

## OFFICIAL ESTIMATE OF THE CROPS.

The Census and Statistics Office at Ottawa has issued its monthly report on the field crops of Canada, based upon returns made by crop-reporting correspondents at the end of September. The report gives the second or provisional annual estimate of the yield of the principal grain crops, and a statement of the quality of these crops at the time of harvesting.

### YIELD OF PRINCIPAL GRAIN CROPS.

For wheat, oats, rye and flax the provisional estimate now issued shows yields higher even than those reported a month ago; but in the case of barley and oats the present estimate is less than that of August 31. The total wheat crop of Canada is now placed at 336,258,000 bushels from 12,986,400 acres, representing an average yield per acre of 25.89 bushels. This total is 174,978,000 bushels more than last year's inferior yield of 161,280,000 bushels, the crop this year being therefore more than double, or 108 p.c. more than that of last year. It is 104,541,000 bushels, or 45 p.c. in excess of the previous highest yield of 231,717,000 bushels in 1913 and 140,232,000 bushels or 72 p.c. in excess of the annual average yield of 196,026,000 bushels for the five years 1910 to 1914. Of oats the revised total yield is 481,035,500 bushels from 11,365,000 acres, an average per acre of 42.33 bushels. Barley comes out at 50,868,000 bushels from 1,509,350 acres, an average per acre of 33.70 bushels. Rye is now 2,478,500 bushels from 112,300 acres, or 22.07 bushels per acre and flaxseed 12,604,700 bushels from 1,009,600 acres, or 12.48 bushels per acre.

### WESTERN YIELDS.

In the three Northwest provinces the estimated yield of wheat is 304,200,000 bushels and of oats 305,680,000 bushels. The remaining grain crops of Canada, whose yields are now reported on for the first time this year, are as follows: peas 3,240,400 bushels from 196,210 acres, an average of 16.52 bushels per acre; beans 594,000 bushels, 43,310 acres, 13.71 bushels per acre; buckwheat 8,101,000 bushels, 343,800 acres, 23.58 bushels per acre; mixed grains 17,128,500 bushels, 466,800 acres, 36.69 bushels per acre; corn for husking 14,594,000 bushels, 253,300 acres, 57.62 bushels per acre. In arriving at these estimates certain deductions have been made for quantities reported as destroyed by the weather in the province of Ontario, chiefly sprouting in stook through the excessive rains during August. These deductions do not represent a total loss, as the sprouted grain will be used for feeding.

### QUALITY OF GRAIN CROPS AT HARVEST.

Correspondents were asked to report on the quality of the grain crops at the time of harvest, as measured against a standard of 100 representing grain well headed, well filled, well saved and unaffected to any appreciable extent by frost, rust, smut, etc. The average results for the whole of Canada are as follows: wheat, oats, barley, rye and mixed grains from 90 to 93; peas, beans, buckwheat, flax and corn for husking from 79 to 84. The quality of spring wheat is exceptionally high in the Northwest provinces, being 93 in Manitoba, 96 in Saskatchewan and 97 in Alberta. Last year the corresponding figures for Canada were below 80 in nearly all cases and even in the good season of 1913 they were not so high as they are this year.

## BRIGADIER-GENERAL E. W. WILSON.

The well deserved recognition of exceedingly valuable services during the past year as Officer Commanding the 4th Military Division, by the promotion of Colonel E. W. Wilson to the rank of Brigadier-General has a special interest to life insurance men, for General Wilson, in addition to being a distinguished soldier has long had business interests in life insurance, recently as manager at Montreal of the Canada Life. General Wilson's connection with military affairs goes back as far as 1882 when he joined the Victoria Rifles as a private. In due course, working up from rank to rank, he became lieutenant-colonel commanding that battalion, a position from which he retired in 1907. In the following year he was appointed Brigadier of the Montreal Infantry Brigade, with rank as Colonel, retiring to the Reserve of Officers in 1911. A year ago he was prevailed upon to occupy his present position, and in his important office has created an enviable record of business-like administration, and rendered services of great military value to the Dominion. General Wilson has given two sons to active service, one being overseas with the 2nd Mounted Rifles under Col. C. A. Smart, while the younger is serving with Major E. G. M. Cape's 3rd Overseas Battery, Siege Artillery.

Underwriters in California are reported to be suffering a plague of incendiary fires due to I. W. W. activities. The I. W. W. aim is apparently to terrorise the authorities into releasing two of their members who are in prison for murder.

ESTABLISHED 1873

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