

3-4 GEORGE V., A. 1913

IMPORTS of Butter and Cheese for years ended January 31, 1911, 1912, 1913.

## BUTTER.

Years.	Quantities.	Value.
		\$
1911.....	870,550	219,845
1912.....	2,133,062	501,818
1913.....	8,002,433	2,147,553

## CHEESE.

1911.....	854,986	166,706
1912.....	909,140	178,975
1913.....	1,419,905	286,899

We have imported some butter every year for over twenty years. It has come in during periods of scarcity from various sources. California butter is imported into British Columbia. But the imports have not been large until the last two or three years.

*By Mr. Thoburn:*

Q. Taking these countries which export to Great Britain, is there any difference in the cost of production, and if so, is the advantage in Canada's favour?

A. No. It might cost a little more in Canada, because I fancy labour is higher, but that would be offset by the greater cost of equipment and machinery in Russia.

*By Mr. Bowman:*

Q. Is there any difference in the cost of production, as between New Zealand and Canada?

A. It costs a little more in New Zealand, because labour is higher. New Zealand is, also, putting much more money into factory equipment than we do in this country. Many factories cost as much as \$20,000.

Q. But they don't have to stable or feed cows in the winter.

A. I was thinking of the cost from the manufacturer's standpoint when you spoke before. They ought to produce milk cheaper than we can. Their land is rather high in value, some of it worth \$250 an acre and a great deal \$150.

*By Mr. Webster:*

Q. They have less time to stable their cattle?

A. Yes.

*By Mr. Edwards:*

Q. Do they keep their cattle out in the open the year round?

A. Yes, to a great extent, and some die from exposure in the winter, but in the south where it is coldest they are stabled on some farms. They can get along most years fairly well by letting the cattle run, but in some years when there is much wind and cold rains, with the temperature between 40 and 50, the cattle living out suffer a great deal.

*By Mr. Smith:*

Q. From what countries did the imports of butter come in 1912?

A. Mostly from New Zealand. The bulk of it comes to Vancouver, although a little comes to Montreal, via London. If you look at the table of imports, you will