

FOOD PRODUCTS IN COLD STORAGE ON MARCH 1st

Cost of Living Branch report to Department of Labour generally shows Less Quantities than at first of last month.

The Cost of Living Branch has reported to the Hon. the Minister of Labour as follows concerning food products in cold storage on March 1st, 1919.

The quantity of creamery butter in storages is 5,790,870 pounds, which is 55.15 per cent less than last month and 47.67 per cent greater than last year. The dairy butter in storage on March 1st was 426,092 pounds. Comparative figures indicate that this is 17 per cent less than last year and 40 per cent less than last month.

The cheese stocks are 2,410,024 pounds. Comparative figures indicate that this is 60 per cent less than last year and 32 per cent less than last month.

The eggs in cold storage are only 164,225 dozen, an almost negligible quantity compared with the number of cold storage eggs used in Canada and only 1.48 per cent of the stocks in storage six months ago. Those in store other than in cold storage are only 187,175 dozen, which is 33 per cent less than last month, although it is 73 per cent greater than a year ago. The stocks of frozen eggs have declined rapidly this last month to 575,975 pounds.

The stocks of pork in storage on March 1st amounted in total to 54,356,394 pounds including stocks in process of cure which is 43.37 per cent greater than last year and 19 per cent greater than last month. This is divided as follows:—Frozen pork, 6,686,193 pounds, 15.74 per cent less than last year and 12.92 per cent more than last month; not frozen fresh pork, 2,942,379 pounds, 38.9 per cent more than last year and 3.36 per cent greater than last month; dry salted 4,351,083 pounds, 26 per cent more than last year and 42 per cent less than last month; sweet pickled 16,695,898 pounds, 61.69 per cent increase

above last year and 53.33 per cent increase above last month; in process of cure 23,680,841 pounds, 85.3 per cent increase above last year and 28.16 per cent increase above last month. However, since the first of March large purchases of bacon have been made in Canada by Great Britain.

STOCKS OF BEEF.

The stocks of beef in storage on March 1st amounted to 46,160,055 pounds, 47 per cent more than last year and 11.48 per cent less than last month. The stocks are classified as follows:—Frozen, 41,971,885 pounds, 58.7 per cent more than last year and 12.4 per cent less than last month; not frozen 3,314,755 pounds, 13.93 per cent less than last year and about the same as last month; cured, 534,153 pounds, 12.37 per cent less than last year and 57.77 per cent above last month; in process of cure, 339,262 pounds, 31.38 per cent above last year and 43.27 per cent less than last month.

The stocks of mutton and lamb on March 1st amounted to 7,112,267 pounds, of this 7,000,889 pounds were frozen, 99.07 per cent more than last year and 13.6 per cent less than last month; not frozen 111,378 pounds, 144.83 per cent above last year and 34.36 per cent less than last month.

The stocks of poultry on March 1st amounted to 4,834,110 pounds, 130.97 per cent above last year and 12.97 per cent less than last month.

The stocks of oleomargarine on March 1st amounted to 532,370 pounds, which is 13.47 per cent less than last month.

The stocks of fish of all kinds amounted to 19,551,303 pounds, 64.63 per cent more than a year ago and 5.73 per cent less than last month. The fish for bait amounted to 3,466,192 pounds, 5.32 per cent less than last year and 30.9 per cent more than last month.

BEE DISEASES AND THEIR PREVENTION

Experimental Farms Note explains infections which cause heavy losses.

There are three brood diseases that are of importance to the beekeeper, and two of them are responsible for very heavy losses every year.

An Experimental Farms note issued by the Department of Agriculture describes them as follows: Sacbrood is an infectious disease but transient in character. It may be serious enough at times to weaken a colony considerably, but seldom destroys it completely. It appears in the apiary mostly during the spring and early part of the summer, but cases may be found at any time during the season. The symptoms are irregular brood and punctured cappings; the affected larvae are usually dark grey to almost black in colour and are found lying stretched out on the lower wall of the cell with the head turned up pointing to the upper wall of the cell at the entrance. The body wall of the diseased larvae becomes toughened while the contents of the body are somewhat watery and granular; the whole can be lifted from the cell intact. There is no definite treatment for this disease, but the beekeeper who keeps his colonies at the maximum strength and uses only young vigorous queens need not fear it.

European foul-brood is a highly infectious disease and spreads very rapidly through an apiary, causing very heavy losses especially among black bees and hybrids. The larvae usually die before being capped over, while still curled in the cell. The colour of the affected larva changes from a glistening white to a light yellowish or greyish tint, later turning darker and the larva settles to

the base of the cell in a shapeless mass, finally drying to a dark detachable scale, which is removed by the bees. This disease may appear at any time during the season, but is mostly prevalent during the spring and early summer. European foul-brood is essentially a "weak colony" disease and the beekeeper who uses only young vigorous Italian queens and keeps his colonies strong need not fear it.

American foul-brood does not spread through an apiary as quickly as does European foul-brood, but it is harder to combat. The larvae usually die after being capped over and the first sign the beekeeper usually has of its presence is a number of dark, sunken cappings scattered about among the healthy brood. Sometimes these cappings may be perforated. If the capping is removed, a dark chocolate-coloured mass will be found lying on the lower side of the cell. If a wooden toothpick or something similar is inserted into the diseased larva and given one or two turns and then withdrawn, the mass will be found to "rope out" to one or more inches before breaking. This is the chief characteristic of this disease. The only treatment advocated for American foul-brood is to shake the bees on to starters in a clean hive and three days later to remove the starters and give full sheets of foundation. The old hives should be disinfected, the combs rendered to wax for foundation and the frames destroyed. The honey is safe for human consumption, but must not be placed where bees have access to it. This treatment should be given during a honey flow, if not the bees will need daily feeding. Further details of these diseases and their treatment will be found in Bulletin No. 26, Second Series, which can be obtained free by applying to the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Buy W. S. Stamps, the government "baby bonds".

STATEMENT OF FOOD COMMODITIES IN CANADA, MARCH 1st, 1919, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, FEBRUARY 1st, 1919, AND WITH THE SAME MONTH OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

The amount of food commodities in storage March 1, 1919, were:—

	Lbs. or doz.
Butter—	
Creamery.....	5,790,870
Dairy.....	426,092
Oleomargarine.....	532,370
Cheese.....	2,410,024
Eggs—	
In cold storage.....	164,225
Other than cold storage.....	187,175
Frozen.....	575,975
Pork—	
Frozen.....	6,686,193
Not frozen.....	2,942,379
Dry salted.....	4,351,083
Sweet pickled.....	16,695,898
In process of cure.....	23,680,841
Total.....	54,356,394
Beef—	
Frozen.....	41,971,885
Not frozen.....	3,314,755
Cured.....	534,153
In process of cure.....	339,262
Total.....	46,160,055
Mutton and Lamb—	
Frozen.....	7,000,889
Not frozen.....	111,378
Total.....	7,112,267
Poultry.....	4,834,110
Fish—	
All kinds.....	19,551,303
For bait.....	3,466,192

STATEMENT COMPARING HOLDINGS FOR ALL CANADA FEBRUARY 1st, 1919, WITH MARCH 1st, 1919, BASED UPON LIMITED LIST OF FIRMS REPORTING FOR BOTH OF THESE DATES.

	February.	March.	Increase.	Decrease.
			%	%
Butter—Creamery.....	12,911,660	5,790,870	55.15	
" Dairy.....	717,201	426,092	40.59	
Oleomargarine.....	615,181	532,370	13.47	
Cheese.....	3,524,660	2,410,024	31.63	
Eggs—In cold storage.....	431,284	164,225	61.93	
" Other than cold storage.....	279,209	187,175	32.97	
Frozen.....	1,362,196	575,975	57.72	
Pork—Frozen.....	5,920,904	6,686,193	12.92	
" Not frozen.....	2,846,472	2,942,379	3.36	
" Dry salted.....	7,524,105	4,351,083	42.18	
" Sweet pickled.....	10,888,849	16,695,898	53.33	
" In process of cure.....	18,476,999	23,680,841	28.16	
Beef—Frozen.....	47,908,290	41,971,885	12.40	
" Not frozen.....	3,300,532	3,314,755	0.43	
" Cured.....	338,551	534,153	57.77	
" In process of cure.....	597,992	339,262	43.27	
Mutton and Lamb—Frozen.....	8,102,701	7,000,889	13.60	
" Not frozen.....	169,673	111,378	34.36	
Poultry.....	5,554,527	4,834,110	12.97	
Fish—All kinds.....	20,657,857	19,476,303	5.73	
" For bait.....	2,647,863	3,466,192	30.90	

STATEMENT COMPARING HOLDINGS OF MARCH 1st, 1918 WITH MARCH 1st, 1919, TAKEN FROM SUCH LIMITED LISTS OF FIRMS AS THE RECORDS OF LAST YEAR ALLOW.

	1918.	1919.	Increase.	Decrease.
			%	%
Butter—Creamery.....	3,610,720	5,332,071	47.67	
" Dairy.....	481,909	400,551	16.89	
Cheese.....	5,751,435	2,280,421	60.36	
Eggs—In cold storage.....	92,578	155,793	68.28	
" Other than cold storage.....	102,551	177,141	72.73	
Frozen.....	56,692	528,080	831.48	
Pork—Frozen.....	7,757,059	6,536,815	15.74	
" Not frozen.....	1,998,864	2,776,533	38.90	
" Dry salted.....	3,427,900	4,322,555	26.09	
" Sweet pickled.....	9,276,351	14,999,804	61.69	
" In process of cure.....	12,693,216	23,521,618	85.30	
Beef—Frozen.....	24,274,877	38,526,467	58.70	
" Not frozen.....	3,785,926	3,258,875	13.93	
" Cured.....	603,126	528,553	12.37	
" In process of cure.....	258,223	339,262	31.38	
Mutton and Lamb—Frozen.....	2,992,639	5,957,691	99.07	
" Not frozen.....	42,724	104,603	144.83	
Poultry.....	1,839,048	5,247,774	180.97	
Fish—All kinds.....	11,093,089	18,269,177	64.68	
" For bait.....	3,660,776	3,466,192	5.32	