

CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

MONTHLY REVIEW

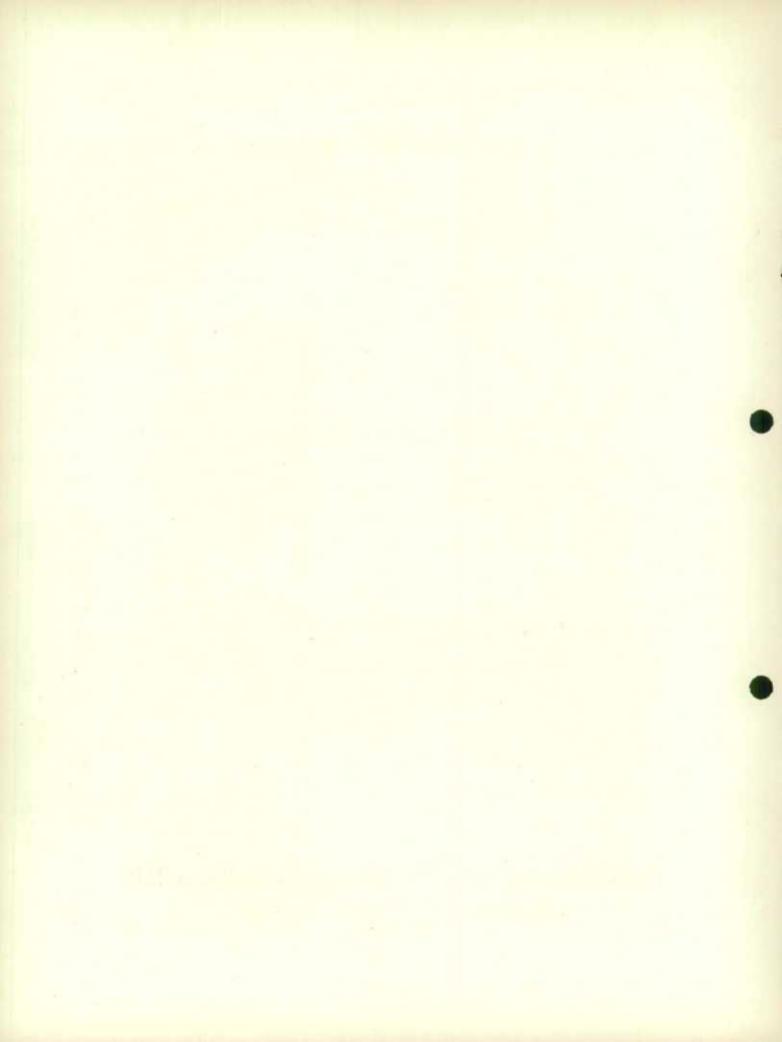
OF THE

WHEAT SITUATION



MAY, 1947

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Minister of Trade and Commerce
Ollawa



MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WHEAT SITUATION MAY 1947

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

(Issued May 1947)

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

The Current Situation - World bread grain stocks are due to reach a generally low ebb within the next few weeks. The pressure on supplies cannot be greatly relieved until new United States wheat reaches deficit areas, although some relief might be afforded if the Argentine were able to step up its currently low rate of shipment. According to the International Emergency Food Council. grain stocks in the importing nations are now lower than they were at this time last year. Reductions in bread rations of some countries have already occurred and further reductions are probable in Sweden, Denmark and Czechoslovakia, According to a trade report, I.E.F.C. has calculated that cereal imports of 8 million tons between now and September will be required to maintain rations at last winter's level--after taking into account the arrival of the new harvest in many areas and with no allowance made for the accumulation of operating stocks. According to the same report, I.E.F.C. considers the 8 million ton figure to be backed up by effective demand-while there are only 7.5 million tons of available exportable supplies in sight. The present situation is, in many respects, similar to that existing at this time last year when exporting countries were bending all their efforts towards averting famine in the war-torn areas of Europe and Asia.

Both the United States and Canada are again working against time to meet their overseas commitments. The transportation difficulties experienced in Canada earlier in the year have eased considerably and clearances of wheat and flour during the weeks ending May 16 and May 23 exceeded 6 million bushels per week. To assist in maintaining the accelerated rate of Canadian shipments, two government measures have been introduced this month: Effective May 12, the Wartime Prices and Trade Board placed a limit on the amount of flour and other wheat products which may be milled or processed for domestic human consumption at 105 per cent of the amount milled or processed in the corresponding period of 1945. This step was deemed necessary due to indications of excessive accumulation of inventories of flour at trade levels which have followed recurring rumours that wheat and flour were likely to be decontrolled at an early date. The implementing of this regulation should automatically increase the amount of flour available for export. The other measure mentioned has to do with expediting the delivery of the 45 odd million bushels of wheat which were estimated to be on farms available for delivery May 15. The Hon. J. A. Mackinnon, Minister of Trade and Commerce announced the plan in the House of Commons on May 13. His statement as quoted in Hansard follows:

"Mr. Speaker, a year ago the dominion government announced a special income tax arrangement available in respect to wheat marketed between April 1, 1946 and June 30, 1946. This arrangement was made because wheat was urgently needed for overseas shipment. Under this plan a considerable quantity of wheat

was made available by producers a year ago and this wheat was promptly moved forward to needy countries. The plan provided an arrangement whereby producers could deliver their wheat during a limited period with the actual cash settlement taken at the producers' option in 1946, 1947 or 1948. Producers taking advantage of this plan received what was known as an emergency wheat receipt. The plan was entirely optional and producers delivering wheat during the period of time set forth could take advantage of the special arrangement or deliver their wheat in the usual manner.

"The need for wheat overseas is just as urgent this year. With a greatly improved transportation position, wheat delivered now can be moved overseas in a very short period of time. The government and the Canadian wheat board have received many requests for a similar plan for a limited period in 1947.

"The government has decided to make substantially the same plan available in connection with wheat delivered by producers in western Canada between May 15 and June 30. Under the plan which the government is proposing for this year, producers will be able to take cash settlement at their option in 1947, 1948 or 1949.

"The dominion government feels that an arrangement of this kind is worth while if it will make more wheat available for overseas shipment during the balance of the present crop year. Full details of the plan will be announced at an early date by the Canadian wheat board."

The Outlook for 1947-48 - According to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the United States Department of Agriculture, early crop conditions in important producing areas indicate the world food supply for the 1947-48 consumption year may be little, if any, larger than in 1946-47. While increased production is anticipated in the principal exporting regions, the gain is likely to be offset by declines in grain production in several importing countries. Such a shift in production will require a somewhat greater movement of grains in international trade during the coming year if supplies in importing countries are to be maintained even at the relative low levels of 1946-47.

0.F.A.R. however, points out that finance may be a major problem in agricultural trade in 1947-48. Their report summarizes the situation in these words:

"The gold and dollar reserves of foreign countries are very unevenly distributed. Only a limited number of countries, such as some Latin American republics and Switzerland, have sufficient reserves. Many other countries will not be in a position to deplete further their currency reserves for the financing of a trade deficit.

"International loans will therefore remain the key factor that ultimately will determine the volume of international trade in the next crop year. In the case of certain essentials, such as bread grains, priority will be given to the import need at the expense of most other products, but imports of less essential foods and other less essential products will continue to be restricted in many countries, and the rigidity of the control will depend upon the extent to which they can finance their trade deficits by loans.

"The shortage of transportation facilities may limit the volume of food products which can be moved to deficit areas in 1947-48, especially if crops are above average. The heavy drain on reserve stocks of food have reduced port stocks to an unusually low level and all exportable supplies must be moved from the interior. This will tax the already overburdened and inadequate rail and truck facilities of many countries."

CANADIAN SITUATION

Supply Position - Exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat amounted to approximately 15.3 million bushels during the month of March, April bringing the total for the first nine months of the crop year to 155.9 million bushels. During the same period last year, 283.2 million bushels of wheat and flour equivalent were exported. An estimated 159.8 million bushels remained on April 1 for export or carryover at the end of the crop year. Since May 1 the rate of export has increased substantially.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

	1946-47 (million	1945-46 bushels)
Carry-over in North America July 31	69.9 420.8 <u>1</u> /	258.1 318.5 <u>2</u> /
Total Supply	490.7	576.6
Estimated domestic requirements	175.0	167.0 2/
Available for export or carry-over	315.7	409.6
Deduct:		F4843445
Overseas Clearances of wheat as grain August 1-April 30	103.0	228.0
United States imports of Canadian wheat	1.7	10.7
Total wheat exports	104.7	238.7
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat August 1-April 30 .	51.2	44.5
Total exports wheat and wheat flour	155.9	283.2
Balance on May 1 for export or carry-over	159.8	126.4

^{1/} Subject to revision.

^{2/} Final estimate.

Acreage Intentions for 1947 - Through the April-end survey of crop correspondents the Dominion Bureau of Statistics learned that Canadian farmers intended to seed some 800,000 fewer acres to wheat in 1947 than they did in 1946. The acreage seeded to oats may also decline by half a million acres, but these decreases may be offset by an increase in barley seedings of over a million acres and an increase in flax seedings of nearly 700,000 acres. The intended acreage figures obtained from farmers are merely indicative of their plans at the end of April, and acreages actually seeded may, therefore, vary considerably from the intentions figures, depending upon conditions affecting seeding subsequent to April 30. It should also be pointed out that all estimates currently published relative to crop acreages in the Prairie Provinces are subject to revision in the light of data which will soon be available from the 1946 Agricultural Census of the Prairie Provinces.

The April 30 intentions data indicated a total Canadian wheat acreage of 25.1 million acres as compared with 25.9 million in 1946. The acreage intentions in the Prairie Provinces are as follows:

	Intentions 1947	Acreage Seeded in 1946 1/	Expected Decrease
	acres	acres	acres
Manitoba	2,637,000 14,249,000 7,425,000	2,835,000 14,843,000 7,500,000	198,000 594,000 75,000
Total	24,311,000	25,178,000	867,000

The changes which took place in acreage seeded to the principal grain crops in western Canada during recent years will be seen in the following table which sets out the seeded acreage and summerfallow during the thirteen years 1934 to 1946, together with the intentions figures for 1947.

Seeded Acreage and Summerfallow in Frairie Provinces, 1934-1946, and Intended Acreage 1947

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Flaxseed	Summerfallow
		(thousand a	cres)	
1934	23,296	9,115	2,962	218	14,901
1935	23,293	9,478	3,187	297	14,252
1936	24,838	8,674	3,724	469	16,855
1937	24,599	8,579	3,562	233	15,150
1938	24,946	8,518	3,687	202	16,206
1939	25,813	8,227	3,607	289	15,950
6-year average .	24.464	8.765	3,455	285	15,552
1940	27,750	7,818	3,622	364	17,326
1941	21,140	8,137	4,735	982	23,111
1942	20,653	9,666	6,414	1.466	19,979
1943	16,091	11,790	7,896	2,918	20,637
1944	22,444	10,447	6,763	1,298	19,428
1945	22,566	10,749	6,859	1,034	19,859
6-year average .	21,774	9,768	6,048	1,344	20,116
1946	25,178	9,610	6,269	990	18,906
1947 2/	24,311	9,060	7,340	1,653	18,673

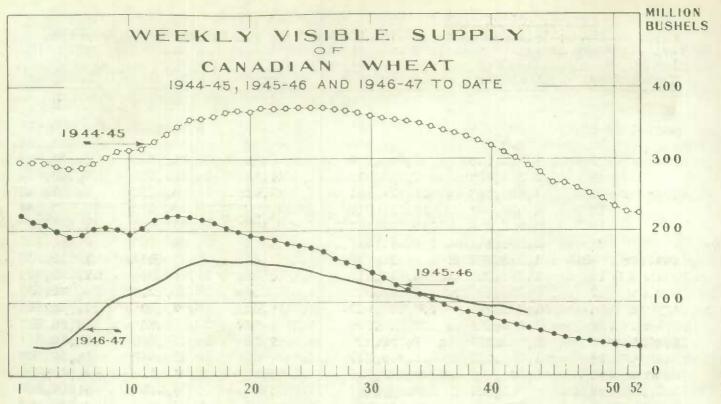
^{1/} Subject to revision when 1946 Census data become available.

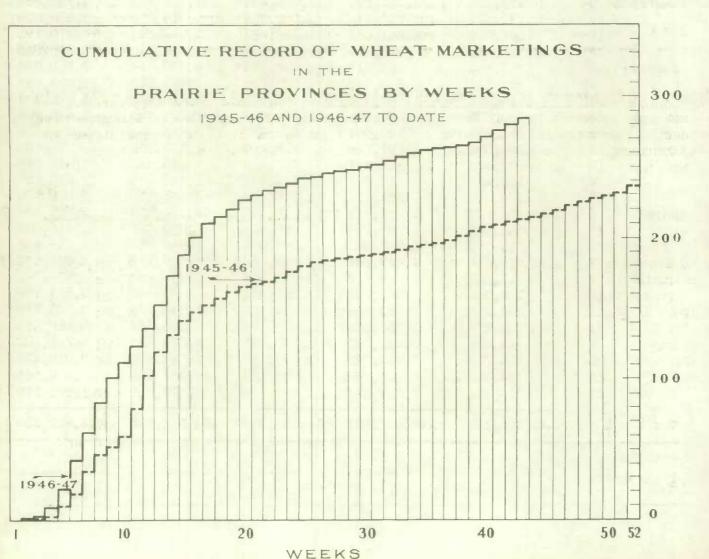
^{2/} Intentions indicated on April 30, 1947.

Farmers' Marketings - The following table shows primary receipts of wheat in the Prairie Provinces for the 1946-47 crop year along with comparative figures for 1945-46:

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
		- bus	hels -		
August 1-8	225,324	396,627	797,492	1,419,443	605,679
15	665,222	679,789	1,019,934	2,364,945	423,014
22	1,700,523	2,026,729	1,585,626	5,312,878	2,044,385
29	5,360,908	7,254,234	1,965,910	14,581,052	7,113,392
September 5	4,993,343	11,916,951	2,733,362	19,643,656	9,358,343
12	4,653,986	12,712,510	2,283,827	19,650,323	15,193,544
19	3,986,469	15,047,267	2,838,144	21,871,880	11,822,333
26	1,892,442	9,173,163	5,246,998	16,312,603	5,445,459
October 3	1,313,287	6,231,719	3,248,141	10,793,147	7,112,538
10	1,995,033	6,911,412	2,782,356	11,688,801	19,991,064
17	734,685	4,983,080	6,632,554	12,350,319	24,041,587
34	1,338,741	8,340,613	8,043,332	17,722,686	15,725,692
31	1,756,616	10,128,806	8,218,988	20,104,410	11,604,812
	1,246,737	7,731,400	5,989,216	14,967,353	10,510,916
November 7	1,058,969	6,499,519	4,925,980	12,484,468	5,351,009
21		5,411,116	3,505,063	9,960,782	4,740,836
	1,044,603			4,771,177	4,504,852
28	785,594	2,026,657	1,958,926		4,957,763
December 5	733,235	2,006,180	2,072,693	4,812,108	
12	779,599	2,730,715	2,509,304	6,019,618	3,878,858 2,370,691
19	561,032	1,221,075	1,462,492	3,244,599	
26	559,641	954,169	1,449,232	2,963,042	2,048,895
January 2	313,963	865,717	1,050,774	2,230,454	2,100,993
9	429,560	805,685	1,547,759	2,783,004	4,687,443
16	613,282	1,083,451	2,026,944	3,723,677	4,178,327
23	162,835	430,858	1,204,067	1,797,760	2,418,082
30	233,677	729,581	1,502,475	2,465,733	1,487,216
February 6	152,320	387,709	615,159	1,155,188	871,835
13	77,464	122,907	797,975	998,346	1,017,366
20	126,417	510,564	1,191,498	1,828,479	1,096,857
27	194,358	802,119	1,335,337	2,331,814	1,636,700
March 6	253,625	1,088,529	818,469	2,160,623	1,753,760
13	440,083	1,234,798	989,986	2,664,867	1,609,023
20	314,981	1,245,466	1,286,369	2,846,816	1,643,608
27	292,665	1,033,743	599,348	1,925,756	1,032,930
April 3	213,607	604,913	276,974	1,095,494	1,182,771
10	128,369	240,842	383,231	752,442	2,157,979
1/ 17	188,945	262,269	693,278	1,144,492	2,623,127
24	284,477	1,131,103	1,037,184	2,452,764	3,518,652
May 1	384,059	2,836,735	1,330,750	4,551,544	2,759,402
8	433,034	2,643,243	1,670,545	4,746,822	2,069,450
15	474,952	2,238,467	1,458,182	4,171,601	2,209,567
22	396,439	1,819,291	1,282,629	3,498,359	1,971,575
Total	43,495,101	146,501,721	94,368,503	284,365,325	212,812,225

^{1/} Revised.





Wheat Visible Supply - The following table shows stocks of Canadian wheat in store and in transit in Canada and the United States on May 22, 1947, along with comparative figures for approximately the same date in 1946 and 1945:

	1947	1946 - 000 bushel	<u>1945</u>
Country Elevators - Manitoba	3,105 11,940 13,635	1,900 11,495 8,415	14,785 70,465 55,595
rotal	28,680	21,810	140,845
Interior Frivate and Mill Elevators Interior Public and Semi-Public Terminals Pacific Ports Churchill Fort William and Port Arthur Eastern Elevators - Lake Ports St. Lawrence and Seaboard Ports United States Ports In Transit - Lake In Transit - Rail In Transit - U.S.A.	4,241 131 6,456 43 15,603 7,774 2,769 33 5,333 13,224	4,516 184 1,880 1,878 7,230 11,075 9,346 306 3,447 5,863	5,505 14,211 17,665 1,878 39,988 16,250 12,748 15,575 4,481 21,286 3,341
Total	84,287	67,535	293,773

Movement of Wheat to Maritime Ports - The table below sets out the movement of wheat by RAIL from ports on the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river during the current season, with comparable figures for last year. The disparity in shipments between the two years continues to reflect the currently tight transportation situation.

	August 1, 1946 to May 22, 1947	August 1, 1945 to May 23, 1946
	· 1914	shels -
Midland Owen Sound Port McNicoll Goderich Sarnia Port Colborne Toronto Walkerville Kingston Prescott Montreal Three Rivers	523,925 4,373,171 1,370,117 4,199,518 122,658 1,834,894 136,195 133,188 71,622	1,099,955 7,224,061 2,021,566 7,291,290 597,473 201,923 50,000 195,873 717,978 330,815 130,967 220,000
Total	12,766,784	30,081,901

Grading of Wheat - The following table shows the grading of wheat inspected during the nine-month period August to April 1947. Comparable figures for 1946 are also included in the table:

	Inspections					
	August-	April 1947	August-A	pril 1946		
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent		
l Northern	17,192	12.5	44,126	30.6		
2 Northern	60,401	43.9	56,587	39.2		
3 Northern	15,732	11.4	14,844	10.3		
4 Northern	3,424	2.5	4,445	3.1		
Garnet	630	0.5	1,464	1.0		
Amber Durum	3.086	2.2	1,507	1.0		
Alberta Winter	1,497	1.1	959	0.7		
Tough - All varieties and grades .	30,512	22.2	16.572	11.5		
All Others	5,079	3.7	3,807	2.6		
rotal	137,553	100.0	144,311	100.0		

Gradings during the first nine months of the current crop year point up the relatively low quality of the 1946 wheat crop. Only one-eighth of the inspections during the August to April period graded No. 1 Northern as compared with a proportion of nearly one-third for the same period in the previous crop year. The percentage graded tough has continued to increase throughout the season, with 22.2 per cent of the August to April inspections falling into this classification.

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to May 21

	Wheat	Oats	Barley - bu	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
1939 1940 1941 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 1947	20,139,644 47,158,904 62,593,519 58,491,860 30,700,628 65,132,818 60,082,144 29,043,968 25,264,094	2,442,040 4,675,753 2,389,524 783,096 8,613,405 16,934,673 24,062,193 18,259,407 8,801,304	2,536,014 1,189,896 1,311,924 890,670 7,118,026 10,996,646 11,905,469 6,738,449 4,372,841	122,999 725,464 867,685 506,827 988,626 2,994,800 1,735,608 517,568 987,033	97,277 295,951 86,191 564,067 3,238,233 1,088,850 333,650	25,240,697 53,847,294 67,458,603 60,757,644 47,984,752 99,297,170 98,874,264 54,893,042 39,425,272

According to the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners the navigation season at the Lakehead opened on April 19 this year. Navigation opened on April 8 last year and on March 27 in 1945. Up to May 21 the total movement of grain since the opening of navigation in 1947 amounted to 39.4 million bushels, about 28 per cent below last year's movement of 54.9 million bushels. Wheat shipments, however, are down only 13 per cent. Had the late spring not delayed the opening of navigation in 1947 shipments to date would have been considerably greater.

Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur - Rail shipments of wheat from the Lakehead during April amounted to 0.6 million bushels as compared with 1.7 million bushels in March and 1.0 million bushels in April of 1946. The sharp drop in rail movement out of the Lakehead reflects the usual seasonal decline which coincides with the opening of navigation on the Lakes.

Shipments month-by-month during the past four crop years are shown in the following table:

	1946-47	1945-46	1944-45	1943-44
		- bi	ushels -	
August	187,825	23,255	91,891	990,879
September	175,773	57,533	169,603	1,547,042
October	255,754	73,776	86,571	780,035
November	256,249	99,197	97,512	711,238
December	1,601,883	2,280,636	1,236,339	898,566
January	2,462,002	4,533,707	1,936,038	4,364,157
February	1,816,087	1,127,764	764,629	4,397,318
March	1,711,013	2,223,266	1,091,909	1,076,193
April	566,006	1,015,730	196,042	107,257
May		536,462	66,154	269,533
June		920,233	58,642	108,739
July	172	130,276	52,726	47,517
Total - 12 months		13,021,835	5,848,056	15,298,474

The grades of wheat shipped during April 1947 and the provincial distribution of this rail movement are shown in the following table:

	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island
		-	bushels -		
2 Northern	6,000	•			
4 Northern	41,260	35,200	5,633	- 10	2,267
No. 5	20,333	44,500	4,500	-	_
Feed	7,417	14,583	_	-	-
Tf. 4 Northern	74,618	59,567	12,767	11,267	1,500
Tf. No. 5	33,355	36,267	4,500	-	_
Rej. 4 Northern	47,867	21,533	_	-	-
Tf. Rej. 4 Northern	29,133	14,667	667	2,666	
rf. Rej. No. 5	2,666	7,667	-	_	_
Smutty 1 Nor	_	3,031	440	_	
Smutty 2 Nor	-	1,500	-	-	_
If. Smutty 2 Nor	_	3,185	-	-	
If. Sample Heated	-	1,469	gue-	-	- 3
1 C.W.A.D	_	1,500	-	-	
2 C.W.A.D	10,000	-	-	-	-
3 C.W.A.D	1,500	-	-	600	-
2 A.W	1,421		-	•	-
rotal	275,570	244,669	28,067	13,933	3,767

GRAND TOTAL 566,006

Freight Assistance Shipments - Claims filed for payment on freight assistance shipments of wheat indicate that, during the first eight months of the current crop year, total assisted shipments were down some 24 per cent from the level recorded during the same period of the previous crop year. Declines were registered in all provinces except British Columbia where a small increase in shipments was recorded. However, in connection with the current data particularly, it should be emphasized that the filing of late claims will necessitate upward revisions in the shipment figures. Thus, it is anticipated that the actual decline in shipments as between the two years may turn out to be less than the table now indicates.

The provincial distribution of wheat shipments is shown in the following table, by months, with comparative totals for the crop year 1945-46:

1946-47	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	British Columbia	Total
-,-			- bus	shels -			
August September . October November December January		506,603 419,042 716,533 948,543 818,623 707,175	58,888 56,213 88,976 107,557 76,367 85,130	71,892 74,710 73,313 141,058 122,137 93,013	34,130 28,572 30,502 56,203 54,478 46,586	408,712 412,533 372,238 407,475 358,228 363,675	1,656,163 1,413,410 2,371,750 2,846,381 2,332,941 2,069,894
February	532,428 425,948	528,512 371,303	56,555 30,577	54,587 53,738	28,183	381,847 119,653	1,522,112
Total.	5,909,810	5,016,334	560,263	684,448	294,071	2,764,361	15,229,287
Same Period 1945-46	9,274,648	6,320,910	700,366	762,408	377,183	2,560,200	19,995,715

Millfeed shipments on which claims have been filed under the freight assistance policy during the August-March period exceed by a small margin those recorded for the same period in the previous crop year. It is anticipated that the filing of late claims will increase the spread to some extent.

The provincial distribution of millfeeds under the freight assistance plan is shown for the five eastern provinces in the following table. One column of figures covers the first eight months of the present crop year and the other the corresponding period a year ago:

	August 1, 1946 to March 31, 1947	August 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946
	- ton	S -
Ontario	189,948	167,922
Quebec	219,376	210,573
New Brunswick	38,345	38,317
Nova Scotia	39,701	39,784
Prince Edward Island	10,959	10,831
Total;	498,329	467,427

Wheat and Wheat Flour

	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat	U. S. Imports 1/of Canadian Wheat for consumption and milling in bond	Customs Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
1944-45		- 000 b	ushels -		ATT E
August	12,351	9,043	3,391	24,785	19,899
September	11,798	8,940	5,470	26,208	32,107
October	15,428	5,758	4,908	26,094	33,624
November	14,658	4,891	4,417	23,966	27,601
December	9,972	2,169	5,591	17,732	32,815
January	14,730	1,413	3,781	19,924	8,944
February	10,858	766	4,642	16,266	11,998
March	13,890	763	5,571	20,224	15,665
April	22,703	2,157	6,154	31,014	21,606
May	39,351	2,499	6,307	48,157	35,432
June	34,366	1,725	7,257	43,348	50,552
July	38,322	1,737	5,168	45,227	43,362
Total	238,427	41,861	62,657	342,945	333,605
1945-46					
August	35,358	1,114	4,979	41,451	48,074
September	26,645	1,143	4,294	32,082	34,428
October	37,551	1,265	4,789	43,605	36,139
November	29,679	2,139	4,501	36,319	42,817
December	20,163	1,582	4,344	26,089	42,443
January	19,984	1,988	5,125	27,097	20,373
February	19,598	351	5,111	25,054	14,959
March	22,780	587	4,690	28,057	20,075
April	16,220	559	6,651	23,430	20,095
May	15,131	465	7,507	23,103	23,003
June	16,161	754	4,771	21,686	14,718
July	6,471	386	5,275	12,132	18,910
rotal	265,735	12,333	62,037	340,105	336,034
1946-47 2/					
August	5,981	227	8,896	15,104	17,339
September	10,134	241	5,563	15,938	11,338
October	12,478	437	4,436	17,351	23,653
November	20,494	441	6,156	27,091	23,008
December	10,815	124	3,248	14,187	17,488
January	14,303	77	6,208	20,588	20,406
February	10,439	75	5,538	16,052	13,639
March	8,121	36	6,102	14,259	14,085
April	10,273	3/	5,015	15,288	12,152
otal	103,038	1,658	51,162	155,858	153,108

 ^{1/} U.S.A. official figures.
 2/ Subject to revision.
 3/ U.S.A. imports for April not available.

Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour (Including U.S.A.

Imports) August 1946 to April 1947 - The following statistics on monthly overseas clearances have been compiled by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners:-

	March		April		August-April	
	Wheat Flour 2	/ Wheat	Mheat Flour 2/	Wheat 1/	Wheat Elour 2/	Wheat
	bus	hels	bush	els	bus	hels
BRITISH EMPIRE						
United Kingdom	209 7 270 18 3 6	7257395	2816185	9156105	21002850 32148	786868 7 8 1244391
Africa						
Br. E. Africa	4590	-	-	17-00	4590	-
Br. S. Africa	101 = -		1147	-	461596	1708645
Br. W. Africa						
Gambia	37.	_	-	-	6638	-
Gold Coast	117		2484	-	74709	70
Nigeria	6376	-	-		33665	-
Sierra Leone	5499	-	19931		88993	-
Asia						
Ceylon	-	-	The least	-	170667	-
Hong-Kong	43569	-	30987		141867	
India	62091	-	23895	-	120780	2008905
Malaya	19287	-	-	-	182264	-
Europe						
Gibraltar	8068	-	23450	-	107415	
Malta	4	646		112000		1392564
North America						Yes 1
Bahamas	13455		7200		104175	
Barbados	60147		27922	1770	366678	2770
Jamaica	112604	761	109719	381	1943307	16803
St. Vincent	- 30	24	_	-	-	27
Trinidad and Tobago	190206	304	217359	-	1916338	3078
Other Br. W. Indies	62676	_	41062	-	730228	2291
Bermuda	6750	-	10579	-	97177	Tong-
Br. Honduras	-	-	5175	4000	39546	des
Newfoundland	20547	-	24233	-	961560	W
South America						
British Guiana	30330	-	78642	12,5	579559	-
Total British Empire	2745418	7258484	3439970	9270256	29166750	85066352

	Mar	ch	Apri	11	August	-April
	Wheat Flour 2	Meat	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	\.heat
	bush	els	bush	nels	bu	shels
OREIGN COUNTRIES						
Africa						
Azores and Madeira	3636		11133	-	36459	
Belgium Congo	9986	-	10561		77760	
Egypt	699620	349327	25474	_	1884177	440937
Fr. N. Africa	-	-	2088	_	22676	110301
Liberia	_		-	-	9486	
Portuguese Africa	17212	_	4095	-	60448	
Spanish Colonies .			1000		00110	
(Canary Islands)	-	-	400	-	17820	,000
isia						
	7071 60		6.4505		CO41.43.0	
China	387162	-	64323	-	5861412	-
Iraq-Iran		_	-	-	200000	63257
	1705	-	~	-	180360	_
Portuguese Asia Philippine Islands	1395		100064	-	24354	_
Filtrippine Islands	328500	_	190264	-	2566800	-
Europe						
Austria	_	_	_	_	25020	
Belgium	10098	107992	-	649626	123715	367328
Czechoslovakia	_	-	-	-	41265	_
Denmark	5062	-	-	-	5580	-
Finland	-	-	-	-	3447	-
France	-	373333		-	-0.0	69845
Germany	-	-	-	-	699152	-
Greece	188325	11200	3600	ana	839574	2613
Italy	848389	-	820818	-	2983090	-
Netherlands	2250	-	-	338725	2250	337350
Norway	485802	-	167085	_	1410957	144172
Poland	-	***	-	-	61897	-
Portugal	25637	-	67518	-	172738	65517
Spain	-	_	-	-	13599	-
Switzerland	4590	- '	-	-	4590	100970
Yugo-Slavia	-	-	-	-	2466	-
North America						
Costa Rica	21600	_	21798	-	128470	3333
Cuba	-	466	2295		48667	361
Dominican Republic	9567		5450	_	164412	1001
Fr. W. Indies	21753	-	-	-	275904	-
Greenland		-	~	-	35973	
Guatemala	17005	_	3659	-	114795	400

Althor Anthus	Mar	March April		ril	Augus	st-April
	Wheat Flour 2		Wheat Flour 2	Wheat 1/	Wheat Flour 3	Wheat
FOREIGN COUNTRIES	bush	els	bus	shels	bus	hels
North America - Cont'd.						
Haiti	15381	_	-	_	138712	
Honduras	_		_		27846	10000
Iceland	39903	Mage	18198	-	185221	-
Mexico		ade .	1665		8816	
Netherlands W. Indies	8208	-	5301	000 % 0	141440	-
Nicaragua	2875	_	977	1 1 1 - 1	32368	
Panama	17208	-	_		96790	
Salvador	-	***	1607	_	32175	16667
St. Pierre & Miguelon	900	alla	-	310	10066	-
United States						
For grinding in bond		24125		3/		1493644
For human consumption .	2943	9659	491	3/	5301	136060-
Unfit for human	100 20	0000		2		
consumption		1833	6-	3/		28094
Alaska	-	=	648	-	670	_
Virgin Islands	1836	-	_		13284	500
South America						
17 x 3 d mod m			03.0		010	
Bolivia	00540	-	918 42138	-	918	1061898
Brazil	97542	2003.7		14110		535720
Colombia	3.4000	20617	4590	14110	42296 174213	
Ecuador	14022	-	15840	-		52103
French Guiana	7,0000	_	2007	To Table	30960	
Netherlands Guiana	12029	der	2997	71 71	68832	GOOGUG
Peru	1953 64282	-	79844		10782	3 28533
Total Foreign Countries .	3356672	898086	1574727	1003461	21995420	19629607
Grand Total Exported	6102090	8156570	5014697	10272717	51162170	104695959

^{1/} Subject to revision.

^{2/} Canadian Customs Returns - conversion rate - 4 1/2 wheat bushels = 1 barrel.

^{3/} U.S.A. imports for April not available.

^{4/} Revised to include March U.S.A. imports.

^{*} Includes seed wheat to the following countries: Belgium 89,585 bushels; Brazil 18,666 bushels; Greece 26,133 bushels; Colombia 215,935 bushels; Egypt 30,327 bushels and Cuba 3,619 bushels.

Current Wheat Prices - The table below sets out the weekly averages of both domestic and export prices of western Canadian wheat for the weeks ending April 26 through May 17. Prices of wheat for domestic use and for export to the United Kingdom remain unchanged. Prices of the 'commercial' class—for export to countries other than the United Kingdom have maintained a firm tone during the period under review, with the average for the week ending May 17 down only a half-cent from the week of April 26.

	Average	ding -		
	April 26	May 3	May 10	May 17
11th co. + 7 /	- cent	s and eight	hs per bushe	_
Wheat 1/				
(1) Class I Domestic				
(A) Domestic Use 2/				
1 Hard	155	155	155	155
l Northern	155	155	155	155
2 Northern	152	152	152	152
3 Northern	150	150	150	150
4 Northern	145	145	145	145
Number 5	142	142	142	142
Number 6	138	138	138	138
reed	136	136	136	136
1 C. W. Garnet	150	150	150	150
2 C. W. Garnet	148	148	148	148
3 C. W. Garnet	146	146	146	146
l Alberta Red Winter	165	165	165	165
2 Alberta Winter	164	164	164	164
3 Alberta Winter	161	161	161	161
1 C. W. Amber Durum	165	165	165	165
2 C. W. Amber Durum	162	162	162	162
3 C. W. Amber Durum	160	160	160	160
(B) Country Points - 20 cents per	r bushel unde	r Schedule	A.	
(2) Class II Export				
(A) United Kingdom 2/			7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
l Hard	155	155	155	155
l Northern	155	155	155	155
2 Northern	152	152	152	152
3 Northern	150	150	150	150
(B) Commercial				
1 Hard	287	.285/1	284/4	286/4
l Northern	287	285/1	284/4	286/4
2 Northern	284	282/1	281/4	283/4
3 Northern	282	280/1	279/4	281/4
1 C. W. Amber Durum	297	295/1	294/4	296/4
2 C. W. Amber Durum	294	292/1	291/4	293/4
3 C. W. Amber Durum	292	290/1	289/4	291/4

^{1/} Price - Basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur and Vancouver.

^{2/} Plus 3 1/2 cents per bushel carrying charge.

Flour Milling Situation - During the first nine months of the current crop year wheat flour production amounted to 21.1 million barrels, exceeding the output for the same period of the previous crop year by 1.4 million barrels. With only three months remaining in this crop year, and taking into consideration the current high rate of milling, it seems almost certain that a new record for Canadian flour production will be set in 1946-47.

During April 1947 the mills turned out 2.4 million barrels of flour. Mills reporting operations for April had a total rated milling capacity of 90,890 barrels per 24-hour day and on the basis of a 25-day working period in the month 105.6 per cent of the rated capacity was effective.

Exports of wheat flour (based on Customs returns) during the nine months of the present season have amounted to 11.4 million barrels as compared with 9.9 million barrels for the same period in 1945-46.

In the following table the record of production and exports during the past nine years is shown, together with statistics for the first nine months of the current crop year.

Production and Exports of Wheat Flour (barrels of 196 pounds)

Crop Year	Production	Exports
1937-38	12,867,728	3,609,656
1938-39	15,197,297	4,604,245
1939-40	17,778,311	6,781,367
1940-41	19,575,833	10,288,827
1941-42	19,905,741	10,205,778
1942-43	23,590,516	12,575,215
1943-44	24,303,833	13,464,371
1944-45	24,634,905	13,923,832
1945-46	26,435,341	13,786,177
1946-47 August	2,158,627	1,977,008
September	2,227,748	1,236,125
October	2,432,875	985,726
November	2,518,555	1,368,060
December	2,350,040	721,744
January	2,477,865	1,379,676
February	2,212,207	1,230,635
March	2,354,128	1,356,020
April	2,399,074	1,114,377
E1 + 9		
Total - 9 months	21,131,119	11,369,371
Same Period 1945-46	19,743,721	9,885,438

Telegraphic Crop Report - Prairie Provinces - The following is summarized from the telegraphic crop report issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on May 27 covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces:

Below normal temperatures have prevailed for the past week throughout the Prairies and have retarded germination and growth in many districts. Average precipitation since April 1 has been well below normal in all three provinces but subsoil reserves have been adequate to maintain generally good moisture conditions. Wheat seeding in Manitoba is nearing completion with Saskatchewan and Alberta reporting wheat seedings 83 per cent and 90 per cent complete, respectively. More than half of the coarse grain acreage in all three provinces is now planted. Warmer weather is now required and rains would be helpful, particularly in some districts where soil drifting has commenced or is imminent. Overall crop prospects are considered to be generally satisfactory.

Manitoba - The general picture in Manitoba is quite good. Wheat seeding is practically completed and better than 50 per cent of the oats and barley are in the ground. Some farmers are delaying seeding of flax and coarse grains in order to obtain a good kill of wild oats which are germinating well. Growth is generally retarded by about a week to ten days but despite this, grain is germinating and rooting satisfactorily with early planted wheat up six inches in some districts. Moisture appears to be ample so far with fair subsoil reserves. Slight drifting has occurred on finely worked fallows and warmth is now needed, especially for gardens and corn.

In the extreme south-west of the province seeding is very well advanced with wheat completed; 75 per cent of the coarse grains in; and 40 per cent of the flax. Fall rye is in good condition but the acreage is small. Pastures are only fair. In the Brandon area seeding is also well advanced but the surface moisture is reported only fair although subsoil moisture is satisfactory. Light frosts have occurred but no damage is reported. Germination in this area is irregular and rain and warm weather would be welcome. In the north-central area seeding is less advanced although early wheat and oats emerged the middle of last week. Moisture conditions are fairly satisfactory but warmer weather is required. Pastures have been slow in developing and with supplies of roughage running low, cattle are in rather poor condition. At Dauphin, in the north-west, cool weather is retarding growth but moisture supplies are ample for germination. Pastures here, too, are late and feed reserves are low. Wheat seeding is reported to be 90 per cent completed with coarse grains now going in the ground.

Sweet clover weevil is reported active in the Portage-Morden areas. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 43 per cent below normal as compared with 37 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was 6 degrees below normal.

Saskatchewan -Very satisfactory progress has been made in the seeding of wheat and coarse grains during the last two weeks. Over a large area of the province, especially in the south-eastern, south-central, south-western and westcentral districts, 90 per cent of the wheat seeding has been completed. Coarse grain seeding is showing good progress in these districts and in central Saskatchewan. For the province as a whole it is reported that 83 per cent of the wheat, 58 per cent of the coarse grains and 38 per cent of the flax have been sown. About 23 per cent of the wheat acreage is showing green but germination and growth are slow due to cold, backward weather. This condition has led to rather serious weed growth in early seeded fields. The soil moisture condition is generally good to fair. Whereas some soil drifting has occurred in a number of districts in the south and west, very little damage is reported to date. Timely and welcome showers in south-central and south-western areas have considerably reduced the soil drifting hazard. Higher temperatures are required to hasten development. - 17 -

Manor reports wheat seeding 100 per cent, oats 60 per cent and flax 50 per cent completed with moisture conditions good but considerable infestation of wild oats. Favourable seeding progress is reported from Fillmore with germination even and conditions for weed destruction excellent. Advice from Indian Head indicates that wheat seeding is almost completed except in the more wooded area with coarse grain seeding well started. Hay and pasture fields are reported to be in excellent condition with live stock doing well. Seeding of cereal grains is virtually completed in the Scott district and 65 per cent of the flax acreage has been seeded. Early seedings of wheat show good stands but effective rains are required for even germination of later seedings and for hay and pasture fields. This same general condition applies to the west-central area including Rosetown except that flax seedings here are more nearly completed.

Serious weed conditions are reported from both the north-west and north-east districts. Reports from the north-west indicate a need for rain to hasten growth of grains. Seeding here is almost completed. Light rains in the north-east, however, have delayed seeding and only about 60 per cent of the wheat and 20 per cent of the coarse grains are in.

Some damage by wireworms and pale western cutworms is reported by the Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon. The sweet clover weevil is responsible for some damage in the south-east. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 27 per cent below normal, as compared with 33 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was 4 degrees below normal.

Alberta - Satisfactory progress has been made with seeding in Alberta and about ninety per cent of the wheat crop has been sown. Coarse grains seeding is fifty to sixty per cent completed. Scattered showers and some heavy rains delayed seeding in some areas. Moisture conditions are generally satisfactory throughout the province but rain would be welcome in many districts. Germination and growth of the new crop have been slow in most districts because of cool weather.

The crop is furthest advanced in the south-east where seeding is practically completed and early wheat is four inches above ground. The topsoil in this district is reported dry and rain will be needed for complete germination of late-sown crops. Fall rye is heading out in the area of Medicine Hat. In the south-west wheat seeding is nearing completion and good progress has been made with coarse grains. Moisture conditions are good to excellent but with cool weather growth is slow. Sugar beet seeding is practically completed and germination is reported fair. Thinning operations are progressing but some concern over labour is reported.

Seeding is expected to be completed within the week in the central districts of the province. Wheat seeding is 90 to 95 per cent completed and seeding of coarse grains is well advanced. Early-sown wheat is two inches above ground in the Calgary area. Moisture supplies are generally adequate and warmer weather is needed to promote more rapid growth. Good growth of fall wheat and rye is reported. In the northern districts seeding is well advanced with wheat reported 85 per cent completed and oats and barley 70 per cent completed. Seeding is expected to be completed in the Peace River district by the end of the month. Emergence of the crops is satisfactory and germination is reported to be good. Rain is needed in some areas.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18 per cent below normal as compared with 3 per cent above normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was one degree below normal.

UNITED STATES SITUATION

High Rate of Exports Maintained - Exports of United States grain and grain products for the month of April are estimated at 1.5 million long tons (58.1 million bushels). Total exports for the ten months July through April amounted to approximately 11 million long tons (426.6 million bushels, of which 315.1 million bushels were wheat and flour equivalent). Shipment of May and June allocations should bring the crop-year exports of all grain and grain products within a range of some 500 to 550 million bushels, of which wheat and flour equivalent should amount to between 350 and 360 million bushels. July export quotas of 1.4 million long tons (54.5 million bushels) of grain and grain products have been announced by the United States Department of Agriculture. These quotas include 17.6 million bushels of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent. Much of the July exports will be destined to the occupied zones in Europe and the Pacific.

Winter Wheat Prospects Enhanced Since April 1 - The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture reports that as of May 1 a winter wheat crop of 1,025,789,000 bushels was indicated—about 17 per cent more than the previous record crop of 874 million bushels produced in 1946. May 1 indicated production is 53 million bushels above April 1 prospects and compares with the 1936-45 average of 653,893,000 bushels. The 54,294,000 acres remaining for harvest is 12 per cent more than last year, 33 per cent more than the 10-year average, and the largest harvested acreage since 1919.

The acreage not harvested for grain is expected to be 4.6 per cent of the total acreage seeded last fall, compared with 7.1 per cent last year and the average of 14.1 per cent. The seeded acreage is now estimated at 56,941,000 acres, about half a million acres above the estimate published in December 1946. The prospective yield is 18.9 bushels per harvested acre. This would be third highest of record and compares with 18.0 bushels in 1946 and the average of 16.1 bushels.

Wheat came through the winter in unusually good condition, and production prospects improved during April. A fairly large acreage of volunteer wheat is expected to be harvested in the south-western winter wheat area including Texas, Oklahoma, western Kansas and Nebraska and eastern Colorado. Winter loss of acreage is very light in nearly all areas, except in north central Montana, where ice formation caused heavy loss. Only moderate loss of acreage occurred in Illinois and Missouri from water standing on low land.

Yield prospects improved during April in most wheat sections. Cool, wet weather, except in the Pacific north-west, further retarded plant development and prevented excessive growth. As a result the crop is about 10 days to 2 weeks behind development at this time last year. Soil moisture conditions over the Great Plains area are the best in years. Some shortage of moisture, however, is developing in the Low Rolling Plains of Texas, in Idaho, and in the dry land sections of California and Arizona. A general shortage of nitrogen fertilizers for the usual top dressing of wheat fields is reported in the south-eastern States.

Record wheat crops are in prospect for several States, including Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Nebraska and Colorado. The May 1 forecast of 263 million bushels for Kansas exceeds the previous record 1931 crop of 252 million bushels.

An official weather report for the week ending May 20 states that somewhat above normal temperatures had favoured growth and development of small grains. However, too dry weather was reported in the middle Atlantic and Pacific States, while too much rain had occurred in part of the Lake Region, Ohio Valley and the Texas-Oklahoma area. Seeding of spring wheat was nearing completion in the later districts with good stands and colour reported from the Northern Plains. Early spring wheat was heading short in the North Pacific States, due to lack of sufficient moisture. Winter wheat evidently remains in very good to excellent condition and is generally heading in Missouri and Kansas, and jointing to heading in the Ohio Valley. Dry weather is needed in northern and north-western Texas for harvesting.

Assuming that production of spring wheat approaches the average level, and that the May 1st winter wheat estimate is realized, the United States seems almost assured of a total wheat crop of one and a quarter billion bushels.

International Emergency Food Council Meets - On May 26, in Washington, both Secretary of Agriculture Anderson and Dr. D. A. FitzGerald, Secretary-General of the International Emergency Food Council, addressed representatives of some thirty-four nations at the opening session of the fourth meeting of that group. According to press reports, Mr. Anderson advised importing nations that because of transportation and other difficulties the United States may export only about 300 to 350 million bushels of wheat and flour equivalent in the coming crop year—regardless of the size of this year's crop. The press reports Dr. FitzGerald as warning the delegates that in a dozen countries there is grave doubt as to whether supplies in sight will bridge the gap until domestic harvests are available.

On May 26 Mr. Anderson made public a letter from himself to Dr. Fitz-Gerald. In this letter Mr. Anderson pointed to the possibility of another critical food shortage in the spring and summer of 1948. If this is to be averted Mr. Anderson considers that the deficit countries must exert all possible efforts to collect and distribute for human use the greatest possible quantity of indigenous food supplies. To assist in achieving their aim, Dr. Anderson put forward the following proposal:

"I suggest, therefore, that the International Emergency Food Council sponsor a cereals conference with a two-fold objective of:

- (a) Explaining the urgent necessity for husbanding indigenous food supplies and for the most effective programs of indigenous cereal collection and distribution; and
- (b) Discussing the successful features of food management programs of countries attending the conference and adopting courses of action that may be taken to insure maximum collections and orderly distribution of indigenously produced food supplies.

To be most effective, such a conference should be attended by the Ministers of Food and Agriculture as well as their immediate administrative officials and technical experts. It probably should be held in Europe not later than the middle of July".

Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat - Offerings on the Chicago spot market have remained sporadic during the period under review, with most of the limited arrivals being placed on previous contracts. Cash wheat at Minneapolis fluctuated considerably during the month but the underlying tone was strong and No. 1 Heavy Dark Northern was quoted on May 23 at 272 3/8 to 276 3/8, an advance of more than ten cents above the April 23 price. During the week ending May 23 trading in cash grain at Minneapolis was based on July futures, and took place at premium high, enough to more than offset price differentials which prevailed between May and July.

The following are the daily cash prices by grades on the Chicago and Minneapolis markets:

		Chicago) ma	Minneapolis -	
		Grade	Price	Grade	Price
April	23	None		·	- 265 1/8
158	24	None			- 264
	-35	2 Red	275		- 369 1/2
	26	None			- 267 3/4
	28	None		- ,	- 259 3/4
	29	None			- 256 1/4
	30	2 Mixed	261	1 Heavy Dark Nor. 256 1/4	- 259 1/4
May	1	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor. 261 3/4	- 264 3/4
	2	2 Nor. Spg.	270	1 Heavy Dark Nor. 259	- 261
	3	1 Mixed	263 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor. 260	- 262
	5	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor. 259 1/2	- 262 1/2
	6	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor. 255 3/4	- 258 3/4
	7	1 Nor. Spg.	263	1 Heavy Dark Nor. 259 3/4	- 262 3/4
	8	None			- 266
	9	None			- 266 1/4
	10	None			- 263 3/4
	12	None			- 264 3/4
	13	None			- 267 1/2
	14	None		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	- 277 1/2
	15	None		*	- 266 1/2
	16	None			- 258 1/2
	17	None			- 263 3/4
	19	None		,	- 265 7/8
	20	None			- 268 3/4
	21	1 Hard Wheat	273	-	- 268 1/8
	22	None	.5.10	,	- 271
	23	2 Red	265		- 276 3/8
	20	~ 1,6d	,300	I Houry buth hour Sid O/O	2.0 0/0

Chicago Wheat Futures - All futures have maintained a strong tone throughout the period under review with both nearby and deferred positions chalking up substantial gains by the end of the period. One of the principal strengthening factors is the likelihood of large government emergency purchases of new crop wheat for shipment to areas of Europe where food supplies are reported at dangerously low levels. The deferred positions appear to be supported by both official and private reports which indicate that world requirements next season will be larger than the surpluses likely to be available in exporting countries. Trade sources anticipate substantial mill demand for new crop wheat and, despite the prospective record winter wheat crop, it is thought that July wheat will continue relatively strong, compared with the deferred.

The following are the high points of closing in the wheat futures market at Chicago for the various contract months:

		May	June	July	September	December	May
		Ma y	June	July	September	December	may
			- (cents and ei	ghths per bus	hel -	
-0 T 2							
April	24	256/6	THE WEST OF	224/4	216/6	213/2	C Malan
	25	261/5	- 1 - 02 CO	230	221	216/4	MARIE AND A
	26	263/6	130 H 115 M. C.	229/6	221/2	217	to se
	28	258	District Town	224/6	218	214/4	- Frank
	29	257/4	3-1-	226	218/6	215/2	8 - 45 15
	30	259/2		225/4	218/4	215	O LENT CO.
			multiplication of the			AND IS LED TO	
May	1	264	XIRTH - STATE	226/4	219/2	216/2	STREET,
	2	262/6	DOOR HUNGING O	225/2	218/4	215/6	
	3	262	- 10	224/4	218/2	215	-
	5	264/2	-	225	217/2	214/4	-
	6	262/4	1 - 3(4)	223/6	217	213	-
	7	264/2	420	224/6	218/2	215/2	-
	8	266/4	A ALL DE	225/6	219/2	216/4	
	9	265/2	Dispersion of the	225/4	218/4	215/4	No. La Contraction of the Contra
	10	264/4	6.01	222/4	216/4	214/4	
	12	266/4	600	225	218	215/2	1.0
	13	268	241	225	218	215/3	_
	14	277/7	251	229	221/6	218/6	-
	15	276/6	247/6	227	220	217/4	-
	16	270	244/4	226	220	217	••
	17	270	246/4	229/2	222	218/6	-
	19	270/4	247/4	229/2	221/2	218	-
	20	275	252/4	234	224/4	222	-
	21	275/2	253/4	232/4	223	220	-
	22	270	250/6	232/2	221/6	218/6	_
	23	-	250/6	234/6	224/4	221/2	217/6
	24	out to trees	252	236/2	225/6	222/4	218/4

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Crop Conditions - Argentine farmers are currently occupied with preparing land and seeding their small grain crops. Soil conditions are now reported to be favourable for wheat planting. Heavy rains in April had retarded work on the land but the addition to subsoil moisture reserves is evidently considered to more than compensate for the delay. So far there are no estimates available as to the probable wheat acreage.

Exports Still Lag - While the volume of wheat moving out of the Argentine has increased in recent weeks, total shipments to date are relatively low. Broomhall reports that during the period January 1 to May 23 some 26 million bushels of wheat had cleared from the Argentine. Of this quantity 5 million bushels were destined to the United Kingdom, 12 millions to Continental Europe and 9 millions to other countries. The exportable wheat surplus for the current Argentine crop year has been estimated at 95 million bushels and contracts have been reported for almost the full amount.

With available stocks in the United States and Canada reaching low levels many nations must look to the Argentine for their wheat supplies for the next eight to ten weeks at least. With this in mind, Dr. D. A. FitzGerald, Secretary-General of the International Emergency Food Council, recently appealed to Argentina to make deliveries of one million tons of grain per month to countries threatened with famine before new crop grain can move from other surplus areas. So far, the rate of shipment has been much below this level and representatives of the Argentine grain industry are said to believe there is small possibility of reaching an export figure of a million tons a month during June and July. The country is apparently suffering from internal transportation difficulties. In addition, farmers are now putting in a new crop and a seasonal decline in movement of old grain from farms to export positions is to be expected.

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Stocks and Exports - A cable received from the Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in Melbourne, Australia, under date of May 15 reads in part as follows:

December to April exports of wheat and flour equivalent from Australia are estimated at about 19 million bushels. Since the exportable surplus for the current Australian crop year has been placed at about 40 million bushels there would appear to have been a surplus remaining for export at May 1 of approximately 21 million bushels.

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS



- April 25 The International Wheat Conference has not endorsed the proposed fiveyear draft agreement. Further discussions are to be held by the International Wheat Council in Washington, in which all 40 countries represented in London will be asked to participate.
- May 6 The Indian wheat crop has been privately estimated at 320 million bushels as compared with the 1935-39 average of approximately 370 million bushels. India has been a heavy importer of wheat during the past two years and some sources have predicted import requirements from that country of 200 million bushels of wheat for the season starting April 1, 1947.
 - 9 The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' survey of Intentions to Plant field crops indicates that as of April 1st, Canadian farmers intended to plant approximately 800,000 fewer acres to wheat in 1947 then were planted in 1946.
 - 9 The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture places the 1947 United States winter wheat crop at 1,025,789,000 bushels—on the basis of conditions at May 1.
 - 11 The Wartime Prices and Trade Board today placed a limit on the emount of flour and other wheat products which may be milled or processed for domestic human consumption at 105 per cent of the amount milled orprocessed in the corresponding period in 1945 (Administrator's Order A-2353, effective May 12, 1947).
- 13 The Minister of Trade and Commerce announced in the Canadian House of Commons that between May 15 and June 30 farmers could deliver their wheat with the option of taking cash settlement in 1947, 1948 or 1949—thus allowing producers a choice of three years in which to declare their income (for income tax purposes) from wheat so marketed.
 - 16 United States flour mills reported the production of 27.4 million sacks of wheat flour in March according to the Bureau of the Gensus.

 This represents an increase of 11 per cent over production in February and an increase of 32 per cent over March 1946.
 - 20 Weather and soil conditions in France have been favourable recently but reports continue to stress the smallness of the wheat acreage.
 - 22 Rains in the Danube Valley have relieved the drought temporarily and improved winter crops.
 - 23 Advices from North Africa indicate little surplus wheat will be available from that area this year. Grain crops in Morocco are good but the acreage is apparently below prewar. Small crops are anticipated in Algeria and Tunisia.
 - 27 The Minister of Trade and Commerce stated in the Canadian House of Commons that there will be a payment made this summer on the 1944 wheat participation certificates.
 - 28 Reports from the Argentine indicate that grain exports are still lagging. Receipts at the ports are quite small and the port of Buenos Aires is said to be congested with many vessels awaiting cargo.
 - 29 Broomhall reports that the Italian wheat crop is now estimated at only 190 million bushels as compared with last year's crop of 245 millions and the prewer average of 279 million bushels.