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ESTIMATED AREA SOWN TO CROPS IN DOMINION

Wheat Shows for Whole of Canada Total of 16,900,000 Acres, Two Per Cent Decrease Over 1918.

UNITED STATES CROP

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has issued the first or preliminary estimate of the areas sown to grain and hay crops this spring, as compiled from the returns of crop correspondents.

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 per cent. In 1918 the area sown was 1,477,150 acres, or 10 per cent, 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 per cent, more than in 1918. The area sown to spring wheat is 16,160,750 acres, representing 776,537 acres, or 5 per cent, less than in 1918. Of oats the total area sown is 14,654,000 acres, which is 136,000 acres, or 1 per cent, 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, as 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 per cent. 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 PROVINCES.

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

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REPORT EXPLAINS BASIS OF \$10,000,000 BONUS

Explains Accepted Method of Measuring Changes in Cost of Living and Indicates Amount of this Increase in Canada on Average Person.

The Civil Service Commission published on July 28 the report on which the payment of the \$10,000,000 bonus to Government employees is based.

The report explains the accepted method of measuring changes in the cost of living, shows the effect which increases in Canada have had on the income of the average person, and indicates the method of computing the new bonus.

It is stated that \$1,000 a year supported a family of five in moderate comfort before the war, while \$1,550 would be needed to-day, as the cost of living was increased more than 53 per cent.

A bonus of \$420 a year to householders with an income of \$1,200 or less is recommended and a proportional bonus to persons without dependents. From this point the bonus scales downwards according to a fixed percentage.

The report is as follows:—

In compliance with instructions given by the Civil Service Commission, a report was submitted by the Organization Branch, as to the basis on which payment of bonus to Civil Service employees should be made for the current year. The body of the report is reproduced below, the introductory paragraphs and the appendices, containing the details summarized in the report, being omitted.

The report explains the accepted method of measuring changes in the cost of living and indicates the amount of this increase in Canada, deals with the effect of this increase on the real

income of the average person, indicates the income necessary for the support at a reasonable minimum standard of comfort of a married or single person, and indicates the methods of computation and limits of application of the bonus.

1. Cost of Living in Canada.

The commonly accepted method of showing changes in prices, is by means of an index number, in which the trend of prices of a list of representative articles is taken as an index to the price changes of the whole group of articles under consideration. Comparison may be made either by showing the average or the aggregate price of this list at any given period as a percentage of the price of the list at a year or period taken as a base for comparison, or by showing the price as a money amount which may be compared directly with the price in any previous year.

Where the group of articles being studied is affected in somewhat similar fashion by common causes, as for example, agricultural products are influenced by crop conditions, it is sufficient to take the simple average price of a few of the more important of these products, as an index to the price fluctuations of all. Where, however, varying groups are included, such as the food,

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GRAIN MOVEMENTS IN MIDDLE WEST

Report From Immigration Department Gives Total Bushels Inspected.

The Department of Immigration and Colonization have received the following report on grain movements from their Winnipeg office:—

Grain in store at Government interior elevators: Moosejaw, 561,525 bushels; Saskatoon, 719,762 bushels; Calgary, 522,182 bushels.

In store C.P. interior elevators, 2,925,498 bushels; 1918, 1,661,789 bushels.

In store all elevators at lake front, 6,007,879 bushels.

Inspected since September 1, 1918:—

Wheat. Other grains. Total.

1918— 121,347,600 45,683,900 167,001,500

1917— 151,962,000 76,808,200 228,770,200

Grain shipped by rail since September 1, 1918: C.P. tracks, 7,369,193 bushels; lake front, 9,027,106 bushels.

Grain shipped by boat and rail since September 1, 1918: C.P. tracks, 68,895,296 bushels; lake front, 105,286,881 bushels.

Grain shipped by boat since opening of navigation, April 15, 1919: C.P. tracks, 24,524,425 bushels; lake front, 46,003,822 bushels.

During the week 421 cars of flour were shipped from various mills in the Prairie Provinces; last year, 424 cars.

SETTLERS FROM U.S. SHOW INCREASE DURING JUNE.

During the month of June there entered Western Canada from the United States 2,029 persons with cash \$1,214,050, effects \$110,646; last year, 1,527 persons with cash \$804,609, effects \$100,024. Nationality: British, 72; Canadian, 87; American, 1,665; Russian, 15; Scandinavian, 148; others, 42.

Their occupations were: Farmers, 661; farm and other labourers, 151; mechanics, 92; railroaders, 57; clerks, 56; domestics, 34; miners, 9; professional, 53; women and children, 817; not classified, 99.

REPORT IS OF GREAT VALUE TO GRAIN TRADE

Internal Trade Division of Bureau of Statistics Has Issued Report Detailing Movements of Grain.

TWO MAIN AREAS

A report on the grain trade of Canada, which includes many new and valuable features, has recently been issued by the Internal Trade Division of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

It is the object of the report to show in full detail the movements of grain in Canada from the producer to the final markets. The report represents a considerable enlargement on previous statistics and is the first attempt to deal with the subject of the grain trade comprehensively.

To simplify the marketing of Canadian grain, the country is divided into two main areas, the eastern and the western, the dividing line being at Port Arthur and Fort William, which localities are included in the western field. As representing the grain which is subject to movement during any year (the year covered by the report is the crop year ending August 31, 1918), the following items are taken: Current production and the quantity in store at the beginning of the crop year in country elevators and in terminal elevators at the head of the lakes. The statistics then illustrate the movements of this grain through the several channels until it is finally disposed of, either by shipment from the head of the lakes, by rail from Fort William and Port Arthur over the international border into the United States, or by water from Vancouver. Similarly in the eastern division, the current crop and the amount on hand in eastern elevators, together with the receipts from the West, are traced from stage to stage, either to local consumption or to export to the United States, the United Kingdom, and other countries. Among the new features for Canadian grain statistics is the method which has been adopted of presenting the handlings of grain by means of the form of balance sheets for the large grain centres, for the western and eastern divisions of the country and for Canada as a whole. This not only serves to bring the various data into such close relations as almost automatically to check their accuracy, but the process of collecting the data has imposed a rigorous check upon the agents supplying the information and so increased the accuracy of the statistics. Another new feature is the intimate following up of all the major movements of wheat eastward into consumption or for export. This latter work has been elaborated in the detailed statistics and presented graphically by means of a map in such form that it may readily be appreciated even by the non-technical.