

market according as opportunity offers. Three of these huge meat companies carry the control of their products still further and have established retail branches in the larger cities, thus completing the process of transit from producer to consumer.

"Approximately 40 per cent. of the quantity sold by these three companies for home consumption is consigned to their retail stores. Such retail stores are allowed a slight reduction on the cost of food received. One company has about 80 and another about 40 of such retail stores. Aside from the very complete and thorough system of distribution thus evolved, such companies have an immense advantage over the small butcher on account of the facilities which they possess for manufacturing by-products. This enables such stores to compete on more favorable terms with other retail stores dealing in the the same lines. The proceeds from by-products ought to enable the abattoir companies to sell on a much smaller margin than can the smaller butcher and if necessary to pay a higher price to the producer than the smaller buyer can afford, but nothing disclosed upon the investigation indicated that either of these natural results have in fact followed. Such companies do not limit themselves to dealing in meat. The traffic in butter, cheese, eggs and fish, although secondary in importance, is large in volume.

"The export houses for dairy produce and eggs are situated in Montreal. Two of these it will be observed have branches in Ontario. The Montreal branches are designed chiefly to handle the goods exported from Ontario to Great Britain. The Gould Cold Storage Company maintain there a very large public warehouse, storing for others only. The remaining two, while storing for others, devote most of their energies to dealing for themselves, being the export buyers for approximately a quarter of the cheese produced in Canada.

"The fish companies show the rudiments of zone organization but are only slightly developed along that line. Although there are only four inland fish cold storage companies, namely the Doyle Fish Company, Toronto; Lemon Brothers, Owen Sound; the Winnipeg Fish Company and the Guest Fish Company, Winnipeg, yet many of the general cold storage warehouses store fish in large quantities.

#### Public or Private Warehouses.

"The facts revealed in the report on cold storage in Massachusetts in 1912 show a very striking contrast to conditions prevailing in Canada. In Massachusetts nearly 90 per cent. of the cold storage warehouse business was public warehousing, that is the storing of goods not the property of the firms operating the warehouses. In Canada the conditions are reversed. Approximately 650,000,000 pounds of produce were purchased by Canadian cold storage companies in 1916, and about 88,000,000 pounds of produce not the property of the firms on whose premises it was stored were received into store. Just what proportion of the latter amount was the property of other cold storage companies, storing outside their own premises, for convenience, it is impossible to state. Whereas about 90 per cent. of the cold storage business in Massachusetts in 1912 was public warehousing, in Canada in 1916, only about 12½ per cent. was public warehousing.

"Cold storage warehousing is essentially a public utility in that it preserves perishable farm products so that instead of being subject to commerce only in a local way, as formerly, they have now become subject to the demands and opportunities of world commerce. The public char-

acter of this industry is recognized, however, by most of the private companies in that, on request, they store goods for others. There are three classes of cold storage establishments:—First, public and subsidized; second, public but not subsidized; third, private.

"In view of the necessity of providing more space for public storing, a plan of subsidization was instituted in 1907 through the Department of Agriculture of Canada. The Dominion Government makes to newly organized cold storage establishments a total grant of 30 per cent. of the cost of construction, 15 per cent. being paid in the first year, 7 per cent. in the second, 4 per cent. in the third, 2 per cent. in the fourth, and 2 per cent. in the fifth. The grant has been completely paid to twenty-five of these warehouses. Eight are still receiving grants. Up to March 31st, 1917, amounts aggregating \$132,539 had been paid on the grant made to these eight other warehouses, the balance still due being \$20,953. As stated, however, public warehousing is not limited to warehouses publicly subsidized, but is characteristic of practically all the cold storage plants. A publicly subsidized warehouse is required by law to store goods for others upon request. The public warehouses are supposed to derive most of their revenue from public warehousing, the private warehouses from trading in the commodities which they store. But an instance of a large public warehouse deriving practically all its revenue from private dealing is recorded later on herein."

#### Lists of Warehouses.

Then follows this list of publicly subsidized cold storage warehouses, with the refrigerated space of each in cubic feet:—Lockeport Cold Storage Company, Lockeport, N.S., 59,940; North Atlantic Fisheries, Port Hawkesbury, N.S., 338,550; North Atlantic Fisheries, Halifax Cold Storage, Halifax, 80,000; New Brunswick Cold Storage Company, St. John, N.B., 744,000; Island Cold Storage, Charlottetown, P.E.I., 150,000; Sansregrette Cold Storage, Joliette, Quebec, 23,394; Algoma Produce Company, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., 55,806; Dominion Fish and Fruit Company, Quebec City, Que., 225,000; Brantford Cold Storage Co., Brantford, Ont., 36,000; J. D. Moore, St. Mary's, Ont., 105,000; Flavelles, Limited, Lindsay, Ont., 131,500; St. Thomas Packing Company, St. Thomas, Ont., 174,141; Windsor Ice and Cold Storage Company, Windsor, Ont., 67,300; Lemon Brothers, Owen Sound, Ont., 66,000; Whyte Packing Company, Mitchell, Ont., 30,600; Scott & Hogg, Peterborough, Ont., 90,000; Gunns Company, Limited, Harriston, Ont., 57,069; Chatham Packing Company, Chatham, Ont., 144,400; R. H. Ashton, Morrisburg, Ont., 45,000; Brandon Creamery and Supply Company, Brandon, Man., 27,500; Metropolitan Cold Storage Company, Vonda, Sask., 24,000; Moose Jaw Cold Storage Company, Moose Jaw, Sask., 189,764; Campbell-Griffin, Limited, Calgary, Alta., 111,050; Edmonton Cold Storage Company, Edmonton, Alta., 150,056; Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Company, Prince Rupert, B.C., 781,000; B. Wilson & Company, Victoria, B.C., 64,000; total refrigerated space, 3,823,780.

This is followed by a list of cold storage warehouses not subsidized, with the refrigerated space of each in cubic feet:—Canada Cold Storage Company, Montreal, 762,000; Lovell & Christmas, Limited, Montreal, 460,000; A. A. Ayer, Limited, Montreal, 700,000; Gunn, Langlois, Limited, Montreal, 400,000; A. Ames, Sherbrooke, P.Q., 110,000; Municipal Abattoir, Toronto, Ont., 155,904; Long Brothers, Collingwood, Ont., 36,000; London Cold