

LIVESTOCK  
UNDER THE AAA

BY

D. A. FITZGERALD

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
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## DIRECTOR'S PREFACE

This is the fourth volume growing out of our "concurrent study of the Agricultural Adjustment Act." It deals briefly with the emergency pig and sow slaughter of 1933 (since this activity was covered in detail in our preliminary report of April 1934) and more fully with the corn-hog contracts of 1934 and 1935. It also covers such adjustment operations as were undertaken with reference to cattle and supplementary phases of the livestock program of the AAA—notably with reference to feed grains.

While the livestock program of the AAA has followed the same general pattern as those for wheat, tobacco, and cotton, the length of the production period and the intricate interrelationships among the several parts of the livestock industry raised for the AAA a host of distinctive and difficult problems. At the same time the economics of meat consumption curtailed the methods which the AAA felt could be employed to improve the economic status of livestock producers. A study of the livestock program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration well illustrates the difficulties and repercussions, in agriculture alone, of attempts at economic planning. The broader social and economic effects will be discussed in a final volume in this series to be published in 1936.

During the second year of the adjustment effort a drought of exceptional severity injected a major disruptive force into the adjustment efforts of the AAA and radically altered the course of events in the livestock industry. This factor has been taken into account by the

author in appraising the early results of the AAA's livestock program and in evaluating its future worth. Likewise, he has made his evaluation in terms both of the objectives and procedures of the original act and of those modifications introduced by the extensive amendments of August 24, 1935.

This manuscript has been read and accepted by a committee consisting of Charles O. Hardy on behalf of the Institute of Economics and John D. Black and Joseph S. Davis, who have been associated with me in the general direction of the AAA study.

EDWIN G. NOURSE  
*Director*

Institute of Economics  
August 1935

## AUTHOR'S ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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For all this generous assistance the author is deeply grateful, but for the volume as it stands, including errors of omission and commission, he must assume full responsibility.

D. A. FITZGERALD

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