Work at Ottawa for the Live Stock Industry.

MAY 8, 1918

For a number of years, until a few months ago, the work of the Live-stock and Health of Animals Branches of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, was carried on under one head. The work embraced a very extensive field, involving an expenditure of a sum annually of considerably more, than half a million of dollars.

According to the annual report of the united branches for the year ending March 81st, 1912, just issued, three more or less distinct lines of effort are carried on. A well-organized system is in operation to protect the live stock of the country from disease, not only guarding against its introduction from abroad, but by preventing the spread of infection already existing among Canadian herds and flocks. In this division, regulations are enforced to deal with such diseases as hog cholera, tuberculosis, glanders, dourine, mange, anthrax, sheep scab, and rabies, any of which uncontrolled might cause very serious losses to the farming industry.

The meat - inspection division seeks, by wise regulations, carried out by an extensive, well - trained staff, to prevent diseased or otherwise unwholesome meats from being sent from one Province to another, or out of the country. It also compels operators of food-canning establishments to maintain their factories in a sanitary condition, and to put up only sound goods. During the year reported, it is shown that 6,151 carcasses of cattle, 241 of sheep, and 2,832 of hogs, as well as many portions of carcasses, and 12,702 lbs. of poultry, were condemned. The report names the discases and conditions responsible for these losses.

The work of the Live-stock Branch is shown to be of an entirely different character. In a number of ways, efforts are made to throw light upon the paths of the stock - raisers, and to encourage the extension and improvement⁴ of the live-stock industry. Reference is made to a comprehensive investigation of the market conditions affecting wool and mutton carried on by a commission. Toimprove the light-horse stock of the country, bonuses are paid to owners of Thoroughbred stallions used for service. To assist dairy farmers in ascertaining where high-producing breeding stock may be secured, a Record of Performance has been established for pure-bred dairy cattle. The report just issued shows that 801 cows entered for test for this record during the year.

In addition to the report of the Veterinary Director - General and Live-Stock Commissioner, the volume, which contains almost 500 pages, including many illustrations, embodies 24 appendices, including reports of officers, and a number of publications that have appeared as separate works, including Report No.. 4, of the Record of Performance; Bulletin No. 15, of the Live-stock Branch; the Report of the Third General Convention of the National Live-stock Association; the Report of the National Record Committee, and others. The selling price of this blue book is fixed at forty cents, but provision has been made for supplying copies free to those who apply for them to the Chief Officer of the Publications Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa.

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At the Royal Dublin Annual Spring Show and Sale, April 15 - 18, handsome prices were obtained for Shorthorn cattle. The top price, 1,000 guineas, was paid by Dan Maclennan, for H. J. C. Toler - Aylward's roan yearling champion bull. Ashgrove Carnival, for export. The same buyer took Captain Ogilby's (Londonderry) first-prize yearling bull, at 800 guineas, and Mr. Black's second - prize two-year-old Augusta's Champion, at 600 guineas. These are record prices for Shorthorns sold in Ireland. The perpetual challenge cup for the best group of three Shorthorn bulls, was won by Miss K. A. Staples, Dunmore, Queen's County, with three roan yearlings. The Shorthorn Society's champion prize for the best yearling, bred in Ireland, was won by Mr. Ogilby's Pellipar Dandy, got by his 1,300 - guinea bull calf, Count Crystal, bought from Captain A. T. Gordon, at the Loanhead joint sale in :910.



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