

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Department of Trade and Commerce

**THE COARSE GRAINS
QUARTERLY**

May, 1957

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe
Minister of Trade and Commerce

Prepared in Crops Section, Agriculture Division
Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa

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FEED SITUATION IN CANADA

Initial Prices for 1957-58 Crop Year The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced on May 3 that the Government had approved initial prices to be paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on the basic grades of wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1957. These initial prices are as follows:

<u>Wheat</u>	\$1.40 per bushel No. 1 Manitoba Northern, in store Fort William/Port Arthur or Vancouver.
<u>Oats</u>	60 cents per bushel basis No. 2 Canada Western, in store Fort William/Port Arthur.
<u>Barley</u>	96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 Canadian Western Six-Row, in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

Commercial Supplies Deliveries of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed by farmers in Prairie Provinces during the period August 1, 1956 to May 15, 1957 amounted to 166.8 million bushels compared with 125.4 million marketed during the corresponding period of 1955-56 and the ten-year (1945-46-1954-55) average for the period of 160.1 million bushels. Marketings of each of the four grains to May 15 of the current crop year with comparable totals for 1955-56 in brackets were as follows, in millions of bushels: oats, 45.9 (34.7); barley, 93.9 (68.3); rye, 2.9 (7.7); and flaxseed, 24.1 (14.7).

Total supplies (excluding stocks on farms) of oats, barley, rye, and flaxseed at May 15, 1957 amounted to 119.9 million bushels, exceeding by a wide margin both the 1956 and 1955 comparable totals of 82.3 million and 81.9 million bushels. Stocks of barley at 59.8 million bushels accounted for approximately one half of the current total of the four grains in all commercial positions. Most of the remainder was accounted for by stocks of oats, at 47.6 million bushels, while supplies of flaxseed and rye amounted to 6.4 million and 6.1 million bushels, respectively. Supplies of the four grains in country elevators totalled 65.8 million bushels, well above both the 1956 comparable figure of 44.6 million and the 1955 total of 37.5 million. In the Western division "in transit rail" accounted for some 4.3 million bushels, below last year's mid-May figure of 6.9 million but exceeding the 3.9 million of two years ago. Stocks of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in Lakehead position at May 15, 1957 amounted to 25.3 million bushels, more than double the corresponding 1956 total of 11.7 million bushels and 56 per cent greater than the 1955 figure of 16.2 million. "In transit lake" accounted for 3.2 million bushels of these grains at mid-May this year, below both last year's total of 5.6 million and the 5.3 million two years ago. Supplies in West Coast Ports, (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria and Prince Rupert) totalled 4.7 million bushels as against 2.0 million at mid-May a year ago and 1.9 million two years ago. Some 7.7 million bushels were in Bay, Lake, and Upper St. Lawrence Ports, above the 1956 total of 5.0 million but below the 1955 comparable mid-May total of 8.6 million. Supplies of the four grains in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports, at 4.3 million bushels were slightly above both the 1956 and 1955 comparable mid-May totals of 3.1 million and 3.8 million bushels, respectively.

Exports of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed

Total exports of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed during the first three quarters of the current crop year amounted to 88.0 million bushels, 62 per cent above the 54.5 million exported during the same months of 1955-56 but 7 per cent below the five-year (1950-51-1954-55) August-April average of 94.4 million bushels. Current

crop year exports of the four grains to April 30, 1957 with figures for the corresponding period of 1955-56 and the five-year August-April averages, respectively in brackets, were as follows, in millions of bushels: oats, 9.6 (2.5, 34.3); barley, 60.5 (38.2, 50.9); rye, 1.9 (4.1, 5.8); and flaxseed, 16.0 (9.7, 3.4).

During the first nine months of the 1956-57 crop year the United States was the major market for Canadian oats, receiving shipments amounting to some 9.1 million bushels, or about 95 per cent of the August-April total. Smaller shipments went to Belgium, the United Kingdom, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, and Trinidad and Tobago. Exports of barley during the period under review exceeded by considerable margins both last year's comparable figure and the five-year average. Shipments of barley at 60.5 million bushels during the August-April period of the current crop year went to nine different countries, with the principal markets being the United Kingdom, 23.3 million bushels; United States, 17.9 million; Federal Republic of Germany, 9.3 million; and Japan, 8.9 million. Smaller shipments went to Belgium, Switzerland, Netherlands, Ireland and Italy.

United States and the Federal Republic of Germany accounted for the bulk of the 1.9 million bushels of rye exported up to April 30 of the current crop year, accounting for shipments totalling 981 thousand and 743 thousand bushels, respectively. Relatively smaller amounts went to the United Kingdom and Belgium. The 16.0 million bushels of Canadian flaxseed exported during the period exceeded by a wide margin the comparable 1955-56 figure of 9.7 million and was in sharp contrast to the five-year average exports for the period of only 3.4 million bushels. Leading markets for flaxseed exports during the first nine months of the 1956-57 crop year, with quantities in millions of bushels, were as follows: United Kingdom 5.1; the Netherlands, 3.1; France, 2.0; Japan, 1.9; and Belgium, 1.7. Other countries importing Canadian flaxseed up to April 30, in quantities less than one million bushels were Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway, Greece, Portugal, Ireland, Sweden and Switzerland.

Delivery Policy

Supplementary Delivery Quota on Barley The Canadian Wheat Board, in its Instructions to the Trade, re Quotas No. 85, under date of April 2, 1957 announced in part that "Effective Friday, April 5th, at all Manitoba and Saskatchewan delivery points, the supplementary quota of barley is increased from three (3) to six (6) bushels per seeded acre as based on the individual producer's permit book, subject to a total minimum delivery of three hundred (300) bushels."

Custom Grinding of Grain for Feed and Exchange of Grain for Prepared Feeds The Canadian Wheat Board, in its Instructions to the Trade, No. 54, under date of June 6, 1957 announced in part as follows:

PART I - Custom Grinding of Grain for Feed Effective immediately for the current crop year, producers and feeders may deliver to any feed mill within the province in which their land is located, grain to be ground or otherwise processed and returned to them.

No restriction will apply in respect of the quantity of grain which may be delivered for the above purpose and no entry need be made in the producer's permit book covering such deliveries, provided that the identity of the grain is preserved while in the feed mill and the entire quantity is returned to the owner immediately after processing. Supplements may be added to such grain during processing if desired.

PART II - Exchange of Grain for Prepared Feeds Effective immediately for the current crop year, but subject to conditions hereinafter set forth:

Producers Producers may deliver to any feed mill within the province in which their land is located, to be exchanged for prepared feeds at such feed mill, quantities of wheat or oats or barley not exceeding in combination thereof 20,000 lbs. in total weight for all grain so delivered. Such delivery shall not be subject to the quota of the producer but shall be entered in the permit book of the producer on a supplemental quota page and marked "Feeds Exchange".

The Board will be prepared to consider applications from producers requiring feed in excess of 20,000 lbs. for permission to deliver for exchange, as aforesaid, additional quantities. Such applications should give full particulars including the name and location of the feed mill concerned.

Feeders Feeders who are not in possession of a delivery permit book may apply to the Board for permission to deliver feed grains produced within the province to feed mills for exchange as aforesaid. In such applications feeders should give full particulars of their operations and requirements, the quantity they desire to deliver and the name and location of the feed mill concerned.

General Quota Position By June 4, 1957 out of a total of 2,076 shipping points in the Western Division, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 164 on a quota of 6 bushels per specified acre, 646 on a 5-bushel quota and 1,198 on a 4-bushel quota. There were only 42 stations on a 3-bushel quota while 26 stations were reported as "closed".

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group as at June 4, 1957

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre				Closed Stations	Total
	Three	Four	Five	Six		
Ontario	-	1	-	-	1	2
Manitoba	12	260	83	20	3	378
Saskatchewan	30	871	174	23	4	1,102
Alberta	-	66	388	118	18	590
British Columbia	-	-	1	3	-	4
All Provinces	42	1,198	646	164	26	2,076

INTENDED ACREAGE OF PRINCIPAL GRAIN CROPS AND SUMMERFALLOW IN CANADA*, 1957

On the basis of their intentions at March 1, Canadian farmers plan major shifts in land use in 1957, continuing the pattern of the past three years. Prairie farmers especially are continuing to adjust their acreages in the light of large supplies of bread grains and consequent marketing quotas. The prospective acreage to be seeded to all wheat is the smallest since 1943-44 when a special war-time acreage reduction programme was in effect. With this exception intended acreage is the smallest since 1920, a time when settlement of the western prairie area was nearing completion. Barley acreage may be only slightly below the 1955 record level while oat plantings may be the highest since World War II. Prospective plantings indicate new records for durum wheat and flaxseed, both of which are grown mainly in the Prairie Provinces. It is emphasized that the intended acreages in this report are merely indicative of farmers' plans at March 1, and the acreages actually seeded, therefore, may vary considerably from the intentions figures, depending upon conditions before and during seeding.

According to farmers' intentions at March 1, all wheat acreage in Canada in 1957 will register the fifth consecutive annual decrease. The acreage seeded to all wheat will, if realized, be 19.9 million acres, a decrease of 1.5 million acres from 1956 seedings and 4.7 million acres or 19 per cent below the 1951-55 average.

The intended acreage of oats at 12.1 million acres is the largest since 1945, and 12 per cent above the recent (1951-55) average. Prospective barley acreage is placed at 9.7 million acres, only slightly below the 1955 record of 9.9 million, but 11 per cent above last year, and 13 per cent above the recent 5-year average. Mixed grains acreage intentions of 1.7 million are only slightly up from 1956 and 5 per cent above the 5-year average.

The area intended for spring rye in 1957 is placed at 168,800 acres, 4 per cent above last year's level. With a 4 per cent increase in the area seeded to fall rye last autumn, the combined acreage of fall and spring rye is placed at 579,200 acres, up 4 per cent from last season but only about half the 5-year (1951-55) average. For the second consecutive year flaxseed acreage may establish a new record. The indicated acreage at March 1 is 3.6 million acres, an increase of 16 per cent from last year and 189 per cent above the 5-year (1951-55) average.

Intended Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow, Canada*,
at March 1, 1957, compared with Estimated Acreages, 1954-1956

Crop	Seeded Area 1/			Intended Area, 1957	
	1954	1955	1956	Area	as %
	acres	acres	acres	acres	of 1956
					per cent
CANADA					
Winter wheat 2/	710,000	582,000	620,000	533,000	86
Spring wheat 3/	23,556,800	20,923,800	20,720,400	19,343,100	93
All wheat	24,266,800	21,505,800	21,340,400	19,876,100	93
Oats for grain	10,160,600	11,178,000	11,972,500	12,116,000	101
Barley	7,855,900	9,932,500	8,722,300	9,716,900	111
Fall rye 4/	672,500	568,900	395,100	410,400	104
Spring rye	178,000	211,300	161,900	168,800	104
All rye	850,500	780,200	557,000	579,200	104
Mixed grains	1,632,600	1,705,200	1,634,700	1,651,800	101
Flaxseed	1,206,000	1,838,400	3,139,000	3,648,000	116
Summerfallow 5/	25,253,000	23,965,000	23,280,000	23,499,000	101

* Excluding Newfoundland for which data are not available.

1/ Except for summerfallow.

2/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; Ontario only.

3/ Includes relatively small acreages of winter wheat in all provinces other than Ontario.

4/ Seeded in the fall of the preceding year; includes small acreages of spring rye in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia.

5/ Prairie Provinces only.

FARM STOCKS AT MARCH 31, 1957

Stocks of the principal grains held on farms in Canada (excluding Newfoundland) at March 31, 1957 were estimated at a record 962.8 million bushels, compared with 785.3 million in 1956, 593.0 million in 1955 and the previous record of 843.1 million in 1943, according to a survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Average farm stocks for the 1947-1956 period were 537.3 million bushels. Farm stocks of each of the five grains were larger than the ten-year average and except for rye, larger than the 1956 level. Farm stocks of wheat at 459.0 million bushels exceeded the previous record holdings of 403.8 million in 1956. Flaxseed stocks on farms, at 10.4 million, exceeded by a wide margin the previous high of 4.4 million established in 1956. However, farm stocks of oats, barley and rye were 47.1 million, 2.8 million and 8.2 million bushels, respectively, below their previous record levels. This year's March 31 farm stocks of grains in millions of bushels, with last year's totals and the ten-year averages, respectively, in brackets, were estimated as follows: wheat, 459.0 (403.8, 233.8); oats, 315.0 (213.4, 191.1); barley, 167.0 (146.8, 101.1); rye, 11.3 (17.0, 8.6); and flaxseed, 10.4 (4.4, 2.6).

The Prairie Provinces, Canada's major grain-producing area, accounted for the bulk of this year's March 31 farm-held grain stocks ranging from 83 per cent of the oats to 99 per cent of the flaxseed. Farm stocks in these Provinces, in millions of bushels, and as percentages of total Canadian farm stocks, respectively, were wheat, 450.0 (98.0 p.c.); oats, 261.0 (82.9 p.c.); barley, 162.0 (97.0 p.c.); rye, 11.0 (97.3 p.c.); and flaxseed 10.3 (98.6 p.c.).

It should be noted that farm-held grain stocks at the end of March include amounts to be used as seed for the 1957 crop as well as quantities required for livestock and poultry feed during the remaining four months of the crop year, leaving the balance to be divided between deliveries and July 31 carryover stocks.

Stocks of Principal Grains on Farms in the Prairie Provinces,
March 31, 1957, with Comparisons

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- thousand bushels -					
Average 1935-1939	45,955	61,266	13,999	1,145	168
Average 1940-1944	177,650	152,527	58,696	5,274	1,663
1945	149,000	164,000	54,000	1,575	1,920
1946	101,700	104,600	38,600	586	1,388
1947	129,000	120,000	55,000	564	1,209
1948	112,000	92,000	45,000	1,600	2,500
1949	122,000	114,000	60,000	7,100	3,300
Average 1945-1949	122,740	118,920	50,520	2,285	2,063
1950	106,000	91,000	44,000	3,600	600
1951	152,000	139,000	69,000	3,630	1,360
1952	246,000	224,700	141,500	6,800	2,500
1953	335,000	220,000	139,000	9,900	3,900
1954	393,000	195,000	164,000	19,200	2,900
Average 1950-1954	246,400	173,940	111,500	8,626	2,252
1955	277,500	128,000	114,000	14,400	2,850
1956	396,000	173,000	143,000	16,800	4,300
1957	450,000	261,000	162,000	11,000	10,300

FARMERS' MARKETINGS OF OATS, BARLEY, RYE AND FLAXSEED

Total marketings of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces from the beginning of the current crop year to May 15 amounted to 166.8 million bushels, exceeding by 33 per cent the total of 125.4 million bushels marketed during the corresponding period of 1955-56 and 4 per cent greater than the ten-year (1945-46-1954-55) average for the period of 160.1 million bushels. Deliveries of barley, at 93.9 million bushels accounted for some 56 per cent of this year August 1-May 15 total. The remainder consisted of 45.9 million bushels of oats (28 per cent of total), 24.1 million of flaxseed (14 per cent of total) and 2.9 million of rye (2 per cent of total).

Farmers' Marketings of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed in the Prairie Provinces, 1956-57
with Comparisons

Period or week ending	Oats				Barley			
	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August 1, 1956 -								
February 13, 1957	11,172 1/	16,041 1/	9,319 1/	36,531	14,327 1/	34,414 1/	24,534 1/	73,275
20	158	174	317	649	178	514	792	1,484
27	87	104	191	383	69	290	399	758
March 6	126	88	387	601	107	330	770	1,207
13	163	127	423	714	112	356	861	1,330
20	160	192	489	841	133	601	888	1,622
27	194	230	520	944	204	643	909	1,756
April 3	140	272	340	752	132	425	532	1,089
10	212	134	230	576	416	835	462	1,714
17	229	187	216	632	547	1,523	337	2,407
24	123	132	211	465	205	557	331	1,093
May 1	197	178	277	652	308	553	407	1,268
8	360	362	445	1,168	332	1,249	877	2,458
15	280	467	281	1,027	384	1,212	794	2,391
Totals	13,600	18,690	13,646	45,935	17,455	43,503	32,894	93,851
Similar Period 1955-56 ...	7,042	18,983	8,700	34,725	14,170	28,803	25,363	68,337
Average Similar Period 1945-46-1954-55	15,218	35,652	21,760	72,630	23,739	25,431	23,433	72,603

		Rye				Flaxseed			
		- thousand bushels -							
August 1, 1956 -									
February	13, 1957	439 1/	1,404 1/	769 1/	2,611	5,026	11,200 1/	3,670 1/	19,897
	20	2	7	7	16	47	225	105	377
	27	1	6	11	17	20	157	45	222
March	6	3	10	13	25	28	280	74	382
	13	2	10	13	25	26	189	86	302
	20	2	14	10	26	34	128	76	238
	27	6	12	8	26	68	165	160	392
April	3	3	1	6	10	77	152	113	341
	10	2	4	5	11	68	126	92	287
	17	2	7	8	17	81	181	71	332
	24	2/	8	8	16	42	160	109	311
May	1	4	14	6	24	68	176	87	332
	8	5	24	7	36	69	241	73	383
	15	7	23	5	36	58	149	99	306
Totals		477	1,544	876	2,897	5,713	13,528	4,860	24,101
Similar Period 1955-56 ...		991	4,381	2,301	7,673	3,818	8,571 1/	2,316	14,705
Average Similar Period 1945-46-1954-55		790	4,629	2,919	8,337	3,117	2,280	1,153	6,549

1/ Revised.

2/ Less than 500 bushels.

Visible Supply of Canadian Oats, May 15, 1957, Compared with
Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	1,579	3,301	8,249
Saskatchewan	5,138	9,571	13,142
Alberta	5,490	5,299	12,976
Totals	12,207	18,171	34,367
Interior private and mill	827	780	788
Interior terminals	3	6	19
Vancouver-New Westminster	388	125	45
Victoria	-	-	1/
Churchill	1/	30	-
Fort William-Port Arthur	3,439	2,177	5,420
In transit rail (Western Division)	1,227	1,586	1,691
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ..	2,401	1,060	3,346
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ..	712	305	621
In transit lake	944	878	528
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	413	77	46
United States ports	-	-	747
Totals	22,562	25,193	47,619

Visible Supply of Canadian Barley, May 15, 1957, Compared with
Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	4,017	2,903	3,933
Saskatchewan	3,970	4,058	9,441
Alberta	15,196	15,586	14,216
Totals	23,183	22,547	27,590
Interior private and mill	1,978	1,880	2,136
Interior terminals	427	376	678
Vancouver-New Westminster	748	1,616	3,315
Victoria	1	1	1
Prince Rupert	805	250	825
Fort William-Port Arthur	9,237	5,605	15,180
In transit rail (Western Division)	2,203	3,988	1,207
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports ..	3,848	2,644	3,919
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports ..	1,867	1,834	2,840
In transit lake	3,306	2,917	2,062
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	6	5	32
United States ports	-	64	-
Totals	47,608	43,725	59,785

1/ Less than 500 bushels

Visible Supply of Canadian Rye, May 15, 1957 Compared with
Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	221	415	293
Saskatchewan	803	1,713	1,150
Alberta	643	1,028	836
Totals	1,666	3,156	2,279
Interior private and mill	25	37	25
Interior terminals	-	27	26
Vancouver-New Westminster	-	-	-
Fort William-Port Arthur	2,655	2,149	2,755
In transit rail (Western Division)	290	1,102	508
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports	2,058	1,178	150
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports	980	801	333
In transit lake	947	1,588	11
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	-	111	-
United States ports	500	-	31
In transit U.S.A.	369	-	-
Totals	9,490	10,149	6,118

Visible Supply of Canadian Flaxseed, May 15, 1957 Compared with
Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	144	198	238
Saskatchewan	170	436	904
Alberta	84	88	468
Totals	397	722	1,610
Interior private and mill	30	24	37
Interior terminals	2	1/	5
Vancouver-New Westminster	1/	3	490
Victoria	-	-	7
Prince Rupert	-	-	1/
Fort William-Port Arthur	914	1,736	1,959
In transit rail (Western Division).....	192	248	854
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports	328	102	301
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports	255	166	537
In transit lake	141	220	556
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	-	16	-
Totals	2,260	3,238	6,356

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

GRADING OF CROPS, 1956-57

The total number of cars of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed inspected by the Board of Grain Commissioners during the first three quarters of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 75,129 representing an increase of some 28 per cent over the 58,887 cars inspected during the August-April period of 1955-56. Inspections of barley, at 46,607 cars accounted for 62 per cent of the total, with the remainder consisting of 14,065 cars of oats (19 per cent of total), 12,552 cars of flaxseed (17 per cent of total) and 1,905 cars of rye (2 per cent of total).

The generally good quality of the 1956 crop combined with the above-average quality of the carryover stocks, particularly oats and barley, continues to be reflected in the relatively large proportions of inspected grain entering the higher grades during the first nine months of the 1956-57 crop year. Percentages of the four grains falling into the higher grades, (excluding "Toughs" and "Damps") during the August-April period of the current crop year with comparable data for the entire 1955-56 crop year and the five year (1950-51-1954-55) averages, respectively, in brackets, were as follows: oats, 1 Feed or higher, 94.5 (91.0, 73.0); barley, 1 Feed or higher, 72.6 (69.6, 50.5); rye 3 C.W. or higher, 74.7 (78.9, 68.8); and flaxseed, 1 C.W. and 2 C.W., 95.8 (96.8, 66.7).

Grading of Oats, Barley, Rye and Flaxseed Inspected*, August-April, 1956-57 with Comparisons

Grain and Grade	Crop Year		Aug.--April		Grain and Grade	Crop Year		Aug.--April	
	Average					Average			
	1950-51- 1954-55	1955-56	1956-57			1950-51- 1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	
	- per cent -		cars	per cent		- per cent		cars	per cent
<u>OATS</u>					<u>BARLEY</u>				
1 C.W.	1/	1/	-	-	1 C.W. Six-Row ..	1/	1/	-	-
2 C.W.	0.4	0.2	20	0.1	2 C.W. Six-Row ..	1.5	5.4	817	1.8
Ex. 3 C.W.	2.5	2.3	327	2.3	3 C.W. Six-Row ..	21.5	30.6	13,052	28.0
3 C.W.	12.3	21.0	3,489	24.8	4 C.W. Six-Row ..	2.2	5.1	1,585	3.4
Ex. 1.Feed	15.2	13.1	2,400	17.1	1 C.W. Two-Row ..	1/	1/	2	1/
1 Feed	42.6	54.4	7,054	50.2	2 C.W. Two-Row ..	0.2	0.5	200	0.4
2 Feed	5.7	5.3	477	3.4	3 C.W. Two-Row ..	2.0	5.3	3,523	7.6
3 Feed	1.1	0.8	71	0.5	1 Feed	23.1	22.7	14,638	31.4
Mixed Feed	1/	1/	2	1/	Ex. 2 Feed	-	15.6	6,694	14.4
Toughs 2/ 3/	15.9	1.7	166	1.2	2 Feed	15.9	5.7	2,784	6.0
Damps 2/ 4/	3.1	1/	2	1/	3 Feed	4.3	2.0	953	2.0
Rejected 2/	0.6	0.7	24	0.2	Toughs 2/ 5/	23.5	5.8	2,127	4.6
All others	0.6	0.5	33	0.2	Damps 2/ 4/	5.1	1/	17	1/
					Rejected	0.3	0.8	175	0.4
					All others	0.2	0.5	40	0.1
Totals	100.0	100.0	14,065	100.0	Totals	100.0	100.0	46,607	100.0
Bushel equivalent (approximately)			37,416,000		Bushel equivalent (approximately)			97,523,000	
<u>RYE</u>					<u>FLAXSEED</u>				
1 C.W.	0.2	0.1	1	0.1	1 C.W.	53.6	80.8	8,700	69.3
2 C.W.	25.4	32.3	506	26.6	2 C.W.	13.1	16.0	3,330	26.5
3 C.W.	43.2	46.5	914	48.0	3 C.W.	4.0	1.8	328	2.6
4 C.W.	5.2	7.5	253	13.3	4 C.W.	0.5	0.1	2	1/
Ergoty	5.7	5.9	167	8.8	Toughs 2/ 6/	24.1	0.8	137	1.1
Toughs 2/ 3/	18.5	7.0	53	2.8	Damp 2/ 7/	4.1	-	26	0.2
Damp 2/ 4/	1.4	-	-	-	Rejected 2/	1/	1/	13	0.1
Rejected 2/	0.3	0.6	7	0.4	All others	0.5	0.5	16	1.3
All others	0.2	1/	4	0.2					
Totals	100.0	100.0	1,905	100.0	Totals	100.0	100.0	12,552	100.0
Bushel equivalent (approximately)			3,444,000		Bushel equivalent (approximately)			19,960,000	

* Both old and new crop.

1/ Less than .05 per cent. 2/ All grades. 3/ Moisture content 14.1 per cent to 17 per cent.

4/ Moisture content over 17 per cent. 5/ Moisture content 14.9 per cent to 17 per cent.

6/ Moisture content 10.6 per cent to 13.5 per cent. 7/ Moisture content over 13.5 per cent.

LAKE SHIPMENTS FROM FORT WILLIAM-PORT ARTHUR

Total shipments of the five major grains out of Lakehead positions from the opening of navigation to May 15, 1957 amounted to 58.0 million bushels compared with 70.4 million during the corresponding period of last year and 63.8 million two years ago. Navigation was declared officially open on April 23 this year and on April 11 in 1956. Shipments of barley, wheat and rye were down considerably from their comparable 1956 levels while those of oats and flaxseed were larger. Of the current total, shipments of wheat accounted for 66.3 per cent; barley, 18.4 per cent; oats, 10.6 per cent; flaxseed, 4.4 per cent; and rye 0.4 per cent.

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to May 15, 1957
and to Approximately the Same Date, 1947 to 1956*

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
1947	18,840	7,787	3,627	841	-	31,094
1948	18,470	3,214	2,983	231	960	25,859
1949	48,361	4,351	4,888	3,540	2,993	64,133
1950	21,847	2,155	4,024	662	69	28,757
1951	32,253	10,147	6,068	1,362	136	49,966
1952	50,532	12,876	14,006	1,882	1,392	80,688
1953	59,955	15,907	23,224	2,702	1,109	102,896
1954	4,988	12,771	11,196	1,223	1,123	31,301
1955	35,343	6,330	16,271	4,481	1,381	63,807
1956	44,706	5,096	16,483	3,385	687	70,357
1957	38,421	6,125	10,640	207	2,559	57,953

* Shipments from opening of navigation to May 14, 1947. Shipments for subsequent years to the following dates: May 13, 1948; May 19, 1949; May 18, 1950; May 17, 1951; May 15, 1952; May 14, 1953; May 17, 1954; May 18, 1955; and May 16, 1956.

RAIL SHIPMENTS FROM FORT WILLIAM-PORT ARTHUR

The total volume of wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed shipped by rail from the Lakehead during the first three quarters of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 16.0 million bushels, 31 per cent below the comparable 1955-56 figure of 23.3 million.

Rail Shipments of Canadian Grain from Fort William-Port Arthur
August—April 1956-57 and 1955-56

Month	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
August, 1956	101	231	30	3	-	364
September	70	217	32	-	3	322
October	121	276	71	-	3	471
November	241	166	41	-	577	1,024
December	613	327	232	-	2,930	4,103
January, 1957	792	992	295	19	1,973	4,071
February	491	520	183	29	1,626	2,849
March	339	638	197	11	774	1,959
April	161	403	142	-	136	843
Totals	2,938	3,770	1,223	63	8,024	16,008
Same period 1955-56	6,788	9,191	3,463	47	3,829	23,317

FREIGHT ASSISTANCE SHIPMENTS

Claims filed for payment up to April 30, 1957 indicate that on the basis of preliminary data, some 56.7 million bushels of wheat, oats, barley and rye were moved from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the August-March period of the current crop year. During the same months of 1955-56, claims had been filed for a total of 55.3 million bushels, indicating on the assumption of approximately the same rate of submission of claims during both the current and preceding crop years that the 1956-57 August-March shipments under the policy were running slightly above those of 1955-56. Revised data on shipments of the four grains during the first eight months of the 1955-56 crop year, based on claims submitted up to April 30, 1957 place the total at 57.2 million bushels.

According to preliminary data, the movement of screenings and millfeeds under the freight assistance policy during the first eight months of the current crop year represent shipments of 72,545 tons and 329,703 tons, respectively. Shipments of screenings already exceed by about 13 per cent the 1955-56 revised total of 64,172 tons moved during the period August 1, 1955 to March 31, 1956. Shipments of millfeeds, however, were slightly below the comparable 1955-56 level of 344,511 tons. As with wheat, oats, barley and rye these totals are based on claims submitted up to April 30, 1957 and will likely be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims.

The bulk of all freight-assisted shipments went to destinations in Ontario and Quebec with the two provinces accounting for a combined 78 per cent of the wheat, 87 per cent of the oats, 87 per cent of the barley, 100 per cent of the rye, 91 per cent of the screenings and 79 per cent of the millfeeds.

Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Shipments, August-March 1956-57 and 1955-56

Province	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Screenings	Millfeeds
	- thousand bushels -				- tons -	
Newfoundland	67	368	65	-	607	2,803
Prince Edward Island ..	162	93	181	-	318	4,369
Nova Scotia	742	1,266	762	-	3,073	22,570
New Brunswick	375	661	447	-	1,733	17,718
Quebec	4,489	9,529	7,619	1	21,886	160,010
Ontario	5,793	13,979	6,672	41	43,861	101,360
British Columbia	1,521	1,046	755	3/	1,067	20,873
Totals 1/	13,249	26,942	18,500	42	72,545	329,703
Same Period 1955-56						
Preliminary 2/	10,905	27,886	16,164	310	61,667	344,511
Revised 1/	11,450	28,819	16,647	315	64,172	368,596

1/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1957.

2/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1956.

3/ Less than 500 bushels.

Exports of Canadian Oats and Barley, 1956-57

Destination	February	March	April	August-April
- bushels -				
OATS 1/				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom	-	-	-	149,149
<u>North America</u>				
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	894	894
Totals, Commonwealth Countries	-	-	894	150,043
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium	-	-	263,200	263,200
<u>North America</u>				
Panama	8,235	-	2,353	31,150
United States				
For domestic use 2/	856,072	1,659,122	1,596,264	9,126,683
<u>South America</u>				
Colombia	-	-	-	12,968
Venezuela	-	-	-	9,412
Totals, Foreign Countries	864,307	1,659,122	1,861,817	9,443,413
Totals, All Countries	864,307	1,659,122	1,862,711	9,593,456
BARLEY 1/				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom	1,507,815	986,015	163,298	23,298,458
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Asia</u>				
Japan	1,347,267	-	426,821	8,888,435
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium	-	-	51,267	688,533
Germany, Federal Republic	947,566	3,413,574	1,245,020	9,227,377
Ireland	-	-	-	119,000
Italy	-	-	18,373	32,153
Netherlands	-	-	-	135,905
Switzerland	-	-	-	225,400
<u>North America</u>				
United States				
For domestic use 2/	2,238,522	1,346,788	2,480,240	17,865,389
Totals, Foreign Countries	4,533,355	4,760,362	4,221,721	37,182,192
Totals, All Countries	6,041,170	5,746,377	4,385,019	60,480,650

Exports of Canadian Rye and Flaxseed, 1956-57

Destination	February	March	April	August-April
- bushels -				
RYE 1/				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom	-	5,946	-	125,782
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium	-	-	-	85,680
Germany, Federal Republic	592,360	140,456	-	742,991
<u>North America</u>				
United States				
For domestic use 2/	-	-	-	981,499
Totals, Foreign Countries	592,360	140,456	-	1,810,170
Totals, All Countries	592,360	146,402	-	1,935,952
FLAXSEED 1/				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom	597,403	818,003	327,619	5,096,386
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Asia</u>				
Japan	542,583	206,706	205,720	1,912,888
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium	11,984	16,525	20,304	1,655,964
France	554,731	52,000	224,479	1,979,974
Germany, Federal Republic	10,000	404,718	-	604,117
Greece	82,470	-	-	113,056
Ireland	-	21,416	-	61,416
Italy	361,801	87,753	7,812	901,234
Netherlands	343,533	255,702	266,189	3,102,097
Norway	160,295	80,937	81,449	401,681
Portugal	100,000	-	-	100,000
Sweden	-	-	19,400	59,804
Switzerland	-	-	-	48,590
Totals, Foreign Countries	2,167,397	1,125,757	825,353	10,940,821
Totals, All Countries	2,764,800	1,943,760	1,152,972	16,037,207

1/ Subject to revision.

2/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.

Customs Exports of Canadian Rolled Oats, 1/ 1956-57

Destination	February	March	April	August-April
- bushels -				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom	-	-	-	33
<u>Africa</u>				
Mauritius and Seychelles	-	495	-	1,363
<u>Asia</u>				
Ceylon	225	-	-	3,445
Hong Kong	-	989	-	4,220
India	50	-	-	99
Malaya and Singapore	126	1,264	-	1,643
<u>North America</u>				
Bahamas	77	60	-	1,137
Barbados	159	88	148	769
Bermuda	203	236	225	3,005
Jamaica	3,462	8,000	-	37,879
Leeward and Windward Islands	527	489	951	5,561
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	198	1,099
<u>South America</u>				
British Guiana	-	-	-	38
Totals, Commonwealth Countries ..	4,829	11,621	1,522	60,291
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Africa</u>				
Liberia	-	-	-	33
<u>Asia</u>				
Portuguese Asia	-	159	-	555
<u>North America</u>				
Costa Rica	538	-	940	2,170
Cuba	-	-	-	5
Guatemala	2,198	7,692	7,143	35,440
Nicaragua	-	-	-	126
Panama	253	3,874	187	6,940
Puerto Rico	549	-	-	549
St. Pierre and Miquelon	-	-	-	77
United States	2,198	2,637	357	7,890 2/
<u>South America</u>				
Bolivia	1,896	-	-	1,896
Colombia	-	-	-	2,665
Ecuador	-	-	-	247
Peru	-	3,583	3,093	7,039
Surinam	-	-	49	187
Venezuela	13,104	3,577	2,528	150,973
Totals, Foreign Countries	20,736	21,522	14,297	216,792 2/
Totals, All Countries	25,565	33,143	15,819	277,083 2/

1/ In terms of oats equivalent. Conversion rate: 1 bushel of oats equals 18.2 pounds of oatmeal and rolled oats.

2/ Includes exports of 110 bushels of oatmeal.

HOG-BARLEY RATIO

The hog-barley ratio decreased by 1.5 points during the February-April period of 1957, with a gradual lowering in the level of hog prices more than offsetting declines in the cost of feed barley. However, despite the small decline the feed ratio was more favourable than at any time since June 1954. The monthly average price of hogs, basis B-1 dressed weight at Winnipeg, moved downward from \$30.63 per hundredweight in February to \$28.06 per hundredweight in March and \$27.24 per hundredweight in April. The cost of barley, basis No. 1 Feed, in store Fort William-Port Arthur, went down from 97 7/8 cents per bushel in February to 94 3/8 cents per bushel in March and 93 cents per bushel in April.

Number of Bushels of No. 1 Feed Barley
Equivalent in Price to 100 Pounds of B-1 (Live) Hog at Winnipeg, by Months, 1952-1957
(Long-time average 1913-1949, with 1930 omitted due to extreme abnormality, is 18.3)

Month	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
January	14.6	15.1	28.1	16.2	16.3	23.0
February	14.7	16.1	28.9	15.3	16.3	25.8
March	15.4	17.0	30.7	16.0	15.2	24.7
April	16.5	17.0	30.6	15.9	14.3	24.3
May	17.4	19.0	31.7	17.0	14.7	
June	17.2	20.7	28.3	19.7	18.8	
July	17.5	21.4	23.6	19.0	19.8	
August	15.9	23.2	18.4	19.4	19.6	
September	15.2	23.8	16.3	19.7	20.6	
October	14.4	26.5	15.8	16.4	21.9	
November	14.2	24.8	16.0	16.3	21.5	
December	16.3	27.4	17.1	16.4	22.4	

Note: The above data include the effect of subsidies on hogs.

FEED AND LIVESTOCK PRICE INDICES

The index of feed prices showed only a relatively small movement during the February-April period of the current crop year. Prices for most grains registered fairly sharp declines while hay prices remained steady during February, increased in March and declines in April. The index, moving at a lower level than at any time in 1956 reached 201.5 points in April, the lowest since November 1955 and in contrast to 225.9 points in April 1956.

The index of farm animals and animal products showed some seasonal weakness during the February-April period of 1957. Average returns from hogs and eggs declined steadily during the period but prices for steers, lambs and wool strengthened. Butterfat prices remained constant.

Index Numbers of Feed Prices and Prices of Farm Animals and Farm Animal Products
by Months, 1954-1957 (1935-1939 = 100)

Month	1954		1955		1956		1957	
	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal	Feed	Animal
January	201.6	266.3	215.7	248.3	208.2	235.0	208.2	257.2
February	202.8	264.7	218.8	245.6	212.1	232.3	205.2	259.0
March	202.2	262.0	210.7	241.3	216.2	231.1	205.6	253.4
April	204.4	260.4	215.3	238.7	225.9	231.9	201.5	255.1
May	203.3	268.0	216.6	243.4	221.8	238.0		
June	202.8	267.3	212.7	250.0	216.6	251.9		
July	201.1	262.1	199.7	249.5	213.0	256.5		
August	201.9	248.2	198.3	250.6	209.9	258.2		
September	208.2	245.5	199.3	251.6	214.0	259.6		
October	214.1	240.5	199.3	241.9	208.3	256.2		
November	215.8	243.1	200.7	240.5	209.1	255.9		
December	215.2	245.9	202.9	239.4	207.7	256.4		

MILLFEEDS

Supply and Distribution of Millfeeds, August-April, 1956-57 and 1955-56

Month	Production				Imports	Exports	Apparent Domestic Disappearance 1/
	Bran	Shorts	Middlings	Total			
				- tons -			
August, 1956	23,869	25,353	11,406	60,628	1,019	13,938	49,938
September	22,335	22,476	9,999	54,810	652	7,077	46,525
October	25,746	25,701	9,619	61,066	916	7,829	57,052
November	26,914	25,496	10,648	63,058	850	15,969	46,727
December	23,209	21,949	9,190	54,348	603	15,789	39,256
January, 1957	22,540	22,079	7,337	51,956	386	11,146	41,940
February	22,804	21,569	5,331	49,704	589	10,820	42,284
March	23,174	19,754	6,406	49,334	276	6,332	42,955
April	23,342	18,962	5,322	47,626	N.A.	4,866	42,074
Totals	213,933	203,339	75,258	492,530	5,291	93,766	408,751
Same period 1955-56 (revised)	225,004	212,705	86,639	524,348	5,375	83,425	447,492

1/ Adjusted for change in mill stocks.

2/ Preliminary.

CROP AND WEATHER CONDITIONS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES

According to a telegraphic crop report, published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics under date of June 12, "a larger proportion of the spring grain crop was seeded early this year in contrast to a year ago. Early-seeded crops have gotten away to a good start but late seedings in many districts require moisture to promote even germination. In wide areas in Saskatchewan and Alberta, more rain is also required to prevent deterioration of all crops regardless of stage of development. This is especially true in western Saskatchewan, eastern Alberta, and in the Peace River area. Many correspondents report that they hay crop will be light this year. Insect damage to date has not been serious although control measures have started for grasshoppers.

Cool weather has predominated in Manitoba, with fairly general rains over the past two week ends. Moisture is adequate for the present but some areas would welcome more rain. Seeding is completed except for the odd field of barley and some flax. Thinning of sugar beets is 25 per cent finished. There has been an increase in acreage of special crops this year. Some cutworm damage has occurred to field crops and grasshopper hatching is fairly general in central regions. Spraying is in progress. Wild oats are very numerous and have caused some reseeding of crops. Spraying for weeds is commencing.

Early-sown crops in Saskatchewan have germinated fairly evenly but in the later-sown fields growth has been retarded due to lack of sufficient surface moisture particularly in all western regions and in southern areas along the United States border. Winds have caused some soil-blowing but the periods of strong winds and high temperatures have only been of temporary duration and conditions have not deteriorated sufficiently to cause permanent loss or damage. Week-end rains will help the crop situation at many points in eastern and central regions but distribution of these rains tended to be uneven. Precipitation this spring has been well below average in most western areas and immediate rains are required to prevent crop deterioration. Moderate outbreaks of grasshopper activity are reported along the southern border and considerable spraying to control these insects is under way. Pastures need rain and hay prospects are only fair.

Continued on Page 22.

Canadian Wheat Board Monthly Average Cash Grain Prices,
Basis in Store Fort William--Port Arthur

Grain and Grade	February 1957	March 1957	April 1957
- cents and eighths per bushel -			
<u>OATS</u>			
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>			
2 C. W.	65	65	65
Ex. 3 C. W.	62	62	62
3 C. W.	62	62	62
Ex. 1 Feed	62	62	62
1 Feed	60	60	60
2 Feed	55	55	55
3 Feed	48	48	48
<u>Domestic and Export 1/</u>			
2 C. W.	79/7	77/1	75/7
Ex. 3 C. W.	75/3	72/5	71/1
3 C. W.	72/7	70/1	68/5
Ex. 1 Feed	72/7	70/1	68/5
1 Feed	70/7	68/1	66/5
2 Feed	67/7	65/1	63/5
3 Feed	64/7	62/1	60/5
<u>BARLEY</u>			
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>			
1 C. W. Six-Row	98	98	98
2 C. W. Six-Row	98	98	98
3 C. W. Six-Row	96	96	96
4 C. W. Six-Row	90	90	90
1 C. W. Two-Row	91	91	91
2 C. W. Two-Row	91	91	91
3 C. W. Two-Row	88	88	88
1 Feed	87	87	87
2 Feed	83	83	83
3 Feed	76	76	76
<u>Domestic and Export 1/</u>			
1 C. W. Six-Row	120	120/1	122/4
2 C. W. Six-Row	120	120/1	122/4
3 C. W. Six-Row	115	115/1	117/4
4 C. W. Six-Row	107/4	107/5	110
1 C. W. Two-Row	118	118/1	120/4
2 C. W. Two-Row	118	118/1	120/4
3 C. W. Two-Row	107/4	107/5	110
1 Feed	97/7	94/3	93
2 Feed	97/3	93/7	92/4
3 Feed	94/3	90/7	89/4

1/ For local sales and for spot sales subject to confirmation.

Winnipeg Grain Exchange Monthly Average Cash Grain Prices,
Basis in Store Fort William--Port Arthur

Grain and Grade	February 1957	March 1957	April 1957
- cents and eighths per bushel -			

OATS

Domestic and Export

2 C. W.	78/7	76/1	74/7
Ex. 3 C. W.	73/7	71/7	70/4
3 C. W.	71/7	69/7	68/4
Ex. 1 Feed	71/1	69	68/2
1 Feed	69/1	66/7	66
2 Feed	65/5	63/4	62/6
3 Feed	62/1	60	59/2

BARLEY

Domestic and Export

1 C. W. Six-Row	112/6	109	113/1
2 C. W. Six-Row	112/6	109	113/1
3 C. W. Six-Row	100/6	96/4	91/1
4 C. W. Six-Row	95/2	91/1	86/6
1 C. W. Two-Row	110/6	107	111/1
2 C. W. Two-Row	110/6	107	111/1
3 C. W. Two-Row	95/2	91/2	88/7
1 Feed	95/2	91/1	86/6
2 Feed	94/3	90/2	85/6
3 Feed	91/2	87	82/1

RYE

Producers', Domestic & Export Prices

2 C. W.	118/1	114/2	108/4
3 C. W.	113/1	109/2	103/4
4 C. W.	103/2	98/1	94/1
Ergoty	100/2	95/1	91/5

FLAXSEED

Producers', Domestic & Export Prices

1 C. W.	300	283/3	282/6
2 C. W.	297/1	279/5	278/7
3 C. W.	269/3	253/4	245/6

UNITED STATES FEED SITUATION

The following summary of the feed situation in the United States has been taken from the May 21, 1957 issue of The Feed Situation published by the Agricultural Marketing Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Record stocks of feed grains remained on hand April 1, about 6 per cent more than a year earlier. The combined carryover of the four major feed grains into 1957-58 is expected to total nearly 50 million tons, about 40 per cent of average production in recent years. This would be 6 million tons more than at the beginning of the current season. The carryover of corn on October 1 is now expected to total around 1,450 million bushels, substantially above the 1,165 million carried over last year. Carryover of oats probably will be around one-third smaller than last year's record, while stocks of barley and sorghum grains carried over may not differ greatly from those of a year earlier.

Prospects for 1957 feed crops in early May are more promising than a year ago as a result of generally ample soil moisture in most areas. Pastures and hay crops were much better than a year ago on May 1 and a little above average. Wet weather, however, has interfered with the seeding of oats in the Midwest and reduced the chance of the crop maturing before midsummer heat. April rains also delayed preparation of the land and planting of corn, with very little planted in the North Central Region before May 1.

Domestic disappearance of feed grains during October-March was at about the same level as in the like period of 1955-56. While the number of grain-consuming animal units is a little smaller, farmers are feeding their livestock liberally. Exports of the four feed grains during the six months were a little smaller than last year and the total tonnage for the year is now expected to be around 1.5 million tons below the record exports of 8 million tons in 1955-56.

Feed prices have been relatively stable in the past 2 or 3 months and in early May were generally a little lower than a year ago. Principal exceptions were oats, linseed meal, alfalfa meal and molasses which were moderately to sharply higher. Prices of corn and soybean meal have made little seasonal rise this year. In early May they were substantially lower than a year ago and probably will continue lower during the next few months. Prices of other feed grains, particularly barley and sorghum grains, are expected to decline seasonally this summer if the growing season is favourable for these crops. Prices of high-protein feeds averaged slightly higher in the first half of the current feeding year than in 1955-56, but have not increased this spring as they did a year ago. In April and early May, they were somewhat lower than in the spring of 1956.

Supplies of oilseed meals available for feeding in the 1956-57 feeding year are expected to set a new record of about 10 million tons, nearly 10 per cent more than in 1955-56. This large tonnage reflects the marked increase in soybean meal production, which has more than offset a decline in cottonseed meal output in recent years.

Total quantity of feed grains placed under price support this year is expected to be below the record of 18.2 million tons in 1955-56. Through April 15 this year 398 million bushels of corn were placed under price support, 32 million bushels more than the same period of 1955-56, but much smaller quantities of the other feed grains were placed under price support.

NOTES ON ARGENTINE CROPS

The following information relative to the Argentine grain situation is taken from a report from Mr. W. F. Hillhouse, Agricultural Secretary for Canada, Canadian Embassy, Buenos Aires, under date of May 17, 1957 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of 18 pesos per U.S.dollar.

Weather and Crops

The general substantial rains of mid-April were followed in most parts of the grain zone by lighter, intermittent precipitation. During May the weather has been unusually bright and warm. This combination has benefitted pastures tremendously including the early-sown dual purpose grains. Land preparation and seeding operations for wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed continue under very good conditions. The rather persistent wet weather in late April slowed down harvesting of early corn and sunflower but also aided the late-sown fields of these crops.

Corn

The first published official estimate of corn production for this year has been set at 2,650,000 metric tons (104,325,000 bushels), down 50,000 tons (1,968,000 bushels) from the verbal estimate given by the Minister of Agriculture and 31.5 per cent below last year's outturn. Although the rains of April have been of some benefit to the late sown fields there are many people in the trade who consider the official estimate too high. Purchases of corn by the Grain Board by April 30 had amounted to only 42,712 tons (1,681,000 bushels) and sales for export during the past month barely exceeded 32,000 tons (1,260,000 bushels), compared with over 200,000 tons (7,874,000 bushels) during the same period last year.

Oats, Barley and Rye

Foreign demand for these grains has been slow and export sales declined during the past month to less than 37,000 tons, half of which was oats. Shipments were also lower at 82,753 tons. Adequate stocks of all three grains exist in the country although much of the barley has already been sold to exporters. The weather during the past month has been particularly favourable for the seeding, germination and early growth of these grains which have been sown for pasture and grain. Some early fields are already able to carry stock and most areas now have sufficient moisture to ensure seeding and germination of these grains.

Minimum Producer Prices Announced for Crop Year 1957-58

The government guaranteed minimum producer prices for the coming crop were announced on May 10. The corn price is set at 100 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$1.41 per bushel), i.e. equal to this year's minimum price plus the 20 peso (28 cents per bushel) bonus now in effect. The only other increases over this year are 5 pesos (about 7 cents per bushel) each for bread type and durum type wheats. The new prices are shown in the accompanying table and compared with those in effect in recent years.

Grain Board to Sell Feed Grain to Producers at Cost

In order to assist its corn export policy the government has resolved that the Grain Board will sell to poultry and hog producers at cost, wheat of previous crop years and other grains of any harvest held by the Grain Board. By offering such grain at prices well below the price producers can now receive for corn, the Government hopes to increase their purchases and hence exports of corn from this year's small crop. As of April 30 the Grain Board reported the following quantities of such grains as being disposable; old crop wheat 114,764 tons (4,217,000 bushels), oats 223,825 tons (14,513,000 bushels), barley 34,616 tons (1,590,000 bushels) and rye 67,248 tons (2,647,000 bushels) a total of 440,453 tons.

NOTES ON AUSTRALIAN CROPS

The following information relative to the Australian grain and oilseed situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. T. G. Major, Commercial Counsellor for Canada, Melbourne, under date of May 9, 1957 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of £1 equals \$2.1330 (Canadian) the quotation in effect on May 13, 1957.

Weather and Crops In general, weather conditions continue to be unsatisfactory with dry weather general in the eastern States. On Easter Sunday, Western Australia had its first widespread rain of the season, but in most parts of the State the falls were of less than half an inch, which is considered to be inadequate for opening rains. There was light rainfall in parts of Victoria at the end of April, but it was quickly soaked up by the parched soil.

Corn The total area planted in Queensland for 1957 is now estimated at 106,000 acres. However, adverse weather conditions in the southern part of the State probably will reduce this figure for harvest purposes to something like 90,000 acres. This compares with 107,000 acres and a production of 2.75 million bushels in 1956. The latest (mid-March) survey indicates a 1957 crop of some 2.6 million bushels.

Flaxseed Queensland authorities have expressed the view that the security of growers' returns presently depends on either a continuation of the current of high level of world prices or the maintenance of local prices of £A70 per ton (\$3.73 per bushel) by the linseed crushers. It is felt that the State's growers could not compete on world markets. Production possibilities, therefore, are limited to the Australian market of some 40,000 tons (1,600,000 bushels). This is equivalent to approximately 180,000 acres. Last year, Queensland alone grew 114,000 acres of linseed. The Tariff Board in 1953 recommended that protection be afforded to the local industry in respect to one-third of Australian requirements, or about 60,000 acres in all States, but this has not been implemented.

Barley The barley marketing picture is not particularly bright, despite a strong demand for Queensland barley in Japan. The Australian Barley Board reports that recently there had been only a moderate demand limited to the better types used for milling purposes, and then restricted only to bare minimum requirements. Increased sowings in Canada and the United States and larger quantities of French types for export were given as the principal causes. Also cited was the rising costs of transport. To the United Kingdom and Europe these recently have absorbed 30 per cent to 40 per cent of the overseas market price, while in the case of Japan the figure is 25 per cent.

Grain Sorghum It is estimated that of the 141,000 acres planted in Queensland, not more than 120,000 will be available for harvest. Production should be in the neighborhood of 3 million bushels, as compared with 3.75 million bushels from about 160,000 acres in 1956. The decline is due mainly to below average rainfall in the months of January and February.



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In Alberta, showers which were fairly general in western regions but widely scattered elsewhere have not completely relieved the extended dry period which is slowing growth of early seedings and causing spotty germination in late-sown fields. More rain is needed in most areas particularly in the eastern half of the province. Frosts have occurred at Vermilion east of Edmonton and around Fort Vermilion in the far north. Some damage is reported, especially to coarse grains and flax.

CALENDAR OF COARSE GRAIN EVENTS

- March 20 Based on farmers intentions at March 1, the indicated acreage of Canada's major grain crops for 1957, in millions of acres, with 1956 acreages in brackets, were as follows: spring wheat, 19.3 (20.7); oats for grain, 12.1 (12.0); barley, 9.7 (8.7); spring rye, 0.2 (0.2); mixed grains 1.7 (1.6); and flaxseed 3.6 (3.1).
- April 4 Navigation opened at the Port of Montreal.
- 6 Bill No. 263 an amendment to the Prairie Grain Producers Interim Financing Act, 1956 was given third reading and passed in the House of Commons. The amendment enables the Governor-in-Council to extend the application of the Act to authorize and govern guaranteed loans that may be made by banks in the period September 1, 1957 to June 1, 1958; to provide that the rate of interest charged by the banks on a loan shall not exceed a rate prescribed by the Governor-in-Council; and to increase the maximum amount of a loan from fifteen hundred dollars to three thousand dollars.
- 23 Navigation in the Great Lakes was declared officially open for the 1957 season, twelve days later than the 1956 official opening.
- May 3 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced initial prices to be paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on the basic grades of wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1957.
- June 11 According to a crop report issued by the Bureau of Statistics an estimated 94 per cent of the total acreage expected to be sown to spring wheat, oats, barley, flaxseed and mixed grains in Canada (excluding Newfoundland) was seeded by May 31 compared with 84 per cent a year earlier.