

**Financial Arrangements.**—The Act provides that the Board may borrow money on the security of wheat and that in its relation with the chartered banks the Minister of Finance may guarantee bank loans of the Board.

**Real Purpose of Legislation.**—There is no doubt that the intent of the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935, was to protect the Canadian producer against untimely developments in the international wheat situation. In actual fact the Canadian Wheat Board, through its power to fix a minimum price, through its power to receive Dominion financing, and through its power to transfer deficits to the Dominion Government, really acts as a buffer between chaotic conditions in the international wheat market and the farmers on the land in Western Canada.

Under this legislation the burden of international conditions as affecting wheat does not fall entirely upon the producer of wheat but is shared between the producer and the country at large.

#### THE BOARD IN 1935-36.

**Appointment of Board and Advisory Committee.**—The Canadian Wheat Board was appointed on Aug. 14, 1935, and comprised Mr. John I. McFarland as Chief Commissioner, Mr. D. L. Smith as Assistant Chief Commissioner, and Dr. H. C. Grant as Commissioner. An Advisory Committee was also appointed under Section 6 of the Act, with the following members: Robert McKee, of Vancouver, B.C.; Lew Hutchinson, of Duhamel, Alta.; L. C. Brouillette, of Regina, Sask.; Brooks Catton, of Hanley, Sask.; Sidney T. Smith, of Winnipeg, Man.; Paul F. Bredt, of Kemnay, Man.; C. H. G. Short, of Montreal, Que.

The first meetings of this Advisory Committee were held on Aug. 27, 28, and 29, 1935.

**Minimum Prices.**—The minimum price for No. 1 Northern wheat was announced on Sept. 6 at 87½ cents per bushel basis No. 1 Northern at Fort William-Port Arthur. Prior to the announcement, the market had closed at 85½ cents for No. 1 Northern but on the following day, Sept. 7, the market closed at 89 cents. The market price for No. 1 Northern remained above the minimum until Oct. 26 when it fell below for the first time. Apart from a couple of days in late November (the 23rd and 25th) when the market price was above the minimum, market prices were then slightly below the minimum for about eight months. In May, 1936, prices were at their lowest level of the crop year, No. 1 Northern closing at 73½ on the 26th. There was a recovery in June and on July 3, the market price of No. 1 Northern again went above 87½ cents and remained above for the remainder of the year, closing on July 31 at \$1.03½.

While the market price was above the fixed minimum price for nearly two months during the period of heavy deliveries, the Board was not at all certain how much of the farmers' wheat it would get. Its selling policy was consequently restricted. After the end of October when the market was below the fixed prices, practically all the farmers' wheat was delivered to the Board and the situation was much clearer.

On Sept. 17, the minimum prices for all the other grades, except "Feed", were fixed. The price of "Feed" was set on Sept. 23.