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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA GRICULTURAL BRANCH

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	Dominion Statistician:	R.H.	Coats, B.A.,	F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.
+	Chief, Agricultural Branch:		Grindley, Ph.	

i Ottawa, February 23, 1931, 4 p.m. The Dominion Eureau of Statistics published to-day its annual report on farm values for the year 1930, comprising estimates of the values of (1) farm lands; (2) farm help; (3) farm live stock and wool; (4) poultry, all compiled from the returns of crop correspondents.

AVERAGE VALUES OF FARM LANDS

The value of farm lands in Canada in 1930 shows a considerable decline in consequence of the fall in the prices of agricultural products. The average value of the occupied farm lands of Canada as a whole, including both improved and unimproved land, as well as dwelling houses, barns, stables and other farm buildings, is returned as \$32 per acre, as compared with \$37 ir 1929. By provinces the average values are as follows, with the previous year's values within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$42 (\$43); Nove. Scotia \$30 (\$36); New Brunswick \$28 (\$35); Quebec 348 (\$55); Ontario \$52 (\$60); Manitoba \$22 (\$26); Saskatchewan \$22 (\$25); Alberta \$24 (\$28); British Columbia \$76 (\$90). The average values in 1930 of orchard and fruit lands, including buildings, etc., in the chief fruit-growing provinces, are estimated as follows, the figures for 1929 being given within brackets: Nova Scotia \$94 (\$118); Ontario \$110 (\$147); British Columbia \$291 (\$314).

AVERAGE WAGES OF FARM HELP

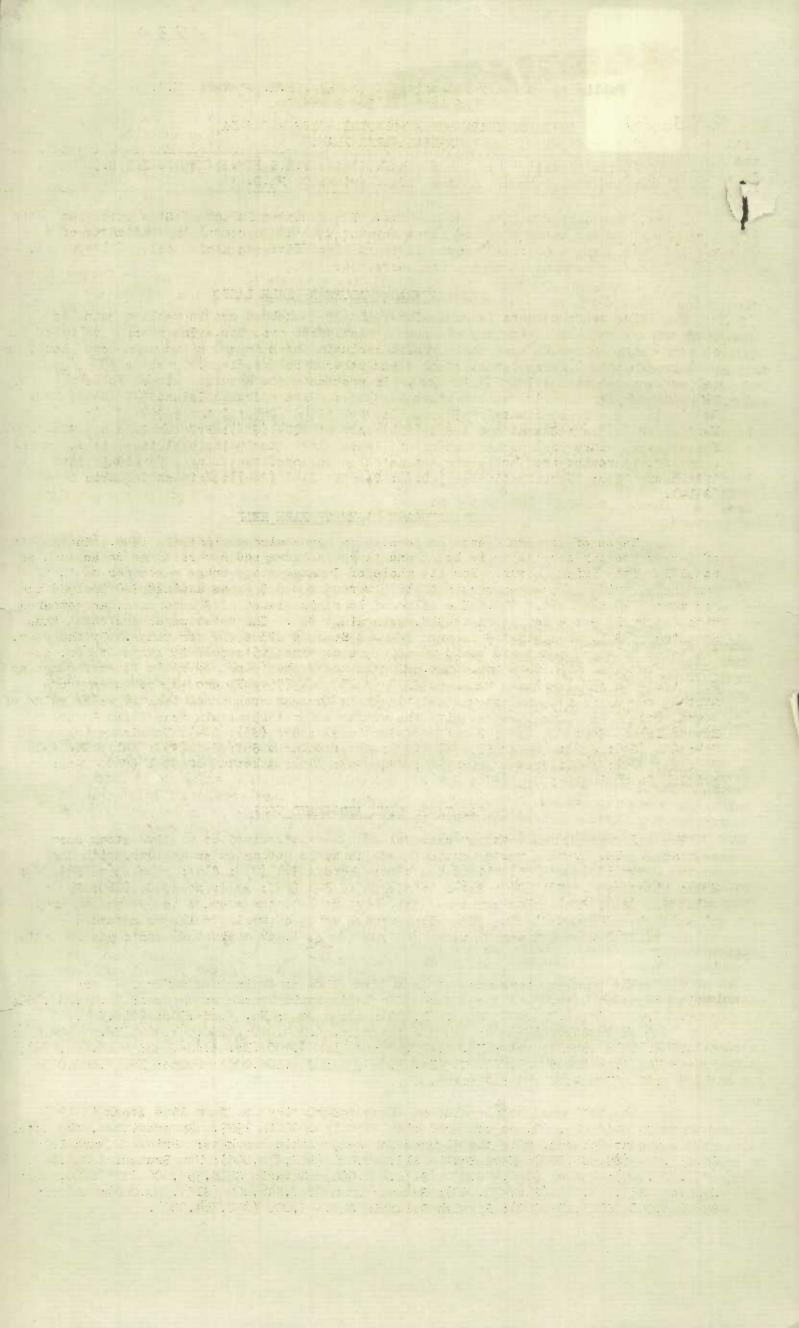
Wages of both male and female help on farms also declined in 1930. The ability of farmers to pay for labour is lower and there is increased necessity to do as much as possible with family labour. For the whole of Canada, the average wages per month of farm help during the summer season of 1930 were for men \$34, as against \$40 in 1929 and for women \$20 as against \$23. The value of board is placed at \$22 for men, as compared with \$23 in 1929 and for women at \$18, as against \$20. The total wages and board thus amounted to \$56, as against \$63 for men and \$38, as against \$43 for women. By the year, the total value of wages and board was \$559 as compared with \$627 in 1929 for men, and \$409 as compared with \$465 for women. The value of the yearly board is given for men as \$233 (\$254 in 1929) and for women as \$199 (\$223 in 1929). By provinces, the average monthly wages for meh and women respectively in the summer season, including the value of board, were in 1930 as follows, with the averages for 1929 within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$50; \$30 (\$52; \$32); Nova Scotia \$54; \$31 (\$57; \$34); New Brunswick \$54; \$31 (\$60; \$33); Quebec \$52; \$30 (\$61; \$33); Ontario \$51; \$38 (\$57; \$41); Manitoba \$53; \$36 (\$61; \$40); Saskatchevan \$60; \$40 (\$69; \$46); Alberta \$60; \$41 (\$68; \$46); British Columbia \$72; \$46 (\$76; \$51).

VALUES OF LIVE STCCK AND WOOL

For all Canada, the average values of all descriptions of live stock show decreases. The average value per head for Canada is estimated as follows, with the averages for 1929 and 1928 within brackets: Horses \$61 (\$70; \$76); milch cows \$59 (74; \$72); other cattle \$35 (\$47; \$46); total cattle \$45 (\$58; \$57); sheep \$7 (\$10; \$10); swine \$1 (\$16; \$15). For swine per cwt. live weight, the average is \$9, as compared with \$11 in 1929 and \$10 in 1923. The average price of wool per 1b. is returned as 11 cents per 1b. for unwashed and 16 cents for washed, as against 21 cents and 27 cents in 1929.

The total numbers and values of farm live stock in Canada for 1930 are estimated as follows, with the figures for 1929 within brackets: Horses: No. 3,295,000; estimated as follows, with the figures for 1929 within brackets: horses: No. 5,295,000; \$202,013,000 (No. 3,376,487; \$235,971,000); milch cows: No. 3,683,000; \$218.822,000 (No. 3,684,766; \$273,817,000); other cattle: No. 5,254,000; \$182,263,000 (No. 5,139,866; \$239,713,000); total cattle: No. 8,937,000; \$401,085,000 (No. 8,824,632; \$513,530,000); sheep: No. 3,696,000; \$25,275,000 (No. 3,635,923; \$36,118,000); swine: No. 4,000,000; \$53,852,000 (No. 4,381,725; \$71,111,000).

The estimated total value of these descriptions of farm live stock in 1930 amounts to \$587,225,000, as compared with \$356,730,000 in 1929. By provinces, the total values are as follows, with the figures for 1929 within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$8,837,000 (\$9,588,000); Nova Scotia \$19,446,000 (\$22,076,000); New Brunswick \$16,072,000 (\$17,975,000); Quebec \$136,470,000 (\$172,452,000); Ontario \$218,393,000 (\$277,720,000); Manitoba \$53,741,000 (\$66,472,000); Saskatchewan \$112,846,000 (\$134,950,000); Alberta \$94,055,000 (\$123,133,000); British Columbia \$27,355,000 (\$32,364,000).



- 2 -VALUES OF FARM POULTRY

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The average values per head for Canada for each description of farm poultry in 1930 are estimated as follows, the averages for 1929 being given within brackets: Hens and chickens 0.82 (0.95); turkeys 2.31 (2.69); geese 1.84 (2.11); ducks 1.04(1.15). These averages, applied to the numbers as returned in June last, give approximately the total values. For all Canada, the numbers and values of farm poultry in 1930 are stimated as follows, with the figures for 1929 in brackets: Hens and chickens: 56.247,000; 46.149,000 (No. 55.242.787; 52.387,000); turkeys: No. 2.399,000; 55.47,000 (No. 2.423,029; 56.512,000); geese: No. 1.160,000; 2.131,000; (No. 1.155.244; 2.436,000); ducks: No. 989,000; 1.025,000 (No. 1.111.903; <math>1.274,000).

By provinces, the total values of all descriptions of poultry are as follows, the estimates for 1929 being given within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$1,002,000 (\$1,015,000); Nova Scotia \$1,100,000 (\$1,168,000); New Brunswick \$1,125,000 (\$1,162,000); Quebec \$8,903,000 (\$10,037,000); Ontario \$22,794,000 (\$25,380,000); Manitoba \$4,454,000 (\$5,358,000); Saskatchewan \$6,448,000 (\$7,240,000); Alberta \$5,464,000 (\$6,785,000); British Columbia \$3,556,000 (\$4,464,000). For the whole of Canada, the total value of all descriptions of farm poultry is estimated at \$54,852,000, in 1930, as compared with \$62,509,000 in 1929.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY, 1931.

Maritime Provinces.- The market for live stock and live stock products is quiet at present. Prices are generally low for all classes. Rough feed is scarce in some areas, plentiful in others. The winter, so far, has been remarkably mild with little frost and plenty of snow. Farm lands are low in price and there has been little exchange of property.

Quebec. - There is a wide variation in prices for farm products. Hog prices are fair and registered cattle are bringing good returns. Fresh milkers are selling well. The market generally is dull. Live stock are in good condition and there is plenty of fodder. Farm help is very cheap. There is little exchange of farm property.

Ontario.- All classes of live stock appear to be doing well with a plentiful supply of cheap feed. Feed of all kinds, although low in price, is not in great demand. Some classes of live stock are finding a market, but generally speaking, sales are few with prices a great deal lower than for some time. The supply of farm help is more than sufficient for the demand, with wages below average. The winter, so far, has been mild in southern, western and northern Ontario, with little snow, resulting in a scarcity of water. Few farms are exchanging hands.

Manitoba. - An exceedingly mild winter, so far, has been experienced throughout the province. Live stock have come through the winter in good condition, with an abundant supply of feed. Feeder cattle are in good demand, also milkers. Prices of swine are remaining steady, but generally speaking, for other classes of stock and for farm products, they are none too good. There is little sale for horses. Land values have reached a low level, and practically no farm property is changing hands.

<u>Saskatchewan</u>.- There is little market activity because of the prevailing low prices. The winter to date has been very mild and the light snowfall, particularly in the south-west, has helped to bring live stock through the winter in good condition.

Alberta.- Feeder cattle and milk cows are reported to be scarce and are commanding good prices. Sows and young pigs are selling well, with markets steady at present. However, prices for farm products are rather low. The winter has been ideal for stock many of which are still out on the range. There is plenty of feed and farm animals are in good condition.

British Columbia. - Weather conditions have been the most favourable with plenty of feed for stock. The boultry industry is in a very unsettled state at present owing to the low price of eggs and poultry.

