

AGRICULTURE.

Future Possibilities of Agriculture in Canada.—To the question, What area of Canada is capable of devotion to agriculture?, it is impossible from the nature of the case to return any exact reply, as the data do not exist from which definite conclusions can be drawn. Of the total land area in Canada, placed by the most recent measurements at 2,306,502,000 acres, 1,401,316,000 acres is the total land area of the nine provinces as at present constituted; the remaining area consists of the Northwest Territories (773,073,000 acres) and the Yukon Territory (132,113,000 acres). The Northwest and Yukon Territories may be omitted for the present, since no appreciable extent of land therein is likely to be devoted to agriculture before all the land within the provinces has been occupied. Table 16, based upon data of the Census of 1911, shows by provinces the total areas, the areas occupied as farm land in 1911 and the areas estimated to be possible of future devotion to agriculture. The areas of possible farm land are derived from the percentages of the total, which are fixed arbitrarily but in the light of the most recent information available. Of the total land area of Canada, viz., 1,401,316,413 acres, 31 per cent., or 440,951,000 acres, is estimated to be capable of devotion to agriculture in future. These figures however take no account of forests and swamp lands, which may ultimately be tilled, nor of northern areas of which the agricultural possibilities are at present unknown because the lands are unexplored and unsurveyed.

16.—Areas occupied and Areas possible of Occupation as Farm Land in Canada, 1914.

Provinces.	Total land.	Occupied as farm land, 1911.		Estimate of possible farm land.	
		Acres.	p.c.	p.c.	Acres.
Prince Edward Island.....	1,397,991	1,202,347	86.01	90	1,258,000
Nova Scotia.....	13,483,671	5,235,871	38.83	60	8,090,000
New Brunswick.....	17,863,266	4,530,298	25.36	60	10,718,000
Quebec.....	442,153,287	15,576,809	3.52	10	44,215,000
Ontario.....	234,163,030	21,933,700	9.37	25	58,541,000
Manitoba.....	148,432,698	12,367,355	8.33	50	74,216,000
Saskatchewan.....	155,764,100	28,642,973	18.39	60	93,459,000
Alberta.....	161,872,000	17,747,739	10.96	65	105,217,000
British Columbia.....	226,186,370	2,539,993	1.12	20	45,237,000
Total.....	1,401,316,413	109,777,085	7.18	31	440,951,000

Agricultural Instruction Act.—Under the Agricultural Instruction Act, 1913 (3 Geo. V, c. 5), appropriations are annually payable by the Dominion Government to each of the Provincial Governments of Canada for the encouragement of agriculture “through education, instruction and demonstration carried on along lines well devised and of a continuous nature” and for the purpose of assisting in the work of veterinary colleges established in the provinces. The allocation of the payments under this Act for the years 1913–14 and 1914–15, as well as under the Agricultural Aid Act (2 Geo. V, c. 3), for the year 1912–13 are shown