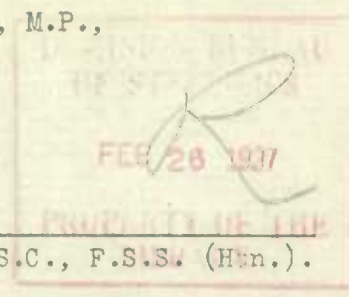


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AGRICULTURAL BRANCH



|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
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Ottawa, February 25, 1937.-On December 1, 1936, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, in co-operation with the Provincial Governments, conducted the semi-annual survey of live stock and poultry in Canada. The information was obtained from card schedules distributed to farmers. This second release contains a summary of the cattle situation in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia.

THE CATTLE SITUATION  
in the  
PRAIRIE PROVINCES AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

Summary

The number of cattle on farms in the four western provinces at December 1, 1936, was estimated at 3,703,900 head, a decrease of 167,900 head from the estimate of December 1, 1935. This reduction of 4.3 per cent is a continuation of the downward trend in cattle numbers which reached a peak in 1934. Practically all of the decrease occurred in numbers of "cattle other than milk cows" which showed a reduction of 7.0 per cent. Recent reports indicate an even greater reduction in numbers due to winter losses, particularly in the Province of Alberta.

A slight decrease, which amounted to less than one per cent, was reported in the number of cows expected to calve during the period December 1936 to May 1937, as compared with the similar period a year ago. Intentions to market and slaughter cattle in the four western provinces from December 1936 to May 1937 were reported as 21.6 per cent less than the intentions for the same period of 1935-36.

The number of cows being milked in the sample reported at December 1 was 5.6 per cent greater than at the same date in 1935. Milk production per cow was reduced from 12.9 pounds per day on December 1, 1935 to 12.4 pounds per day on December 1, 1936.

The Prairie Provinces benefitted considerably from a fairly open fall which assisted in the conservation of short feed supplies. The shortage, however, was making itself apparent when the returns were submitted on December 1 as indicated by figures of production and prospects of production. Severe weather since the early part of the New Year has had serious effects on the condition of live stock in some areas. It should be kept in mind that changes in conditions since December 1, 1936 are not reflected in the figures contained in this release.

CATTLE ON FARMS - DECEMBER 1

|                           | 1935      |              |              |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
|                           | Milk Cows | Other Cattle | Total Cattle |
| Manitoba                  | 339,500   | 373,400      | 712,900      |
| Saskatchewan              | 576,800   | 745,200      | 1,322,000    |
| Alberta                   | 446,200   | 1,060,500    | 1,506,700    |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 1,362,500 | 2,179,100    | 3,541,600    |
| British Columbia          | 130,400   | 199,900      | 330,300      |
| Total - Western Provinces | 1,492,900 | 2,379,000    | 3,871,900    |
|                           | 1936      |              |              |
| Manitoba                  | 346,600   | 363,400      | 710,000      |
| Saskatchewan              | 576,700   | 709,500      | 1,286,200    |
| Alberta                   | 437,100   | 927,800      | 1,364,900    |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 1,360,400 | 2,000,700    | 3,361,100    |
| British Columbia          | 130,600   | 212,200      | 342,800      |
| Total - Western Provinces | 1,491,000 | 2,212,900    | 3,703,900    |

The following table shows the results of the survey conducted in the year 1900. The data is presented in a tabular form, with columns for the different categories and rows for the specific items. The figures are given in pounds sterling.

The total amount of the survey is £100,000. The results are as follows:

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

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### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

| Category     | Item   | Value   | Total   |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|
| Agriculture  | Wheat  | 100,000 | 100,000 |
|              | Barley | 50,000  | 150,000 |
|              | Oats   | 20,000  | 170,000 |
|              | Hay    | 10,000  | 180,000 |
| Manufactures | Wool   | 100,000 | 100,000 |
|              | Woolen | 50,000  | 150,000 |
|              | Cotton | 20,000  | 170,000 |
|              | Woolen | 10,000  | 180,000 |
| Total        | Wheat  | 100,000 | 100,000 |
|              | Barley | 50,000  | 150,000 |
|              | Oats   | 20,000  | 170,000 |
|              | Hay    | 10,000  | 180,000 |



Percentage Increase (/) or Decrease (-) - 1936  
Compared with 1935

|                           | Milk Cows | Other Cattle | Total Cattle |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| Manitoba                  | /2.1      | - 2.7        | -0.4         |
| Saskatchewan              | 0.0       | - 4.8        | -2.7         |
| Alberta                   | -2.0      | -12.5        | -9.4         |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | -0.2      | - 8.2        | -5.1         |
| British Columbia          | /0.1      | / 6.2        | /3.8         |
| Total - Western Provinces | -0.1      | - 7.0        | -4.3         |

The greatest reduction in numbers of cattle on farms occurred in the Province of Alberta. Total cattle in that province last December numbered 9.4 per cent less than a year ago, with cattle other than milk cows indicating a sharp decline of 12.5 per cent. Only a slight reduction was reported in the Province of Manitoba, but a somewhat greater reduction of 2.7 per cent in Saskatchewan. In British Columbia total cattle numbers were 3.8 per cent higher than a year ago.

NUMBERS OF ALL CATTLE ON FARMS  
IN THE FOUR WESTERN PROVINCES  
(Thousands)

|      | June 1 | December 1 |
|------|--------|------------|
| 1931 | 3,216  | 3,147      |
| 1932 | 3,543  | 3,404      |
| 1933 | 4,004  | 3,808      |
| 1934 | 4,164  | 3,918      |
| 1935 | 4,163  | 3,872      |
| 1936 | 4,144  | 3,704      |

At December 1, 1936, cattle numbers were in these provinces, 212 thousand head less than at the corresponding date in 1934.

NUMBER OF COWS EXPECTED TO CALVE - DECEMBER TO MAY

|                           | 1935      | 1936      | Percentage Increase (/) or Decrease (-) |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|---|
| Manitoba                  | 213,900   | 229,700   | /7.4                                    |
| Saskatchewan              | 467,000   | 470,400   | /0.7                                    |
| Alberta                   | 541,500   | 515,300   | -4.8                                    |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 1,222,400 | 1,215,400 | -0.6                                    |
| British Columbia          | 92,700    | 91,300    | -1.5                                    |
| Total - Western Provinces | 1,315,100 | 1,306,700 | -0.6                                    |

A reduction of 4.8 per cent in the number of cows expected to calve was reported for the Province of Alberta. The Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan indicated increases of 7.4 per cent and 0.7 per cent in the number of cows expected to calve from December 1936 to May 1937.

CATTLE INTENDED FOR MARKET OR FARM SLAUGHTER  
DECEMBER TO MAY

|                           | 1935    | 1936    | Percentage Increase (/) or Decrease (-) |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|---|
| Manitoba                  | 87,800  | 62,900  | -28.3                                   |
| Saskatchewan              | 194,600 | 160,500 | -17.5                                   |
| Alberta                   | 275,900 | 208,600 | -24.4                                   |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 558,200 | 432,000 | -22.6                                   |
| British Columbia          | 34,900  | 33,300  | - 4.6                                   |
| Total - Western Provinces | 593,100 | 465,300 | -21.6                                   |

According to the December returns the greatest reduction in marketings will take place in the Province of Manitoba, with a decrease of 28.3 per cent.

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The marketings in the Prairie Provinces on the basis of the December 1 estimates will be 22.6 per cent less from December 1936 to May 1937 than for the same period a year ago.

NUMBER OF COWS MILKED AT DECEMBER 1

|                           | <u>1935</u> | <u>1936</u> | <u>Percentage Increase</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Manitoba                  | 183,800     | 185,800     | 1.1                        |
| Saskatchewan              | 352,000     | 377,900     | 7.4                        |
| Alberta                   | 270,200     | 289,800     | 7.3                        |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 806,000     | 853,500     | 5.9                        |
| British Columbia          | 87,000      | 89,300      | 2.6                        |
| Total - Western Provinces | 893,000     | 942,800     | 5.6                        |

The number of cows being milked, as reported at December 1, 1936, was 5.9 per cent higher in the Prairie Provinces. All the western provinces showed increases over December 1, 1935.

PRODUCTION PER COW PER DAY

December 1

|                           | <u>1935</u><br><u>Pounds</u> | <u>1936</u><br><u>Pounds</u> |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Manitoba                  | 10.9                         | 10.8                         |
| Saskatchewan              | 11.6                         | 10.9                         |
| Alberta                   | 14.2                         | 13.6                         |
| Total - Prairie Provinces | 12.3                         | 11.8                         |
| British Columbia          | 17.8                         | 18.0                         |
| Total - Western Provinces | 12.9                         | 12.4                         |

Production per cow per day was 0.5 pounds less in the Prairie Provinces at December 1, 1936 as compared with December 1, 1935. The greatest reduction was evident in the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta where the feed grain supply was lowest.

FEED CONDITIONS

Feed grain production in the Prairie Provinces in 1936 was considerably below normal. Barley production was 10.4 million bushels below the average production of 1930 to 1934, and oat production was 70.7 million bushels less than the average for the same five years. Hay and clover production in the Prairie Provinces was estimated at approximately 1.30 million tons in 1936 compared with an average production of 1.41 million tons from 1930 to 1934.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE FEED PRICES

1926 = 100

|           | <u>1935</u> | <u>1936</u> | <u>1937</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| January   | 85.5        | 62.8        | 108.5(1)    |
| February  | 82.1        | 61.5        |             |
| March     | 80.3        | 62.6        |             |
| April     | 83.1        | 62.3        |             |
| May       | 81.1        | 61.1        |             |
| June      | 76.6        | 62.2        |             |
| July      | 73.2        | 77.2        |             |
| August    | 68.9        | 90.5        |             |
| September | 65.4        | 90.9        |             |
| October   | 64.4        | 90.7        |             |
| November  | 63.8        | 92.3        |             |
| December  | 63.4        | 101.8       |             |

(1) Subject to revision.

Feed prices have risen sharply since July 1936, and in January 1937 were at their highest point since 1929.

The following is the list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of the President of the United States, and the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of the Vice President of the United States, for the year 1860.

### THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

| NAME              | AGE | RESIDENCE           | EDUCATION     | PROFESSION | PARTY      |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Abraham Lincoln   | 51  | Springfield, Ill.   | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Francis Pickens   | 54  | Columbia, S.C.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| John Fremont      | 45  | San Francisco, Cal. | Common School | General    | Republican |
| Jefferson Davis   | 41  | Fayette, Miss.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| James Buchanan    | 65  | Lancaster, Pa.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| Winfield Scott    | 63  | Windsor, Vt.        | Common School | General    | Democratic |
| Samuel P. Chase   | 59  | Cincinnati, O.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Montgomery Blair  | 47  | Baltimore, Md.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Charles Sumner    | 47  | Boston, Mass.       | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| William H. Seward | 50  | Albany, N.Y.        | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |

The following is the list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of the Vice President of the United States, for the year 1860.

### THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

| NAME              | AGE | RESIDENCE           | EDUCATION     | PROFESSION | PARTY      |
|-------------------|-----|---------------------|---------------|------------|------------|
| Andrew Johnson    | 55  | Greeneville, Tenn.  | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Edwin M. Stanton  | 45  | Washington, D.C.    | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Montgomery Blair  | 47  | Baltimore, Md.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Charles Sumner    | 47  | Boston, Mass.       | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| William H. Seward | 50  | Albany, N.Y.        | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Samuel P. Chase   | 59  | Cincinnati, O.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Jefferson Davis   | 41  | Fayette, Miss.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| John Fremont      | 45  | San Francisco, Cal. | Common School | General    | Republican |
| Francis Pickens   | 54  | Columbia, S.C.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| Abraham Lincoln   | 51  | Springfield, Ill.   | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |

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| Jefferson Davis   | 41  | Fayette, Miss.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| James Buchanan    | 65  | Lancaster, Pa.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Democratic |
| Winfield Scott    | 63  | Windsor, Vt.        | Common School | General    | Democratic |
| Samuel P. Chase   | 59  | Cincinnati, O.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Montgomery Blair  | 47  | Baltimore, Md.      | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| Charles Sumner    | 47  | Boston, Mass.       | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |
| William H. Seward | 50  | Albany, N.Y.        | Common School | Lawyer     | Republican |

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PRICES

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF CATTLE AT WINNIPEG  
Dollars per Cwt.

|           | <u>1935</u> | <u>1936</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| January   | 3.09        | 3.45        |
| February  | 3.46        | 3.35        |
| March     | 3.94        | 3.58        |
| April     | 4.46        | 3.69        |
| May       | 4.43        | 3.67        |
| June      | 3.92        | 3.56        |
| July      | 3.01        | 2.93        |
| August    | 2.54        | 2.52        |
| September | 2.70        | 2.54        |
| October   | 2.45        | 2.35        |
| November  | 2.75        | 2.61        |
| December  | 2.99        | 2.92        |

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF CALVES AT WINNIPEG  
Dollars per Cwt.

|           | <u>1935</u> | <u>1936</u> |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| January   | 4.93        | 5.89        |
| February  | 4.40        | 5.93        |
| March     | 4.20        | 4.94        |
| April     | 4.47        | 4.75        |
| May       | 3.94        | 4.60        |
| June      | 3.87        | 4.43        |
| July      | 3.71        | 4.04        |
| August    | 4.57        | 3.71        |
| September | 4.03        | 3.65        |
| October   | 3.98        | 3.74        |
| November  | 4.19        | 4.02        |
| December  | 5.39        | 4.51        |

From December 1935 to December 1936, the weighted average price of cattle at Winnipeg declined from \$2.99 per cwt. to \$2.92 per cwt. With the exception of January, prices were lower in 1936 than for corresponding months of the previous year. The monthly weighted average prices of calves at Winnipeg were considerably lower in December 1936 than in December 1935. Prices from January to July of 1936 had been consistently above those of the previous year, but the liquidation of stock as a result of feed shortages and rising feed prices, was an important factor in the drop below last year's levels from August to December. Since the index of general wholesale prices rose 10 per cent during 1936, the purchasing power of cattle declined after it had shown a gain from 1934 to 1935. In view of lower supplies in the future, considerable recovery is expected in the price and purchasing power of cattle.

This report was prepared by J. B. Rutherford.

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