

effective measures for the protection of Canadian live-stock against the introduction of diseases from outside sources. In view of the geographical position of the country, it is necessary to guard against infection through importations from Europe and countries over-seas, and also to prevent the possibility of diseased animals gaining entrance from the United States. While such measures naturally cause considerable inconvenience and additional expense to the importer, the immense value of Canadian live-stock, together with the large annual expenditure required under usual conditions for the maintenance of an adequate corps of trained veterinarians and other officers to deal with, and keep under control, contagious diseases originating in the country, unquestionably warrants the most earnest vigilance toward incoming stock. The indiscriminate im-

portation of animals is not, therefore, permitted, in order to prevent the possibility of the entrance of stringent measures against valuable stock which might be shipped in good faith, the regulations, intending importers of animals, except the equine species, from any country except the United States and first forward an application for the number and species of animals to be imported, together with full particulars of country and point of origin, date of shipment, and probable date. Such

if it is found that the animals originate in a country that effective measures have been taken to prevent the introduction of diseases therefrom, the animals may be allowed to enter the country without being subjected to the mallein test.

While a mallein test is not required in such cases, the animals must nevertheless be accompanied by a satisfactory mallein-test chart, dated not more than thirty days prior to the date of entry, signed or endorsed by a Bureau Inspector, in default of which they are detained at the boundary and submitted to mallein by the veterinarian in charge of the station, and if any are found diseased the whole consignment is immediately returned to the United States and the authorities of that country promptly notified.

Owing to the large influx of settlers' horses at certain periods of the year it is impracticable at late times to detain them for the mallein test at the boundary. Under such circumstances they are carefully inspected, and if no suspicious symptoms are detected are allowed to proceed to destination to be there tested. If any reactors are found they are destroyed without compensation. A provision is also made for the testing of other horses at destination when undue hardship would result from their detention at the boundary. In such cases, however, the terms of the special license upon the owner prohibit him from bringing the horses in contact with others, or disposing of them until they have been tested by an officer of the Department and released by him. Such procedure is only considered in cases where the hardship would otherwise result.

For breeding purposes and milk production, if unaccompanied by a mallein-test chart, signed by a Bureau Inspector, the animals are detained in quarantine for one period as may be deemed necessary for the tuberculin test; if they are returned immediately to the United States, or slaughtered, they are not affected by the mallein test.

All range cattle, however, except those for transit in the port of entry and to the satisfaction of the Bureau Inspector, unless such cattle are accompanied by a certificate from the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, stating that neither the cattle nor the premises on which they are kept have been within a period of six months of the date of shipment, inspected and submitted to the mallein test thirty days before being imported with Canadian animals.

for disinfection. With the exception of swine which are not admitted under any circumstances until they have been first detained in quarantine for thirty days at the boundary, lengthy detention periods are not now enforced upon animals presented for entry from the United States and Newfoundland.

There are 28 quarantine stations and 39 inspection ports along the international boundary, through one of which consignments of animals must be presented for entry, as at no other point are they admitted under any circumstances. All such animals, however, are subjected to a careful inspection, and if any suspicious symptoms are detected are immediately returned. They must also be accompanied by a statutory declaration or affidavit, made by the owner or importer, stating clearly the purposes for which they are imported, viz., whether for breeding purposes, for milk production, for work, for grazing, feeding or slaughter, or whether they form part of settlers' effects, or whether they are entered for temporary stay, as provided by the regulations. The said declaration or affidavit must be presented to the collector of customs at the port of entry, who decides whether the animals are entitled to entry under the regulations, whose duty it is also to notify the Veterinary Inspector of this Branch in order that the necessary inspection may be carried out.

In view of the difficulty and frequent impossibility of making a rigid inspection of range horses, mules or asses, their importation is forbidden unless they are gentle and broken to harness or saddle. They must, nevertheless, be accompanied by a satisfactory mallein-test chart, dated not more than thirty days prior to the date of entry, signed or endorsed by a Bureau Inspector, in default of which they are detained at the boundary and submitted to mallein by the veterinarian in charge of the station, and if any are found diseased the whole consignment is immediately returned to the United States and the authorities of that country promptly notified.

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A rigid inspection at the port of entry has reason to be made of all animals exposed to contagion, dipped, or treated with disinfectant. All swine entering the country must be accompanied by a certificate from the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, stating that neither the swine nor the premises on which they are kept have been within a period of six months of the date of shipment, inspected and submitted to the mallein test thirty days before being imported with Canadian animals.

## FARM

*Comment upon farming operations invited.*

### The Determining Factor

A correspondent in writing us upon that Herculean proposal "Government ownership of internal elevators," says, "I think good, open expression of the editor's opinion on this vital subject would not be taken as an offence, but would be regarded as an unbiased opinion from a disinterested party."

Probably this is as good a time as any to state the position of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE upon this question, which is being discussed by the grain growers' associations and which is also under consideration by the provincial governments.

As a proposal, the grain growers have endorsed it, their executives have drafted it into a concrete proposition and put it into the hands of the government, where it now lies as a political plank, to be accepted or rejected according as the governments of the respective provinces deem wise. Petitions are being circulated to secure the signature of as many as possible to the scheme.

The principle of government ownership is open to diverse opinions. This is not a case where it can be said such a course is morally, politically, and economically right, and the opposite is wrong. The manner in which a man regards the proposal depends more upon the bent of his mind than upon its ethics, or, for that matter, upon his necessity. The government ownership proposal must be regarded as a suggestion to engage in an experiment, the outcome of which is by no means certain, even though all appearances point to its success. And this is a truth that must not be ignored, namely, that as between the very best possible politico-economic expedient that can be devised, and the second best, the difference is so slight that the latter may prove entirely satisfactory. How shall we know then that we are not approaching a desirable climax through the channels we are now in, or whether by declaring unanimously for government ownership, we throw all we have thus far acquired overboard, and we begin at the foundations to rear a structure that may prove but little, if any, more satisfactory than the one we have had long under way.

This paper is in genuine sympathy with every well-directed effort to improve the present unsatisfactory conditions. The opinions expressed above are those of the class of men who set a high value upon what we already possess in the way of liberty and opportunity for personal enterprise. Not so much, perhaps, because the existing institutions have afforded a means to opulence, as on account of the efforts and sacrifices that have been made to gain our present position in the world of industry, intellect, finance and public security. In expressing them, we do not say that others err in not attaching the same value to existing economic institutions. We are only too glad to accord to others the right to advocate what to them appear better methods and conditions. Approval of government ownership requires a process of mental evolution which, in some, requires a longer time than in others. Probably we shall all in time come to be ardent advocates of the system. To the conservators of existing institutions, however, is given the duty of endeavoring to improve whatever we have, rather than to advance new theories or to promote changes in system. And it is a further fact that when the more progressive, as we may call them, have reached some advanced position, the conservators will assume their natural function to improve upon the new conditions in which society finds itself.

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