in December. At the end of the year wheat sowing in most areas was considerably behindhand.

The stock farmer had a better year than in 1934, though the summer drought and the prolonged period of wet and stormy weather during the last three months of the year was very trying. The lambing season was generally very satisfactory. Ewes, helped by the mild winter and the freshness of the grass, approached lambing in excellent condition. The fall was above the average in most areas, and after being checked by the cold spell of mid-May lambs made good progress.

The mild, open winter allowed farmers to conserve their limited supplies of winter fodder, but by April, supplies, particularly turnips, were getting low. Pastures, however, made good progress until the dry, cold conditions in May caused them to go back. Grass recovered quickly with the warm rains of late June, however, and all classes of stock improved in condition and made satisfactory progress during July, though in some areas maggots were very troublesome to arable sheep.

Haymaking was delayed by the pressure of turnip singling and the hope of a continuance of the rapid growth caused by

the warm, wet weather of the second half of June. The harvest, which was favoured by ideal weather, began towards the end of June in the south and became general in July. The crop was secured in excellent condition. The yield from permanent grass and from timothy meadows was slightly lower than in 1934 and the ten years' average, but the yield from rotation grass slightly exceeded last year and the average.

Prior to the rains of late August, pastures became very dry and bare and stock suffered from scarcity of grass. Dairy cows maintained their condition fairly well, on some farms with the help of hand-feeding, but in several areas milk yields, which had been about normal up to this time, fell off. Grass generally improved during September, but a long period of wet and stormy weather in late autumn prevented full use being made of pastures. Grazing cattle and sheep lost condition and by the beginning of December had been housed for the winter. Milk yields were below normal during October, and in many areas also in November.

Supplies of fodder were reported to be sufficient in practically all districts.

VIII. LABOUR

A. EMPLOYMENT

THE total number of agricultural workers employed in Great Britain on 4 June 1935 was 786,666—the lowest figure recorded since 1921, and a decrease of 14,580 (1·8 per cent.) compared with the previous year. The decrease is less, however, than that which occurred between 1933 and 1934, when it amounted to 26,765. The greater relative decline among regular male workers under 21 years old, as compared with the group 21 years old and over, still continues.

In England and Wales there was a drop of 14,769 (2·1 per cent.) workers, which compares with one of 27,574 in 1934. The fall was more severe, in proportion, among casual male workers 21 years old and over (6·4 per cent.) and among regular and casual women and girl workers (5·9 per cent. and 7·1 per cent. respectively).

A new low level of employment for the post-War period has been reached in many classes. The number of regular male and female workers of all ages in 1935, which amounted to 567,861, compares with 575,808 in 1934, with 650,602 in 1928, and with 685,252 in 1921. The decline in 1935 compared with 1921 is no less than 17·1 per cent., but among the regular male workers under 21 years old and regular female workers included in this group this decline during the period was very severe, being 32·7 per cent. and 31·6 per cent. respectively. In other words there has been less decline among the older regular male workers.

The number of casual male workers is also lower than at any time since 1921. The decline in the class under 21 years old has been particularly large, the number of 1935 representing only 33·7 per cent. of that of 1921.

In Scotland there were about 2,000 more workers in 1934

Agricultural Workers: 1934 and 1935*

	England and Wales			*Scotland*			*Great Britain*		
	1935	*1934*	*Increase+ or decrease−*	*1935*	*1934*	*Increase+ or decrease−*	*1935*	*1934*	*Increase+ or decrease−*
	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.	No.	No.	per cent.
Regular male workers:									
21 years old and over	413,051	415,472	−0·6	60,118	59,166	+1·6	473,169	474,638	−0·3
Under 21 years old .	104,740	107,111	−2·2	19,633	19,567	+0·3	124,373	126,678	−1·8
Total . . .	517,791	522,583	−0·9	79,751	78,733	+1·3	597,542	601,316	−0·6
Casual male workers:									
21 years old and over	67,797	72,425	−6·4	6,825	6,829	−0·1	74,622	79,254	−5 8
Under 21 years old .	9,220	9,245	−0·3	2,978	2,995	−0·6	12,198	12,240	−0·3
Total . . .	77,017	81,670	−5·7	9,803	9,824	−0·2	86,820	91,494	−5·1
Total male workers:									
Regular and casual .	594,808	604,253	−1·6	89,554	88,557	+1 1	684,362	692,810	−1·2
Women and girls:									
Regular workers	50,070	53,225	−5·9	17,816	18,537	−3 9	67,886	71,762	−5·4
Casual workers .	28,325	30,494	−7·1	6,093	6,180	−1·4	34,418	36,674	−6·2
Total . . .	78,395	83,719	−6·4	23,909	24,717	−3·3	102,304	108,436	−5·7
Total workers, all classes . . .	673,203	687,972	−2·1	113,463	113,274	+0 2	786,666	801,246	−1·8

* Excluding the occupier, his wife, and domestic servants.

than in 1932, due largely to an increase in the numbers of casual male workers. In 1935 there was a further slight increase of 189 (0·2 per cent.) in the total workers of all classes. This was accounted for by an increase of 1,018 (1·3 per cent.) in regular male workers, chiefly among those 21 years old and over; all other classes of workers fell, the main decline being of regular women and girl workers, which dropped by 721 (3·9 per cent.).

In Scotland, agricultural employment between 1921 and 1935 has kept much more stable than in England and Wales. Over all classes the decline was 10·6 per cent. in this period. However, the number of regular male workers 21 years old and over has shown very narrow fluctuations year by year, and in 1935 there were actually 1,306 more than in 1921. The bulk of the fall of employment in Scotland is amongst women and girl workers, both regular and casual. The former declined by 18·2 per cent., and the latter by 46·9 per cent.

In England and Wales there is no official information of the conditions of the agricultural labour market for the year 1935. The last available information covers the year to Michaelmas 1934.[1] With the approach of the winter 1933–4 there was again a tendency to reduce staffs to a minimum. This affected casual workers mainly, but there was also some standing-off among regular workers, although the position was rather more favourable than in the previous year. Areas with high unemployment were Essex, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire, Yorkshire, Anglesey and Carnarvon, and Denbigh and Flint. Unemployment appears to have been greatest in the arable areas owing to the fine weather in the autumn of 1933, which enabled work to be pushed forward. In dairying areas the increasing use of machinery was a factor making for unemployment.

[1] Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, *Report of Proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1934, for the year ended 30 September 1934*. H.M. Stationery Office, 1935, 1*s*.

Recovery from winter unemployment was slow, but by the end of June 1934 the majority of idle workers had been absorbed, and by August 1934 all types of workers were employed in many areas.

Temporary workers had a period of unemployment between the corn harvest of 1934—which was expeditiously carried out—and root lifting.

On the whole, the demand for workers was better in 1933–4 than in the previous year. The supply was sufficient for the demand, except for thatchers, and there were some difficulties in getting efficient labourers at the height of the seasonal pressure. Nearly 71,000 workers were engaged through employment exchanges in 1934, compared with 72,000 in the previous year.

In Scotland[1] at the beginning of 1935 it was reported that the number of workers who had failed to secure engagements at the Martinmas hirings was smaller, in practically all districts, than a year previously. This was accounted for in some places by the movement of agricultural workers to the towns. This general improvement was also noticed in June 1935, when, although there were a number of married and single men who had been unable to find employment at recent hirings, they were fewer than in 1934.

Throughout the greater part of the year, however, the supply of labour was ample or sufficient, except that in Dumbarton and Renfrew there was the usual shortage of dairy workers; in North Ayr good men and women milkers were also scarce, and in Berwick, in June, it was stated that there was little or no surplus labour at the recent hirings.

All unemployed workers were absorbed by harvest time, and in many districts, particularly in the north and north-east, casual labourers for the corn harvest were difficult to

[1] Department of Agriculture for Scotland, *Monthly Agricultural Report for 1935*.

obtain. Potato lifters were also reported to be scarce in some of the important potato-growing counties.

At the end of 1935 the general position of regular workers appears to have further improved as there was practically no unemployment among them during December. In Orkney, however, the number of unemployed farm workers was estimated at between 15 and 20 per cent.

B. WAGES

England and Wales.

In the following table are given the *minimum rates of wages for adult male workers* as fixed by Orders of the Agricultural Wages Board made from 5 February 1935 to 17 December 1935, together with a note of the changes effected by the Orders, and for the Wage Committee areas, Yorks. (W.R.) and Stafford, where no Orders were made, the minimum rate imposed by the last Order made by the Board prior to this period.

All the changes made in wage rates were upward, and they were fairly widespread, thus reflecting a further general improvement in the agricultural situation. Particularly was this so in the Eastern, West Midland, and South-Eastern areas. The following table shows the character of the changes enforced by Orders made by the Wages Board during 1935 compared with the previous year.

There were changes in 35 out of 49 areas. Increases in the weekly rates of adult male workers occurred in 29 areas and varied from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* In Monmouth there was an increase in the weekly rate of 2*s.* for the summer of 1935, but a later Order reduced it by 1*s.* for the winter period ending 15 March 1936. The only areas in which the minimum rates of wages were less than 30*s.* per week at the end of 1935 were Durham (29*s.*) and Merioneth and Montgomery (28*s.* 6*d.*).

England and Wales: Minimum Rates of Wages of Adult Male Workers

Agricultural Divisions and Wage Committee Areas	*Period of Order*	*Wages*	*Summer and Winter Hours*	*Weekday and Sunday Overtime*	*Changes during the year*
			S. W.	W. S.	
Northern:		*s. d.*		*d. d.*	
Northumberland	13.5.35–13.5.36	*31* 6	52½ 48	9 11	+1/-
Durham	14.5.35–13.5.36	29 0	50 50	8 9	nil
Yorks: N.R.	24.11.35–23.11.36	*33* 0	52½ 50	9 11	+6*d.*
W.R.	24.6.34–	33 9	52½ 48	10½ 12¼	nil
North-Western:					
Cumberland and Westmorland	8.6.35–30.5.36	*32* 6 *31* 0	54 48	8½ 8½	+1/-
Lancaster: South	1.5.35–30.4.36	*32* 9	50 50	9 *13*½	+9*d.*; +4½*d.* S.
North and East	1.5.35–30.4.36	*36* 6	60 60	9 *13*½	+1/-; +4½*d.* S.
Chester	1.11.35–31.10.36	32 6	54 54	8½ 8½	nil
Derby	26.12.35–25.12.36	36 0	54 54	.. 10	nil
Stafford	25.11.34–	31 6	54 54	9 9	nil
North-Eastern:					
Yorks: E.R.	9.6.35–23.11.35	33 6	52½ 48	10 12	nil
	24.11.35–23.11.36	33 6	52½ 48	10 12	nil
Lincoln: Holland	14.4.35–26.10.35	*34* 0	50	9 *13*½ Sat. 10½	+1/-
	27.10.35–24.10.36	34 0	50 48	9 *13*½ Sat. 10½	nil.
Kesteven and Lindsey	4.3.35–1.3.36	*31* 0	51 48	9 11	+1/-
Norfolk	29.12.35–26.12.36	31 6	50 48	9 11	nil

Agricultural Divisions and Wage Committee Areas	*Period of Order*	*Wages*	*Summer and Winter Hours*		*Weekday and Sunday Overtime*		*Changes during the year*
			S.	W.	W.	S.	
Eastern:		*s. d.*			*d.*	*d.*	
Cambridge and Isle of Ely	1.3.35–29.2.36	*31 6*	50	48	9	11	+1/-
Suffolk	9.6.35–31.3.36	*31 0*	50	48	9	9	+1/-
Bedford and Huntingdon	24.2.35–22.2.36	*31 6*	50	48	9¼	11¼	+1/-; +¼*d.*
Hertford	31.3.35–	*32 0*	48	48	*8* Sat. 10	*8*	+1/-; +¼*d.*
Essex	24.3.35–11.4.36	*31 0*	50	48	9¼	10¼	+1/-; +¼*d.*
Middlesex	3.3.35–29.2.36	34 4½ 33 0	50 ..	.. 48	10¼	10¼	nil
East Midland:							
Nottingham	14.4.35–	32 0	*50*	50	9½	11½	−2½ hrs. S.
Leicester	14.4.35–	33 0	54	54	9	11	nil
Rutland	14.4.35–	31 6	54	51½	9	11	−2½ hrs. W.
Warwick	31.3.35–	30 0	*50*	48	8½	8½	−2 hrs. S.; +½*d.*
Northampton and Soke of Peterborough	28.4.35–25.4.36	*31 6*	50	48	9	11	+1'6
Oxford	4.3.35–1.3.36	*31 6*	50	48	9½	11½	+1'6; +½*d.*
Buckingham	28.4.35–25.4.36	*32 0*	50	48	9	11	+1 -
West Midland:							
Salop	29.9.35–	*32 0*	54	54	9	10	+1/-
Hereford	1.5.35–30.4.36	*31 0*	54	48	9	*10*	+1/-; +1*d.* S.
Worcester	4.3.35–1.3.36	*31 0*	53½	48	9	9	+1/-; +1*d.*
Gloucester	6.10.35–4.10.36	*31 0*	50	48	9	11	+1/-
Wiltshire	29.12.35–26.12.36	31 0	50	50	9	*10*	+1*d.* W.; +2*d.* S.

South-Western:					
Somerset	31.3.35–28.3.36	*32 6*	52 50	9 9	+1/-
Dorset	8.12.35–30.6.36	31 6	53½ 48	8 8	nil
Devon	24.3.35–21.3.36	*32 6*	52 50	8½ 10	+6*d.*
Cornwall	22.12.35–19.12.36	32 0	51 51	9 10	nil
South-Eastern:					
Berkshire	29.12.35–26.12.36	*31 0*	50 *50*	9 9	+1/-; +2 hrs. W.;+½*d.*
Hampshire and Isle of Wight	3.3.35–28.12.35	*31 0*	*51* 48	8 8	+6*d.*; −2½ hrs. S.
	29.12.35–26.12.36	31 0	51 48	9 9	+1*d.*
Surrey	22.12.35–19.12.36	32 3	50 50	9 11	nil
Kent	31.3.35–28.3.36	*33 0*	52 48	9 10	+6*d.*
Sussex	15.4.35–5.4.36	*32 0*	52 48	9 10½	+1/-
North Wales:					
Anglesey and Carnarvon	1.12.35–	*31 0*	50 50	9 9	+6*d.*
Denbigh and Flint	16.2.35–15.2.36	30 6	*50 48*	9 9	−4 hrs. S., − 2 hrs. W.
	16.2.36–15.2.37	30 6	50 48	9 9	nil
Merioneth and Montgomery	1.5.35–30.4.36	*28 6*	54 54	9 9	+1/6
South Wales:					
Pembroke and Cardigan	1.10.35–30.9.36	*31 0*	54 52	8 8	+6*d.*
Radnor and Brecon	1.5.35–31.10.35	30 0	54 50	9 9	nil
	1.11.35–30.4.36	30 0	54 50	9 9	nil
Carmarthen	15.11.35–14.11.36	31 6	54 54	8½ 8½	nil
Glamorgan	2.3.35–1.3.36	33 6	52 48	9 10	nil
Monmouth	16.3.35–15.9.35	*33 0*	54 ..	9½ 11½	+2/-
	16.9.35–15.3.36	*32 0*	54 50	9½ 11½	−1/-

This table is compiled from the *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.* Changes are shown in italics.

Changes in Wage Rates in 1934 and 1935 of Adult Male Workers

Character of change	No. of areas	
	1935*	1934†
Increase in weekly minimum wages only	19	18
Increase in weekly minimum wages and reduction of hours	1	4
Increase in weekly minimum wages and increase in overtime rate	8	4
Increase in weekly minimum wages, reduction of hours, and increase in overtime rates	..	1
Increase in weekly minimum wages, increase in hours, and increase in overtime rates	1	..
Reduction of hours only	3	4
Reduction of hours and increase in overtime rates	1	2
Increase in overtime rates only	2	2
No change	14‡	14
	49	49

* Orders made at 11 meetings of the Wages Board which took place from 5 February 1935 to 17 December 1935.

† Orders made at 15 meetings of the Wages Board which took place from 12 December 1933 to 21 December 1934.

‡ In Carmarthen 54 hours are worked in a six-day instead of a seven-day week.

The reduction of hours to which the minimum rates applied varied from 2 to 4 per week. These affected 5 areas, the summer hours being reduced in 3, the summer and winter hours in 1, and the winter hours in 1. In Berkshire there was an *increase* of 2 hours per week in the winter hours, but this was accompanied by a 1*s.* increase in the weekly rate and a ½*d.* increase in the overtime rate both for weekday and Sunday.

There were increases in overtime rates, both weekday and Sunday, in 9 areas, and for Sunday only in 3 areas.

Fewer changes were made in the rates for *adult women workers*. In Buckinghamshire, Northamptonshire, and Oxfordshire minimum wage rates were increased by ½*d.* to 6½*d.* per hour, in Essex by ½*d.* to 6*d.* per hour, in Herefordshire by

½*d.* to 5*d.* per hour, and in Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire by ¼*d.* to 6¼*d.* per hour. In Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire there was an increase in the weekday and Sunday overtime rates of ¼*d.* in each county, and a similar increase of ½*d.* in Oxfordshire. The minimum weekly rate in Hertfordshire was increased by 1*s.* to 25*s.* per week of 48 hours, while a flat minimum rate of 6*d.* per hour for all workers of 18 years and over was made in Devon, where previously there had been a graduated scale of rates varying from 4½*d.* to 5½*d.* per hour, according to the age of the worker. Elsewhere rates were unchanged. In Carmarthenshire the overtime rate of 6*d.* per hour was extended to include Sundays.

There were rises of from 6*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* in the weekly wage rates of *skilled workers—stockmen, horsemen, and shepherds*— in 14 areas.

A report issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries summarizing the proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act of 1924 for the year ended 30 September 1934 shows that during this period the average of the weekly minimum rates for ordinary adult male workers rose from 30*s.* 7½*d.* to 30*s.* 11*d.* By 31 March 1935 the average had reached 31*s.* 8½*d.*, slightly more than the figure (31*s.* 8*d.*) at which it stood before the cuts which occurred subsequently to June 1931.[1] According to the table on pages 315–17, the average weekly minimum wage at the end of 1935 was approximately 31*s.* 10½*d.*

The same report gives an estimate, obtained from reports of investigations made by Inspectors for the enforcement of the Act, of the wages actually paid on a number of farms throughout the country to various classes of agricultural workers in the years 1929–30 to 1933–4. These are given in the following table.

[1] Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: *Report of Proceedings under the Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act, 1934, for the year ended 30 September 1934.* H.M. Stationery Office, 1935, 1*s.*

Estimate of Average Earnings of Agricultural Workers

	*Ordinary workers**		*Horsemen*		*Stockmen*	
	No. of workers	*Weekly earnings*	*No. of workers*	*Weekly earnings*	*No. of workers*	*Weekly earnings*
		s. d.		*s. d.*		*s. d.*
1929–30	..	33 6	..	37 5	..	39 2
1930–1	..	33 11	..	37 4	..	39 5
1931–2	3,236	33 4	1,317	37 3	1,188	38 11
1932–3	2,922	32 8	1,108	36 6	1,133	38 6
1933–4	2,493	32 7	879	36 7	910	38 9

* Adult male workers of 21 years of age and over.

Scotland.

The Agricultural Wages (Regulation) Act of 1924 does not apply to Scotland, where, in practically all districts, wages are fixed by private contract between farmers and workers. The estimated weekly remuneration (cash and allowances) of married orramen for the Whitsunday and Martinmas terms 1935 and for the Martinmas term 1934 is given in the table on page 321. The figures cannot be compared with the minimum rates applicable to adult male workers in England and Wales as, firstly, the occupations are not exactly comparable; secondly, the hours worked in Scotland are not known; thirdly, the figure for orramen represents 'estimated weekly remuneration' paid to the largest proportion of the employees of this class, while for England and Wales the figures are minimum rates; and, fourthly, the period of engagement in Scotland is longer than that which is usual in England and Wales.

Comparing Martinmas 1934 and Whitsunday 1935, weekly remuneration rose in 7 counties or county districts: by 4*d.* in Angus, N.E., and Aberdeenshire, N.W.; by 5*d.* in Aberdeenshire, N.E., Roxburghshire, and Selkirkshire; by 9*d.* in Ayrshire, N.; and by 2*s.* 3*d.* in Banffshire, N.E. In as many as 20 counties or county districts weekly remuneration fell:

*Scotland: Estimated Weekly Remuneration of Married Orramen**

County or District	1935 Martinmas	1935 Whitsunday	1934 Martinmas
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
North and North-Western Division:			
Zetland	..	..	..
Orkney	†26 4	†26 4	†27 6
Caithness	..	..	..
Sutherland	..	..	..
Ross—mainland	18 6	18 6	18 6
Inverness—mainland	26 11	26 11	28 1
North-Eastern Division:			
Nairn	26 11	26 11	28 1
Moray	28 1	27 4	27 9
Banff: N.E.	†27 10	†28 7	†26 4
S.W.	28 1	26 7	27 0
Aberdeen: N.W.	†28 7	†27 10	†27 6
S.W.	†30 2	†29 5	†29 5
Central	29 3	29 3	29 7
N.E.	†27 1	†27 1	†26 8
East	†30 11	†29 5	†29 5
Kincardine	31 1	30 8	31 1
East-Central Division:			
Angus: N.E.	35 3	35 3	34 11
S.W.	34 3	33 9	34 2
Perth: N. and E.	29 2	†28 2	†28 3
Central	30 8	30 8	31 1
S.W.	†24 0	†24 0	†24 0
S.E.	32 1	32 6	32 11
Fife: N.E.	31 7	31 7	31 11
S.W.	25 0	25 0	25 0
Clackmannan	..	..	..
Kinross	†30 4	†30 4	†30 4
South-Eastern Division:			
East Lothian	33 3	33 3	33 5
West Lothian	31 8	31 8	31 9
Mid-Lothian	31 11	31 11	32 1
Berwick	29 0	29 0	29 0
Roxburgh	33 2	33 2	32 9
Selkirk	33 2	33 2	32 9
Peebles	32 4	32 4	32 7
Western and South-Western Division:			
Argyll: N.	33 9	33 9	33 9
Cowal	†27 1	†27 1	†27 10
Mid	30 0	30 0	30 0
Islay and Jura	..	..	..
Kintyre	30 0	30 0	30 0
Bute and Arran	..	..	..
Dumbarton	36 0	36 0	36 0
Stirling	39 0	39 0	39 0
Lanark: N.W.	33 10	33 10	34 0
S.E.	28 10	28 10	29 0
Renfrew	36 0	36 0	36 0
Ayr: N.	34 9	34 9	34 0
S.	33 4	32 4	32 4
Dumfries	34 11	34 11	35 1
Kirkcudbright	..	..	..
Wigtown	..	..	..

* Supplement to the *Monthly Agricultural Report* of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland, 1 January 1936, 1 July 1935, and 1 January 1935. † Single men.

by 4*d.* or under in 10 cases; by 5*d.* in Moray, Banffshire, S.W., Kincardineshire, Angus, S.W., Perthshire, C. and S.E.; by 9*d.* in Cowal; and by 1*s.* 2*d.* in Orkney, Inverness-shire—mainland, and Nairnshire. Remuneration remained the same in 14 counties, and in 8 counties comparison was not possible. The comparison between Whitsunday and Martinmas 1935 shows that the weekly remuneration rose in 9 counties or county districts: by 5*d.* in Kincardineshire; by 6*d.* in Angus, S.W.; by 9*d.* in Aberdeenshire, N.W. and S.W., and Moray; by 1*s.* in Perthshire, N. and E., and Ayrshire, S.; and by 1*s.* 6*d.* in Banffshire, S.W., and Aberdeenshire, E. There was a fall of 5*d.* in Perthshire, S.E., and 9*d.* in Banffshire, N.E., while in 30 counties remuneration remained the same, and in 8 counties no comparison was possible.

Comparing Martinmas 1935 with Martinmas 1934, there were rises in 14 counties or county districts, and with the exception of Ayrshire (N. and S.) most of these were in the North-Eastern and East-Central Divisions. Falls which occurred in 15 counties were to be found in each of the divisions. In 12 counties there was no change and in the remainder no comparison was possible.

Wages of married men of the skilled class for the three half-years corresponding to those in the table for orramen are as follows:

Average Weekly Earnings of Married Men

	*Winter 1934–5**			*Summer 1935**			*Winter 1935–6†*		
	Cash	*Allow-ances*	*Total*	*Cash*	*Allow-ances‡*	*Total*	*Cash*	*Allow-ances*	*Total*
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
Ploughmen	25 10	8 3	34 1	26 0	8 0	34 0	26 2	7 10	34 0
Cattlemen	27 9	8 3	36 0	27 5	8 0	35 5	27 0	8 4	35 4
Shepherds	26 6	9 9	36 3	26 5	9 6	35 11	25 10	10 0	35 10

* *The Scottish Journal of Agriculture*, July 1935.

† Provisional. Calculated from Supplement to the *Monthly Agricultural Report* of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland for 1 January 1936.

‡ The value of meal and potatoes, which form part of the allowances, were reduced by 9*d.* a cwt. and 15*s.* a ton, respectively, at Whitsunday 1935.

Earnings of ploughmen show little change over the period given in the table. On the other hand, the earnings of cattlemen declined from 36*s.* a week in the winter of 1934–5 to 35*s.* 4*d.* in the winter of 1935–6, which is mainly accounted for by a drop in the cash part of the earnings. Shepherds' earnings also fell slightly over the period, due to a reduction in cash payments.

C. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Early in the year the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Treasury examined the Report of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, which had concluded that, in principle, an insurance scheme for agriculture was desirable.[1] The proposal had the support of the agricultural workers' unions, but in rural areas opinion differed as to the practicability and desirability of the scheme. Generally, the south and the east of England favoured a scheme of compulsory insurance, and the north and west of England and Scotland were against it. In areas opposed to the scheme unemployment among agricultural workers is said to be practically unknown, and it was argued that workers would object to paying towards a scheme from which they would derive no direct benefit and which would in effect subsidize other areas where there is more unemployment. Doubts were also expressed as to whether the scales of contribution and benefit proposed would be satisfactory in practice.

On 16 May the Minister of Labour announced that the Government had accepted the principle of unemployment insurance for agricultural workers, but without necessarily being committed to the level of contribution and benefit proposed in the Report.

The text of the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Bill was issued on 20 December. The Bill, which follows in

[1] See *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, pp. 327–9.

the main the recommendations of the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, proposes a number of changes in the rates of contribution and benefit.

Rates of Weekly Contribution and Benefit

	Rates of contribution (from each party, employer, employee, and Exchequer)*			*Rates of benefit†*	
Ages	*Males*	*Females*	*Ages*	*Males*	*Females*
	d.	*d.*		*s. d.*	*s. d.*
21–64	4½	4	21–64	14 0	12 6
18–20	4	3½	18–20	10 6	9 6
16–17	2	1½	between 17 and 18	6 0	5 0
Under 16	1½	1	Under 17	4 0	3 6

* Provision is made for the repayment of 25 per cent. of the contributions where employees are engaged on yearly hirings, and 12½ per cent. where the hirings are half-yearly. It is estimated that about 15 per cent. of the total number of employees are engaged on these long hirings.

† There is an increase of benefit in respect of dependants: adult dependant 7*s.*; first dependent child 3*s.*; other dependent children 2*s.* 6*d.*[1] per child. These rates are subject to a maximum of 30*s.* for any one claimant.

Approximately 750,000 persons will be brought within the scope of the scheme, distributed as follows:

Age	*Men and Boys*	*Women and Girls*
21–64 . . .	528,000	31,000
18–20 . . .	78,000	9,000
16–17 . . .	54,000	7,000
14–15 . . .	40,000	3,000
	700,000	50,000

The initial qualifying condition will be payment of 20 contributions in the two years preceding the date of claim. The ratio rule governing the period of benefit is that in any benefit year 12 days of benefit may be drawn for the first 10 agricultural contributions standing to the claimant's credit,

[1] Amended on the Committee stage of the Bill to 3*s.* (5 March 1936).

and three additional days for every additional contribution, with a maximum of 300 days of benefit in the year.

Under the Bill, payment of contributions is to begin on 4 May 1936, and of benefit on 5 November following. During the intervening 26 weeks, contributions to the extent of about £900,000 will have been received, and after allowing a deduction of, say, £100,000 for expenses of administration there should be a sum of about £800,000 to the credit of the account. Estimates of the income and expenditure of the account during the first year in which benefits are payable are as follows:[1]

Contributions (November 1936 to October 1937) . .		£1,706,000
Benefits (in same period) . . .	£1,462,000	
Administration expenses . . .	213,000	
		£1,675,000
Surplus receipts over expenses		£31,000

There would thus be an estimated balance of £831,000 resulting from the working of the Account in the first period, during which contributions will have been paid for 78 weeks and benefits for 52 weeks.[2]

In accordance with the Committee's recommendations the agricultural scheme will be financially self-contained, and transactions will be recorded in a separate account. It will bear no liability for repayment of the debt incurred under the general scheme. The increased charge to the Exchequer arising from the Bill is estimated to be about £600,000 annually.

The finances of the scheme will be kept under observation by the Unemployment Insurance Statutory Committee, who will report upon it separately from the general scheme.

[1] Assuming that the persons to be brought within the Act will be approximately 750,000, that the rate of unemployment will be about 7½ per cent., and that not more than 15 per cent. of the employees in the industry are engaged on long hirings.

[2] *Report by the Government Actuary on the Financial Provisions of the Unemployment Insurance (Agriculture) Bill*, 1935. Cmd. 5050.

IX. MISCELLANEA

A. TITHE RENTCHARGE

WITH the appointment of a Royal Commission to investigate the whole subject of tithe rentcharge[1] the agitation against the existing basis of payment abated during 1935. The Commission completed the hearing of evidence by the end of March, and in the House of Commons on 5 December the Minister announced that he had received its report and that the Government were considering its proposals with a view to a statement of their policy in regard to it.[2]

The Report of the Commission was made public on 28 February 1936,[3] and a Statement by the Government[4] was published simultaneously.

The Report is divided into three parts, (*a*) a majority report signed by Sir John Fischer Williams (Chairman), Sir Edward Peacock, and Sir John Edward Lloyd, (*b*) a reservation by Sir Edward Peacock, and (*c*) a minority report by Sir Leonard Coates.

The main conclusions of the Majority Report are that the present system of tithe rentcharge is not satisfactory and that it should be extinguished on fair and equitable terms involving the creation of a new issue of stock to tithe owners, fully guaranteed by the State, the interest and sinking fund of which would be provided by redemption annuities to be collected by the State from owners of tithed land.

The Report, therefore, recommends that the Government should purchase compulsorily *all* tithe rentcharge from exist-

[1] *The Agricultural Register, 1934–5*, p. 331.

[2] *The Times*, 6 December 1935.

[3] *Report of the Royal Commission on Tithe Rentcharge in England and Wales*. Cmd. 5095. 1936, 2*s*.

[4] *Royal Commission on Tithe Rentcharge. Statement by His Majesty's Government*. Cmd. 5102. 1936, 2*d*.

ing owners, who would be compensated by the issue of Government stock bearing interest at 3 per cent. per annum. For this purpose it proposes that the *gross annual value* of tithe rentcharge should be reduced from the existing figure of £105 to £91 11*s*. 2*d*. per £100 tithe rentcharge (par value), while the annual payment of £4 10*s*. per annum for sinking fund in respect of Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge is to be abolished. In order to arrive at the *net annual value* for the purpose of assessing the compensation to tithe owners the following deductions from the gross annual value are to be made, (*a*) 5 per cent. for cost of collection, (*b*) average of the rates on tithe rentcharge for the 3 years preceding the commencement of the scheme on the basis of a gross annual value of £91 11*s*. 2*d*., (*c*) average amount of land tax for the same period, and (*d*) £5 per £100 tithe rentcharge (par value) in respect of improved security to the tithe owner of guaranteed State bonds.

On the basis of local rates at 10*s*. in the £, the net annual values are estimated to be £76 12*s*. 6*d*. in the case of benefice tithe rentcharge; £67 0*s*. 8*d*. in respect of Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge; £66 9*s*. 8*d*. for Welsh Church Commission tithe rentcharge; and £51 19*s*. 9*d*. for all other categories of tithe rentcharge. The capitalized value of the net annual values on a 3 per cent. basis is put at £71,277,708, less sinking fund accumulated under the Tithe Act, 1925, £1,369,281, leaving £69,908,427 for which stock would be issued to the tithe owners.

The Report recommends that the tithe payers should extinguish their liabilities by annuities equal to the gross annual value of £91 11*s*. 2*d*. payable half-yearly over a period of 40 years. (Sir Edward Peacock in his reservation recommends a period of 50 years.) Where the annuity exceeds one-third of the Schedule B value of the land the Report recommends that the excess should not be recoverable. These remissions are estimated to amount to £200,000 per annum. The collection

of the redemption annuities should be undertaken by the Inland Revenue authorities.

A temporary commission would be set up to determine the tithe owners' compensation, to deal with other work connected with the scheme, and to carry out the work of redeeming, by lump-sum payment, tithe rentcharges where the landowners' annual liability does not exceed 20*s*.

The Majority Report scheme involved an annual payment of £374,392 from the Treasury plus the cost of administration, and the State might have to consider some concession to local authorities for the loss of rate income on the extinguishment of the tithe rentcharge.

In his minority report Sir Leonard Coates deals *inter alia* with certain matters in relation to the loss of rate income by local authorities and the position of the general taxpayer under the Majority scheme, and outlines an alternative scheme for the redemption of the rentcharge on a self-supporting basis.

In the White Paper it is stated that the Government are prepared to accept the main conclusions of the Commission's Report, except that the redemption annuities are to be paid over a period of 60 years, which, with the aid of certain sums noted below, will avoid imposing any new charge on the general taxpayer. The Government's proposals for carrying out the scheme, including the reimbursement of local authorities for their loss of income, are contained in the White Paper.

It is proposed to make an annual payment to local authorities estimated to be equivalent to the present value of an annuity of £600,000.

They also propose to pay an annuity of £72,266 for 60 years, capitalized as a lump-sum payment of £2 millions, to be used at the discretion of the Church authorities to mitigate the hardships which would otherwise be suffered by the poorer clergy.

In order to meet these payments the Government proposes to continue its present contribution of £550,000 per annum for the relief of rates under the Tithe Act, 1925, and it expects to have at its disposal certain other sums, consisting of the saving on the present cost of administration by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries under the existing Tithe Acts and of some addition to the income-tax revenue as the result of the Commission's scheme. The additional amount so available is expected to average £135,000 per annum, and the Government have decided to increase the Exchequer contribution by this amount in order to balance the estimated expenditure on the scheme. No addition to the existing burden, therefore, will fall on the Exchequer.

The amount of stock to be issued to tithe owners is as follows:

	£	£
For Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge vested in Queen Anne's Bounty:		
Gross compensation	53,025,702	
Less sinking fund accumulated under Tithe Act of 1925 (estimated) . . .	1,369,281	
		51,656,421
For Lay tithe rentcharge		18,252,006
	Total	£69,908,427

The estimated income and expenditure under the scheme formulated by the Government is given on page 330, the figures being approximate and based upon the assumption that rates on tithe rentcharge are 10*s*. in the £.

The Government is to introduce the necessary legislation as soon as possible.

The effect of the whole scheme is summarized as follows:

1. The *tithe payer* would be granted a substantial reduction in the amount of his existing liability, which will be extinguished in 60 years, instead of continuing for 76 years or in perpetuity as at present.

Expenditure	£	*Income*	£
i. Interest on £69,908,427 stock at 3 per cent. . .	2,097,253	vi. Payments from landowners in respect of redemption annuities	
ii. Sinking fund to redeem above in 60 years at 3 per cent. (Payments and interest on half-yearly basis) .	422,040[1]	£	
iii. Payments to rating authorities expressed in terms of a 60-year annuity . .	600,000	Gross 2,838,426	
iv. Payment to Church authorities (£2 million) expressed in terms of a 60-year annuity	72,266	*Less*— Remissions, say, 200,000	2,638,426
v. Balance available for cost of collection and administration, including the actual cost of the Temporary Commission, &c. . .	131,867	vii. Exchequer contribution .	685,000
	£3,323,426		£3,323,426

2. The *tithe owner* will be compensated for the loss of income by having his future income guaranteed by the State, and his capital will be a gilt-edged security and easily marketable.
3. The *Exchequer* will pledge its credit for the payment of principal and interest of the new stock and will assume the powers requisite for the collecting of the redemption annuities. It will provide £685,000 towards the cost of the scheme and the machinery of collection and administration.

Queen Anne's Bounty estimate that their loss of revenue under the Government proposals will amount to £410,800 yearly, representing on a 3 per cent. basis a capital sum of £13,500,000.[2]

Although there was a certain amount of opposition to the payment of tithe rentcharge during 1934, the collection of

[1] The annual sinking fund, on a 40 years' basis, in the Majority Report scheme amounted to £915,565.

[2] *The Times*, 29 February 1936.

amounts due was again better than in the previous year. The seventh annual report[1] of the Tithe Committee of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, which is responsible for the collection of Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge, showed that the collections during 1934 exceeded by nearly £260,000 those of the previous year (£2,022,000 as against £1,762,000) and that the gross collections were within £5,000 of the total sum which fell due during the year. This improvement continued up to the date of the Report (10 April 1935). It is of interest to note that there are 310,000 payers of Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge throughout the country; the tithe thus paid includes 110,000 separate sums not exceeding 10*s.* collectable value.

The Bounty continued to meet proved cases of hardship by voluntary concessions after consideration of the circumstances in each case. From 1932, when the first concessions were made, up to 31 March 1935 over 8,500 cases had been settled and the concessions amounted to £110,300, out of an aggregate sum of tithe rentcharge of £549,200—equal to about 20 per cent. of the collectable sums. These figures compare with 3,800 cases and concessions of £48,000 up to 31 March 1934. The view of the Governors is that this form of relief, applied as supplemental to the statutory remission under the Tithe Act, 1891, is adequate to tide over periods of depression in the agricultural industry.

The amount of tithe rentcharge payable during 1935 was £105 per £100 of commuted tithe rentcharge, at which figure it was stabilized under the Tithe Act, 1925. If the basis of payment under the Tithe Act, 1836, had remained in force, the amount payable in 1935 would have been £80 16*s.* 11*d.*, and under the Tithe Act, 1918, £107 8*s.* 10*d.* per £100 commuted tithe rentcharge, compared with £86 10*s.* and £116 respectively in 1934.

[1] Tithe Act, 1925. Seventh report by the Tithe Committee of the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty for the year 1934. 10 April 1935.

Tithe Rentcharge and its Relation to Agricultural Prices and Cost of Living, 1927–35

Year	Value of tithe rentcharge: Under Act of 1836 7 years' average	Under Act of 1918 15 years' average	Paid under Act of 1925* fixed payment	Tithe payment index 1927 = 100	Index of agricultural prices 1927–8 = 100	Cost of living index 1927–8 = 100
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
1927	133 8 10	133 12 6	105 0 0	100	99	101
1928	116 13 2	135 0 7	105 0 0	100	101	99
1929	111 3 8	137 8 11	105 0 0	100	99	98
1930	109 1 6	138 17 0	105 0 0	100	92	95
1931	105 14 10	135 19 4	105 0 0	100	87	89
1932	99 0 1	131 8 2	105 0 0	100	78‡	86
1933	92 8 2†	123 16 7†	105 0 0	100	76‡	84
1934	86 10 0†	116 0 0†	105 0 0	100	82‡	85
1935	80 16 11†	107 8 10†	105 0 0	100	85‡	86

* Plus £4 10s. per annum in respect of Ecclesiastical tithe rentcharge as a sinking fund for redemption.

† The prices on which these values are based exclude deficiency payments under the Wheat Act 1932.

‡ Including wheat deficiency payment and cattle subsidy.

Taking 1927 as 100, the tithe rentcharge payment during 1935, if made in full, still remained at par, while taking 1927–8 as 100, the index of agricultural prices was 80, or including the deficiency payment on wheat and the cattle subsidy, 85, and the cost of living index was 86. In 1934 the corresponding agricultural index numbers were 78 and 82, and the cost of living index was 85.

A further rise took place during the year in the number of years' purchase required for the redemption of tithe rentcharge. After being raised three times during 1934 the compensation was again raised, as from 4 January 1935, to thirty-two times the net amount of the rentcharge after the deductions[1] prescribed by the Tithe Acts, 1918 to 1925, have been made.

The following table shows the redemptions and mergers of tithe rentcharge for the 4 years to the end of 1934.[2]

[1] Rates and land tax and cost of collection.

[2] Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. *Report on the work of the*

Tithe Rentcharge extinguished by Redemptions and Mergers, 1931–4

Year	Redemptions		Mergers	
	No.	Amount of rentcharge	No.	Amount of rentcharge
		£		£
1931	1,484	8,312	610	8,052
1932	1,436	5,616	788	7,620
1933	1,350	7,173	415	3,972
1934	1,259	5,452	249	3,247
1838–1934	*52,626*	*527,918*	*23,087*	*240,870*

The amount of tithe rentcharge outstanding at the end of 1934 was about £3,143,700, of which Queen Anne's Bounty held £2,088,000 in trust for Benefices and Ecclesiastical Corporations, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners held £274,000, the Welsh Church Commissioners £205,500, and lay owners £576,200.

B. CREDIT

There were no outstanding features in regard to credit for agriculture during the year 1935.

The following particulars deal only with long-term credit given by certain public bodies and lending institutions mainly during 1934, the latest year for which most of the information is available. In the almost complete absence of any information relating to short-term credit, no statement can be made of the total amount given to agriculture, or of the extent of indebtedness of the industry.

England and Wales

Credit for Improvements. The number and amount of transactions dealt with and the type of improvements sanctioned by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries under the

Land Division of the Ministry for the year 1934. H.M. Stationery Office, 1935, 1s.

Improvement of Land Acts in 1934 and in the two previous years, are:

*Improvement Loans under the Improvement of Land Acts, England and Wales, 1932–4**

	1932	*1933*	*1934*
Applications received	301	307	429
Amount applied for	£ 124,016	£ 172,397	£ 185,709
Total amount charged (excluding expenses):			
Farm-buildings	50,449	34,665	45,080
Farm-houses and cottages	19,984	25,930	22,894
Mansion houses	1,922	1,139	1,276
Drainage	2,357	1,736	1,878
Roads	1,021	2,823	5,161
Planting	2,665	4,368	1,429
Water supply	11,974	9,655	12,655
Electric light installation	5,797	10,522	9,844
Other improvements	22,084†	26,153‡	9,049 §
	118,253	116,991	109,266

* Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, *Reports of the Land Division of the Ministry for the years 1932, 1933, and 1934*. H.M. Stationery Office.

† Includes shops and offices £13,011, and central heating and hot-water supply £5,787.

‡ Includes redemption of tithe rentcharge £23,000, hop-drying plant £1,128, and fencing £1,041.

§ Includes glasshouses £4,286 and clearing £1,047.

Improvements for farm-buildings and farm-houses and cottages accounted for the bulk of the advances—62·2 per cent. in 1934, compared with 51·8 per cent. in 1933 and 59·6 per cent. in 1932.

Advances for improvements are made chiefly through the Lands Improvement Company, but also through the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation. The Lands Improvement Company, which is incorporated under special Acts of Parliament, 1849–1920, finances itself mainly by borrowing from

insurance companies against secured rentcharges. Its issued share capital at 30 June 1935 amounted to £37,500. The balance sheets of 30 June and 31 December 1935 showed the following figures:[1]

Lands Improvement Company

Date	*Issued capital*	*Due to insurance companies*	*Loan*	*Advances to land-owners*	*Advances to land-owners on work in progress*	*Instal-ments due by land-owners*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
30 June 1935	37,500	1,309,830	70,500	1,413,633	25,314	14,542
31 Dec. 1935	99,921	1,317,894	71,900	1,486,376	27,201	13,714

Under the Agricultural Credits Act, 1928, the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation is also empowered to make loans under the Improvement of Land Acts, but the volume of its transactions under this head has never been large. The total of improvement loans made by the Corporation up to 31 March 1935, the date of the last balance sheet, was £56,737 secured by rentcharges on land of an estimated rental value of £35,578 per annum.

The Small-holdings Act, 1926, enables small-holders who have purchased their holdings from county councils, or with the assistance of county councils, to obtain credit for improvements to their houses or farm buildings. Seven applications were made during 1934, and advances of £1,760 were approved. In 1933 four applications were approved for £1,320, and in 1932 two advances for £639.

Mortgage Credit. The Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, which is the chief source of mortgage credit, granted new loans of £589,303 during the year ending 31 March 1935, compared with £363,944 in the previous year. The increase

[1] The Lands Improvement Company. *Reports by the Directors at Half-yearly General Meeting and Annual General Meeting*, 13 August 1935 and 25 February 1936.

is attributed to the reduction in the lending rate on mortgage loans, as from 16 April 1934, from 5¼ per cent. gross to 4¼ per cent. gross. Up to 31 March 1935 mortgage loans amounting to £11,124,083 had been made as against £10,534,870 a year earlier. Security consisted of first mortgages of 770,720 acres of agricultural land with the necessary farm-houses and buildings, valued at £17,589,039.

During the year ending 31 March 1935 the Corporation received punctually 92 per cent. of the total of interest and capital repayments which fell due. In the two previous years, 1934 and 1933, the figures were 92 per cent. and 94 per cent. respectively. Normal repayments during the year were £73,120, while £584,641 was accepted in specially approved reductions and repayments.

Balance sheet figures for the three years to 31 March 1935 are:

Agricultural Mortgage Corporation

Date	*Share capital*	*Government loan*	*Debenture stock*	*Loans on mortgage**
	£	£	£	£
31 March 1933	650,000	650,000	10,500,000	9,485,475
,, 1934	650,000	650,000	10,500,000	9,533,264
,, 1935	650,000	650,000	10,500,000	9,488,091

* Including improvement loans and outstanding interest.

Section 13 of the Small-holdings Act, 1926, enables county councils to make advances, up to nine-tenths of the value, to any person who has agreed with the owner of an existing small-holding to purchase the holding. During 1934, in 14 cases (7 counties in England and 2 in Wales), advances were approved for a total of £10,466, an average of £748 for each approved application. In 1933, 14 advances were approved for £9,100, an average of £650, and in 1932 there were 26 advances for £12,639, an average of £486.

The following table summarizes the amount of credit

given in England and Wales in 1932, 1933, and 1934 through the sources enumerated above.

	1932		1933		1934	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
A. *Credit for improvements:*						
Improvement of Land Acts	118,253		116,991		109,266	
Small-holdings Act, 1926, Section 14	639		1,320		1,760	
		118,892		118,311		111,026
B. *Mortgage Credit:*						
Agricultural Mortgage Corporation	1,353,336		363,944		589,303	
Small-holdings Act, 1926, Section 13	12,639		9,100		10,466	
		1,365,975		373,044		599,769
		£1,484,867		£491,355		£710,795

SCOTLAND

Credit for Improvements. Under the Improvement of Land Acts, 1864 and 1899, &c., the Department of Agriculture for Scotland sanctions the creation of rentcharges on estates in respect of sums borrowed and expended by landowners on authorized improvements. In 1934 there were issued 17 absolute orders creating rentcharges for a total expenditure of £11,264. This compares with 14 orders for £15,540 in 1933, and 16 orders for £20,868 in 1932.

Under Section 9 of the Small Land-holders (Scotland) Act, 1911, the Department, during 1934, approved 316 loans to landholders, amounting to £37,140. Of the dwelling-houses to be improved, the work in 183 cases will qualify for grants under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. The whole of the applications for loans came from the North and west, particularly from Lewis, Sutherland, North and South Uist, Skye, and Barra.

The Department also makes a number of loans for erecting new houses or improving existing ones under the Congested Districts (Scotland) Act, 1897. In 1934 these loans totalled £205, compared with £2,680 in 1933 and £8,160 in 1932.

*Loans under the Small Landholders (Scotland) Act, 1911, 1932–4**

Year	No. of loans	Amount of loans	Purpose for which loans were made				
			Erection of new houses	Improvement of houses	Erection of new steadings	Improvement of steadings	Installation of water-supply
		£					
1932	193	21,197	79	98	9	6	1
1933	83	10,443	42	40	1	—	—
1934	316†	37,140	84	220	7	5	1

* *Reports of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland for the years 1932, 1933, and 1934.*

† One of these loans was made for the improvement of both the dwelling-house and a steading.

Mortgage Credit. Part I of the Agricultural Credits (Scotland) Act, 1929, provides facilities for mortgage and improvement loans. The Scheme is operated through the Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation, Ltd., which was formed early in 1933 and started business early in October 1933. Up to 31 March 1935 long-term loans to the total amount of £354,275 had been made, secured on 59,364 acres of land with farm-houses and buildings valued at £590,486.[1] Balance-sheet figures for the part year ending 31 March 1934 and for the full year ending 31 March 1935 are:

Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation

Date	Share capital	Government loan	Debenture stock	Loans on mortgage*
	£	£	£	£
31 March 1934	100,000	100,000	500,000	78,939
,, 1935	100,000	100,000	500,000	357,668†

* Including interest due. † Includes improvement loan of £185.

Other Credit. Under the Land Settlement (Scotland) Act, 1919 (Sections 16 and 29), provision is made for loans by

[1] The Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation, Ltd., *Report of the Directors to the Second Annual General Meeting*, 7 May 1935.

the Department to assist small-holders on land settlement schemes to take over sheep stocks. Loans may be either to individual holders or groups of holders, or to sheep-stock clubs or co-operative credit societies.

No new loans were made during the year ending 31 December 1934. By this date £120,037 had been advanced, £98,567 to co-operative credit societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies, £11,425 to groups of holders not forming registered societies, and £10,045 to individual holders. Of the total, loans for £20,585 had been repaid by the end of 1934, while other repayments of capital amounted to £52,611. During 1933 the Department granted a two-year moratorium of capital and interest, as from Martinmas 1932, to borrowers.

Section 8 of the Small Land-holders (Scotland) Act, 1911, enables the Department, on the application of a landlord, to lend the sum due to the Department out of the compensation payable to an outgoing tenant, the loan being secured on the holding and any of its permanent improvements. During 1934 one loan was advanced for £555, making the total of loans advanced up to 31 December 1934 a sum of £10,270.

The following table summarizes the credit given in 1932, 1933, and 1934 through the various sources enumerated:

	1932		*1933*		*1934*	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
A. *Credit for improvements:*						
Improvement of Land Acts	20,868		15,540		11,264	
Small Land-holders (Scotland) Act, 1911, Section 9	21,197		10,443		37,140	
Congested Districts (Scotland) Act, 1897	8,160		2,680		205	
		50,225		28,663		48,609
B. *Mortgage Credit:*						
Scottish Agricultural Securities Corporation	..		78,275		276,000	
C. *Other Credit:*						
Land Settlement (Scotland) Act, 1919, Sections 16 and 29	*		*		..	
Small Land-holders (Scotland) Act, 1911, Section 8	..		..		555	

* Not specified.

C. LAND SETTLEMENT

1. Small Holdings

(a) Statutory Small Holdings.

England and Wales. The area of new land acquired by County Councils for small holdings in 1934 was 4,261½ acres, which compares with 4,651 acres in 1933 and 5,053 acres in 1932. Of the land acquired in 1934, 3,997 acres were purchased for £97,829.[1]

The following table shows the area of land retained by the County Councils for the years 1933 and 1934. It will be observed that the area of purchased land increased by 3,703 acres, but that there is an almost equal decline in the amount of leased land due to the non-renewal of terminating leases. The total number of tenants declined by 437, and the number of holdings by 237.

Land Retained by County Councils for Small Holdings, 1933 and 1934

	Area purchased	*Area held on annuity*	*Area hired*	*Total area*	*No. of small-holding tenants*	*No. of small holdings*
England	acres	acres	acres	acres	No.	No.
1934	335,902	6,067	47,785	389,754	23,997	26,937
1933	332,988	6,171	50,993	390,152	24,438	27,180
Increase (+) or decrease (−)	+2,914	− 104	−3,208	− 398	− 441	− 243
Wales						
1934	50,715	231½	14,041	64,987	2,292	2,418
1933	49,925½	231½	14,174	64,331	2,288	2,412
Increase (+) or decrease (−)	+ 789½	..	− 133	+ 656½	+ 4	+ 6
England and Wales						
Increase (+) or decrease (−)	+3,703½	− 104	−3,341	+ 258	− 437	− 237

[1] Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries: *Report of the Land Division 1934*, p. 5. H.M. Stationery Office, 1935, 1s.

Scotland. The land settlement authority in Scotland is the Department of Agriculture. In 1934 there was a total increase of 3,526 acres for small-holdings purposes, approximately half of which was obtained on private estates under the Small Landowners and Agricultural Holdings (Scotland) Act, 1931 (Part 1).

Land under Small-holdings through Legislation in Scotland, 1933 and 1934

Year	*Department's estate*	*On private estates*	*Total*
	acres	acres	acres
1934	268,969	349,197	618,166
1933	267,174	347,466	614,640
Increase in 1934 . .	1,795	1,731	3,526

(*b*) *Forest Workers' Holdings.*

The Forestry Commission are authorized to establish holdings for the workers employed on afforestation on land adjacent to forest areas. Each holding consists of a cottage and outbuildings with enclosed land, normally not exceeding 10 acres, and the tenant is guaranteed 150 days' forestry work during the year. By 30 September 1934, 1,233 such holdings had been created, at an average cost of approximately £500.[1]

(*c*) *Land Settlement of Ex-Service Men.*

A report by the Auditor and Controller-General on the financial results of colony schemes undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the settlement of ex-Service men under the Small Holding Colonies Acts, 1916 and 1918, was issued early in 1936.[1]

Many of these schemes had been given up between the years 1921 and 1927, and all direct farming was finally closed

[1] *Accounts and Balance Sheets of Trading or Commercial Services conducted by Government Departments during the Period ended 31 March 1935.* H.M. Stationery Office, 1936.

with the cessation of active trading on the Amesbury (Wilts.) Settlement on 30 September 1934. The accumulated loss on farming operations on the latter estate amounted to £29,365 after charging £11,991 for interest on farming capital, £2,575 for the estimated cost of the Ministry of Agriculture's administration, £1,767 for payments to profit-sharers, and £698 for profits transferred to the estate account. The farming operations on other estates acquired by the Ministry under the Acts involved a total loss of £234,944 including £58,268 for interest charges and £10,991 for head-quarters' administration. Altogether, therefore, there has been a total loss of £264,309 made in direct farming undertaken by the Ministry under the Acts.

(*d*) *Small Holdings for the Unemployed.*

England and Wales. During 1935 there was more activity in the creation of small-holdings for the settlement of unemployed persons, and steps were also taken to rationalize these activities. The Commissioner for Special Areas announced that he would co-operate with the Land Settlement Association instead of proceeding directly with the formation of a Homesteads Trust.

Under the new arrangements it was agreed that the Association should undertake an additional twenty transference schemes of settlement, with about forty families in each over a period of about two years,[1] on estates purchased for the purpose in Northumberland, Cumberland, and the South of England. The entire cost is to be met by the Special Areas Fund, whereas under the first arrangement early in 1935, six transference schemes then planned received only one-third of the total cost from this source. It was hoped that the smaller groups then settled would merge into their new environment without any local economic dislocation.

[1] *Second Report of the Commissioner for the Special Areas* (England and Wales.) Cmd. 5090, p. 52, 1936, 2*s*.

The Land Settlement Association, therefore, was able to proceed with settlement schemes which were divided into three categories as follows:

(1) Transference of men out of the 'Special Areas'.
(2) Co-operation with local authorities under the Small Holdings Act, 1926, for the provision of working capital—estimated at £250–£300 per man—which the authorities are not allowed to grant under the Act.
(3) Settlement of unemployed men in their own localities. For this work half of the cost must be raised by private means.

In all cases the Association was prepared to meet the cost of supervision including salaries and allowances of instructors. It was laid down that assistance would only be given: (*a*) for Group Settlements; (*b*) to persons rigorously selected; (*c*) to those who received training and supervision; and (*d*) only if co-operative methods of buying and selling were adopted.

By the end of 1935 the Land Settlement Association under their first transference scheme had thirty out of forty families settled in new houses on the Potton (Bedfordshire) Scheme, opened in October 1934, and there were five out of the forty families in residence at Little Park, Andover (Hampshire), an area of 500 acres on which it is hoped to develop pig and poultry holdings.

Estates which have been acquired and are in process of development are shown in the table on page 344.

The Carnegie Trustees made grants totalling £15,000 towards the Andover Scheme. Later they decided to set aside £150,000 in 1936–40 for the purpose of furthering the settlement of small holdings, group and subsistence holdings. The allocation of this sum will remain in the hands of the Trustees, and applications from the Land Settlement Association and from other sources will be considered on their merits.

Land Settlement Association: Transference Schemes for Settlement of Unemployed

Estate	*Acreage*	*Probable line of Development*
1935		
Fen Drayton, Cambs.	350	Market-gardening and horticulture
Fulney Farm, Spalding, Lincs.	122	,, ,, ,, ,,
Howden Aerodrome, E. Yorks.*	345	,, ,, ,, ,,
Goodhall Farm, Ardleigh, Essex	330	,, ,, ,, ,,
Lawford, Ardleigh, Essex	345	,, ,, ,, ,,
Harrowby Hall, Grantham, Lincs.	824	Pigs and poultry
Cadeby Hall, Leicester	676	,, ,, ,,
Keynor Farm, Sidlesham, Chichester, Sussex	290	Market-gardening and horticulture
Fletchers and Streetend Farms, Sidlesham, Sussex	181	,, ,, ,, ,,
1936		
West Bank, Selby, Yorks.	285	,, ,, ,, ,,
Oxcroft Farm, Bolsover, Derby	399†	
New House Farm, Great Abington, Cambs.	688	Poultry and pigs

* Since abandoned. † Leased.

Before the new arrangements were made with the Land Settlement Association in regard to transference schemes, the Commissioner for Special Areas announced a settlement scheme in the north-eastern area whereby nineteen unemployed miners, who would continue to live in their present houses, were to be trained for holdings on 95 acres at Mount Pleasant, Crook, Durham. They were to receive allowances while training for twelve months, and at the end of this period to take over their holdings at a rental of £4 to £6 per annum. The working capital required is about £260 per holding. Half of this sum is to be repaid by the settlers, by payment of a weekly sum of 5*s*. for a period of ten years, commencing after the third year.

This scheme was followed by the purchase of estates to a total area of 671 acres in the Bishop Auckland district for the settlement of 65 unemployed men on 5-acre holdings on the same basis as at Mount Pleasant.[1] These Durham schemes are being administered by the County Council under the

[1] Cmd. 5090, op. cit., p. 57.

Small Holdings Act, but the Commissioner contributes half of the Council's losses and provides the men's working capital.

Following a similar course the full programme for Northumberland envisages five schemes of 40 families each. In this county, however, the settlement will be undertaken by the Northumberland County Council and the Town Councils of Newcastle and Tynemouth in conjunction with the Land Settlement Association. The Councils will acquire land under the Small Holdings Acts and the Association will lease the equipped property and sub-let the holdings and arrange the administration. A farm of 224 acres at Wylam, near Newcastle, has been acquired for the settlement of 40 families, with house and small set of buildings—at a total estimated cost of £28,850.[1]

In Cumberland arrangements for settlement schemes were finally left in the hands of the Land Settlement Association after the County Council had withdrawn from a proposed programme. Crofton Hall Estate, Thursby, comprising 784 acres, has been acquired for the provision of about 70 pig and poultry holdings.

A Land Settlement Society for Wales was formed during 1935 by the Commissioner, the following being the Council of Management:

Mr. E. W. Amlyn-Jones.
Mr. D. M. Evans-Bevan.
The Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George, O.M., M.P.
Mr. D. R. Grenfell, C.B.E., M.P.
Alderman A. Jenkins, M.P.
The Lord Merthyr.
Mr. L. R. Pym.

This new body acquired 650 acres at Boverton, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan, early in 1936. On this it is proposed to establish a co-operative farm on the lines of the Fordson

[1] Cmd. 5090, op. cit., p. 58.

Scheme in Essex. The settlers will receive regular weekly wages at the County rates and will share in any profits. New houses will be built for the permanent employees. The Scheme will be financed by grants and loans from the Special Areas Fund.

2. Group Holdings for Unemployed

England and Wales. These holdings originated by the Society of Friends are intermediate between small holdings and allotments and are intended to augment but not to provide full means of subsistence. The typical group holding consists of about a quarter to half an acre of land, part of which is cultivated and part used for poultry and egg production. The inclusive cost of new schemes is about £15 per man, and of this sum £3 10*s.* is to be repaid by instalments commencing in the second year.[1]

Some rationalization of activities in connexion with these settlements occurred when the Society of Friends decided to transfer their holdings of a quarter and half an acre to the Land Settlement Association because it was felt that the development had been brought to a point where it could be managed by a special body.

The following are groups established, mainly in 1935, with the aid of grants from the Special Areas Fund.

Group Holdings for Unemployed[1]

County	*Authority in charge*	*No. of groups*	*No. of men*
Durham	County Council	47	900
Northumberland	Land Settlement Association	7	100
Cumberland	Land Settlement Association	30–40	500
Monmouth	County Council	6	98
Glamorgan	County Council	13	198

Scotland. Group holdings are developed by the Department of Agriculture, and the number of plots in the special

[1] Cmd. 5090, op. cit., p. 62.

areas is 1,000, or 60 per cent. of the whole.[1] The Commissioner announced his intention of augmenting this work by arrangement with the Joint Committee of the Scottish National Union of Allotment Holders and the Society of Friends in consultation with the Department, for loans up to £10 per man to augment stock and equipment for those who have successfully cultivated a plot.

3. Allotments

(*a*) *Statutory Allotments.*

England and Wales. The land in possession of local authorities has shown a decline. The amount acquired by urban authorities in 1934 was 766 acres, but 1,178 acres were given up. Rural authorities since 1930 acquired only 675

*Number of Allotments in England and Wales, 1930 and 1934**

		No.	*Area*
1. Allotments provided by local authorities:			
	1934	464,584	59,244
	1930	454,399	61,135
Increase (+) or Decrease (−)		+ 10,185	− 1,891
2. Allotments provided privately (excluding Railways):	1934	379,121	65,167
	1930	406,802	75,557
Decrease (−)		− 27,681	− 10,390
3. Railway Allotments:	1934	75,887	4,677
	1930	85,732	5,254
Decrease (−)		− 9,845	− 577
Grand Total	1934	919,592	129,088
	1930	946,933	141,946
Decrease (−)		− 27,341	− 12,858

* *Report of the Land Division, 1934*, op. cit., p. 24.

[1] *Commission for the Special Areas in Scotland Report for period 21 December 1934–June 1935.* Cmd. 4958, 1935, p. 20, 6*d*.

acres, while 2,486 acres were given up in the same period.[1] A summary of the returns of numbers and area of allotments in 1934 compared with 1930, the last year for which complete returns are available, are shown in the table on p. 347.

(*b*) *Private Schemes.*

The provision of allotments by the Society of Friends still continued during 1935, and by the end of the year it had provided altogether 120,600 unemployed with allotments and the necessary tools and seeds. On the year's work the Society spent £53,118 and had to take £3,000 from reserves to meet extra expenditure. A Government grant of £9,634 was received, while private subscriptions towards this work were £11,270.

(*c*) *Special Areas Fund Allotments.*

England and Wales. The actual number assisted last year by the Central Allotment Committee was 120,641, or 3,000 more than in the previous year. The total number cultivated with the aid of grants from the Special Areas Fund is over 1,600,[2] practically all of which are in South Wales.

Scotland. The Commissioner for the Special Areas in Scotland, with the aid of the Joint Committee of the Scottish National Union of Allotment Holders and Society of Friends, established 800 additional allotments.[3]

A special scheme at Lampits Farm, Carstairs, has been devised for a Homecroft Demonstration Centre principally for older married men.

D. RURAL WATER SUPPLIES

In March 1934 the Rural Water Supplies Act came into force, empowering the Minister of Health to contribute up

[1] *Report of Land Division, 1934*, op. cit., p. 26.

[2] Cmd. 5090, op. cit., p. 65.

[3] *Commissioner for the Special Areas in Scotland Report for the period 1 July 1935 to 31 December 1935.* Cmd. 5089, 1935, p. 14, 6*d*.

to £1,000,000, and the Department of Health for Scotland up to £137,500, towards the expenses of providing or improving rural water supplies. Up to the end of January 1936 applications were received in respect of 876 water-supply schemes relating to 2,227 parishes. During the same period grants totalling £831,000 were provisionally allocated in respect of 550 schemes for 1,707 rural parishes. The total cost of these schemes was more than £5,150,000. Grants were refused for 190 schemes as they were not needed to enable the schemes to be carried out.

The Ministry of Health had also sanctioned the borrowing by rural authorities of over £1,200,000 over the same period for rural water-supply schemes which are not being assisted by the Government. The cost of the schemes for which loans have so far been sanctioned by the Ministry during the current financial year has already reached a total of £2,040,000. This is double the corresponding figure for the whole of the financial year 1934–5, which was in itself the largest amount ever sanctioned in any one year for this purpose.

So far as is known no figures are available showing the progress made under the Act in Scotland.

During the year a Joint Committee of Lords and Commons was appointed to consider and report on measures for the better conservation and organization of water resources and supplies in England and Wales. The Committee held several meetings during 1935 under the Chairmanship of Lord Eltisley. At a meeting on 26 July the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health attended to state the nature of the work the Ministry desired the Committee to undertake.[1] He said that the Ministry had been conscious for a very considerable time that legislation dealing with water supplies needed bringing up to date. It was, however, possible that there would be a conflict between water undertakers and

[1] *The Times*, 26 July 1935.

certain other interests, such as riparian owners and industry. These points of conflict had to be ascertained, and the Ministry wanted the advice of an impartial body as to the right solution of the points of conflict. The Ministry had in mind the introduction of a Bill in 1936. Legislation was long overdue.

E. LIVE-STOCK IMPROVEMENT

England and Wales.[1]

Under the Live-stock Improvement Scheme the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries makes a number of annual grants to individuals and to Societies for the purpose of assisting farmers, especially small farmers, in obtaining the use of high-class sires, and also in keeping milk records of their dairy herds. The maximum number of grants which can be given annually is 1,000 for boars and 1,500 for bulls, while annual grants are made to Bull Societies at the rate of one-fourth of the purchase price of the bull. Maximum direct grants of £40 per stallion are payable to Heavy Horse Societies, with maximum grants of £30 per stallion for Assisted Nominations. Assisted Nominations (i.e. payments to mare owners of not more than one-half the normal service fee) can be issued only to bona fide farmers whose holdings do not exceed 100 acres, or if exceeding 100 acres, are of an annual value for income-tax purposes of not more than £100. Grants to Milk Recording Societies are at the rate of £3 per herd. Particulars of different sections of the Scheme for the three-year period 1932–5 are shown on p. 351.

The number of bulls subsidized increased steadily from 497 in 1914–15, when the Scheme started, to a peak of 1,537 in 1930–1. There was a decrease during the next two years, the number being 1,452 in 1932–3. The recent tendency for many farmers who were interested in the breeding and

[1] *Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture*, November and December 1935.

Live-stock Improvement Schemes: England and Wales, 1932–5

*Year (1 Apr.–31 Mar.)**	*Bulls*		*Boars*	*Rams†*	*Heavy Horses*		*Milk recording*			
	No. of societies	*No. of bulls*	*No.*	*No.*	*No. of stallions*	*No. of assisted nominations‡*	*Societies*	*Members*	*Herds*	*Cows*
1932–3 . .	1,354	1,452	973	22	162	3,945	49	4,187	4,598	135,902
1933–4 . .	1,371	1,469	1,007	30	165	4,280	49	4,211	4,622	141,325
1934–5 . .	1,371	1,476	1,032	30	170	4,353	§	§	§	§

* For Milk Recording the year ends on 1 October.

† Confined to Welsh Mountain rams.

‡ Not including assisted nominations issued by the Cumberland and Westmorland Heavy Horse Society numbering 198 in 1932–3, 217 in 1933–4, and 209 in 1934–5.

§ Not yet available.

rearing of stock to turn to milk production has not been to the advantage of the premium bull scheme, so that the slight increases in the number of bulls subsidized during 1933–4 and 1934–5 of 17 and 7 respectively must be considered satisfactory. On the other hand, the premium boar scheme has been helped by the farmers' need of a good type of bacon pig to meet present-day market requirements, and the last two years show an upward trend from 973 boars in 1932–3 to 1,007 in 1933–4, and 1,032 in 1934–5. The peak year was 1930–1 when 1,047 boars were subsidized, there having been a steady rise from 115 boars in 1914–15.

There were 30 grants for Welsh Mountain rams during the 1934 season, the same number as in the previous year. This scheme which was started as an experimental measure in North Wales in 1919 now extends throughout the Principality. It is designed to encourage the breeding of an improved type of sheep for rearing on the Welsh hills.

The continued improvement in the heavy horse trade is shown in a further increase of 5 in the number of stallions subsidized during the 1934 season under the Heavy Horse Scheme. The number rose during the War from 72 during 1914 to 122 in 1918, but then fell to 87 in 1924. Since then the number has increased steadily to 120 in 1929, and 170 in 1934. There were 4,353 assisted nominations during 1934, compared with 4,280 in 1933 and 3,945 in 1932.

The membership of Milk Recording Societies in 1933–4 showed an increase over the year 1932–3, the first break in the series of declines in official recording which, beginning in 1926–7, continued for seven years. The increase, however, was not general in all parts of the country, Wales, in particular, showing a further decline. A comparison of 1933–4 with 1925–6 shows that the falling off in recording in Wales has been much greater than in England, the reduction being about 45 per cent. in Wales as against about 17 per cent. in England.

Licensing of Stallions. Under the Horse Breeding Act, 1918, it is illegal to travel a stallion for service, or to use it for service on premises not occupied by the owner, unless the horse is licensed. Particulars of applications dealt with in England and Wales during the seasons 1932 to 1935 are:

Licensing of Stallions in England and Wales, 1932–5

Particulars	*Year ending 31 October*			
	1932	*1933*	*1934*	*1935*
Applications for licences	1,522	1,556	1,732	1,945
Licences issued:	1,477	1,516	1,687	1,893
Heavy horses	1,211	1,275	1,433	1,616
Light horses	215	180	181	203
Ponies and cobs	51	61	73	74
Refusals	45	40	45	52
Appeals received	7	10	7	14
Appeals refused	4	4	2	5
Appeals sustained	3	6	5	9

The number of licences issued fell from 3,749 during the 1920 season, when the Act came into force, to 1,414 in 1928, but since that time the tendency has been for the number of licensed stallions to increase. During the 1935 season there was an increase of 206 or 12·2 per cent. on the previous year. Licences were refused for 52 stallions, an increase of 7 compared with 1934. Of the rejected stallions, 48 were of heavy breeds and 4 of light breeds. The number of licensed Shires rose from 962 in 1934 to 1,074 in 1935. Suffolks increased from 182 to 210, Percherons from 71 to 80, and Clydesdales from 163 to 184.

Licensing of Bulls. Particulars of the numbers of applications dealt with in England and Wales under the Improvement of Livestock (Licensing of Bulls) Act, 1931, from 1 August 1934, when the Act came into force, up to 31 July 1935 are shown in the table on p. 354.

Licensing of Bulls in England and Wales, 1934–5

	England	*Wales and Monmouth*	*Total*
Applications for licences received .	24,631	3,638	28,269
Licences issued	19,550	3,057	22,607
Rejections notified . . .	2,008	370	2,378
Permits issued	19	2	21
Licences suspended* . . .	23	18	41
Licences transferred . . .	8,468	1,577	10,045
Licences expired . . .	254	27	281
Appeals received . . .	90	5	95
Appeals dealt with . . .	84	5	89†

* Pending recovery of the bulls from temporary forms of disease (mainly ringworm).

† Of these 50 were decided in favour of the appellant and 39 in favour of the Ministry.

Of the 22,607 bulls licensed, 13,908 or 61·5 per cent. were Shorthorn, 1,806 (8·0 per cent.) were Hereford, 1,210 (5·4 per cent.) British Friesian, and 1,109 (4·9 per cent.) Lincoln Red Shorthorn. There were 23 breeds represented.

Scotland.[1]

The Department of Agriculture for Scotland gives financial and other assistance to Committees and Societies engaged in live-stock improvement. In addition to milk-recording, which is encouraged by a grant to the Scottish Milk Records Association, the chief schemes to which assistance is given are for the improvement of cattle, sheep, and pigs. A brief outline of these schemes is given below.

The scheme for the improvement of cattle-breeding comprises two parts: (*a*) the loan of bulls, by the Department, to Common Grazings Committees in the Congested Districts, the Committees being responsible for the care and maintenance of the bulls for two or three years, the period

[1] *Reports of the Department of Agriculture for Scotland for the years 1932, 1933, and 1934.*

varying according to the breed of the animal; and (*b*) the award of premiums for the services of approved bulls, either hired or purchased by Societies and Committees. Premiums up to £15 are granted for Aberdeen-Angus and Shorthorn bulls, £10 for Galloway, Ayrshire, or Highland bulls, and £7 10*s*. for Shetland bulls. The premium is reduced when the animal is used for a second or third year, or when the number of services is less than 40.

Under the scheme for the encouragement of pig-breeding premiums are offered to approved societies which own or arrange for the use of approved boars of the Large White, Large Black, and Middle White breeds for the service of sows belonging to their members. All the boars have to be passed by an officer of the Department and their pedigrees furnished. The amount of the grant for each boar is £6 in the first, £4 10*s*. in the second, and £3 in the third year of premium. The premium is reduced when the number of services is less than 20.

In the counties of Argyll, Inverness, Ross and Cromarty, Sutherland, Caithness, Orkney, and Zetland there is a scheme for the improvement of sheep. The Department (*a*) hire rams of the Cheviot and Blackface breeds to Crofters' Common Grazings Committees for the service season, the fee payable being 20*s*. per ram, and (*b*) receive applications from Committees for grants towards the cost of hiring rams of the Cheviot, Border Leicester, or Blackface breeds from neighbouring farmers. For the latter the maximum grant payable by the Department is 30*s*. per ram.

The Department maintains a number of stud farms as supply centres for bulls and rams used in connexion with these schemes, and also for breeding Highland ponies and Highland cattle.

The more important particulars of the live-stock improvement schemes outlined above are given in the following table for the years 1932, 1933, and 1934.

Live-stock Improvement Schemes: Scotland, 1932–4

Year	(a) Supply bulls	(b) Premium bulls		Boars		Rams			Milk-recording	
		Societies	Bulls	Societies	Boars	Total No. of Committees	Rams*	Rams†	Herds officially tested	Cows
1932	287	360	652	‡	94	173	533	448	738	31,200
1933	290	365	652	66	107	153	463	437	745	31,750
1934	289	385	683	77	122	178	569	458	746	33,000

* Hired from the Department. † Hired by Committees from farmers.
‡ Not available.

Supply bulls, which belong mainly to the Aberdeen-Angus, Shorthorn, and Highland breeds, were located in 1934 chiefly in the Outer Islands, Skye, and Argyll. The Department loaned a total of 289 bulls, compared with 290 in 1933 and 287 in 1932. Premium bulls, which are predominantly Aberdeen-Angus, were located in 1934 chiefly in Aberdeen, Orkney, Banff, Caithness, and Moray. In 1934 the number of societies owning or hiring bulls under this section of the scheme was 385, an increase of 20 compared with 1933. The number of bulls also increased by 31 to 683. Of the 122 boars owned or hired by societies in 1934 under the pig-breeding scheme, 111 were Large Whites, and the remaining 11, Large Blacks. This scheme showed considerable development in 1933 which was maintained in 1934, the number of societies increasing by 11, and the number of boars by 15, over the previous year.

Under the sheep scheme the applications of 178 Committees were approved in 1934, compared with 153 in 1933 and 173 in 1932, and the Department assisted in the supply of 1,027 rams, compared with 900 in 1933 and 981 in 1932. In 1934 applications were received, mainly from Inverness and Ross, for the hire of 569 rams (354 Blackface and 215 Cheviot) from the Department, and they were supplied through 103 Committees. In addition, applications were

received mainly from Sutherland for the hire of 458 rams (442 Cheviot, 11 Blackface, and 5 Border Leicester) from farmers, who supplied them through 75 Committees. These figures show a considerable increase over the previous year, and this in part, at least, is due to the reduction in 1934 of the hiring fee from 25*s*. to 20*s*. per ram payable to the Department for rams owned by them, and an increase from 25*s*. to 30*s*. per ram in the maximum grant payable by the Department for rams hired from neighbouring farmers. The Department also offer assistance to small farmers in Zetland towards the purchase of pure-bred Shetland rams, including ram lambs. The rate of grant is one-half of the purchase price, subject to a maximum of £1 per ram. Eighteen grants were made in 1934, compared with ten in 1933 and six in 1932.

Conditions in the dairying industry continue to be unfavourable to any widespread increase in milk-recording. Nevertheless, the number of herds officially tested in 1934 was 746, representing approximately 33,000 cows as compared with 745 herds and 31,750 cows in 1933 and 738 herds and 31,200 cows in 1932.

There are two additional schemes which may be briefly mentioned. (1) Highland Pony stallions from the Department's stud travel in the Congested District each season for the service of mares belonging to crofters and others. The service fees are 12*s*. 6*d*. for crofters' and small farmers' mares, and 25*s*. for others. Eight stallions travelled during the 1934 season, compared with seven in 1933 and eight in 1932. (2) The Department offers grants to approved Societies or Committees and to individual owners of approved stud goats. In 1934 eleven applications were approved, compared with nine in 1933 and eleven in 1932.

Licensing of Stallions. The Horse Breeding Act, 1918, provides that any stallion travelled for service must be licensed by the Department. A licence may be refused if it appears that a stallion is of defective conformation or physique, or

affected with a prescribed disease or defect. Particulars of applications during 1932, 1933, and 1934 are:

Licensing of Stallions in Scotland, 1932–4

	1932	1933	1934
Applications for licences	426	468	504
Licences issued:	418	457	489
Heavy horses	381	401	444
Light horses	7	12	9
Ponies	30	44	36
Refusals	14	17	18
Appeals received	9	8	6
Appeals refused	3	1	3
Appeals sustained	6	7	3

The number of applications received decreased steadily from 872 in 1920, when the Act came into force, to 426 in 1932. The increase in the number of applications during 1933 and 1934 reflects a gradual recovery of prosperity in the horse-breeding industry. Clydesdales predominated last year, with 382 licences, or 86·0 per cent. of the total for heavy horses.

Licensing of Bulls in Scotland, 1932–4

	1932	1933	1934
Applications for licences received	3,813	6,878	9,042
Applications for permits received	..	23	47
Licences issued	610	6,780	7,869
Licences refused	21	241	342
Applications withdrawn	..	..	282
Bulls examined and exported from Scotland (licences not issued)	..	..	312
Permits issued	..	21	38
Appeals received	1	11	17
Appeals refused	1	6	8
Appeals sustained	..	5	9
Licences transferred	..	1,074	1,992
Bulls eligible for licence transferred to England since 1 August 1934	..	..	14

Licensing of Bulls. The Act came into operation in Scotland on 1 August 1932, two years earlier than in England and

Wales. Particulars of the results of applications during the period 1 August 1932 to 31 December 1932, and during 1933 and 1934, are shown in the table on p. 358.

In 1934 applications rejected were 3·9 per cent. of the total, and in 1933, 3·5 per cent. In each of the years 1933 and 1934 eight owners were convicted of keeping bulls for which no licence or permit was in force.

F. FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

England and Wales.

There were 51 outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in 1935,[1] compared with 79 in 1934.[2] Of these, 36 were in

Distribution of Outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in England and Wales in 1935

County	*Locality*	*No. of outbreaks*
England:		
Cheshire	Adlington, nr. Macclesfield	1
Dorset	Broadwey, Upway	15
	Sturminster Newton	10
Lancashire	Norden, nr. Rochdale	1
Oxfordshire	Deddington, nr. Banbury	1
Surrey	Coulsdon	1
Sussex, East	Catsfield, nr. Battle	1
Sussex, West	Chichester	1
Warwickshire	Tanworthy-in-Arden	2
Wiltshire	Malmesbury	3
	Total in England	36
Wales:		
Glamorgan	Bargoed	2
	Cardiff	3
	Three Crosses, nr. Swansea	3
Monmouth	Newport, Usk	7
	Total in Wales	15

[1] *Agricultural Market Reports.* Issued weekly by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

[2] Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. *Report of Proceedings under the Diseases of Animals Act for the year 1934.* H.M. Stationery Office, 1935, 1s. 6d.

England and 15 in Wales. The disease was confirmed in 10 counties, 8 in England and 2 in Wales, and many more counties were affected by the Ministry's Orders prohibiting the movement of stock, except by licence, within a radius of 15 miles of the infected premises. The distribution in 1935 of the outbreaks by counties is shown in the table on p. 359.

The incidence of the disease in England and Wales during each month of the years 1934 and 1935 was as follows:

Monthly Incidence of Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreaks in England and Wales in 1934 and 1935

Year	*Jan.*	*Feb.*	*Mar.*	*Apr.*	*May*	*June*	*July*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*Total*
1934		..	1	..	1	..	..	3	4	24	28	18	79
1935	13	4	1	8	2	1	..	..	6	8	2	6	51

There was no alteration of the established policy of the Ministry in dealing with this disease, which is immediate compulsory slaughter of all affected animals and those directly exposed to infection.

Scotland.

There were 4 outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in 1935, all in Lanarkshire. None were reported in 1934. Three outbreaks were in the Glasgow area and one in the Coatbridge area; all four outbreaks were confirmed in January.

G. NUTRITION INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

On 3 June the Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland appointed an Advisory Committee 'to enquire into the facts, quantitative and qualitative, in relation to the diet of the people, and to report as to any changes therein which appear desirable in the light of modern advances in the knowledge of nutrition'.

The members of the Committee are as follows:

The Lord Luke, K.B.E., J.P. (Chairman).
Mrs. Eleanor Barton, J.P.
Mr. J. N. Beckett.
Mr. G. F. Buchan, M.D., F.R.C.P.
Professor E. P. Cathcart, C.B.E., M.D., D.SC., F.R.S.
Mr. R. R. Enfield, M.A.
Mr. J. Alison Glover, O.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.
Mr. J. M. Hamill, O.B.E., M.D., D.SC.
Mr. A. Bradford Hill, D.SC., PH.D.
Sir F. Gowland Hopkins, D.SC., LL.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.
Mr. Donald Hunter, M.D., F.R.C.P.
Professor E. Mellanby, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.
Sir John Boyd Orr, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., M.D., D.SC., F.R.S.
Mr. E. C. Ramsbottom, O.B.E.
Mr. J. M. Vallance, W.S.
Mrs. Chalmers Watson, C.B.E., M.D.
Mr. J. R. Willis, M.C.
Mr. E. H. T. Wiltshire.

The Secretaries of the Committee are:

Mr. W. J. Peete, Mr. N. F. McNicoll, and Dr. H. E. Magee.

The Committee has not yet reported.

APPENDIX I

STATUTORY RULES AND ORDERS

Only Orders of general agricultural interest are included.

GREAT BRITAIN

Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1935

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
622	The Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) (Extension of Period) Order, 1935 (13 June): *Substitutes 30 Sept. 1935 for 31 Mar. 1935 in appropriate sections of the Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1934, to make effective the full period specified in the Cattle Industry (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1935* (*see p. 13*).	1935 13 June
1116	The Cattle Industry (Marking of Imported Cattle) (Amendment) Order, 1935 (12 Nov.): *Amends previous Order* (*No. 853, 1934*) *to make the marking of imported cattle compulsory for all bovine animals over 6 months old other than bulls, and cows which have grown more than 6 permanent incisor teeth* (*registered pedigree cattle for breeding being exempt*).	18 Nov.

British Sugar (Subsidy) Act, 1935 (and other relevant Acts)

908	The British Sugar (Subsidy) Rules, 1935 (4 Sept.): *Rules laid down for determining the 'relevant market price' in relation to sugar manufactured from home-grown beet in any week between 31 Aug. 1935 and 1 Sept. 1936.*	4 Sept.

No.	Title and subject	Date of operation
1027	The Manufacture of Sugar Regulations, 1935 (11 Sept.): *Regulations laid down by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise relating to Manufacturers' Excise Licences, &c. (The 1928 Regulations (S.R. and O., No. 622, 1928) revoked).*	1935 11 Sept.

Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1935 (and other relevant Acts)

153	The Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order of 1935 (26 Feb.): *Withdraws the prohibition on the landing of hay and straw from Finland.*	4 Mar.
628	The Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order of 1935 (No. 2) (28 June): *Withdraws the prohibition on the landing of hay and straw from South-West Africa.*	15 July
629	Diseases of Animals Order dated 28 June 1935: *Restores the Mandated Territory of South-West Africa to the list of countries which are not prohibited countries for the purposes of the Animals (Importation) Order of 1930 (S.R. and O., No. 922, 1930). Revokes S.R. and O., No. 1098, 1934.*	15 July
901	The Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order of 1935 (No. 3) (2 Sept.): *Withdraws the prohibition on the landing of hay and straw from Denmark.*	21 Sept.
1182	The Foreign Hay and Straw (Amendment) Order of 1935 (No. 4) (30 Nov.): *Makes hay and straw brought from Denmark subject to the prohibition of landing contained in the Foreign Hay and Straw Order of 1912 (London Gazette, 1912, p. 2105). Revokes S.R. and O., No. 901, above.*	30 Nov.

Isle of Man (Customs) Act, 1935

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
852	The Import Duties (Valuation of Goods) (Isle of Man) Regulations, 1935 (12 Aug.): *Prescribes regulations for declaring goods which are dutiable by reference to their value.*	1935 12 Aug.

Agricultural Marketing Acts, 1931 and 1933

71	The Agricultural Marketing (Reorganization Commission) (Scotland and Northern Ireland) Regulations, 1935 (24 Jan.): *Regulations for the procedure, &c., of Commissions.*	24 Jan.
160	The Pork (Import Regulation) Order, 1935 (26 Feb.): *The importation into the United Kingdom of pork produced in any foreign country prohibited except under licence. Licences to be granted and revoked by the Board of Trade. The Order does not apply to head, feet, rind, offals, pig products in airtight containers, or bacon (bacon being defined as any part of a pig (except head, feet, rind, and offals) which has been salted, pickled, or cured, including ham).*	12 Mar.
781	The Bacon Development Scheme (Approval) Order, 1935 (6 Aug.): *The draft Development Scheme for organizing the production of bacon in Great Britain approved, to come into operation on*	7 Sept.
691 (S. 31)	The Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935 (18 July): *The Scheme (see S.R. and O., No. 479, 1933) amended: (a) to authorize the payment of bonuses for the production and sale of certified milk, (b) to fix the contribution payable by registered producers of certified milk at ½d. a gallon, (c) to include the definition of 'certified milk'.*	1 Aug.

No.	Title and subject	Date of operation
791	The Bacon Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935 (2 Aug.): *The draft amendment of paras. 37 and 38 of the Bacon Marketing Scheme approved. (The amendment deals with the quantities of bacon which may be sold by registered producers.)*	1935 3 Aug.
1237	The Bacon (Import Regulation) Amendment Order, 1935 (18 Dec.): *Amends the previous Order (S.R. and O., No. 344, 1934) so as to prohibit importations of bacon, except under licence, from Argentina, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland and Danzig, Sweden, U.S.A., U.S.S.R.; or from any country whose weekly bacon imports to U.K. exceed 225 cwt., or nine-sixteenths of its average weekly imports during 1934 or 1935, whichever is greater; or from any country whose imports to U.K. during 1934 and 1935 were nil.*	1 Jan. (1936)
1246 (S. 55)	The Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1935 (18 Dec.): *Amends the Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme (S.R. and O., No. 479, 1933) in certain details, and particularly with regard to bonuses payable to producers who limit their supplies, &c.*	1 Jan. (1936)
1308	The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Amendment) Order, 1935 (20 Dec.): *Amends the Pigs Marketing Scheme (S.R. and O., No. 686, 1933) with regard to the constitution and certain powers of the Board, the registration of contracts, and other matters.*	21 Dec.

Import Duties Act, 1932 (and other relevant Acts)

No.	*Imports*	*Total duty*	*Date of operation*
	Alteration of duties:		1935
6	The Additional Import Duties (No. 2) Order, 1935 (15 Jan.):		
	Sodium nitrite	£4 a ton	17 Jan.
70	The Additional Import Duties (No. 4) Order, 1935 (6 Feb.):		
	Cut flowers:		
	Tulip, daffodil, hyacinth (other than Roman hyacinth), narcissus (other than polyanthus types), iris:		
	(1 Dec. to last day of Feb.) .	1*s.* 3*d.* a lb.	
	(1 Mar. to 30 Apr.) . .	1*s.* 0*d.* a lb.	
	(1 May to 30 Nov.) . .	9*d.* a lb.	
	Flowers attached to bulbs:		
	(*a*) Tulip, &c., as above.		
	(1 Dec. to last day of Feb.) .	1*s.* 3*d.* a lb.	
	(1 Mar. to 30 Apr.) . .	1*s.* 0*d.* a lb.	
	(1 May to 30 Nov.) . . .	9*d.* a lb.	
	(*b*) Other sorts	9*d.* a lb.	8 Feb.
373	The Additional Import Duties (No. 12) Order, 1935 (30 Apr.):		
	Dead domestic poultry, i.e. fowls, ducks, geese, and turkeys, but not including guinea-fowl . . .	3*d.* a lb.	2 May
646	The Additional Import Duties (No. 22) Order, 1935 (10 July):		
	Pearled barley (including pot barley), blocked barley, flaked barley, and puffed barley; but not including barley meal or flour, feeding barley meal, barley bran, barley dust, barley husks, or barley grits . .	3*s.* 6*d.* a cwt. or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is greater	12 July
751	The Additional Import Duties (No. 23) Order, 1935 (31 July):		
	Sulphate of Ammonia, synthetic sodium nitrate, ammonium sulphate-nitrate, ammonium phosphates, compound fertilizers, mixed fertilizers, compound manures, including fertilizers consisting of ammonium nitrate mixed with other materials	£4 a ton	2 August

No.	*Imports*	*Total duty*	*Date of operation*
	Alteration of duties:		1935
795	The Additional Import Duties (No. 28) Order, 1935 (13 Aug.): Barbed wire, &c. (duty temporarily reduced)	20 per cent.	15 Aug. 1935 to 7 Jan. 1936
5	The Import Duties (Exemptions) (No. 1) Order, 1935 (15 Jan.): Farina (or potato starch) . .	Added to 'free list'	17 Jan.
376	The Import Duties (Drawback) (No. 6) Order, 1935 (1 May): Cherries preserved in chemicals (not in sugar) for making crystallized cherries, &c.	Drawback allowed	3 May
883	The Import Duties (Drawback) (No. 11) Order, 1935 (2 Sept.): Wheat in grain for manufacture of white flour with ash content not exceeding 0·85 per cent., &c. .	,,	4 Sept.

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
689	The Import Duties (Valuation of Goods) Regulations, 1935 (10 July): *Arrangements for declaration of goods which are dutiable by reference to their value revised (previous regulations revoked, viz. S.R. and O., No. 731, 1934).*	1935 10 July
1244	The Import Duties (Exemptions Consolidation) Order, 1935 (23 Dec.): *Contains a consolidated list of articles on the 'Free List', or otherwise exempt from Import Duties.*	1 Jan. (1936)
1245	The Import Duties (General) Order, 1935 (23 Dec.): *Contains a consolidated table of duties chargeable by way of (1) general* ad valorem *duty (or Ottawa duty) and additional duty, (2)*	

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
	substituted general ad valorem *duty, or* (3) *reduced general* ad valorem *duty.*	1 Jan. (1936)

Irish Free State (Special Duties) Act, 1932

1070	The Irish Free State (Special Duties) Order, 1935 (8 Nov.):	1935
	Reduces the customs duty on dead turkeys from 4d. a lb. to 2d. a lb. (except where such duty exceeds the value of the goods, when the duty shall be 100 per cent. ad valorem).	11 Nov.

Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 (and other relevant Acts)

1085	Customs. Pre-entry of Goods (31 Oct. 1935):	
	Renders goods of every description intended for exportation to Italian Territory, or for shipment or delivery as stores on a vessel or aircraft proceeding to Italian Territory, subject to due entry and clearance before shipment.	31 Oct.

Ministry of Food (Continuance) Act, 1920 (and other relevant Acts)

13	The Sale of Food (Revocation) Order, 1935 (2 Jan.):	
	Revokes the Sale of Food Order, 1921, the hitherto unrevoked provisions of which deal with the labelling of imported meat.	7 Jan.

Finance Act, 1934 (and other relevant Acts)

565	The Customs (Land Boundary) Regulations, 1935 (31 May):	
	Amends the schedules to earlier Customs Regulations as to approved routes, boundary posts, and customs stations of Northern Ireland.	1 July

Wheat Act, 1932

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
74	The Wheat (Anticipated Supply) No. 1 Order, 1935 (26 Jan.): *The anticipated supply of home-grown millable wheat during the year beginning 1 Aug. 1934 prescribed as 32,000,000 cwt. (Note: it was previously prescribed (under S.R. and O., No. 882, 1934) as 29,000,000.)*	1935 26 Jan.
87	The Wheat Commission (Approval of By-laws) No. 7 Order (29 Jan.): *The Wheat (Flour Mixtures) No. 1 By-law, 1935, approved. (Note: this by-law adds Sunvico, Sunvilene, Milalene, and Golden Milalene to the list of mixtures the components of which (other than those produced by the milling of wheat) are deemed not to form part of the flour.)*	29 Jan.
180	The Wheat Commission (Scales of Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 1935 (26 Feb.): *Travelling allowances for members of the Commission revised.*	26 Feb.
192	The Wheat (Quota Payments) No. 1 Order, 1935 (14 Mar.): *The quota payment for the period commencing 17 Mar. 1935 to be 21·6d. per cwt. of flour (S.R. and O., No. 883, 1934, revoked).*	17 Mar.
285	The Wheat Commission (Approval of By-laws) No. 8 Order (27 Mar.): *By-law 20 of the Wheat By-laws, 1932, revoked. (Note: the by-law deals with the arbitration of certain disputes.)*	27 Mar.
839	The Wheat (Ascertained Average Price) Order, 1935 (15 Aug.): *The average price of home-grown wheat for the year ended 31 July 1935 prescribed as 4s. 10·873d. per cwt. The quantity of home-grown wheat sold during the year ended 31 July 1935 prescribed as 35,920,000 cwt.*	15 Aug.

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
950	The Wheat (Quota Payments) No. 2 Order, 1935 (24 Sept.): *The quota payment for the period commencing 29 Sept. 1935 to be 19·2d. per cwt. of flour (S.R. and O., No. 192, 1935, revoked).*	1935 29 Sept.
951	The Wheat (Anticipated Supply) No. 2 Order, 1935 (24 Sept.): *The anticipated supply of home-grown millable wheat during the year beginning 1 Aug. 1935 prescribed as 29,200,000 cwt.*	24 Sept.
1028	The Wheat Commission (Form of Accounts) Regulations, 1935 (7 Oct.): *Revised form of accounts for submission to the Minister prescribed (S.R. and O., No. 63, 1933, revoked).*	7 Oct.
1062	The Wheat (Quota Payments) No. 3 Order, 1935 (31 Oct.): *The quota payment for the period commencing 3 Nov. 1935 to be 16·8d. per cwt. of flour (S.R. and O., No. 950, 1935, revoked).*	3 Nov.
1107	The Wheat Commission (Approval of By-laws) No. 9 Order, 1935 (12 Nov.): *The Wheat (Flour Mixtures) No. 2 By-law, 1935, approved. (Note: this by-law adds Maltix to the list of mixtures as explained in note to S.R. and O., No. 87, above.)*	12 Nov.

Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts, 1928 and 1931

19	The Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) (Black Currants) Regulations, 1935 (4 Jan.): *Grade designations and marks for black currants revised.*	4 Jan.
	Similar Orders prescribing new or revised grade designations and marks for:	

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
		1935
20	Glasshouse-grown tomatoes and cucumbers.	11 Jan.
72	Creamery butter.	22 Jan.
107	Globe Artichokes, Jerusalem Artichokes, Broad Beans, Purple Sprouting Broccoli, Red Cabbage, Savoy Cabbage, Witloof Chicory, Scotch Kale, Mustard and Cress, Green Peas, Sage, Table Swedes, Thyme, Celery, Endive, Batavian Endive, Cabbage Lettuce, Cos Lettuce, Marrows, Mint, Parsley, Seakale, Spinach, Brussels Sprouts, Table Turnips.	12 Feb.
462	Perry.	8 May
750	Certain canned fruits.	15 July
796	Plums (certain varieties).	1 Aug.
797	Wheat flakes.	1 Aug.
798	Certain bottled fruits.	1 Aug.
799	Certain bottled vegetables.	1 Aug.
910	Caerphilly cheese.	4 Sept.
976	Apples.	23 Sept.
1168	Cheddar cheese.	19 Nov.
1234	Dressed poultry.	4 Dec.
1351	Cream cheese.	31 Dec.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926

2	The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) Exemption Direction (No. 1), 1935 (1 Jan.): *The method of marking chilled beef imported from the Union of South Africa modified.*	1 Jan.
1053	The Merchandise Marks (Imported Goods) Exemption Direction (No. 4), 1935 (24 Oct.): *The method of marking chilled beef detailed in S.R. and O., No. 2 (above) continued. The method of marking frozen pork from which the skin has been removed prior to importation, altered. (Previous Orders on this subject, including S.R. and O., No. 2, above, withdrawn.)*	31 Oct.

Seeds Act, 1920

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
1226	The Seeds (Amendment) Regulations, 1935 (9 Dec.): *Lays down particulars which must be stated when seed potatoes are sold: (a) name and address of the seller, (b) statement as to whether the potatoes are Class 1 (Scotch, Irish, English Special Stock, Welsh Special Stock, or English once grown), or Class 2; and a statement of variety, size, and dressing. (Previous Regulations revoked, viz. S.R. and O., No. 915, 1922, so far as relates to seed potatoes.)*	1935 9 Dec.

Destructive Insects and Pests Acts, 1877 to 1927 (and other relevant Acts)

61	The Fruit Tree Pests (Kent) Order of 1935 (25 Jan.): *Prescribes measures to be taken to prevent the spread of certain fungi and insects in Kent (enforceable by the Local Authority).*	18 Feb.
183	The Fruit Tree Pests (Berkshire) Order of 1935 (9 Mar.): *Order for Berkshire (similar to No. 61, above).*	25 Mar.
416	The Importation of Raw Cherries Order of 1935 (3 May): *Restricts the importation of raw cherries into England and Wales, to prevent the introduction of Cherry Fruit Fly (in similar terms to those of S.R. and O., No. 446, 1934).*	28 May to 30 Sept.
436 (S. 19)	The Importation of Raw Cherries (Scotland) Order of 1935 (9 May): *Order for Scotland (similar to No. 416, above).*	*ditto.*

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
487	The Fruit Tree Pests (Buckinghamshire) Order of 1935 (24 May):	1935
	Order for Buckinghamshire (similar to No. 61, above).	3 June
578	The Importation of Elm Trees and Conifers (Prohibition) (Amendment) Order of 1935 (18 June):	
	Removes the restrictions imposed by S.R. and O., No. 1011, 1933, so far as concerns trees imported under licence for instructional, scientific, and similar purposes.	19 June
640 (S. 28)	The Importation of Elm Trees and Conifers (Prohibition) (Scotland) (Amendment) Order of 1935 (2 July):	
	Order for Scotland (similar to No. 578, above).	3 July
1068	The Fruit Tree Pests (Middlesex) Order of 1935 (1 Nov.):	
	Order for Middlesex (similar to No. 61, above).	1 Dec.
1220	The Fruit Tree Pests (Essex) Order of 1935 (9 Dec.):	
	Order for Essex (similar to No. 61, above).	31 Dec.
1225	The Importation of Plants (Amendment) Order of 1935 (10 Dec.):	
	Prohibits, except under licence, the landing in England and Wales from any country except Scotland, Ireland, &c., of any sugar beet or mangold plants (to prevent the introduction of virus diseases).	1 Feb. (1936)
1328	The Narcissus Pests (Cornwall) Order of 1935 (28 Dec.):	
	Prescribes for the control of Narcissus Flies and eelworm in Cornwall.	1 Feb. (1936)

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922 (and other relevant Acts)

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
73 (S. 3)	The Milk (Special Designations) Order (Scotland), 1935 (23 Jan.): *Modifies the Order of 1930 so that any herd on the register of Attested Herds shall be deemed to comply with the conditions required for selling certified milk.*	1935 23 Jan.

Road Traffic Act, 1934

190	The Road Traffic Act, 1934 (Date of Commencement) Order (No. 1), 1935 (12 Mar.): *Appoints 18 Mar. 1935 as the date when the general speed limit of 30 m.p.h. in built-up areas comes into operation. Appoints 1 Apr. 1935 as the date when the provisions regarding the licences of drivers of heavy goods vehicles come into operation.*	12 Mar.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Agricultural Marketing Act (Northern Ireland), 1933

33 (N.I.)	The Bacon Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order, 1935 (28 Feb.): *Withdraws from the Bacon Marketing Board the power to regulate sales of bacon by determining the kind of bacon which may be sold by any producer, and the quantity which may be sold by reference to the quantity sold in some past period, &c.*	1 Mar.
35 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 1) Order, 1935 (2 Mar.): *Orders the Pigs Marketing Board to impose a special levy of 6d. per pig on producers, from 4 Mar. to 30 Mar. 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced between 1 Oct. 1933 and 2 Mar. 1935. Note: Total net loss £11,000 (£3,500 uncovered).*	4 Mar.

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
50 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order, 1935 (30 Mar.):	1935
	Revises the definition of 'curer' to mean a person licensed by the Ministry to carry on the business of curing bacon and hams.	15 Apr.
	Adds to the powers of the Board so that discounts may be allowed in respect of the price at which producers may sell pigs, &c.	30 Mar.
51 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 2) Order, 1935 (30 Mar.):	
	Orders a special levy of 6d. per pig, from 1 Apr. to 4 May 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 30 Mar. 1935. Note: Total net loss £13,600 (£5,100 uncovered).	1 Apr.
60 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 3) Order, 1935 (4 May):	
	Orders a special levy of 1s. per pig, from 6 May to 8 June 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 4 May 1935. Note: Total net loss, £24,000 (£14,300 uncovered).	6 May
74 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing Scheme (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1935 (6 June):	
	Amends the Scheme in various administrative and financial respects, and particularly as follows:	
	Power is given to the Board to invest money in any business producing pig products. The power of the Board to determine the prices at which and the terms on which pigs may be sold is withdrawn. After 31 Dec. 1935 the Board may be an additional party to any contract for the sale of pigs by a producer. The Board is relieved of the obligation to purchase live pigs, except when a levy has been imposed to cover losses occasioned by such purchase under the Scheme.	6 June

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
75 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 4) Order, 1935 (7 June): *Orders a special levy of 1s. per pig, from 10 June to 20 July 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 7 June 1935. Note: Total net loss £28,000 (£15,500 uncovered).*	1935 10 June
85 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 5) Order, 1935 (20 July): *Orders a special levy of 1s. per pig, from 22 July to 3 Aug. 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 20 July 1935. Note: Total net loss £30,750 (£15,000 uncovered).*	22 July
94 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 6) Order, 1935 (3 Aug.): *Orders a special levy of 2s. per pig, from 5 Aug. to 31 Aug. 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 3 Aug. 1935. Note: Total net loss £33,900 (£17,150 uncovered).*	5 Aug.
105 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 7) Order, 1935 (2 Sept.): *Orders a special levy of 2s. per pig, from 2 Sept. to 28 Sept. 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 31 Aug. 1935. Note: Total net loss £40,200 (£18,550 uncovered).*	2 Sept.
112 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 8) Order, 1935 (28 Sept.): *Orders a special levy of 3s. per pig, from 30 Sept. to 2 Nov. 1935, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 28 Sept. 1935. Note: Total net loss £49,900 (£22,500 uncovered).*	30 Sept.

No.	Title and subject	Date of operation
129 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 9) Order, 1935 (2 Nov.): *Orders a special levy of 3s. per pig, from 4 Nov. 1935 until the cessation of the special levy of 1s. per pig (which was imposed in order to pay off the loan raised by the Bacon Marketing Board (N.I) for paying compensation to curers for losses from 16 Sept. to 31 Dec. 1933) and thereafter, until 7 Dec. 1935, a special levy of 4s. per pig, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 2 Nov. 1935. Note: Total net loss, £55,400 (£16,400 uncovered).*	1935 4 Nov.
146 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Northern Ireland) (Special Levy) (No. 10) Order, 1935 (7 Dec.): *Orders a special levy of 4s. per pig, from 9 Dec. 1935 until 4 Jan. 1936, to meet the uncovered portion of the loss experienced up to 7 Dec. 1935. Note: Total net loss, £64,250 (£12,000 uncovered).*	9 Dec.

Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934 (and other relevant Acts)

5 (N.I.)	The Marketing of Pigs (Returns) Order (Northern Ireland), 1935 (10 Jan.): *Provides for returns of pigs sold to be made in prescribed form by auctioneers to the Ministry.*	10 Jan.
17 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Payment of Contribution or Levy) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (28 Jan): *Prescribes the method whereby contributions and levies are to be paid to the Pigs Marketing Board.*	28 Jan.

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
18 (N.I.)	The Marketing of Pigs (Form of Curers' Returns) (Northern Ireland) (No. 1) Regulations, 1935 (28 Jan.): *Provides for returns of pigs and carcasses bought to be made in prescribed form by bacon-curers to the Ministry.*	1935 28 Jan.
32 (N.I.)	The Pig Industry Council (Term of Office) Order (Northern Ireland), 1935 (27 Feb.): *Provides that members of the Pig Industry Council appointed by the Bacon Marketing Board and by the Pigs Marketing Board shall hold office until 31 May 1936, but shall be eligible for reappointment.*	27 Feb.
34 (N.I.)	The Marketing of Pigs (Form of Curers' Returns (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (28 Feb.): *Provides for weekly trading returns in respect of bacon and hams to be made in prescribed form by bacon-curers to the Ministry.*	28 Feb.
63 (N.I.)	Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934. Appointed day for the operation of certain provisions (9 May): *Brings into operation certain provisions as to the duties of the Pig Industry Council.*	10 May
93 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Payment of Contribution or Levy) (No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (30 July): *Prescribes that sums due each month to the Ministry on account of levies deducted by buyers of pigs shall be paid on or before the 10th day of the following month. (Previous regulations, viz. S.R. and O., No. 17, above, revoked.)*	30 July

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
126 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Additional Licence Fee) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (30 Oct.): *Increases the grading fee to 2d. for each carcass examined under the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1930, for the month of Oct. 1935 and for each succeeding month. (The previous Order, No. 122 (N.I.), 1934, revoked.)*	1935 30 Oct.
147 (N.I.)	Agricultural Marketing (Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland), 1934. Appointed day for the operation of certain provisions (5 Dec.): *Brings subsections (1) and (4) of Section 5 of the Act into operation on 6 Dec. 1935 (i.e. the duty of the Pig Industry Council to determine prices and terms of sale of pigs).*	5 Dec.
153 (N.I.)	The Pigs Marketing (Grading) (Northern Ireland) Order, 1935 (21 Dec.): *Prescribes grades for pigs for curing. (Previous Grading Order, S.R. and O., No. 101, 1934, revoked.)*	1 Jan. (1936)

Marketing of Potatoes Acts (Northern Ireland), 1928 and 1934

78 (N.I.)	Marketing of Potatoes Rules (Northern Ireland), 1935 (22 June): *Revokes Article VII of the Rules of 1933. Note: Under Article VII the provisions of the Act of 1928 did not apply to potatoes sent from Northern Ireland during the months of June, July, Aug., and Sept., &c.*	26 June

Marketing of Eggs Acts (Northern Ireland), 1924 to 1931

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
117 (N.I.)	The Marketing of Eggs (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland), 1935 (4 Oct.): *Amends the Rules of 1931 as regards grade designations of hen and duck eggs intended for sale by wholesalers with Class 'A' licences.*	1935 1 Jan. (1936)

Milk and Milk Products Act (Northern Ireland), 1934

23 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade A) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (12 Feb.): *Amends the Regulations of 1934 so that distributors may not buy Grade D milk except for extracting cream at premises which are registered as creameries and separate from premises used for milk.*	12 Feb.
24 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade B) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (12 Feb.): *Similar, for Grade B, to No. 23, above.*	12 Feb.
25 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade C) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (12 Feb.): *Similar, for Grade C, to No. 23 above. Also prohibits distributors from transferring milk to their own churns except at their licensed premises, or at the premises of the producers or distributors from whom the milk is received.*	12 Feb.
61 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade B) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (8 May): *Amends the Regulations of 1934 so that the Producer's licence fee (normally 1d. per gallon) shall be ¼d. per gallon between 12 May and 31 Aug. 1935.*	8 May
62 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade C) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (8 May): *Similar, for Grade C, to No. 61, above.*	8 May

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
102 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade B) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (24 Aug.): *Extends the provisions of No. 61, above, until 31 Aug. 1936.*	1935 24 Aug.
103 (N.I.)	The Milk (Grade C) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (24 Aug.): *Similar, for Grade C, to No. 102, above.*	24 Aug.
119 (N.I.)	The Joint Milk Council (Election of Members by Producers) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (16 Oct.): *Prescribes regulations for election of producers' members to the Council.*	16 Oct.
120 (N.I.)	The Joint Milk Council (Election of Members by Distributors) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1935 (16 Oct.): *Similar, for distributors' members, to No. 119, above.*	16 Oct.

Marketing of Fruit Act (Northern Ireland), 1931

140 (N.I.)	The Marketing of Fruit Rules (Northern Ireland), 1935 (19 Nov.): *Amends the Rules of 1933 as regards the 4th schedule (i.e. methods of packing apples).*	20 Nov.
150 (N.I.)	Marketing of Fruit Rules (Northern Ireland) No. 2 of 1935 (9 Dec.): *Amends the Rules of 1933 as regards the 6th Schedule (B) (i.e. permits for exporting ungraded apples for bottling, canning, or other manufacturing purposes).*	16 Dec.

Destructive Insects and Pests Acts (Northern Ireland) 1877 to 1934

86 (N.I.)	Black Scab in Potatoes (Northern Ireland) Order of 1935 (10 July): *Amends the Order of 1930 so that, within the*	

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
	prohibited areas, potatoes or cabbage plants may not be grown or moved, except under licence.	1935 15 July
87 (N.I.)	Importation of Elm Trees and Conifers (Prohibition) (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order, 1935 (17 July): *Modifies the Order of 1933 so that plants of the specified genera may be landed under licence in Northern Ireland for instructional, scientific, and similar purposes.*	1 Aug.
155 (N.I.)	Black Scab in Potatoes (Northern Ireland) Order (No. 2) of 1935 (31 Dec.): *Amends the Black Scab in Potatoes (Northern Ireland) Consolidation Order, 1930, as regards districts in which the growing and planting of potatoes are restricted.*	1 Jan. (1936)
157 (N.I.)	The Importation of Plants (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Order of 1935 (31 Dec.): *Prohibits, except under licence, the landing in Northern Ireland from any country except Great Britain, the Irish Free State, &c., of any sugar beet or mangold plants (to prevent the introduction of virus diseases).*	1 Feb. (1936)

Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1934

39 (N.I.)	The Bovine Tuberculosis (Northern Ireland) Order, 1935 (16 Mar.): *Orders the compulsory notification of cattle suffering or appearing to suffer from a tuberculous condition. Lays down procedure in respect to isolation, slaughter, compensation, post-mortem examination, disposal of carcasses, disinfection of premises, precautions in regard to milk, &c. (previous Tuberculosis Orders (1926 and 1931) revoked).*	1 Apr.

No.	*Title and subject*	*Date of operation*
106 (N.I.)	Sheep Dipping (Special Regulation) Order of 1935 (10 Sept.): *Prescribes double dipping for all sheep (with certain exceptions) between 7 Oct. and 16 Nov. 1935.*	1935 10 Sept.
121 (N.I.)	The Swine Fever (Belfast) Order, 1935 (17 Oct.): *Prohibits until further notice the sale, or exposure for sale, of swine at any public sale held in Belfast (previous Order (1931) revoked).*	19 Oct.

Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1878 and 1886 (and other relevant Acts)

66 (N.I.)	The Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order (Northern Ireland), 1935 (8 May): *Prescribes powers of entry for authorized officers; structural and sanitary conditions, &c., of cowsheds and dairies; precautions for protecting milk against infection, &c. (the Order of 1908 revoked).*	1 June

Slaughtered Animals (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1928 (and other relevant Acts)

128 (N.I.)	The Slaughtered Animals (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland), 1928 (Suspension of Charges) Order, 1935 (1 Nov.): *Continues the suspension of payments to the Compensation Fund (for animals exported to Great Britain) until 1 Nov. 1936.*	1 Nov.

APPENDIX II

THE PIG PRICE FORMULA UNDER THE PIGS MARKETING SCHEME CONTRACT FOR 1936

THE basic pig price is the price payable for a Class I Grade C pig. This price is based on the cost of a feeding-stuffs ration—consisting of 65 per cent. barley meal, 25 per cent. weatings, and 10 per cent. proteins and minerals—the realization value of offals, and the market price of bacon.

The cost of the feeding-stuffs ration in any month is taken as the average cost of the ration for a period of 16 weeks ending on or before the 15th of the preceding month, while the bacon price is the average price per cwt. of the weighted average of tank and dry-cured bacon of green Wiltshire style over a period of 4 weeks ending on or before the 14th of the preceding month. The bacon price is increased by the amount by which the realization value of offals exceeds 9*s*., or reduced by the amount by which the value of offals falls below 9*s*., and is then known as the 'adjusted bacon price'.

With an adjusted bacon price of 96*s*. per cwt. and a feeding cost of 7*s*. 6*d*. per cwt., the initial basic pig price is 11*s*. 7*d*. per score, which compares with 11*s*. 6*d*. under the 1935 contract formula.

The initial pig price varies with the movements in the adjusted bacon price and the cost of the feed ration. It is reduced by 1*d*. per score for every fall of 1*s*. 2*d*. in the adjusted bacon price below 96*s*., until the latter reaches 90*s*. 2*d*., when the price is reduced by 1*d*. for every fall of 10*d*. in the bacon price. Similarly, for every increase of 1*s*. 2*d*. in the bacon price above 96*s*., 1*d*. per score is added to the pig price, and when the bacon price rises above 98*s*. 4*d*., 1*d*. per score is added for every increase of 10*d*. in the bacon price.

When the bacon price is 90*s*. 2*d*. or less the initial pig price

is increased or reduced by 1*d.* per score for every 3*d.* increase or decrease in the feeding-cost price above or below 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. When the bacon price is 90*s.* 3*d.* or more the pig price is altered by 1½*d.* per score for every 3*d.* change in the ration price.

In addition, the pig price is increased by 1*d.* per score when the adjusted bacon price is between 88*s.* 7*d.* and 97*s.* 1*d.* inclusive.

TABLE I. *Utilization of Milk under the Milk Marketing Scheme, October 1934 to December 1935*

	Sold liquid			*Manufactured*			*Total sales*		*Percentage manufactured*	
	Under wholesale contracts	*By producer-retailers**	*Total*	*Under wholesale contracts*	*By farm-house cheese-makers*	*Total*	*Under wholesale contracts*	*Under all contracts*	*Of total wholesale sales*	*Of all sales*
	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	per cent.	per cent.
Oct. 1933–Mar. 1934	255,149	55,849	310,998	63,269	..	63,269	318,418	374,267	19·87	16·90
Apr.–Sept. 1934	268,664	54,122	322,786	129,355	18,846	148,201	398,019	470,987	32·50	31·47
Oct. 1934	46,770	9,078	55,848	16,700	1,200	17,900	63,470	73,748	26 31	24·27
Nov.	45,892	8,200	54,092	15,894	306	16,200	61,786	70,292	25·72	23 05
Dec.	45,818	8,262	54,080	17,763	252	18,016	63,581	72,096	27·94	24·99
Jan. 1935	46,645	9,145	55,789	18,537	215	18,752	65,182	74,541	28 44	25·16
Feb.	42,711	8,215	50,927	18,479	213	18,692	61,190	69,618	30 20	26·85
Mar.	48,011	8,919	56,930	24,203	287	24,489	72,214	81,420	33·52	30·08
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935	275,847	51,819	327,666	111,576	2,473	114,049	387,423	441,715	28 80	25 82
April†	45,881	8,707	54,588	29,985	1,542	31,526	75,865	86,114	39·52	36·61
May†	48,677	8,997	57,674	40,565	2,187	42,752	89,242	100,427	45·46	42·57
June†	46,035	8,707	54,742	39,863	2,251	42,114	85,898	96,856	46 41	43·48
July†	46,833	8,997	55,830	34,030	2,149	36,179	80,862	92,009	42 08	39·32
Aug.†	45,033	8,998	54,031	25,620	1,843	27,463	70,654	81,494	36·26	33·70
Sept.†	46,009	8,707	54,716	20,051	1,560	21,611	66,060	76,326	30·35	28·31
Apr.–Sept. 1935†	278,468	53,113	331,581	190,113	11,532	201,645	468,581	533,226	40 57	36·94
Oct.	47,267	8,998	56,265	21,290	1,400	22,690	68,557	78,995	31·05	28·74
Nov	45,594	8,707	54,301	19,259	517	19,776	64,853	74,077	29·70	26 70
Dec.	45,697	8,998	54,695	20,063	379	20,442	65,760	75,137	30·51	27·21

* Excludes sales on which the levy was not assessed on the gallonage sold.

† Wholesale sales are provisional, producer-retailers' sales estimated.

TABLE II. *Percentage of Wholesale Sales of Milk Manufactured in the Various Regions, Monthly from October 1934 to December 1935*

	Northern	*North Western*	*Eastern*	*East Midland*	*West Midland*	*North Wales*	*South Wales*	*Southern*	*Mid Western*	*Far Western*	*South Eastern*	*All Regions*
Oct. 1933 to Mar. 1934	14·53	19 37	6·06	11·97	34 82	21 07	28·03	8·46	35 70	37 09	2 36	19 87
Apr. to Sept. 1934	20 02	34 50	10 06	24 95	50 67	38 80	35·86	15 02	50·79	57·61	32·9	32·50
Oct. 1934 .	20 89	24·82	8·82	15·45	43 06	42·79	26·57	11·08	42 62	57·16	2·53	26·31
Nov. . .	21·07	24·88	9·48	16·26	41·75	47·46	24 25	12·30	41·72	52 56	2·74	25·72
Dec. . .	26·75	28·18	13·37	19·42	44·63	44·47	25 21	13·51	45·22	50·73	3·78	27·94
Jan. 1935 .	26 68	28 81	15 02	19·38	44·11	43·50	28 31	14 93	45·84	50 88	4·12	28·44
Feb. . .	26·97	30·97	15·92	21·31	46 47	46·16	29 43	15 61	48·66	51·70	4·19	30·20
Mar. . .	28 02	34·62	18 46	23·25	52 61	53·06	34 25	16·27	52·89	53 20	4·26	33·52
Oct. 1934 to Mar. 1935	25 15	28·87	13 75	19·35	45 73	46 52	28 17	14 02	46·22	52 84	3 63	28 80
Apr. . .	33·63	38 77	22·00	29·22	60 54	58 83	46 71	20 80	61·22	60·29	5·53	39·52
May . .	37·56	44·84	25·56	34·64	65·41	60 25	52 84	22·99	68 60	67·15	6 68	45 46
June . .	41 61	45 08	22·77	36 26	66 06	60 47	51 77	23·12	70 34	70·05	6·52	46·41
July . .	38 32	40 63	17·29	32·15	61·36	57·21	46·17	19 87	63·16	69·08	5 81	42·08
Aug. . .	35·06	36·43	12·14	28·34	53·46	46 48	36·29	16·66	53 00	63·85	5·61	36·26
Sept. . .	28 58	29·18	11·49	19 45	46·81	45 89	31·27	13·74	46 88	59·65	4·09	30·35
Apr. to Sept. 1935	36·03	39 65	19·15	30 60	59 88	55·61	44 84	19·90	61·50	65·51	5·76	40 60
Oct. . .	29·10	29 55	15 21	19 65	47·48	39 80	33·56	12 70	49·35	60·48	4·04	31 05
Nov. . .	32·47	29 02	13 59	20·01	46 09	40 74	31·42	10 97	46·12	60·50	3.04	29·70
Dec. . .	35·47	31·08	15 92	22·14	44·68	46·14	34·36	12·62	45·15	59·83	4·68	30·51

TABLE III. *Percentage Utilization of Manufacturing Milk under the Milk Marketing Scheme, October 1934 to December 1935*

	Butter	*Cheese*	*Condensed milk*	*Condensed milk for export*	*Milk powder*	*Fresh cream and ice cream*	*Tinned cream*	*Other goods*	*Total*
Oct. 1933–Mar. 1934	21·5	30·3	15·7	2·4	4·7	20·2	2·4	2·8	100·0
Apr.–Sept. 1934	21·4	32·8	18·7	3·4	4·2	15·2	3·1	1·2	100·0
Oct. 1934	24·3	31·2	17·5	2·6	5·4	15·3	1·9	1·8	100·0
Nov.	23·8	32·5	17·8	2·6	4·8	14·6	2·2	1·7	100·0
Dec.	24·8	30·6	17·1	1·8	4·3	18·3	1·8	1·3	100·0
Jan. 1935	26·0	30·6	17·3	2·9	3·6	15·2	2·9	1·5	100·0
Feb.	31·6	30·0	15·3	2·0	2·4	14·4	3·1	1·2	100·0
Mar.	31·5	30·7	14·4	3·1	3·4	13·2	2·7	1·0	100·0
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935	27·4	30·9	16·4	2·5	3·9	15·0	2·5	1·4	100·0
Apr.	30·0	31·5	16·1	2·8	4·5	11·7	2·6	0·8	100·0
May	28·4	33·4	16·2	2·8	5·0	10·6	2·7	0·9	100·0
June	27·2	33·0	16·2	2·3	5·1	12·8	2·6	0·8	100·0
July	26·9	30·7	15·4	2·9	3·9	16·8	2·4	1·0	100·0
Aug.	26·3	26·1	18·4	2·4	3·3	20·3	2·3	0·9	100·0
Sept.	29·6	26·4	16·2	3·1	3·7	16·9	2·9	1·2	100·0
Apr.–Sept. 1935	28·0	30·8	16·3	2·7	4·4	14·3	2·6	0·9	100·0
Oct.	36·7	25·5	13·3	3·5	3·7	12·9	2·8	1·6	100·0
Nov.	36·8	26·2	13·3	2·7	3·9	13·0	2·7	1·4	100·0
Dec.	36·6	24·9	11·8	2·9	3·5	16·2	2·7	1·4	100·0

TABLE IV. *Regional Pool Prices, October 1934 to December 1935, in Pence Per Gallon*

	Northern	*North Western*	*Eastern*	*East Midland*	*West Midland*	*North Wales*	*South Wales*	*Southern*	*Mid Western*	*Far Western*	*South Eastern*	*Unweighted Average*
Oct. 1933–Mar. 1934*	13·7	13 5	14 0	13 7	13 0	13 4	13 4	14 0	13 2	13 0	14·5	13 57
Apr.–Sept. 1934*	10 6	10 3	10 7	10 4	10 2	10 25	10 5	10 7	10 4	10 25	11 25	10·50
Oct. 1934 .	13⅜	13½	14¼	14	12¾	12⅜	13⅜	14¼	13	12½	14⅜	13 55
Nov. .	14	14	14½	14	13	13¼	14	14½	13	13	14½	13·80
Dec. .	14¼	14¼	14⅜	14½	14	14	14½	14⅜	14¼	14	14⅜	14 34
Jan. 1935 .	14½	14½	14⅜	14½	14	14¼	14⅜	14½	14	14	15¼	14·45
Feb. .	14	14	14¼	14¼	13½	13½	14	14½	13½	13⅜	14½	13 98
Mar. .	13	12⅜	13¼	13	12½	12⅜	13	13¼	12½	12½	13½	12·91
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935*	13·9	13 8	14 25	14 0	13 3	13 4	14 0	14·3	13 4	13 25	14 5	13 84
Apr. .	12¼	12	12¼	12	11¾	11¾	12¼	12½	11¾	12	12⅜	12·08
May. .	9½	9¼	9⅜	9½	9	9¼	9½	9⅜	9	9	10	9·41
June .	9½	9½	10	9½	9¼	9¼	9½	10	9¼	9¼	10¼	9·57
July .	10	9⅜	10¼	10	9½	9½	10	10¼	9¼	9½	10½	9·89
Aug. .	10	10	10¼	10	9⅜	10	10¼	10¼	9¾	9¾	10½	10·05
Sept. .	12⅜	12⅜	13	13	12¼	12½	12⅜	13	12½	12¼	13¼	12·73
Apr.–Sept. 1935*	10 7	10 5	10 9	10 7	10 25	10 4	10 7	10 9	10 3	10 3	11.2	10·62
Oct. .	13½	13⅜	13⅜	13½	13	13¼	13½	13⅜	13	13	14	13 43
Nov. .	13¼	13¼	13¾	13½	13	13	13½	13¾	13	13	14	13·40
Dec. .	13¼	13½	14	13¾	13¼	13¼	13½	14	13¼	13	14¼	13·55

* Unweighted averages.

TABLE V. *Sales of Milk under the Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme, October 1934 to December 1935*

	Sold liquid			*Manufactured*			*Total sales*		*Percentage manufactured*	
	By Board	*By category producers**	*Total*	*Through Board*	*By farm-house cheese-makers*	*Total*	*Through Board*	*Of all milk*	*Of sales by Board*	*Of all milk*
	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	000 gallons	per cent.	per cent.
Dec. 1933–Mar. 1934	14,583	7,684	22,267	5,333	444	5,777	19,916	28,044	26·78	20 60
Apr.–Sept. 1934†	25,886	9,213	35,099	19,611	9,256	28,867	45,497	63,966	43 10	45·13
Oct.	4,329	1,361	5,690	2,083	550	2,633	6,412	8,323	32 49	31·64
Nov.	4,230	1,298	5,528	1,759	65	1,824	5,989	7,352	29·37	24·81
Dec.	4,356	1,320	5,676	1,758	2	1,760	6,114	7,436	28·75	23·67
Jan. 1935	4,402	1,383	5,785	1,811	..	1,811	6,213	7,596	29 15	23 84
Feb.	4,111	1,312	5,423	1,870	1	1,871	5,981	7,294	31 27	25·65
Mar.	4,731	1,409	6,140	2,795	391	3,186	7,526	9,326	37·14	34·16
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935	26,159	8,083	34,242	12,076	1,009	13,085	38,235	47,327	31·58	27·65
Apr.	4,468	1,417	5,885	3,417	964	4,381	7,885	10,266	43 34	42·67
May	4,950	1,507	6,457	4,557	1,621	6,178	9,507	12,635	47 93	48·90
June	4,715	1,512	6,227	4,761	1,768	6,529	9,476	12,756	50·24	51·18
July	4,451	1,534	5,985	4,700	1,746	6,446	9,151	12,431	51 36	51·85
Aug.	4,621	1,498	6,119	3,448	1,360	4,808	8,069	10,927	42 73	44·00
Sept.	4,583	1,405	5,988	2,361	826	3,187	6,944	9,175	34 00	34 74
Apr.–Sept. 1935	27,788	8,873	36,661	23,244	8,285	31,529	51,032	68,190	45·55	46·24
Oct.	4,704	1,387	6,091	2,100	189	2,289	6,804	8,380	30 86	27·32
Nov.	4,434	1,316	5,750	1,868	3	1,871	6,302	7,621	29·64	24 55
Dec.	4,470	1,271	5,741	1,962	..	1,962	6,432	7,703	30 50	25·47

* Approximate.

† In December 1933, and January and February 1934, there were approximately 600,000 gallons of milk monthly under contract and therefore outside the control of the Board.

TABLE VI. *Percentage Utilization of Manufacturing Milk Under the Scottish Milk Marketing Scheme, October 1934 to December 1935*

	Fresh cream	*Tinned cream*	*Cheese*	*Butter*	*Condensed milk*	*Milk powder*	*Other products*	*Total*
Dec. 1933–Mar. 1934	59·7	5·6	18·5	9·0	4·2	0·1	2·9	100·0
Apr.–Sept. 1934	34·1	4·8	47·7	7·4	3·2	1·3	1·5	100·0
Oct. 1934	42·6	2·4	35·4	10·0	7·3	0·1	2·2	100·0
Nov.	48·4	2·0	30·4	10·7	6·0	0·1	2·4	100·0
Dec.	62·3	1·6	17·4	12·4	3·7	..	2·6	100·0
Jan. 1935	51·2	4·8	23·0	14·1	4·6	..	2·3	100·0
Feb.	50·1	5·6	19·6	15·2	7·2	..	2·3	100·0
Mar.	38·2	8·7	30·9	13·5	7·3	0·1	1·3	100·0
Oct. 1934–Mar. 1935	47·7	4·6	26·7	12·7	6·1	0·1	2·1	100·0
Apr.	29·3	7·8	42·2	12·5	7·0	..	1·2	100·0
May	22·9	5·9	50·8	13·5	5·8	..	1·1	100·0
June	20·9	6·4	50·9	13·1	7·8	..	0·9	100·0
July	24·7	5·1	44·1	13·8	11·3	..	1·0	100·0
Aug.	32·7	3·1	34·4	17·9	10·6	0·2	1·2	100·0
Sept.	41·9	5·4	16·8	22·1	12·2	0·1	1·5	100·0
Apr.–Sept. 1935	27·2	5·7	42·3	14·8	8·9	..	1·1	100·0
Oct.	44·8	6·1	9·9	26·2	11·0	0·4	1·6	100·0
Nov.	49·0	6·4	4·4	26·4	11·8	0·2	1·8	100·0
Dec.	54·7	9·7	4·5	26·3	2·9	0·2	1·7	100·0

Rates of Duties Charged on the Principal Agricultural Products, March 1936.[a]

* Where compulsory quantitative regulation is in force; for details of arrangements see pp. 164–79.
† Where voluntary limitation agreements are existent; for details of arrangements see pp. 165–79.

Commodity	*Source of imports*		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*[b]	*Other Empire*
Live animals:			
Live cattle for food[c]	Prohibited	Under 6 months old, £1 per head 6 months to 15 months, £2 per head 15 months to 2 years, £3 per head 2 years and upwards (not mincers), £4 5*s.* per head 2 years and upwards (mincers), £2 per head	Free (†Canada)
Live sheep and lambs	Prohibited	5*s.* per head	Free
Live pigs . .	Prohibited	40 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Horses . . .	Prohibited	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Other animals .	Prohibited	30 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Meat:			
Fresh beef and veal .	Prohibited	Prohibited (30 per cent. *ad valorem*)	†Free

[a] For rates of duty on all products see *Customs and Excise Tariff of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in operation on 1 January 1936*. H.M.S.O. 1936, No. 34.
[b] The duties chargeable by weight or other unit of quantity are subject to a maximum of 100 per cent. *ad valorem*.
[c] Certain classes of cattle from the Irish Free State are subject to compulsory quantitative regulation, see p. 169.

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	Irish Free State	Other Empire
Meat—cont.			
Chilled and frozen beef	*Free	Prohibited (30 per cent. *ad valorem*)	†Free
Canned beef	†10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Prohibited (10 per cent. *ad valorem*)	†Free
Fresh mutton and lamb	Prohibited	Carcasses, 5*s.* each Sides, 2*s.* 6*d.* each Other kinds, 20 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Frozen mutton and lamb	*Free	..	†Free
Bacon and hams	*Free	*40 per cent. *ad valorem*	†Free
Fresh pork, carcasses	Prohibited	16*s.* per cwt. or 40 per cent *ad valorem*, whichever is the greater	Free
other kinds		40 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Frozen pork, carcasses	*Free	..	Free
other kinds			
Other meat, tinned	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
not tinned	Free		
Edible offals (fresh)	Prohibited	Prohibited (30 per cent. *ad valorem*)	
Dairy products:			
Liquid milk	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Cream	†10 per cent. *ad valorem*	†40 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Butter	15*s.* per cwt.	40 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Cheese	15 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
***Dairy products*—cont.**			
Condensed milk, whole unsweetened	†6*s.* per cwt.	†10 per cent. *ad valorem*	†Free
Condensed milk, whole sweetened	†5*s.* per cwt., plus the duty on the sugar content	†10 per cent. *ad valorem*, plus the preferential duty on the sugar content	†Preferential duty on the sugar content
Condensed milk, separated sweetened	*10 per cent. *ad valorem* or the duty on the sugar content, whichever is the greater	†10 per cent. *ad valorem* or the preferential duty on the sugar content, whichever is the greater	
Milk powder, sweetened			
Milk powder, unsweetened and other unsweetened milk products	†6*s.* per cwt.	†10 per cent. *ad valorem*	†Free
Eggs in shell[a]			
Not exceeding 14 lb. per 120	†1*s.* per 120	†40 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Over 14 lb.–17 lb.	1*s.* 6*d.* per 120		
Over 17 lb.	1*s.* 9*d.* per 120		
Eggs not in shell			
Liquid or frozen, including glycerinated	½*d.* per lb.	½*d.* per lb. plus 30 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free

[a] Subject to certain conditions, eggs of Yugoslav origin are exempt from duty, see p. 187.

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
Dairy products—cont.			
Dried whole	2¼*d.* per lb.	2¼*d.* per lb. plus 30 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Dried yolk	1¼*d.* per lb.	1¼*d.* per lb. plus 30 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Dried albumen	2¾*d.* per lb.	2¾*d.* per lb. plus 30 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Poultry, live dead; fowls, ducks, geese[a]	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	40 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
	3*d.* per lb.	4*d.* per lb.	Free
turkeys[a]	3*d.* per lb.	5*d.* per lb.	Free
Crops			
Wheat	2*s.* per qr. of 480 lb.	Free	Free
Pearled barley[b]	3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is the greater	3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is the greater	Free
Oats in grain	3*s.* per cwt.	3*s.* per cwt.	Free; †from Canada
Oatmeal	7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.	7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.	Free; †from Canada
Potatoes, new:			
1 Nov.–30 June	*4*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.	*4*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.	Free
1 July–31 Aug.	*£2 per ton	*£2 per ton	
1 Sept.–31 Oct.	*£1 per ton	*£1 per ton	
Other descriptions:			
1 July–31 Aug.	*£2 per ton	*£2 per ton	Free
1 Sept.–30 June	*£1 per ton	*£1 per ton	Free

[a] Subject to certain conditions, turkeys and fowls of Yugoslav origin are charged at 1*d.* per lb. See p. 187

[b] Including pot, blocked, flaked, and puffed barley, but not including barley meal and flour, feeding barley meal, barley bran, dust, husks, or grits.

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
Crops—cont.			
Hops	£4 per cwt.	£2 13*s*. 4*d*. per cwt.	£2 13*s*. 4*d*. per cwt.
Sugar	According to degree of polarization, ranging from 11*s*. 8*d*. per cwt. for a polarization of more than 99° to 4*s*. 6*d*. per cwt. with a polarization of 76° or less	According to degree of polarization, ranging from 5*s*. 10*d*. per cwt. with a polarization of more than 99° to 2*s*. 5½*d*. per cwt. with a polarization of 76° or less	According to degree of polarization; Certificated Colonial Sugar charged rates varying from 2*s*. 4·7*d*. per cwt. with a polarization of more than 99° to 9·6*d*. per cwt. with a polarization of 76° or less; other sugar charged at rates varying from 5*s*. 10*d*. to 2*s*. 5½*d*. per cwt.
Fresh Fruits			
Apples[a]	4*s*. 6*d*. per cwt.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Pears	4*s*. 6*d*. per cwt.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Plums:			
1 June–31 Oct.	9*s*. 4*d*. per cwt.	9*s*. 4*d*. per cwt.	Free
1 Nov.–30 Nov.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
1 Dec.–31 March	9*s*. 4*d*. per cwt.		
1 April–31 May	10 per cent. *ad valorem*		
Apricots—fresh	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Bananas	2*s*. 6*d*. per cwt.	..	Free
Bilberries	Free	Free	Free
Cherries:			
1 May–15 Aug.	3*d*. per lb.	3*d*. per lb.	Free
16 Aug.–30 Apr.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	

[a] If consigned direct to a cider manufacturer they may be charged at 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
***Fresh Fruits*—cont.**			
Currants:			
1 May–31 Aug. .	2*d.* per lb.	2*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Sept.–30 Apr. .	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Gooseberries:			
1 May–31 July .	½*d.* per lb.	½*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Aug.–30 Apr. .	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Grapefruit . .	5*s.* per cwt.	. .	Free
Grapes, other than hothouse:			
1 Feb.–30 June.	1½*d.* per lb.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
1 July–31 Jan. .	10 per cent. *ad valorem*		
hothouse . .	3*d.* per lb.	3*d.* per lb.	Free
Oranges:			
1 Apr.–30 Nov. .	3*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.	. .	Free
1 Dec.–31 Mar. .	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	. .	
Peaches and nectarines, not hothouse:			
1 Dec.–31 Mar.	14*s.* per cwt.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
1 Apr.–30 Nov.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*		
hothouse:			
1 Apr.–31 Oct. .	1*s.* per lb.	1*s.* per lb.	Free
1 Nov.–30 Nov.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
1 Dec.–31 Mar.	14*s.* per cwt.		
Raspberries and loganberries:			
1 July–31 Aug. .	2*d.* per lb.	2*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Sept.–30 June .	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
***Fresh Fruits*—cont.**			
Strawberries:			
1 Apr.–31 July	3*d.* per lb.	3*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Aug.–31 Mar.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Fresh vegetables			
Asparagus:			
1 Jan. to end of Feb.	4*d.* per lb.	4*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Mar.–15 Apr.	1½*d.* per lb.	1½*d.* per lb.	
16 Apr.–30 June	4*d.* per lb.	4*d.* per lb.	
1 July–31 Dec.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Broccoli and cauliflowers:			
1 Mar.–30 June	4*s.* per cwt.	4*s.* per cwt.	Free
1 July–end of Feb.	3*s.* per cwt.	3*s.* per cwt.	
Carrots:			
1 May–15 June	10*s.* per cwt.	10*s.* per cwt.	Free
16 June–30 Apr.	2*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	2*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	
Cucumbers (other than gherkins):			
1 Mar.–30 Nov.	8*s.* per cwt.	8*s.* per cwt.	Free
1 Dec.–end of Feb.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Green beans:			
1 Jan.–31 Aug.	1½*d.* per lb.	1½*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Sept.–31 Dec.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Green peas:			
1 Jan.–31 July			
unshelled	9*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	9*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	Free
shelled	£1 17*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	£1 17*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	
1 Aug.–31 Dec.	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	Irish Free State	Other Empire
Fresh Vegetables—cont.			
Lettuce, endive, and chicory (salad):			
1 Jan.–end of Feb.	5*s.* per cwt.	5*s.* per cwt.	Free
1 Mar.–30 Apr.	10*s.* per cwt.	10*s.* per cwt.	
1 May–31 Dec.	8*s.* per cwt.	8*s.* per cwt.	
Mushrooms	8*d.* per lb.	8*d.* per lb.	Free
Onions	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Tomatoes:			
1 June–31 Aug.	2*d.* per lb.	2*d.* per lb.	Free
1 Sept.–31 Oct.	1*d.* per lb.	1*d.* per lb.	
1 Nov.–31 May	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	
Turnips:			
1 May–15 June	8*s.* per cwt.	8*s.* per cwt.	Free
16 June–30 Apr.	2*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	2*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.	
Wool			
Raw	Free	Free	Free
Fertilizers			
Mineral phosphates of lime	Free	Free	Free
Superphosphate of lime	10*s.* per ton or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is the greater	10*s.* per ton or 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, whichever is the greater	Free
Kainit, and other mineral potassium salts	Free	Free	Free

Commodity	Source of imports		
	Foreign	*Irish Free State*	*Other Empire*
Fertilizers—cont.			
Ammonium sulphate	£4 per ton	£4 per ton	Free
Nitrate of lime	Free	Free	Free
Ammonium nitrate	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Sodium nitrate (other than synthetic)	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free
Synthetic sodium nitrate	£4 per ton	£4 per ton	Free
Compound fertilizers	£4 per ton	£4 per ton	Free
Other fertilizers containing ammonium nitrate	£4 per ton	£4 per ton	Free
Feeding Stuffs[a]			
Maize, flat, white	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free	Free
Maize, other kinds	Free	Free	Free
Linseed	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free	Free
Soya bean cake and meal	20 per cent. *ad valorem*	..	..
Cotton seed	Free	Free	Free
Rape seed	Free	Free	Free
Hay and straw	Free	Free	Free
Herring meal	Free	Free	Free
Others	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	10 per cent. *ad valorem*	Free

[a] For barley and oats, see p. 395.

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