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ACREAGE UNDER CROP IS LESS THAN IN 1918

Estimate of Bureau of Statistics shows Decrease of 395,402 acres or about two per cent

CROP CONDITIONS

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued on June 17 the first or preliminary estimate of the areas sown to grain and hay crops this spring, together with a report on their condition on May 31, as compiled from the returns of crop correspondents.

AREAS SOWN TO GRAIN.

Wheat shows for the whole of Canada an estimated total area of 16,958,500 acres, as compared with 17,353,902 acres in 1918, a decrease of 395,402 acres or 2 p.c. In 1918 the area sown was 1,477,150 acres, or 10 p.c. more than the area of 1917. Owing to the mildness of the winter of 1918-19 the area to be harvested of fall wheat is 797,750 acres, representing 381,135 acres, or 91 p.c. more than in 1918. The area sown to spring wheat is 16,160,750 acres, representing 776,537 acres, or 5 p.c. less than in 1918. Of oats the total area sown is 14,654,000 acres, which is 136,000 acres, or 1 p.c. less than in 1918. The acreage of the remaining crops is as follows: Barley 3,036,240 acres, as compared with 3,153,711 acres in 1918; rye, 575,585 acres, against 555,294 acres; peas, 208,250 acres, as against 235,976 acres; mixed grains, 877,240 acres, as against 921,826 acres; hay and clover, 10,472,700 acres, as against 10,544,625 acres; and alfalfa, 192,480 acres, as against 196,428 acres. This year reports on potato planting were asked for a month earlier than heretofore, and the replies indicate an area under potatoes of 692,900 acres, as compared with 735,192 acres last year, a decrease of 42,292 acres, or 6 p.c. Potato-planting had not made much progress in the Maritime provinces and in Quebec at the end of May; so that the estimate must be considered as of very tentative character.

ACREAGE OF PRAIRIE.

The area sown to wheat in the three Prairie Provinces totals 15,450,700 acres, as compared with 16,125,451 acres last year, to oats 9,614,000 acres, as compared with 9,354,941 acres; to barley, 2,162,000 acres, as compared with 2,272,334 acres; and to rye, 436,000 acres, as against 411,846 acres. By provinces the areas are: Wheat—Manitoba, 2,913,100 acres; Saskatchewan, 8,879,000 acres; Alberta, 3,658,600 acres. Oats—Manitoba, 1,715,000 acres; Saskatchewan, 5,088,000 acres; Alberta, 2,811,000 acres. Barley—Manitoba, 1,082,000 acres; Saskatchewan, 643,000 acres; Alberta, 437,000 acres. Rye—Manitoba, 249,000 acres; Saskatchewan, 137,000 acres; Alberta, 50,000 acres.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

In eastern Canada, especially Ontario and Quebec, the sowing season was

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SPARE INDIAN SECTIONS FOR SOLDIER SETTLEMENT

Co-operation between Department of Indian Affairs and Soldier Settlement Board with view to Utilization of unused land bearing Fruit

There are many extensive tracts of valuable land on Indian reserves, particularly in the Western Provinces, which heretofore have lain idle. It became apparent to the Minister that a policy should be formulated whereby these lands might be utilized, and in consequence last spring the necessary legislation was introduced to enable the Government to lease such lands for farming or grazing purposes or to cultivate them with or without the consent of the Indians.

As a result of this legislation, says a statement by the Department of Indian Affairs, in many cases where

the reserves are too large to be cultivated by the number of Indians located on them, or where for other reasons the Indians neglected or refused to use their land, the surplus area has been leased to white farmers and ranchers, and thus much good land that would otherwise be neglected is now being made productive.

Indian reserve lands are one of the sources of provision for soldiers' settlement. The Department of Indian Affairs lost no time in inaugurating prompt and comprehensive measures in collaboration with

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CONTRACTS AWARDED BY ORDERS IN COUNCIL

Construction of Breakwater at Mission Channel Entrance Fort William

The Department of Public Works of Canada announces the following contracts awarded under Orders in Council:—

Cobourg, Ont.—Dredging. Contractors: Ottawa Contractors, Limited, of Ottawa, at 27 cents per cubic yard, scow measurement (approximate quantity of material, 57,000 cubic yards). Order in Council dated June 18, 1919.

Port Arthur, Ont.—Repairs to temporary pile protection breakwater. Contractors: The Barnett-McQueen Company, Limited, of Port Arthur, at \$8,319 (unit prices). Order in Council dated June 18, 1919.

Burlington, Ont.—Grading and roadwork at Military Hospital. Contractor: Geo. Fitzgerald, of Burlington, at \$4,015. Order in Council dated June 16, 1919.

Fort William, Ont.—Construction of breakwater in Mission Channel entrance. Contractors: Port Arthur Construction Company, Limited, of Toronto, at \$381,000 (unit prices). Order in Council dated June 14, 1919.

Richmond, Que.—Ice-breakers. Contractor: Thos. P. Charleson, of Ottawa, at \$10,407 (unit prices). Order in Council dated June 12, 1919.

St. John, N.B.—Immigration Detention Building at Partridge Island Quarantine Station.—Contractor: W. A. Munro, of St. John, N.B., at \$27,800. Order in Council dated June 12, 1919.

Toronto.—Grading and roadwork at Military Orthopedic Hospital. Contractors: Britnell Contracting Company, Limited, of Toronto, at \$20,597. Order in Council dated June 12, 1919.

TRADE WITH NORTH EUROPE RESUMED

Export Licenses for Canada to Denmark and Sweden now granted

Export licenses for Canadian shipments of restricted goods to Denmark and Sweden will now be granted without prior production of importer's guarantee against re-export. Obtaining foreign import guarantees for shipments to the northern neutral countries has for several months been the source of difficulty, owing to complex regulations on the other side, but these are being greatly simplified. Guarantees are now waived in respect of all goods to Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, as well as all foodstuffs and a large number of manufactured articles to Holland or Switzerland. Shipments of controlled commodities for Holland or Switzerland should, the Canadian Trade Commission advises, be consigned as follows: For Holland, the Netherlands Overseas Trust; for Switzerland, the Societe Suisse de Surveillance Economique. Canadian exporters are reminded, however, that shipments of flour to European countries can be made only through the Wheat Export Company, Winnipeg. Arms and ammunition or other implements of war are excluded from these concessions in respect of any of the northern neutrals or Switzerland. —Canadian Trade Commission.

Saskatchewan Wool.

It is expected that fully 500,000 pounds of wool will be shipped this year to the Co-operative Branch, Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Contracts have already been sent in for 45,000 fleeces, an increase of 25 per cent over last year, according to the Winnipeg office of the Department of Immigration and Colonization.

CROP CONDITIONS AND MOVEMENT OUT OF GRAIN

Reports to Winnipeg Office of Department of Immigration sums up general situation in West

WEATHER AIDS GROWTH

The following summary of the grain and crop situation in Western Canada has been received from the Winnipeg office of the Department of Immigration and Colonization, for the week ending June 14:—

Grain in store at Government interior elevators: Moosejaw, 816,181 bushels; Saskatoon, 1,090,033 bushels; Calgary, 745,310 bushels.

In store at C.P. interior elevators, 4,256,575 bushels; 1917, 3,451,803 bushels.

In store at all elevators at lake front, 9,285,755 bushels.

Grain shipped by rail since September 1, 1918: C.P. tracks, 6,959,305 bushels; lake front, 8,469,645 bushels.

Grain shipped by boat and rail since September 1, 1918: C.P. tracks, 65,711,038 bushels; lake front, 99,607,153 bushels.

Grain shipped by boat since opening of navigation, April 15, 1919: C.P. tracks, 21,750,055 bushels; lake front, 40,881,556 bushels.

Cars grain unloaded at Fort William since September 1: 1918, 52,753; 1917, 70,485; 1916, 83,996.

During the week 516 cars of flour were shipped from various mills in the Prairie Provinces, against 553 cars last year.

CROP SITUATION.

Manitoba.—General rain throughout province, especially benefiting the later-sown crop and pastures. Considerable anxiety is manifest among farmers in grasshopper plague. Some damage is grasshopper plague. Some damage is being done, but extent of it has not yet been ascertained. Districts affected are between Melita, Deloraine, Pierson, Waskada, and Lyleton.

Saskatchewan.—Early in June the weather continued severely dry, with high winds in some localities. All crops sown to middle of May were in splendid condition, but later-sown grains require the rain, which has now come. Grasshopper damage is somewhat serious in southeast, but is confined to territory between Gainsboro and Frobisher, Manor to Arcola, and around Alida. Provincial and municipal authorities are taking active measures to fight the pest and to prevent its spread.

Alberta.—There is adequate supply of moisture in most parts of the province for present needs. Weather during the week has been cool, and consequently growth was not as rapid as might be, but root development benefited on this account. Cutworms caused some small damage in various parts of province, and many patches in fields had to be reseeded because of this. Recent moisture has checked spread of cutworms and it is unlikely there will be any more trouble from this source.