



CANADA'S BOUNDLESS FOOD RESOURCES

JUST as land is the basis of all wealth, so it is the basis of food supply. In considering Canada as a source of food supply, therefore, we must consider the area and quality of her lands. When we come to do this in detail, the mind is staggered at the mighty heritage now possessed by a people of between seven and eight millions only.

Magnitude of Canada's Food-area

WE have in this Dominion a self-contained Empire of astounding area and possibilities. It is so big that we can begin to appreciate its vastness only as we compare it with the countries occupied by the greatest nations in the world.

Quebec Province, for instance, is much larger than five United Kingdoms. Ontario is three times as large as the United Kingdom; it is larger than France or Germany, and nearly as large as South Africa. Each of the three Prairie Provinces is larger than either Germany or France. British Columbia is larger than Italy, Switzerland and France combined. In addition, there are the Maritime provinces.

In fact, Canada is as large as thirty United Kingdoms, eighteen Germanys, or two British Indias. It is almost as large as the whole of Europe. It is eighteen times the size of France and thirty-three times the size of Italy.

Of this vast area of land, much, of course, is unsuitable for cultivation, just as there is much unsuitable land in other countries. Much is occupied by forests, and much contains mineral. But careful surveys show that there are at least 440,000,000 acres fit for cultivation, or an area about the size of three Germanys. Of this great total, only 110,000,000 acres are even occupied, and less than one-tenth is under cultivation. *Canada's development has scarcely begun.*

Nature Predestines Canada to Leadership in Agriculture

TO vast areas fit for cultivation, Canada adds a matchless fertility of soil, for of all wheat-growing countries that have not yet begun the extensive use of artificial fertilization Canada is capable of the largest acre-

age production. With fertility of soil, Canada combines a range of climatic conditions admirably adapted for farming activities, long, cold winters alternating with short, warm and dry summers. The result of area, soil and climatic factors is an enormous actual and potential productivity that makes Canada a factor to be carefully reckoned with in a war the outcome of which may easily depend upon the production and availability of food.

The Prairie Provinces

NO one who has made the acquaintance of the prairies need be told what a wonderful future there is for the Prairie Provinces in the matter of food production. It is an ideal area for the production of cereals and for mixed

farming. The present war has shown what an important factor Canada is in feeding the world, but it is necessary to run back over a few statistics to realize how rapidly Canada is forging to the front as one of the world's pre-eminent food producers.

There are people yet living who can remember when the prairies were thought of as a country of frost and snow, too cold for the production of wheat. Only as recently as 1900 the Canadian Northwest produced only 23,000,000 bushels of wheat. In five years that had risen to 82,000,000. By 1912 as many as 190,000,000 bushels were produced. In the banner year of 1915 the production was 365,530,000 bushels, while this year it is expected

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Panorama of Fruit Farms in the "Garden of Canada," the Grimsby District, Niagara Peninsula.