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MONTHLY REVIEW OF DAIRY PRODUCTION IN CANADA, FEBRUARY, 1938.
(Issued Thursday, March 10, 1938, at 4 p.m.)

CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION in February decreased approximately one and a half per cent as compared with the February make of 1937 and decreased 10 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. During the month of February 7.5 million pounds of butter were produced and during the two months ending February the output reached a total of 15.8 million pounds. The decline in the February make occurred in three provinces, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

CHEESE PRODUCTION declined 23 per cent in February as compared with February, 1937 and decreased 13 per cent as compared with the output for the preceding month. The February make was approximately 605 thousand pounds and the total during the period January to February amounted to 1.3 million pounds. There was no cheese produced in the Maritime Provinces in February; of the remaining provinces, all contributed to the decrease except Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

The production of CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS for the month of January registered an increase of approximately 29 per cent over the same month last year and an increase of 6 per cent as compared with the preceding month. During January 6.8 million pounds of Concentrated Whole Milk Products and 1.9 million pounds of Concentrated Milk By-Products were manufactured in Canada, making a total of 8.7 million pounds as compared with 6.7 million pounds produced in January, 1937.

CREAMERY BUTTER PRICES at Montreal, as quoted daily by the Canadian Commodity Exchange for the first grade products, average 34 $\frac{3}{8}$ cents a pound, compared with 25 cents in February, 1937. Ontario coloured cheese at Montreal based on daily quotations, averaged 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents in February compared with 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ cents in February, 1937.

The combined output of creamery butter and factory cheese during the month of February represented the equivalent of 182.5 million pounds of milk, registering a decrease of 4.5 million pounds as compared with the combined make in terms of milk for the same month a year ago. Creamery butter represented 96.3 per cent and cheese represented 3.7 per cent of the total.

The total disappearance of Canadian made butter in February, 1938 amounted to 16.1 million pounds, a decrease of 1.7 million pounds as compared with last month, and a decrease of 1.1 million pounds as compared with the same month last year. This disappearance estimate is based on storage and transit stocks combined amounting to 18.8 million pounds on February 1, and 10.3 million pounds on March 1. Exports in February, 1938, reached a total of 27,100 pounds, which represents a decrease of approximately 57 thousand pounds as compared with last month. In February 1937 exports were exactly the same.

The total disappearance of Canadian cheddar cheese in February, 1938, amounted to 2.8 million pounds. Making stock adjustments to place the figures on a comparative basis with last year (24,965,195 pounds at February 1 and 22,881,765 pounds at March 1) an increase of 152 thousand pounds is recorded as compared with the disappearance in February, 1937. Exports in February, 1938, reached a total of 420,000 pounds, an increase of approximately 65 thousand pounds as compared with last month and a decrease of 284 thousand pounds as compared with February, 1937.

I - PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER IN CANADA BY PROVINCES, FEBRUARY, 1937 AND 1938.

Province	JANUARY			FEBRUARY		
	1937	1938 x	More (+) Less (-)	1937	1938 /	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	8,932,907	8,344,456	(-) 6.6	7,615,695	7,507,335	(-) 1.4
Prince Edward Island	75,571	75,445	(-) 0.2	61,304	79,000	(+) 28.9
Nova Scotia	327,360	367,153	(+) 12.2	293,680	344,453	(+) 17.3
New Brunswick	71,739	81,294	(+) 13.3	68,657	78,672	(+) 14.6
Quebec	1,066,381	997,752	(-) 6.4	515,589	529,299	(+) 2.7
Ontario	4,385,536	3,938,755	(-) 10.2	3,833,384	3,610,021	(-) 5.8
Manitoba	877,785	916,571	(+) 4.4	843,030	933,903	(+) 10.8
Saskatchewan	824,060	537,344	(-) 34.8	791,326	564,565	(-) 28.7
Alberta	959,978	1,110,782	(+) 15.7	891,902	1,061,979	(+) 19.1
British Columbia	344,497	319,360	(-) 7.3	316,823	305,443	(-) 3.6

x Revised / Preliminary

II - PRODUCTION OF FACTORY CHEESE IN CANADA BY PROVINCES, FEBRUARY, 1937 AND 1938.

Province	JANUARY			FEBRUARY		
	1937	1938 x	More (+) Less (-)	1937	1938 /	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	987,593	694,089	(-) 29.7	781,698	604,863	(-) 22.6
Quebec	126,838	113,698	(-) 10.4	73,759	91,859	(+) 24.5
Ontario	671,907	354,142	(-) 47.3	522,869	281,331	(-) 46.2
Manitoba	88,434	101,434	(+) 14.7	97,154	104,245	(+) 7.3
Saskatchewan	1,190	870	(-) 26.9	1,305	860	(-) 34.1
Alberta	70,918	96,775	(+) 36.5	65,245	87,768	(+) 34.5
British Columbia	28,036	27,170	(-) 3.1	21,366	38,800	(+) 81.6

x Revised / Preliminary

III - CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER AND FACTORY CHEESE IN CANADA
BY PROVINCES, JANUARY TO FEBRUARY, 1937 AND 1938.

Province	JANUARY TO FEBRUARY					
	BUTTER			CHEESE		
	1937	1938	More (+) Less (-)	1937	1938	More (+) Less (-)
	Lb.	Lb.	%	Lb.	Lb.	%
CANADA	16,548,602	15,851,791	(-) 4.2	1,769,291	1,298,952	(-) 26.6
Prince Edward Island	136,875	154,445	(+) 12.8	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	621,040	711,606	(+) 14.6	-	-	-
New Brunswick	140,396	159,966	(+) 13.9	-	-	-
Quebec	1,581,970	1,527,051	(-) 3.5	200,597	205,557	(+) 2.5
Ontario	8,218,920	7,548,776	(-) 8.2	1,194,776	635,473	(-) 46.8
Manitoba	1,720,815	1,850,474	(+) 7.5	185,588	205,679	(+) 10.8
Saskatchewan	1,615,386	1,101,909	(-) 31.8	2,495	1,730	(-) 30.7
Alberta	1,851,880	2,172,761	(+) 17.3	136,163	184,543	(+) 35.5
British Columbia	661,320	624,803	(-) 5.5	49,672	65,970	(+) 32.8

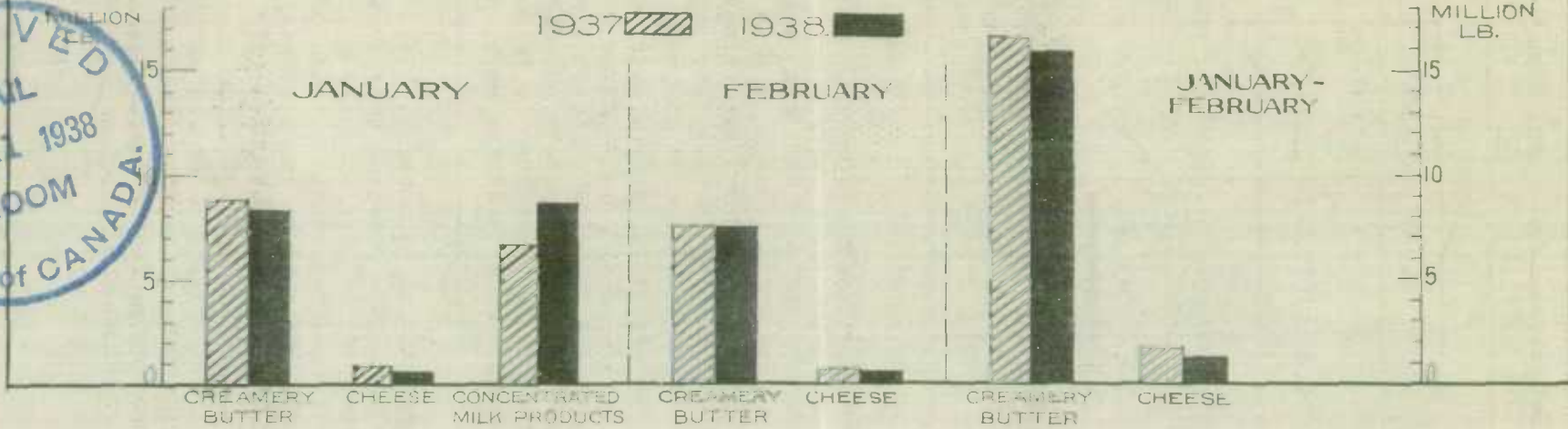
Review of the Production Situation

The hay supply is rapidly diminishing in many parts of the east, and the low quality of home grown feeds has tended to check any rapid advance in milk production over the previous year. Encouraged by higher butterfat prices, farmers are using more concentrates and with some newly freshened cows now coming into production, the outlook is becoming more and more encouraging. The situation in the west has reached a more or less stabilized position; cows are beginning to come into lactation, but in the drought sections, restricted supplies of both grain and roughage and the necessity of using rather too large proportions of straw and other non-succulent feeds has tended to keep milk production at a low ebb. Hay prices have advanced throughout Canada, grain prices were slightly higher in February than in February a year ago, and the demand for good grade milk cows, particularly in the east, has sent prices in an upward direction.

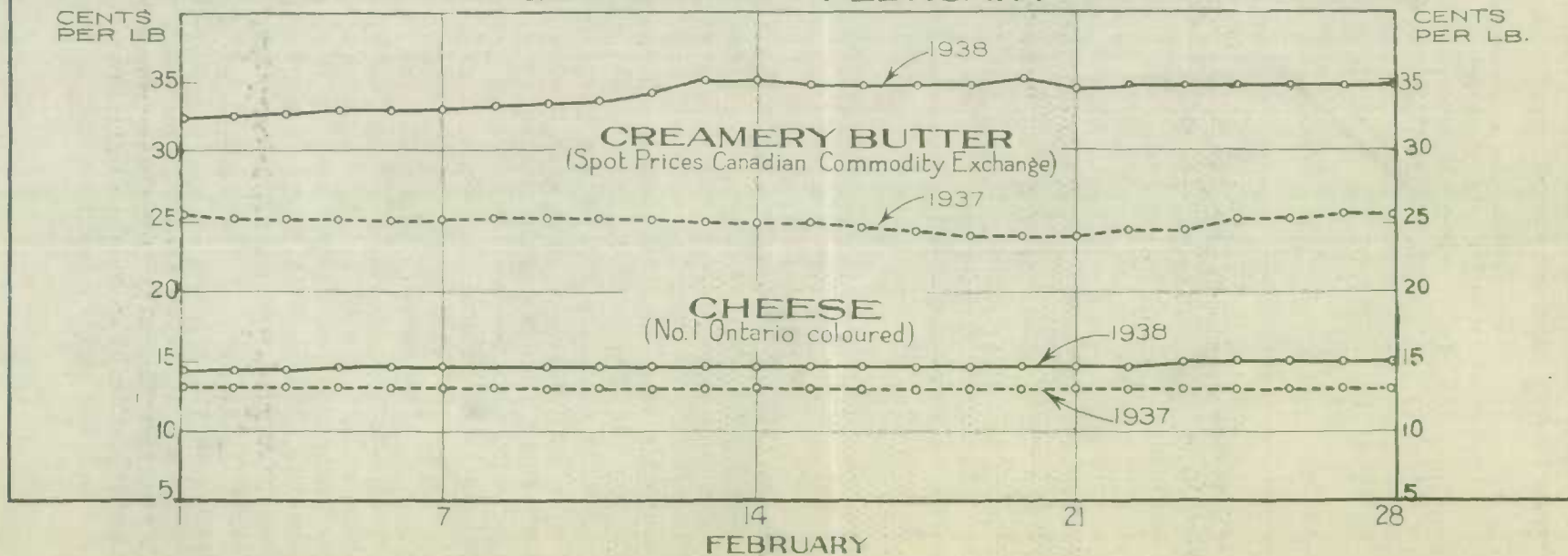
The numbers of milch cows on farms as reported at December 1, 1937, (excluding Quebec) fell 2.3 per cent from December 1 of the previous year, but since this decline was offset by an increase in the percentage of cows actually milking, the numbers of producing cows at that time may be considered equal to those of December, 1936. Milk production per cow per day, as reported by dairy correspondents, increased from 9.8 pounds in December, 1936, to 10.1 pounds in December, 1937. Although low quality feeds continue to hold the farm milk supply at a low level, a condition which seems to be particularly evident in Ontario, a wider use of concentrates and improved feeding practices may change the outcome to some extent. There is no expectation of a radical increase in milk production during March, but the quantity of milk and cream delivered to creameries and cheese factories is likely to equal the deliveries recorded in the same month a year ago.

PRODUCTION OF CREAMERY BUTTER, CHEESE AND CONCENTRATED MILK PRODUCTS

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DAILY PRICES OF BUTTER AND CHEESE AT MONTREAL DURING FEBRUARY 1937 AND 1938



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