

EFFECT ON THE STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY

and land tenure, and to some extent deliberate official policy, are likely to prevent any development at all comparable with that of the great grain-exporting countries. And year by year the importance of subsidiary agricultural production, such as fruit-farming, flower, jam, scent, and honey production, to which mechanization is little applicable, becomes more important. Low agricultural prices, cheap labour, dear fuel, will also restrict the development.

These considerations do not apply to a country like Canada, where many factors combine to indicate a large displacement of agricultural labour by mechanization. As a grain-exporting country Canada has not, like France, the resource of agricultural protection; the character of the land and cheap fuel both facilitate mechanization; industrial development makes the machines readily available to maintain a standard of wages unobtainable in non-industrialized countries; the inelastic character of the world's demand for grain deprives agriculture of the resource that most mechanized industries have of tapping new markets through reduction of prices. In countries of this kind, therefore, agricultural mechanization must have profound effects in displacement and occupational redistribution. If we are looking at the world as a whole,