

The following table, No. XIII, shows the main items of export to the United States of America for the last four years :—

Table XIII.—Principal Exports to the United States of America.

Commodity.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
Wool	302,476	660,777	2,281,082	168,212
Tallow	339,858	77,993	12,583	2,759
Calf-skins	56,931	86,240	180,123	123,425
Cattle-hides	32,766	30,567	65,063	29,933
Rabbit-skins	348,784	642,932	399,925	203,300
Sheep-skins with wool	41,414	114,883	186,825	51,571
Sheep-skins without wool	528,778	814,588	1,167,018	480,657
Sausage-casings	345,279	178,906	304,011	217,662
Grass and clover seeds	44,377	61,056	61,948	67,303
Butter	226,020	102,353	11,694	17,501
Kauri-gum	25,325	22,462	48,095	12,360

For only two items do the 1938 figures show any advance over the 1937 figures. These are for grass and clover seeds and for butter. All the other principal items have dropped in value, the falls being as follows: Wool, £2,112,870; sheep-skins without wool, £686,361; rabbit-skins, £196,625; sheep-skins with wool, £134,254; sausage-casings, £86,349; calf-skins, £56,698.

TRADE WITH BRITISH WEST INDIES.

The figures for the trade between New Zealand and the British West Indies for the last six years are set out in Table XIV below :—

Table XIV.—Total Trade with British West Indies.

Year ended 31st December,	Total Trade.	Exports to British West Indies.	Imports from British West Indies.	Excess of Exports over Imports.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
1933	37,021	20,864	16,157	4,707
1934	69,911	42,228	27,683	14,545
1935	109,973	53,966	56,007	2,041
1936	93,773	48,796	44,977	3,819*
1937	105,591	54,942	50,649	4,293
1938	79,809	37,280	42,529	5,249*

* Excess of imports over exports.

Compared with 1937, the 1938 figures show falls in both exports and imports, exports decreasing by £17,662 and imports by £8,120.

Imports from the British West Indies comprised chiefly oranges, £13,854 (£12,786); grapefruit, £1,188 (£1,379); cocoa-beans, £7,514 (£11,187); rum, £8,867 (£15,269); asphalt and bitumen, £2,295 (£2,021); and spices, £1,420 (£2,836). Kingston, Jamaica, is the chief shipping port for this trade.

Butter accounts for over 90 per cent. of our exports to the British West Indies, as is shown in Table XV, which gives the principal items of export for the past four years :—

Table XV.—Principal Exports to British West Indies.

Commodity.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)	£(N.Z.)
Butter	50,406	45,866	52,353	33,759
Cheese	360	213	394	873
Frozen meat	812	1,079	614	806
Dried and condensed milk	871	460	507	791
Tallow	1,335	806
Apples	250	..	1,000