

FIELD CROP ESTIMATES LOWERED

WHEAT. 371,600,000 BUSHELS: Canada's 1949 wheat crop is now placed at 371,600,000 bushels by the Bureau of Statistics in its second estimate of principal field crops. This estimate is almost 20,000,000 bushels below the first estimate in mid-August. This year's production is being obtained from a seeded area estimated at 27,500,000 acres yielding at the rate of 13.5 bushels per acre.

Oat production is currently estimated at 322,000,000 bushels, barley at 125,100,000, mixed grains at 55,000,000, rye at 10,400,000 and flaxseed at 2,300,000 bushels. The outturn of hay and clover is placed at 11,200,000 tons and alfalfa at 2,500,000 tons.

With the exception of oats and rye, the second estimates of production of grain crops, potatoes and hay and clover are somewhat lower than the estimates released on August 16. In the case of most grain crops, abnormally high temperatures during August caused premature ripening over large sections of the Prairie Provinces with attendant losses in both yield and quality. Barley and flaxseed estimates have been lowered by 1,400,000 and 300,000 bushels, respectively, while the estimated production of oats has been increased by 4,700,000 bushels and of rye by 300,000 over the August levels.

These estimates are based on conditions existing at August 31 and, for late crops particularly, which are not harvested until after that date, the estimates should be considered as forecasts which may be subject to significant revisions. A substantial proportion of the country's grain crops had been harvested by the end of August and in these cases the yield estimates are based to a large extent on actual threshing returns. Part of the western grain crop, however, still remains

to be cut and threshed, and favourable weather will be required if present yield estimates are to be fully realized.

The 1949 wheat crop, as currently estimated at 371,600,000 bushels, is 22,700,000 bushels below the 1948 outturn and 38,400,000 below the 10-year (1939-48) average. In the Prairie Provinces the wheat crop is now expected to reach 342,000,000 bushels as compared with 363,000,000 in 1948 and 386,300,000 for the 10-year average. The anticipated average yield of wheat in the Prairie Provinces this year is 12.9 bushels per seeded acre, with Manitoba averaging 18.6, Saskatchewan 11.9 and Alberta 12.7 bushels per acre. In the remainder of Canada production of wheat is placed at 29,600,000 bushels, with Ontario's estimated outturn of 25,200,000 (24,100,000 of which is fall wheat) accounting for the principal part.

Following are the estimates of the total production of the principal grain crops for 1949, in bushels, with 1948 figures in brackets: Wheat, 371,644,000 (393,345,000); oats, 322,017,000 (358,807,000); barley, 125,069,000 (155,018,000); rye, 10,361,000 (25,340,000); dry peas, 878,000 (1,477,000); dry beans, 1,717,000 (1,641,000); soy beans, 2,019,000 (1,824,000); buckwheat, 3,354,000 (4,031,000); mixed grains, 55,047,000 (61,947,000); flaxseed, 2,262,000 (17,683,000); shelled corn, 14,756,000 (12,417,000). The average yields per acre, in bushels, are estimated as follows, with the 1948 figures in brackets: Wheat, 13.5 (16.3); oats, 28.3 (32.0); barley, 20.8 (23.9); rye, 8.8 (12.0); dry peas, 15.2 (18.0); dry beans, 18.4 (17.8); soy beans, 23.0 (19.4); buckwheat, 19.8 (21.6); mixed grains, 32.7 (40.2); flaxseed, 7.0 (9.4); shelled corn, 54.3 (49.2).

000 in the preceding year, 275,000 in 1947, and 188,000 in 1946. Newfoundland's population shows a rise of 26,000 from the 1945 census figure of 322,000.

There were increases in the population of all provinces except Prince Edward Island between 1948 and 1949. Largest numerical increase of 114,000 was registered in Ontario, followed by Quebec with a gain of 95,000, British Columbia 32,000, Alberta, 25,000, Manitoba 21,000, New Brunswick 13,000, Nova Scotia 10,000, and Saskatchewan 7,000. Prince Edward Island's population was down 3,000, while figures for the Yukon and Northwest Territories were unchanged.

Estimates for the provinces and territories are as follows, with 1948 figures in brackets: Ontario, 4,411,000 (4,297,000); Quebec, 3,887,000 (3,792,000); British Columbia, 1,114,000 (1,082,000); Alberta, 871,000 (846,000); Saskatchewan, 861,000 (854,000); Manitoba, 778,000 (757,000); Nova Scotia, 645,000 (635,000);

000); New Brunswick 516,000 (503,000); Newfoundland, 348,000 (322,000 in 1945); Prince Edward Island, 90,000 (93,000); Northwest Territories, 16,000 (16,000); Yukon, 8,000 (8,000).

Canada's population in 1941, according to the census of that year, was 11,507,000. Following are estimates for succeeding years: 1942, 11,654,000; 1943, 11,812,000; 1944, 11,975,000; 1945, 12,119,000; 1946, 12,307,000; 1947, 12,582,000; 1948, 12,883,000; 1949, 13,545,000.

BUDGETARY SURPLUS: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, released on September 17 the regular monthly statement of the Comptroller of the Treasury covering revenues and expenditures for the Government of Canada for the month of August and the fiscal year to date.

Total revenues of the Government for the month of August amounted to \$187.8 million compared with \$194.9 million for the same month last year. Total revenue receipts for the first five months of the current fiscal year amounted to \$1066.6 million compared with \$1115.2 million for the same period a year ago.

The declines in revenues for the month reflected the reductions in excise tax and personal income tax rates announced in the last budget. Reductions in revenue from these sources were partly offset by an increase in collections under the Corporation Income Tax. Customs revenue was higher for the month than for August, 1948 while Excise Duties remained at approximately the same figure.

In regard to total expenditures, the figure for August, 1949 was slightly higher than for August, 1948 - \$147.1 million as compared with \$138.1 million. Total expenditures for the first five months of the year amounted to approximately \$772 million representing an increase of \$102 million over total expenditures of the preceding fiscal year.

Revenues for August exceeded expenditures by \$40.7 million. This brought the so-called budgetary surplus for the first five months of the fiscal year to \$294.6 million compared with a budgetary surplus of \$444.7 million in the corresponding period of last fiscal year.

This budgetary surplus does not take into account certain outlays and certain receipts which are not expenditures or revenues in the true accounting or budgetary sense. The comptroller's statement shows that there were non-budgetary expenditures, comprising outlays for loans, advances and investments, amounting to \$18.0 million in August and \$97.5 million in the first five months of the fiscal year.

LABOUR LAW IN NEWFOUNDLAND: The Minister of Labour, Mr. Mitchell, announced on September 16 that federal labour legislation would come into force in the Province of Newfoundland on September 19.

The Minister tabled an Order in Council in the House of Commons which provided for a proclamation declaring that The Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act and the Conciliation and Labour Act be applied in Newfoundland.

Under the terms of Union of Newfoundland with Canada it was provided that federal legislation should come into force by Act of Parliament or proclamation issued from time to time.

Necessary arrangements having been completed, the Minister said, the federal labour legislation would come into effect on the date stated but only in the federal legislative field covering employees and employers engaged in navigation and shipping, railways, telegraphs, steamship lines, longshore work, air transportation, radio and other activities of an interprovincial or international nature. Persons engaged in manufacturing and other works or businesses would, as in the case of the other provinces, remain within the jurisdiction of the Province of Newfoundland.

SERVICES' COMMUNICATIONS: The final step in the coordination of existing communications centres of the three services into a National Defence Communications System was announced on September 16 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton. The System, stretching from coast to coast, will integrate the main lines of communications of the Armed Forces and is expected to go into operation before the year's end. It will have as its main feature a series of tri-Service communications centres across the country which will allow Service messages to be handled in larger quantity and at greater speed than previously, employing the most modern techniques and equipment.

The system will provide valuable training for Service personnel in handling a large quantity of traffic at high speed. It will greatly enlarge Canada's present defence communications, and will be capable of rapid expansion in event of war. Communications centres will be established at Halifax, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton, and Vancouver, and will operate on a tri-Service basis.

NEW SCALLOP BED: Discovery of a new scallop bed in the Northumberland Strait area on Canada's east coast should provide a new source of income to Maritime fisherman, the Department of Fisheries announced on September 16.

The new bed, which indicates good commercial fishing, was discovered by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada during its exploration of scallop resources of the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The principal production of Nova Scotia scallops is from beds in the Bay of Fundy area off Digby.