

Individual Types.

Home farm was the most expensive butter on the retail market and packeted butters were generally dearer than bulk. Of the principal bulk butters, the order of retail price throughout the country with few exceptions was Danish, New Zealand, Irish, Australian. It is interesting to note that with the exception of Irish butter the same order applied to the number of shops stocking each type, and to the volume of imports during the period of the enquiry. Danish, besides being the dearest, was the most frequently stocked, and its imports were largest; New Zealand was second and Australian third in order of price, frequency, and volume of imports. This relationship does not appear to apply to Irish butter. In the earlier months it was the lowest of the principal butters in order of frequency and volume of imports; later it ranked second to Danish in these respects, but throughout the enquiry its price was slightly lower than that of New Zealand.

An interesting relationship can be observed between price differences and differences in the percentages of shops stocking the various butters throughout the areas. In the North, Danish was considerably dearer than New Zealand, and was stocked in many more shops; in Birmingham and Liverpool, it was slightly dearer, and was stocked in a few more shops; in London, Bristol and South Wales, it was slightly cheaper, and was stocked in fewer shops than New Zealand. The same relationship applies to the difference between Australian and Danish, and in the case of New Zealand and Australian it is remarkably close.

In Manchester, Yorkshire and Scotland, the average price of Danish butter was $1d.$ higher than that of New Zealand; in Birmingham it was $\frac{1}{2}d.$ higher, and in Liverpool slightly less; in London, Bristol and South Wales it was about $\frac{1}{3}d.$ lower. The average price of Australian butter was about $1\frac{2}{5}d.$ lower than that of Danish in all areas except London, and Bristol and South Wales, where it was about $\frac{2}{5}d.$ lower.

Farm Butter.—It has been noted that home farm butter was very rarely encountered during the enquiry, but it was found in a few shops in all areas except Manchester. The price varied widely, but in most cases it was the dearest butter on sale. In the First Survey the most usual price was $2s.$ per lb. and in the Second $2s. 2d.$, but it was also sold as a medium-priced and in some cases as a low-priced butter.