

In the collection of annual and monthly statistics, the Federal Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, as well as such agencies as the Board of Grain Commissioners and the Canadian Wheat Board, co-operate with the Bureau. Many thousands of farmers throughout Canada also voluntarily send in reports.

The figures for 1949 to 1951 (except for 1951 Census data) contained in this Section do not include those for Newfoundland, though that Province came into Confederation on Mar. 31, 1949. Agriculture plays a relatively minor part in Newfoundland's economy. The climate is not well suited to the production of any but the hardier crops and the amount of pasture land and arable soil is limited.

Subsection 1.—Farm Income and Capital

Farm Cash Income.—Estimates of farm cash income are based on reports of marketings and prices received by farmers for principal farm products and are subject to revision. The estimates include the amounts paid on account of wheat participation certificates, oats, barley and flax adjusting and equalization payments and those Federal and Provincial Government payments that farmers receive as subsidies to prices. It is estimated that, during 1950, Canadian farmers (excluding Newfoundland) received \$2,219,600,000 from the sale of farm products and from grain equalization and participation payments on previous years' crops. This estimate is 10·7 p.c. below the record high figure of \$2,486,600,000 for 1949. In addition to the above receipts, supplementary payments made under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act amounting to \$13,800,000 were paid to farmers in the drought-stricken areas of the Prairie Provinces. This figure compares with \$20,700,000 and \$17,600,000 paid during 1948 and 1949, respectively.

The decline in the 1950 farm cash income was largely attributable to a drop in the cash receipts from the sale of grains and substantially smaller grain equalization and adjustment payments to prairie farmers. The latter amounted to nearly \$50,000,000 compared with approximately \$220,000,000 in 1949. A lowering of the initial price to producers and a poor-quality crop combined to offset increased marketings during 1950 and give a cash income from the sale of wheat of \$379,100,000, almost 20 p.c. below the returns realized in 1949. Commencing Aug. 1, 1950, the initial price to producers of No. 1 Northern wheat, in store at the Lakehead, was lowered from \$1·75 to \$1·40 per bu. Severe frosts in the Prairie Provinces during August caused considerable damage to the crop and sharply reduced the average grade.

Receipts from the sale of coarse grains during 1950 were also below the 1949 level, partly because of smaller marketings and lower-quality crops. From Aug. 1, 1949, coarse grains came under the terms of the government compulsory marketing scheme whereby farmers received initial prices only at time of delivery. These prices were based on 60 cents per bu. for No. 1 Feed oats and 87 cents per bu. for No. 1 Feed barley, in store Fort William-Port Arthur, and were lower than the free market prices prevailing during the first seven months of 1949. However, in addition to