

It was intended to be a revolving fund out of which further loans could be made as the earlier ones were paid off, but after 1922, falling fruit prices with consequent difficulty in collecting revenues by the districts resulted in their defaulting. In 1928, Legislative relief was granted the districts which reduced their indebtedness by about 25 p.c. The depression years of the 1930's increased their financial difficulties and in 1933 a further reduction of approximately 45 p.c. of the remaining indebtedness was granted. During the next five years the districts failed to pay the reduced instalments, and also failed to properly maintain their systems. This condition brought about the 1938 adjustment, providing for a substantial reduction of the instalment payments to the Conservation Fund on condition that the districts expended or set aside certain sums for replacement of works. This arrangement is still in effect, although the payments under it have been reduced in some cases on the plea of special circumstances.

The present status of irrigation loans under the Conservation Fund is as follows: total loans, \$3,314,283; repayments received, principal and interest \$1,571,988; total relief granted, principal and interest, \$2,859,278.

Subsection 12.—International Agricultural Statistics

The chief source of international agricultural statistics prior to the Second World War was the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome. Compilations of the Institute were interrupted during the war years and it was not possible to carry in the Year Book statistics of world production of cereals and potatoes, trade in wheat and flour, and numbers of live stock in principal countries. However, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has taken over the work formerly carried on by the International Institute of Agriculture in the field of agricultural statistics. Accordingly, it is expected that world statistics for many important food and agricultural commodities again will become available during 1947 and will appear in the 1948 Year Book.

The following table is summarized from a report of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, United States Department of Agriculture, and gives the 1946 wheat acreage and production by leading wheat-producing countries of the world, compared with 1945 and the average for 1935-39.

46.—Estimated Acreages and Production of Wheat in Specified Countries, Year of Harvest, 1945 and 1946, with Averages, 1935-39

NOTE.—Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to pre-war boundaries except as noted. Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere, which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1946 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began late in 1946 and ended early in 1947. Figures throughout the table refer to harvested areas so far as possible.

Continent and Country	Acreages			Production		
	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	Average 1935-39	1945	1946
	'000 acres	'000 acres	'000 acres	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.
North America—						
Canada.....	25,595	23,414	25,900	312,399	318,512	420,725
Mexico.....	1,244	1,153	1,193	14,284	12,741	13,547
United States.....	57,293	65,120	67,201	758,623	1,108,224	1,155,715
Totals, North America¹..	84,170	89,750	94,350	1,086,000	1,440,000	1,590,000

¹For footnote, see end of table, p. 383.