

A notable feature of the dairy situation is the shift in production in recent years; Western Canada is now contributing a larger share of the total. In 1920, Ontario and Quebec contributed approximately 67 p.c. of the total milk production of the Dominion; the Prairie Provinces produced 22 p.c., while the Maritimes and British Columbia shared to the extent of 9 p.c. and 2 p.c., respectively. By 1945 (the peak year), Ontario and Quebec were supplying only 62 p.c. of the milk production while the Prairie Provinces produced 28 p.c., the remaining 10 p.c. being divided between the Maritimes and British Columbia in the ratio of approximately 6 to 4.

**Milk Production and Utilization.**—The total production of milk reached a high point in 1945. In 1946, a decline of 790,000,000 lb. was recorded, reducing the total to 16,937,000,000 lb. During the 1920's and 1930's, the tendency in milk utilization was toward greater use of milk for fluid sales and for the production of factory dairy products, while that employed for manufacturing on farms declined. With the outbreak of war in 1939, this trend was accentuated due to an increase in the demand for fluid milk and to the payment of Government subsidies on creamery butter-fat (from July, 1942). In 1946, the proportion of the milk supply used for fluid sales was 25 p.c. as compared with an average (1941-45) of 21 p.c. On the other hand, factory dairy products absorbed 52 p.c. as compared with an average (1941-45) of 56 p.c. The percentage used on farms remained about the same at 23 p.c. All provinces showed reductions in milk production over 1945, the largest declines being in Prince Edward Island at 5.7 p.c., and Ontario at 5.3 p.c.

**Butter Production.**—Creamery butter production suffered a reduction in 1946 over 1945 of over 22,000,000 lb. or 7.6 p.c. Declines occurred in every province.

The dairy butter make of 54,225,000 lb. was approximately 900,000 lb. above the output of 1945, only Quebec and British Columbia having shown a reduced make. A point that should be noted, however, is that the Prairie Provinces continue to produce considerable quantities of dairy butter, most of which is made in Saskatchewan where the 1946 output represented 26 p.c. of the total production of Canada.

**Cheese Production.**—Cheddar cheese production in 1945 was the highest since 1942, being approximately 187,000,000 lb. as compared with 206,000,000 lb. in that year; in 1946 it declined to 143,509,000 lb. The total factory production of 147,320,000 lb. (including 3,811,000 lb. of cheese other than cheddar) in 1946 represented a decrease of 22 p.c. from that of 1945. Farm-made cheese amounted to 740,000 lb., being slightly less than that produced in 1945.

During recent years a wider range of cheese products has been manufactured in Canada. Roquefort and Cheshire types of cheese are now being produced in small quantities; Oka and Trappist cheese have been made in the Trappist monasteries for a number of years, and limited quantities of Limburger and lesser-known varieties are also being produced to meet the needs of a special trade. Processed cheese, a secondary product with cheddar cheese representing about 18 p.c. of the poundage, is another industry which has developed considerably during the past few years. In 1946, 26,000,000 lb. was manufactured in comparison with 12,000,000 lb. ten years ago. Then, too, greater use is being made of by-products from cheese. Lactose, which is made from milk-sugar crystals obtained from whey by a process of evaporation, is used for many purposes but it has gained special importance as a media for the growth of the mould from which penicillin is obtained.