

pending on economic conditions. The total investment per farm in 1945 amounted to \$8,765 (Table 13). This was within \$1,000 of the investment per farm in all other years except 1927. In that year the average investment per farm was \$16,153. Much of this valuation was due to the high value of \$288 per acre placed on land. This was more than double the value of \$119 per acre placed on land in 1945. Land amounted to 54 percent of the total investment in 1945 which was less than any other year by more than 10 percent. On the other hand, the value of dwellings and other buildings in 1945 was 28 percent of the total investment, which was a greater proportion than any other year.

Of considerable significance is the relatively small proportion of total investment represented by livestock and machinery, which amounted to 5 and 6 percent, respectively, of the total investment in 1945. A distinct increase in mechanization has occurred since 1945. At present the majority of farmers are using mechanized equipment either through ownership or custom work. Investment in irrigation equipment amounted to 6 percent of the total investment in 1945, compared to 2 percent or less in previous periods. Owing to recent increases in irrigation in the area it seems likely that investment in irrigation equipment would now constitute a larger proportion of the total investment.

FARM RECEIPTS

Gross farm receipts in 1945 amounted to \$6,560, or more than double the amount of any other year except 1927. Gross receipts that year totaled \$4,180 (Table 14). Receipts from crops accounted for 91 percent or more of the total receipts in each survey (Table 15). Sales of strawberries were the major source of income every year except 1945, when they were second to peppers. In 1945, sales of strawberries accounted for only 22 percent of the gross receipts, compared to 60 percent in 1932. In 1945, income from peppers, squash, eggplant, and Southern peas increased relative to other sources, while income from snap beans and Irish potatoes declined. There was an increase in other income which represented more off-farm employment. Changes in sources of income on these farms are similar to those shown by sales on the Plant City Market as given in Table 5.

Prices per unit for most commodities in 1945 were about double the price in any of the other years (Table 15). In turn,