

potash-production to reach 3,200,000 tons of  $K_2O$  for 1946-47, Germany's output during the coming year will have to be 1,500,000 tons, a figure that may be altogether too optimistic.

Substantial increases in nitrogen output could be realized if the nitrogen-production capacity in Germany and Japan were fully used. Some 400,000 tons to 500,000 tons more nitrogen per annum could also be produced if the full synthesizing capacity of the United States Government nitrogen plants were utilized; but, before this could be done, additional equipment and additional facilities for converting the raw ammonia to fertilizer material would have to be installed.

In general the fertilizer picture indicates that supplies will be short in every major producing area in the world, with the demands or stated requirements of the United States and Canada being more nearly met than those for any other sizable area in 1946-47.

Stated United Kingdom and European demands for 1946-47 for the three plant nutrients are substantially above pre-war levels. It is extremely doubtful that these demands can be met. One of the chief problems is the extent to which the fertilizer industry in Germany will be rehabilitated. Supplies of basic slag, which before the war was a very important source of agricultural phosphate in Europe, are also expected to continue to be extremely short through 1946-47.

In Australia, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa it is phosphates that are chiefly required. Before the war the phosphate rock deposits at Nauru and Ocean Islands were by far the most important sources of phosphates for Australia and New Zealand. Owing to war damage, the output of rock from these two sources will be only a fraction of what it was before the war. Thus these two countries are obliged to continue presenting heavy claims on other supply areas.

In China, Egypt, India, Korea, and the Netherlands East Indies, nitrogen is the great problem. With negligible indigenous production of this plant nutrient, these countries have to depend on what exporting countries can spare them. Importation of large quantities of the three plant nutrients into Japan is considered necessary by the United States of America controlling authorities.

#### (5) AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION

Very large areas of the world have been greatly disturbed in their normal food-production by the exhaustion and devastation of the war. In many other sections agriculture is so poorly developed or poverty so interferes with the use of satisfactory production methods that just as much effort must be given to increasing production as in the war-devastated countries. All of the low-producing areas must be given consideration in any organized effort to improve food-production and nutritional standards.

The liberated nations have pressed vigorously for the prompt rehabilitation of agriculture by requests for seed, fertilizer, farm machinery, live-stock, food-processing equipment, boats and gear for fishing, and tools and equipment for forestry, and they are now pressing for advice and the services of technical personnel.

At the same time, recovery of the capacity to produce depends on many factors besides the obvious ones of restoring people to their farms and supplying them with machinery, seeds, fertilizer, &c. Some favoured areas received normal supplies and encouragement during the war; others were raided repeatedly and deprived of their live-stock, machinery, seed, and fertilizers, their technical and local leadership, and even their farm people.