

PRODUCTION

Quality of Grain Crops.—The quality of the grain crops of 1916, as determined by the average weight in lb. per measured bushel, was as follows: Fall wheat, 59.52 lb.; spring wheat, 56.51 lb.; all wheat, 57.10 lb.; oats, 33.86 lb.; barley, 45.66 lb.; rye, 54.95 lb.; peas, 59.88 lb.; beans, 60 lb.; buckwheat, 46.35 lb.; mixed grains, 43.13 lb.; flax, 55 lb., and corn for husking 56.51 lb. For wheat and oats these weights per measured bushel are lower than in any previous year on record.

Average Values per Bushel of Grain Crops.—Offsetting the low yields and grades was the increase in the average prices of grain received by farmers in 1916. These prices are considerably higher than those of 1915, and are even higher than the prices which ruled in 1914 after the outbreak of the war. The average prices per bushel received by farmers for the grain products of 1916 work out as follows: Fall wheat, \$1.54 against 90 cents in 1915; spring wheat, \$1.29 against 91 cents; all wheat, \$1.31 against 91 cents; oats, 51 cents against 36 cents; barley, 82 cents against 52 cents; rye, \$1.11 against 77 cents; flaxseed, \$2.04 against \$1.51; peas, \$2.22 against \$1.65; beans, \$5.40 against \$3.05; buckwheat, \$1.07 against 75 cents; mixed grains, 88 cents against 57 cents and corn for husking, \$1.07 against 71 cents.

Total Values of Field Crops.—The total farm values of the principal grain crops of 1916 are estimated as follows, the values of wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed being based upon the final returns of the Census of 1916, and the corresponding values of 1915 are given in brackets for wheat, oats and barley: Wheat, \$344,096,400 (\$356,816,900); oats, \$210,957,500 (\$171,009,100); barley, \$35,024,000 (\$27,985,800); rye, \$3,196,000; peas, \$4,919,000; beans, \$2,228,000; buckwheat, \$6,375,000; mixed grains, \$9,300,900; flaxseed, \$16,889,900 and corn for husking, \$6,747,000. Including the root and fodder crops, the total value of the field crops of Canada in 1916 is estimated at \$886,494,900, as compared with \$825,370,600, the revised estimate of 1915. The totals comprise grain crops, \$639,733,700, compared with \$601,093,300 in 1915; potatoes and sugar beets \$51,422,300, compared with \$37,235,300, and fodder crops, \$195,338,900, compared with \$187,042,000. The total of \$886,494,900 for 1916 is higher than in any previous year.

Grain Harvest in the Prairie Provinces.—In the three Prairie Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, the production of wheat in 1916 was estimated at 242,314,000 bushels, as compared with 360,187,000 bushels in 1915; of oats at 313,916,000 bushels, compared with 279,692,000 bushels; of barley at 33,419,000 bushels, compared with 36,003,000 bushels; and of flax at 8,212,500 bushels, compared with 6,045,000 bushels. The estimated wheat production of 1916 in Manitoba was 29,667,000 bushels from 2,727,725 acres; in Saskatchewan 147,559,000 bushels from 9,032,109 acres and in Alberta 65,088,000 bushels from 2,604,975 acres.

Field Crops of 1915 and 1916 by Provinces.—Table 1 gives for Canada and the provinces the estimates of the area, yield, quality and value of the principal field crops in 1916, as compared with 1915. Table 2 shows the total acreage and estimated production of wheat, oats, barley and flaxseed in the three Prairie Provinces for the years 1915 and 1916, the areas being those of the Census of 1916. Table 3 shows