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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

ACREAGE INTENTIONS: Canadian farmers will seed 3,000,000 more acres to spring wheat this year than last, making a total of just under 27,000,000 acres seeded to wheat for harvest in 1949; the Bureau of Statistics estimates on the basis of intentions indicated at April 30. At the same time an increase of over a half-million acres in summerfallow in the Prairie Provinces is anticipated, bringing the total summerfallow to 20,600,000 acres.

Decreases are looked for in Canada's other major grain crops. Oats are expected to be down four per cent from last year to 10,800,000 acres and barley down seven per cent to 6,000,000. Extremely sharp declines will occur in seedings of rye and flaxseed, the extent of the change from last year in these two crops being 43 per cent and 75 per cent, respectively. The acreage to be seeded to potatoes this year is five per cent below the 1948 level.

Intended wheat seedings in the Prairie Provinces are estimated at 26,000,000 acres, up 3,000,000 acres from the 1948 level of 23,000,000. Ontario's wheat acreage for harvest in 1949 is currently placed at 762,800 acres, a decline of 16 per cent from the 1948 harvested area. Little change from 1948 is anticipated in the remaining provinces where wheat is a relatively minor crop. Fall wheat has been seeded to some extent in Alberta and Saskatchewan in recent years but official

estimates on these seedings are not yet available. It is thought, however, that the total of such wheat on the Prairies is perhaps less than 300,000 acres, most of which is in Alberta. This year it is reported that poor germination and winterkill have taken a heavy toll of the winter cereals seeded in western Canada.

The anticipated increase in wheat acreage in each of the Prairie Provinces is as follows: Manitoba 722,000 acres or 30 per cent; Saskatchewan 1,338,000 or nine per cent; and Alberta 939,000 or 15 per cent. A western wheat acreage of the magnitude indicated (26,000,000 acres) will, if realized, substantially exceed the 1940-48 average of 22,300,000 and would be only about six per cent below the record level of 1940 when 27,800,000 acres were seeded to wheat in the Prairie Provinces.

For Canada as a whole, farmers intend to seed 10,800,000 acres to oats as compared with 11,200,000 in 1948, the decline being wholly accounted for in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta with either no change or modest increases expected in all other provinces.

The intended barley acreage for all Canada is estimated at 6,000,000 acres as compared with 6,500,000 last year. Declines are anticipated in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia with increases occurring quite generally from Manitoba eastward. While the anticipated barley sowing of 5,600,000 acres in