

the Government, and a certain measure of Government inspection and control is also stipulated for.

We are not aware to what extent this Act has been taken advantage of, and although it would of course be insufficient (both as regards affording the necessary financial assistance and support, and also as safeguarding the interests of the producer) to be applied to such a comprehensive scheme as we are suggesting, still at the same time, it furnishes a clear indication that our Government is willing, and anxious to assist an undertaking of this nature, provided it is for the benefit of the people and the country generally.

The disadvantages of excessive centralization have been avoided in the Australasian colonies, by establishing a large number of comparatively small works throughout the country, rather than centralizing or concentrating the whole business at one or two points. By adopting that method, it is possible to slaughter the stock near their own pastures, thus obviating the many difficulties and objections connected with transporting long distances on the hoof.

Distribu-
tion of
works

The extent to which works have been erected in those countries, and the manner in which they have been distributed, will be better understood, when it is mentioned that in New Zealand, a country less than half the size of Alberta, about 30 separate establishments have been provided with cold storage plants and facilities for slaughtering, and handling for export and also for manufacturing and turning into marketable commodities the various by-products. That same area contained in 1904 1,736,850 head of cattle, 255,320 swine and 18,280,806 sheep. In 1907 FROZEN MEAT to the value of \$16,500,000 was exported, equal to nearly \$18 per head of the population.

There are many other points connected with the initiation and development of the trade in other countries regarding which a thorough knowledge is necessary, before deciding how far the best methods and systems can with advantage be applied to Canada, and without which it is impossible to benefit to the fullest extent.

Application
to Canada

We have touched upon the financial problems connected with the industry, the question of centralization and also upon the relative merits of the two systems of handling and marketing stock. The other matters about which special knowledge is required are perhaps of a more technical nature, and embrace a wide range of subjects, including the following: Experience of the various kinds and qualities of stock, and a knowledge of the methods of converting them in the most profitable manner, into dressed meats, and packing house products. Acquaintance with modern appliances connected with the various operations of refrigeration and cold storage, and a knowledge of the temperatures most suitable for meat products, during handling, storage and transportation. Experience relating to arrangement and construction of works, and the application of labor saving appliances throughout all departments, from slaughtering to the marketing of the finished article. Without going into further detail, which would result in too lengthy a document, it will probably suffice to state that this report is compiled with full and detailed information on every one of these points and with a complete and technical knowledge of the manner in which the business was initiated and developed in Australia, New Zealand, the Argentine and the United States, and also with a thorough acquaintance with existing conditions in Canada. This unique position is owing to the fact that the members of

Experience
of the
business

Complete
informa-
tion and
data