

FARM CASH INCOME UP: Farm cash income from the sale of farm products and from participation payments on previous years' grain crops is now estimated at \$2,662,100,000 for 1956, an upward revision of some \$6,200,000 from the advance preliminary estimate of \$2,655,900,000 released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in January. The current estimate is about 13 per cent above the revised figure of \$2,357,100,000 for 1955. The all-time high cash income estimate amounted to \$2,849,300,000 in 1952.

Cash income for 1956 was up in all provinces, with the increases varying all the way from less than 1 per cent in Ontario to about 40 per cent in Saskatchewan. Higher returns from the sale of grains, cattle, hogs, poultry and eggs, together with larger grain participation payments contributed largely to the increase in cash income in 1956 over 1955. Supplementary payments made under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act to farmers in Western Canada amounted to about \$5,000,000 in 1956 against \$33,300,000 in 1955.

HIGHER WHEAT INCOME

As a result of greatly increased marketings and higher average prices, cash income from the sale of wheat during 1956 amounted to approximately \$460,000,000, about 40 per cent above the preceding year's \$329,500,000. This increase of about \$130,000,000 in cash returns represents the largest contribution of any single commodity to the gain in total cash income. Wheat participation payments totalling nearly \$62,000,000 in 1956 were well above \$26,000,000 distributed a year earlier.

As in the case of wheat, marketings of oats and barley in 1956 were up substantially from the level of the preceding year, resulting in a total cash income of about \$150,000,000 as against nearly \$98,000,000 in 1955; on the other hand, participation payments on these two grains in 1956 were only slightly above the 1955 level.

BAND IN SPOTLIGHT: Another of the Canadian Army's outstanding military bands will soon be in the international spotlight again. This time it's Prairie Command's band of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, stationed at Winnipeg.

On May 17 and 18, the 50-man group of musicians will be the feature attraction at the 27th annual Festival of Bands at Williston, North Dakota.

About 40 bands from all over the United States will appear in the monster parade and non-competitive festival. Getting top billing and presenting the major concert of the weekend will be the Canadian group.

Director of Music for the RCHA band is Lt. Armand J.P. Ferland, LGSM, LRAM. Lt. Ferland, a native of St. Boniface, Man., is a

graduate of the University of Manitoba. He studied music at the Conservatory of Music, Montreal; Kneller Hall, England; and the London Guildhall School of Music.

International acclaim is nothing new for Canadian Army bands. Last year and again this year, the pipes and drums of The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada were featured in Bermuda and New York; the band of the 48th Highlanders of Canada appeared in Philadelphia, and the band of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals played to enthusiastic audiences in Europe.

The RCHA band has been famous since 1905 with noted appearances at the Quebec Tercentenary in 1908, the Toronto Exhibition, unveiling of the Vimy Memorial in 1936, and a long list of successes in other parts of Canada and abroad.

Estimated income from the sale of flaxseed set an all-time high record in 1956 when it reached close to \$62,000,000; a substantial increase in marketings together with higher prices contributed to the increase of 52.6 per cent over the 1955 estimate of \$40,500,000. Income from corn was down because of smaller marketings. Higher returns from the sale of potatoes were the result of a combination of larger marketings and somewhat higher average prices.

Total cash income from the sale of livestock in 1956 is estimated at \$736,600,000 as against \$702,900,000 in 1955. Contributing almost entirely to this gain were higher returns from the sale of cattle and hogs. In the case of cattle, higher marketings more than offset slightly lower prices. An increase of both marketings and prices of hogs provided a total income from this commodity of approximately \$302,000,000, 4.3 per cent above 1955's \$289,600,000. The 1956 returns from calves were only slightly above the 1955 level as a result of small increases in both prices and marketings.

An individual product record was also set in the case of dairy products when cash income from this source rose from \$438,400,000 in 1955 to an all-time high of \$445,900,000 in 1956. Somewhat larger quantities were marketed at slightly higher prices. Farm cash returns from the sale of eggs at \$143,800,000 were 8.5 per cent above the \$132,600,000 in 1955. Income from the sale of poultry meat reached a new high of \$161,200,000, approximately 7 per cent above 1955's returns of \$150,500,000.

Cash income totals for the provinces were as follows (in thousands): Prince Edward Island, \$26,400 (\$25,900 in 1955); Nova Scotia, \$44,400 (\$42,800); New Brunswick, \$51,400 (\$47,800); Quebec, \$441,000 (\$424,200); Ontario, \$749,300 (\$749,100); Manitoba, \$209,200 (\$173,500); Saskatchewan, \$597,600 (\$424,700); Alberta, \$432,900 (\$365,100); and British Columbia, \$109,900 (\$104,000).