

Annual Statistics.—Linked with the monthly crop-reporting service, but independent of it, are the plans for the collection of annual statistics of the areas under field crops and also of the numbers of farm live stock. These have been in force since 1918, and are carried out by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the nine Provincial Governments. The statistics are secured by a simple schedule calling for a statement of the areas sown to field crops and of the numbers of farm animals alive on June 15. These statements are at present received from about one-fourth of the farmers of Canada, and they form the basis for estimation of the totals for the whole of Canada, the totals being calculated according to the proportion which exists between the number of returns and the total number of farmers. The results for wheat, oats, barley, rye and flax in the three Prairie Provinces are ready for publication in August, while the results for the remaining crops and for the numbers of farm live stock are published in November. The areas, thus determined, when multiplied by the average yields per acre as reported by crop correspondents, give the total estimated production for each crop.

In six of the provinces the schedules were distributed in 1923 through the agency of the rural schools; in British Columbia and in Prince Edward Island they were mailed direct to farmers; in Quebec, through the co-operation of the Quebec Bureau of Statistics, the schedules were distributed by local agents under the direction of the agronomists or district agricultural representatives. This system has been found effective in securing a larger sample of the farms of the country than could be obtained in any other way.¹

Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics.—Originally established in 1908 as the "Census and Statistics Monthly," but changed to its present title in April, 1917, this publication is now in its seventeenth year. It is the official organ not only for the monthly crop reports and annual statistics previously described, but also for statistics of dairying, fur farming, fruit, hops, tobacco, maple products, sugar beets, beet sugar, flax fibre, clover and grass seeds, exports, visible supplies, prices, values, foreign agriculture, and of other subjects in considerable variety. The results of special agricultural studies and inquiries are also published in the Bulletin. For the year 1923 the Monthly Bulletin consisted of 518 octavo pages.

Presentation of Agricultural Statistics.—In the current edition of the Year Book, the statistics of agriculture are presented under the following headings: (1) Agricultural revenue and wealth; (2) Acreage, yield, quality and value of principal field crops; (3) Farm live stock and poultry; (4) Fur farming; (5) Dairying; (6) Fruit production; (7) Special agricultural crops; (8) Farm labour and wages; (9) Prices of agricultural produce; (10) Agricultural statistics of the census; (11) Miscellaneous agricultural statistics; (12) World's principal agricultural statistics.

1.—Agricultural Revenue and Wealth.

Revenue.—Table 1 shows under principal headings the gross agricultural revenue of Canada, by provinces, for each of the six years 1918 to 1923. It is important to observe that the figures represent gross values, as no distinction is made between crops used as materials for other kinds of production, such as the feeding of live stock, and no allowance is made for the costs of production.²

¹ For further details respecting the crop-reporting service and the collection of annual statistics, see "Handbook for the Use of Crop Correspondents, with Selection of Annual Agricultural Statistics, 1908-23," published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1924.

² For explanation of the methods used in estimating values, see the Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics for March, 1922, pages 85 to 89.