

year. The per capita disappearance showed a steady increase since 1941, moving from 20.3 doz. to 24.4 doz. in 1944. These figures, of course, are based on the total population, so that if the calculations were made on the actual resident population of Canada the gains would be even more evident.

Egg prices were well maintained during 1944. The average price was 29.4 cents per doz., being slightly lower than that of the previous year when 31.9 cents was the average for all grades sold. This reduction in price was general in all provinces. The paying price for Grade A Large during the season was 35½ cents f.o.b. Montreal. In 1943 the Government price at the beginning of the year was 37 cents, although it was subsequently reduced to 36 cents, and to 34 cents in the early spring. From Apr. 19 to Dec. 31, the average was only 35 cents. During the latter part of the 1944 season the market price rose above the Government quotation of 35½ cents.

Poultry on farms as at June 1, 1944, numbered 91,669,000 as compared with 79,228,000 in the previous year. This increase of nearly 16 p.c. was distributed among the nine provinces, the greatest advance being shown in Saskatchewan, followed by lesser increases in Quebec, Nova Scotia and Alberta. Hens and chickens showed a percentage advance comparable to that of total poultry, while turkeys increased slightly over 14 p.c. Ducks and geese showed increases of approximately 5 p.c. and 23 p.c., respectively.

The production of poultry meat in 1944 was the highest on record, showing a total of 315,176,000 lb. or approximately 50,000,000 lb. more than that produced in 1943.

Domestic disappearance of poultry meat advanced from 269,871,000 lb. in 1943 to 315,157,000 lb. in 1944. This gain is all the more striking when it is remembered that the rationing of other meats was discontinued during the year, giving the consumer a greater latitude in the selection of meat products. The gain in domestic disappearance was accompanied by a reduction of approximately 750,000 lb. in stock holdings as between Jan. 1, 1944 and Jan. 1, 1945. In 1943, on the other hand, stocks increased by almost 10,000,000 lb. between the beginning and the end of the year. In every case there was an increase in per capita consumption over 1943, total poultry showing an advance of approximately 4 lb.

18.—Numbers, Prices and Values of Farm Poultry in Canada, 1940-44, and by Provinces, 1943 and 1944

| Province and Year | Total Poultry ¹ | | | Hens and Chickens | | | Turkeys | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Number at June 1 | Value per Bird | Total Value | Number at June 1 | Value per Bird | Total Value | Number at June 1 | Value per Bird | Total Value |
| Totals | | \$ | \$ | | \$ | \$ | | \$ | \$ |
| 1940.. | 63,190,600 | 0.80 | 50,627,600 | 58,712,400 | 0.73 | 42,766,000 | 3,163,900 | 1.97 | 6,291,000 |
| 1941.. | 63,384,148 | 0.91 | 57,381,100 | 58,864,389 | 0.83 | 48,891,000 | 3,203,804 | 2.11 | 6,820,000 |
| 1942.. | 73,813,200 | 1.05 | 77,649,600 | 68,105,800 | 0.95 | 65,471,000 | 4,214,500 | 2.40 | 10,146,000 |
| 1943 ² | 79,227,700 | 1.31 | 104,114,100 | 74,960,500 | 1.25 | 93,344,000 | 2,955,600 | 2.84 | 8,391,000 |
| 1944.. | 91,669,100 | 1.30 | 119,366,600 | 86,792,300 | 1.23 | 106,560,000 | 3,379,700 | 3.00 | 10,135,000 |
| P.E.I.— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1943 ² | 1,098,300 | 1.40 | 1,541,500 | 1,063,300 | 1.37 | 1,457,000 | 13,400 | 3.15 | 42,000 |
| 1944.. | 1,258,700 | 1.42 | 1,793,700 | 1,222,300 | 1.40 | 1,711,000 | 8,900 | 3.25 | 29,000 |
| N.S.— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1943 ² | 1,626,700 | 1.52 | 2,475,800 | 1,601,000 | 1.50 | 2,401,000 | 12,200 | 3.50 | 43,000 |
| 1944.. | 1,978,400 | 1.54 | 3,051,400 | 1,947,000 | 1.52 | 2,959,000 | 16,500 | 3.60 | 59,000 |
| N.B.— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1943 ² | 1,597,600 | 1.49 | 2,383,900 | 1,549,600 | 1.45 | 2,247,000 | 31,700 | 3.20 | 101,000 |
| 1944.. | 1,844,000 | 1.43 | 2,645,600 | 1,792,000 | 1.39 | 2,491,000 | 34,400 | 3.40 | 117,000 |
| Que.— | | | | | | | | | |
| 1943 ² | 9,925,200 | 1.39 | 13,823,300 | 9,654,900 | 1.35 | 13,034,000 | 212,900 | 3.17 | 675,000 |
| 1944.. | 12,630,700 | 1.36 | 17,205,100 | 12,255,000 | 1.32 | 16,177,000 | 227,900 | 3.38 | 770,000 |

¹ Includes geese and ducks.

² Revised since the publication of the 1943-44 Year Book.