

# CHAPTER VIII.—AGRICULTURE

## CONSPECTUS

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Agriculture, including stock raising and horticulture, is the most important single industry of the Canadian people, employing, according to the Census of 1941, 25·2\* p.c. of the total gainfully occupied population and 30·5\* p.c. of the gainfully occupied males. In addition, it provides the raw materials for many Canadian manufactures, and its products in raw or manufactured form constitute a very large percentage of Canadian exports. For a statement of the occupied and the available agricultural lands in Canada, see pp. 29-30 of this volume.

An introductory outline of the historical background of Canadian agriculture is given at pp. 187-190 of the 1939 Year Book. As now presented, this Chapter treats of current governmental activities—Dominion, by special authoritative articles prepared in the Department of Agriculture but not repeated from year to year unless changes warrant; and Provincial, by an outline of the work of each provincial department. Comprehensive statistics of agriculture, collected and compiled by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and covering Canada as a whole, close the Chapter. These include data on farm income, values of agricultural production and farm capital, field crops, farm live stock and poultry, dairying, fruit, special crops, prices and miscellaneous statistics. World statistics of agriculture, formerly compiled from the publications of the International Institute of Agriculture, have not been available for recent editions of the Year Book because of war conditions.

### CANADIAN AGRICULTURE DURING THE WAR AND POST-WAR PERIOD†

Editions of the Canada Year Book issued during the past few years have carried as introduction to this Chapter special articles showing the effects of the War of 1939-45 on Canadian agriculture. Broad world-wide readjustments will accompany reconversion to peace: these, especially in the case of Canadian agriculture, may not result in any abrupt change but, in any case, there can be little doubt that in certain directions European agriculture will establish its position

\* Including persons on Active Service who are normally employed in agriculture.

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