

The export movement of eggs to British Empire markets has increased considerably in recent years. In 1938, 1,539,807 doz. eggs were shipped to the United Kingdom, representing 0.66 p.c. of the total production for that year; the total exports amounted to 1,842,538 doz. Imports have continued at a low level since 1930 when 2,908,340 doz. eggs were imported into the Dominion. In 1935 the imports amounted to only 26,842 doz. and in 1938 they increased to 33,534 doz.

Eggs have always been a relatively popular diet with the Canadian people. In 1938 the disappearance of eggs in the Dominion amounted to 233,471,546 doz. representing a per capita consumption of 20.83 doz. These calculations are made by adding the estimated production of farm eggs, eggs elsewhere produced, imports, and stocks at the first of January, and deducting therefrom the exports during the year, and stocks on hand at the end of the year.

Subsection 4.—Dairying Statistics.

In the present edition of the Year Book, revised statistics, based upon a more complete analysis of census figures, are presented for the years 1930-38, on a Dominion basis only. Figures for the provinces may be found in "Dairying Statistics for Canada, 1938", which carries the revision back to 1934, and in a special supplementary statement, issued in September, 1939, which covers the years 1930-33. Statistics for Canada and the provinces, covering the years 1936-38, appear at pp. 221-224 of the 1939 Year Book.

Milk Production.—The first milk production estimate was contained in the Census Report for 1911, showing a farm output of nearly 7,000,000,000 lb. in 1900 and slightly more than 9,750,000,000 lb. in 1910. The increase thus reported occurred during a ten-year period of extensive land settlement. During this period the number of farm holdings advanced approximately one-third, and breeding stock was shipped in large numbers to the western prairies to meet the needs of the new colonists.

In the course of the next decade (1910-20), a marked development took place in live-stock and dairying enterprises; since the quest for new lands had practically subsided, the number of farm occupants increased only 4 p.c. while the number of milk cows made a gain of 28 p.c. But the increase in milk cows was only partially reflected in the milk production estimate for 1920, which amounted to approximately 10,500,000,000 lb.

In the subsequent period (1920-30), the movement toward dairying was much more pronounced; the production of milk, as shown in the revised estimate for 1930, reached a total of over 13,000,000,000 lb., nearly double the amount produced at the beginning of the century. This increase was accompanied by a greater production per cow. In 1900, the average yield was 2,851 lb.; in 1920, it advanced to 3,189 lb.; and in 1930 to 3,578 lb. The production per farm also advanced; from an average of 13,436 lb. in 1900 it increased to 14,911 lb. in 1920, and to 17,605 lb. in 1930.

The increase in the total milk production in 1938 represented a gain of 2.9 p.c. over 1937. As compared with 1930, the increase was 20.6 p.c. This can be deduced from Table 18.

Of the total quantity of milk manufactured, 59.4 p.c. was used in the production of creamery butter, 23.4 p.c. in dairy butter, 12.9 p.c. in cheese, and 4.3 p.c. in concentrated milk products, ice cream, and farm-made cheese.