STOCKS OF GRAIN IN CANADA

Ottawa, April 17, 1918.

The Census and Statistics Office issued to-day a bulletin giving the results of inquiries as to the stocks of wheat, oats, barley and flaxseed in Canada at the end of March, the stocks of all agricultural produce remaining in farmers' hands at the same date and the proportion of the crops of 1917 that proved to be of merchantable quality.

STOCKS OF GRAIN IN CANADA.

The compilation of returns collected from elevators, flour mills, railway companies and crop correspondents shows that on March 30, 1918, the quantity in Canada of wheat and wheat flour expressed as wheat was 77 million bushels, as compared with 126 million bushels last year, 197 million bushels in 1916 and 79 million bushels on February 8, 1915. The total for 1918 comprises 25 million bushels in the elevators, flour mills and in winter storage in vessels, 32 million bushels in farmers' hand and 20 million bushels in transit by rail. Of oats, including oat products expressed as oats, the total quantity returned as in Canada on March 30, 1918, was 1551/2 million bushels. as compared with 184 million bushels last year, the total for 1918 comprising 241/2 million bushels in elevator and flour mills, 124 million bushels in farmers' hands and 7 million bushels in transit by rail. Of barley the total quantity in Canada on March 30, 1918, was returned as 16 million bushels as compared with 15 million bushels last year, the total for 1918 comprising 4 million bushels in elevators, 11 million bushels in farmers' hands and 1 million bushels in transit by rail. Of flaxseed the quantity in Canada on March 30, 1918, was 2,420,000 bushels as compared with 5,-662,000 bushels last year, the 1918 total consisting of 1,459,000 bushels in elevators, 516,000 bushels in farmers' hands and 445,000 bushels in transit by rail. STOCKS IN FARMERS' HANDS.

According to the reports of crop correspondents, out of the total wheat production of 1917, 14 per cent., or nearly 32 million bushels remained in farmers' hands on March 30, 1918. This proportion is lower than last year (21 per cent.) and than in 1916 (23 per cent.) and compares with 13 per cent, in 1915. Of the remaining field crops the proportions and quantities estimated to be in farmers' hands on March 30 are

as follows: Oats 31 per cent, or 123,910,400 bushels:

barley 20 per cent., or 10,944,600 bushels; rye 13 per cent., or 491,800 bushels; buckwheat 18 per cent., or 1,251,500 bushels; corn for husking, 12 per cent., or 937,000 bushels; potatoes 30 per cent., or 24,130,500 bushels; turnips, etc., 14 per cent., or 8,644,100 bushels; hay and clover, 26 per cent., or 3,536,300 tons. The stock of potatoes, viz., 24,130,500 bushels, compares with 15,969,000 bushels last year, with 12,960,800 bushels in 1916 and with 32,310,000 bushels in 1915. Flax 5 per cent., or 515,800 bushels.

MERCHANTABLE QUALITY OF 1917 CROPS.

The returns received from crop correspondents show that of the total wheat crop of 1917 223,007,000 bushels were of merchantable quality, the proportion being 95 per cent, as compared with only 85 per cent. last year. The proportions per cent. of other crops estimated to be of merchantable quality last year are as follows: Oats 91, barley 90, rye 89, buckwheat 76, corn for husking 50, flaxseed 89, potatoes 77, turnips, etc., 83, hay and clover 87. For corn the proportion is the lowest on record, and compares with last year's estimate of 58 per cent.

SEEDING IN SASKATCHEWAN.

The following telegram has been received from the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture: "Seeding became general April 15. About 25 per cent, wheat sown. Estimated 10 per cent, increase in wheat acreage No shortage of seed wheat. The early spring has solved the difficulty of labor shortage."

STORING FLOUR.

To prevent losses from spoilage of flours and meals during hot weather, the Canada Food Board has issued instructions regarding the storage of such food stuffs. In view of the importance of bread stuffs at the present time, it is essential to reduce to a handling and storage.

Flours and meals should be stored in cool, dry, and 8,358 horses. well-ventilated places; warehouses should be whitewashed and swept clean before these products are lated. If too large a stock is on hand, it should be reduced and the flours and meals consumed as soon

meals to have sufficient space between the tiers to and 6,139 horses

allow abundant ventilation, and to raise the bags sufficiently from the floor to exclude rats, mice, and insects; also to permit cleaning of the floors without the necessity of transferring the products from one part of the warehouse to another.

Special care should be taken of the following products: Bran, shorts and middlings, corn products containing the (outer coating and germ, such as socalled water-ground cornmeal and grits, etc., oats and oat meals, graham and wholewheat flours, rye flour, barley flour, peanut meal, soya bean meal. These products should be kept moving or be used as soon as practicable and should not be allowed to accumulate in warehouses.

Care should also be taken of potatoes as they will begin to sprout in warm weather. If they do sprout, the tender shoots should be rubbed off and the clean potato transferred to new containers, all rotting potatoes to be removed at the same time.

LIVESTOCK IN MARCH.

The receipts of live stock in Montreal for the month of March, 1918, were 4,888 cattle, 421 sheep and lambs, 10,533 hogs, 9,414 calves, and 3,440 horses, as against 5,548 cattle, 504 sheep and lambs, 13,050 hogs, 10,353 calves, and 3,105 horses for the same month in 1917. The total receipts for the first three months of the year 1918 were 16,901 cattle, 9,889 sheep and lambs, 31,032 hogs, 13,395 calves, and 6,766

The receipts of livestock at Toronto for the month of March, 1918, were 24,693 cattle, 1,623 sheep and lambs, 47,609 hogs, 5,604 calves, and 1,541 horses, as compared with 17,905 cattle 1,377 sheep and lambs, 51,360 hogs, 4,616 calves, and 4,657 horses for the same month in 1917. The total receipts for Januminimum such losses as may occur through careless ary, February and March have been 65,880 cattle, 19,433 sheep and lambs, 141,778 hogs, 19,450 calves,

The receipts of livestock at Winnipeg for the month of March, 1918, were 8,857 cattle, 199 sheep placed in them; large supplies should not be accumu- and lambs, 35,100 hogs, and 3,486 horses, as against 10,604 cattle, 99 sheep and lambs, 27,692 hogs, and 4.496 horses for the same month in 1917, while the total receipts for the year 1918, to March 31st, 1918. Care should be taken in storing bags of flours and were 26.828 cattle, 923 sheep and lambs, 116,765 hogs,

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