

Prairie Farm Assistance Act.—The Prairie Farm Assistance Act, passed in 1939, provides for direct money payments by the Federal Government on an acreage-and-yield basis to farmers in areas of low crop yield in the Prairie Provinces and in the Peace River area of British Columbia. Its purpose is to assist in dealing with a relief problem which the provinces and municipalities cannot do alone and to enable the farmers to put in a crop the following year. Payments for the 1965-66 crop year, as at Mar. 31, 1966, totalled \$4,760,236; payments made under the Act since 1939 amounted to \$357,510,068.

Payments are made from the Prairie Farm Emergency Fund to which farmers contribute 1 p.c. of the value of all sales of wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed and rapeseed. The additional funds required are provided from the federal treasury. The total collected through the 1-p.c. levy in the 1965-66 crop year, as at Mar. 31, 1966, was \$5,824,647; the amount collected since 1939 was \$168,467,081.

Farmers operating land in the spring wheat area, and not covered by a federal-provincial crop insurance scheme, are eligible for awards. Crop failure and natural causes preventing seeding and summer fallowing are taken into account in making awards. These may not exceed \$800 in respect of any one farmer's total cultivated acreage.

Feed Grain Assistance.—The activities of the Feed Grain Administration of the Department of Forestry and Rural Development include the administration of a program respecting freight and storage assistance on western Canadian feed grains used for feeding livestock in Eastern Canada and British Columbia. Under the Feed Grain Assistance Regulations of the Appropriations Act, the original policy was initiated in October 1941 to enable eastern Canadian feeders of livestock and poultry to obtain western-grown feed grains at reduced cost so that livestock and poultry production could be maintained at a high level. This program has been amended over the years, particularly in the past two years with the introduction of a storage assistance program on winter supplies in Eastern Canada, the extension of freight assistance to truck movements of grain and feeds in Eastern Canada and the introduction of a zone system of payment. Orders in Council passed in 1965 and 1966 extended the payment of assistance to winter storage vessels at eastern ports, extended winter storage to storage facilities deemed as supplementary to licensed storage, and removed special winter rail assistance rates on shipments to the Maritime Provinces after the introduction of special water-competitive agreed charges by the railways.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1966, \$19,395,114 was spent on the freight assistance program to move 2,465,972 tons of feed grains and millfeeds into Eastern Canada and British Columbia, and \$1,173,259 was spent on the payment of storage charges on western feed grains in store in elevators and vessels in Eastern Canada. Freight-assisted shipments, by province of destination, during the year ended Mar. 31, 1966 were:—

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Wheat</i>	<i>Oats</i>	<i>Barley</i>	<i>Screenings</i>	<i>Millfeeds</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	\$
Newfoundland.....	10,065	5,844	7,343	2,145	5,164	30,562	753,197
Prince Edward Island.....	7,448	3,744	9,295	1,560	10,147	32,203	482,592
Nova Scotia.....	59,597	25,518	30,711	7,255	36,318	159,399	2,075,262
New Brunswick.....	18,544	15,138	14,141	5,292	28,195	81,310	1,156,724
Quebec.....	218,660	319,509	336,545	28,034	266,967	1,173,674 ¹	9,310,598
Ontario.....	129,438	237,626	225,447	52,478	150,756	806,619 ²	4,129,630
British Columbia.....	70,579	43,301	91,524	4,847	30,953	243,122 ³	2,115,313
TOTALS, 1965-66.....	514,340	650,680	715,006	101,620	528,500	2,526,859 ⁴	20,028,316
TOTALS, 1964-65.....	350,048	570,974	731,713	133,154	519,660	2,307,738 ⁵	18,349,293

¹ Includes 3,951 tons of rye destined for Quebec. ² Includes 10,373 tons of rye destined for Ontario.
 includes 1,199 tons of sample feed grain, 96 tons of rye and 623 tons of corn destined for British Columbia.

footnotes ³, ⁴ and ⁵.

⁵ Includes 819 tons of sample feed grain, 973 tons of rye and 392 tons of corn.

³ In-
⁴ See