

The essential function of this Branch is the protection of the live-stock industry and the export trade, and its activities are directed along educational, research and regulatory lines. Through the co-ordination of the three co-operating divisions of this organization, Canadian live stock has not been exposed to epizootics for many years and the live-stock industry of the Dominion has been adequately protected from invasions of foreign plagues. The more serious diseases, such as cattle plague, contagious pleuro-pneumonia and foot and mouth disease, have not at any time occurred among Canadian herds or flocks.

The favourable state of the health of Canadian live stock has enabled the veterinary field staff to concentrate its efforts upon the control of bovine tuberculosis and this work has reached large proportions.

The Animal Contagious Diseases Act and the Regulations passed thereunder provide the necessary authority for the protection of the live stock of the country from diseases having a tendency to assume epizootic proportions not only by guarding against their introduction from abroad but by preventing the spread of infection at any time it exists among Canadian herds or flocks.

Under the Meat and Canned Foods Act, regulations are applied to all inter-provincial and export shipments of meats and meat food products, as well as to those which may be imported. The slaughter of animals and the preparation and handling of meats and meat food products in abattoirs engaged in interprovincial and export trade in the Dominion are under the constant supervision of full-time salaried veterinary officers located in the plants and a system of ante- and post-mortem inspection is maintained. This service is rendered to prevent diseased or otherwise dangerous meats from entering consuming channels, to ensure that the preparation and handling of these products conform with modern sanitary views, to prevent the use of harmful dyes, preservatives and chemicals, to enforce correct and honest labelling and to ensure that the meats and meat food products are sound, wholesome and fit for human consumption.

The Pathological Division is maintained for the investigation of problems of a special nature and the conduct of research, the manufacture of biological products and diagnostic agents, and general laboratory services. Laboratories are maintained at Hull, Que., the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Lethbridge, Alta., and Saanichton, B.C.

The Live Stock Branch.—The activities of the Live Stock Branch are centred on policies designed to encourage the production and marketing of the best types and qualities of commercial live stock. The Branch administers the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act, and the Live Stock Pedigree Act.

The Branch is under the supervision of the Live Stock Commissioner, and the work is discharged through three main channels: Field Services, Market Services, and Poultry Services.

The Field Services, under authority of the Live Stock and Live Stock Products Act, implement the grading policies, which embrace the grading of bacon for export, the branding of beef for the domestic trade, and the grading of the Canadian wool crop.

Breeding stock credentials are secured through the Record of Performance for Pure Bred Dairy Cattle, Advanced Registry for Pure Bred Sires, and Advanced Registry for Pure Bred Swine. Sire assistance is provided through the medium of the Bull Loaning Policy, the distribution of breeding stock, and the Transportation Policy. Feeding projects embrace assistance to eastern farmers and the fattening