FACTS AND FIGURES ON 1914 LIVE STOCK TRADE

In Common With Other Markets St. Joseph Yards Show Loss In Cattle and Hog Receipts

SHEEP ARRIVALS EXCEED 1913 TOTAL

Ovine Receipts Here Second Largest In History of Market—Prices for Cattle Make High Average—Aggregate Valuation Falls Lower Than 1913

From The Stock Yards Daily Journal.

The year 1914 did not see any records broken in live stock receipts at the St. Joseph stock yards. It was a lean year at all markets because conditions were not especially favorable for the production of cattle, hogs and sheep on the usual scale. Cattle and hogs receipts fell off sharply, the 5 leading markets showing a shortage of over ¾ million head of cattle and over a million and 700 thousand less hogs compared with 1913. St. Joseph shared in this decrease, total number of cattle and hogs received here falling under the 1913 figures. In sheep, receipts at Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis record marked shortages while St. Joseph alone shows an increase, altho a rather small one.

Semi-official receipts of livestock for 1914 and comparison with 1913 are as follows:

	1914	1913	Gain	Loss
Cattle	885,623	910,136		24,513
Hogs	1,785,845	1,889,008		103,163
Sheep	828,795	811,039	16,756	
Horses	25,471	32,418		6,947

This shows a decrease of 24,513 cattle, 103,163 hogs, a gain of 16,756 sheep and a loss of 6,947 horses and mules. Cattle receipts were the lightest in 15 years, or since 1899. Hog receipts proved the lightest since 1910, while the total arrivals of sheep were largest since 1909, standing as the second largest run ever recorded here in one year.

Naturally and with such a decrease in receipts of the 3 leading classes of live stock handled, cattle and hogs, the valuation of the stock marketed here during the year showed a considerable shrinkage, compared with 1913 figures, despite the fact that values for the various classes of meat animals maintained a high average for the year.

Value of Stock Less.

Estimated valuation of the various classes of stock for 1914 and 1913 is as follows:

	1914	1913	Decrease
Cattle	$21,937,860	$24,307,844	$2,369,984
Hogs	79,239,366	88,642,166	4,402,797
Sheep	4,554,278	4,579,878	25,597
Horses	2,796,810	4,962,100	2,165,290
Total	$108,631,427	$122,107,988	$13,476,561

Local Receipts by Months.

The following table gives receipts of cattle, hogs, sheep and horses for the various months of 1914:

Mo.	Cattle	Hogs	Sheep	H M
Jan.	21,585	110,197	27,146	4,875
Feb.	27,815	149,808	72,168	3,816
Mar.	28,101	121,262	98,920	2,874
Apr.	19,619	102,017	101,855	2,246
May	19,188	159,727	81,719	7,486
June	20,669	186,259	45,180	1,942
July	20,921	110,414	31,928	159
Aug.	25,828	84,516	69,865	620
Sept.	34,787	93,976	108,010	2,218
Oct.	42,767	156,073	69,200	2,273
Nov.	44,786	218,695	46,959	1,855
Dec.	40,954	217,063	58,567	1,748
Total	385,623	1,725,245	828,795	25,421

The following table gives receipts of cattle, hogs, sheep and horses for the various months of 1913:

Mo.	Cattle	Hogs	Sheep	H M
Jan.	41,665	183,760	48,850	4,185
Feb.	36,944	147,001	93,940	2,941
Mar.	36,200	116,439	88,101	3,404
Apr.	33,624	124,183	81,488	2,858
May	38,488	148,818	70,039	2,043
June	37,467	179,064	40,399	1,843
July	38,978	143,185	45,812	1,154
Aug.	41,459	148,768	54,588	1,858
Sept.	46,853	118,102	66,131	2,782
Oct.	54,438	139,616	95,518	4,139
Nov.	33,623	199,830	62,884	2,849
Dec.	36,017	231,757	53,064	2,885
Total	450,136	1,889,009	812,039	32,418

The following tables give receipts and valuation of live stock marketed here for the various years since the local yards were established:

Cattle Receipts and Valuations.

Years	No. of Head	Valuation
1898	282,078	$ 8,122,586
1899	294,060	9,223,250
1900	290,881	13,612,885
1901	485,293	15,285,848
1902	517,204	18,427,330
1903	614,974	21,874,267
1904	587,261	20,576,320
1905	521,210	17,494,016
1906	606,187	21,216,548
1907	618,393	20,885,686
1908	654,224	17,259,000
1909	593,376	19,806,000
1910	564,553	22,500,000
1911	513,290	18,861,780
1912	404,432	27,2[illegible],010
1913	485,189	24,307,844
1914	385,623	21,937,860

Hog Receipts and Valuation.

Years	No. of Head	Valuation
1898	1,034,128	$ 18,405,420
1899	1,401,794	18,821,828
1900	1,078,520	20,142,552
1901	2,105,209	25,262,508
1902	1,687,731	20,253,504
1903	2,000,604	20,406,208
1904	1,656,948	17,871,664
1905	1,900,483	22,140,044
1906	1,908,207	26,233,256
1907	1,918,217	16,172,564
1908	2,849,047	17,184,[illegible]
1909	1,583,851	16,192,[illegible]
1910	1,351,134	16,[illegible]
1911	2,921,58[illegible]	[illegible]
1912	1,969,942	[illegible]
1913	1,889,008	18,[illegible]
1914	1,725,845	79,[illegible]

Sheep Receipts and Valuations.

Years	No. of Head	Valuation
1898	131,797	$ 601,[illegible]
1899	268,853	1,233,[illegible]
1900	899,308	4,357,[illegible]
1901	1,145,932	5,829,[illegible]
1902	1,015,[illegible]	[illegible]
1903	999,193	[illegible]
1904	1,[illegible]	5,771,924
1905	1,[illegible]	[illegible]
1906	1,[illegible]	[illegible]
1907	1,[illegible]714	6,118,470
1908	1,[illegible]	[illegible]
1909	1,[illegible]	3,[illegible]
1910	2,[illegible]	3,[illegible]
1911	1,[illegible]	3,417,[illegible]
1912	2,[illegible]	8,218,020
1913	1,[illegible]	3,[illegible]
1914	1,[illegible]	4,[illegible]

Horse and Mule Receipts and Valuations.

Years	No. of Head	Valuation
1898	16,587	$ 1,016,700
1899	9,296	753,160
1900	12,457	1,343,790
1901	17,551	2,252,160
1902	[illegible]	1,899,[illegible]
1903	[illegible]	2,078,[illegible]
1904	[illegible]	2,665,[illegible]
1905	[illegible]	3,156,[illegible]
1906	[illegible]	[illegible]
1907	[illegible]	[illegible]
1908	[illegible]	[illegible]
1909	[illegible]	[illegible]
1910	[illegible]	[illegible]
1911	[illegible]	[illegible]
1912	[illegible]	[illegible]
1913	32,418	4,962,[illegible]
1914	25,471	2,796,[illegible]

Figures and statistics are tiresome enough at best for comparative purposes. The most interesting fact compared with the 1914 live stock figures is that showing the general shortage of meat in the country. The supply of cattle in the country has been steadily decreasing for several years. Total marketing of cattle at the 5 leading western markets in 1914 was the lightest in 15 years. The country is experiencing an acute shortage of beef and the most important question which faces it at the beginning of 1915 is this: Has the low period of production been reached and are we now entering a new era of increased growing of beef? Have the relatively high prices prevailing during the past 3 years instilled in the minds of farmers and stockmen a desire to grow and mature a larger number of cattle for the market? Only the months of time can answer these leading questions.

Drouth Cuts Cattle Run.

A number of causes contributed to reducing the number of cattle marketed in 1914. Perhaps the most important factor was the widespread drouth in the summer months of 1913 which caused premature marketing of thousands of cattle and the sacrificing of many breeding animals. The drouth also shortened the corn and hay crops, creating high prices for these commodities, resulting in smaller numbers of cattle being fed in the surrounding country. Another factor which has been militating against the growing of cattle for a number of years is the steady cutting up of range lands into farms, thereby causing curtailment in the extent of cattle raised and grazed on the former large, unrestricted grazing areas of the west and southwest. Another thing that has hindered the cattle business is a matter of dollars and cents. In this period of high prices it requires a far greater sum of money to finance cattle breeding and feeding operations than it did a few years back. Credit has not been easy to secure and until such time as there are more adequate means for furnishing money at reasonable rates of interest to cattle handlers it is perhaps illogical to expect any marked expansion in the production of beef. The belief is general that any increase in the raising of this class of stock for beef on the hoof ruling sufficiently high to encourage the small farmer and stockman of the corn-belt country to breed, mature and fatten comparatively small herds of cattle.

Stock From Many States.

The St. Joseph market draws live stock from nearly every state west of the Mississippi, the largest quota, of course, coming from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. Besides these cattle were received here in the past year from Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas and Wyoming. Illinois, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, Washington and Kentucky were among the states sending sheep to this market. The 3 states west of the Mississippi that did not contribute stock to the local market in 1914 were California and Louisiana and while California did not ship anything here a shipment of stock hogs was made from the yards to that state late in November.

In receipts by states it is interesting to note that the 3 states worst affected by the drouth of 1913, Kansas and Nebraska, showed the principal decreases in cattle marketed in the past year. Kansas shipped around 47,000 fewer cattle to St. Joseph than in 1913 and the figures show a similar falling off in receipts from Nebraska. Missouri shipped in about 7,000 head less than 1913. Increases were noted in cattle receipts from Colorado and Texas.

Nebraska Ships Fewer Hogs.

Nebraska led all other states in the union in hog marketings here, receipts from that commonwealth falling slightly [illegible] hogs short of 1913. Kansas stacked up next, [illegible] Missouri [illegible] about [illegible] pigs. Missouri [illegible] next [illegible] Texas [illegible] Iowa [illegible] Illinois [illegible] Oklahoma [illegible] Nebraska [illegible] Kansas [illegible] Texas [illegible] Oklahoma [illegible] Illinois [illegible] Iowa [illegible] Missouri [illegible] Kansas [illegible] Nebraska