

A glance at both tables will show that during the first period 1867 to 1896 immigration reached its maximum from the years 1882 to 1893, the number of immigrants exceeding 100,000 per annum only however during the three years 1882 to 1884. The increased immigration during this period was due to the opening in 1886 of the new Canadian Pacific Railway and the consequent settlement of the great Northwest. Immense activity in railway construction, coupled with a new policy of effective advertising of the agricultural capabilities of western Canada, marked the opening years of the twentieth century with the result that from 1903 to 1913, broken only by occasional setbacks due to the enforcement of more rigid regulations to exclude the unfit, there was an annually increasing stream of immigrants. The number exceeding 100,000 in 1903 reached the maximum of 402,432 in 1913, declined to 384,878 in 1914 and was then interrupted by the war. A feature of this period has been the great influx of settlers from the United States, representing in large measure the return to Canada of those who had crossed the border in the previous period, but including also large numbers of American farmers who being already practically acquainted with the conditions of the west, and bringing with them valuable effects, were speedily able to "make good" on the new lands.

AGRICULTURE.

For the measurement of agricultural progress in Canada, the statistical data available comprise (1) the returns of the decennial census for all Canada, (2) the quinquennial census of the Prairie Provinces from 1906, (3) the annual estimates since 1908 of the Dominion Government, based upon the census and applicable to the whole of Canada, and (4) the annual estimates of the Provincial Governments for certain of the provinces for varying periods. The acreage statistics of all field crops were not collected by the decennial census until 1900, but for wheat the acreage has expanded from 1,646,781 acres in 1870 to 2,366,554 acres in 1880, 2,701,246 acres in 1890, 4,224,542 acres in 1900 and 8,864,514 acres in 1910. Similarly, the area under hay has increased from 3,650,419 acres in 1870 to 4,458,349 acres in 1880, 5,931,548 acres in 1890, 6,543,423 acres in 1900 and 8,289,407 acres in 1910. Potatoes which occupied 403,102 acres in 1870 only increased to 464,504 acres in 1910, this being a crop which as a rule is grown only for home consumption, except for a limited quantity exported from the Maritime Provinces to Cuba and the West Indies.

Table 8 is a comparison between the acreage under field crops in 1900 and 1910.

In this period the expansion under wheat, oats, barley and flax was greater than in any previous decade since Confederation, and was due to the great tide of immigration and settlement on the Prairie Provinces which set in with the opening of the twentieth century. The table shows that the area under wheat more than doubled, that barley increased by more than 400,000 acres, that oats increased by