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Ottawa, May 12, 1924, 4.30 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued to-day the first crop report of the present season, indicating the proportions winter killed of fall sown wheat, the condition of fall wheat, and of hay and clover meadows, and the progress of spring seeding. The report is compiled from the returns of crop correspondents and from communications of certain of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture.

Winter Killing and Condition of Fall Wheat.- The area estimated last November as sown to fall wheat in Canada was 767,200 acres, of which 702,100 acres were in Ontario, 49,600 acres in Alberta and 15,600 acres in British Columbia. The proportion reported as winter killed in Ontario is only 4 p.c., as compared with 6 p.c. last year, 10 p.c. in 1922 and 15 p.c. the average for the ten years 1914-23. In Alberta, where the area estimated as sown last fall is 49,500 acres, the reports received to date as to winter killing are inconclusive, and about 15 p.c. is the estimate now provisionally made. This compares with 13 p.c. last year, 15 p.c. in 1922 and with 9 p.c. the average for the ten years 1914-23. In British Columbia the proportion winter killed is reported as 3 p.c., as against 8 p.c. last year and 4 p.c. in 1922. Deducting the total area estimated as winter killed, viz., 28,000 acres in Ontario 7,400 acres in Alberta and 500 acres in British Columbia, amounting altogether to 35,900 acres, we get, subject to revision, the total of 731,300 acres of fall wheat to be harvested this year. This total comprises 674,100 acres in Ontario, 42,100 acres in Alberta and 15,100 acres in British Columbia. Last year the harvested area was 815,706 acres, comprising 717,307 acres in Ontario, 84,260 acres in Alberta and 14,139 acres in British Columbia. The average condition of fall wheat on April 30, 1924, is reported as 99 p.c. in Ontario, 100 p.c. in Alberta, 98 p.c. in British Columbia and 99 p.c. for the three provinces. Last year the corresponding percentages were: Ontario 98, Alberta 89, British Columbia 103, and Canada 97. These figures represent percentages of the average yields per acre for previous ten years.

Hay and Clover Meadows.- The condition of hay and clover meadows on April 30 is reported as 99 p.c. of the ten year average, as compared with 99 p.c. last year and 96 p.c. in 1922. By provinces, the condition in percentage of the decennial average is as follows, with the corresponding percentages of 1923 placed within brackets: Prince Edward Island 99 (104); Nova Scotia 97 (99); New Brunswick 99 (100); Quebec 100 (102); Ontario 98 (99); Manitoba 95 (100); Alberta 102 (93); British Columbia 99 (103). For Canada as a whole the proportion estimated as winter killed is 2 p.c.

General Conditions and Spring Seeding.- All reports indicate that the spring this year is like that of last year, a late one. In Ontario it is considered to be nearly two weeks later than usual. In the Atlantic Provinces and in Quebec no seeding of any crops was reported as done by the end of April. In Manitoba conditions are similar to those of last year inasmuch as in both years not more than one p.c. of wheat was reported as sown and no other cereals were reported as sown, whilst in 1922 50 p.c. of the wheat crop was reported as sown in this province by the end of April. In Saskatchewan according to reports by telegraphic correspondents of the provincial Department of Agriculture, seeding became general during the week ended May 3, but rain and snow reported from the southwestern and northern parts, as also in Regina, on May 5, retarded operations. The reports also state that the wheat acreage shows a decrease of about 10 p.c., which may be attributed to the lateness of the season, and of flax an increase is indicated of almost 10 p.c. Fall rye is reported as having wintered well. A shortage of farm help is reported in some places and in others the demand has been fairly well met. Wages are averaging \$40 to \$45 per month for the summer season. On April 30, the reports of crop correspondents showed that 15 p.c. of wheat seeding was completed in Saskatchewan, as against 18 p.c. last year, this being 10 p.c. of total seeding done. Seeding began on April

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the work during the year. It is followed by a detailed account of the work done in each of the various departments.

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17, and became general on April 28. No oats or barley were reported as sown, and no grain was showing above ground on April 30. In Alberta 11 p.c. of wheat seeding was reported as done by the end of April, this proportion comparing with 52 p.c. at the corresponding date last year. No oats or barley were reported as sown, and the percentage of total seeding done was 7, as against 33 in 1923. In British Columbia the proportions sown by April 30 are reported as wheat 44 p.c., compared with 52 p.c. in 1923, oats 41 p.c., as compared with 38 p.c., barley 17 p.c., as compared with 24 p.c., and total seeding 41 p.c. as compared with 44 p.c. last year. For the six provinces, i.e. those other than the three Atlantic provinces the proportions of grain sown by April 30, 1924, as compared with the same date in 1923 given in brackets were as follows: Wheat 12 (17); oats 6 (7); barley 4 (4); total seeding 12 (14).

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