

PRODUCTION.

types, which as a rule are grown on lighter soils and on ridges, well drained, gave better crops than in 1914. The acreage in bright tobacco was largely increased in 1915. In Quebec the summer was a little cooler than usual, and in some districts rather wet. The crop was about normal in northern districts. There was a little root rot in the southern districts, which reduced the yield materially. Both in Quebec and Ontario the autumn was exceptionally favourable to the curing of the tobacco crop in the barns. All the tobaccos which were harvested in good time were practically cured by the end of October.

Consumption of Meat in Canada.—In 1907 the Health of Animals Branch of the Department of Agriculture began the organization of a meat inspection service for Canada in accordance with the provisions of the Meat and Canned Foods Act (6-7 Edw. VII., c. 27). Under this Act the inspection of all meat and canned foods was made obligatory in respect of establishments engaged in the interprovincial trade or in exporting to foreign countries. Meats and foods other than those in inspected establishments and consumed within the same province as that in which the animals are slaughtered do not at present come within its provisions. The Act has now been in operation for nine years, and records have been annually kept of the animals slaughtered in the establishments inspected. Table 14 indicates therefore the movement in the production of meat in Canada during the last nine years. It shows the number of cattle, sheep and swine slaughtered under the Act in each year from 1907-08 to 1915-16.

14.—Number of Cattle, Sheep and Swine slaughtered under the Meat and Canned Foods Act, 1907.

Year ended March 31.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.
	No.	No.	No.
1908 ¹	131,660	86,049	861,959
1909.....	298,241	191,792	1,532,796
1910.....	384,789	257,049	1,261,496
1911.....	411,308	329,017	1,452,237
1912.....	408,401	376,437	1,852,997
1913.....	450,390	455,647	1,607,741
1914.....	531,994	499,284	1,799,060
1915.....	530,425	447,173	2,598,338
1916.....	542,154	403,147	2,363,693

¹Eight months.

Per Capita Consumption of Meat.—It has usually been assumed that the meat inspected under the Meat and Canned Foods Act represents upon average about half of the total meat production of Canada; but it would hardly be safe to accept this proportion in any endeavour to arrive at the per capita consumption of meat. The question has been investigated by officers of the Meat Inspection Division of the Health of Animals Branch, and calculations, based upon the census returns of animals slaughtered and sold off farms in 1910, upon the exports and