

**Farm Improvement Loans Act.**—One of the broad aims behind this legislation is the improvement of living conditions on farms, by the provision of electrification, refrigeration, heating systems, water systems, etc. The Act is more fully dealt with in the Agriculture Chapter, at p. 332.

## Section 2.—The Annual Survey of Dwelling Units Constructed

The survey of dwelling units and new residential buildings completed in Canada, was commenced by the Bureau of Statistics in 1945, and continued during 1946. The basic data for this survey was obtained from 623 incorporated municipalities, while provincial authorities and agencies of the Dominion Government also provided similar information for unorganized areas of the provinces, the Northwest Territories and Yukon. This group of municipalities includes all those in the 12 metropolitan areas, others having a population of 5,000 or over, and a further selected number chosen on the basis of scientific sampling technique, that is, a "random" sample of approximately 10 p.c. and 5 p.c., respectively, of other urban and other rural municipalities having a population under 5,000. The 623 municipalities represent 16·2 p.c. of the total number of incorporated municipalities in Canada, or approximately 67 p.c. of the total population in these areas.

The results of this survey during the calendar year 1946, compared with similar statistics for 1945, are summarized in the tables on pp. 589-590. It is estimated that there were 63,637 new dwelling units created in 1946, as compared with 48,599 completed in 1945, an increase of 30·9 p.c., and that the total number of new buildings containing dwelling units completed in 1946 was 53,199, as compared with 37,112 completed in 1945, an increase of 43·4 p.c.

The 1946 total is comprised of 58,828 dwelling units (92·4 p.c.) resulting from new construction, and 4,809 dwelling units (7·6 p.c.) from conversions, as compared with 42,617 dwelling units (87·7 p.c.) by new construction, and 5,982 dwelling units (12·3 p.c.) by conversions, in 1945. Thus, for new housing construction excluding conversions, the number of dwelling units completed in 1946, increased by 38·0 p.c. as compared with the previous year.

The largest number of dwelling units completed in 1946 were single dwellings and 67·3 p.c. of all new residential construction were buildings of wood frame with wood siding and shingles construction; those of wood frame with stucco on lath construction ranked second. A comparison of the total number of dwelling units, exclusive of conversions, with the total number of new buildings, shows that there was an average of 1 10 units per building for 1946, compared to 1 15 for 1945; this is accounted for by the larger proportion of single dwellings built in 1946, as compared with the previous year.

The results of new building construction during 1946 indicate that the weight of new residential construction is taking place in urban centres other than metropolitan areas. While new dwelling unit completions in metropolitan areas increased by over 14 p.c. in 1946 as compared with 1945, these represented only 32·1 p.c. of the total for 1946, as against 36·8 p.c. of total 1945 completions. Completions in other urban areas, however, reflect a marked change in both respects, these having increased in 1946 by over 49 p.c. of the 1945 total, and represented 39·2 p.c. of total completions in 1946, as compared with 34·3 p.c. of the 1945 total.