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World Wheat Situation

With new production, plus carry-over stocks of wheat in the United States and Canada approaching astronomical totals, it is difficult in 1942 to recall the days of the "dust bowl" in the American south-west and the time not so long ago when the fertility of the soil in western Canada was being very seriously questioned. Official estimates of the 1942 crop in the United States, and unofficial surveys of crop prospects in Canada this year point to the production of about one and one-half billion bushels of wheat in the two countries from the smallest wheat acreage sown in either country in at least the past seventeen years. In addition, the two North American countries have a combined carry-over of more than one billion bushels of old wheat.

Thumbing back through the pages of historical statistics it is revealed that not since the billion-bushel wheat crop of 1915 has the United States approached a production figure equal to the prospective crop in 1942, the great bulk of which has now been harvested, while western Canada appears to be going out after a new record if the official estimate to be issued on September 10 confirms the unofficial forecasts of production now in circulation. And most of this prolific production in 1942 can be attributed to rains both timely and generous.

But North America is not alone in this matter of bountiful wheat harvests. From Great Britain comes the news that a bumper wheat crop is now being gathered. Official estimates have been discontinued since the war but private observers are of the opinion that 100 million bushels of wheat will be harvested in the Old Country this year which would be in the neighbourhood of double the normal harvest. There is a difference to be noted, however, and it is that in Canada and the United States in recent years, efforts have been made to restrict wheat production through curtailment of acreage, while in Great Britain there has been decided expansion of wheat acreage which will continue in 1943 according to present plans.

In far off Australia the war situation has completely upset trade in wheat and compulsory reduction of wheat acreage has been applied to the crop now in the ground. It is estimated that the reduction ranges from 10 to 20 per cent but present prospects for the harvest which begins in November are "above average to very bright". It should be noted also that Australia had a carry-over of old wheat at the end of last November, of approximately 100 million bushels, so that this surplus added to North American and United Kingdom crops spells abundance for the United Nations in the matter of wheat supplies.

Argentina may also show a reduction of between 10 to 20 per cent in the acreage sown to wheat for harvest next December and January but unlike Australian conditions, the outlook at the moment is not promising. Unusually cold weather and severe drought combined to reduce sowings and hinder germination in Argentina and much will depend on spring rains. The wheat that has taken root will respond well to favourable weather but the next three months will be very critical for the South American crop.

The position in Nazi dominated Europe is somewhat obscure but there are many signs of an unfavourable harvest outlook. We have reports that Italy is loaning wheat to Germany at a time when the Italian civil population is under strict and severe bread rationing, and the latest news from Roumania, a former exporter of sizable quantities of wheat, is to the effect that the 1942 harvest will not be equal to domestic requirements.

In Germany itself, there is little doubt that the severity of last winter did irreparable damage to crops. It is also very doubtful whether the Nazis benefited much from the Ukraine territory taken from the Russians because of the lack of men, machines and fertilizer, but on the other hand it is very certain that occupied countries will be relieved of much of their grain crops for the benefit of German soldiery and the German civil population with consequent aggravation of food supplies to those countries.

The plight of the people of Greece is being partially met by shipments of Canadian wheat of which three cargoes, or 550,000 bushels are now afloat in Swedish steamers bound for Greek ports. In the case of Russia whose wheat and rye acreage has been further reduced by the invasion of the Caucasus, the stock pile in North America will be available. Recent estimates made by an official of the United States Department of Agriculture indicate that approximately 10 per cent of Russia's total wheat production comes from the North Caucasus, or an average of about 100 million bushels.

Australian Wheat Acreage

The area licensed for the sowing of wheat in Australia for the 1942-43 harvest is 10,951,000 acres, according to a cable received today by the Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics from Canberra. Under the Wheat Stabilization Plan which took effect last crop year, only licensed wheat growers on registered wheat farms in Australia have been permitted to sow wheat.

A "wheat farm" has been defined as one on which at any time during the period commencing October 1, 1938, and terminating on April 1, 1941, wheat has been harvested as grain, but does not include any land in respect of which the Government of a State, in pursuance of any scheme to prevent the production of wheat on unsuitable land, or on land in unsuitable districts, has caused the cessation of the production of wheat.

Existing farms at the time of the new legislation were and still are not permitted to expand the acreage sown to wheat and newcomers to the industry will not be able to put new land under wheat. The wheat area remaining for harvest in 1941-42 was 12,653,000 acres.

Primary Marketings of Wheat

Wheat receipts in the Prairie Provinces for the week ending August 21 totalled 333,923 bushels compared with 10,583 in the previous week and 6,266,631 in the corresponding week a year ago. By provinces the receipts were as follows, figures for 1941 in brackets: Manitoba 37,951(1,585,939) bushels; Saskatchewan 29,112(3,175,816); Alberta, 266,860(1,504,876).

Marketings for the three weeks ended August 21 amounted to 344,991 bushels as against 10,787,032 in the same period last year. By provinces they were as follows, 1941 figures in brackets: Manitoba, 46,973(2,878,484) bushels; Saskatchewan, 31,158(4,987,036); Alberta, 266,860(2,921,512).

Wheat Stocks in Store

The amount of Canadian wheat in store on August 21 aggregated 402,396,933 bushels compared with 406,388,870 on August 14 and 462,319,824 on the corresponding date last year. The Stocks in elevators and in transit by lake and rail in Canada totalled 381,224,824 bushels, while the amount in storage in the United States was 20,450,183 bushels.

Stocks of United States Grain in Canada

Stocks of United States corn in Canada on August 21 aggregated 6,124,575 bushels compared with 2,292,829 on the corresponding date last year. The amount of U. S. wheat in this country was 85,772 bushels compared with 205,249 a year ago, ryb 23,548 bushels compared with 23,578 and, soya beans 23,123 bushels against nil.

Fisheries Production in 1941

The year 1941 makes a high record for value of output of the Canadian fisheries. The total value of the fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh, or canned, cured, etc. was \$62,258,872, an increase over the preceding year of \$17,139,985, or 38 per cent, and an advance from the previous high record year (1918) of \$1,999,128, or 3 per cent. To the total value in 1941 the sea fisheries contributed \$54,325,858, or 87 per cent, and the inland fisheries, \$7,933,014, or 13 per cent.

The principal forms in which the fish is marketed and the total value of each in 1941 are as follows: sold for consumption fresh (including fresh fillets), \$22,633,021; canned \$26,829,661; dried, \$2,157,429; smoked (including smoked fillets), \$1,753,704; and other (green-salted, boneless, oil, meal, etc.) \$8,885,057.

Among the chief commercial fishes of Canada the salmon is of first importance, and the great volume of output of this species is credited to the renowned British Columbia fishery. The total marketed value of Canadian salmon in 1941 was \$21,475,275, of which British Columbia accounts for \$20,879,104, or 97.2 per cent; the other sea fisheries for \$567,716, or 2.7 per cent; and the inland fisheries for \$28,455, or 0.1 per cent. Following, in order of marketed value, in 1941 are: cod (\$7,494,604); herring(\$6,702,-947), lobster(\$3,858,733) and sardines (\$2,846,808). Lobster entirely, and cod and sardines chiefly, are from the Atlantic coast, while the bulk of the herring is taken in British Columbia waters.

In order of value of output, British Columbia takes first place, with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick third.

Education Organizations in Canada

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued today Part 1 of the Biennial Survey of Education in Canada. Part 1 includes elementary and secondary education.

The report contains some interesting notes such as the reference to general associations of education. The Canada and Newfoundland Education Association was founded in 1892 as the Dominion Education Association and was known later as the Canadian Education Association. Newfoundland affiliated with the association at its biennial convention in 1938. In that year a Canadian Council for Educational Research was established on the initiative of the association together with the Canadian Teachers Federation, with financial support from both as well as the Carnegie Corporation of New York. First grants in aid of research were given in October, 1939.

Married Persons in Prince Edward Island

At date of the 1941 Dominion census there were 17,625 married males and 17,473 married females in the province of Prince Edward Island. In 1931 the totals were 15,886 and 15,695, respectively. Nineteen forty-one figures show that there were 1,549 widowers in the province compared with 1,367 at the date of the 1931 census taking. The number of widows in 1941 was 3,401 compared with 3,327. Divorced males totalled 22 compared with 15, while divorced females totalled 19 compared with 13.

Age Groups in Prince Edward Island

The population of Prince Edward Island at the census of 1941 was 95,047 of which 49,228 were male and 45,819 female. This male majority was continued throughout all the age groups until the age of 75 when in the group between 75 and 79 there were 923 women and 898 men. This proportion was even more impressive at the age of 95 and over when there were 12 women and 6 men in the very aged class.

New Brunswick's Population in 1941

Final figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that the population of the province of New Brunswick at date of the 1941 Dominion census was 457,401 as compared with 408,219 in 1931, an increase during the ten-year period of 49,182.

The rural population of the province recorded an increase of 34,699, or from 279,279 in 1931 to 313,978 in 1941, while the urban population rose to 143,423 from 128,940 in 1931, a gain of 14,483. New Brunswick's male population in 1941 was counted at 234,097 compared with 208,620 in 1931, and the female 223,304 compared with 199,599.

Gold Production in June

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics records the June gold production at 425,067 fine ounces. This is only a few ounces less than the output for May, but 6.4 per cent less than the June 1941 production. During the first six months of 1942 the production aggregated 2,491,519 fine ounces as compared with 2,636,246 in the corresponding period of 1941.

The June output by provinces follows, with figures for June 1941 in brackets: Ontario, 237,980(266,100) fine ounces; Quebec, 90,723(87,591); British Columbia, 44,935(55,047); Manitoba and Saskatchewan, 29,456(27,078); Yukon, 10,152(9,733); Northwest Territories, 10,219(4,735); Nova Scotia, 1,597(1,622).

Half Year Production of Leading Minerals

During the first half of 1942 the production of Canada's leading mineral products was as follows, with figures for the like period of 1941 in brackets: cement, 3,469,176(3,351,121) barrels; clay products, \$2,731,701(\$2,772,990); coal, 9,464,864(8,461,714) tons; feldspar, 10,443(9,002) tons; gold, 2,491,519(2,636,246) fine ounces; gypsum, 381,036(393,388) tons; lime, 435,133(404,695) tons; natural gas, 23,444,782,000(21,336,101,000) cubic feet; petroleum, 5,568,972(4,872,969) barrels; commercial salt, 146,201(124,110) tons; silver, 9,396,460(10,160,606) fine ounces.

Building Permits In July

Building permits issued by 174 of the 204 municipalities in Canada which have systems for issuing such permits had a value of \$8,341,741 as against revised values for June from 199 municipalities aggregating \$10,427,675.

Civil Aviation in March

Civil air carriers reported 17,689 revenue passengers compared with 12,124 in March last year. Freight dropped from 1,451,005 pounds in 1941 to 980,246 and mail increased from 292,199 to 391,995 pounds. Revenues of licensed Canadian companies increased from \$712,927 in 1941 to \$870,243, and operating expenses from \$655,779 to \$843,183. The average miles per hour flown in revenue transportation service increased from 131 to 135 miles and the number of revenue passengers per aircraft mile from 3.5 to 4.8.

Production of Concentrated Milk in July

The production of concentrated milk and by-products in July totalled 29,399,743 pounds, recording an increase of 2,425,059 pounds or nine per cent over the corresponding output in 1941. During the seven months ended July the output aggregated 158,616,135 pounds compared with 148,109,412 in the like period of 1941, an increase of seven per cent.

Summary of Week's Quotations

1. Ignorance of the law excuses no man -- Selden, Table Talk: Law
2. To err is human, to forgive divine -- Pope
3. A little learning is a dangerous thing -- Pope
4. Knowledge is power, -- Baker
5. 'Tis man's to fight, but heaven's to give success. -- Pope

Reports Issued During the Week

1. Canadian Grain Statistics (10 cents).
2. Advance Report on Fisheries of Canada, 1941 (10 cents).
3. Civil Aviation, March (10 cents).
4. Building Permits Issued in Canada, July (10 cents).
5. Prince Edward Island Age Groups (10 cents).
6. Elementary and Secondary Education in Canada, 1938-40 (50 cents).
7. Telegraphic Crop Report (\$2.00 a year).
8. Prince Edward Island Conjugal Condition (10 cents).
9. Gold Production, June (10 cents).
10. Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation (10 cents).
11. Car Loadings on Canadian Railways (10 cents).
12. Census of Agriculture, Bulletin No. 25 (10 cents).
13. Population of New Brunswick by Rural and Urban Sub-Divisions (10 cents).
14. Production of Concentrated Milk, July (10 cents).
15. Canada's Lending Mineral Production, June (10 cents).

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