

ing to the students of Canadian official agricultural statistics. Finally, it will not escape the notice of English agricultural statisticians that the method now being applied is similar in principle to that followed in Great Britain and advocated by the International Statistical Institute.

*Future outlook.*

On July 1, 1917, the fiftieth anniversary of Confederation, the Dominion of Canada was bearing its share as a constituent of the British Empire in the greatest war of all time. Now that this war has happily ended in the complete triumph of the Allied cause and in the vindication of the principles of freedom and justice for which it was waged—thus enabling the world to resume in peace the development of natural resources—we may, in conclusion, consider what direction future progress may take in Canada and to what extent the Dominion may be relied upon for the production of food, of raw materials and of manufactured products. Will the progress of the next fifty years equal that of the last fifty years as—all too imperfectly—described in this Paper? I am too conscious of the failure of past prophecies by more competent authority than I can claim to hazard any definite prognostications.<sup>1</sup> It may, however, be permissible to indicate certain factors that are likely to influence development and justify the belief that progress during the remainder of the present century will be at least as rapid and as solid as it has been during the last twenty years. The return to Canada of the soldiers from the war will add strong forces to the industrial ranks. Schemes for their settlement upon the land under advantageous conditions have been adopted by both the Dominion and the provincial legislatures. To a large extent Canadian development must in the future as in the past be dependent upon a constant influx of suitable immigrants and of capital. There is every indication that in the immediate future the plans for immigration will not cease as heretofore with the attraction and reception of immigrants, but will provide improved facilities for their settlement upon the land.

A new Department of Immigration and Colonization has lately (1918) been established by the Dominion Government, and it is probable that settlement in well-organized communities, in which

<sup>1</sup> In 1898 Sir William Crookes estimated that the area under wheat in Canada would not exceed 6,000,000 acres within twelve years. In 1910 the Dominion Census gave the area as 9,294,800. In 1902 Mr. Hugh McKellar, then Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, anticipated a western wheat production of 350,000,000 bushels by 1912. The official return for the three Prairie Provinces in that year—a good season—was 204,280,000 bushels, and the highest yield on record was 300,187,000 bushels in 1915. The quinquennial average (1913-17) was 232,935,000 bushels.