

Supplementary payments to farmers in 1965 totalled \$28,300,000 as against \$8,500,000 in 1964. The total for 1964 consisted entirely of payments made under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act,* whereas in 1965 these payments included, in addition to PFAA payments, supplementary payments of \$16,900,000 made by the Federal Government to eligible milk and cream producers. Farm cash receipts from farming operations and total supplementary payments together amounted to \$3,804,100,000, about 9 p.c. above the previous record of \$3,496,700,000 in 1964.

Field Crops.—Farmers' returns from the sale of field crops plus cash advances on farm-stored grains in Western Canada and Canadian Wheat Board payments amounted to \$1,635,200,000 in 1965, only slightly above the 1964 figure of \$1,600,400,000. The 1965 estimate of returns accounted for about 43 p.c. of farmers' total cash receipts from farming operations, whereas a year earlier it represented about 46 p.c.

The maintenance of this level of returns from field crops in 1965 can be attributed for the most part to a substantial increase in Canadian Wheat Board participation payments on previous years' grain crops, larger net cash advances on farm-stored grains and higher cash receipts from potatoes, rapeseed and barley; total participation payments at \$296,800,000 were \$72,300,000 higher than in 1964. The 1965 payments represented final payments on the marketings of the 1963 crops of wheat, oats and barley of 48.2 cents, 9.8 cents and 22.6 cents per bu., respectively. Total returns to potato growers, at \$104,300,000, were approximately 61 p.c. above the 1964 estimate as a result of a very substantial increase in prices, and the higher receipts from the sale of barley and rapeseed reflect increased marketings. Offsetting these gains to a considerable extent were lower cash receipts from wheat, flaxseed, soybeans, fruits and tobacco, due for the most part to lower marketings. Wheat showed the most significant decline, total receipts dropping to \$658,900,000 from \$738,600,000 in 1964.

^{*} Payments to farmers under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act are made from the Prairie Farm Emergency Fund to which farmers contribute by means of a 1-p.c. levy on grain marketings.