

MISCELLANEOUS AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

Production of Flax Fibre in Ontario, 1917.—According to information furnished by the Economic Fibre Production Division of the Dominion Experimental Farms, the area under flax grown for fibre in Ontario during 1917 was 8,000 acres. Table 27 presents an approximate estimate of the area, production and value of flax grown for fibre in Ontario for the three years 1915, 1916 and 1917:—

27.—Production and Value of Flax Fibre in Ontario, 1915-17.

Description.	Unit.	1915	1916	1917
Area.....	acres	4,000	5,200	8,000
Yield of fibre per acre.....	lb.	200	57	350
Total yield of fibre.....	tons	800	300	1,400
Total yield of tow.....	"	80	175	—
Yield of seed per acre.....	bush.	12	48	9
Total yield of seed.....	"	48,000	25,000	72,000
Value of fibre per ton.....	\$	400	600	1,100
Total value of fibre.....	\$	320,000	180,000	1,540,000
Total value of tow.....	\$	2,800	5,000	—
Value of seed per bush.....	\$	1.60	3.00	5.50
Total value of seed.....	\$	76,800	75,000	396,000

It will be observed from the table that the price of fibre during the three years has more than doubled, that the area sown for 1917 was 8,000 acres, as compared with 4,000 acres in 1915 and that the total value of the fibre was \$1,540,000 in 1917, as compared with \$180,000 in 1916 and \$320,000 in 1915. The total value of the products for 1917 (fibre and seed only) is \$1,936,000, as compared with \$260,000 in 1916 and \$399,600 in 1915 for all products.

Tobacco.—On the whole, the tobacco season of 1917 was better than that of the previous year. During the growing period the weather was less rainy, especially at the time of transplanting, which caused the failures to be less than in 1916 and allowed of an increase in the areas planted. The recovery of the plants was, however, rather weak, and both in Ontario and Quebec the beds suffered considerably from cold and cloudy weather which prevailed during the greatest part of April and May.

In 1918 there was a large increase in the areas devoted to the growing of the White Burley. The yield of the tobacco, which early in the season did not promise very much, was greatly improved by the late rains which occurred a few days before harvest time. The flue or bright tobacco crop of 1918 is the largest which has been produced in Canada so far.

In Quebec the growing season seemed to be very favourable in May. The growth of the seedlings was rapid, and there was a large proportion of early planting, the acreage in general being larger than in 1917. However, June was very much cooler than usual and very windy, which caused a great proportion of the plants to suffer and die and entailed a great deal of resetting. Furthermore, the growth in the field was checked by the unfavourable weather con-