

Let us now examine Canada's place as a meat exporting country, with the object of ascertaining how far she is in a position to secure a share of this valuable and steadily increasing trade, thereby adding to the national wealth and prosperity of the country. She alone of these meat producing countries has confined her attention almost solely to exporting on the hoof, and for all practical purposes a properly organized trade in refrigerated meats is non-existent. For various reasons, some of which we have indicated, she has neglected a branch of the business which other countries have found highly profitable, and which consequently they have pushed with energy and established firmly.

The result of this policy is that Canada is not reaping the benefits of a valuable trade, and her position in this respect, if she keeps to the present method of disposing of her surplus stock, is likely to become worse and worse as time goes on. That must inevitably happen if Mr. Rew's conclusions are correct.

Another result of relying entirely upon the present method of exporting live stock, is that under that system it is impossible to establish and build up on sound lines, and on a large scale, within the Dominion a general packing house business, the immense importance and value of which we have already referred to.

Let us now apply another test to Canada's method of exporting her surplus stock, and let us examine that trade, not in comparison to the development of the dead meat trade of other countries, but with the object of ascertaining how far it has shown WITHIN ITSELF a healthy and steady growth, and for the purpose of seeing whether the volume and value of that trade has kept pace with the settlement and development of the country.

For this purpose we shall take the returns prepared by the Census and Statistics office, and kindly supplied to us by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. These statistics give the numbers and value of cattle, sheep, and swine, exported from Canada in the years 1899-1908, but we shall deal only with cattle as the exports of sheep and swine are comparatively unimportant, both as regards numbers and value.

The total numbers and value of cattle exported from Canada to Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, for the last ten years are as follows:

Year.	No.	Value.
1899	211,847	\$8,522,536
1900	205,524	\$9,080,776
1901	169,279	\$9,064,562
1902	184,473	\$10,663,819
1903	176,780	\$11,342,632
1904	157,414	\$10,424,671
1905	167,102	\$11,360,969
1906	176,030	\$11,656,829
1907	162,141	\$10,932,539 (9 months)
1908	150,993	\$9,301,184

It will be seen from the foregoing figures that the increase during the past ten years has been very slight, and for the last five or six years, the live cattle trade has remained practically stationary.