

# What the Wheat Crop Means to Canada

Patriotism and Production was the Slogan and now has come Profit—the Romantic History of Canadian Wheats—Mesopotamia may yet see Puffing Caterpillar Tractor in its Fields—Necessity for Mixed Farming.

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Pamph  
1916  
No. 114

WHEN the summons came in August, 1914, for Canada to help the Empire with food as well as men, there were appeals most strenuous to grow wheat, to grow more wheat, to grow as much wheat as possible. There were set forth schemes and plans that were impracticable and uneconomic. Apparently food production needed guidance, there was need of information as well as stimulation—hence the campaign "Patriotism and Production." It was hoped that through bulletins, the public press, and conferences, the energies of the people might be directed along lines that were not only productive, but economically productive. It would be interesting, and perhaps enlightening for any who may be inclined, strangely enough, to criticize anything that may have helped in any way towards the increased production, to read again the campaign material, the Agricultural War Book, and the advertisements that reached about three million newspaper readers.

## Patriotism and Profit.

It might be well to repeat one statement from the Agricultural War Book (p. 107). "Supposing we do by good farming and through favorable weather, increase our wheat crop, and at the same time do not sacrifice other crops so important as oats and barley and peas and alfalfa and corn (and also maintain our live-stock output), and then should find that the big prices do not come, that we shall get less than a dollar a bushel—what then? Shall we blame ourselves, or blame the governments? Surely it will be something to contribute to the British Empire in this crisis not only food but cheap food. The average prices received by the farmers of Canada 1910-1914 were as follow:—

Year.	Cents per bushel.
1910 .....	\$ .75
1911 .....	.64
1912 .....	.62
1913 .....	.67
1914 .....	1.22

"We shall certainly do much better than the above, probably very much better, but if we do not get from a dollar to a dollar and a half let us not be disappointed—our duty is to provide the food as extensively as possible, as economically as possible, and as cheerfully as possible—let it be a case of patriotism and production."

## What Farmers Accomplished.

What have the farmers of Canada accomplished in connection with their wheat production? They have a crop that averages in yield higher than any crop during the years 1910 to 1914, inclusive, by from four to ten bushels. Here are the official figures for the previous five years, and the figures as I write for 1915. The latter are subject to revision.

	Area acres.	Bushels per acre.	Total yield bushels.
1910 .....	8,863,151	14.89	132,049,000
1911 .....	11,100,673	20.80	230,924,000
1912 .....	10,906,700	20.38	224,159,000
1913 .....	11,015,000	21.04	231,717,000
1914 .....	10,203,900	15.37	158,223,000
1915 .....	12,986,000	25.89	336,258,000