

issue of accurate, timely, and independent reports on crop conditions throughout the Dominion; first, in the interests of the general body of Canadian farmers; secondly, for the information and guidance of other interests allied to and dependent upon agriculture (interests represented by statesmen, economists, bankers, grain dealers, transportation agents, and others); and thirdly, for reporting to the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome (to which Canada is an adhering country) in return for reports on the production of other countries and of world totals which influence prices and consequently affect the interests of Canada. Supplementing the monthly reports from crop correspondents, the Bureau issues telegraphic crop reports utilizing the services of agriculturists throughout the Dominion. For the Prairie Provinces, these are issued every week from the latter part of May to the beginning of September while the reports on a Dominion-wide basis are issued every two weeks during the same period. The program of reports for 1939-40 is given in the Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, January, 1939, pp. 54-56, and is also issued as a special leaflet.

Annual Statistics.—In addition to the crop-reporting service, statistics of the areas under field crops and of the numbers of farm live stock are collected. This work has been conducted since 1918 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Provincial Governments. The statistics are secured by schedules which are at present returned by about one-fifth of the farmers of Canada. They form the basis of the estimates for the whole of Canada. The results for wheat, oats, barley, rye, and flaxseed in the three Prairie Provinces are ready for publication in late July, while the results for the remaining crops and for the numbers of farm live stock are published in October and November. The areas, thus determined, when multiplied by the average yields per acre as reported by crop correspondents, form the basis of the total estimated production for each crop.

The June schedule covers the areas sown to field crops, the numbers of live stock and poultry on hand, and breeding and marketing intentions with regard to live stock and poultry. The December schedule contains practically the same items with the exception of field-crop areas.

The schedules are distributed and collected through the agency of the rural schools in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, while in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Alberta, and British Columbia the schedules are sent direct to the farmer through the mail.

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 thirty-second year. It is the official organ not only for the monthly crop reports and annual statistics previously described, but also for statistics of dairying, eggs, fruit, apiculture, hops, tobacco, maple products, sugar beets, beet sugar, flax fibre, clover and grass seeds, visible supplies, prices, values, foreign agriculture, and other subjects in considerable variety.

Census Statistics.—In addition to the statistics collected annually, which are the subject of this section, valuable information is published following each decennial census. The total number of farms, their tenure, acreage, value, mortgage debt, farm population, farm machinery and facilities, etc., were treated at pp. 295-301 of the 1934-35 Year Book. A summary presentation of agricultural development since 1871 was given in Subsection 9, pp. 270-273 of the 1936 Year Book.