

# Supplementary Data

Prepared by Manitoba Department of Agriculture

In addition to the information supplied by Prof. Jacobs, the following will be of interest and value to anyone thinking of feeding cattle during the coming winter.

## Actual Gains by Manitoba Fed Steers

In the Experimental Farm Bulletin No. 13 (Second Series), Superintendent McKillican, of Brandon Experimental Farm, presents the result of feeding cattle **out-of-doors**, running over a southern slope in a clearing made in a thick oak bluff.

From this bulletin covering the results for five successive winters (1908 to 1912 inclusive), we learn that by starting in the fall with steers which during the five years averaged 10½ lbs. in weight at the commencement of the feeding period, and by fattening them for an average of 156 days (a little over five months), the animals made an average daily gain of 1.21 pounds, attaining an average weight at the end of the period of 1217 lbs.

During the term covered by this report the price of cattle ruled considerably lower than during the past two years, the average autumn cost being \$31.59 per animal, and the average selling price, the spring following, being \$69.23 per animal. Thus, during a period of five years the average spring selling price was more than double the fall buying price of the same animals.

After allowing for the price of feed eaten, and assuming that the cost of care would be repaid by the value of manure (the usual assumption in cattle feeding experiments), the average profit upon these steers was \$9.14. Mr. McKillican further notes that the average prices realized for grains fed to these out-of-doors steers during the five years was as follows:

|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Oats .....   | per bushel 56 cents |
| Barley ..... | per bushel 79 cents |

It is to be borne in mind, of course, that the straw given during these years was neither rusted nor unthreshed, the principal ration being ordinary threshed straw and chopped grain with a little supply of other feeds, as indicated in the reports for each individual season. Also it is to be remembered that these experiments were all with well grown animals that could be fitted into choice butcher steers in five months. On the other hand, many farmers with abundance of spare feed this season might prefer to feed cattle of the stocker type, say, those calved during the spring of 1915.

The main object of publishing these data is to show authentic results in out door feeding of steers in Manitoba throughout a number of years, the Department believing that these results cannot fail to be instructive.

## A Study of Winnipeg Cattle Prices

Through the courtesy of Messrs. Rice and Whaley, of St. Boniface, who have submitted their records for inspection, the Department has made a study of the prices for several seasons past of feeder and