

Annual per capita consumption of creamery butter continued to decline, dropping 1.23 lb. to 16.15 lb. in 1960. As a result, despite lower production and larger than normal exports amounting to 3,014,000 lb. in 1960, creamery butter stocks on hand at the end of the year amounted to 113,802,000 lb., the largest carryover on record.

The output of concentrated whole milk production, normally only slightly in excess of domestic requirements, was 11 p.c. above those requirements in 1960, with government policy encouraging diversion of milk from butter into whole milk powder. Exports and per capita consumption increased 49.3 and 3.6 p.c., respectively, over 1959. Skim milk powder production at 166,800,000 lb. was 9,618,000 lb. below production in 1959 and 18,800,000 lb. below the peak reached in 1958. Exports declined from 110,500,000 lb. in 1959 to about 48,000,000 lb. in 1960 and domestic disappearance at 116,700,000 lb. was 3.8 p.c. below the record high Canadian utilization of 1959.

Fruits and Vegetables.—The apple crop, which is the most important of the fruit crops, was estimated at 13,100,000 bu. in 1960, 16 p.c. below the 1959 output. Production of plums and prunes, peaches, cherries, raspberries and loganberries was also lower. Crops were smaller in all producing provinces, with the exception of British Columbia. Minimum prices for all fruits for processing were higher than in 1959, except for a certain size of Kieffer pears.

Commercial vegetable growers planted 215,000 acres in 1960 as compared with 205,000 acres in 1959.

Other Principal Farm Products.—The 1959 tobacco crop was estimated at 170,255,000 lb., green weight, compared with 197,302,000 lb. in 1958. Ontario flue-cured tobacco was calculated at 147,000,000 lb. as against 176,322,000 lb. in 1958. About 129,000 acres were planted to tobacco, 119,000 acres in southern Ontario which was 6,000 acres less than in the previous year. In 1959 the Ontario Flue-cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board reduced the basic acreage allotment per farm by 15 p.c. after allowing a basic exemption per farm of 15 p.c. and allotting acreage to more than one hundred new farms. It is interesting to note that research has made possible the raising of tobacco in the Ottawa Valley of Ontario and in the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia; so far production in these areas is on a small scale.

The per capita cigarette consumption in Canada, calculated on the basis of total population, has increased considerably during the past few years, amounting to 1,678 in 1956, 1,817 in 1957, 1,901 in 1958, and 1,939 in 1959.

The potato crop, estimated at about 43,790,000 cwt. for 1960, recorded an increase of 20 p.c. over the 1959 crop of 36,532,000 cwt.

Fewer eggs were marketed through registered stations in 1960 than in 1959. Although the weighted egg price to producers for the first six months of 1960 declined to 24.9 cents from 29.4 cents for the same period in 1959, the price for the whole year at 29.8 was 0.6 cents higher than a year earlier. Egg price support to producers by means of deficiency payments under the Agricultural Stabilization Act began with the marketing year commencing Oct. 1, 1959 and will continue to Sept. 30, 1961 at an average of 33 cents per doz. for Canada Grade A Large and Extra Large.

Wool prices rose slightly from 1959 to 1960, and payment under the Agricultural Stabilization Act was increased from 21 to 23 cents per lb. Total farm value of shorn wool production increased from \$3,016,000 to \$3,168,000. Production was estimated at 6,891,000 lb. as compared with 6,800,000 lb. in 1959.

The 1960 maple crop, expressed as syrup, was estimated at 2,719,000 gal., about 15 p.c. above that of 1959 and 10 p.c. above the average production for the years 1953-57. The bulk of the crop was produced in the Province of Quebec. Exports of sugar in 1960 stood at 5,900,000 lb., about 20 p.c. lower than in the previous year. The value of the 1959 maple crop was estimated at \$9,468,000, 12 p.c. more than in 1958.