

## CHAPTER XIX.

### PASTORAL PRODUCTION.

#### § 1. Initiation and Growth of Pastoral Industry.

1. **Early Statistics.**—The live stock which Captain Phillip brought with him when establishing the first settlement in January, 1788, is stated to have comprised seven horses, six cattle, twenty-nine sheep, twelve pigs and a few goats. Later in the same year in a letter from Captain Phillip to Lord Sydney, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, an enclosure sets forth the number of each kind of live stock in the colony on 1st May, 1788. These details together with those of later enumerations are shown in the following table:—

LIVE STOCK : AUSTRALIA.

Date.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.
1st May, 1788 ..	7	7	29	74	19
10th November, 1791 ..	4	18	57	37	(a)
1st July, 1794 ..	(b) 20	40	576	(a)	522
15th June, 1795 ..	(c) 49	176	832	(a)	985
1st September, 1796 ..	57	227	1,531	1,869	1,427
15th August, 1800 ..	203	1,044	6,124	4,026	2,182

(a) Not stated.

(b) Excludes three asses.

(c) Excludes seven asses.

The return for the year 1788 includes, in addition to poultry, five rabbits.

2. **Subsequent Statistics.**—The statistical returns of live stock in Australia subsequent to the year 1800 referred mainly to those in possession of the Government, omitting those owned by individuals. Doubtless the growth of population, the expansion of the area settled and the increase of private ownership made it difficult in those early times to secure accurate returns. The figures continued to be somewhat defective up to 1860, but from that year onwards fairly complete information is available for most of the States. At the present time, statistics of live stock are collected annually in all the States principally through the agency of the police, but in the years 1885 to 1888 inclusive, and 1893 to 1895 inclusive, these particulars were not collected in South Australia, and similar gaps occur in the Victorian records for the periods 1895 to 1899 inclusive and 1901 to 1903. In order to obtain totals for Australia for these years the missing numbers have been supplied by interpolation. The results so obtained probably differ only slightly from the actual numbers for the respective years.

3. **Increase in Live Stock.**—Particulars concerning the numbers of each of the principal kinds of live stock in Australia at decennial intervals from 1860 to 1930, and from 1936 onwards in single years are given in the following table, and are shown continuously on the graph on page 785.

During the eighty-four years covered by the table the live stock of Australia increased considerably, horses, 236 per cent. ; cattle, 258 per cent. ; sheep, 512 per cent. ; and pigs, 398 per cent. The average annual increases which these aggregates represent are as follows:—Horses, 1.45 per cent. ; cattle, 1.53 per cent. ; sheep, 2.18 per cent. ; and pigs, 1.93 per cent.

## LIVE STOCK : AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1860 .. .. .	431,525	3,957,915	20,135,286	351,096
1870 .. .. .	716,772	4,276,326	41,593,612	543,388
1880 .. .. .	1,068,774	7,527,142	62,184,252	815,776
1890 .. .. .	1,521,598	10,299,816	97,881,221	891,138
1900 .. .. .	1,609,654	8,640,225	70,602,995	950,349
1910 .. .. .	2,165,866	11,744,714	98,066,046	1,025,850
1920 .. .. .	2,415,510	13,499,737	81,795,727	764,406
1930 .. .. .	1,792,734	11,720,916	110,568,279	1,071,679
1936 .. .. .	1,764,430	13,911,659	108,875,801	1,293,964
1937 .. .. .	1,762,750	13,491,872	110,242,704	1,202,752
1938 .. .. .	1,746,513	13,078,356	113,372,518	1,100,082
1939 .. .. .	1,724,056	12,861,781	111,057,832	1,155,591
1940 .. .. .	1,698,797	13,080,180	119,305,391	1,455,341
1941 .. .. .	1,665,616	13,255,841	122,694,025	1,797,340
1942 .. .. .	1,611,059	13,560,754	125,189,129	1,477,303
1943 (31st March) .. .. .	1,517,970	14,005,320	124,614,672	1,563,000
1944 „ „ .. .. .	1,449,199	14,183,679	123,173,962	1,746,721

4. *Fluctuations.*—The increases referred to, however, have not been continuous, marked fluctuations having taken place during the period, mainly on account of droughts which have from time to time left their impress on the pastoral history of Australia. These occurred in 1868, 1877, 1883-4, 1892, 1893, 1895, 1901-2, 1912, 1914, 1918, 1919, 1922-23, 1925-26, 1927-28, 1929-30 and 1940-41.

The years in which the number of live stock attained their maxima are as follows:—Horses, 1918, 2,527,149 ; cattle, 1921, 14,441,309 ; sheep, 1942, 125,189,129 ; and pigs, 1941, 1,797,340.

5. *Live Stock in Relation to Population.*—The number of each kind of live stock per head of the population of Australia has varied during the past eighty-four years as shown in the following table:—

## LIVE STOCK PER HEAD OF POPULATION : AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Year.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1860 ..	0.38	3.45	17.58	0.31	1930 ..	0.28	1.81	17.07	0.17
1870 ..	0.43	2.60	25.24	0.33	1939 ..	0.25	1.87	16.11	0.16
1880 ..	0.48	3.37	27.87	0.37	1940 ..	0.24	1.86	16.97	0.21
1890 ..	0.48	3.17	31.06	0.28	1941 ..	0.23	1.87	17.28	0.25
1900 ..	0.43	2.29	18.75	0.25	1942 ..	0.22	1.89	17.46	0.21
1910 ..	0.49	2.65	22.16	0.23	1943 ..	0.21	1.94	17.24	0.22
1920 ..	0.44	2.49	15.11	0.14	1944 ..	0.20	1.94	16.83	0.24

6. Live Stock in Relation to Area.—The number of live stock per square mile in the several States and Territories of Australia is given in the following table :—

LIVE STOCK PER SQUARE MILE, 1944.

State or Territory.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
New South Wales .. .. .	1.51	10.16	183.68	1.81
Victoria .. .. .	3.16	22.91	218.70	3.84
Queensland .. .. .	0.58	9.73	34.68	0.67
South Australia .. .. .	0.41	1.09	27.26	0.49
Western Australia .. .. .	0.11	0.89	11.28	0.17
Tasmania .. .. .	1.00	8.78	83.46	1.77
Northern Territory .. .. .	0.06	1.87	0.05	0.00
Australian Capital Territory .. .. .	1.23	8.61	292.48	0.70
Australia .. .. .	0.48	4.77	41.41	0.58

7. Minor Classes of Live Stock.—Excluding Victoria, where the details are not available, the number of minor classes of live stock returned for 1941 were as follows :—Goats, 80,366; camels, 2,267; and mules and donkeys, 10,881. Of these, goats were most numerous in Queensland, and camels, mules and donkeys in Western Australia. In the raising of goats, some attention has been devoted to the angora goat and its product (mohair), and upwards of 5,000 angora goats are included in the number shown above. Of these, 1,640 were in New South Wales, 1,000 in Queensland, 1,531 in South Australia, and 284 in Tasmania. Details for later years were not collected.

8. Net Exports of Principal Pastoral Products.—The quantities by which the exports of the principal pastoral products of Australia exceeded the imports for the years 1938–39 and 1940–41 to 1943–44 were as follows :—

NET EXPORTS OF PASTORAL PRODUCTS : AUSTRALIA.

Product.	Unit of Quantity.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
<b>QUANTITIES.</b>						
Animals (living)—						
Cattle .. .. .	No.	405	248	56	322	93
Horses .. .. .	"	2,294	1,668	222	1,110	395
Sheep .. .. .	"	66,739	86,265	64,750	5,107	7,424
Bones .. .. .	Cwt.	21,497	2,252	8,502	—200	—165
Glue-pieces and Sinews .. .. .	"	—11,145	—5,443	—7,209	—10,669	—1,906
Glycerine .. .. .	lb.	78,727	—1,940,472	—2,016,918	—705,483	304
Hair .. .. .	"	—1,003,366	—1,259,343	—1,402,642	—327,684	—428,624
Hoofs .. .. .	Cwt.	(a)	(a)	1,086	(a)	(a)
Horns .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Meats—						
Frozen Beef (b) .. .. .	lb.	271,948,548	198,625,039	117,070,259	22,621,078	47,446,996
" Mutton and Lamb .. .. .	"	186,487,551	238,925,384	174,914,611	203,681,520	171,569,765
" Rabbits and Hares .. .. .	Pair	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
" Other .. .. .	lb.	19,588,368	23,718,637	8,672,238	15,351,235	28,592,692
Potted, and Extract of .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Preserved in Tins, etc. .. .. .	lb.	14,778,896	42,444,796	94,059,281	66,736,683	79,607,796
Other (excluding Bacon and Ham) .. .. .	"	308,448	1,321,135	696,512	2,913,961	664,899
Sausage Casings .. .. .	Cwt.	8,673	17,178	11,191	14,601	15,107
Skins—						
Cattle .. .. .	No.	(a)	(a)	4,303	—128,852	61,378
Calf .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	20,836	—4,433	—19,237
Horse .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	6,512	3,668	9,944
Sheep .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	13,353,389	8,254,128	6,861,576
Rabbit .. .. .	Cwt.	(c) 37,544	88,313	76,831	54,773	102,944
Other (including Undressed Furs) .. .. .	"	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Tallow .. .. .	Cwt.	560,241	548,428	652,630	99,059	590,676
Wool—						
Greasy .. .. .	lb.	779,781,662	486,744,671	735,134,359	516,775,265	454,308,338
Scoured .. .. .	"					
Tops .. .. .	"					
Noils .. .. .	"					
Waste .. .. .	"	70,299,595	60,079,146	92,245,202	51,666,359	70,273,672

(a) Quantity not available. (b) Includes chilled beef. (c) Includes hare skins.

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

The values of the net exports for the same five years are furnished in the next table. For the five years ended 1943-44 they amounted to £A.326,260,666, or an average of £A.65,252,133 per annum, of which wool represents 73.91 per cent. Meat, skins and tallow rank next in order of importance.

## NET EXPORTS OF PASTORAL PRODUCTS : AUSTRALIA.

Product.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43	1943-44.
VALUES. (a)					
	£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.
<b>Animals (living)—</b>					
Cattle .. .. .	142	3,214	— 38	6,193	— 2,531
Horses .. .. .	— 11,258	89,005	16,172	35,089	6,046
Sheep .. .. .	39,405	86,872	49,280	6,269	— 1,822
<b>Bones .. .. .</b>	10,741	2,768	4,609	— 41	— 34
<b>Glue-pieces and Sinews .. .. .</b>	— 7,796	— 3,690	— 7,221	— 9,444	— 2,491
<b>Glycerine .. .. .</b>	4,004	— 73,713	— 149,830	— 48,633	22
<b>Hair .. .. .</b>	— 103,353	— 184,941	— 188,193	— 13,007	— 64,840
<b>Hoofs .. .. .</b>	8,027	4,897	755	..	..
<b>Horns .. .. .</b>	18,615	3,253	1,993	520	822
<b>Meats—</b>					
Frozen Beef(b) .. .. .	4,323,235	3,761,732	2,484,259	560,468	1,246,315
" Mutton and Lamb .. .. .	4,807,418	6,142,479	4,669,871	5,495,886	4,643,603
" Rabbits and Hares .. .. .	232,034	102,175	8,901	12,917	40,664
" Other .. .. .	417,670	630,998	269,909	430,587	983,320
Poited and Extract of .. .. .	— 32,580	47,620	96,900	87,407	66,703
Preserved in Tins, etc. .. .. .	492,709	1,867,208	4,543,550	3,018,150	4,088,947
Other (excluding Bacon and Ham) .. .. .	6,336	28,169	18,207	298,502	853,796
Sausage Casings .. .. .	185,649	203,724	12,273	268,353	361,956
<b>Skins—</b>					
Cattle .. .. .	639,056	351,988	— 103,084	— 341,605	64,080
Calf .. .. .	129,199	43,688	7,717	— 1,569	— 11,939
Horse .. .. .	7,143	6,555	6,006	3,651	10,499
Sheep .. .. .	2,339,718	975,458	2,136,428	1,385,480	1,334,847
Rabbit .. .. .	(c) 393,641	2,201,420	3,365,751	1,986,198	4,493,307
Other (including Undressed Furs) .. .. .	— 287,277	228,430	167,880	65,715	397,215
<b>Tallow .. .. .</b>	480,459	554,635	830,695	185,945	903,968
<b>Wool—</b>					
Greasy .. .. .	36,617,167	32,553,757	47,747,308	37,613,502	36,173,979
Scoured, Tops, etc. .. .. .	5,277,117	6,729,935	10,151,025	6,623,638	9,532,751
<b>Total Values.. .. .</b>	<b>55,984,221</b>	<b>56,357,633</b>	<b>76,141,123</b>	<b>57,670,201</b>	<b>65,120,083</b>

(a) Australian currency values.

(b) Includes chilled beef.

(c) Includes hare skins.

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

9. Value of Pastoral Production.—(i) *General.* Particulars of the gross, local and net values of pastoral production for each State are shown in the following table for 1943-44. Fuller details of the source of the information and an explanation of the terms used in this compilation will be found in Chapter XXVIII. "Miscellaneous". Maintenance costs have not been computed in all States and depreciation has not been deducted; consequently the net values are inflated to the extent of these costs.

GROSS, LOCAL AND NET VALUES OF PASTORAL PRODUCTION, 1943-44.

State.	Gross Production valued at Principal Markets.	Marketing Costs.	Gross Production valued at Farm.	Farm Costs.		Net Value of Production. (a)
				Seed used, and Fodder for Farm Stock.	Value of other materials used in process of Production.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales ..	48,614,000	4,478,000	44,136,000	1,300,000	(b) 256,000	42,580,000
Victoria ..	29,148,380	2,051,267	27,097,113	475,000	490,410	26,131,703
Queensland ..	25,651,000	2,380,000	23,271,000	920,000	370,000	21,981,000
South Aust. ..	9,138,616	925,535	8,213,081	233,393	190,983	7,788,705
Western Aust. ..	9,077,816	813,254	8,264,562	561,647	232,961	7,469,954
Tasmania ..	2,751,950	209,550	2,542,400	71,770	16,070	2,454,560
Total ..	124,381,762	10,857,606	113,524,156	3,561,810	1,556,424	108,405,922

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

(ii) States 1934-35 to 1943-44. The following table shows the net value of pastoral production by States and the net value per head of population for the years 1934-35 to 1943-44 :-

VALUE OF PASTORAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total
NET VALUE. (a)							
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1934-35	23,311,000	13,305,109	11,004,135	3,181,285	3,916,280	1,040,690	55,758,499
1935-36	32,799,000	17,422,400	11,501,000	4,602,656	5,350,216	1,492,460	73,227,732
1936-37	39,300,000	19,502,210	14,112,000	5,217,256	4,597,230	1,692,580	84,421,276
1937-38	33,939,000	18,533,223	15,364,000	4,856,629	4,003,310	1,470,580	78,166,742
1938-39	23,613,000	15,156,276	14,881,000	5,054,784	3,666,461	1,449,590	63,821,111
1939-40	34,562,000	16,434,392	17,693,000	6,206,617	4,689,845	1,802,150	81,388,004
1940-41	35,305,000	18,629,094	17,624,000	6,084,562	4,519,541	1,789,450	83,951,647
1941-42	34,121,000	20,467,898	18,117,000	5,779,743	4,879,433	1,993,050	85,358,124
1942-43	38,212,000	24,766,588	22,011,000	7,132,475	6,683,442	2,208,610	101,014,115
1943-44	42,580,000	26,131,703	21,981,000	7,788,705	7,469,954	2,454,560	108,405,922

NET VALUE PER HEAD OF MEAN POPULATION. (a)

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934-35	8 16 11	7 4 10	11 9 0	5 8 11	8 16 9	4 10 10	8 6 5
1935-36	12 6 11	9 9 1	11 17 10	7 17 0	11 18 11	6 9 7	10 16 11
1936-37	14 13 2	10 10 7	14 6 10	8 17 4	10 3 6	7 5 9	12 8 2
1937-38	12 10 7	9 19 2	15 8 9	8 4 5	8 15 1	6 5 2	11 7 9
1938-39	8 12 9	8 1 8	14 15 7	8 10 1	7 18 5	6 2 4	9 4 3
1939-40	12 10 5	8 13 11	17 6 9	10 7 5	10 0 3	7 10 8	11 12 8
1940-41	12 13 9	9 14 0	17 1 5	10 3 1	9 11 2	7 8 11	11 17 6
1941-42	12 3 6	10 9 7	17 9 0	9 10 4	10 8 3	8 6 2	11 19 2
1942-43	13 10 0	12 11 4	21 2 1	11 12 9	13 18 4	9 3 0	14 0 7
1943-44	14 18 5	13 2 9	20 15 6	12 11 10	15 9 8	10 1 2	14 18 4

(a) No deduction has been made for depreciation and maintenance.

10. **Consumption of Meats.**—Particulars of the per capita quantity of meat available for civilian consumption in Australia, Canada, United Kingdom and the United States are given in the following table. Canned and cured meat has been included at its carcass weight equivalent.

The demand for meat during the war years was such as to necessitate the introduction of rationing in order to divert supplies from civilian consumption to the armed services. In the United Kingdom rationing commenced in January, 1940. In Canada and the United States it commenced early in 1943 but, due to the lack of shipping space for exports, limitations of cold storage capacity to store surplus production as well as other factors, complete rationing of civilian meat supplies was not continuous. Meat rationing was introduced in Australia on 17th January, 1944, and the rate per week fixed for coupon meat averaged 2½ lb. for persons nine years and over and 1½ lb. for children under nine. On 26th February, 1945, however, the coupon rating was reduced by approximately 8½ per cent. averaging 2.1 lb. and 1.05 lb. per week respectively. A further reduction of 12½ per cent. to an average of 1.84 lb. per week for persons nine years and over occurred on the 7th May, 1945. The rate for children under nine remained unaltered at 1.05 lb. per week.

**QUANTITY OF MEAT (INCLUDING CURED AND CANNED) AND EDIBLE OFFAL AVAILABLE FOR CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION PER HEAD PER ANNUM.**

(In terms of Carcass Weight.)

Country.	Average Pre-war.	1941.	1944.	1945.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Australia .. .. .	248.1	239.2	212.6	195.8
Canada .. .. .	118.4	129.8	149.1	139.7
United Kingdom .. .. .	131.7	101.8	115.0	103.4
United States of America .. .. .	134.1	151.4	162.1	135.9

## § 2. Horses.

1. **Suitability of Australia for Horse-breeding.**—From the earliest times the suitability of the climate and pastures of Australia for the production of serviceable breeds of horses has been fully recognized. By the importation of high-class sires, and the careful selection of breeding mares, these natural advantages have been utilized to the fullest extent in breeding all classes of horses. As a consequence of this combination of advantages, the Australian horse, whether of the heavy draught, medium weight, or light saddle variety, compares more than favourably with the product of other lands. The Australian horse is highly regarded by the military authorities in India and considerable numbers are purchased each year for remount purposes. Owing to the mechanization of the Army the demand has not been so great as in former years.

2. **Distribution throughout Australia.**—The States of New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria together depasture more than 78 per cent. of the total number of horses in Australia. In the following table figures are given for each State and Territory during each of the years 1939 to 1944 :—

### HORSES : NUMBER.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total.
1939	531,355	343,828	444,521	195,834	143,674	30,458	33,191	1,195	1,724,056
1940	534,837	326,217	444,956	190,013	139,207	29,605	32,721	1,241	1,698,797
1941	531,776	318,441	441,770	182,206	130,057	29,406	30,716	1,244	1,665,616
1942	525,697	302,401	431,363	171,092	124,402	28,612	26,209	1,283	1,611,056
1943	483,277	292,534	392,639	164,855	112,782	27,077	43,663	1,143	1,517,970
1944	465,672	277,662	387,018	154,102	106,743	26,317	30,534	1,151	1,449,199

The number of horses attained its maximum in Australia during 1918, when a total of 2,527,149 was recorded. The United States of America made its highest recording in the same year and Canada in 1921. The number in Australia has declined considerably since 1918 owing to the development in motor transportation and the mechanization of farms.

During the years 1939 to 1944 the rate of decline accelerated considerably, averaging 55,000 per annum compared with 8,000 for the previous five years.

The number of horses in Australia from 1860 onwards may be obtained from the graph on page 785.

3. **Proportions in the Several States and Territories.**—The percentages of the number of horses in the several States and Territories on the total for Australia for 1944 were:—New South Wales, 32.13; Victoria, 19.16; Queensland, 26.71; South Australia, 10.63; Western Australia, 7.37; Tasmania, 1.82; Northern Territory, 2.10; and Australian Capital Territory, 0.08 per cent.

The percentages in the various States remained fairly constant during the five years 1939 to 1944.

4. **Relation to Population.**—In proportion to population, horses are much more numerous in the Northern Territory than in any other of the principal divisions of Australia. Queensland is next in order, while the Australian Capital Territory and Tasmania have the smallest number of horses per head. The number per head of population has declined in each State and Territory since 1927. For the year 1944 the relative numbers were:—New South Wales, 0.16; Victoria, 0.14; Queensland, 0.36; South Australia, 0.25; Western Australia, 0.22; Tasmania, 0.11; Northern Territory, 5.92; Australian Capital Territory, 0.08; and Australia, 0.20.

5. **Comparison with other Countries.**—Particulars of the number of horses in the leading horse-breeding countries of the world prior to the 1939–45 War are as follows:—

#### HORSES : NUMBER IN PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Number of Horses (,000 omitted).	Country.	Year.	Number of Horses (,000 omitted).
U.S.S.R. (Russia) ..	1938	17,500	Turkey .. ..	1938	651
U.S.A. .. ..	1938	10,800	Uruguay .. ..	1930	623
Argentina .. ..	1937	8,527	Sweden .. ..	1938	617
Brazil .. ..	1935	6,052	Cuba .. ..	1934	569
China .. ..	1935	4,080	Spain .. ..	1933	568
Poland .. ..	1938	3,886	Denmark .. ..	1938	565
Germany .. ..	1938	3,443	Lithuania .. ..	1938	558
Canada .. ..	1938	2,821	Bulgaria .. ..	1934	532
France .. ..	1938	2,692	Chile .. ..	1936	528
India (British and Native) .. ..	1936	2,380	Eire .. ..	1938	442
Rumania .. ..	1937	2,167	Peru .. ..	1932	432
Mexico .. ..	1932	1,888	Haiti .. ..	1935	400
Manchuria .. ..	1936	1,840	Latvia .. ..	1938	400
<b>Australia .. ..</b>	<b>1939</b>	<b>1,724</b>	Bolivia .. ..	1932	390
Japan .. ..	1936	1,432	Thailand .. ..	1938	386
Yugoslavia .. ..	1938	1,265	Finland .. ..	1937	380
United Kingdom ..	1938	1,100	Greece .. ..	1937	372
Colombia .. ..	1934	972	Netherlands ..	1938	312
Hungary .. ..	1938	814	New Zealand ..	1938	278
Italy .. ..	1938	791	Belgium .. ..	1938	265
Union of South Africa	1937	778	Austria .. ..	1938	246
Czechoslovakia ..	1936	704	Estonia .. ..	1938	219
Dutch East Indies..	1937	671	French Morocco ..	1938	192
			Paraguay .. ..	1935	186

6. *Overseas Trade in Horses.*—(i) *Exports.* Australia's export trade in horses is far below that of earlier years. During the period 1901–5 the average number exported annually was over 18,000, whereas during the last five years the figure was 1,041. The total number of horses exported during the latter period amounted to 5,205, valued at £322,074. The average export price per head was £61 17s. 7d. The horses exported to India, where they are largely used for army remounts, averaged 333 or 32 per cent. of the average exports for the five-yearly period ended 1943–44.

(ii) *Imports.* The number of horses imported into Australia is comparatively small, consisting mainly of valuable stud animals from the United Kingdom and racehorses from New Zealand. The average value per head of the horses imported during the five years 1939–40 to 1943–44 was £A640. The average number imported per annum was, however, only 61, and the average annual value, £39,271.

Transport difficulties, due to the exigencies of war, affected trade as shown in the table below:—

#### HORSES : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Exports.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£ A.		£A.		£A.
1938–39 ..	238	125,192	2,532	113,934	2,294	— 11,258
1939–40 ..	190	100,688	1,693	80,094	1,503	— 20,594
1940–41 ..	51	39,619	1,719	128,624	1,668	89,005
1941–42 ..	35	33,075	257	49,247	222	16,172
1942–43 ..	5	3,268	1,115	38,356	1,110	35,088
1943–44 ..	26	19,707	421	25,753	395	6,046

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

### § 3. Cattle.

1. *Purposes for which Raised.*—Cattle-raising is carried out in all the States, the main object in certain districts being the production of stock suitable for slaughtering purposes, and in others the raising of profitable dairy herds. The great impetus which the development of the export trade in Australian butter gave to the dairying industry led to a considerable increase in numbers and an improvement in quality of the dairy herds in Victoria, New South Wales and Southern Queensland in particular, the portion of Australia in the temperate zone being the best adapted to this industry. On the other hand, beef-producing cattle are mainly raised in the tropical districts, i.e. in the northern parts of Queensland, in the Northern Territory, and in the Kimberley district in the north of Western Australia.

2. *Distribution throughout Australia.*—Until 1880, New South Wales was the principal cattle-raising State, but in that year Queensland occupied the leading position, which it has since maintained. There was a very rapid increase in the number of cattle in Australia up to the year 1894, when 12,311,617 head were depastured. From 1895 onwards, however, the effects of droughts and the ravages of tick fever reduced the number to 7,062,742 in 1902. Following the disastrous drought which terminated in the latter year the herds were gradually built up, and, despite recurring droughts, they continued to increase until the maximum number of 14,441,309 cattle was attained in 1921. After that year the number dropped continuously till 1929, largely owing to the decline in the overseas demand for frozen beef. It recovered with the expansion of dairying during the depression years to 14,048,671 in 1934, but from that year declined continuously to 1939 when it stood at 12,861,781. The upward movement which commenced in 1940 was continued during 1944 and the total number of cattle (14,183,679) is now at its highest level since 1935. A graph showing the number of cattle in Australia from 1860 appears on page 785.



The numbers of cattle, beef and dairy, in the several States and Territories during each of the last six years are as follows :—

## CATTLE : NUMBER.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Nor. Terr.	Aus. Cap. Terr.	Total.
1939	2,811,884	1,697,295	6,097,089	318,897	767,680	262,407	899,472	7,057	12,861,781
1940	2,762,653	1,787,597	6,198,798	351,013	799,175	252,484	922,581	5,879	13,080,180
1941	2,769,061	1,922,336	6,210,810	376,654	788,928	259,108	922,308	6,636	13,255,841
1942	2,878,450	1,986,544	6,303,467	399,143	839,731	253,106	892,881	7,432	13,560,754
1943	3,030,546	2,022,892	6,466,316	424,253	831,231	244,681	978,134	6,967	14,005,320
1944	3,143,378	2,013,033	6,524,553	414,997	870,939	230,127	978,569	8,083	14,183,679

Although the proportion is not as high as it has been in the past, Queensland was carrying 46.00 per cent. of the cattle in Australia in 1944. The percentage in each State and Territory during 1944 was :—New South Wales, 22.16 ; Victoria, 14.19 ; Queensland, 46.00 ; South Australia, 2.93 ; Western Australia, 6.14 ; Tasmania, 1.62 ; Northern Territory, 6.90 ; Australian Capital Territory, 0.06.

A graph showing the distribution of cattle in Australia during 1938-39 is shown in the Official Year Book No. 34, p. 453. A similar graph showing the distribution during 1924-25 is shown in Official Year Book No. 22, p. 660.

3. Comparison with other Countries.—The following table shows the number of cattle in Australia and in some of the principal cattle-raising countries of the world at the latest available date for purposes of comparison :—

## CATTLE : NUMBER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Number of Cattle ('000 omitted).	Country.	Year.	Number of Cattle ('000 omitted).
India (British and Native)	1936	119,437	Czechoslovakia	1937	4,938
U.S.A.	1938	66,821	Cuba	1935	4,651
U.S.S.R. (Russia)	1938	63,200	New Zealand	1938	4,506
Brazil	1935	40,514	Dutch East Indies	1937	4,414
Argentina	1937	33,101	Yugoslavia	1938	4,268
China	1935	22,647	Romania	1937	4,184
Germany	1938	19,911	French Equatorial and West Africa	1937	4,073
France	1938	15,622	Eire	1938	4,050
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1939</b>	<b>12,862</b>	Spain	1933	3,570
Union of South Africa	1937	11,395	Denmark	1938	3,238
Poland	1938	10,554	Paraguay	1935	3,052
Mexico	1930	10,083	Sweden	1938	3,036
United Kingdom	1938	8,903	Nigeria	1937	2,985
Colombia	1935	8,337	Rhodesia	1937	2,936
Uruguay	1937	8,297	Netherlands	1938	2,764
Canada	1938	8,091	Venezuela	1929	2,750
Italy	1938	7,667	Sudan (Anglo-Egyptian)	1938	2,700
Turkey	1938	5,896	Austria	1936	2,596
Thailand	1938	5,712	Uganda	1938	2,582
Kenya	1932	5,214	Chile	1937	2,460
Tanganyika Territory	1937	5,035	Bolivia	1931	2,064
Madagascar	1937	4,947			

4. **Imports and Exports of Cattle.**—The products of the cattle-raising industry figure largely in the export trade of Australia, although the export of live cattle has never been large. The number of cattle imported is also small, consisting, as in the case of horses, mainly of valuable animals for stud purposes. Details for the years 1938-39 to 1943-44 are as follows:—

**CATTLE : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, AUSTRALIA.**

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Exports.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£A.		£A.		£A.
1938-39 ..	42	9,431	447	9,573	405	142
1939-40 ..	48	5,555	419	7,666	371	2,111
1940-41 ..	15	1,359	263	4,573	248	3,214
1941-42 ..	25	1,313	81	1,275	56	—38
1942-43 ..	14	1,655	336	7,848	322	6,193
1943-44 ..	32	5,893	125	3,362	93	—2,531

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

The average value per head of the cattle imported during the last five years was £A17 14s. 6d. while the average value per head of the cattle exported during the same period was £A20 4s.

5. **Cattle Slaughtered.**—The number of cattle slaughtered during each of the years ended June, 1939 to 1944 is given in the following table:—

**CATTLE (INCLUDING CALVES) SLAUGHTERED.**  
(in thousands.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Terr.	A.C.T.	Total.
1939	(a) 1,136	812	1,284	(b) 160	(b) 127	50	(b) 9	3	3,581
1940	(a) 1,123	737	1,257	(b) 151	(b) 119	48	(b) 6	3	3,444
1941	(a) 902	723	1,137	(b) 156	(b) 115	48	(b) 10	3	3,094
1942	(a) 1,041	754	1,105	(b) 154	(b) 111	51	(b) 10	3	3,229
1943	1,061	753	1,064	177	105	53	41	3	3,257
1944	985	767	961	178	105	53	41	2	3,092

(a) Year ended March.

(b) Year ended December previous.

6. **Production of Beef and Veal.**—Details of the production of beef and veal in each State and Territory are given in the following table for the years indicated:—

**PRODUCTION OF BEEF AND VEAL (BONE-IN-WEIGHT) : AUSTRALIA.**  
(<sup>0</sup>000 tons.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Terr.	A.C.T.	Total.
1939	(a) 172	114	207	(b) 24	(b) 28	11	(b) 2	1	559
1940	(a) 173	104	195	(b) 23	(b) 27	11	(b) 1	1	535
1941	(a) 139	100	190	(b) 24	(b) 26	11	(b) 2	1	493
1942	(a) 159	112	200	(b) 23	(b) 25	11	(b) 3	1	534
1943	156	105	201	28	22	11	10	1	534
1944	145	100	187	26	20	11	10	1	500

(a) Year ended March.

(b) Year ended December previous.

7 **Consumption of Beef and Veal.**—For the three pre-war years 1936–37 to 1938–39 the average annual production of beef and veal in Australia was 569,000 tons of which 127,000 tons were exported, leaving a balance of 442,000 tons (or the carcass equivalent of 144 lb. per head per annum) available for consumption as fresh and canned meat.

In order to cope with the increasing demands by Australian and Allied Services based upon Australia and to supply as much beef as possible to meet the import requirements of the United Kingdom it was necessary to introduce from January, 1944 a system of rationing limiting civilian consumption, which has always been very high. As a result, the quantity of beef and veal entering civilian consumption per head decreased from the pre-war average of 144 lb. to 124 lb. in 1943, 92 lb. in 1944 and 87 lb. in 1945.

In the following table details of the production and disposal of beef and veal are given for the period stated.

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

(’000 tons.)

Period.	Changes In Stock.	Pro- duction.	Exports.	For Canning.	Consumption by—		Civilian Con- sumption per head per annum.
					Services.	Civilians.	
Average, years 1936–37 to 1938–39	..	569	127	(a)	..	442	lb. 144.2
1943 .. ..	..	517	157	(a)	(a)	360	124.1
1944 .. ..	+ 11	480	14	81	104	270	92.0
1945 .. ..	— 2	450	42	88	61	261	86.7

(a) Included with exports.

8. **Exports of Frozen Beef.**—The export of frozen meat from Australia dates from about 1881, and since that year the trade has grown considerably, the quantities and values exported during each of the five years ended 1943–44 being as follows:—1939–40, 273,892,251 lb., £4,619,058; 1940–41, 194,576,226 lb., £3,680,940; 1941–42, 116,340,293 lb., £2,476,172; 1942–43, 22,419,121 lb., £555,285 and 1943–44, 46,266,506 lb., £1,212,311. Chilled beef is included in the foregoing. In normal times the largest purchaser of Australian beef is the United Kingdom, which during 1938–39 took £3,901,691, or about 90.2 per cent. of the total shipments. Other countries importing Australian beef were, in order of importance, Egypt, Malaya (British), Malta, Philippine Islands and Hong Kong; these countries, together with the United Kingdom, accounted for 98.6 per cent. of the total value of export.

In view of the preference overseas for chilled beef the Australian beef industry was at a serious disadvantage until investigations proved that beef could be successfully transported from Australia to United Kingdom in a chilled condition. Trial shipments of 254,000 lb. in 1932–33 and 1,515,000 lb. in 1933–34 were made, and the exports in subsequent years increased as follows:—1934–35, 21,570,928 lb., £322,239; 1936–37 41,869,695 lb., £608,175; and 1938–39, 58,963,009 lb., £988,148. However the advent of war seriously affected the export trade in chilled beef, which decreased as follows:—1939–40, 12,786,859 lb., £206,353; 1940–41, nil; 1941–42, 1,697 lb., £70 and 1942–43, 1,843 lb., £69, and 1943–44, nil.

9. **Contract for Purchase of Exportable Surplus.**—A long term contract has been negotiated between the Governments of the Commonwealth and the United Kingdom for the purchase of Australia’s exportable surplus of beef and veal for 4 years ending 30th September, 1948. Fuller particulars will be found in Chapter XXVIII. “Miscellaneous”.

10. Imports of Chilled and Frozen Beef into the United Kingdom.—The following statement shows the quantities and values of chilled and frozen beef imported into the United Kingdom during each of the five years 1939 to 1943. Later details are not available.

IMPORTS OF CHILLED AND FROZEN BEEF IN QUARTERS AND SIDES INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Country of Origin.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
CHILLED—QUANTITY.					
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Brazil .. .. .	500,982	..	..	..	..
Uruguay .. .. .	428,076	..	..	..	..
Argentina .. .. .	5,225,350	..	..	..	..
Australia .. .. .	430,396	..	..	..	..
Other British Countries .. .. .	439,344	..	..	..	..
Total Chilled .. .. .	7,024,148	..	..	..	..
CHILLED—VALUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Brazil .. .. .	916,904	..	..	..	..
Uruguay .. .. .	775,465	..	..	..	..
Argentina .. .. .	10,338,878	..	..	..	..
Australia .. .. .	767,081	..	..	..	..
Other British Countries .. .. .	703,112	..	..	..	..
Total Chilled .. .. .	13,561,440	..	..	..	..
FROZEN—QUANTITY.					
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Brazil .. .. .	3,583	998,810	247,254	..	827
Uruguay .. .. .	116,352	678,350	489,196	88,525	165,080
Argentina .. .. .	1,746,760	5,291,230	3,428,616	2,371,179	2,245,084
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	511	17,447	1,268	1,855	5,046
Australia .. .. .	1,317,318	1,521,013	715,062	102,131	16,033
New Zealand .. .. .	230,727	678,397	320,369	11,395	2,073
Other British Countries .. .. .	31,960	165,928	80,825	4,833	4,510
Total Frozen .. .. .	3,447,211	9,351,175	5,282,590	2,579,918	2,438,653
Grand Total (Chilled and Frozen) .. .. .	10,471,359	9,351,175	5,282,590	2,579,918	2,438,653
FROZEN—VALUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Brazil .. .. .	7,415	2,415,447	633,865	..	2,191
Uruguay .. .. .	233,888	1,568,390	1,246,478	261,879	449,959
Argentina .. .. .	3,741,428	12,994,851	8,841,682	7,729,393	6,165,720
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	935	35,110	3,465	3,107	10,535
Australia .. .. .	2,139,052	2,876,415	1,542,175	238,992	47,354
New Zealand .. .. .	332,519	1,317,497	669,230	21,698	5,261
Other British Countries .. .. .	68,068	360,097	180,847	11,720	13,372
Total Frozen .. .. .	6,523,305	21,567,807	13,117,742	8,266,789	6,700,392
Grand Total (Chilled and Frozen) .. .. .	20,084,745	21,567,807	13,117,742	8,266,789	6,700,392

### § 4. Sheep.

1. **Initiation of the Pastoral Industry.**—Fortunately for Australia, the suitability of its climate and general conditions for the production of a high class of wool were, at an early date in the history of its settlement, surmised and tested by Captain Macarthur, one of the pioneer sheep-breeders of New South Wales. To the energy of this enterprising pastoralist is due in large measure the rapid and extremely satisfactory development of Australia as a producer of fine wool, and, while it would appear that the introduction of the merino sheep into Australia was not due to Macarthur, a great deal of the credit for having successfully established the pastoral industry in Australia must certainly be his.

2. **Distribution throughout Australia.**—With the exception of a short period in the early sixties, when the flocks of Victoria outnumbered those of New South Wales, the latter State has occupied the premier position in sheep-raising, depasturing about one half of the sheep of Australia.

A graph showing the distribution of sheep in Australia during 1938–39 is shown in the Official Year Book No. 34, p. 452. A similar graph showing the distribution of sheep during 1924–25 was published in Official Year Book No. 22, p. 659.

Fluctuations in the number of sheep recorded for each year in Australia from 1860 onwards may be seen from the graph on page 785. Five marked periods of decline depleted the numbers at successive intervals, but these losses were made up rapidly. In each of the years 1925 to 1945 the sheep flocks have exceeded 100 millions, reaching 125,189,129 in 1942, the greatest number recorded in Australia. At no previous period have such large numbers been depastured continuously, and the development has taken place despite an average annual slaughter of approximately twenty-five million sheep and lambs for the meat trade.

Preliminary figures for 1945 show a sharp decrease to 105 million. This represents a loss from all causes, other than slaughtering, of about 18 million sheep and was attributable to the severe drought conditions which occurred during the year ended March, 1945. Preliminary figures for 1946 show a further decrease to 96 million.

The numbers of sheep in the several States and Territories for each year from 1939 to 1944, are shown in the following table:—

SHEEP : NUMBER.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total.
1939	48,876,663	17,007,352	23,158,569	9,936,586	9,177,531	2,625,690	29,901	245,540	111,057,832
1940	54,372,472	18,251,870	24,100,931	9,910,570	9,574,133	2,677,120	38,587	250,108	119,305,391
1941	55,568,000	20,412,362	23,936,099	10,263,423	9,516,272	2,682,375	33,703	281,791	122,694,025
1942	56,737,000	20,598,201	25,196,245	10,245,894	9,722,780	2,398,201	28,245	262,563	125,189,129
1943	56,043,598	19,614,040	25,650,231	10,370,565	10,424,385	2,226,906	34,603	250,344	124,614,672
1944	56,837,300	19,220,457	23,255,584	10,359,669	11,012,936	2,187,799	25,575	274,642	123,173,962

3. **Proportion in the Several States and Territories.**—Apart from the effect of drought the relative number of sheep depastured in the different States remains fairly constant.

The percentage distribution in 1944 was:—New South Wales, 46.15; Victoria, 15.60; Queensland, 18.88; South Australia, 8.41; Western Australia, 8.94; Tasmania, 1.78; Northern Territory, 0.02; Australian Capital Territory, 0.22 per cent.

4. **Comparison with other Countries.**—As regards the size of its flocks and the quantity and quality of wool produced, Australia has long occupied a leading position amongst the sheep-raising countries of the world. The following figures, taken mainly from the *Year Book of the International Institute of Agriculture*, represent the latest returns available in regard to the number of sheep in the principal wool-producing countries. The leading position is held by Australia with 111 millions, followed by

the U.S.S.R. (Russia) with 85 million, the United States of America with 54 million, Argentina with 44 million and India (British and Native) with 42 million. On account of drought the number of sheep in the Union of South Africa declined from 46 million in 1933 to 36 million in 1935, but the number had increased to 41 million in 1938. In Argentina, sheep flocks also declined from 44.4 million in 1930 to 38 million in 1935, but the number recorded in 1937 was 44 million. During the years 1925 to 1929 the sheep flocks of the U.S.S.R. exceeded those of Australia. The maximum number recorded was 130 million in 1928, but after that year a remarkable decline took place and the number depastured in 1934 was only 46,848,000. It was proposed under the second Five Year Plan to increase the number to 85 million by 1937, but this number had not quite been reached by 1938. Russian sheep are mainly coarse-woolled, and the wool is of inferior quality, but the Soviet Government is making efforts to improve it. In a classification of the wool production in 1934, 10 per cent. was classed as fine wool, 16 per cent. as semi-fine quality, and 74 per cent. as coarse wool. In 1938 the production of fine wool had increased to 14 per cent. and semi-fine to 39 per cent., while the proportion of coarse wool had declined to 47 per cent. Production of wool in the U.S.S.R. amounted to about 303 million lb. during 1938, representing an average weight of fleece shorn of more than 3 lb.

## SHEEP : NUMBER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	No. of Sheep (,000 omitted).	Country.	Year.	No. of Sheep (,000 omitted).
<b>Australia</b> .. ..	<b>1939</b>	<b>111,058</b>	Italy .. ..	1938	9,467
U.S.S.R. (Russia) ..	1938	84,500	Bulgaria .. ..	1934	8,840
U.S.A. .. ..	1938	53,762	Greece .. ..	1937	8,451
Argentina .. ..	1937	43,740	Algeria .. ..	1937	5,965
India (British and Native) .. ..	1936	42,060	Chile .. ..	1936	5,749
Union of South Africa	1938	41,150	Germany .. ..	1938	5,677
New Zealand .. ..	1938	32,379	Iraq .. ..	1938	5,514
United Kingdom ..	1938	26,775	Bolivia .. ..	1931	5,232
China .. ..	1935	20,957	Mexico .. ..	1930	3,674
Spain .. ..	1933	19,093	Canada .. ..	1938	3,415
Uruguay .. ..	1932	17,931	Poland .. ..	1938	3,411
Turkey .. ..	1937	16,449	Tunis .. ..	1937	3,383
Iran .. ..	1936	13,615	Portugal .. ..	1934	3,274
Brazil .. ..	1935	12,645	Kenya .. ..	1930	3,243
Rumania .. ..	1937	12,372	Eire .. ..	1938	3,197
Peru .. ..	1929	11,209	Somaliland ..	1938	3,000
French Equatorial and West Africa	1937	11,014	Sudan (Anglo- Egyptian) ..	1938	2,500
French Morocco ..	1938	10,162	Syria and Lebanon	1938	2,129
Yugoslavia .. ..	1938	10,137	Manchuria ..	1937	1,966
France .. ..	1938	9,872	Nigeria .. ..	1938	1,796
			Tanganyika Territory	1937	1,646

5. **Oversea Imports and Exports of Sheep.**—As in the case of cattle, the oversea exports of live sheep from Australia are of comparatively little importance. During the last five years the principal consignments of ordinary sheep have been made to Malaya (British) from Western Australia. On 27th November, 1929, the export of stud sheep was prohibited, except with the approval of the Minister for Trade and Customs. Stud sheep, however, were being exported in increasing numbers up to the outbreak of war in the Pacific, and shipments in 1939-40 amounted to 23,329 sheep valued at £79,955 compared with 186 valued at £2,700 in 1943-44. The chief countries to which sheep were consigned in 1939-40 were New Zealand, South Africa, Japan and Korea. The

ordinary flock sheep exported from Australia were, for the most part, consigned to Malaya and the Pacific Islands. The following table shows the imports and exports of stud and flock sheep for the years 1938-39 to 1943-44 :—

### SHEEP : IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Exports.	
	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		£A.		£A.		£A.
1938-39 ..	5,288	44,961	72,027	84,366	66,739	39,405
1939-40 ..	6,990	54,088	79,375	112,596	72,385	58,508
1940-41 ..	1,944	12,678	88,209	99,550	86,265	86,872
1941-42 ..	311	4,931	65,061	54,211	64,750	49,280
1942-43 ..	158	2,826	5,265	9,095	5,107	6,269
1943-44 ..	258	12,768	7,682	10,946	7,424	— 1,822

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

6. Sheep Slaughtered.—The number of sheep slaughtered in the several States during each of the years ended June, 1939 to 1944 were as follows :—

### SHEEP (INCLUDING LAMBS) SLAUGHTERED.

(in thousands.)

Year ended June—	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total.
1939 ..	(a) 6,323	7,728	1,121	(b) 2,007	(b) 1,318	377	..	26	18,000
1940 ..	(a) 6,900	6,991	1,232	(b) 2,094	(b) 1,302	461	..	26	19,006
1941 ..	(a) 8,168	8,373	1,275	(b) 2,164	(b) 1,332	477	(b) 2	31	21,822
1942 ..	(a) 8,128	8,635	1,499	(b) 2,071	(b) 1,333	552	(b) 2	38	22,258
1943 ..	9,279	9,731	2,088	2,297	1,331	603	2	42	25,573
1944 ..	9,667	9,286	2,228	2,830	1,955	615	2	49	26,632

(a) Year ended March. (b) Year ended December previous.

7. Production of Mutton and Lamb.—Details of the production of mutton and lamb in each State and Territory are shown below :—

### PRODUCTION OF MUTTON AND LAMB.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1938-39	100,666	136,130	20,456	34,052	22,214	6,329	5	440	320,292
1939-40	109,155	122,914	22,247	35,431	22,208	7,710	7	432	320,104
1940-41	124,254	145,952	24,316	36,368	22,720	7,866	40	518	362,034
1941-42	125,403	151,763	26,227	35,292	23,094	9,274	38	635	371,726
1942-43	153,870	149,235	34,105	38,711	26,519	9,921	38	747	413,146
1943-44	156,901	145,786	36,362	45,933	32,377	10,561	36	788	428,744

8. Consumption of Mutton and Lamb.—For the three pre-war years 1936-37 to 1938-39 the annual production of mutton and lamb averaged 320,000 tons of which 90,000 tons were exported leaving a balance of 230,000 tons (or the carcass equivalent of 74.9 lb. per head per annum) available for consumption.

During the war the demand for meat by Australian and Allied Services and the desire to maintain, as far as possible, exports to the United Kingdom, necessitated the restriction of local consumption by the introduction, in January, 1944, of a system of rationing.

As the service and export demand was principally for beef this class of meat was in shorter supply to civilians than was mutton or lamb. As a result the coupon rating for beef fixed under the civilian ration scale was more restrictive, and had the effect of increasing the quantity of mutton and lamb entering civilian consumption to a level approximating that of beef.

The consumption of mutton and lamb per head rose from the pre-war average of 74.9 lb. to 91.7 lb. in 1943, to 92 lb. in 1944, and to 85.1 lb. in 1945. In the following table details of the production and disposal of mutton and lamb are given for the periods stated:—

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

(’000 tons.)

Period.	Changes in Stock.	Pro- duction.	Exports.	For Canning and Dehydra- tion.	Consumption by—		Civilian Con- sumption per head per annum.
					Services.	Civilians.	
Average years							lb.
1936-37 to 1938-39	..	320	90	..	..	230	74.9
1943 .. ..	..	416	150	..	(a)	266	91.7
1944 .. ..	+ 6	419	77	42	24	270	91.9
1945 .. ..	- 21	322	34	32	21	256	85.1

(a) Included with exports.

9. **Exports of Frozen Mutton and Lamb.**—The export trade in mutton and lamb preserved by cold process expanded rapidly to 1913 when 205 million lb. were shipped. Progress was interrupted during the 1914-19 War and, owing probably to high wool prices, the exports of mutton and lamb for a number of years after that war were considerably less than earlier shipments. Exports commenced to rise again in 1929-30, and from that year onwards they have continued to expand almost uninterruptedly. Formerly the shipments consisted largely of frozen mutton, but in 1923-24 lamb supplanted mutton, and the exports of lamb have been responsible for the increase in shipments of mutton and lamb during the past ten years.

The quantity and value of the shipments of mutton and lamb during each of the six years ended 1943-44 were as follows:—Lamb, 1938-39, 158,332,714 lb., £4,393,773; 1939-40, 201,039,375 lb., £5,353,874; 1940-41, 219,954,539 lb., £5,864,519; 1941-42, 164,300,962 lb., £4,498,081; 1942-43, 184,240,389 lb., £5,182,558 and 1943-44, 141,559,299 lb., £4,141,935; Mutton, 1938-39, 28,155,757 lb., £413,693; 1939-40, 47,627,848 lb., £728,510; 1940-41, 18,970,895 lb., £277,964; 1941-42, 10,638,918 lb., £172,712; 1942-43, 19,441,131 lb., £313,328 and 1943-44, 30,010,466 lb., £501,668.

As with beef, the principal customer in this trade is the United Kingdom, which absorbed 91 per cent. of the total quantity exported from Australia during 1943-44.

10. **Contract for Purchase of Exportable Surplus.**—A long term contract covering the four years ending 30th September, 1948 has been completed between the Governments of the Commonwealth and the United Kingdom for the purchase of Australia's surplus mutton and lamb. Particulars will be found in Chapter XXVIII. "Miscellaneous".

11. **Imports of Frozen Mutton and Lamb into the United Kingdom.**—The quantities and values of frozen mutton and lamb imported into the United Kingdom from various countries for the five years ended 1943 are given in the following table. Particulars for later years are not available.



## IMPORTS OF FROZEN MUTTON AND LAMB INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Country of Origin.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
<b>MUTTON—QUANTITY.</b>					
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
United States of America ..	..	..	333	759	235,805
Chile .. .. .	58,790	96,715	14,875	95,811	125,026
Uruguay .. .. .	11,893	47,689	11,438	835	7,356
Argentina .. .. .	104,664	204,003	181,383	247,812	199,792
Other Foreign Countries ..	1,846	4,124	330	..	28
Total, Foreign ..	177,193	352,531	208,359	345,217	568,007
Australia .. .. .	322,908	318,074	61,050	54,817	114,957
New Zealand .. .. .	815,912	1,741,899	706,793	695,233	426,110
Other British Countries ..	18,620	8,127	191	723	490
Total, British ..	1,157,440	2,068,100	768,034	750,773	541,557
Grand Total ..	1,334,633	2,420,631	976,393	1,095,990	1,109,564

<b>MUTTON—VALUE.</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America ..	..	..	1,052	2,274	693,053
Chile .. .. .	100,978	204,477	33,735	177,637	299,314
Uruguay .. .. .	20,527	114,745	27,575	2,011	18,462
Argentina .. .. .	185,299	468,395	429,398	587,164	492,507
Other Foreign Countries ..	3,175	8,832	1,425	..	73
Total, Foreign ..	309,979	796,449	493,185	769,086	1,503,409
Australia .. .. .	490,512	613,125	132,601	121,584	285,291
New Zealand .. .. .	1,291,327	3,385,874	1,540,983	1,564,393	1,092,766
Other British Countries ..	37,242	14,116	457	1,680	1,166
Total, British ..	1,819,081	4,013,115	1,674,041	1,687,657	1,379,223
Grand Total ..	2,129,060	4,809,564	2,167,226	2,456,743	2,882,632

<b>LAMB—QUANTITY.</b>					
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
United States of America ..	17	..	..	14,682	731,310
Chile .. .. .	137,256	110,728	2,689	72,960	117,623
Uruguay .. .. .	165,215	172,776	101,397	90,142	197,063
Argentina .. .. .	817,656	992,427	783,510	1,126,381	1,503,308
Other Foreign Countries ..	32,031	43,968	..	..	43,867
Total, Foreign ..	1,152,175	1,319,899	887,596	1,304,165	2,593,171
Australia .. .. .	1,305,702	1,396,481	1,599,530	1,401,318	1,696,006
New Zealand .. .. .	2,736,479	2,909,606	2,886,056	3,579,195	2,922,963
Other British Countries ..	5,759	4,130	4,065	180	4
Total, British ..	4,047,940	4,310,217	4,489,651	4,980,693	4,618,973
Grand Total ..	5,200,115	5,630,116	5,377,247	6,284,858	7,212,144

IMPORTS OF FROZEN MUTTON AND LAMB INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM—  
*continued.*

Country of Origin.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
<b>LAMB—VALUE.</b>					
	£	£	£	£	£
United States of America ..	59	..	..	60,195	2,997,397
Chile .. .. .	350,924	361,628	8,610	240,838	403,505
Uruguay .. .. .	442,169	486,650	333,694	301,607	708,439
Argentina .. .. .	2,203,637	2,867,364	2,606,697	3,852,508	5,481,628
Other Foreign Countries ..	86,945	129,755	..	..	144,351
<b>Total, Foreign ..</b>	<b>3,083,734</b>	<b>3,845,397</b>	<b>2,949,001</b>	<b>4,455,148</b>	<b>9,735,320</b>
Australia .. .. .	3,647,984	3,795,821	5,404,843	4,851,948	6,740,778
New Zealand .. .. .	8,441,400	9,456,779	10,750,577	14,681,115	12,630,437
Other British Countries ..	16,673	13,161	14,201	737	24
<b>Total, British ..</b>	<b>12,106,057</b>	<b>13,265,761</b>	<b>16,169,621</b>	<b>19,533,800</b>	<b>19,371,239</b>
<b>Grand Total ..</b>	<b>15,189,791</b>	<b>17,111,158</b>	<b>19,118,622</b>	<b>23,988,948</b>	<b>29,106,559</b>

### § 5. Wool.

1. **General.**—Australia is the leading wool-growing country in the world. With less than one-sixth of the world's sheep Australia produces one-quarter of the world's supply. Moreover, half of the world's production of fine-quality merino wool is produced in Australia. The bulk of the production is exported, but with the greater activity of Australian woollen mills the quantity used locally is increasing: the amount so used represented 10 per cent. of the total production in 1943-44 compared with 7 per cent. in 1938-39.

The important position held by Australia among the principal sheep and wool producing countries of the world is more clearly shown in the following table:—

#### SHEEP AND WOOL : PRINCIPAL PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	No. of Sheep (in millions).	Wool Production (in millions of lb., greasy).
<b>Australia .. .. .</b>	<b>1938-39</b>	<b>111.1</b>	<b>984</b>
United States of America ..	1938-39	53.7	458
Argentina .. .. .	1937-38	43.7	389
New Zealand .. .. .	1938-39	32.4	329
U.S.S.R. (Russia) .. .. .	1938-39	84.5	303
Union of South Africa .. ..	1938-39	41.2	264

2. **Greasy and Scoured Wool.**—Whether the weight of the wool clip should be stated as "in the grease" or as "scoured and washed" is a matter which seriously affects comparisons between the clips of different seasons and of different countries. The quantity of grease and other extraneous matter in a fleece differs, not only between

countries, but between districts in the same country. It fluctuates with the vagaries of the season, and with the breed and the condition of the sheep. There is, moreover, no clearly defined standard in regard to the clean content of wool described as scoured and washed.

A committee of experts in a report to the Central Wool Committee estimated in 1940 that the clean scoured wool content of the total production of Australia averaged between 51 and 53 per cent. of its greasy weight.

Wool scoured in Australia by wool-scouring works, however, yields only about 46 per cent. because the grade of greasy wool treated locally for export as scoured includes a large proportion of dirty and low-grade wool.

The quantity of scoured and washed Australian wool exported during the five years ended 1943-44 was approximately 15 per cent. of the total wool exports regarded as "greasy".

3. **Production.**—The bulk of the Australian wool production is shorn from live sheep; approximately 6 per cent. is obtained by fellmongering and about 5 per cent. is on skins exported. Statistics of wool production are compiled from data received from growers, fellmongers, etc. The following table gives the production for the four years 1940-41 to 1943-44 compared with 1938-39. Particulars of the gross value of wool produced in Australia are also shown; for 1938-39 these values are based upon the average price of greasy wool realized at auction in the principal markets of Australia, and for 1940-41 to 1943-44 upon the average appraised value plus certain adjustments as computed by the State Statisticians.

WOOL (AS IN THE GREASE) : TOTAL PRODUCTION.

State.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	'000. lb.	'000. lb.	'000 lb.	'000 lb.	'000 lb.
New South Wales ..	437,141	536,908	547,000	497,538	537,410
Victoria ..	165,829	187,831	212,919	212,325	196,415
Queensland ..	(b)179,459	(b)214,704	204,119	213,966	194,355
South Australia ..	102,888	106,647	105,124	108,637	115,464
Western Australia (b) ..	78,802	76,170	78,500	99,231	105,226
Tasmania ..	17,519	17,078	16,985	17,256	17,925
Northern Territory (c) ..	35	308	308	308	308
Australian Capital Territory	1,909	2,128	2,203	1,905	1,913
<b>Total—Quantity</b> ..	983,582 £	1,141,774 £	1,167,158 £	1,151,166 £	1,169,016 £
<b>Value (a)</b> ..	42,042,734	63,014,009	64,701,719	73,016,917	75,123,549

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) For year ended previous December.

(c) Estimated.

4. **Care Needed in Comparing Clips.**—In comparing successive clips allowance must be made for the circumstance that, owing to climatic or other conditions, the time of shearing may be so far delayed in some areas that one clip may include almost thirteen months' growth of wool, while the succeeding one may include little more than eleven months' growth.

5. **World's Wool Production.**—The following table gives details of the world's wool production at the latest available date and shows the importance of Australia as a wool-producing country. Of a total production of 3,991 million lb. in 1938-39, Australia produced 984 million lb., or 24.7 per cent. The share of the British Empire in world production during the same year was estimated at 1,849 million lb., or 46.3 per cent.

## WOOL : WORLD'S PRODUCTION.

(In millions of lb., "greasy" basis.)

Countries.	Average Five Years 1909-13.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937-38.	1938-39
<b>Australia</b> .. ..	<b>741.4</b>	<b>1,015.4</b>	<b>971.1</b>	<b>982.8</b>	<b>1,023.4</b>	<b>983.6</b>
U.S.A. .. ..	314.1	451.0	452.7	448.6	454.6	457.7
Argentina .. ..	358.7	370.0	359.0	379.0	380.0	394.0
New Zealand .. ..	198.5	265.0	304.0	303.5	297.0	329.0
U.S.S.R. (Russia) .. ..	380.0	128.0	158.4	202.1	259.0	303.0
Union of South Africa .. ..	165.9	219.0	250.0	277.0	246.0	264.0
Uruguay .. ..	157.0	112.0	110.0	114.0	110.0	114.0
China (a) .. ..	100.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
United Kingdom .. ..	134.0	115.0	109.0	108.0	107.0	110.0
India (a) .. ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Turkey .. ..	118.0	35.4	41.1	48.9	64.5	69.0
Spain .. ..	72.0	73.0	66.0	66.0	60.0	60.0
France .. ..	80.7	52.8	52.7	53.9	55.1	54.4
Rumania .. ..	13.2	43.0	42.9	42.9	45.0	48.5
Morocco (French) .. ..	14.9	35.6	40.8	40.7	47.8	44.7
Germany .. ..	52.0	32.2	36.3	40.1	43.3	44.5
Brazil .. ..	35.0	36.4	37.5	37.5	43.2	(a)43.0
Iran .. ..	12.1	40.0	37.5	37.5	35.3	40.0
Yugoslavia .. ..	25.4	31.0	32.2	33.6	31.5	35.3
Chile .. ..	17.4	37.0	35.2	35.7	36.0	33.0
Italy .. ..	55.0	36.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	33.0
Bulgaria .. ..	23.7	21.3	21.1	20.4	20.7	21.2
Canada .. ..	11.2	19.5	19.4	18.9	19.0	18.8
Eire .. ..	..	17.0	16.5	17.6	16.4	17.9
Algeria .. ..	35.2	15.2	16.1	17.6	17.2	16.4
Basutoland .. ..	..	5.1	7.3	6.0	4.7	6.9
Falkland Islands .. ..	..	4.0	4.2	4.0	4.6	3.6
Other Countries .. ..	71.2	201.4	214.0	222.3	215.9	234.8
<b>Total</b> .. ..	<b>3,286.6</b>	<b>3,621.3</b>	<b>3,675.0</b>	<b>3,798.6</b>	<b>3,877.2</b>	<b>3,990.5</b>

(a) Estimated.

6. War-time Contracts.—(i) *Wool*. After the outbreak of war in September, 1939, negotiations were concluded between the Government of the Commonwealth and of the United Kingdom whereby the latter contracted to purchase the entire wool clip of Australia for the duration of the war and one full clip thereafter. The price per lb. at store in Australia was fixed at 10½d. sterling, or 13.4375d. in Australian currency for the 1939-40 to 1941-42 clips. For the 1942-43 and later clips the United Kingdom Government increased the price by 15 per cent., thus bringing the price to 15.453125d. Australian currency, and provision was made for an equal division between the two Governments of any profits derived from the sale of the wool for use outside the United Kingdom. In addition, an amount not exceeding ¾d. sterling or ¾d. (Aust.) was paid by the United Kingdom Government to cover all costs from store at port of oversea shipment to ship. The agreement provided that sufficient quantities of wool be retained in Australia for domestic use. The administration of the scheme in Australia was controlled by the Central Wool Committee assisted by a Committee in each State. These Committees consisted of representatives of growers, brokers, buyers and manufacturers.

Separate agreements were negotiated by the Governments of the United Kingdom, Union of South Africa and New Zealand.

(ii) *Sheepskins*. Under the contract negotiated in April, 1940 between the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the United Kingdom, the latter agreed to purchase, in connexion with the war, the exportable surplus of Australian woolled sheepskins. The scheme was administered by the Central Wool Committee. The exportable surplus was determined by competition in the open market between fellmongers and export packers licensed by the Central Wool Committee. The quantity appraised during each season was as follows:—

## SHEEPSKIN APPRAISEMENTS : AUSTRALIA.

Season.	Number of—		Net Weight.	Appraised Values.
	Bales.	Skins.		
	No.	No.	lb.	£
1939-40 .. .. .	16,124	1,604,631	11,012,544	352,592
1940-41 .. .. .	72,643	7,645,280	49,454,306	1,501,557
1941-42 .. .. .	69,274	7,566,080	47,788,950	1,350,558
1942-43 .. .. .	73,701	7,794,507	50,911,840	1,692,955
1943-44 .. .. .	84,001	8,897,735	58,245,326	1,828,923
1944-45 .. .. .	82,296	9,433,549	56,873,508	1,731,483

Further particulars of these war-time contracts appear in Chapter XXVIII. "Miscellaneous".

7. *Wool Appraisements*.—Details of the quantity and value of wool appraised by the Central Wool Committee during 1939-40 to 1944-45 are given in the following table. The quantities include the production for the years shown plus any unappraised wools carried forward from previous years.

## WOOL APPRAISEMENTS : AUSTRALIA.

Year ended June—	Greasy.		Scoured.		Total Appraised Value.	Average Value per lb. Greasy.
	Quantity.	Appraised Value.	Quantity.	Appraised Value.		
	lb.	£	lb.	£	£	d.
1940 (a)	1,066,236,666	55,880,334	45,828,781	3,961,945	59,842,279	12.403
1941 ..	990,833,406	50,519,740	53,205,679	4,731,411	55,251,151	12.085
1942 ..	1,034,617,098	53,681,110	55,853,496	4,790,795	58,471,905	12.242
1943 ..	1,048,049,364	61,686,427	51,369,110	4,990,608	66,677,035	13.906
1944 ..	1,044,227,565	61,669,588	54,020,785	5,186,541	66,856,129	13.925
1945 ..	883,767,084	51,605,152	47,314,691	4,469,377	56,074,529	13.755

(a) Period September, 1939—June, 1940.

8. *Australian Wool Realization Commission*.—(i) *General*. The accumulation of Dominion wool in the hands of the United Kingdom Government as an outcome of the war-time arrangements and the disposal of these stocks concurrently with future clips were matters for discussion by a conference of officials and experts from the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa, held in London in April-May, 1945. Total stocks of United Kingdom-owned wool at 30th June, 1945 were estimated at 3,315,000,000 lb. actual (greasy and scoured) of which 3,245,000,000 lb. were of Dominion origin, the Australian share being 2,060,000,000 lb., or 63 per cent.

This stock approximates two years' consumption and, on reasonably optimistic assumptions, the complete disposal of the stock in conjunction with current clips would occupy a period of 12 or 13 years. It was decided, therefore, that the only sound method

of handling this gigantic task was by means of a partnership between the countries concerned, under which the old wool would be marketed and the marketing of the current clip supported throughout the period of disposal of stocks. A return to the auction system of marketing was favoured, provided it was continued with a floor price scheme to minimize fluctuations which occurred under pre-war auctions. Current clips would thus be offered at auction as in the past and, in addition, selections from stock would be marketed with the aim of maximizing total sales and gradually liquidating stocks. To ensure that stability of wool prices would be achieved, a reserve price appropriate to type, and governed by the general trend of prices, and at which the wool would be bought in if commercial bidding did not attain the appropriate level, would be agreed upon.

(ii) *United Kingdom-Dominion Wool Disposals Limited*. The formation, by the four Governments, of a Joint Organization under the title of "United Kingdom-Dominion Wool Disposals Limited" (commonly referred to as "J.O.") was, therefore, undertaken for the purposes of buying, holding, and selling wool on behalf of the United Kingdom and the Dominion Governments concerned. As part of the plan, the organization is required :—

- (a) to determine total quantities of wool to be offered from time to time concurrently in the Dominions and elsewhere, to be made up of all new clip wool and an appropriate proportion of wool from the organization's stock ;
- (b) to prepare schedules of reserve prices at which the organization will itself be willing to acquire wool ;
- (c) to lift from the market such quantities of new wool as cannot be sold at these reserve prices ;
- (d) to hold and dispose of stocks as the agent of the Governments concerned and where necessary, to acquire and own stores, plant and equipment for this purpose ;
- (e) to facilitate the sale of wool in every way possible, with a view to stimulating demand.

The stock of Dominion-grown wool in the ownership of the United Kingdom Government at 31st July, 1945 was transferred to the joint ownership of the United Kingdom Government and the Dominion Government concerned, and all wool subsequently acquired under the scheme will be in the joint ownership of the United Kingdom and the Dominion concerned.

It is the obligation of the Joint Organization to recommend to the Governments the initial level of reserve prices and any major changes which may thereafter be necessary. The structure of reserve selling prices will be built upon the basis of "c.i.f. Europe" with a corresponding schedule of reserve prices "ex Store" in the Dominions.

Reserve prices will be calculated for the London market as well as Dominion markets and, as soon as practicable, growers will be free to forward wool to London for sale there alongside wool from the Joint Organization's stocks. If, at auction, no buyer is forthcoming at the reserve price or higher, the lot will be passed in and taken over by the Joint Organization at the auction reserve price, subject to the grower's right of withdrawal.

In order to facilitate and expand the consumption of wool the Joint Organization will maintain close contact (a) with the appropriate bodies interested in furthering the rehabilitation of the wool textile industry in consuming countries, and in securing the replacement and improvement of machinery, (b) with the International Wool Secretariat and (c) with all institutions concerned with uses of wool and with the reduction of costs of production, processing, manufacture and distribution of wool. The Joint Organization will give attention in general to the removal of any obstacles to consumption.

The Joint Organization has been incorporated in England as a private registered company, the voting shares being held as follows :—four by nominees of the United Kingdom Government, two by nominees of the Government of Australia and one each by nominees of the New Zealand and South African Governments. An active subsidiary has been formed in each Dominion to act on behalf of the Joint Organization in regard to all the operations of the Joint Organization in that Dominion.

The Directors of the principal Company consist of an independent Chairman appointed by the four Governments in agreement, four Directors appointed by the United Kingdom Government, two by the Government of Australia, and one each by the Governments of New Zealand and South Africa. In addition the Chairman of each of the Dominion Subsidiaries will be *ex officio* Directors of the principal Company without additional voting power.

(iii) *The Dominion Subsidiaries.* The Subsidiary in each of the Dominions is charged with the conducting of the operations of the principal Company in the Dominion in accordance with its policy and decisions. The function of each Subsidiary will be :—

- (a) to hold wool in the Dominion as the agent of the principal Company ;
- (b) to sell wool from stocks in the Dominions, and to arrange for the regulation of sales of current clips by auction ;
- (c) to assess on the basis laid down by the principal Company the appropriate reserve prices for the individual lots of wool (from stocks or current clips), being offered for sale ;
- (d) to take up wool offered at auction for which the reserve price or better is not offered by a commercial buyer ;
- (e) to conduct the financial operations of the principal Company in the Dominion ;
- (f) to furnish to the principal Company annual reports on its activities, including statements of its accounts and information regarding its purchases, sales and stocks.

(iv) *The Financial Plan.* Representatives of the four Governments will meet prior to the opening of each wool year and at such other times as may be required, to agree upon the general level of reserve prices in the light of the advice of the Joint Organization.

Under the financial plan, the United Kingdom and the Dominion concerned will each take up 50 per cent. of the original capital represented by the opening stock of wool grown in that Dominion to be handed over to the Joint Organization, that opening stock being taken in by the Joint Organization at its original cost, including f.o.b. payments less the amounts accumulated in the divisible profits accounts, which amounts, except in the case of South Africa, are estimated fully to cover depreciation of that stock. The balances in the divisible profits accounts are thus used to write down the opening stocks taken in by the Joint Organization. Payment of the Dominions' share of the original capital is to be made in four annual instalments. Towards these instalments will be applied the Dominions' shares of the proceeds of sales by the Joint Organization and of the net profit during the interim period 1945-46. Each Dominion and the United Kingdom will share equally in the provision of any further capital required by the Joint Organization during the operation of the scheme for payment for bought-in new wool of that Dominion.

Operating expenses will be borne equally between the industry and the Joint Organization, the share of the industry being paid by the Dominion Governments primarily from the proceeds of a contributory charge on all sales of new clip wool. The share of the Joint Organization will be met by deduction from the proceeds of sales by the Joint Organization before application to capital repayment.

The ultimate balance of profit or loss arising from the transactions of the Joint Organization in the wool of any Dominion will be shared equally between the United Kingdom and the Government of that Dominion.

(v) *The Australian Subsidiary.* Pursuant to the provisions of the Wool Realization Act (No. 49 of 1945) the Australian subsidiary, known as the Australian Wool Realization Commission, was established. This Commission comprises a Chairman and an Executive Member (the two administrators of the Plan), four growers (two representative of the Australian Woolgrowers' Council and two representative of the Wool Producers' Federation), one representative of the Federated Storemen and Packers' Union and two other persons chosen for their knowledge of the marketing of wool.

The Act also gives power to the Commission to appoint whatever advisory or technical committees it considers necessary, thus providing a formal basis for full co-operation between the Commission and the various facets of the trade.

(vi) *The Contributory Charge.* Associated legislation, viz., the Wool (Contributory Charge) Act 1945 and the Wool (Contributory Charge) Assessment Act 1945 provide for a contributory charge to be imposed on all wool—

- (a) produced in Australia; and
- (b) on or after a date to be fixed by proclamation—
  - (i) sold by a broker at auction or otherwise;
  - (ii) purchased by a manufacturer;
  - (iii) subjected by a manufacturer (whether or not he is the producer or owner of the wool) to a process of manufacture; or
  - (iv) exported from Australia;

the rate of the charge to be such percentage as is prescribed from time to time of the sale value of the wool, the percentage being such as is necessary to provide the amounts required to meet the share of the industry in the operating expenses of the Joint Organization, the payment of interest on monies expended by the Commonwealth in purchases of wool in pursuance of the Disposals Plan and unrecovered, and payment into the Wool Use Promotion Fund as provided under the Wool Use Promotion Act 1945.

(vii) *Conclusion.* To sum up, the plan, with its associated legislation, amounts to the underwriting of the income of Dominion wool producers during the next 12 to 14 years, protecting the growers against the serious fall in prices which would undoubtedly occur if the accumulated stocks were unloaded without control on the market, and it will prevent also undue price fluctuations during individual years and between one year and the next. In other words, it endeavours to guarantee the stability and solvency of the whole wool industry.

9. *Consumption of Locally Processed Wool.*—Particulars of the total consumption of wool in Australia are not available as quantities of manufactured woollen goods are imported whose contents in terms of wool cannot be ascertained. It is possible, however, to secure with reasonable accuracy the quantities of wool used in Australian factories and mills to produce woollen cloth and other woollen goods, such as blankets, rugs and knitted-wear. Some difficulties arise in the aggregation of returns from individual mills concerned with only one process in manufacture and whose output constitutes the raw material of other mills, but the risk of duplication has been reduced to a minimum. Reference is made to the woollen mills established in Australia in Chapter XXV. "Manufacturing Industry."

The factors used to convert scoured wool and woollen yarn processed in Australia into their greasy equivalent are now computed from the data furnished by woollen mills. In 1943-44 these factors were:—1 lb. of worsted yarn was taken to equal 1.99 lb. of greasy while the greasy equivalent of 1 lb. of scoured wool was 1.66 lb.

In the following table particulars are given of the quantity of wool processed in Australian factories during each of the years 1934-35 to 1943-44.

#### CONSUMPTION OF LOCALLY PROCESSED WOOL IN AUSTRALIA.

(In terms of greasy.)

Year.		Quantity.	Year.		Quantity.
		lb.			lb.
1934-35	.. ..	55,753,478	1939-40	.. ..	84,265,244
1935-36	.. ..	70,205,840	1940-41	.. ..	101,517,826
1936-37	.. ..	71,579,920	1941-42	.. ..	123,482,786
1937-38	.. ..	68,377,043	1942-43	.. ..	121,747,310
1938-39	.. ..	68,444,311	1943-44	.. ..	114,806,100

10. *Exports of Wool.*—(i) *Greasy—Quantities.* Of the total weight of greasy wool shipped overseas during the five years ended 1943-44, 42 per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom, compared with 38 per cent. dispatched during the years 1909 to 1913. The other leading consignees during the period were United States of America, 46 per cent.; France, 5 per cent.; and Japan, 4 per cent. The following table shows the quantities of greasy wool exported, and the principal countries of recorded destination.



EXPORTS OF WOOL IN THE GREASE : AUSTRALIA.

Country to which Exported.	Average Five Years 1909-13.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
		lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
United Kingdom ..	212,004,088	333,263,937	146,331,337	198,764,867	173,255,776	195,986,984
Other British Countries	(a)	2,861,227	5,652,615	6,734,575	13,989,494	12,384,738
Belgium ..	55,143,706	104,147,161	..	..	..	..
France ..	149,835,946	162,034,076	..	..	..	..
Germany ..	106,344,696	35,027,760	..	..	..	..
Italy ..	4,381,197	21,186,890	..	..	..	..
Japan ..	7,262,683	72,659,411	58,100,837	11,324,899	..	..
Netherlands ..	(a)	15,701,733	..	..	..	..
Poland ..	(a)	6,954,917	..	..	..	..
United States of America	15,486,447	21,484,584	275,624,137	512,992,800	328,200,808	243,810,900
Other Foreign Countries	6,382,577	20,106,016	5,171,186	6,527,883	2,681,473	2,902,791
Total ..	556,841,340	795,727,712	490,880,112	736,345,024	518,127,551	455,115,413

(a) Included with Other Foreign Countries.

(ii) *Scoured and Washed including Tops, Noils and Waste*—Quantities. The exports of "scoured and washed" wool including tops, noils and waste during the period shown were as follows :—

EXPORTS OF WOOL—SCOURED AND WASHED, INCLUDING TOPS, NOILS AND WASTE : AUSTRALIA.

Country to which Exported.	Average Five Years 1909-13.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
		lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
United Kingdom ..	32,032,577	36,591,488	38,516,576	24,037,302	11,980,449	24,746,603
Canada ..	(a)	4,470,367	8,694,416	8,700,828	4,884,467	7,913,794
Other British Countries	(a)	1,156,535	3,965,218	6,969,753	6,096,509	8,732,929
Belgium ..	7,528,058	5,802,183	..	..	..	..
France ..	16,068,910	9,960,450	..	..	..	..
Germany ..	12,310,967	1,935,088	..	..	..	..
Italy ..	265,442	67,051	..	..	..	..
Japan ..	1,888,161	1,618,827	165,652	19,611	..	..
Poland ..	(a)	497,285	..	..	..	..
United States of America	66,156	765,176	5,379,643	48,521,734	25,030,646	24,358,883
Other Foreign Countries	186,839	8,080,714	3,033,422	4,539,902	3,677,088	4,543,162
Total ..	70,347,110	70,945,164	60,354,927	92,789,190	51,669,159	70,295,371

(a) Included with Other Foreign Countries.

(iii) *Total Value of Exports.* The value of wool exported from Australia during the five years ended 1943-44 averaged 35 per cent. of the value of the exports of merchandise of local origin, and during 1943-44 the proportion was 32 per cent. The value during the period under review together with the principal countries to which wool was exported is shown in the following table :—

VALUE OF WOOL EXPORTS : AUSTRALIA.

Country to which Exported.	Average Five Years 1909-13.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
		£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.
United Kingdom ..	10,608,967	18,513,175	13,527,483	15,399,458	13,593,272	18,473,758
Other British Countries	(a)	675,143	2,189,392	2,636,965	2,898,651	3,956,730
Belgium ..	2,540,915	4,720,537	..	..	..	..
France ..	6,494,832	7,566,458	..	..	..	..
Germany ..	5,131,282	1,994,320	..	..	..	..
Italy ..	202,434	1,175,304	..	..	..	..
Japan ..	516,528	3,804,120	3,918,906	737,464	..	..
Netherlands ..	(a)	826,198	..	..	..	..
Poland ..	(a)	403,446	..	..	..	..
United States of America	795,328	1,346,187	19,060,182	38,193,388	27,141,701	22,281,578
Other Foreign Countries	296,356	1,712,205	949,573	1,073,838	684,564	1,053,352
Total ..	26,592,642	42,737,096	39,645,536	58,041,113	44,318,188	45,767,418

(a) Included with Other Foreign Countries.

11. **Local Sales of Wool.**—Approximately 90 per cent. of Australian wool is normally disposed of locally. Under pre-war conditions buyers from the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Germany and other European countries, and from America, Japan, China and India attended the sales conducted in Sydney, Albury, Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Launceston.

12. **Value.**—Wool is the chief factor in the pastoral wealth of Australia, and the nation's prosperity is largely dependent upon the satisfactory sale of the clip. During the ten years ended 1938-39 the price of greasy wool sold in the selling centres of Australia averaged 11½d. per lb. compared with 13.27d. per lb. for the ten years ended 1943-44. This figure may be compared with an average of 18d. per lb. during the nine post-war years ended 1928-29, and 9d. per lb. for the seven pre-war years ended 1913-14. The heavy decline in the price of wool which commenced in 1929-30 continued during the next three years. In 1933-34, prices rose in a remarkable manner, averaging 15.84d. per lb., compared with 8.72d. per lb. for the previous year, an increase of 81.6 per cent. A decline in 1934-35 was succeeded by a period of rising prices in the two years following, but in 1937-38 and in 1938-39 prices again receded.

As mentioned in paragraph 6 above, the price of wool during the war years was determined by the British Government wool contract. The price fixed for the years 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 13.4375d. per lb., and for the years 1942-43 to 1945-46 15.45d. per lb.

The effect of fluctuating wool values upon the national income is reflected in the following figures. Based upon appraisalment in each State plus certain adjustments as recorded by the State Statisticians, the gross value of the wool clip for Australia for 1942-43 amounted to £73,017,000 and for 1943-44 to £75,124,000 compared with £42,043,000 realized during 1938-39 under open market conditions. These values may be compared with £81,430,000 in 1924-25 when the record price was realized, and £34,804,000 in the year 1930-31.

The following table gives the average price per lb. of greasy wool determined by the British Government wool contract for the years 1939-40 to 1943-44 compared with the average auction-room price of greasy wool in Australia for 1938-39 as compiled by the National Council of Wool-selling Brokers. This latter price represents the average price realized for all greasy wool of whatever type or quality marketed during the year indicated.

**WOOL : AVERAGE MARKET PRICE PER LB.**

Description.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Greasy .. ..	(a) 10.39	(b) 13.44	(b) 13.44	(b) 13.44	(c) 15.45	(c) 15.45

(a) National Council of Wool-selling Brokers. (b) The equivalent of the contract price of 10½d. sterling. (c) The equivalent of the contract price of 12.34d. sterling.

Measured in terms of Australian, sterling, and gold currencies the approximate values of greasy wool per lb. since 1934-35 were as follows :—

**GREASY WOOL : AVERAGE VALUES PER LB.**

Year.	Australian Currency.	Sterling.	Gold Prices.
	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1934-35 .. ..	9.75	7.78	4.68
1935-36 .. ..	14.01	11.19	6.79
1936-37 .. ..	16.48	13.16	8.03
1937-38 .. ..	12.51	9.99	6.15
1938-39 .. ..	10.39	8.30	4.84
1939-40 .. ..	13.44	10.75	5.37
1940-41 .. ..	13.44	10.75	5.34
1941-42 .. ..	13.44	10.75	5.34
1942-43 .. ..	15.45	12.34	6.14
1943-44 .. ..	15.45	12.34	6.14

The average values shown in sterling and gold currencies have been calculated by converting the average prices shown in Australian currency on the basis of the average rates of exchange and the average gold prices between the months of September and June in each year. Though not exact these results will suffice for general purposes.

13. **United Kingdom Importation of Wool.**—The important position which Australia occupies in the supply of wool to the United Kingdom is indicated in the following statement of the quantities and values of wool imported into that country during 1943 from the principal wool-producing countries. Particulars for later years are not available. In 1938, of a total of 881,325,400 lb., Australia supplied 365,518,900 lb.

**WOOL (a) : IMPORTS INTO UNITED KINGDOM, 1943.**

Country of Origin.	Quantity.	Value.	Country of Origin.	Quantity.	Value.
	lb.	£		lb.	£
Australia ..	101,261,700	7,306,150	Other British Possessions	10,600	510
New Zealand ..	97,971,600	6,500,521	United States of America ..	2,394,400	148,213
Union of South Africa ..	50,507,600	3,302,244	Argentina ..	1,221,000	56,166
India ..	6,750,600	554,932	Uruguay ..	261,500	12,529
Falkland Islands ..	5,578,200	329,178			
Eire ..	3,555,300	406,066	Total ..	269,512,500	18,616,509

(a) Greasy and Scoured.

Of the importations of wool into the United Kingdom during 1943, Australian wool represented 38 per cent. of quantity and 39 per cent. of value, and New Zealand 36 per cent. of quantity and 35 per cent. of value. Altogether, 265,635,600 lb., valued at £18,399,601, were received from British Possessions, these figures being equivalent to 99 per cent. of the total weight and 99 per cent. of the total value of all wool imported.

14. **Principal Importing Countries and Sources of Supply.**—The following table furnishes, in respect of the principal importing countries, details of their production and imports of wool for 1938, together with the chief sources of supply. The quantities imported refer to the actual weight of wool without distinguishing between greasy and scoured. They also exclude any wool imported on skins. Later details are not available.

**WOOL : PRINCIPAL IMPORTING COUNTRIES AND SOURCES OF SUPPLY, 1938.**  
(In millions of lb.)

Importing Country.	Production(a) of Importing Country.	Quantity imported from—					Total Imports.
		Australia.	Union of South Africa.	Argentina.	New Zealand.	Other Countries.	
United Kingdom ..	110.0	365	107	79	198	132	881
Belgium ..	0.7	106	19	20	7	65	217
Czechoslovakia ..	2.0	18	4	6	..	1	29
France ..	54.4	168	52	62	22	86	390
Germany ..	44.5	49	90	56	14	97	306
Italy ..	33.0	19	22	12	..	23	76
Japan ..	..	87	5	6	11	8	117
Poland ..	12.9	14	2	14	4	..	34
U.S.A. ..	457.7	7	1	47	4	44	103
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>2,153</b>

(a) As in the grease.

As a considerable transit trade exists between continental countries, it must not be assumed that the whole of the imports recorded by these countries are retained for their own consumption. The countries chiefly concerned with the transit trade are United Kingdom, Belgium, and France. The quantities re-exported during 1938 were:—United Kingdom, 269 million lb., or 30 per cent., of the total imports; Belgium, 76 million lb., or 35 per cent.; and France, 49 million lb., or 13 per cent.

### § 6. Trade in Hides and Skins.

1. **Extent of Trade.**—In addition to the hides and skins treated locally, considerable quantities are exported: the value of cattle and horse hides, and sheep and other skins sent overseas during the five years ended 1943-44 amounted to £24,728,165, or an average of £4,945,633 per annum.

2. **Sheepskins with Wool.**—The exports of sheepskins with wool aggregating £6,952,595 during the five years above constitute an important item in the values referred to in the preceding paragraph, although the largest export in this period was that of rabbit skins valued at £12,967,516. During 1938-39 France was the largest purchaser of sheepskins with wool taking 74 per cent. of the total consignments, while the United Kingdom ranked next with 15 per cent., followed by Germany with 7 per cent. The exports of sheepskins with wool during each of the years 1940-41 to 1943-44 compared with 1938-39 were as follows:—

#### EXPORTS OF SHEEPSKINS WITH WOOL : AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Number ..	12,625,200	3,267,519	8,442,352	4,616,761	3,220,448
Value .. £A.	2,301,800	850,070	1,755,419	1,078,941	1,000,386

3. **Sheepskins without Wool.**—Sheepskins without wool are exported chiefly to the United States of America. During 1943-44 this country accounted for 97 per cent. of the total shipments while the remaining 3 per cent. were exported to the United Kingdom, Canada and the Soviet Union. Quantities and values for the four years 1940-41 to 1943-44 compared with 1938-39 are given in the table hereunder:—

#### EXPORTS OF SHEEPSKINS WITHOUT WOOL : AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Number ..	1,075,895	2,013,651	4,922,932	3,642,179	3,651,958
Value .. £A.	68,152	127,666	385,194	307,477	337,374

4. **Hides.**—(i) *Exports.* The export trade in cattle hides during 1943-44 was distributed as follows :—United Kingdom, £15,318 ; Turkey, £117,253 ; United States of America, £140,473.

The exports during the four years 1940-41 to 1943-44 compared with 1938-39 are given in the table below :—

EXPORTS OF CATTLE HIDES : AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Number ..	1,186,543	496,415	96,672	72,526	171,421
Value .. £A.	896,752	438,648	89,715	49,156	273,044

Calfskins exported during the five years ended 1943-44 numbered 485,568 valued at £118,297. The annual export of horse hides is very small, and for the five years ended 1943-44 numbered 29,794 hides valued at £27,313.

(ii) *Imports.* The imports of cattle hides and calfskins are fairly large, the chief source of supply being New Zealand, and small quantities are obtained from the Pacific Islands, France and Italy. The quantities and values of cattle hides, including calfskins, imported into Australia during the years 1938-39 and 1940-41 to 1943-44 were as follows :—

IMPORTS OF CATTLE HIDES : AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
Quantity cwt.	80,641	26,672	40,604	73,673	47,139
Value £A.	280,273	88,370	193,368	316,255	176,038

5. **Other Skins.**—The exports of skins other than those mentioned in the preceding paragraphs were valued as follows :—

EXPORTS OF OTHER SKINS : AUSTRALIA.

Description.	1938-39.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.	£A.
Rabbit ..	(a) 129,140	2,207,591	3,368,644	1,986,198	4,493,699
Opossum ..	16,040	82,738	45,005	13,638	37,593
Kangaroo ..	169,078	238,564	165,111	158,236	210,889
Fox ..	27,767	76,341	131,338	89,946	272,389
Wallaby ..	9,640	13,627	13,347	13,462	50,082
Other..	25,912	17,863	18,828	11,894	65,878
Total ..	677,577	2,636,724	3,742,273	2,273,374	5,130,530

(a) Includes hare skins.

These skins were shipped principally to the United States of America and the United Kingdom, and the values taken by each during 1943-44 were as follows:—

**OTHER SKINS : EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES AND UNITED KINGDOM, 1943-44.**

Description.	United States of America.	United Kingdom.
	£A.	£A.
Rabbit .. .. .	4,209,536	33,217
Opossum .. .. .	32,613	..
Kangaroo .. .. .	196,726	..
Fox .. .. .	267,791	..
Wallaby .. .. .	37,447	..
Other .. .. .	60,745	482
Total .. .. .	4,804,858	33,699