

5.—Loans Approved under the Farm Credit Act, by Province, Years Ended Mar. 31, 1965-67

NOTE.—Figures for earlier years are given in the corresponding table of previous Year Books beginning with the 1940 edition.

Province	1965		1966		1967	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
Newfoundland.....	3	55,700	2	45,700	14	363,100
Prince Edward Island.....	124	991,700	100	1,134,900	141	2,242,700
Nova Scotia.....	77	964,100	58	1,006,800	49	842,200
New Brunswick.....	72	821,300	81	1,304,400	195	3,592,200
Quebec.....	1,354	20,326,500	1,140	18,987,200	1,522	25,941,200
Ontario.....	2,131	34,461,200	2,210	42,695,300	2,042	43,332,600
Manitoba.....	691	9,176,200	899	14,879,500	1,122	22,160,200
Saskatchewan.....	2,601	35,570,100	3,197	56,570,200	3,656	72,046,700
Alberta.....	2,602	42,512,300	2,940	58,346,300	2,844	62,408,800
British Columbia.....	487	9,934,800	611	14,014,600	582	15,017,800
Totals.....	10,112	154,813,900	11,238	208,984,900	12,167	247,947,500

Farm Machinery Syndicates Credit Act.—The Farm Machinery Syndicates Credit Act (SC 1964-65, c. 29, proclaimed Dec. 11, 1964) provides the Farm Credit Corporation with authority to make loans to qualified groups of farmers (referred to as syndicates) to purchase farm machinery to be used co-operatively and primarily on the syndicate members' farms. Under this Act, the Corporation may lend a syndicate up to 80 p.c. of the cost of the machinery to be purchased but loans outstanding to any syndicate may not exceed \$15,000 per member or \$100,000. Funds for this purpose are advanced to the Corporation by the Minister of Finance.

To qualify for a loan a syndicate must have three or more members, all of whom are farming and the majority of whom have farming as their principal occupation. Loans are repayable over a term not exceeding seven years. Security is provided by a promissory note signed by each syndicate member and such other security as may be required.

The interest rate, set by the Corporation with the approval of the Governor in Council, is based on the cost of funds to the Corporation, the expenses in servicing loans and an allowance for a reasonable reserve against losses; at present it is 6½ p.c. There is an initial service charge of 1 p.c. on the amount of each loan. The Corporation's field staff provide assistance to groups of farmers in making their local arrangements with respect to sharing in the use of the machinery and repayment of the loan. Up to Mar. 31, 1967, the Corporation had approved 232 loans totalling \$1,988,025.

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 1966-67 crop year, as at July 31, 1967, totalled \$3,116,437; payments made under the Act since 1939 amounted to \$361,054,822.

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 1966-67 crop year, as at July 31, 1967, was \$11,674,082; the amount collected since 1939 was \$185,902,984.

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 summerfallowing are taken into account in making awards. These may not exceed \$800 in respect of any one farmer's total cultivated acreage.