

an increase of 8,157,713 acres, or 28.5 p.c.; and in Alberta 23,062,767 acres, an increase of 5,310,868 acres, or nearly 30 p.c. Of the total acreage in farms, viz., 73,300,135, the area improved (Table 15) was 34,330,246, or 47 p.c. Manitoba had 7,187,737 acres improved out of 13,436,670 acres in farms, Saskatchewan 19,632,206 acres out of 36,800,698 acres and Alberta 7,510,303 acres out of 23,062,767 acres, the percentage of land improved to total farms being 53 in Manitoba and Saskatchewan and 32.5 in Alberta. The number of farms (Table 14) was 218,563, as compared with 203,474 in 1911, an increase of 15,089, or 7.41 p.c. In Manitoba the number of farms in 1916 was 46,580, an increase since 1911 of 974, or about 2 p.c.; in Saskatchewan it was 104,006, an increase of 7,634, or 8 p.c., and in Alberta 67,977, an increase of 6,481, or 10.5 p.c.

Table 15 shows the distribution of farms by size of holding and description of tenure. For each province, it will be noted, the large majority of the farms fall within the category of between 101 to 200 acres, and the average size of the farm in this group is for each province just under 160 acres, an indication of the fact that most farms consist of quarter sections, or 160 acres. The average size of holding for the three provinces is, however, 335 acres, for Manitoba 288 acres, for Saskatchewan 354 acres and for Alberta 339 acres. About 82 p.c. of the land is owned by the occupiers and 18 p.c. is rented. Table 16 classifies the farm lands according as improved or unimproved and divides the unimproved land into forest, prairie and waste. The area in field crops for the three provinces increased from 17,677,091 acres in 1911 to 24,595,915 acres in 1916, or at the rate of 39 p.c., the increase being in Saskatchewan and Alberta, as in Manitoba there is shown a slight decrease.

### 13.—Total Area, and Area of Land in Farms, 1911 and 1916.

Provinces.	Total Land Area.	LAND IN FARMS.		Increase.	
		1911.	1916.		
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	p.c.
Manitoba.....	41,169,098 <sup>1</sup>	12,228,233	13,436,670	1,208,437	9.88
Saskatchewan.....	155,764,100	28,642,985	36,800,698	8,157,713	28.48
Alberta.....	161,872,000	17,751,899	23,062,767	5,310,868	29.92
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>358,805,198</b>	<b>58,623,117</b>	<b>73,300,135</b>	<b>14,677,018</b>	<b>25.04</b>

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of territory added by the Boundary Extension Act, 1912 (2 Geo. V, c. 32).