

sential that this branch be in constant touch with existing live stock conditions in other countries. With this object in view the British Board of Agriculture keeps this branch constantly advised with regard to the prevalence of disease on the continent, and the United States does so in connection with its own affairs.

Owing to the extreme infectivity of some of the diseases, and the many different channels through which infection may be unsuspectingly introduced, it is necessary to exercise the greatest caution and to look upon all possible sources of infection with the gravest suspicion. A large number of quarantine stations and inspection ports are, therefore, maintained at suitable points, at which all consignments of stock must be presented for entry, as they are not admitted at any other point. It would be almost impracticable to enforce suitable regulations governing the importation of stock into the Dominion were it not for the hearty co-operation of the numerous Customs officials stationed along our boundaries. The regularity with which attempted fraudulent entries of live stock are promptly and justly dealt with by the Customs Department, and the invaluable assistance willingly rendered the inspectors of this branch by them, make it possible to adequately enforce these regulations.

The control and eradication of dangerous contagious and infectious diseases within our boundaries also require constant attention. In order that outbreaks can be curtailed as quickly as possible and the losses to stock owners minimized, the most suitable modern policies are enforced in dealing with these diseases, in some of which the compulsory slaughter of affected animals is followed and limited compensation paid to the owners. As an example of the magnitude of this work, it might be stated that in dealing with glanders alone during the last seven

years it has been found necessary to slaughter 9,900 horses, which were valued at nearly one and a quarter millions, and that the government has actually paid to the owners of these horses the sum of three quarters of a million dollars in compensation.

At the present time approximately 150 thoroughly trained veterinary inspectors are devoting their whole time to the work of the Animal Contagious Diseases Division of this branch, as well as a large force of lay inspectors, who supervise the disinfection of railway cars and yards and perform other duties of a non-professional nature. There are also between thirty and forty range riders who systematically cover the range country, with a view to assisting the veterinary officers in dealing with diseases peculiar to the open country.

The proper isolation and treatment of mangy range cattle is a very difficult and troublesome problem, as many as 400,000 animals having been dipped under the supervision of the officers of this branch in one year.

In Western Canada a Chief Veterinary Inspector is in charge of each province, with a suitable force under his supervision, while the eastern provinces are operated direct from headquarters. A uniform system is followed throughout the Dominion, which supplies the head office promptly with full information of the action of its officer, and with a constant record of the cases dealt with. In this way the whole service is at all times under the control and direction of the Veterinary Director General.

The duties of the Pathological Division of this branch have naturally increased in direct ratio with its other work. The agents required for diagnostic purposes by the inspectors in the field are manufactured at the Biological Laboratory here, as also protective vaccines against certain contagious diseases of animals.