

23-001

Published by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

MONTHLY DAIRY REVIEW OF CANADA 1944



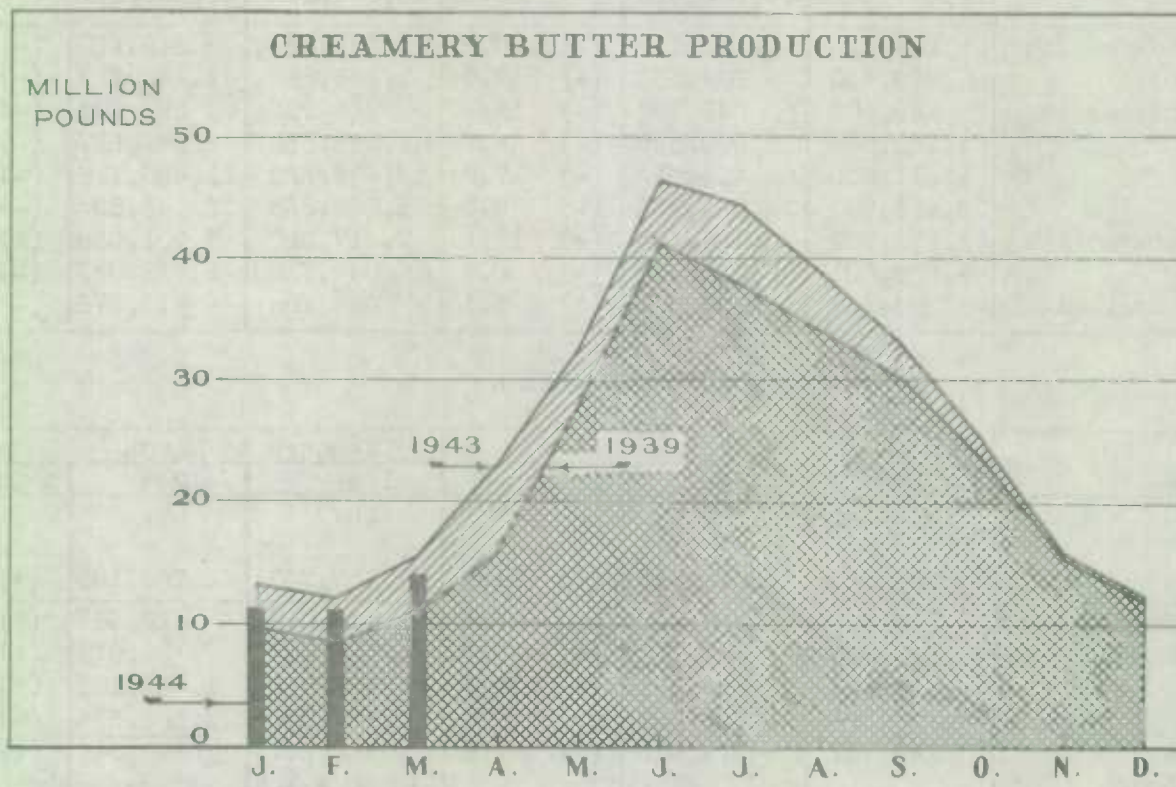
Dominion Statistician:
Chief, Agricultural Branch:
In charge of Dairying Statistics:

S. A. Cudmore, M.A., (Oxon.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Ian McArthur, B.Sc.
P. H. Ferguson, M.Sc.

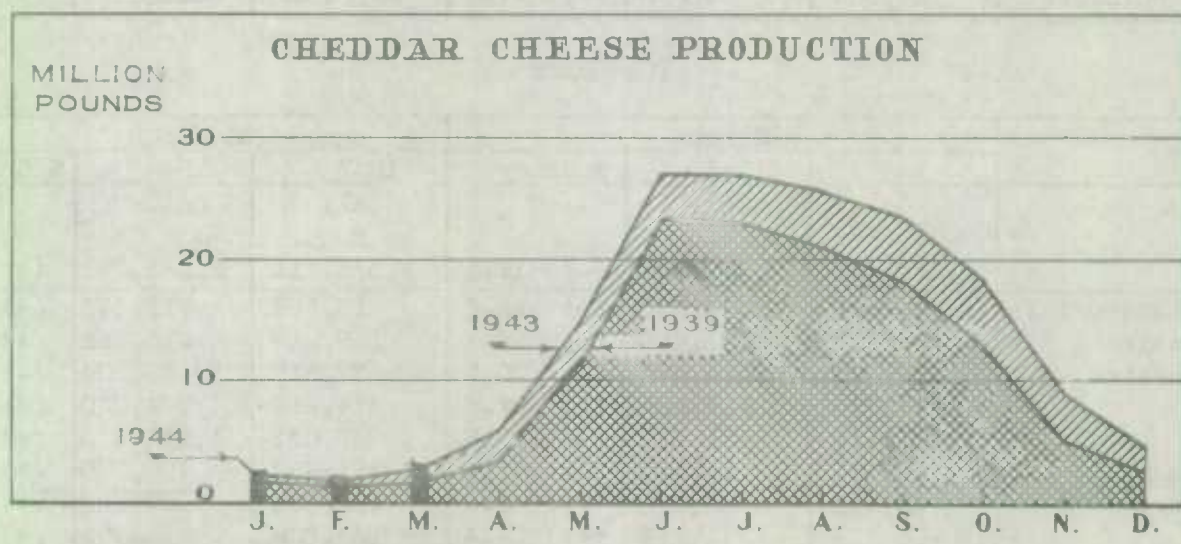
Series K11, Report No. 5

March

Issued April 11, 1944



1944 compared with 1943 -16.1% -8.5% -10.0%



1944 compared with 1943 +33.5% +19.5% +11.9%

1. CREAMERY BUTTER, CHEDDAR CHEESE AND ICE CREAM PRODUCTION IN CANADA BY PROVINCES,
MARCH AND JANUARY-MARCH, 1943 AND 1944.

CREAMERY BUTTER

Province	March			January to March		
	1943	1944	% Change	1943	1944	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	15,577,575	14,022,010	(-) 10.0	40,628,329	35,785,551	(-) 11.9
Prince Edward Is.	157,716	110,112	(-) 30.2	487,697	349,431	(-) 28.4
Nova Scotia	473,430	399,562	(-) 15.6	1,348,696	1,142,727	(-) 15.3
New Brunswick	288,402	243,627	(-) 15.5	744,905	597,784	(-) 19.8
Quebec	1,798,974	1,020,896	(-) 4.3	4,276,539	2,546,517	(-) 40.5
Ontario	5,411,610	4,494,214	(-) 17.0	13,692,320	11,450,776	(-) 16.4
Manitoba	2,135,967	2,081,981	(-) 2.5	5,630,833	5,145,894	(-) 8.6
Saskatchewan	2,772,722	3,138,493	(+) 13.2	7,417,920	7,901,969	(+) 6.5
Alberta	2,235,601	2,226,492	(-) 0.4	6,043,713	5,732,077	(-) 5.2
British Columbia	303,153	306,633	(+) 1.1	985,706	918,376	(-) 6.8

CHEDDAR CHEESE

Province	March			January to March		
	1943	1944	% Change	1943	1944	% Change
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	2,756,133	3,084,539	(+) 11.9	6,439,733	7,782,185	(+) 20.3
Prince Edward Is.	4,330	6,920	(+) 59.8	15,086	22,467	(+) 48.9
New Brunswick	13,227	16,629	(+) 25.7	26,064	27,671	(+) 6.2
Quebec	142,371	527,508	(+) 270.5	507,855	1,769,103	(+) 248.3
Ontario	2,146,237	1,925,587	(-) 10.3	4,774,040	4,563,594	(-) 4.4
Manitoba	243,767	274,420	(+) 12.6	555,341	592,844	(+) 6.8
Saskatchewan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alberta	151,598	263,905	(+) 74.1	408,386	612,742	(+) 50.0
British Columbia	54,603	69,570	(+) 27.4	152,961	193,764	(+) 26.7

ICE CREAM

Province	March			January to March		
	1943	1944	% Change	1943	1944	% Change
	Gal.	Gal.	%	Gal.	Gal.	%
CANADA	1,021,483	907,796	(-) 11.1	2,333,111	2,555,791	(+) 9.5
Prince Edward Is.	4,012	4,507	(+) 12.3	10,355	12,573	(+) 21.4
Nova Scotia	64,592	83,405	(+) 29.1	159,919	210,222	(+) 31.5
New Brunswick	31,800	25,367	(-) 20.2	77,517	69,604	(-) 10.2
Quebec	177,776	129,208	(-) 27.3	374,515	371,220	(-) 0.9
Ontario	452,110	371,470	(-) 17.8	1,033,033	1,133,420	(+) 9.7
Manitoba	78,386	72,810	(-) 7.1	171,488	199,730	(+) 16.5
Saskatchewan	45,452	46,000	(+) 1.2	122,685	127,500	(+) 3.9
Alberta	66,231	75,739	(+) 14.4	161,338	191,772	(+) 18.9
British Columbia	101,124	99,290	(-) 1.8	222,261	239,750	(+) 7.9

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA
(MARCH, 1944)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in March decreased approximately 10.0 per cent as compared with the March make of 1943 and increased 28.7 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of March 14.0 million pounds of butter were produced, and during the three months ended March, the output reached a total of 35.8 million pounds. The decrease in the March make occurred in all provinces except Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

DAIRY BUTTER PRODUCTION in February, based on returns from representative groups of Dairy Correspondents, increased 1.8 per cent as compared with that produced in the same month of the preceding year, and increased 8.1 per cent in comparison with the January output.

WHEY BUTTER production in March amounted to 57,650 pounds, an increase of 24.7 per cent over the output for same month a year ago. Of this total, 52 thousand pounds were made in Ontario, the remainder being produced in Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

CHEESE PRODUCTION increased approximately 11.9 per cent in March as compared with March, 1943, and was about 64.1 per cent above that of the previous month. The March make was approximately 3.1 million pounds, and the total for the three months, January to March, amounted to 7.8 million pounds. The increase in the March make occurred in all provinces except Ontario.

ICE CREAM PRODUCTION in March amounted to approximately 908 thousand gallons, a decrease of 11.1 per cent as compared with the March output of 1943. For the three months, January to March, 2.6 million gallons were produced, an increase of 9.5 per cent in comparison with the first three months of the preceding year.

The total production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS during February registered a decrease of approximately 1.5 per cent as compared with the same month last year, and a decrease of 16.7 per cent as compared with the preceding month. The total production of 10.7 million pounds was represented by 8.7 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products and 2.0 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products. EVAPORATED MILK, included in the former group, decreased 11.3 per cent as compared with the same month last year and 24.1 per cent as compared with the preceding month. SKIM MILK POWDER, included in the latter group, increased approximately 16.2 per cent and 34.6 per cent, respectively.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade product, averaged 35 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents a pound, which was the same as that reported for March, 1943. Domestic Cheese at Montreal averaged 21 cents as compared with 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents in the same month last year. Export cheese was 20 cents f.o.b. factory as compared with 20 cents, f.o.b. Montreal in the same month of 1943.

The combined output of creamery butter and cheddar cheese during the month of March represented the equivalent of 363 million pounds of milk, registering a decrease of approximately 33 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 90.5 per cent and cheese represented 9.5 per cent of the total.

The domestic disappearance of creamery butter in the month of February amounted to 23.8 million pounds, representing an increase of 62.5 per cent as compared with the same month last year and a decrease of 0.4 per cent in comparison with the preceding month.

The domestic disappearance of creamery and dairy butter combined, amounted to 28.5 million pounds or 2.4 pounds per capita. This represented an increase of approximately 47.7 per cent over that of February a year ago.

REVIEW OF PRODUCTION CONDITIONS IN CANADA

(Based on the reports of Observers and Dairy Correspondents)

SUMMARY: Relative to 1943, the production of butter in the month of March registered a somewhat greater decline than that reported a month ago. The decline in butter, however, was offset by a higher percentage increase in the output of cheese, the volume produced being approximately a third of a million pounds above the March make of 1943. So far this winter a great deal of milk has been diverted into the fluid channel, but as the season advances, a greater proportion of the total milk supply is being made available for manufacturing. The subsidy of 30 cents per hundred pounds of milk during the October-April period of 1943-44 places cheese factories and concentrated milk plants in a preferential position in competing for milk and cream other than that used for fluid purposes. It would appear, therefore, that there is no immediate hope of any improvement in the butter production situation, and supplies available in the principal markets will depend on the movement of stocks from one place to another in time to meet temporary shortages that may develop. A bright spot in the situation is an increase of nearly 2 per cent in the production of dairy butter over that estimated in February, 1943. This change in the situation will be understood when it is remembered that the downward trend in the dairy butter make was not very definitely indicated until late in 1942.

The weather was quite favourable throughout Canada during the month of March; severe storms were less noticeable than usual at this season, and in the western provinces dairy herds continued to range in the open fields during the day. With more forage provided, the flow of milk in March is expected to be greater in sections of the west than was the case a year ago. Cow numbers as reported by Dairy Correspondents in February showed a considerable increase over those of the same month in 1943, and the percentage milking increased almost 2 per cent. More cows will be available for milking purposes later on, but freshenings in the month of February were considerably below those of February, 1943. Cows have been selling at high prices. In the Maritime Provinces good grades sold at prices ranging up to \$130.00; in the western provinces \$100.00 or more was commonly reported for grade cows, and in Oxford county, Ontario, grade cows of the better quality were sold for as high as \$175.00.

The total milk production of Canada in the month of February advanced to well over 928 million pounds. While this represented an increase of 21 million pounds over that of February, 1943, on the basis of a 28-day month, it would represent a decrease of 11 million pounds. Milk production per cow showed a slight advance as compared with February, 1943. According to observers the labour situation has improved, but the farmers are anticipating difficulty in procuring efficient help when they commence their work on the land. In some districts in the west \$90.00 a month is already being offered by dairy farmers.

Prince Edward Island: Roads are good in this province, and the deliveries of milk and cream have been quite regular. Farmers are still reporting difficulties in obtaining feed concentrates, and labour shortages are also anticipated. Dairy correspondents reporting for February showed a further decline in cow numbers, but an increase in the percentage milking. Freshenings for April, however, are expected to be greater than those of a year ago. Cows are selling at good prices, grades fetching as high as \$130.00 per head. Fluid sales in February increased 21 per cent, and dairy butter production showed a slight advance over the corresponding month of 1943.

Nova Scotia: There were very few bad storms in the month of March, and farmers were able to deliver the produce to market under satisfactory conditions. Cow numbers showed a slight increase in February as compared with a decline in January, while the percentage milking advanced as compared with the same month of the preceding year. No change was indicated in the numbers of cows freshening, but some advance is expected in future months. Fluid sales advanced 9 per cent, while dairy butter production continued to decline, the estimate showing a reduction of 5 per cent as compared with the same month of the previous year. Farmers are being forced to pay high wages on account of the competition from other trades, and in many cases farm help is difficult to obtain at any price. It is believed that this situation will have an unfavourable effect on milk production in future months.

New Brunswick: Farmers are having less difficulty in obtaining supplies of concentrates than in previous months, although the hay left in the barns is of poor quality and this is being reflected in milk production. Cow numbers were up in February, but there was practically no change in the percentage milking. Correspondents expect a considerable increase in the numbers freshening next month, and it is believed that the situation will show still greater improvement by the time the cows go on grass. Fluid sales showed an estimated increase of 17 per cent over those of February, 1943, and dairy butter production also registered a slight increase.

Quebec: Weather conditions were favourable in the month of March, with very few snow storms to tie up traffic. The feed left in farmers' hands is not of the best quality. However, there is no apparent shortage as yet, except that bran and oil cake appear to be difficult to procure. Nevertheless dairy herds are being fed well and are in relatively good condition. A lack of labour is causing some anxiety. Cow numbers in February as reported by Dairy Correspondents were greater than those of a year ago, but a somewhat smaller percentage of them are now being milked. Freshenings dropped below those of February, 1943, but observers expect more cows will be coming into lactation in future months. Milkers are selling at good prices, grades ranging above \$100.00. The production of milk for February showed an increase of 4 per cent over that of the same month last year, and fluid sales increased 10 per cent. Dairy butter also moved to a higher level, being estimated at 4 per cent above that of February, 1943.

Ontario: There was a good deal of moisture in the month of March in this province, either in the form of rain or snow, but the absence of severe blizzards permitted dairymen to make regular deliveries to market. Supplies of concentrated feed stuffs of certain kinds were more plentiful than in previous months. Farmers, of course, are feeding more grain, and are depending to a lesser extent on commercial products. Cow numbers show a considerable lead over those reported for the same month of the previous year, but the percentage milking was somewhat reduced. Observers report that cows are coming into lactation earlier than a year ago, but there was no indication of any increase in freshenings. The estimated milk production for the month of February showed a slight increase, but fluid sales went up 12 per cent, and the output of dairy butter advanced 2 per cent.

Manitoba: Cold stormy weather prevailed in the month of March. Deliveries of milk and cream, however, were not seriously interfered with. Feeds are plentiful and cows were reported to be in good condition. There is a lack of moisture in some areas and reserve supplies of water in dugouts are running low. Cow numbers reported in February registered no change from the previous year, but a larger percentage of the cows were being milked. More cows are coming into lactation and a considerable increase in freshenings is expected in the month of March. Milk production was practically on a par with that of the previous February, but fluid sales increased 8 per cent, and the dairy butter output advanced 3 per cent.

Saskatchewan: Regardless of spring thaws, cars and trucks are running freely and there has been no interference with deliveries. Some farmers are short of good quality roughage, but there is a plentiful supply of grain for feeding purposes. Cow numbers as reported in February, showed a slight decline, although a larger percentage of cows were being milked, and there is some expectation of increased freshenings later on. The estimated production of milk in February showed an increase of nearly 6 per cent, a considerable proportion of which went into creamery butter. Fluid sales advanced 9 per cent, but dairy butter production again declined, falling 2 per cent below that of the same month in 1943.

Alberta: Dairy production conditions were quite favourable during the month of March. The weather was ideal and transportation facilities were satisfactory. There appears to be no shortage of feed for dairy stock, although those buying concentrates find them high in price. Cow numbers reported in February show quite a substantial increase over the same month of a year ago, and this also applies to the percentage of cows milking. Fewer cows appear to be coming into lactation, but this situation may improve later on. There is no apparent shortage of fluid milk, despite the increase in demand which advanced the February sales 18 per cent. Farm labour was fairly plentiful during the winter months; but with the coming of spring some difficulty is anticipated. Wages offered by dairy farmers are high as \$90.00 per month. Milk production in February showed an estimated increase of a little more than 3 per cent, and the production of dairy butter on farms advanced 5 per cent over that of February, 1943.

British Columbia: The weather was exceptionally mild in March, with very little snow. Feed supplies are running short and some roughage is being shipped in from the prairies. Grain is plentiful however. There are more cows on farms, and a greater percentage of these are being milked. No immediate change is indicated in the numbers of cows being freshened, although observers forecast an improvement in this respect later on in the season. February milk production moved up nearly 6 per cent, and fluid sales increased 17 per cent over those of the same month in 1943.

Table II - PRODUCTION OF MILK PER COW AND PERCENTAGES OF COWS MILKING IN CANADA BY PROVINCES, IN FEBRUARY 1940 to 1944.

Provinces	Milk Production per cow in Pounds per day						Percentage of Cows Milking					
	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	Av.	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	Av.
Prince Edward Island	9.3	10.6	14.0	11.1	13.5	11.9	54.7	65.1	67.4	61.0	69.0	62.5
Nova Scotia	16.8	15.7	13.8	11.4	12.9	13.6	78.6	76.3	76.0	72.1	75.7	75.9
New Brunswick	11.9	12.6	13.9	14.6	13.0	12.6	61.1	67.6	68.9	70.6	70.7	67.3
Quebec	6.8	8.0	8.4	7.6	7.4	7.1	42.9	42.1	40.9	44.6	40.2	42.3
Ontario	13.9	13.4	14.1	12.3	12.5	12.7	60.8	58.8	61.5	60.5	58.8	60.1
Manitoba	13.7	13.7	11.1	11.1	11.9	11.9	63.3	54.3	60.7	62.1	64.7	60.8
Saskatchewan	11.7	10.0	10.6	9.1	13.2	9.3	55.4	50.6	53.1	55.5	64.3	54.9
Alberta	12.5	13.7	15.3	11.5	15.0	12.8	50.7	44.8	61.5	57.9	67.0	55.1
British Columbia ...	15.9	15.9	15.3	12.4	15.7	14.5	78.9	79.4	76.9	77.8	80.8	78.7
CANADA	11.6	11.6	12.0	10.5	11.5	11.4	55.6	52.3	55.9	56.5	57.4	55.7

Table III - PRODUCTION OF DAIRY BUTTER AND WHEY BUTTER IN CANADA BY PROVINCES, FEBRUARY 1942 to 1944.

Provinces	DAIRY BUTTER			WHEY BUTTER		
	1942 000 lb.	1943 000 lb.	1944 000 lb.	1942 lb.	1943 lb.	1944 lb.
CANADA	6,584	4,610	4,693	60,084	25,429	21,884
Prince Edward Island	56	31	33	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	297	199	189	-	-	-
New Brunswick	643	415	448	-	-	-
Quebec	534	362	376	854	146	273
Ontario	1,566	896	914	51,423	21,055	18,998
Manitoba	537	403	415	5,175	2,671	916
Saskatchewan	1,776	1,385	1,357	-	-	-
Alberta	1,065	820	861	1,488	725	474
British Columbia ...	110	99	100	1,144	832	1,223



Table IV.- TOTAL MILK PRODUCTION IN CANADA, BY PROVINCES, FEBRUARY 1942, 1943 and 1944

		Total Milk Production	Distribution of Milk Production according to use				Otherwise Used(3)
			Butter(1)	Cheese(2)	Concent- rated Products	Ice Cream	
		,000	,000	,000	,000	,000	,000
Canada	1942	891,166	372,690	46,247	24,025	11,050	437,154
	1943	907,512	386,544	19,321	25,350	11,125	465,172
	1944	928,526	364,860	22,686	24,451	13,530	502,999
Prince Edward Island	1942	7,100	3,217	115	-	42	3,726
	1943	8,693	4,266	49	-	59	4,319
	1944	8,074	3,335	59	-	51	4,629
Nova Scotia	1942	28,936	14,719	31	390	798	12,998
	1943	29,846	14,437	28	70	829	14,482
	1944	29,447	12,899	28	59	1,050	15,411
New Brunswick	1942	28,290	16,763	573	-	442	10,512
	1943	26,466	14,956	72	-	400	11,038
	1944	26,928	14,552	33	-	325	12,018
Quebec	1942	150,049	22,034	7,694	3,866	1,649	114,806
	1943	155,996	27,952	1,775	3,793	1,633	120,843
	1944	162,161	21,218	4,390	3,983	1,897	130,673
Ontario	1942	329,223	124,463	30,345	13,653	4,228	156,534
	1943	316,199	114,810	13,226	18,264	4,816	165,083
	1944	317,141	102,624	12,910	17,805	6,347	177,455
Manitoba	1942	76,482	43,926	3,590	-	741	28,225
	1943	82,715	49,741	1,919	-	780	30,275
	1944	83,237	47,580	2,155	-	1,001	32,501
Saskatchewan	1942	124,635	77,963	161	-	432	46,079
	1943	136,616	85,871	135	-	640	49,970
	1944	144,428	90,344	134	-	691	53,259
Alberta	1942	106,187	60,277	2,967	1,567	672	40,704
	1943	110,639	63,716	1,556	1,160	867	43,340
	1944	114,480	61,922	2,281	1,671	943	47,663
British Columbia	1942	40,264	9,328	771	4,549	2,046	23,570
	1943	40,342	10,795	561	2,063	1,101	25,822
	1944	42,630	10,386	696	933	1,225	29,390

(1) Represents Creamery Butter (Table I) and Dairy Butter (Table III) on a milk basis.

(2) Represents Cheddar Cheese (Table I) together with Farm-Made Cheese and Factory-produced Whole Milk Cheese other than Cheddar, neither of which are shown in this report.

(3) Includes Fluid Sales, Farm-home Consumed and Milk Fed to live stock; the production of which amounted to 320 million pounds, 124 million pounds and 59 million pounds, respectively, for the whole of Canada in February, 1944.