

lard, etc., and the PRESENT SELLING PRICE OF CHILLED BEEF ON THE BRITISH MARKET, it would be possible to pay the producer 5 1-2 to 6c PER POUND LIVE WEIGHT FOR PRIME HOGS, and 4 1-2 to 5c FOR WELL FINISHED FIRST CLASS QUALITY STEERS, at the FURTHEST WESTERN POINTS, DELIVERED AT FEEDERS, and proportionately higher prices nearer the East, corresponding to the saving in transportation.

Stock  
supply

With regard to the quantity of stock on which we have figured, we think it not unreasonable to assume that cattle equivalent to half the capacity of the works would be forthcoming; the number on which we have based our calculation, viz., 187,500 head of cattle per annum, is only between 2 1-2 and 3 per cent. of the estimated total number of cattle in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, in 1908.

In support of our conclusions that (under proper stimulus) the Canadian herds would easily produce this per centage of cattle for packing house purposes, we may point out that the number of cattle slaughtered and inspected at packing plants, (see Federal Meat Inspection Bulletin issued by U.S. Department of Agriculture 28th Feb., 1908,) in the United States for the year ending 30th June, 1907, was 7,620,000 head: more than 10 per cent of the total herds of the country. Canada should therefore be able to supply at a conservative estimate a further 3 per cent of her herds for packing house purposes making due allowance for the existing packing house business and for the greater proportion of live cattle exported. The figures for the live cattle export trade being about 2 per cent of the Canadian heads, against about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one per cent of those of the United States.

In the case of hogs, the increase as regards breeding is so rapid, that there should be no difficulty in obtaining the necessary supplies in a very short time, and if a satisfactory market could be assured, there can be no possible doubt, about obtaining a sufficient quantity to keep the works going at their FULL CAPACITY.

Future  
extension

Considering the stimulus such an outlet would give to the stock raising industry, we believe that in a comparatively short time, it would be found that works such as we have figured on, would have to be increased, and the operations generally largely extended, and we are of opinion that within five or six years, it will be necessary to provide further capital for that purpose.

Govern-  
ment  
control

Before dealing with the question of finance, there are one or two points of the utmost importance to be considered. In the first place, the absolute necessity of securing for such an important industry a measure of Government control will be recognized by all who have given any thought and study to the subject. Expert meat inspection at the time of slaughtering, in order to secure the condemnation of any carcasses unfit for food, and for the purpose of guaranteeing the fitness of all meat products for food consumption, under Government seal, and a system of branding is of course absolutely essential.

Several ways in which the Governments of other countries have exercised control and assisted in the initiation and development of the industry, have already been touched upon such as running refrigerator cars on their railways, providing cold storage accommodation, arranging transportation facilities by land and sea, assistance in securing and developing markets, and by direct support in the form of financial aid.