

opinion that the advance upon the amount delivered should not be increased. The outstanding reason for that conclusion is the opinion that production of wheat should be decreased.

The figure arrived at will suggest that farmers keep before them an objective of not more than 65 per cent of last year's acreage. It has also been pointed out that a certain farm income is necessary to the maintenance of western economy. It is generally agreed that this should be not less than 325 million dollars.

If this income is going to be realized it will be necessary for the farmer to obtain from the lands which were in wheat last year a net return at least equal to that of 1940.

The government has therefore attempted to set up a plan under which that may be accomplished, while at the same time securing a reduction of the acreage in wheat to an area which is not likely to produce more than 230 million bushels.

It is not our intention to pay farmers for not growing wheat or to compel them to reduce acreage. It is our intention to pay them to do something other than grow wheat, which we believe in the long run will improve western agriculture.

We intend to do this in a manner in which, if the happenings of the war or the after-war period require it, reasonable quantities of wheat may be produced.

But, most important for the time being, we will attempt to do it in a manner which will give the farmer a net cash return comparable with what he would have had if he had followed his pre-war methods of agriculture and could have disposed of his products in the usual way.

It is our intention, therefore, to make payments of certain sums per acre on all reductions made in wheat sowings in the prairie provinces in 1941 as compared with 1940, provided the farmer does certain specified things with the land.

1. If he summer-fallows the reduced wheat acreage or part of it, the government will pay him \$4 an acre for the reduced wheat acreage which is black July 1, 1941; payments to be made as soon as possible after July 1, 1941.

2. If he sows the reduced wheat acreage or part of it to coarse grains in the spring or, in the case of rye, in the fall of 1941 on lands not summer-fallowed, the government will pay him \$2 an acre in 1941 as soon as possible after proof of sowing is established.