

18.—Summary Statistics of the Numbers of Live Stock and Poultry in the Dominion of Canada, Censuses of 1871-1921.

Items.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921. ²
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Horses.....	836,743	1,059,358	1,470,572	1,577,493	2,598,058	3,610,494
Cattle.....	2,624,290	3,433,989	4,120,536	5,576,451	6,526,083	8,519,484
Sheep.....	3,155,509	3,048,678	2,563,751	2,510,239	2,174,300	3,208,966
Swine.....	1,366,083	1,207,619	1,733,850	2,353,828	3,634,773	3,404,730
All poultry.....	-	-	14,105,102 ¹	17,922,658	31,793,261	50,325,248
Hens and chickens.....	-	-	12,696,701	16,651,337	29,773,457	48,021,647
Turkeys.....	-	-	458,306	584,569	863,182	1,096,731
Ducks.....	-	-	320,169	290,755	527,098	603,152
Geese.....	-	-	537,932	395,997	629,524	603,728
Hives of bees.....	144,791	-	199,288	189,986	180,372	185,530

¹Includes 91,994 unspecified. ²Includes live stock elsewhere than on farms as follows:—horses 158,742, cattle 149,995, sheep 3,499, swine 80,439, poultry 6,978,054, hives 37,425.

In Table 19 are given the numbers of each description of farm live stock by provinces for the year 1927. Numbers and values in less detail are given in Table 20 for the years 1924-27. The live stock on Indian reserves is not included in either table.

Horses.—The estimated number of horses for 1927 shows by exception an increase of 23,743 as compared with 1926. During the last few years the number of horses in Canada has declined owing to the increasing use of mechanical power in agriculture as well as on the roads and in urban transportation.

Cattle.—The estimated total number of cattle for Canada has increased in 1927 as compared with 1926 by 601,359 head. It is interesting to note that the estimated number of milch cows has increased by 167,000 head since 1924, and in 1927 was higher than in any previous year.

Sheep.—The estimated number of sheep in Canada has increased by 578,000 head between 1924 and 1927, the increase being fairly general throughout the provinces, with the exception of Nova Scotia. From 1921 to 1924 there was a decrease of over 500,000 or about 16 p.c. in the number of sheep in Canada. From 1921 to 1927 there has been a gradual increase from \$6 to \$10 in the average value per head, and with better prices for products and improved methods, sheep-raising has again become profitable.

Swine.—There has been a substantial increase in the estimated number of swine in 1927 as compared with 1926, although the total is still lower than in 1924. However, the numbers in 1924 constituted a record for Canada, and in spite of the very considerable decline they still remain larger than for any year prior to 1924. Prices have been lower in 1927 than in 1926, so that the total value of the swine shows a decline of over \$4,800,000, in spite of the increased number.

Poultry.—Poultry for the year 1927 increased only slightly as compared with 1926, but by nearly 7,000,000 or 15.75 p.c. since 1921. Increased consumption of eggs, a ready market for table poultry and improved methods in poultry-keeping account for the prosperous condition of the industry. The expansion since 1921 has been fairly general throughout the provinces, though least rapid in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.