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AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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Chief, Agricultural Branch: T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

Ottawa, February 23, 1938, 4 p.m.-The Dominion Bureau of Statistics publishes today its annual report on farm values for the year 1937, comprising estimates of (1) the average value of farm lands, (2) the average wages of farm help and (3) the average values of farm live stock, wool and poultry. The estimates are compiled from the returns of crop correspondents.

AVERAGE VALUE OF FARM LANDS

For the third year in succession, average values of occupied farm lands in Canada were reported at \$24 per acre. The average value includes improved and unimproved land, together with dwelling houses, barns, and all other farm buildings. Average land values in Canada have been declining since 1928, when they were reported as \$38 per acre. A low point of \$23 per acre was reached in 1934, and an increase to \$24 per acre occurred in 1935. Since 1935 average values have remained at \$24 per acre. Increases in average values per acre in 1937 were reported in Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, but these were offset by decreases in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia.

During the past ten years the greatest declines in land values per acre have taken place in the Prairie Provinces, and the smallest declines have occurred in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The average value per acre for Canada in 1937 was 65 per cent of the 1926 average value. The following table shows by provinces the average values per acre of occupied farm lands for 1936 and 1937 expressed as percentages of the average values for 1926.

| | Percentage of 1926 Value | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| | 1936 | 1937 |
| Prince Edward Island | 67 | 74 |
| Nova Scotia | 97 | 89 |
| New Brunswick | 90 | 84 |
| Quebec | 72 | 75 |
| Ontario | 71 | 74 |
| Manitoba | 55 | 59 |
| Saskatchewan | 60 | 60 |
| Alberta | 62 | 62 |
| British Columbia | 75 | 72 |
| CANADA | 65 | 65 |

Average Value of Farm Lands in Canada
1935, 1936 and 1937

| | Dollars per Acre | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------|------|
| | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 |
| Prince Edward Island | 31 | 31 | 34 |
| Nova Scotia | 31 | 35 | 32 |
| New Brunswick | 25 | 28 | 26 |
| Quebec | 41 | 38 | 40 |
| Ontario | 42 | 44 | 46 |
| Manitoba | 17 | 16 | 17 |
| Saskatchewan | 17 | 15 | 15 |
| Alberta | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| British Columbia | 58 | 60 | 58 |
| CANADA | 24 | 24 | 24 |

AVERAGE WAGES OF FARM HELP

Average cash wages of male farm help were reported as \$23 per month for the summer months of 1937 as compared with \$21 per month in 1936 and \$20 per month in 1935. The value of board in 1937 was estimated at \$17 per month as compared with \$16 in 1936. Cash wages of summer help have shown increases each year since 1933 when they were reported as \$17 per month. Increases in cash wages of summer help in 1937 were recorded in all provinces except Saskatchewan. Large increases were shown in Ontario

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The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the various projects and the results achieved. The report concludes with a summary of the work done and the plans for the future.

The work during the year has been very successful and has resulted in many important discoveries. The progress made in the various projects has been considerable and has led to a better understanding of the subject. The results of the work have been published in several papers and have been widely discussed.

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and Quebec.

Average wages per year of male farm help increased from \$206 in 1936 to \$224 in 1937. Cash wages per year in 1937 were \$63 greater than in 1936, when the low point was reached. The largest dollar increases for 1937 over 1936 were recorded in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba.

Wages and board per year for male farm help in 1937 were reported as \$400 compared with \$374 in 1936. Wages and board of female help were reported as \$272 in 1937 and \$261 in 1936.

Average Wages of Farm Help
Summer Season, 1936 and 1937

| | <u>Male</u> | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| | <u>1 9 3 6</u> | | <u>1 9 3 7</u> | |
| | <u>Wages</u> | <u>Wages and Board</u> | <u>Wages</u> | <u>Wages and Board</u> |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Prince Edward Island | 18 | 31 | 21 | 36 |
| Nova Scotia | 22 | 37 | 25 | 40 |
| New Brunswick | 25 | 40 | 28 | 44 |
| Quebec | 19 | 32 | 25 | 40 |
| Ontario | 21 | 37 | 25 | 43 |
| Manitoba | 19 | 34 | 21 | 37 |
| Saskatchewan | 19 | 35 | 19 | 35 |
| Alberta | 22 | 38 | 23 | 40 |
| British Columbia | 25 | 46 | 28 | 49 |
| CANADA | 21 | 37 | 23 | 40 |

| | <u>Female</u> | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 7 | 1 9 3 7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 11 | 22 | 11 | 24 |
| Nova Scotia | 12 | 23 | 12 | 23 |
| New Brunswick | 11 | 22 | 12 | 24 |
| Quebec | 10 | 20 | 12 | 23 |
| Ontario | 13 | 27 | 14 | 29 |
| Manitoba | 9 | 22 | 10 | 23 |
| Saskatchewan | 9 | 22 | 10 | 23 |
| Alberta | 11 | 25 | 12 | 27 |
| British Columbia | 15 | 32 | 17 | 35 |
| CANADA | 11 | 24 | 12 | 25 |

Yearly Wages, 1936 and 1937

| | <u>Male</u> | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 7 | 1 9 3 7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 190 | 351 | 206 | 374 |
| Nova Scotia | 245 | 415 | 262 | 435 |
| New Brunswick | 257 | 398 | 295 | 442 |
| Quebec | 196 | 332 | 226 | 376 |
| Ontario | 211 | 388 | 235 | 421 |
| Manitoba | 178 | 336 | 202 | 367 |
| Saskatchewan | 188 | 346 | 184 | 344 |
| Alberta | 206 | 378 | 221 | 401 |
| British Columbia | 265 | 494 | 279 | 513 |
| CANADA | 206 | 374 | 224 | 400 |

| | <u>Female</u> | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 6 | 1 9 3 7 | 1 9 3 7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 126 | 262 | 125 | 252 |
| Nova Scotia | 136 | 260 | 145 | 272 |
| New Brunswick | 117 | 218 | 133 | 248 |
| Quebec | 106 | 206 | 121 | 232 |
| Ontario | 147 | 295 | 158 | 312 |
| Manitoba | 103 | 235 | 113 | 249 |
| Saskatchewan | 105 | 238 | 106 | 233 |
| Alberta | 125 | 271 | 131 | 282 |
| British Columbia | 166 | 358 | 170 | 363 |
| CANADA | 126 | 261 | 134 | 272 |

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VALUE OF FARM LIVE STOCK AND WOOL

For Canada, the average farm values per head of live stock in 1937 are estimated as follows, with the 1936 values in brackets: Horses \$72 (\$72); milch cows \$40 (\$37); other cattle \$25 (\$23); total cattle \$32 (\$29); sheep \$5.61 (\$5.42); swine \$12.31 (\$10.98).

The total numbers and values of farm live stock in Canada at June 1, 1937 are estimated as follows, with the 1936 figures in brackets: Horses 2,882,990, \$206,957,000 (2,891,540, \$208,170,000); milch cows 3,940,400, \$156,467,000, (3,885,300, \$143,316,000); other cattle 4,900,100, \$123,731,000 (4,955,300, \$112,247,000); total cattle 8,840,500, \$280,198,000 (8,840,600, \$255,563,000); sheep 3,339,900, \$18,741,000 (3,327,100, \$18,077,000); swine 3,963,300, \$48,802,000 (4,145,000, \$45,488,000).

The total value of all these descriptions of farm live stock in 1937 amounted to \$554,698,000, an increase of \$27,400,000 or 5 per cent, as compared with \$527,298,000 in 1936. By provinces, the total values are as follows, with the 1936 figures within brackets: Prince Edward Island \$6,347,000 (\$5,939,000); Nova Scotia \$13,797,000 (\$11,774,000); New Brunswick \$14,128,000 (\$13,158,000); Quebec \$107,872,000 (\$93,612,000); Ontario \$179,351,000 (\$174,820,000); Manitoba \$48,075,000 (\$41,224,000); Saskatchewan \$86,299,000 (\$91,615,000); Alberta \$80,064,000 (\$77,598,000); British Columbia \$18,765,000 (\$17,558,000).

The average value per pound of unwashed wool in 1937 is estimated at 16 cents as compared with 14 cents in 1936. The total value of the wool production in 1937, which is estimated at 19,032,000 pounds, amounts to \$2,992,000, as compared with \$2,783,000, the value of 19,195,000 pounds of wool produced in 1936.

NUMBERS AND VALUES OF FARM POULTRY

For Canada, the average values of farm poultry in 1937 are estimated, in cents, as follows, with the 1936 averages in brackets: Hens and chickens 69 (63); turkeys 190 (177); geese 144 (136); ducks 85 (80). The total numbers and values for 1937 are as follows, with the 1936 figures in brackets: Hens and chickens 53,982,900, \$37,335,000 (55,769,300, \$35,040,000); turkeys 1,997,900, \$3,804,000 (2,044,700, \$3,623,000); geese 874,900, \$1,259,000 (854,900, \$1,165,000); ducks 654,400, \$556,000 (670,500, \$538,000); total poultry 57,510,100, \$42,954,000 (59,339,400, \$40,366,000).

By provinces, the total values of all farm poultry are estimated as follows, with the 1936 figures in brackets: Prince Edward Island \$664,000 (\$646,000); Nova Scotia \$945,000 (\$990,000); New Brunswick \$1,172,000 (\$1,122,000); Quebec \$6,917,000 (\$5,376,000); Ontario \$18,934,000 (\$18,078,000); Manitoba \$3,064,000 (\$2,981,000); Saskatchewan \$4,544,000 (\$5,030,000); Alberta \$3,645,000 (\$3,375,000); British Columbia \$3,089,000 (\$2,768,000).

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