

THE APPROACHING CENSUS ON AGRICULTURE TO BE IMPORTANT; MUCH INFORMATION WANTED

Agriculture is the leading industry of Canada and the farmer is the economic backbone of the nation. The net annual value of agricultural production averages double of all other primary industries put together, and is from four to five times as great as that of either forestry or mining, which comes next in order of importance. The farmer furnishes the raw materials for many of our leading manufacturing industries, such as flour milling, feed and grist milling, bread and bakery products, slaughtering and meat-packing, butter and cheese making, boot and shoe making, fruit and vegetable canning, etc. The farmer is a large consumer of the finished products of nearly all our other manufacturing industries, more especially of such industries as agricultural implements, automobiles, binder twine, sawmills, fertilizers, etc. The farmer supplies a very large part of the freight carried on our great railways and steamship lines, so that a crop failure is immediately reflected in the falling off of railway and steamship earnings and a bumper crop in increasing railway and steamship revenues. Indeed, when the farmer is prosperous, the Dominion as a whole can hardly be depressed; when the farmer experiences hard times the Dominion can hardly be prosperous.

World Wide Slump

The Canadian farmer cannot be said to be in a satisfactory position this spring of 1931. The world-wide slump in wholesale prices has in the past eighteen months hit the farmer harder than any other large class in the community, and the whole nation has suffered accordingly. Thus the whole nation has an interest — in the rehabilitation and recovery of agriculture. While there is a widespread demand for the adoption of a "national policy for agriculture", there are differences of opinion as to the precise facts of the situation that exist at the present time among the farmers of the Dominion. A general survey of the Canadian agricultural situation in all the varied aspects is required as a basis for agricultural policy, and the detailed material needed for this survey is now to be collected from each of the more than 700,000 farmers of Canada at the decennial census of 1931. When this material has been collected, it will be tabulated and analysed by the national Bureau of Statistics. The report which will then be published will constitute a mine of information for Parliamentarians, publicists, farmer's organizations and all others interested in the problems of the farmers of the Dominion.

To Benefit Farmer

The approaching census of the farms of Canada is being taken for the benefit of the farmer. While the average farmer will not make individual use of the statistics, they will be used by the leaders of the farming community, by the professors and teachers in the agricultural colleges, by the local agricultural representatives of the Provincial Governments, by the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, by members of Parliament and of the Legislatures, as well as by the journalists writing in the general press and the agricultural newspapers. Further, all the estimates of acres sown, of crop yields, of numbers of live-stock, etc., that will be made periodically for some years to come, will be made in the light of statistics now to be collected. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the figures contributed by each farmer to the grand total should be complete and accurate, so that we Canadians may complete the best possible inventory of the greatest of our nations industries and realize just what agriculture means to Canada.

Steadily Increasing

Agricultural information has been collected at the census ever since the French regime, but the amount and the variety of the information secured has been steadily increasing with the growing complexity of the operations carried on by the farmers of the Dominion. The questions asked on the 1931 schedules cover a greater variety of subjects than in any previous investigation. And not only has every outstanding agricultural expert in the Dominion been consulted in the questions to be asked in the approaching

census, but advantage has also been taken of the work of the International Institute of Agriculture representing over 60 countries, which has had a staff of experts at work for the last four years making plans for an ideal census of agriculture. Thus the farmer who next month will be asked to answer the questions on the agricultural schedule may feel that the greatest possible care has been taken in the preparation of the schedule, so as to eliminate any useless or frivolous questions and leave those only having direct relation on the agricultural situation. While the main schedule of the agricultural census of 1931 is unquestionably long, the farmers who answer the questions may feel that they are contributing to the advancement of their industry.

The 1931 census of agriculture aims at securing (1) accurate statistics relative to farm lands, buildings, live stock and other property as at June 1, 1931; (2) statistics for 1930 regarding crops, live stock products, farm expenses, etc.; (3) statistics of incidental agricultural production, live stock, animal products, etc., "net on farms," and (4) statistics of "vacant and abandoned farms." This information will in the main be secured from the "General Farm Schedule," but there are also special schedules dealing with agricultural products raised elsewhere than on farm and with vacant and abandoned farms. In addition, each census enumerator has to fill out on special schedule giving the average price received by farmers in his enumeration area for each crop grown there in 1930. As copies of the general farm schedule have already been mailed to every known farm operator in Canada, it is unnecessary to comment at any length upon the ordinary questions relative to farm workers, farm acreage and tenure, condition of farm land and farm values.

Definition

Among the difficulties of census takers is that of definition. What is a farm? According to the Can. census a farm is all the land directly farmed by one person either by his own labor or by the assistance of members of his household or hired employees. But a farm must be of one acre or more and must have produced agricultural products of the value of \$50 or more in 1930.

The "farm operator" is another subject of interest. The census enumerator will want to know how long the farm operator, if an immigrant, has lived in Canada, how long the farm operator has farmed and how long he has operated his present farm.

The farm population of Canada will now be ascertained for the first time, as distinguished from the total rural population. The census asks for the total number of persons living on the farm at the date of census, as well as the number of persons moving from the farm to urban areas and from urban areas to the farm within the previous twelve months. This is intended to show the extent of the drift from country to town as well as the return movement.

Another new feature, introduced at the request of many agricultural association and farmers' organizations, is the question on farm mortgages, asking for the amount of the mortgage at the date of census and the amount of interest paid on mortgages in 1930. The replies to this question will answer for the first time the amount of the farm indebtedness in Canada.

Farm Expenses

The section on farm expenses included various items having an important bearing on farm economy. Among these are the amount paid for feed not raised on the farm in question, the sums paid for commercial fertilizers, spraying chemicals, field and garden seeds, electrical current for light and power, taxes paid or payable on land and buildings, money wages paid for labor, and estimated value of board and lodgings supplied to laborers. The number of weeks work done by hired labor is also required, as furnishing a means of establishing the average wages of farm labor in the different parts of Canada.

"Farm facilities" is an important part of the general farm schedule, dealing with location of farm, farm equipment and with the amenities of

FRATERNITY STUNTS PULLED OFF IN OLD DAYS ALWAYS MADE THE BOYS SHIVER SOME

(New York Sun)

"That's mild," remarked the first alumnus to his former classmate as he motioned to the ludicrously clad young man Walking West on cold Fourteenth street in the formality of initiation into some fraternity or club.

The young man was attired in a dirty straw hat, pants cut off above the knees which revealed his underwear, garters and socks, and in his hands he carried a sloop and scrubbing brush. Needless to add, the lad's face was swarmed with shoe polish.

"Yep, that sure is mild stuff," reiterated the first alumnus, now well into thirties, as he watched the young man, "and can't compare with the stunts they used to make us do at school."

"I remember the time," continued the alumnus in a reminiscent mood, "when they caught George Devlin taking a short cut across the campus during his frosh year. The sophs grabbed him and took him to the main dormitory where they tied him up and then got into a huddle to decide on what the punishment should be."

Struck an Idea

"Then some fiend in human form struck upon an idea that never had been heard of before and I'm almost certain hasn't been used since. They got some scissors and clipped George's finger nails as close as was humanly possible. Then they produced itching powder which they sprinkled liberally down poor George's back. The poor fellow nearly went crazy trying to scratch his back—without the aid of the good old reliable finger nails."

farm life. Among the questions are the type of road adjoining the farm, the distance from railway station and market, automobiles, farm implements, running water in farm house, radio, electric light and power and gas.

The majority of the questions deal as ordinarily with the crops raised on the farm in 1930 and the acreage of each crop sown for 1931, with the value of vegetables raised for home use, with vegetables produced for sale by market gardens, with orchard and small fruits, with grapes grown, with green-house and hothouse establishments and nurseries, with forest products cut on the farm, and maple syrup and maple sugar.

The latter part of the general farm schedule deals with number and value of different classes of horses, mules, cattle, sheep and swine on the farm at the date of the census, with milk produced and disposed of in 1930, with the wool clip in 1930, with poultry on farms at June 1, 1931, and number and value of eggs and chickens produced in 1930, and with bees and bee products. Questions are also asked regarding the number of young animals raised in 1930, the domestic animals slaughtered on the farm or sold alive in 1930, the animals purchased in 1930, and the pure-bred animals on the farm at the date of the census.

Farm Schedule

The General farm schedule concludes with questions relative to co-operation in marketing the agricultural and animal products of the farm, and in the purchasing of farm supplies. The statistics to be compiled from the answers to these questions will doubtless be found of deep interest and value as showing the extent of agricultural co-operation in Canada. In the answering of the questions on the general schedule, all farmers should remember that just as a stream cannot rise higher than its source, so the accuracy of the Canadian census of agriculture must largely depend upon the accuracy of the information supplied by the individual farmer. In no circumstances will any information supplied by individuals be used as a basis of taxation. As the General Schedule states, The information on this report will not be used as a basis for taxation, nor communicated to any assessor or other Government Department."

Both the local Census Commissioners and enumerators and the officials and clerks of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa are bound by an oath of secrecy. There is therefore no reason whatever why every farmer should not co-operate by supplying the census enumerator with complete accurate information on all the subjects covered in the agricultural census.

"Gee, now that I started to recall those stunts I can't forget the time they cornered Eddie Schultz and myself without the regulation socks and minus the matches we always had to carry for the convenience of the sophs. We were taken to a second hand clothing store and rigged out like laborers—except that the sophs made us hire top hats later on. We passed a place where some men were, or rather had been, digging ditches and were furnished with wheelbarrows, shovels and picks. I was furnished with a slab of chewing tobacco and whenever it struck the fancy of the sophs we were compelled to stop, Eddie had to dig a neat little hole in the turf, then I was commanded to expectorate a stream of tobacco juice into the hole which Eddie then solemnly proceeded to cover up. Naturally they waited until we had an amused crowd of watchers—particularly girls."

"But even that was mild compared with some of the other stunts they pulled on the poor frosh as they slept blissfully unaware of the shock in store when they hopped under the showers the next day and obtained a glance at their bodies. Yes, some of those stunts were downright raw."

A slight, almost imperceptible shudder seemed to run down the frame of the first alumnus as he stood in meditation after his final words.

THERE IS A SALESGIRL WHO CAN'T BE BRIBED

(New York Sun)

A sale in one of the upper Fifth avenue shops recently brought to its doors a class of women who seldom venture so close to the social zone when doing their bargain hunting. The aisles were jammed. Elbows struggled.

One woman, evidently a regular customer of the shop, stepped as daintily as she could among them. Arriving at the perfume counter she peered keenly through a platinum rimmed lorgnette at a certain bottle standing on the shelf just back of the salesgirl.

"Is that some of So-and-So's make?" she asked naming a famous perfumer.

The salesgirl said it was and named a ridiculously small amount when the woman asked what the sale price was. When the woman announced that she wished to purchase it the girl told her it had already been sold. More tragic still, there were no more left of its kind. The woman then begged the girl in a pretty manner to let her have the one on the shelf.

"But it's been sold," the girl answered firmly. "I'm reserving it until the customer pays me the balance due."

The woman smiled at this bit of annoying information. She transferred the lorgnette to a position by which she could survey the girl instead of the desired bottle of perfume.

"May I have your name and address?" she asked mysteriously. "I'll tell you what I'm going to do. I simply must have that bottle of perfume. And if you give me your name and address I'll see that you receive a little present."

But—

Bribery may be a grand old game, especially among grand dames. But this time it wasn't.

"I'm sorry," replied the salesgirl succinctly, "but my job means more to me right now than a present. And it's strictly against the rules for me to resell something that has already been sold."

She looked up frankly from the slip she was making out, but the interested customer was slipping away.

BIG PRICE WAS PAID FOR CUP

London, England, May 16—Lord Wakefield today bought for \$55,000, the "St. Thomas Cup," ownership of which has been attributed to Thomas A'Becket, and will present it to the nation.

The Duke of Norfolk, Premier Peer of England, who owned it, authorized its sale at auction.

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