

II

Without attempting to more than indicate the results of this investigation, I might mention the following by way of illustration.

The animals and meats portion of the inquiry covers wholesale prices of the following commodities: cattle, Western; cattle, Ontario; dressed beef; dressed veal; hogs, Ontario; dressed hogs; bacon; hams; salt pork; lard; export sheep; dressed mutton; tallow; fowls; and turkeys. Averaging the relative prices of these commodities (grouping these into one whole) it is shown that prices during 1909 were in the neighbourhood of forty-eight per cent higher than the average price prevailing during the last decade of the last century.

Compared with prices ruling in 1896, the year of lowest prices shown in this group, prices are now in the neighbourhood of seventy-seven per cent higher. Fowls and turkeys are over eighty per cent above the average for 1890--1899, andper cent over the average price in 1896.