

# CHAPTER IX.—AGRICULTURE

## CONSPPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
<b>SPECIAL ARTICLE: Recent Changes in Canadian Agriculture</b> .....	377	<b>SECTION 4. STATISTICS OF AGRICULTURE</b> ....	408
<b>SECTION 1. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE</b> .....	381	Subsection 1. Cash Income from the Sale of Farm Products, 1960.....	409
Subsection 1. Services of the Department of Agriculture.....	381	Subsection 2. Volume of Agricultural Production.....	412
Subsection 2. Farm Assistance Programs..	383	Subsection 3. Field Crops.....	413
<b>SECTION 2. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS IN RELATION TO AGRICULTURE</b> .....	389	Subsection 4. Livestock and Poultry.....	418
Subsection 1. Agricultural Services.....	389	Subsection 5. Dairying.....	421
Subsection 2. Agricultural Colleges and Schools.....	396	Subsection 6. Fruits and Vegetables.....	426
<b>SECTION 3. LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION</b> .....	398	Subsection 7. Other Principal Farm Products.....	429
Subsection 1. Federal Projects.....	398	Subsection 8. Prices of Agricultural Products.....	434
Subsection 2. Provincial Projects.....	405	Subsection 9. Food Consumption.....	437
		<b>SECTION 5. AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OF THE CENSUS</b> .....	441
		<b>SECTION 6. INTERNATIONAL CROP STATISTICS</b> .....	442

*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

Agriculture in Canada, though no longer supreme among the primary industries, is of major importance to the economy of the country as a whole and is still basic to many areas. The area of occupied farm land of 271,756 sq. miles (1956) amounts to only 10.7 p.c. of the total area of the provinces and has shown little increase during the past two decades, but cultivation in this static area has become greatly intensified, producing most of the food products required by a rapidly increasing population and providing surpluses of wheat and other grains, wheat flour, livestock, fruits and vegetables and of many prepared and manufactured agricultural products for world markets. The agricultural economy has been undergoing continual change ever since the pioneer farmer first began to produce more than his requirements and to desire products other than those produced on his own land, but that change has now become extremely marked. The evolution in farming practice under the impact of technological and scientific advances, its commercialization and the development of its greater interdependence on other branches of the economy are outlined in the following special article. Other articles that have appeared in previous Year Books dealing with the historical development of agriculture and with significant features of that progress are listed in Chapter XXVI under the heading "Special Material Published in Former Editions of the Year Book".

### RECENT CHANGES IN CANADIAN AGRICULTURE\*

Canada's great industrial growth and increasing population are leading to vigorous expansion in the domestic demand for agricultural products, and thus to a continuing increase in output. However, the productive capacity of the farm has also advanced so rapidly that this necessary increase in output is being achieved despite a decline in the number of people employed in agriculture. In 1941, of a total employed civilian labour force of 4,200,000 people, 1,200,000 or 28.6 p.c. were engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1961 the total labour force had risen to 6,518,000 people but the agricultural labour force had declined to 674,000 or to 10.3 p.c. of the total.

\* Prepared under the direction of S. C. Barry, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.