

The Live Stock Industry in Canada.

OF the aggressive hard fighting combatants of the great war and among the decisive factors in the ultimate issue, none were superior to agriculture. In the keeping of peace, permanent peace, there can be suggested no other factor of equal potency with agriculture, and in "the return," as well as in further empire development, the Dominion of Canada with other countries in the new world places her faith, absolutely, in agriculture. Metaphorically speaking, agricultural Canada is girding up its loins after making a tremendous contribution to the success of the Allies; is taking its second wind, preparatory to subscribing the lion's share in the wiping off of the financial burden that has piled up during the five years of the war. It assumes its logical position in the industrial life of Canada partly on the foundation of a splendid war record as is herein recorded, and partly on economic principles that commend themselves to all true economists and builders of nations. The country is fortunate indeed that it can pay its debts, and bring prosperity and plenty to its people through the development of natural resources, and, broadly speaking, the greatest natural resources of Canada and the only ones capable of non-exhaustion, are her three hundred and fifty million acres of land suitable for crop and live-stock production, and her vigorous climate. No country need go into the hands of a receiver while possessing such assets.

Live Stock the First Move.

In the broad field of agriculture, there is one department of primary importance in that upon its development depends, the expansion of the remainder. We refer to the live-stock industry. First principles of agriculture teach us that the permanent fertility of a soil cannot be maintained unless live stock occupies a prominent place on the farm. Patently the only factor that can perpetuate natural resources deserves, demands, and will receive first consideration. A first principle taught in our high school chemistry, the "Law of the Indestructibility of Matter," is graphically illustrated in the relation existing between live stock and the soil.

Considering the situation from every conceivable angle, there can be no hesitation in reaching the conclusion that agriculture is the most dependable asset the Dominion has to rely upon for her future development, and the easing of the financial burden incurred during the war.

A Remarkable Performance.

This statement is based on sound premises,—the record of a remarkable performance. During the five years previous to the war agriculture returned an average of 51 per cent. of the annual revenue from all sources of the export trade of Canada. During the year 1918, the return from agriculture represented 49 per cent. of the revenue from the total trade of the Dominion, which included the aggregate of exports from all sources, mines, fisheries, forests and agriculture. If the value of war materials exported were deducted from the manufactures, the products of the farm would represent approximately 87 per cent. of the total value of export trade of the country. In the light of this remarkable performance it is very evident that in our effort to maintain our national credit, to pay our national debt, build up a solid Canada, and meet the obligations due to returned soldiers and their dependents, we must first consider the returns that may be obtained from agriculture, as also the favorable and inevitably premier position occupied by agriculture in the necessary and permanent development of industrial Canada.

The agricultural export trade of Canada is divided into two main classes: namely, agricultural produce and animals and animal products. It is on the development of this trade that, to a large extent, depends the future prosperity of our farming industry. The available farm lands of Canada have an enormous acreage, while the population of Canada is very small, consequently it requires no great effort to supply domestic demand, and an outlet of considerable capacity is an absolute necessity to the proper expansion of agriculture in general and live stock in particular. Furthermore, the larger the percentage of our total exports that is made up of meats and meat products the stronger the producing value of our soils.

In that connection we may well consider what has been accomplished in developing our meat trade up to the present, because it will indicate the possibilities of the Dominion as a contributing factor to the needs of the United Kingdom, our chief outlet, and serve as a basis, or as information, for future business.

As is demonstrated by the following tables the United Kingdom has been, during recent years, the destination of practically the total exports of the animal produce of the Dominion, while our live cattle, sheep and swine have gone almost entirely to the United States markets, although as will be shown later in this article, Canada formerly found an outlet for over 80 per cent. of her export cattle in the markets of the United Kingdom. In the year 1913 it will be remembered that free access was obtained to the United States markets for Canadian cattle. This new outlet, or rather freer outlet, is not, however, a market for butcher cattle only. Statistics of exports show that a large per cent. of the cattle going across the line from Canadian live-stock markets are of stocker and feeder quality, and are imported into the States for finishing. There is not only a shortage of young cattle on the farms across the border, but also a recognition of the vigorous, well-doing character of

Before, During and After Five Years of War.

BY P. E. LIGHT.

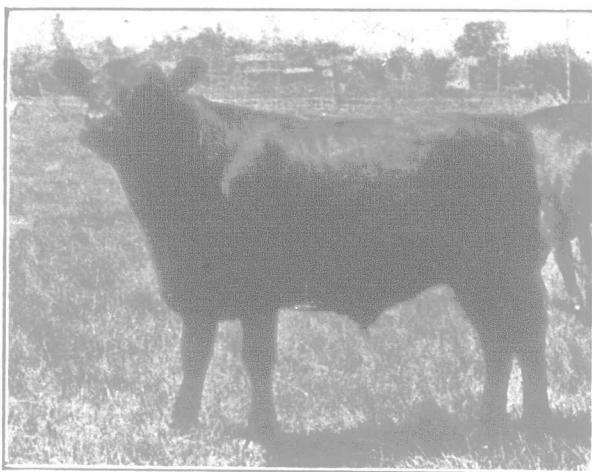
The accompanying article is the first of a series of three which have been prepared for "The Farmer's Advocate" by P. E. Light, of the Live-Stock Branch, Ottawa. These articles are indeed a stock-taking of the whole live-stock industry, with a picture of the past and a full explanation of our position after four-and-half years of war effort. Canada's cattle stocks have increased 46 per cent. Our possibilities for production are practically unlimited, but what of the market? Here is where the Canadian farmer must play his part and to do so he should have a thorough understanding of the whole situation. This series of three articles gives a graphic picture of the industry, and suggests a program for the future.

the stocker and feeder cattle from the farms of Eastern and Western Canada.

In confirmation of the statements made regarding the volume of our trade with Great Britain, the following tables are submitted.

Volume of undermentioned animal produce exported from Canada to the United Kingdom for the following fiscal years.

	1913	1918
	lbs.	lbs.
Bacon.....	35,963,916	199,474,161
Beef.....	782,920	33,515,035
Hams.....	2,423,074	6,215,735
Mutton.....	181,513	181,513
Pork.....	4,033	5,538,790
Wool.....	697,390	nil.
Lard.....	34,500	1,767,859
Butter.....	681	3,332,297
Cheese.....	153,893,085	168,220,704
Canned Meats.....	245,533	1,549,254
Eggs (Dozen).....	51,294	2,942,953
	No.	No.
Cattle.....	12,609	nil.
Horses.....	75	15,743
Sheep.....	nil.	8
Swine.....	nil.	4
Poultry (value).....	\$5,368	\$9,400



Ready for Market.

Total exports of the undermentioned animal produce from Canada during the fiscal years ending March 31st, 1913-1918.

	1913	1918
	lbs.	lbs.
Bacon.....	36,214,690	200,117,178
Beef.....	1,940,077	89,176,023
Hams.....	2,476,654	7,935,289
Mutton.....	45,994	856,141
Pork.....	780,306	8,004,604
Wool.....	978,406	11,167,158
Lard.....	50,365	1,957,401
Butter.....	979,047	5,037,512
Cheese.....	155,300,379	169,624,252
Canned Meats.....	277,929	20,576,709
Eggs (Dozen).....	147,419	3,283,975
	No.	No.
Cattle.....	44,338	191,359
Horses.....	3,821	30,476
Sheep.....	13,363	131,687
Swine.....	654	15,647
Poultry (value).....	\$97,082	\$378,605

It is well also in connection with the above export statement for meats to briefly consider the numbers of cattle, sheep, and swine, slaughtered at inspected establishments in Canada during the two years previous

to the war and the two years preceding the signing of the Armistice, and to particularly note the tremendous increase in the slaughtering of the classes of stock mentioned, in 1918 and 1919, compared with 1912 and 1913.

Number of live stock slaughtered at inspected establishments in Canada, fiscal years ending March 31st, 1912, 1913, 1918 and 1919.

Ontario:	Cattle	Sheep	Swine
1912.....	153,735	156,957	1,253,104
1913.....	171,408	146,861	1,990,843
1918.....	335,029	159,100	1,254,868
1919.....	366,915	193,712	1,254,171
Quebec:			
1912.....	134,755	125,585	1,429,718
1913.....	158,967	155,537	367,198
1918.....	176,155	92,951	288,888
1919.....	231,212	89,381	332,069
Manitoba:			
1912.....	56,246	41,221	85,984
1913.....	70,095	59,553	123,406
1918.....	105,425	14,264	197,936
1919.....	124,458	32,450	314,482
Sask., Alta. and B. C.			
1912.....	53,213	34,899	58,823
1913.....	48,849	64,867	107,239
1918.....	118,890	40,708	371,088
1919.....	161,045	55,708	411,051
Maritime Provinces			
1912.....	452	17,775	25,368
1913.....	1,061	19,614	19,055
1918.....	3,586	29,874	16,902
1919.....	4,143	27,152	62,037

Live-Stock Holdings.

After having noted the heavy increases in killings at inspected establishment, it is highly encouraging to find that our live-stock holdings have not only met the keen demand of the war period, but have been materially increased.

The numbers of farm live stock in the Dominion during the year preceding the war, compared with the number of head at the time of the signing of the Armistice, indicate that despite the scarcity of labor, high cost of feed, and many other contributing factors to the high cost of production of meat during the period of the war, the holdings of farm live stock in the Dominion made marked increases. For example, the cattle and sheep population was increased during the period mentioned, and in the face of heavy killings in response to the tremendous call for pork and pork products to feed the Allied Armies in Europe, the Dominion increased her swine population by 24.4 per cent.

Strong Position of the West.

The accompanying statement of population shows that the most noticeable increases during the five-year period were made in the Western Provinces. This is significant, indicating as it does that the dream of a western wheat belt is now considered by the Western farmer as being a fallacy, and that in the scheme of his farm operations, live-stock production must be made the foundation. It is interesting to note that in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, there has been an increase in the number of cattle during the period under discussion of 100 per cent.

It is evident that Western Canada represents the Dominion's most favorable area for rapid live-stock development. Indeed, the progress of the industry in the Prairie Provinces is one of the most pleasing and satisfactory features of the agricultural advances of Canada during the past decade, and the assurance of a continuous and permanent export outlet for the products of live stock, together with the guarantee of facilities to take care of the products is the one consideration which will insure the development of the industry into a great national revenue bearing asset. While in Eastern Canada the increase in population is not so marked as in the West, the provinces of Ontario and Quebec made a remarkable contribution to live-stock population during the closing years of the war, and while the Maritime Provinces do not show as satisfactory a comparison between 1913 and 1918 as do the other parts of Canada, the steady decline of the period previous to the war seems to have been arrested. There is every probability that given sufficient encouragement, the remarkable increase in live-stock population of the Dominion will be trebled and quadrupled during the next five years. Farmers, breeders and prominent live-stock men, and prominent men in other pursuits, of both Eastern and Western Canada, have never before had such an appreciation of what may be accomplished through a movement to establish and maintain a greater national revenue bearing industry, and as well to take advantage of the means to establish agriculture upon a permanent basis, which latter objective can only be reached through the keeping of sufficient live stock to maintain normal fertility of the soil.

Handling Facilities.

It is hardly necessary to mention that we have

Stat.

Canada:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Prince Edward I.
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Nova Scotia:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

New Brunswick:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Quebec:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Ontario:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Manitoba:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Saskatchewan:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

Alberta:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

British Columbia:
Horses.....
Milch cows.....
Other cattle.....
Sheep.....
Swine.....

adequate railway.
the product from
Abattoir facilities
keeping with futu
have been establis
with the exceptio
however, are at t
of public stock y
storage of live a