

6-1933

# Present Location, Trends, and Future of the Poultry Industry in Maine

Maine Development Commission

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## Recommended Citation

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D 60.10: Pr 928

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Bulletin No.

June 1933

PRESENT LOCATION, TRENDS, AND FUTURE  
OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY  
IN MAINE

Prepared by

Neal H. Landers, Research Fellow



Typical Scene in Poultry Area

THE MAINE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Cooperating with

Department of Agricultural Economics and

Farm Management, University of Maine

173582

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PRESENT LOCATION, TRENDS, AND FUTURE OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY  
IN MAINE

INTRODUCTION

The poultry industry is an important agricultural enterprise in Maine. This enterprise is found almost universally on farms throughout the State. In some cases it is on a commercial basis and furnishes the main source of income of the farmer. In other cases, it is a farm-flock proposition, simply furnishing poultry products for the farm and possibly a small income in addition.

The value of chickens in Maine on April 1, 1930, occupied third place among livestock enterprises. The value of this class of livestock amounted to \$1,747,779 and exceeded the value of sheep and lambs by nearly \$1,000,000 (Table 1). Although the value of cattle exceeded that for chickens by approximately 9 times, the value of dairy products sold was only twice that of poultry sold. The value of poultry products sold in 1929 amounted to \$6,923,724 which was 68 per cent of the amount of poultry products produced that year.

TABLE 1  
 VALUE OF LIVESTOCK ON MAINE FARMS APRIL 1, 1930 AND IM-  
 PORTANT LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS SOLD DURING THE YEAR 1929<sup>1</sup>

Kind	Value
Value of livestock	
Cattle	\$15,287,798
Horses and colts	7,444,870
Chickens	1,747,779
Sheep and lambs	752,986
Swine	694,209
Mules and colts	57,462
Bees	42,383
Asses and burrows	3,350
Goats and kids	2,945
Livestock products sold	
Dairy products sold	12,527,189
Poultry products produced	10,240,560
Poultry products sold	6,923,724

The objects of this study are to show the present location, trends which have taken place, and probable future of the poultry industry in Maine. To the author's knowledge, no investigation has endeavored to determine these facts. No extensive study has been made since 1925 when M. D. Jones and O. M. Wilbur prepared the bulletin entitled "Increasing Poultry Profits"<sup>2</sup>. This bulletin was an analysis of the "Factors Influencing Profits as Shown by Records Kept on Maine Farms". Since that time short studies have been made by H. L. Richardson and D. W. Reed and letters have been sent to the Maine poultrymen stating advantages for poultry raising in Maine.

<sup>1</sup>U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of Census. Fifteenth Census of the U. S. 1930. Agriculture Vol. 2, Part 1, p. 134, Table 10.

<sup>2</sup>Jones, M. D. and Wilbur, O. M. Increasing Poultry Profits. Maine Extension Service Bulletin 154. 1925.

The information for this study was obtained from several sources: Annual Reports of the Board of State Assessors, Annual Report and unpublished data of the Bureau of Taxation, 247 questionnaires returned from Maine poultrymen, 1012 Poultry Account Summaries made available by the University of Maine Extension Service, United States Agricultural Census Reports, and Miscellaneous Bulletins.



Figure 1. Maine Poultry on Summer Range

## PRESENT LOCATION OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY IN MAINE

In making a study of the present location (1932) of the poultry industry in Maine, emphasis is placed upon the commercial areas where poultry is kept as the main source of income. With the data available it was felt that the relation, expressed in percentage, of taxable to total poultry in the State would best show the location of commercial areas in Maine, where all poultry not exceeding 50 per flock is exempt from taxation. If a town had no commercial flocks, the majority of the poultry would be reported as exempt. The reverse would be true if there was a large number of commercial flocks. This method does not show the size of the flocks, but does indicate areas of commercial importance. The relationship as computed by towns is shown in Figure 2 and Appendix I<sup>3</sup>.

The concentrated commercial poultry area is located in the southwestern portion of the State, or more specifically, west of the Penobscot River and south of Bangor. Within this district there are very few towns which have less than 25 per cent of their poultry taxed, while the majority of the towns have from 20 to 49 per cent of the poultry taxable. Also included in this region are practically all the towns having over 50 per cent taxable poultry. There are three general areas where commercial flocks are located; the smallest includes Winterport, Frankfort, and a few surrounding towns mostly in Waldo County, the next larger includes Waldoboro, a number of towns in the general vicinity of Penobscot Bay, and sections inland in Knox and Lincoln Counties, and the largest located in the vicinity of Portland includes the majority of the towns in York and Cumberland Counties.

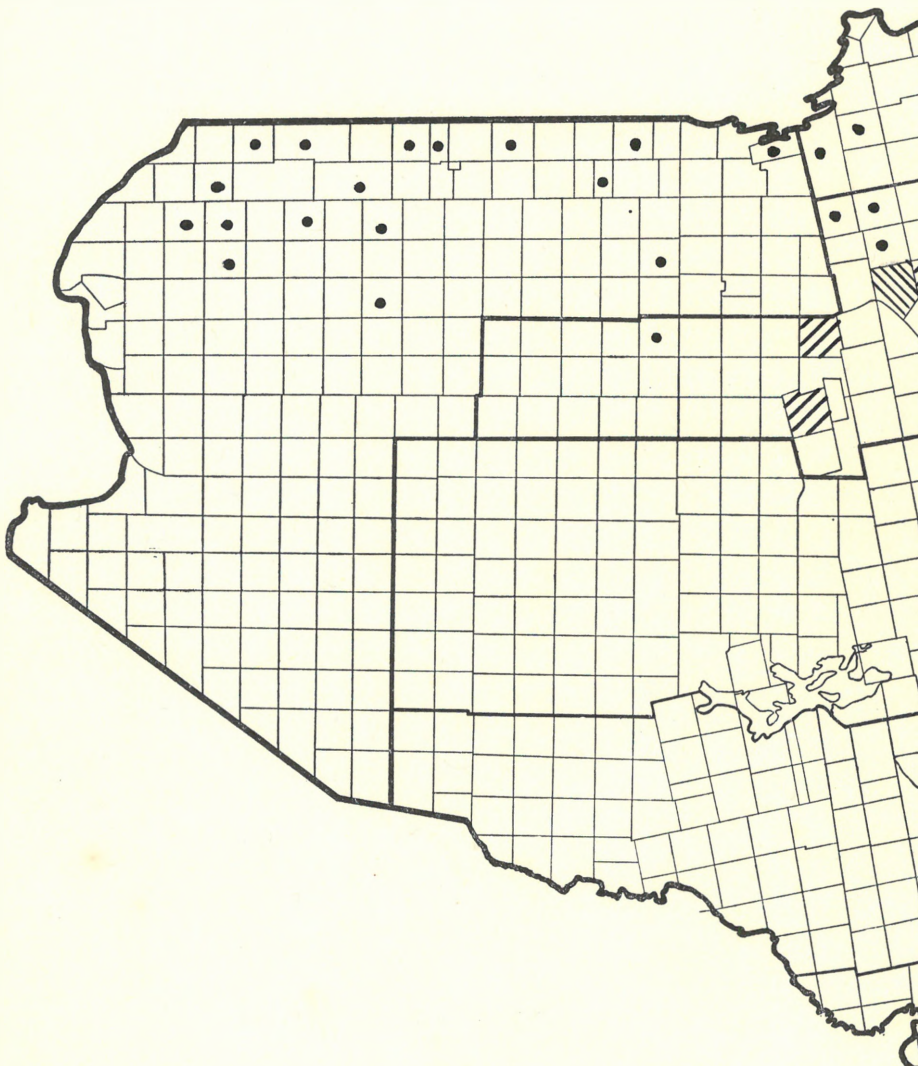
<sup>3</sup>Computed from the Annual Report of the Bureau of Taxation 1932.

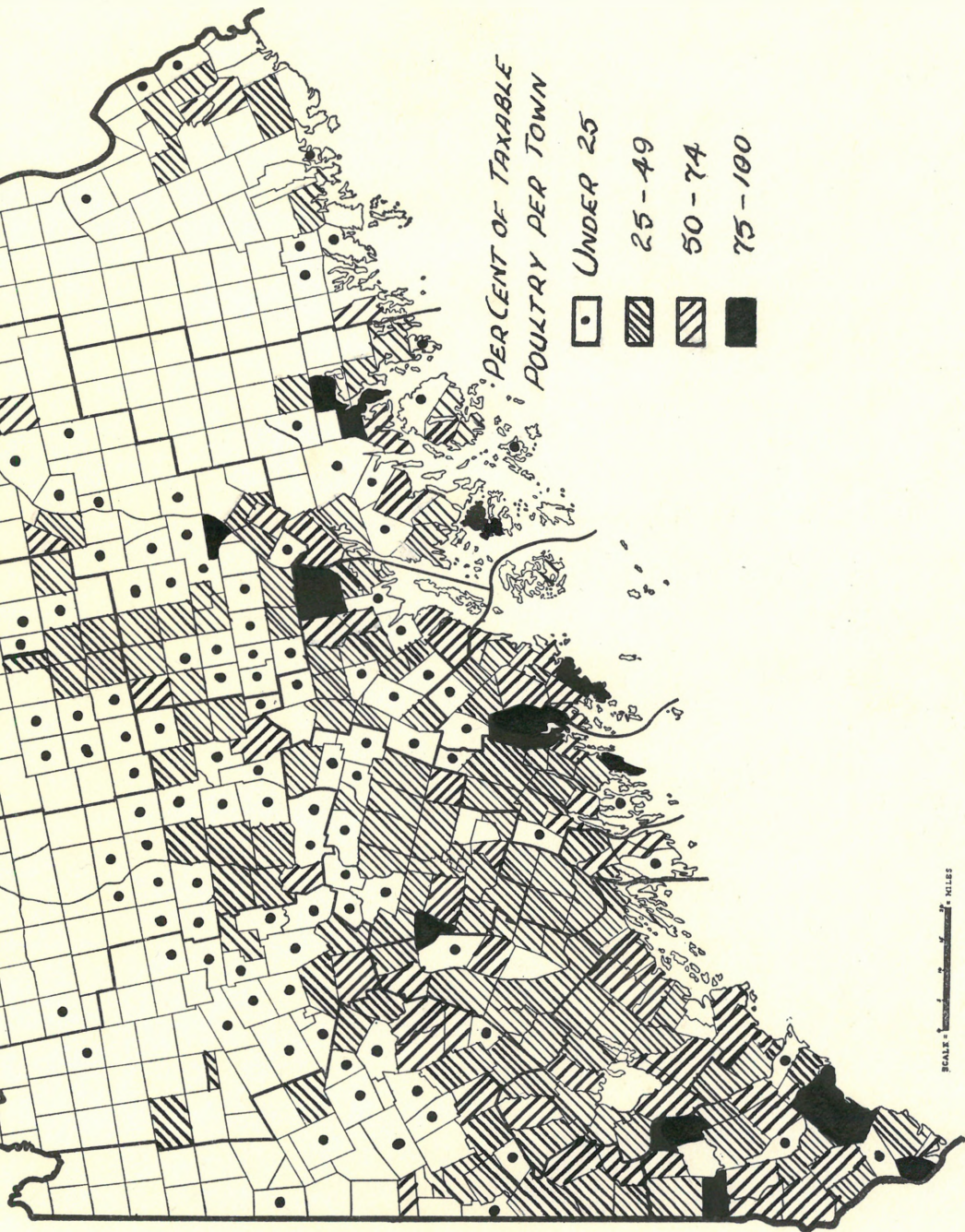
## FIGURE 2

PRESENT LOCATION OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY IN MAINE

1932







This southwestern region, although including the concentrated commercial area, does not include all the poultry producing sections of the State, as can be observed by studying Figure 2. The remaining sections are smaller and more scattered. The more important of these are located in Hancock County, in close proximity to Bar Harbor. In this locality there are townships in which over 50 per cent of the poultry is taxable. Two other districts are quite important, although the towns in no case have over 74 per cent of their poultry taxable. These are located north of the concentrated commercial poultry area; one near Norridgewock and the other near Dover-Foxcroft. Another small territory is located in the eastern part of Washington County in the towns of Denmsyville and Pembroke.



Figure 3. Battery Brooder House on Maine Poultry Farm

## TRENDS OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY IN MAINE

While it is important to know the present location of the poultry industry in Maine, it is also desirable to determine the trends which have taken place. This section will be devoted to trends for the State, for counties where poultry is important, and for commercial poultry farms.

### Trends of the Poultry Industry for the State

The trend of poultry in Maine was distinctly upward from 1898 to 1913 (Table 2 and Figure 4). At the end of the next five-year period, 1918, a marked decline in number of poultry had taken place. The local tax assessors were more lax in obtaining accurate reports from poultrymen and farmers during the World War. During the next five-year period, 1918-1923, the number of poultry in Maine increased nearly 750,000 birds. Since 1923, there has been an irregular but distinct downward trend of poultry in the State. The reported number in 1932 was 1,267,835 as compared with 1,583,079 in 1898; 2,003,969 in 1913; and 1,595,548 in 1928.

TABLE 2  
 NUMBER OF POULTRY IN MAINE<sup>4</sup>  
 1898 - 1932

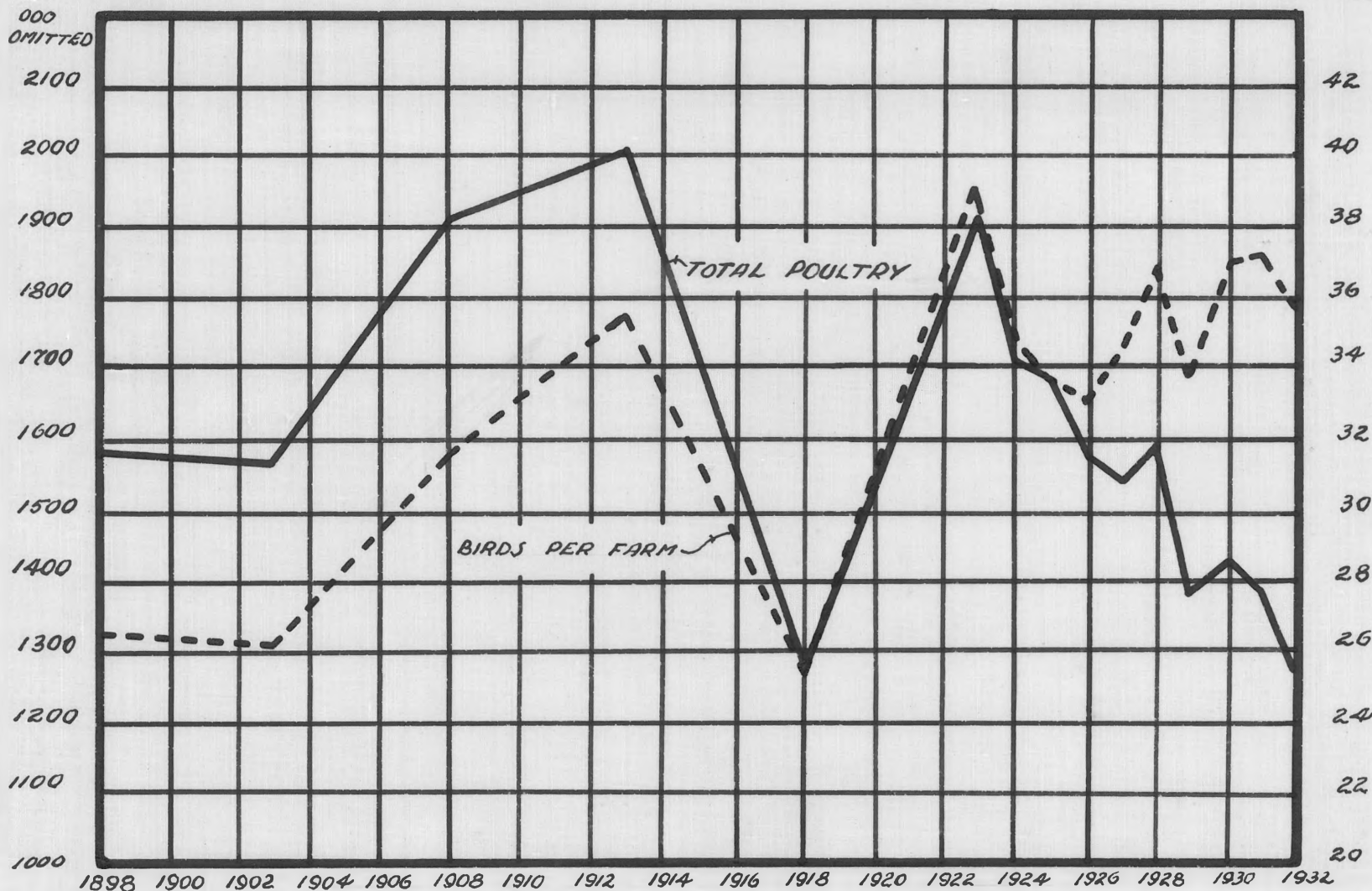
Year	State	Per farm
1898	1,583,079	26.5
1903	1,562,074	26.2
1908	1,906,656	31.8
1913	2,003,969	35.7
1918	1,277,509	25.4
1923	1,923,122	39.0
1924	1,729,118	34.8
1925*	1,687,661	33.8
1926	1,578,085	33.2
1927*	1,558,372	34.4
1928	1,595,548	37.0
1929*	1,385,650	33.8
1930	1,446,648	37.1
1931*	1,391,122	37.5
1932	1,267,835	35.9

<sup>4</sup>Annual Reports of the Board of State Assessors, 1898-1930 and Unpublished Data and Annual Report of the Bureau of Taxation, 1932.

\*Unpublished data of Board of State Assessors, Augusta, Maine.

TOTAL POULTRY

BIRDS PER FARM



## FIGURE 4

TOTAL POULTRY IN MAINE AND NUMBER OF BIRDS PER FARM

1898 - 1932

The trend in the numbers of poultry per farm was distinctly upward from 1898 to 1923, with the exception of the period ending in 1918. The apparent discrepancy in 1918 has already been explained. Since 1923, the number of poultry per farm has fluctuated somewhat with a slight upward trend. In 1932, there were 35.9 hens per farm in Maine as compared with 26.5 in 1898, and 39.0 in 1923. With the marked decrease in the number of birds in the State during the last ten years, there has been practically the same number kept per farm. This indicates that the number of farms in Maine has decreased more rapidly than total number of birds. Furthermore, poultry is a little more than maintaining its importance on our farms.

Further indications of the increase in the size of the poultry business per farm is shown by the per cent of taxable to total poultry (Table 3 and Figure 5).



TABLE 3  
 TAXABLE POULTRY, TOTAL POULTRY, AND PER CENT TAXABLE  
 POULTRY IN MAINE<sup>5</sup>  
 1924 - 1932

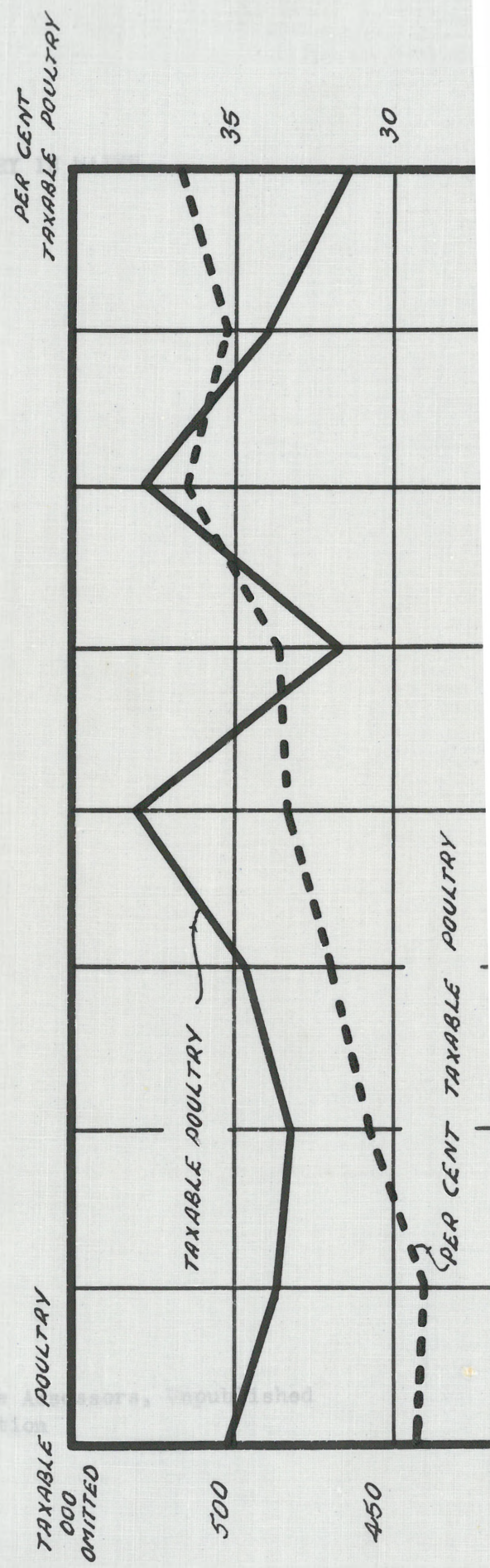
Year*	Taxable poultry	Total poultry	Per cent taxable poultry
1924	505,779	1,729,118	29.3
1925	488,844	1,687,661	29.0
1926	483,801	1,578,085	30.7
1927	498,940	1,558,372	32.0
1928	532,913	1,595,548	33.4
1929	468,757	1,385,650	33.8
1930	528,634	1,446,648	36.5
1931	489,777	1,391,122	35.2
1932	466,553	1,267,835	36.8

<sup>5</sup>Annual Reports of the Board of State Assessors 1924-1930, Unpublished Data and Annual Report 1932 of the Bureau of Taxation.

\*Even years published information and odd years unpublished data.

It has been shown that total numbers of poultry declined very precipitously from 1924 to 1932. In contrast, taxable poultry in Maine during the same period remained practically unchanged at 500,000 birds. With taxable poultry fluctuating within very narrow limits during this period, and total poultry declining precipitously, it follows that the per cent of taxable poultry should tend to increase. This situation occurred as is shown in Table 3 and Figure 5. From this, it can be deducted that (1) farm flocks of 50 birds or less have declined, and (2) commercial poultry flocks have materially increased in importance.

FIGURE 5  
TAXABLE AND PER CENT TAXABLE POULTRY  
1924 - 1932\*



\*Obtained from Annual Reports of the Board of State Assessors, published  
Data and Annual Report 1932 of the Bureau of Taxation

### Trends of the Poultry Industry by Counties

In 1932, the following counties led in total number of poultry: Aroostook, Cumberland, Kennebec, Penobscot, Waldo, and York (Table 4). Each of these counties had over 98,000 birds and, when combined, accounted for 54.5 per cent of all the total poultry reported in Maine (Table 5).

Of these six counties, Kennebec and Waldo had the smallest number of poultry reported in 1932 (98,000 birds), and York and Cumberland had the largest number (127,000 and 129,000 respectively). In each of these six counties, there were two trends: (1) upward from 1898 to 1913, and (2) generally downward from 1923 to 1932. The period between these two trends is represented by poultry reported during the World War and is considerably lower than either the year preceding or the year following, due to apparent discrepancies in the information.

TABLE 4<sup>6</sup>

## NUMBER OF POULTRY IN MAINE BY COUNTIES

1898 - 1932

County	1898	1903	1908	1913	1918
Androscoggin	60,899	67,587	96,734	91,637	47,448
Aroostook	102,965	104,085	117,597	149,086	134,805
Cumberland	186,076	180,976	236,664	229,304	152,526
Franklin	38,056	35,094	49,068	56,473	39,810
Hancock	104,417	108,384	110,811	104,031	53,761
Kennebec	133,928	119,606	157,836	164,074	106,959
Knox	88,658	82,299	99,342	124,928	76,049
Lincoln	110,181	132,403	122,281	102,927	57,503
Oxford	83,013	84,717	111,915	125,697	88,654
Penobscot	154,548	139,433	189,375	204,142	134,563
Piscataquis	42,128	38,959	51,024	54,670	36,803
Sagadahoc	38,179	38,127	50,903	70,629	23,722
Somerset	70,529	78,367	104,304	107,546	69,981
Waldo	123,215	112,158	139,807	153,388	92,247
Washington	72,397	75,868	75,420	85,594	44,876
York	173,890	164,011	193,575	179,843	117,802
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,583,079</b>	<b>1,562,074</b>	<b>1,906,656</b>	<b>2,003,969</b>	<b>1,277,509</b>

Table 4--Continued.

County	1923	1924	1925*	1926	1927*
Androscoggin	103,075	91,935	92,679	86,390	85,935
Aroostook	136,953	136,917	134,353	128,897	125,567
Cumberland	192,318	183,576	176,982	158,792	146,194
Franklin	54,257	47,166	47,895	45,574	42,518
Hancock	98,412	84,772	79,262	81,048	70,348
Kennebec	200,600	134,153	126,627	122,290	133,033
Knox	119,689	122,242	118,479	105,482	103,652
Lincoln	116,573	119,985	115,458	102,081	99,921
Oxford	110,708	112,284	108,104	103,408	103,466
Penobscot	193,470	177,633	162,168	149,930	150,094
Piscataquis	48,233	40,248	41,044	41,139	41,862
Sagadahoc	55,147	59,491	47,436	48,811	45,510
Somerset	109,275	89,304	90,302	80,994	85,160
Waldo	147,008	127,341	126,755	114,736	112,846
Washington	69,185	61,848	59,552	57,661	57,999
York	168,219	140,223	160,565	150,852	154,267
Total	1,923,122	1,729,118	1,687,661	1,578,085	1,558,372

Table 4--Concluded.

County	1928	1929*	1930	1931*	1932
Androscoggin	83,587	66,493	70,906	73,098	69,108
Aroostook	110,739	107,586	112,598	123,490	116,197
Cumberland	170,118	147,043	149,854	139,767	129,332
Franklin	44,370	39,128	41,199	41,024	38,257
Hancock	82,167	71,265	70,633	64,268	55,003
Kennebec	130,982	110,379	114,009	108,517	98,183
Knox	104,624	90,356	83,834	73,750	66,352
Lincoln	100,738	90,739	95,819	89,021	79,650
Oxford	101,720	92,886	97,598	97,894	88,075
Penobscot	157,719	131,956	138,503	132,826	121,684
Piscataquis	42,374	34,237	35,988	37,036	32,638
Sagadahoc	47,215	33,479	33,228	29,835	27,199
Somerset	82,124	74,375	75,951	80,841	77,600
Waldo	118,849	109,789	121,490	112,276	98,019
Washington	57,478	52,183	55,580	49,589	43,599
York	160,744	133,756	149,458	137,890	126,939
Total	1,595,548	1,385,650	1,446,648	1,391,122	1,267,835

<sup>6</sup>Annual Reports of the Board of State Assessors 1898-1930, unpublished data and Annual Report, 1932 of the Bureau of Taxation.

\*Unpublished Data.

TABLE 5  
 PERCENTAGE OF POULTRY BY COUNTIES\*  
 1898 - 1932

County	1898	1903	1908	1913	1918	1923	1924	1925
Androscoggin	3.85	4.33	5.07	4.57	3.71	5.36	5.32	5.49
Aroostook	6.50	6.66	6.17	7.44	10.55	7.12	7.92	7.96
Cumberland	11.76	11.59	12.42	11.45	11.95	10.00	10.62	10.49
Franklin	2.40	2.25	2.57	2.82	3.12	2.82	2.73	2.84
Hancock	6.60	6.94	5.81	5.19	4.21	5.12	4.90	4.70
Kennebec	8.46	7.66	8.28	8.19	8.37	10.43	7.76	7.50
Knox	5.60	5.27	5.21	6.23	5.95	6.22	7.07	7.02
Lincoln	6.96	8.48	6.41	5.14	4.50	6.06	6.94	6.84
Oxford	5.24	5.42	5.87	6.27	6.94	5.76	6.49	6.41
Penobscot	9.76	8.93	9.93	10.19	10.53	10.06	10.27	9.61
Piscataquis	2.66	2.49	2.68	2.73	2.88	2.51	2.23	2.43
Sagadahoc	2.41	2.44	2.67	3.52	1.86	2.87	3.44	2.81
Somerset	4.46	5.02	5.47	5.37	5.48	5.68	5.16	5.35
Waldo	7.78	7.17	7.33	7.65	7.22	7.64	7.36	7.51
Washington	4.57	4.85	3.96	4.27	3.51	3.60	3.58	3.53
York	<u>10.99</u>	<u>10.50</u>	<u>10.15</u>	<u>8.97</u>	<u>9.22</u>	<u>8.75</u>	<u>8.11</u>	<u>9.51</u>
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00



Table 5--Concluded.

County	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Androscoggin	5.47	5.51	5.24	4.80	4.90	5.25	5.45
Aroostook	8.17	8.06	6.94	7.76	7.78	8.88	9.16
Cumberland	10.07	9.38	10.66	10.62	10.36	10.06	10.21
Franklin	2.89	2.73	2.78	2.82	2.85	2.95	3.02
Hancock	5.14	4.51	5.15	5.14	4.88	4.62	4.34
Kennebec	7.75	8.54	8.21	7.97	7.88	7.80	7.74
Knox	6.68	6.65	6.56	6.52	5.80	5.30	5.23
Lincoln	6.47	6.41	6.31	6.55	6.62	6.40	6.28
Oxford	6.55	6.64	6.38	6.70	6.75	7.04	6.95
Penobscot	9.50	9.63	9.88	9.52	9.57	9.55	9.60
Piscataquis	2.61	2.69	2.66	2.47	2.49	2.66	2.57
Sagadahoc	3.09	2.92	2.96	2.42	2.30	2.14	2.15
Somerset	5.13	5.46	5.15	5.37	5.25	5.81	6.12
Waldo	7.27	7.24	7.45	7.92	8.40	8.07	7.73
Washington	3.65	3.72	3.60	3.77	3.84	3.56	3.44
York	9.56	9.91	10.07	9.65	10.33	9.91	10.01
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

\*Computed from Table 4, page 15.

The relative importance of the poultry enterprise in each county from 1898 to 1932, measured by the per cent each county was of the total for the State, is given in Table 5. Aroostook County showed a steady increase during the period from 6.5 per cent in 1898 to 9.16 per cent in 1932. Kennebec and Waldo Counties each accounted for approximately 7.0 to 8.5 per cent each year. Penobscot had between 9.5 per cent and 10.5 per cent during the period. Poultry reported in York County ranged from 9 to 11 per cent. Cumberland County had the largest number of birds. From 10 to 12 per cent of the poultry of the State has been located in this County during the last 34 years.

The remaining ten counties in the State did not exceed 88,000 birds per county in 1932. When combined they accounted for only 45.5 per cent of Maine's poultry. Trends similar to those in the other six counties were prevalent in these counties. The relative importance of each county during the thirty-four-year period held fairly constant and in no year exceeded 7 per cent of the total poultry.

In 1932, the numbers of poultry per farm ranged from 17.8 in Aroostook County to 73.8 in York County as shown in Table 6. There were eight counties - Cumberland, Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Piscataquis, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and York - which had more poultry per farm than the average for the State. With the exception of Piscataquis, which has become important only during the last few years, these counties are located in the concentrated commercial poultry area (Figure 2). Lincoln County had between 40 and 50 birds per farm each year during the period and showed no upward trend. Knox and Sagadahoc had distinct upward trends (26.7 to 65.3 and 31.7 to 63.8 respectively) during

the first sixteen years of the study (1898-1913) and distinct downward trends (72.4 to 35.8 and 56.4 to 37.3 respectively) during the last ten years (1923-1932). Distinct upward trends occurred in Cumberland, Hancock, Waldo, and York Counties during the entire thirty-four-year period (1898-1932). Cumberland County had an increase in poultry per farm from 36.1 in 1898 to 69.0 in 1932. Poultry per farm in Hancock County increased from 35.1 to 56.5 respectively. The increase in Waldo County was 10.2 birds per farm in the 34 years, 1898-1932. York County showed the largest increase of all the counties from 33.8 to 73.8 respectively or an increase of over 100 per cent.



Figure 6. Poultry Houses on Maine Poultry Farm

TABLE 6  
NUMBER OF POULTRY IN MAINE PER FARM BY COUNTIES  
1898-1932<sup>7</sup>

County	1898	1903	1908	1913	1918	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Androscoggin	20.9	23.0	32.6	33.5	20.0	41.0	35.1	34.0	32.8	33.6	33.8	27.8	30.5	32.5	31.7
Aroostook	15.2	14.8	16.3	20.9	19.7	21.1	21.3	21.2	20.3	19.7	17.3	16.7	17.4	19.0	17.8
Cumberland	36.1	35.4	46.2	49.1	38.3	53.9	52.3	51.2	50.2	50.4	64.0	60.3	67.1	68.3	69.0
Franklin	15.3	14.3	21.1	26.4	20.7	28.4	24.4	24.5	24.4	24.0	26.3	24.3	26.9	28.2	27.6
Hancock	35.1	36.7	34.1	33.9	20.6	38.1	32.2	29.6	35.0	35.1	47.3	47.4	54.3	57.1	56.5
Kennebec	24.5	22.2	30.6	33.7	23.5	45.0	30.0	28.3	28.6	32.5	33.4	29.4	31.7	31.6	29.8
Knox	26.7	38.6	46.0	65.3	49.0	72.4	70.5	65.1	57.8	56.6	57.0	49.1	45.4	39.9	35.8
Lincoln	38.6	47.8	45.2	41.8	26.9	51.8	51.5	47.8	44.5	45.8	48.6	46.1	51.2	50.1	47.2
Oxford	18.8	19.9	28.1	34.8	27.5	37.1	38.0	37.0	35.7	36.0	35.7	32.8	34.8	35.2	31.9
Penobscot	25.0	22.5	29.5	33.5	24.8	37.0	33.9	30.9	30.0	31.7	35.0	30.9	34.1	34.4	33.2
Piscataquis	21.5	20.2	26.6	31.2	24.4	32.5	26.7	26.8	29.8	33.6	37.6	33.7	39.2	44.7	43.6
Sagadahoc	31.7	30.8	41.1	63.8	25.9	56.4	58.1	44.2	48.0	47.4	51.9	38.9	40.8	38.7	37.3
Somerset	16.9	18.9	25.0	26.8	18.7	30.5	25.0	25.4	23.6	25.7	25.6	24.0	25.4	27.9	27.7
Waldo	32.8	30.7	38.6	43.9	27.9	45.7	39.7	39.6	37.6	38.8	43.0	41.6	48.4	46.9	43.0
Washington	34.0	33.3	27.7	30.5	17.1	25.4	22.2	20.9	22.8	25.7	28.6	29.2	34.9	35.0	34.6
York	33.8	32.9	39.9	41.7	32.8	46.6	37.9	42.2	44.5	50.9	59.4	55.4	69.3	71.6	73.8
State	26.5	26.2	31.8	35.7	25.4	39.0	34.8	33.8	33.2	34.4	37.0	33.8	37.1	37.5	35.9

<sup>7</sup>Compiled from Table 4 in the text and Table 1 in Appendix II.

The remaining counties had less poultry per farm than the State average. In most of these very little change in the number of poultry per farm occurred from year to year. In Androscoggin and Kennebec distinct upward trends occurred from 1898 to 1923 and downward trends occurred from 1923 to 1932.

#### Trends of Poultry on Individual Poultry Farms

Specific conditions on individual farms within the State were obtained principally through a questionnaire which was returned by 247 Maine poultrymen located in each of the counties of the State. The questionnaires furnished information on the number of hens and pullets on poultry farms November 1, 1927, 1931, and intentions for 1932.

In Cumberland County, the number of hens and pullets kept on 48 farms increased from 7,800 in 1927 to 16,384 in 1931, and the intentions for November 1, 1932 to 18,648 (Table 7). The tendency was to increase the number of pullets kept during the five-year period. There also appeared to be a tendency to have a higher percentage of younger birds in the laying flocks.

Similar conditions were also found on poultry farms in York County. On November 1, 1931, there were 21,949 hens and pullets as compared to 11,731 in 1927, or an increase of about 2,000 birds a year during the five-year interval. Intentions to house on November 1, 1932 showed a still greater increase which amounted to approximately 4,000 birds over the number housed the year previous. On these farms pullets constituted 10,000 of the 11,731 birds in 1927 and 19,000 of the 22,000 birds housed November 1, 1931. The intentions for November 1, 1932 showed a still greater number of pullets to be kept on the farms in York County, the number exceeding 21,000 birds.

TABLE 7  
NUMBER OF HENS AND PULLETS ON MAINE FARMS  
1927-1932<sup>8</sup>

County	No. of records	1932 Intentions			Poultry housed Nov. 1931			Poultry housed Nov. 1927		
		No. of hens	No. of pullets	Total	No. of hens	No. of pullets	Total	No. of hens	No. of pullets	Total
Androscoggin	25	2105	9900	12005	1360	10028	11388	711	4080	4791
Aroostook	2	250	500	750	138	500	638	75	520	595
Cumberland	48	2878	15770	18648	2543	13841	16384	1105	6695	7800
Franklin	4	150	1600	1750	250	1250	1500	-	250	250
Hancock	8	1400	2975	4375	330	3109	3439	1615	1260	2875
Kennebec	16	931	6582	7513	607	6143	6750	432	2894	3326
Knox	10	1150	5300	6450	350	5468	5818	753	4322	5075
Lincoln	8	1930	4600	6530	570	5125	5695	795	3058	3853
Oxford	22	2135	9105	11240	1718	7531	9249	1062	5323	6385
Penobscot	14	655	5598	6253	640	5169	5809	335	2200	2535
Piscataquis	2	200	780	980	266	650	916	200	468	668
Sagadahoc	4	200	1175	1375	600	910	1510	350	750	1100
Somerset	25	1210	5780	6990	1035	4873	5908	459	2381	2840
Waldo	14	495	6055	6550	875	5240	6115	295	4905	5200
Washington	4	730	5200	5930	652	4040	4692	300	1750	2050
York	39	4811	21210	26021	2961	18988	21949	1686	10045	11731
Unclassified	2	100	1000	1100	250	700	950	150	550	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>21330</b>	<b>103130</b>	<b>124460</b>	<b>15145</b>	<b>93565</b>	<b>108710</b>	<b>10323</b>	<b>51451</b>	<b>61774</b>

<sup>8</sup>Data obtained from questionnaires sent to poultrymen in Maine during the summer of 1932.

In Androscoggin County the number of poultry reported by 25 farmers answering the questionnaire was 4,791 birds in 1927. This number was more than doubled at the end of the five-year period, and intentions for November 1, 1932 indicated a still further increase of about a thousand birds. Again pullets constituted the major portion of the flocks. Although the intentions for November 1, 1932 did not show any increase in the number of pullets, there was an increase of approximately 700 hens.

The same number of questionnaires were returned by poultrymen in Somerset as in Androscoggin County. However, these farms had only about one-half the number of poultry as those in Androscoggin County. The upward trend in the number of poultry was very similar to that in Androscoggin County. During the five-year period, the number of poultry increased 100 per cent, followed by a further increase in 1932. Pullets also were more prevalent than hens in this county, although the number of hens was proportionately larger than in Androscoggin County.

Oxford County, although represented by only 22 returns, held third place in the number of poultry reported five years ago and fourth place for the other two years. General increases in the number of hens and pullets occurred in this County, although the trends were not as pronounced as those which occurred in the previously discussed counties.

Although the remaining counties were represented by only a very few records, the trend in the number of poultry has been generally upward during the past five years. In only one county, Sagadahoc, did the November 1, 1932 intentions indicate a decrease from preceding periods.

On the 247 farms included in this part of the study, the number of birds increased from 61,774 in 1927 to 108,710 in 1931. These same poultrymen

intended to increase their flocks to 124,460 by November 1, 1932. Poultry on these farms consisted largely of pullets.

#### Trends in the Breeds of Poultry

Breeds of poultry kept on Maine poultry farms will be shown by the material obtained from the questionnaires. The poultry on these farms was grouped as follows: Rhode Island Reds, Barred Plymouth Rocks, combinations of breeds<sup>9</sup>, no breed designated<sup>10</sup>, and all other breeds<sup>11</sup>. The breeds of poultry on Maine farms is presented in Table 8 and graphically in Figure 8.



Figure 7. Pipe line and feed hoppers which supply fresh water and feed at all times on the range

<sup>9</sup>More than one breed was kept on some farms.

<sup>10</sup>Some reports did not have the breed stated. This was more common regarding the breeds kept five years ago.

<sup>11</sup>This includes all farms having hens of only one breed, but there were so few flocks of any one of the breeds mentioned that they were all grouped as "all other breeds".



ALL OTHER BREEDS



NOV. 1, 1931

RHODE ISLAND REDS



COMBINATION BREEDS



BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS



ALL OTHER BREEDS



NO BREED DESIGNATED



NOV. 1, 1932

RHODE ISLAND REDS



COMBINATION OF BREEDS



BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS



ALL OTHER BREEDS

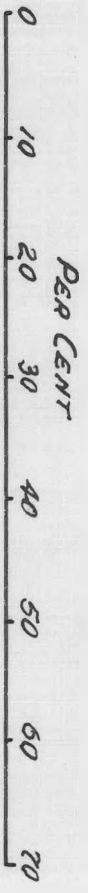


NO BREED DESIGNATED



PULLETS

HENS



NOV. 1, 1927

RHODE ISLAND REDS

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS

COMBINATION OF BREEDS

NO BREED DESIGNATED

## FIGURE 8

## BREEDS OF POULTRY KEPT ON MAINE FARMS\*

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\*Compiled from questionnaires returned by 247 Maine poultrymen during the summer of 1932.

TABLE 8  
TREND IN THE BREEDS OF POULTRY KEPT BY MAINE  
POULTRYMEN

Breed	Nov. 1, 1927	Nov. 1, 1931	Nov. 1, 1932
Rhode Island Reds			
Per cent pullets of total	50.7	59.3	58.3
Per cent of total	60.2	67.5	69.1
Barred Plymouth Rocks			
Per cent pullets of total	10.9	9.1	7.9
Per cent of total	13.2	10.5	9.1
Combination of breeds			
Per cent pullets of total	9.6	12.3	11.7
Per cent of total	10.9	14.7	14.7
No breed designated			
Per cent pullets of total	7.0	2.0	1.6
Per cent of total	8.3	2.3	2.0
All other breeds			
Per cent pullets of total	5.1	3.4	3.3
Per cent of total	7.4	5.0	5.1
All breeds			
Per cent pullets of total	83.3	86.1	82.2
Per cent of total	100.0	100.0	100.0

The Rhode Island Red was the most common breed of poultry kept. In 1927, Rhode Island Reds made up 60.2 per cent of all the poultry and had increased to 69.1 per cent by November 1, 1932. The Barred Plymouth Rock was the next most important breed in 1927. During the six-year period, this breed declined from 13.2 per cent to 9.1 per cent of the poultry reported. Other breeds which were kept were White Plymouth Rocks, White Leghorns, White Wyandottes, Australorps, and Buff Orpingtons. When all these breeds were grouped, it was found that they constituted only 7.4 per cent of the poultry kept on the farms five years ago and only 5 per cent in 1931 and in 1932. Combinations of two or more breeds ranked second in importance in 1931 and 1932, making up 14.7 per cent of the poultry reported for each year. In 1927, this classification represented only 10.9 per cent of the poultry reported.

There has been a tendency for a decrease in the percentage of the Barred Plymouth Rock as compared to other breeds of poultry, and an increase in combinations of two or more breeds. This may be due either to keeping of another breed of poultry in connection with the Barred Plymouth Rock or changing to the Rhode Island Red. From conversations with poultrymen in the State during the summer of 1932, it was evident that the crossing of purebred Rhode Island Red males with purebred Barred Plymouth Rock females developed a superior broiler and roaster for the market.

R. T. Parkhurst, in an article on "Value of Cross Bred Chicks for Broilers" published in the *New England Poultryman and Northeastern Breeder*<sup>12</sup>, states in part:

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<sup>12</sup>Parkhurst, Raymond T. *New England Poultryman and Northeastern Breeder*. Vol. 16, No. 1, 1933.

"Barred Plymouth Rock crosses have a well earned popularity for the quality of broilers that they make. If the barred plumage is desired on both cockerels and pullets, then Barred Plymouth Rock males should be used in crossing. If, however, it is desired to segregate out the pullets at hatching to raise them separately, the Barred Rock females should be used. If Rhode Island Reds are used in this cross, a very satisfactory broiler results. This cross has been used successfully by several well known New England breeders and there is an increasing demand for chicks of this cross during the broiler season".

In a discussion with H. L. Richardson, Poultry Specialist of the University of Maine Extension Service, it was ascertained that no statistics are available regarding the importance of such a practice in Maine. He did indicate that inquiries regarding this practice were numerous. Some were not as interested in the broiler or roaster phase as in segregating males and females at hatching. By separating the cockerels and pullets at this early date, the poultrymen can give more time to the care of the pullets and place them on better ranges. If cockerels are separated at hatching they may be fed for broilers or roasters or disposed of if prospects do not look good for either broilers or roasters.

## THE FUTURE OF THE POULTRY INDUSTRY IN MAINE

The future of the poultry industry in Maine, like all other farming enterprises, depends largely on the relative profitableness of the enterprise. It is a common principle that farmers will grow the crops and keep the live stock that pays best over a period of years. It is impossible to compare the relative profitableness of all farming enterprises for the State because of the many variable factors such as soil and climatic conditions, nearness to market, and likes and dislikes of individual farmers. However, it is possible to show the returns from the poultry enterprise over a period of ten years (1922-1931). During each of these years eighteen of the more profitable flocks were compared with eighteen of the less profitable ones to show the opportunities in the poultry industry<sup>13</sup>. For the ten-year period the more profitable flocks gave an average return of \$5.79 per hen as compared with the less profitable flocks of \$1.01 per hen (Table 9). The difference in return shows very clearly the opportunity of poultry raising by certain farmers who have a special liking for poultry and have favorable conditions under which to carry on the enterprise.

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<sup>13</sup>Poultry Account Summaries. Unpublished Data. Maine Extension Service.

TABLE 9  
LABOR RETURN PER BIRD ON MAINE POULTRY FARMS  
1922 - 1931

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$6.41	\$ .81
1923	6.16	.14
1924	6.81	.37
1925	5.60	.85
1926	5.37	1.15
1927	5.31	1.94
1928	4.52	1.52
1929	6.55	2.09
1930	5.83	.31
1931	4.85	.94
10-year average	5.79	1.01

There are many factors which go to make up the difference between loss or gain in the poultry industry. These factors will be briefly discussed in an attempt (1) to indicate in a general way the factors that affect net returns from poultry raising, and (2) to prognosticate the future of the industry in the State.

#### Factors Affecting Poultry Profits

##### Size of Flocks

Very little difference was found in the size of flocks on farms with high labor return and flocks with low labor return. Averages for ten years for each group of farms showed 19 more hens per farm on the less profitable farms than on the more profitable farms (Table 10).



TABLE 10  
NUMBER OF HENS PER FLOCK

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	117	217
1923	157	143
1924	157	159
1925	216	180
1926	242	167
1927	200	199
1928	236	234
1929	261	305
1930	162	142
1931	156	346
10-year average	190	209

The size of flocks was not the determining factor in the amount of labor return per hen. Some years during this period (1922-1931) the more profitable farms had more birds per flock than did the less profitable farms, in other years the opposite situation existed. However, labor return per hen should ordinarily be greater on large flocks than on small flocks as the overhead costs per hen would be less on large flocks.

#### Percentage of Pullets

The percentage of pullets was much greater on farms with high labor return than on farms with low labor return as shown by the average for three years in which percentages were reported (Table 11).

TABLE 11  
PER CENT OF PULLETS PER FLOCK

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1923	76.6	58.3
1924	77.8	55.0
1926	86.7	72.8
3-year average	80.4	62.0

The three-year average shows that 80.4 per cent of the poultry on the more profitable farms was pullets as compared to 62.0 per cent on the less profitable farms. In 1923, over three-fourths of the poultry on the farms having high labor return was pullets, while on farms with low labor return only 58.3 per cent of the poultry was pullets. In 1924 and 1926, this tendency was even more pronounced and the percentage of pullets on farms with high labor return increased to 77.8 and 86.7 per cent respectively. In contrast, the percentage of pullets on farms in the lower group was only 55 per cent in 1924, and 72.8 per cent in 1926.

#### Amounts of Grain Fed

Farmers receiving the largest profits fed more grain (Table 12). This was due in part to larger quantities of grain fed per laying bird and in part to the feeding of a larger number of young birds which were sold for meat purposes.

TABLE 12  
POUNDS OF GRAIN FED PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	131	122
1923	182	91
1924	185	119
1925	200	134
1926	208	118
1927	212	147
1928	194	153
1929	216	179
1930	179	154
9-year average	190	135

The average amount of grain fed for nine years on the more profitable farms was 190 pounds or 55 pounds more than on the less profitable farms. In 1922, there was a difference of nine pounds of grain fed per bird. In 1923, farms with low labor returns fed only 50 per cent as much grain as those with high labor returns. In 1924, there was a difference of 66 pounds of grain per hen between the two groups and this spread was prevalent for two years. In 1926, farms having the highest labor return fed 90 pounds more grain per hen than those with low labor returns. During the remainder of the period, the difference between the amounts of grain fed on the two classes of farms was less.

#### Production per Hen

Average egg production for ten years was 155 eggs per hen on the more profitable farms as compared with 121 eggs per hen on the less profitable farms. This is a difference of 34 eggs per hen (Table 13).

TABLE 13  
EGGS PRODUCED PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	148	107
1923	144	88
1924	150	104
1925	148	116
1926	150	114
1927	148	127
1928	154	137
1929	166	143
1930	170	119
1931	170	157
10-year average	155	121

During the first few years of the study (until 1928) average egg production on the most profitable farms ranged between 144 and 150 eggs per hen as compared with a production of not over 127 eggs per hen on the less profitable farms. During this period the lowest production on the more profitable farms exceeded the highest production on the less profitable farms. From 1928 to 1931, average production per hen tended to increase except on the farms in the lower group in 1930. The decline in production on the less profitable farms was largely due to the decrease in amount of grain fed that year. From a study of egg production and grain fed per hen it was indicated that a definite relationship existed between the two.

#### Prices Paid for Grain

Differences in prices paid for grain often caused the difference between profit and loss. During the nine-year period (1922-1930) when grain prices were available, the average price per hundredweight was nearly the same on more profitable and less profitable farms (Table 14).

TABLE 14  
COST OF GRAIN PER HUNDREDWEIGHT

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$2.73	\$2.11
1923	2.33	2.30
1924	2.90	2.65
1925	2.59	2.54
1926	2.34	2.32
1927	2.48	2.69
1928	2.78	3.08
1929	2.63	2.70
1930	2.76	2.64
9-year average	2.52	2.56

Higher grain prices were paid on the more profitable farms during 1922 and 1924. During the other years until 1927, very little difference was found in feed prices. Beginning in 1927 and extending to 1931, lower prices for grain were paid by the operators of the farms in the higher classification. The difference amounted to 21 cents per hundredweight in 1927, and 30 cents in 1928. It was also during these two years that grain prices were high. This indicates that expenses may be reduced through careful buying of grain. High quality grain should be fed but care should be taken in the purchases of grain.

#### Prices Received for Eggs

Another important factor which helped to account for profitable and unprofitable poultry flocks was prices received for eggs. The farmers with flocks in the higher group received, during the ten-year period, an average of four cents per dozen more for eggs than did the farmers in the other group (Table 15). Yearly variations fluctuated between two and eight cents per dozen.

TABLE 15  
PRICES RECEIVED FOR EGGS

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$ .41	\$ .39
1923	.44	.37
1924	.46	.38
1925	.47	.41
1926	.43	.38
1927	.44	.40
1928	.42	.40
1929	.45	.42
1930	.40	.38
1931	.35	.33
10-year average	.43	.39

Several reasons may account for this difference in the price of eggs, such as care in handling the eggs, nearness to market, special trade, and high egg production in the fall months when egg prices are relatively high.

#### Feed Costs

Feed costs on these farms made up the greater part of the expense involved in the poultry enterprise. The average cost of feed per hen on the more profitable farms was \$5.12 as compared with \$3.68 on the less profitable farms (Table 16).

TABLE 16  
FEED COSTS PER HEN

Year	Labor return	Grain per hen	Green feed per hen	Milk per hen	Other feed per hen	Total cost feed per hen
1922	More*	\$3.58	\$.07	\$.13	\$.01	\$3.79
	Less/	2.57	.05	.20	.01	2.83
1923	More	4.24	.07	.19	-	4.50
	Less	2.09	.03	.05	-	2.17
1924	More	5.36	.08	.27	.02	5.73
	Less	3.15	.03	.10	-	3.28
1925	More	5.18	.09	.32	-	5.59
	Less	3.40	.08	.13	-	3.61
1926	More	4.87	.05	.31	.01	5.24
	Less	2.74	.07	.05	-	2.86
1927	More	5.26	.07	.13	-	5.46
	Less	3.96	.03	.03	.01	4.03
1928	More	5.39	.05	.09	-	5.53
	Less	4.72	.06	.06	-	4.84
1929	More	5.69	.05	.09	-	5.83
	Less	4.83	.04	.14	-	5.01
1930	More	4.94	.10	.11	-	5.15
	Less	4.06	.07	.09	-	4.22
1931	More	4.23	.04	.09	-	4.36
	Less	3.86	.05	.05	-	3.96
10-year average	More	4.87	.07	.17	-	5.12
	Less	3.54	.05	.09	-	3.68

\*More profitable farms

/Less profitable farms

Grain was the most important feed used by poultrymen. Average grain cost for the ten-year period on the more profitable farms amounted to \$4.87 per hen which was \$1.20 more than on the other group of farms. Cost of feed other than grain was relatively unimportant on both groups of farms. The majority of the more profitable farmers used more milk than the other group. Cost of green feed ranged from four cents to ten cents on the more profitable farms and from three cents to eight cents on the less profitable farms.

Cost of Labor

The cost of labor is a measure of the amount of labor used on these farms. The cost of labor on the more profitable farms for the nine-year period averaged 39 cents per hen more than on the other group (Table 17).

TABLE 17  
LABOR COSTS PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$1.55	\$1.00
1923	1.52	.84
1924	2.04	.86
1925	1.63	1.03
1926	1.63	1.06
1927	1.17	1.15
1928	1.13	1.37
1929	1.22	1.01
1930	1.26	1.31
9-year average	1.46	1.07

It was found that in nearly every year the cost of labor was greater on the more profitable farms. Larger differences in costs occurred during the first years of the study. From 1927 to 1930, very little difference in labor costs occurred. Also, it was during these years that wages were high. The poultrymen who made the greatest profits had a larger diversification of poultry enterprises and organized their work more efficiently.

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs must be considered in arriving at the total cost of



keeping poultry. These costs are often the determining factors between gain and loss. During the ten-year period, indirect costs averaged 93 cents on the more profitable farms and \$1.45 on the less profitable farms (Table 18). A difference of 52 cents per hen is a very large amount when 100 or 500 hens are considered.

TABLE 18  
INDIRECT COSTS PER HEN

Year	Labor return	Interest on stock per hen	Depreciation on birds	Use of buildings	Equipment costs
1922	More*	\$ .13	\$ .16	\$ .19	\$ .19
	Less <sup>∇</sup>	.13	.65	.24	.12
1923	More	.13	.29	.31	.15
	Less	.12	1.20	.28	.06
1924	More	.14	.01	.31	.32
	Less	.12	.82	.29	.11
1925	More	.14	.16	.27	.24
	Less	.13	.92	.30	.18
1926	More	.14	.15	.30	.38
	Less	.13	.76	.28	.13
1927	More	.14	.14	.35	.32
	Less	.13	.66	.32	.17
1928	More	.14	.31	.34	.34
	Less	.15	.83	.37	.24
1929	More	.14	.19	.45	.38
	Less	.14	.63	.30	.22
1930	More	.14	-	.33	.31
	Less	.15	-	.40	.21
1931	More	.15	-	.30	.24
	Less	.16	-	.49	.27
10-year average	More	.14	.18 <sup>∅</sup>	.32	.29
	Less	.14	.81 <sup>∅</sup>	.33	.17

\* More profitable farms.

<sup>∇</sup> Less profitable farms.

<sup>∅</sup> Eight-year average. In 1930 and 1931 appreciation was added to poultry receipts and depreciation was deducted from poultry receipts.

The items making up indirect costs are depreciation, interest, building costs, and equipment costs. Of these, depreciation was the most

important on the less profitable farms, with an average cost of 81 cents per bird during this eight-year period (1922-1929). On the more profitable farms depreciation amounted to only 18 cents per hen. On the less profitable farms depreciation amounted to \$1.20 per bird in 1923, and was relatively large during each of the other years. This cost was the lowest in 1929, when it amounted to only 63 cents per bird. The highest cost for depreciation on the more profitable farms during the period was only 31 cents. Average interest charges for the period 1922-1931 on profitable and unprofitable farms were the same, and during the period there was very little variation annually. This charge ranged from 12 cents to 15 cents per bird and was practically the same on both groups of farms.

Other important indirect costs were charges for buildings and equipment. From 1922 to 1927, there was very little difference in building costs per hen on the two groups of farms. The range was between 20 cents and 35 cents with the higher cost on the more profitable farms. In 1928, the situation was reversed. The last two years of the study showed a marked increase in building costs on the less profitable farms.

Average cost of equipment on these farms for ten years amounted to 29 cents on the more profitable farms and 17 cents on the less profitable farms. The difference between the two groups ranged from 6 cents in 1922 to 25 cents in 1930. In 1931, there was very little difference in the cost of this item. Equipment costs per hen varied from 15 cents to 38 cents on the more profitable farms.

#### Other Costs

The remaining costs reported by the farmers were for horse labor, litter, and miscellaneous costs. Generally these costs were relatively unimportant for the ten-year period, averaging 17 cents on the farms with

high labor returns and 11 cents on the farms with low labor returns (Table 19).

TABLE 19  
OTHER COSTS PER HEN

Year	Labor return	Horse costs	Litter costs	Miscellan- eous
1922	More*	\$ .02	\$ .05	\$ .21
	Less/	.03	.05	.19
1923	More	.01	.01	.32
	Less	-	.01	.03
1924	More	.07	.04	.09
	Less	.03	.01	.03
1925	More	.02	.02	.02
	Less	.01	.03	.06
1926	More	.04	.01	.08
	Less	.01	.03	.01
1927	More	.03	.04	.10
	Less	.01	.01	.03
1928	More	.02	.03	.06
	Less	.03	.08	.10
1929	More	-	.04	.09
	Less	.04	.05	.05
1930	More	.01	.02	.09
	Less	-	.06	.06
1931	More	.01	.03	.09
	Less	.01	.04	.07
10-year average	More	.02	.03	.12
	Less	.01	.04	.06

\* More profitable farms  
/ Less profitable farms

#### Receipts from Eggs

Egg receipts were the most important source of income on Maine poultry farms. The receipts varied according to the prices received for eggs and production per hen. From the previous discussion, it was ascertained that both price and production were higher on the more profitable farms. The average receipts from eggs was \$5.30 on the more profitable farms and \$3.71 on the less profitable farms (Table 20).

TABLE 20  
RECEIPTS FROM EGGS PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$4.63	\$3.37
1923	4.82	2.55
1924	5.43	3.14
1925	5.80	3.43
1926	4.97	3.40
1927	5.11	3.84
1928	5.33	4.52
1929	6.27	5.11
1930	5.46	3.89
1931	5.16	3.82
10-year average	5.30	3.71

During individual years the difference in receipts for the two groups of farms ranged from only 81 cents in 1928 to \$2.37 in 1925 per hen. This represents a large amount when multiplied by the number of hens in the average flock.

#### Receipts from Poultry

Dressed or live poultry is generally considered a by-product of the poultry industry. Although this source of income may be only secondary, it was very important on the more profitable farms. The ten-year average from this source of income was \$3.76 per hen which was only \$1.54 less than the average receipts for eggs. When the averages on both groups of farms were compared, it was found that the receipts on the more profitable farms exceeded those on the less profitable farms by \$2.00 (Table 21).

TABLE 21  
RECEIPTS FROM POULTRY PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$3.53	\$1.22
1923	3.39	1.07
1924	3.82	1.57
1925	3.84	1.78
1926	3.73	1.61
1927	3.79	2.50
1928	4.03	3.06
1929	3.86	2.67
1930	4.07	1.22
1931	3.56	1.12
10-year average	3.76	1.78

When individual years were considered, it was found that the lowest receipts per hen for the more profitable farms averaged \$3.39 in 1923, as compared with the highest receipts per hen for the other group of \$3.06 per hen in 1928.

#### Other Cash Receipts

Other sources of income available to the poultryman are selling breeding stock, hatching eggs, baby chicks, and miscellaneous items. The average returns from these items for the ten-year period amounted to \$1.55 on the more profitable farms and only 28 cents on the less profitable farms (Table 22).



Figure 9. Brooder Houses which represent little overhead cost

TABLE 22  
OTHER CASH RECEIPTS PER HEN

Year	Labor return	Breeding stock	Baby chicks	Hatching eggs	Other receipts
1922	More*	\$ .08	\$1.16	\$ .12	\$ -
	Less	.05	.06	.02	.01
1923	More	.41	.79	.11	.01
	Less	.08	.04	.01	.01
1924	More	.40	1.21	.08	-
	Less	.05	.03	.01	-
1925	More	.29	.66	.06	-
	Less	.02	.43	.06	.04
1926	More	.62	1.22	.10	.05
	Less	.03	.06	-	-
1927	More	.27	.94	.11	.01
	Less	.19	.26	.06	-
1928	More	.28	.86	.03	-
	Less	.09	.11	.02	.01
1929	More	1.09	1.36	.02	-
	Less	.07	.12	.04	-
1930	More	.54	1.51	.04	.01
	Less	.03	.02	-	-
1931	More	.31	.47	.27	.01
	Less	.05	.48	.22	-
10-year average	More	.43	1.02	.09	.01
	Less	.07	.16	.04	.01

\* More profitable farms  
/ Less profitable farms

Of these, receipts from breeding stock and baby chicks were very important while receipts from hatching eggs and miscellaneous were relatively unimportant.

Breeding stock was more important on the more profitable than on the less profitable farms. The ten-year average on the more profitable farms was 43 cents per hen as compared with 7 cents per hen on the less profitable farms.

Baby chicks were a very important source of income on the more profitable farms as shown by the average receipts for the ten-year period. The

receipts amounted to \$1.02 on the more profitable farms and 16 cents on the less profitable farms. In 1922, 1924, 1926, 1929, and 1930, the receipts per hen from this source, on better farms, amounted to \$1.16, \$1.21, \$1.22, \$1.36, and \$1.51, respectively. The building and equipment costs were high for these years. This can be explained by the fact that additional buildings and equipment such as incubators were required to carry on projects with baby chicks and breeding stock. Thus the more profitable farms had the generally higher equipment cost per hen.

#### Non-Cash Receipts

Two items which generally do not furnish cash receipts are manure and appreciation. Manure was credited at 25 cents per bird on all flocks. Appreciation was an important factor on the better farms. This item generally fluctuated between 80 cents and \$1.50 per bird although it reached \$2.10 and \$2.33 in 1923 and 1924. Very little appreciation was recorded on the less profitable farms and it never exceeded 27 cents per bird for any one year (Table 23).



TABLE 23  
NON-CASH RECEIPTS PER HEN

Year	On more profitable farms	On less profitable farms
1922	\$1.33	\$ .07
1923	2.10	-
1924	2.33	.01
1925	1.16	.08
1926	1.27	.01
1927	1.41	.20
1928	.51	.10
1929	.82	.27
1930	-	-
1931	-	-
8-year average	1.22*	.08*

\*Eight-year average. In 1930 and 1931, appreciation was added to poultry receipts and depreciation was deducted from poultry receipts.

#### Summary of Factors Affecting Returns from Poultry

The average expense incurred on the more profitable farms during the ten-year period (1922-1931) was \$7.48 per hen compared with \$6.04 on the less profitable farms (Table 24). Of this expense grain costs were \$4.87 on the more profitable and \$3.54 on the less profitable farms. Labor costs were \$1.46 and \$1.07 respectively. Depreciation on the less profitable farms was 63 cents more than on the more profitable farms and amounted to 81 cents per hen.

TABLE 24  
FACTORS WHICH AFFECT POULTRY PROFITS IN MAINE  
1922 - 1931

Year	Total receipts		Total expenses		Gain		Loss		Labor return	
	High*	Low/	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
1922	\$11.15	\$5.05	\$6.29	\$5.24	\$4.86	\$ -	-	\$ .19	\$6.41	\$ .81
1923	11.88	4.01	7.24	4.71	4.64	-	-	.70	6.16	.14
1924	13.52	5.06	8.75	5.55	4.77	-	-	.49	6.81	.37
1925	12.06	6.09	8.09	6.27	3.97	-	-	.18	5.60	.85
1926	12.21	5.36	7.97	5.27	4.24	.09	-	-	5.87	1.15
1927	11.89	7.30	7.75	6.51	4.14	.79	-	-	5.31	1.94
1928	11.29	8.16	7.90	8.01	3.39	.15	-	-	4.52	1.52
1929	13.67	8.53	8.34	7.45	5.33	1.08	-	-	6.55	2.09
1930	11.88	5.41	7.31	6.41	4.57	-	-	1.00	5.83	.31
1931	10.03	5.94	5.18	5.00	ϕ	ϕ	-	-	4.85	.94
10-year average	11.96	6.09	7.48	6.04	4.43	-	-	.05	5.79	1.01

\*More profitable farms.

/Less profitable farms.

ϕLabor cost was not included in 1931.

Receipts during this ten-year period were \$11.96 per hen on the more profitable farms and \$6.09 on the less profitable farms. Receipts from eggs were the most important and amounted to \$5.30 and \$3.71 per hen respectively. Sales of poultry on both groups of farms were approximately one-half of egg receipts. Baby chicks increased the receipts on the more profitable farms \$1.02 per hen which was 86 cents more than from the same source of income on the less profitable. Appreciation on the more profitable farms was credited at \$1.22 as compared with only 8 cents on the other group of farms.

The difference between receipts and expenses constituted the gain or loss on these farms. The average gain on the more profitable farms was \$4.43 per hen as compared with a loss of 5 cents per hen on the less profitable farms. The gain per hen on the more profitable farms fluctuated from \$3.39 in 1928 to \$5.53 in 1929. On the less profitable farms the difference between receipts and expenses ranged from a loss of \$1.00 in 1930 to a gain of \$1.08 in 1929. In computing the gain or loss per hen, labor was included as an expense. It is desirable to know what the farmer receives for his labor and managerial ability on the more profitable and less profitable farms. To obtain this labor return, the cost of labor is deducted from total expenses. During the ten years (1922-1931) the average return which the operator received was \$5.79 on the more profitable farms and \$1.01 on the less profitable farms. The lowest labor return realized on the more profitable farms was \$4.52 in 1928, and the highest labor return on the less profitable farms was \$2.09.

The future of the poultry industry in Maine depends largely on the relative profitableness of this enterprise in comparison to all others. From this study it was found that some poultrymen made a very good profit while

others operated at a loss. The following practices are usually conducive to good returns in the poultry enterprise: (1) keeping high producing birds, (2) having pullets constitute the major portion of the laying flock, (3) economical feeding of good quality grain, (4) utilizing labor most efficiently, and (5) increasing returns from poultry by diversification.

It follows that for those farmers who are interested in poultry, have natural ability in caring for them, and are favorably located in regard to market outlets poultry should continue to be a very profitable enterprise.

Of the 247 poultrymen in Maine who returned questionnaires, 155 indicated intentions to increase their flock during the next three years and 92 indicated intentions to keep the flock the same size or decrease. The fact that the majority of the poultrymen intend to increase their poultry business indicates that the poultry enterprise is a profitable one.

In summary, it appears that the total number of poultry in Maine may not necessarily increase during the next few years. However, commercial flocks will have a tendency to increase in number along with a larger number of birds per flock. The increase in commercial flocks will take place in those areas which are favorably located for market outlets and where other types of farming may be declining in importance. Only those farmers in these areas, who have a special liking for the industry will be expected to keep poultry on a commercial basis.



Figure 10. Poultry house which represents small initial cost.

## SUMMARY

The commercial poultry area in Maine is located in the southwest portion of the State, south of Bangor and west of the Penobscot River.

Total poultry in Maine has declined very markedly during the past ten years from 1,729,118 birds in 1924 to 1,267,835 birds in 1932. In contrast with this decline in total poultry taxable poultry fluctuated within very narrow limits. From this it can be deducted that (1) farm flocks of 50 birds or less have declined and (2) commercial flocks have materially increased in importance. On individual poultry farms, there has been a material increase in the number of birds per flock from 1927 to 1932.

The future of an agricultural enterprise depends upon its relative profitableness. A comparison of 18 of the more profitable farms and 18 of the less profitable farms during the ten-year period, reveals that the better farmers followed certain practices. These practices are, namely: (1) keeping strains of poultry from high producing stock (2) having the laying flock consist mostly of pullets, (3) feeding good quality grain, (4) efficiently organizing labor, and (5) developing other sources of income other than eggs.

During the ten years in which records were available, it was found that the average production per hen was greater on the more profitable farms by 34 eggs. Also on the more profitable farms a higher percentage of pullets in the laying flock was recorded, 80.4 per cent as compared to 62.0 per cent on the less profitable farms. During years of high grain prices the better farmers did not pay as high grain prices as those who did not receive a high labor return. This indicates that expenses may be reduced through careful buying of grain. High quality grain should be fed but care should be exercised in its purchase.

The cost of labor is a measure of the amount of labor used on these farms. The cost of labor on the more profitable farms for the nine-year period averaged 39 cents per hen more than on the other group. It was found that in nearly every year the cost of labor was greater on the more profitable farms. During the years of high wages, very little difference in labor costs occurred. The poultrymen who made the greatest profit had a greater diversification of poultry enterprises and organized their work more efficiently.

Receipts on Maine poultry farms are principally from eggs. To increase total receipts the farmers operating the more profitable farms increased the receipts from poultry and baby chicks. When averages for both groups of farms were compared, it was found that the receipts for poultry on the more profitable farms exceeded those on the less profitable farms by \$2.00. Receipts for baby chicks during the ten-year period amounted to \$1.02 on the more profitable farms and 16 cents on the less profitable farms.

The majority of Maine poultrymen who returned the questionnaire, indicate their intentions to increase their poultry business during the next three years. The remaining farmers will continue their business either on the same scale or decrease it somewhat. By planning to increase their poultry business, Maine poultrymen indicate that poultry has been a profitable agricultural enterprise for them in the past and expect it to continue to be profitable in the future.

APPENDIX I<sup>14</sup>

TABLE 1

## TAXABLE AND PER CENT TAXABLE POULTRY IN MAINE

IN 1932

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
ANDROSCOGGIN			
Auburn	4573	14627	31.3
Durham	1577	5545	28.4
East Livermore	1708	5059	33.8
Greene	2300	3620	63.5
Leeds	1473	6829	21.6
Lewiston	-	2321	-
Lisbon	950	3735	25.4
Livermore	2055	3752	54.8
Mechanic Falls	1869	3549	52.7
Minot	1400	3449	40.6
Poland	1560	5526	28.2
Turner	2504	6071	41.2
Wales	850	2530	33.6
Webster	965	2495	38.7
Total	23784	69108	34.4
ARGOSTOCK			
Amity	-	1045	-
Ashland	16	2656	0.6
Bancroft	-	600	-
Benedicta	-	715	-
Blaine	110	2242	4.9
Bridgewater	-	1200	-
Caribou	-	4312	-
Castle Hill	-	1321	-
Chapman	30	1093	2.7
Connor	81	1875	4.3
Crystal	-	600	-
Dyer Brook	-	906	-
Eagle Lake	-	945	-
Easton	-	2136	-
Fort Fairfield	168	7158	2.3
Fort Kent	-	4756	-
Frenchville	-	2423	-
Grand Isle	-	1845	-
Haynesville	-	564	-



Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
<u>Plantation</u>			
Silver Ridge	-	490	-
St. Francis	-	1571	-
St. John	-	550	-
Wallagrass	-	438	-
Westmanland	20	482	4.1
Winterville	-	571	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>3664</b>	<b>116197</b>	<b>3.2</b>
CUMBERLAND			
Baldwin	1190	2892	41.1
Bridgton	2630	5546	47.4
Brunswick	1980	7479	26.5
Cape Elizabeth	360	1384	26.0
Casco	1215	2338	52.0
Cumberland	6555	10036	65.3
Falmouth	3470	7886	44.0
Freeport	6500	11399	57.0
Gorham	6698	13161	50.9
Gray	2184	5774	37.8
Harpswell	850	2910	29.2
Harrison	2095	3778	55.4
Naples	407	1344	30.3
New Gloucester	1356	4933	27.5
North Yarmouth	2325	4656	49.9
Otisfield	1125	2887	39.0
Portland	1250	*	
Powmal	2658	5162	51.5
Raymond	616	2010	30.6
Scarboro	5480	10672	51.3
Sebago	1140	2536	45.0
South Portland	600	848	70.8
Standish	2540	4708	54.0
Windham	5470	11500	47.6
Yarmouth	1209	2243	53.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>61903</b>	<b>129332</b>	<b>47.9</b>
FRANKLIN			
Avon	100	795	12.6
Carthage	205	875	23.4
Chesterville	570	1712	33.3

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Hersey	-	554	-
Hodgdon	810	3393	23.9
Island Falls	200	1122	17.8
Limestone	50	1150	4.3
Linneus	-	1901	-
Littleton	-	2989	-
Ludlow	-	1521	-
Madawaska	140	4218	3.3
Mapleton	-	2840	-
Mars Hill	80	3463	2.3
Masardis	-	1170	-
Merrill	-	1051	-
Monticello	320	3593	8.9
New Limerick	200	1532	13.1
New Sweden	400	4136	9.7
Oakfield	-	2082	-
Orient	-	360	-
Perham	-	1708	-
Portage Lake	-	656	-
Presque Isle	335	5396	6.2
Saint Agatha	-	3615	-
Sherman	-	1800	-
Smyrna	-	1130	-
Stockholm	24	1900	1.3
Van Buren	136	2966	4.6
Wade	-	1066	-
Washburn	194	2520	7.7
Westfield	-	1408	-
Weston	350	1556	22.5
Woodland	-	1996	-
<u>Plantation</u>			
Allagash	-	117	-
Cary	-	627	-
Caswell	-	1369	-
Cyr	-	1457	-
E	-	150	-
Garfield	-	376	-
Glenwood	-	139	-
Hamlin	-	1300	-
Hammond	-	244	-
Macwahoc	-	379	-
Moro	-	368	-
Nashville	-	133	-
New Canada	-	1645	-
Reed	-	607	-

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Eustis	53	637	8.3
Farmington	657	5163	12.7
Freeman	35	689	5.1
Industry	46	1103	4.2
Jay	5202	8834	58.9
Kingfield	193	1405	13.7
Madrid	-	487	-
New Sharon	247	2279	10.8
New Vineyard	440	1365	32.2
Phillips	218	2121	10.3
Rangeley	540	2096	25.8
Salem	-	236	-
Strong	377	1887	20.0
Temple	167	1073	15.6
Weld	30	991	3.0
Wilton	1350	3547	38.1
Coplin <i>Sl.</i>	-	188	-
Dallas <i>Sl.</i>	-	497	-
Rangeley <i>Sl.</i>	-	88	-
Sandy River <i>Sl.</i>	75	189	39.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>10505</b>	<b>38257</b>	<b>27.5</b>
HANCOCK			
Amherst	-	208	-
Aurora	-	71	-
Bar Harbor	350	2285	15.3
Blue Hill	1945	3452	56.3
Brooklin	-	1440	-
Brooksville	550	2224	24.7
Bucksport	2916	5425	53.8
Castine	-	400	-
Cranberry Isles	100	600	16.7
Dedham	-	502	-
Deer Isle	350	396	88.4
Eastbrook	584	1339	43.6
Ellsworth	165	1755	9.4
Franklin	125	165	75.8
Gouldsborough	1034	3190	32.4
Hancock	4635	5851	79.2
Lamoine	788	1387	56.8
Mariaville	-	250	-
Mount Desert	1920	3780	50.8
Orland	902	2800	32.2

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Otis	-	172	-
Penobscot	556	2549	21.8
Sedgwick	628	2559	24.5
Southwest Harbor	500	1120	44.6
Stonington	-	1500	-
Sullivan	350	906	38.6
Surry	250	1114	22.4
Swan's Island	10	1205	0.8
Tremont	875	2175	40.2
Trenton	922	1774	52.0
Verona	100	600	16.7
Waltham	83	644	12.9
Winter Harbor	100	1011	9.9
<u>Plantation</u>			
Osborn	-	74	-
No. 33	-	80	-
Total	20738	55003	37.7
KENNEBEC			
Albion	800	3925	20.4
Augusta	1151	3658	31.5
Belgrade	545	2708	20.1
Benton	445	2825	15.7
Chelsea	-	1475	-
China	1940	5635	34.4
Clinton	1065	2835	37.6
Farmingdale	915	2339	39.1
Fayette	695	2475	28.1
Gardiner	3475	6945	50.0
Hallowell	620	1639	37.8
Litchfield	1840	4815	38.2
Manchester	560	1460	38.4
Monmouth	3890	7982	48.7
Mt. Vernon	1645	3866	42.6
Oakland	441	2216	19.9
Pittston	2165	4977	43.5
Randolph	-	228	-
Readfield	750	2746	27.3
Rome	200	1400	14.3
Sidney	1387	5198	26.7
Vassalboro	1200	3617	33.2
Vienna	80	940	11.8
Waterville	325	1173	27.7

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Wayne	780	904	86.3
West Gardiner	1305	3935	33.2
Windsor	2280	4470	51.0
Winslow	548	3780	14.5
Winthrop	5579	8018	69.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>36626</b>	<b>98183</b>	<b>37.3</b>
KNOX			
Appleton	640	2696	23.7
Camden	3368	5368	62.7
Cushing	2484	4112	60.4
Friendship	7067	9157	77.2
Hope	1397	3334	41.9
Isle au Haut	-	230	-
North Haven	806	1712	47.1
Owls Head	1536	2192	70.1
Rockland	2075	3279	63.3
Rockport	1137	2611	43.5
South Thomaston	1508	2982	50.6
St. George	914	1064	85.9
Thomaston	1184	2666	44.4
Union	2382	5869	40.6
Vinalhaven	290	1090	26.6
Warren	10090	14563	69.3
Washington	709	3077	23.0
<u>Plantation</u>			
Naticus Isle	-	350	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>37586</b>	<b>66352</b>	<b>56.6</b>
LINCOLN			
Alna	1160	2428	47.8
Boothbay	184	2162	8.5
Boothbay Harbor	150	750	20.0
Bremen	1342	2438	55.0
Bristol	679	2633	25.8
Damariscotta	1759	3566	49.3
Dresden	565	3219	17.6
Edgecomb	2690	4370	61.6
Jefferson	3459	7217	47.9
New Castle	1530	3179	48.1

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Nobleborough	1796	4261	42.1
Somerville	130	892	14.6
South Bristol	1269	1669	76.0
Southport	1100	2250	48.9
Waldoboro	20630	27630	74.7
Westport	481	1149	41.9
Whitefield	2885	6494	44.4
Wiscasset	1843	3343	55.1
Total	43652	79650	54.8
OXFORD			
Albany	-	903	-
Andover	347	2251	15.4
Bethel	761	3652	21.0
Brownfield	1856	4290	43.3
Buckfield	1890	3415	55.3
Byron	-	130	-
Canton	550	1576	34.9
Denmark	2317	4330	53.5
Dixfield	810	2551	31.8
Fryeburg	1186	3904	30.4
Gilead	531	947	56.1
Greenwood	150	1405	10.7
Hanover	-	370	-
Hartford	4325	5854	73.9
Hebron	183	1571	11.6
Hiram	3000	5288	56.7
Lovell	1010	2114	47.8
Mason	50	124	40.3
Mexico	155	2776	5.6
Newry	-	314	-
Norway	5404	8590	62.9
Oxford	1620	3800	42.6
Paris	1619	6272	25.8
Peru	246	2572	9.6
Porter	1329	2825	47.0
Roxbury	320	891	35.9
Rumford	1000	4338	23.0
Stoneham	124	427	29.0
Stow	28	321	8.7
Summer	1720	3315	51.9
Sweden	251	1063	23.6

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Upton	10	344	2.9
Waterford	1210	3247	37.3
Woodstock	45	1659	2.7
<u>Plantation</u>			
Lincoln	-	210	-
McGalloway	-	73	-
Milton	-	383	-
Total	34047	88075	38.7
PENOBSCOT			
Alton	50	825	6.1
Argyle	-	400	-
Bangor	-	8000	-
Bradford	297	2603	11.4
Bradley	-	650	-
Brewer	1549	3322	46.6
Burlington	35	1075	3.3
Carmel	807	3541	22.8
Carroll	-	1046	-
Charleston	1015	3295	30.8
Chester	-	867	-
Clifton	-	255	-
Corinna	2130	4619	46.1
Corinth	1378	4444	31.0
Dexter	5165	8765	58.9
Dixmont	255	1992	12.8
Drew	90	601	15.0
East Millinocket	-	188	-
Eddington	600	2176	27.6
Edinburg	-	178	-
Enfield	134	1456	9.2
Etna	100	1310	7.6
Exeter	655	3325	19.7
Garland	1270	3323	38.2
Glenburn	97	1599	6.1
Greenbush	-	558	-
Greenfield	-	244	-
Hampden	3685	8399	43.9
Hermon	580	3087	18.8
Holden	1905	3601	52.9
Howland	300	696	43.1
Hudson	196	1184	16.6
Kenduskeag	687	1564	43.9
Kingman	-	713	-
LaGrange	20	1148	1.7
Lee	679	1339	50.7

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Levant	975	3532	27.6
Lincoln	320	4187	7.6
Lowell	-	364	-
Mattawankeag	-	545	-
Maxfield	640	981	65.2
Medway	400	652	61.3
Milford	300	1565	19.2
Millinocket	786	1461	53.8
Mount Chase	-	409	-
Newburg	747	2897	25.8
Newport	160	2348	6.8
Old Town	100	1940	5.2
Orono	2827	3670	77.0
Orrington	422	1866	22.6
Passadumkeag	115	550	20.9
Patten	238	2992	8.0
Plymouth	465	2302	20.2
Prentiss	55	1099	5.0
Springfield	-	934	-
Stetson	210	1626	12.9
Veazie	-	150	-
Winn	650	1487	43.7
Grand Falls	-	116	-
Lakeville	-	210	-
Sebois	-	84	-
Stacyville	-	1000	-
Webster	22	329	6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>33111</b>	<b>121684</b>	<b>27.2</b>
<b>PISCATAQUIS</b>			
Abbot	124	723	17.2
Atkinson	876	2452	35.7
Blanchard	-	169	-
Bowerbank	-	90	-
Brownville	148	1649	9.0
Dover-Foxcroft	4006	8106	49.4
Greenville	-	728	-
Guilford	350	1596	21.9
Medford	352	999	35.2
Milo	500	3334	15.0
Monson	306	1659	18.4
Orneville	-	661	-
Parkman	310	1648	18.8
Sangerville	415	2376	17.5
Sebec	814	2426	33.6



Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Shirley	-	497	-
Wellington	425	2280	19.2
Williamsburg	50	226	22.1
Williamantic	62	561	11.1
<u>Plantation</u>			
Barnard	30	78	38.4
Chesuncook	-	190	-
Elliotville	-	125	-
Kingsburg	-	44	-
Lake View	-	21	-
Total	8768	32638	26.9
SAGADAHOE			
Arrowsic	650	1303	49.9
Bath	1068	1393	76.7
Bowdoin	915	4150	22.0
Bowdoinham	2665	5604	47.6
Georgetown	100	150	66.7
Phippsburg	95	1155	8.2
Richmond	1250	4526	27.6
Topsham	2226	5880	37.9
West Bath	500	1376	36.3
Woolwich	412	1662	24.8
Total	9881	27199	36.3
SOMERSET			
Anson	1677	5190	32.3
Athens	494	2792	17.7
Bingham	20	940	2.1
Cambridge	100	880	11.4
Canaan	514	2667	19.3
Concord	165	805	20.5
Cornville	464	2841	16.3
Detroit	173	1600	10.8
Embden	107	1297	8.2
Fairfield	508	3514	14.5
Harmony	1245	3547	35.1
Hartland	120	886	13.5
Madison	2260	5441	41.5
Mercer	1832	3497	52.4
Moscow	50	696	7.2
New Portland	90	1851	4.9

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Norridgewock	2061	6079	33.9
Palmyra	1267	4307	29.4
Pittsfield	4925	8418	58.5
Ripley	160	1429	11.2
Skowhegan	1180	5234	22.5
Smithfield	162	1212	13.4
Solon	954	2679	35.6
St. Albans	1220	4236	28.8
Starks	753	2546	29.6
<u>Plantation</u>			
Bigelow	-	30	-
Brighton	40	464	8.6
Caratunk	-	150	-
Dead River	-	124	-
Dennistown	-	86	-
Flagstaff	8	238	3.5
Highland	-	76	-
Jackman	-	740	-
Lexington	20	400	5.0
Moose River	-	361	-
Pleasant Ridge	10	221	4.5
The Forks	-	126	-
Total	22579	77600	29.1
WALDO			
Belfast	3085	16585	18.6
Belmont	330	1253	26.3
Brooks	766	2349	32.6
Burnham	-	1290	-
Frankfort	3868	4900	78.9
Freedom	300	1173	25.6
Islesborough	1042	2247	46.4
Jackson	780	1926	40.5
Knox	434	2595	16.7
Liberty	915	2749	33.3
Lincolnville	4601	7533	61.1
Monroe	3293	6178	53.3
Montville	865	3805	22.7
Morrill	479	1687	28.4
Northport	250	1010	24.8
Palermo	358	2769	12.9
Prospect	860	1880	45.7

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Searsmont	522	2510	20.8
Searsport	154	1319	11.7
Stockton Springs	795	2341	34.0
Swanville	2150	3659	58.8
Thorndike	770	1940	39.7
Troy	676	2789	24.2
Unity	946	3246	29.1
Waldo	1197	2544	47.0
Winterport	<u>13445</u>	<u>15742</u>	85.4
Total	42881	98019	43.7
WASHINGTON			
Addison	145	990	14.6
Alexander	-	832	-
Baileyville	-	1179	-
Baring	-	185	-
Beals	109	409	26.7
Beddington	-	95	-
Brookton	37	377	9.8
Calais	-	1500	-
Centerville	-	153	-
Charlotte	333	1227	27.1
Cherryfield	-	965	-
Columbia	76	845	9.0
Columbia Falls	175	929	18.8
Cooper	476	1334	35.7
Crawford	-	197	-
Cutler	-	848	-
Danforth	145	1912	7.6
Dennysville	1580	2314	68.3
East Machias	120	1328	9.0
Eastport	-	800	-
Edmunds	1370	1949	70.3
Harrington	60	1097	5.5
Jonesborough	380	1158	32.8
Jonesport	-	1000	-
Lubec	-	2000	-
Machias	-	2329	-
Machiasport	-	791	-
Marion	-	82	-
Marshfield	-	345	-
Meddybemps	-	200	-
Milbridge	174	1174	14.8
Northfield	-	75	-
Pembroke	1236	3152	39.2
Perry	150	1760	8.5

Table 1--Continued

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Princeton	65	1468	4.4
Robbinston	200	1432	14.0
Steuben	700	1175	59.6
Talmadge	-	198	-
Topsfield	-	406	-
Trescott	-	500	-
Vanceboro	-	498	-
Waite	-	260	-
Wesley	-	360	-
Whiting	380	1076	35.3
Whitneyville	-	50	-
<u>Plantation</u>			
Codyville	-	121	-
Grand Lake Stream	-	240	-
No. 14	-	120	-
No. 21	-	164	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>7911</b>	<b>43599</b>	<b>18.1</b>
YORK			
Acton	1172	2337	50.1
Alfred	325	1615	20.1
Berwick	685	2095	32.7
Biddeford	1128	5278	21.4
Buxton	2078	6850	30.3
Cornish	2044	3022	67.6
Dayton	2437	3542	68.8
Elliot	1570	1823	86.1
Hollis	1260	3476	36.2
Kennebunk	8476	10108	83.8
Kennebunkport	1080	2833	38.1
Kittery	1525	2617	58.3
Lebanon	4800	7856	61.1
Limerick	1912	1912	-
Limington	6666	8898	74.9
Lyman	533	1066	50.0
Newfield	7045	8949	78.7
North Berwick	744	1441	51.6
North Kennebunkport	1282	2350	54.6
Old Orchard	467	829	56.3
Parsonsfield	2059	4185	49.2

Table 1--Concluded

Town	Taxable	Total	Per cent taxable
Saco	4338	9176	47.3
Sanford	4042	11541	35.0
Shapleigh	3165	5182	61.1
South Berwick	350	2854	12.3
Waterboro	898	3024	29.7
Wells	5610	7210	77.8
York	<u>1225</u>	<u>4870</u>	25.2
Total	68916	126939	54.3

<sup>14</sup> Computed from statistics presented in the Annual Report of the Bureau of Taxation, 1932.

\*Exempt poultry not reported.

## APPENDIX II

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF FARMS IN MAINE BY COUNTIES<sup>15</sup>

1898-1932

County	1898	1903	1908	1913	1918	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Androscoggin	2910	2940	2966	2733	2367	2515	2616	2722	2637	2554	2474	2396	2322	2249	2178
Aroostook	6780	7043	7220	7117	6840	6495	6415	6337	6361	6385	6409	6433	6459	6484	6509
Cumberland	5148	5110	5125	4666	3984	3566	3510	3454	3165	2901	2659	2437	2233	2046	1875
Franklin	2494	2448	2323	2138	1927	1913	1935	1958	1864	1774	1689	1608	1530	1456	1386
Hancock	2976	2951	3253	3067	2606	2581	2629	2679	2318	2006	1736	1502	1300	1125	974
Kennebec	5464	5380	5150	4867	4559	4460	4466	4473	4281	4097	3921	3753	3592	3438	3290
Knox	3321	2131	2158	1913	1551	1652	1735	1821	1826	1831	1836	1841	1845	1850	1855
Lincoln	2854	2768	2704	2463	2141	2250	2331	2416	2295	2180	2071	1968	1870	1777	1688
Oxford	4420	4249	3977	3615	3221	2983	2952	2921	2898	2875	2852	2829	2806	2784	2762
Penobscot	6194	6203	6419	6085	5432	5227	5240	5255	4991	4740	4502	4276	4060	3856	3662
Piscataquis	1962	1928	1917	1751	1511	1486	1507	1529	1381	1247	1126	1017	918	829	749
Sagadahoc	1204	1238	1238	1107	917	978	1024	1074	1016	961	909	860	815	771	730
Somerset	4166	4141	4172	4015	3748	3586	3566	3548	3430	3316	3206	3099	2996	2896	2800
Waldo	3758	3654	3620	3491	3305	3216	3210	3202	3050	2905	2767	2636	2511	2392	2278
Washington	2128	2280	2720	2806	2629	2726	2783	2844	2532	2254	2007	1787	1591	1416	1261
York	5152	4984	4853	4308	3595	3610	3703	3800	3393	3030	2706	2416	2158	1927	1721
Total	59833	59556	59986	56204	50381	49287	49645	50003	47578	45270	43074	40985	39006	37114	35314

<sup>15</sup> Computed by geometric progressions from number of farms in Maine by counties as reported by United States Census. 1890, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1925, and 1930.