

3.—Marketing of Live Stock and Animal Products.

The estimated value of farm live stock and poultry in Canada in 1926 was about \$775,000,000, or two-thirds of the value of field crops grown during the year. In gross value of product the slaughtering and meat-packing industry, which is dependent chiefly on animal husbandry for its materials, has during recent years been one of the most important single manufacturing industries in Canada.

The Canada Year Book, 1922-23, contained on pages 594 and 595 a historical description of the development and present position of the live stock industry in the Dominion, with statistics of farm animals from the decennial censuses, 1871 to 1921. A summary of this data is given in Table 11.

11.—Animals on Farms and Animals Killed or Sold by Farmers in Canada, by census years, 1871-1921.

Years.	Animals on Farms.			Animals killed or sold and wool sold.			
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Wool.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	lb.
1871.....	2,484,655	3,155,509	1,366,083	507,725	1,557,430	1,216,097	11,103,480
1881.....	3,382,396	3,048,678	1,207,619	657,681	1,496,465	1,302,503	11,300,735
1891.....	3,097,023	2,563,781	1,733,850	957,737	1,464,172	1,791,104	10,031,970
1901.....	5,446,944	2,510,568	2,332,902	1,086,353	1,329,141	2,497,630	10,530,769
1911 ¹	6,649,982	2,227,916	3,691,235	1,752,722 ²	949,039 ²	2,771,755 ²	6,933,955
1921 ¹	8,391,424	3,196,078	3,324,291	1,616,626 ²	1,027,975 ²	1,779,339 ²	11,338,268

¹ Census taken as of June 1, while previous censuses were taken earlier in the year, so that a greater number of young animals are included in 1911 and 1921.

² Animals slaughtered on farms were not included. Following figures are comparable with data given for the previous years (the 1911 amounts are partly estimated):—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.
1911.....	1,915,059	1,097,015	4,232,624
1921.....	2,095,959	1,217,993	2,972,413

In Table 12 are given statistics showing the index numbers of animals on farms for the years 1918 to 1926, expressed as percentages of the average numbers for the quinquennium 1911-1915.

12.—Index Numbers of Animals on Farms in Canada, calendar years 1918-1926.

(Average Number for 1911 to 1915=100.)

Years.	Animals on Farms.				
	Horses.	Milch Cows.	Other Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.
1918.....	128.0	133.2	176.4	145.6	125.8
1919.....	130.1	133.6	177.2	163.2	118.5
1920.....	120.6	132.0	164.5	177.5	103.1
1921.....	135.2	140.7	175.4	175.3	114.5
1922.....	129.4	141.0	161.9	155.7	114.8
1923.....	125.2	137.8	151.5	131.4	129.2
1924.....	127.3	140.3	155.4	128.1	148.6
1925.....	126.0	144.2	148.5	131.4	129.8
1926.....	126.2	148.8	141.2	144.8	131.1

Live Stock Marketings, 1926.—The number of cattle sold at live stock yards showed a small increase and the sales of hogs a slight decrease in 1926 as compared with 1925. Cattle sold numbered 980,154 in 1926, 967,712 in 1925, 872,932 in 1924, 830,898 in 1923, 862,203 in 1922 and 688,104 in 1921. The total numbers of hogs sold were 1,138,533 in 1926, 1,286,154 in 1925, 1,311,362 in 1924, 1,031,656 in 1923, 835,773 in 1922 and 681,427 in 1921. Sales of calves increased from 314,088 in 1925 to 341,455 in 1926, but sheep sales have fallen from 598,305 head in 1920 to 414,374 in 1925 and 425,873 in 1926.

Table 13 shows the receipts for sale at the various stock-yards and the disposition of the live stock sold.