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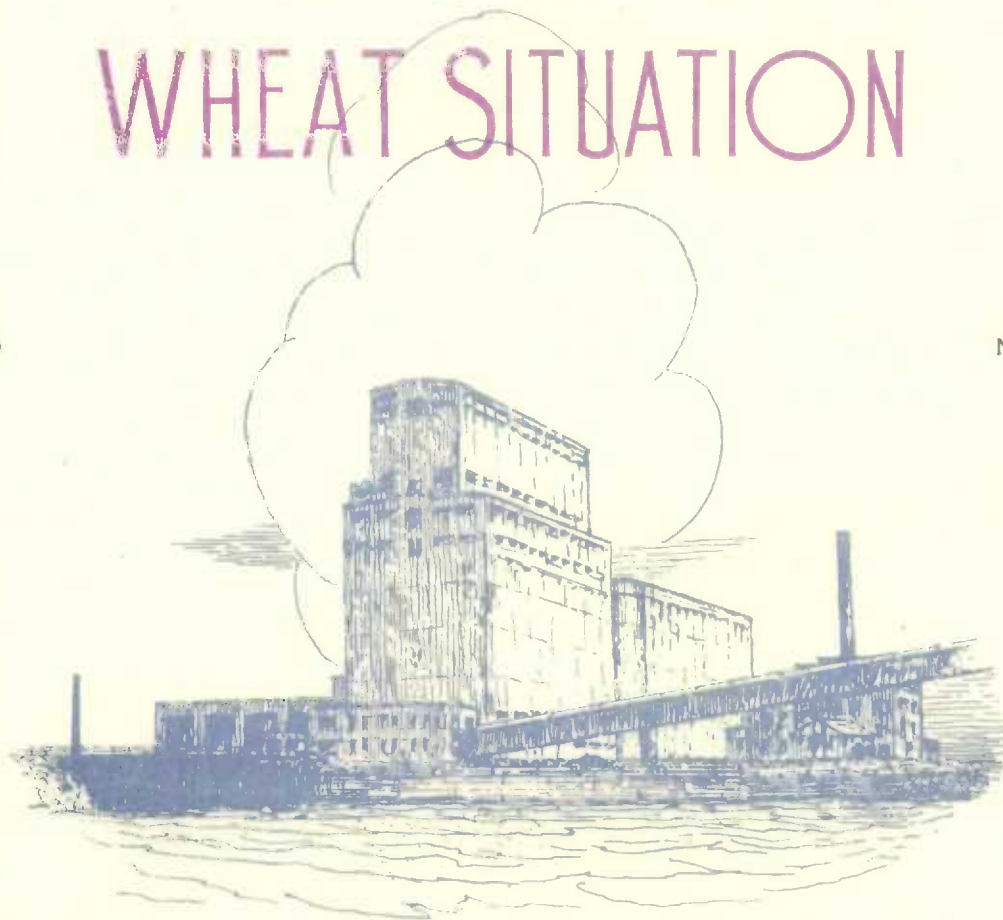
CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

# MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

Vol. 18

No. 6



JANUARY, 1948

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Minister of Trade and Commerce  
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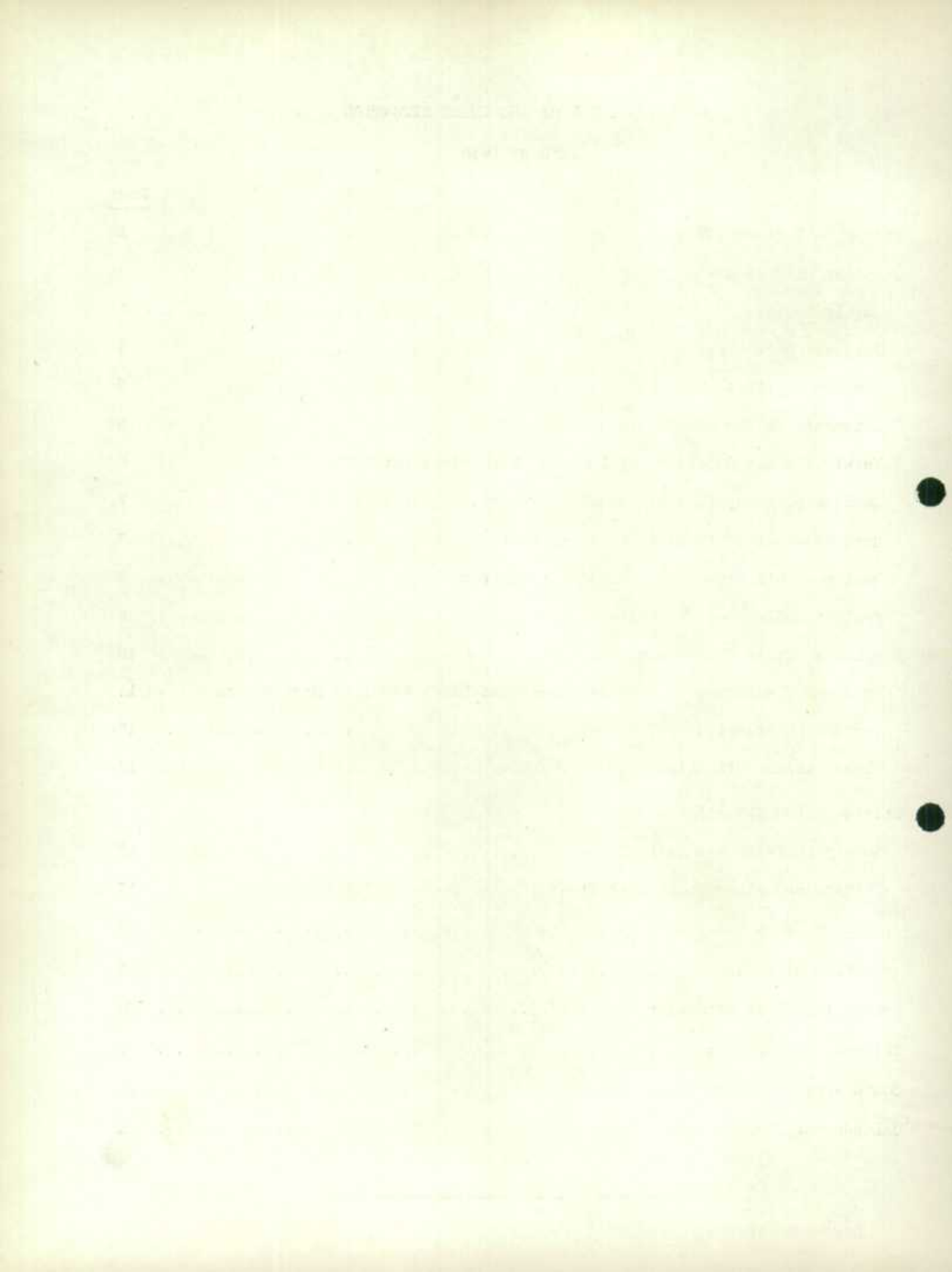
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JANUARY 1948

	<u>Page</u>
World Wheat Situation .....	1
Canadian Situation -	
Supply Position .....	3
Farmers' Marketings .....	4
Visible Supplies .....	5
Shipments to the United States .....	5
Weekly Visible Supplies and Farmers' Marketings (Charts) .....	6
Grading of Wheat (August-December Inspections) .....	7
Rail Movement of Wheat to Maritime Ports .....	7
Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur .....	8
Freight Assistance Shipments .....	9
Monthly Export Clearances, Etc. ....	10
Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination .....	11
Current Wheat Prices .....	13
Flour Milling Situation .....	14
United States Situation -	
Supply Position and Outlook, Etc. ....	15
Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat .....	17
Chicago Wheat Futures .....	18
Argentine Situation .....	19
Australian Wheat Situation .....	20
Chilean Wheat Production .....	20
South African Wheat Production .....	20
Calendar of Wheat Events .....	21



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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

The Outlook - With good wheat crops practically assured in the Argentine and Australia, the outlook for the next crop in other parts of the world again becomes a focal point of interest. It is well established that the people of many deficit countries must exist on short rations at least until the 1948 crop in North America and Europe comes in. While exports from the United States, Canada, Argentina, Australia and, to a lesser extent, Russia can partially bridge the gap between requirements and supplies over the next few months, it is to the new crop that the world's hungry people must look for any material alleviation in their food situation. Fortunately, prospects for indigenous production in the deficit areas are brighter than they were this time last year. Winter cereal crops in Europe are progressing well and no serious winter killing has been reported. In most areas acreages are larger than those planted for the 1947 harvest. The chief cause of concern is the current lack of snow protection over much of the continent. A cold wave could alter the crop outlook very quickly.

In the United States, crop reports are generally quite favourable and a wheat crop of a billion bushels or more is considered probable. Canada's spring wheat crop should go into the ground under favourable moisture conditions, as autumn rainfall was generally above average. Good rains have improved the outlook for the growing wheat in India. In addition, a good rice crop has been gathered which will reduce dependence upon wheat in that country. Trade sources indicate that Burma has also harvested a good rice crop and may be able to resume exports of that grain to India. Thus, providing no serious wheat crop losses occur during the next two months, India should require much less grain from North America during the new crop year, especially in view of the wheat contract with Australia, which provides for supplies of 25 million bushels. A report from Tunis in North Africa tells of less favourable crop conditions in that area, with damage from drought forecast at 20 per cent. On balance, the world crop outlook is reasonably good at this time, but many hazards still face the crops between now and harvest.

A bumper bread grain harvest in 1948 would not provide a permanent solution to the food crisis. A return to more normal bread rations might ensue, but shortages of fertilizers, draft power, labour and essential agricultural supplies still persist in war-affected areas. Even with 'normal' production conditions restored, an increase of approximately 6 per cent in world population over prewar is a factor which cannot be dismissed lightly. In addition, the desire of farmers to rebuild their live-stock enterprises will sooner or later tend to bring about increased acreages of feed grains at the expense of bread grains. Thus, providing a solution is found to foreign exchange difficulties—at least to the extent that importing countries are enabled to take up exportable surpluses of bread grains—there appears to be little probability of a wheat surplus developing in the very near future.

Flour Extraction Rates - The general increase in flour extraction rates over prewar is an indication of the length to which importing countries have gone in conserving their bread grain supplies. The Food and Agriculture



Organization have obtained statistics in this connection and the information presented herewith is extracted from a recent F.A.O. release:

Production of white flour in the wheat-deficit countries of the world has been extremely limited in the past two years. In practically every net importing country the shortage of grain has enforced the abandonment of the prewar standard of extracting only 70 to 75 pounds of flour from 100 pounds of wheat. In South Africa the effective extraction rate has been for some time 96 pounds of flour from 100 pounds of wheat, and in the majority of importing countries it now ranges from 80 to 90 pounds of flour from 100 pounds of wheat.

By means of the increased extraction rates and the admixture of maize, barley, and even oats, the supplies of bread grain for direct human consumption have been made to stretch much further. A loaf of much darker colour and a substantial reduction in the amount of feedstuffs available for live-stock production have resulted from this enforced change in milling practices. Any hope that there might be a return during 1948 to normal extraction rates would seem to have vanished. It may even be necessary in some countries to tighten up on present milling practices and to dilute bread flour further in order to bridge the gap between minimum import requirements and maximum export availabilities as at present estimated. The extraction rates for wheat flour currently indicated for a number of importing countries are listed below:

Country	Wheat	Rye	Country	Wheat	Rye
- pounds of flour from 100 pounds of grain -					
Austria .....	90	90	Ireland .....	85	-
Belgium .....	85	-	Italy .....	85	80
Bulgaria .....	90	90	Netherlands .....	85	80
Czechoslovakia ..	85	85	Norway .....	83	83
Denmark .....	80	98	Poland .....	96 <u>1/</u>	90
Finland .....	80	95	Portugal .....	90	90
France .....	82	82	Sweden .....	82	98
Germany .....	95	95	Switzerland .....	90	75
Greece .....	85	85	United Kingdom .....	85	-
Brazil .....	75	60	Chile .....	75	-
China .....	85	-	Japan .....	92 <u>2/</u>	92 <u>2/</u>
South Korea .....	90	96.5	Ryukyu Islands .....	85	-
Algeria .....	88	-	Tunisia .....	90	-
Morocco .....	86	-	Union of South Africa .	96	80 <u>3/</u>

1/ 80 for small proportion. 2/ Imported supplies. 3/ Some at 65.

These figures represent the production of flour from whole grain, but importing countries also receive substantial quantities of wheat flour from Australia, Canada, and the United States, the bulk of which is produced on the basis of 72 to 75 pounds from 100 pounds of wheat. In nearly all importing countries this imported white flour is blended with the product of the home mills, and the effect of this is to lower to some extent the figures shown above. In the United Kingdom, for instance, the extraction rate for whole grain is 85 per cent; but when the white flour imported is added to the mill run, the average extraction rate is calculated to be 80.8 per cent.

Functions of IEFC Transferred to Council of F.A.O. - A release from IEFC states that "effective January 1, 1948 its functions and responsibilities will be transferred to the Council of F.A.O, and the International Emergency Food Council itself dissolved. This action implements a resolution adopted at

the Fifth Council Meeting that the International Emergency Food Council be dissolved and its functions and responsibilities transferred to the Council of F.A.O., such dissolution and transfer to be effective upon concurrence by a majority of IEFEC Member Governments.

Simultaneously the Central Committee of the International Emergency Food Council will become the International Emergency Food Committee with the same functions and responsibilities as those previously exercised by the Central Committee. The International Emergency Food Committee will be comprised of representatives of 11 countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, India, the Netherlands, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The existing Commodity Committees of the International Emergency Food Council will be continued, with the same functions and responsibilities, under the direction of the International Emergency Food Committee. The ten existing Committees of the International Emergency Food Council are the Committees on Beans and Peas, Cereals, Cocoa (located in London), Fats and Oils, Feeds, Fertilizers, Meat and Meat Products, Rice (including the Sub-committee on Rice for Southeast Asia, located at Singapore), Seeds, and Sugar."

#### THE CANADIAN SITUATION

The Supply Position - Exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat amounted to approximately 12.4 million bushels during the month of December, bringing the total for the first five months of the crop year to 78.4 million bushels. During the same period last year 89.7 million bushels of wheat and flour equivalent were exported. An estimated 196.9 million bushels remained on January 1, 1948 for export or carry-over at August 1, 1948, the end of the current crop year.

#### Canadian Wheat Supplies

	<u>1947-48</u>	<u>1946-47</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carry-over in North America July 31 .....	84.5 <u>1/</u>	73.6
New Crop .....	340.8 <u>1/</u>	413.7
Total Supply .....	425.3	487.3
Estimated domestic requirements .....	150.0	161.0 <u>2/</u>
Available for export or carry-over .....	275.3	326.3
Deduct:		
Overseas Clearances of wheat as grain Aug. 1 - Dec. 31 .	48.1	59.9
United States imports of Canadian wheat .....	0.1 <u>3/</u>	1.5
Total Wheat Exports .....	48.2	61.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat Aug. 1 - Dec.31	30.2	28.3
Total Exports Wheat and Wheat Flour .....	78.4	89.7
Balance on January 1 for export or carry-over .....	196.9	236.6

1/ Subject to revision.

2/ Revised estimate, basis preliminary disposition data.

3/ U. S. imports August to November amount to 49,512 bushels. December data not yet available.



Farmers' Marketings - The following table shows primary receipts of wheat in the Prairie Provinces for the 1947-48 crop year along with comparative figures for 1946-47.

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -					
August 1-7	32,021	141,687	555,182	728,890	1,419,443
14	73,314	761,176	838,570	1,673,060	2,364,945
21	244,141	2,096,729	1,477,364	3,818,234	5,312,878
28	2,014,085	2,689,001	978,155	5,681,241	14,581,052
September 4	5,148,064	5,631,203	2,528,671	13,307,938	19,643,656
11	7,292,497	18,710,446	6,955,198	32,958,141	19,650,323
18	2,854,735	14,201,062	5,881,846	22,937,643	21,871,880
25	1,188,968	4,460,164	1,130,219	6,779,351	16,312,603
October 2	1,402,524	9,751,555	2,446,758	13,600,837	10,793,147
9	1,639,027	13,255,822	6,325,330	21,220,179	11,688,801
16	1,043,657	6,809,636	4,146,024	11,999,317	12,350,319
23	753,541	5,674,298	6,865,689	13,293,528	17,722,686
30	628,279	4,294,423	4,852,038	9,774,740	20,104,410
November 6	313,817	3,562,227	4,106,957	7,983,001	14,967,353
13	282,002	2,320,280	2,450,689	5,052,971	12,484,468
20	475,936	2,373,918	1,848,518	4,698,372	9,960,782
27	304,864	2,024,829	1,397,764	3,727,457	4,771,177
December 4	231,362	1,382,463	1,247,342	2,861,167	4,812,108
11 <sup>1/</sup>	213,947	1,430,594	1,157,117	2,801,658	6,019,618
18	148,038	980,874	1,206,479	2,335,391	3,244,599
24	149,425	817,046	1,096,796	2,063,267	2,963,042
31	184,301	744,415	968,717	1,897,433	2,230,454
January 8	198,646	729,522	1,609,711	2,537,879	2,783,004
15	226,546	1,031,959	1,641,887	2,900,392	3,723,677
T o t a l	27,043,737	105,875,329	63,713,021	196,632,087	241,776,425

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.

By January 15 of the current crop year, farmers in the Prairie Provinces had marketed 196.6 million bushels of wheat as compared with 241.8 million bushels during the corresponding period of the previous crop year. The province of Saskatchewan accounted for 54 per cent of the 1947-48 marketings recorded in the table above, with Alberta and Manitoba supplying 32 per cent and 14 per cent respectively.

As was the case in 1946-47 the flow of grain from farms during the current crop year has been facilitated by the existence of ample country elevator space at the beginning of the season and by the early removal of delivery quotas from all points by the Canadian Wheat Board.



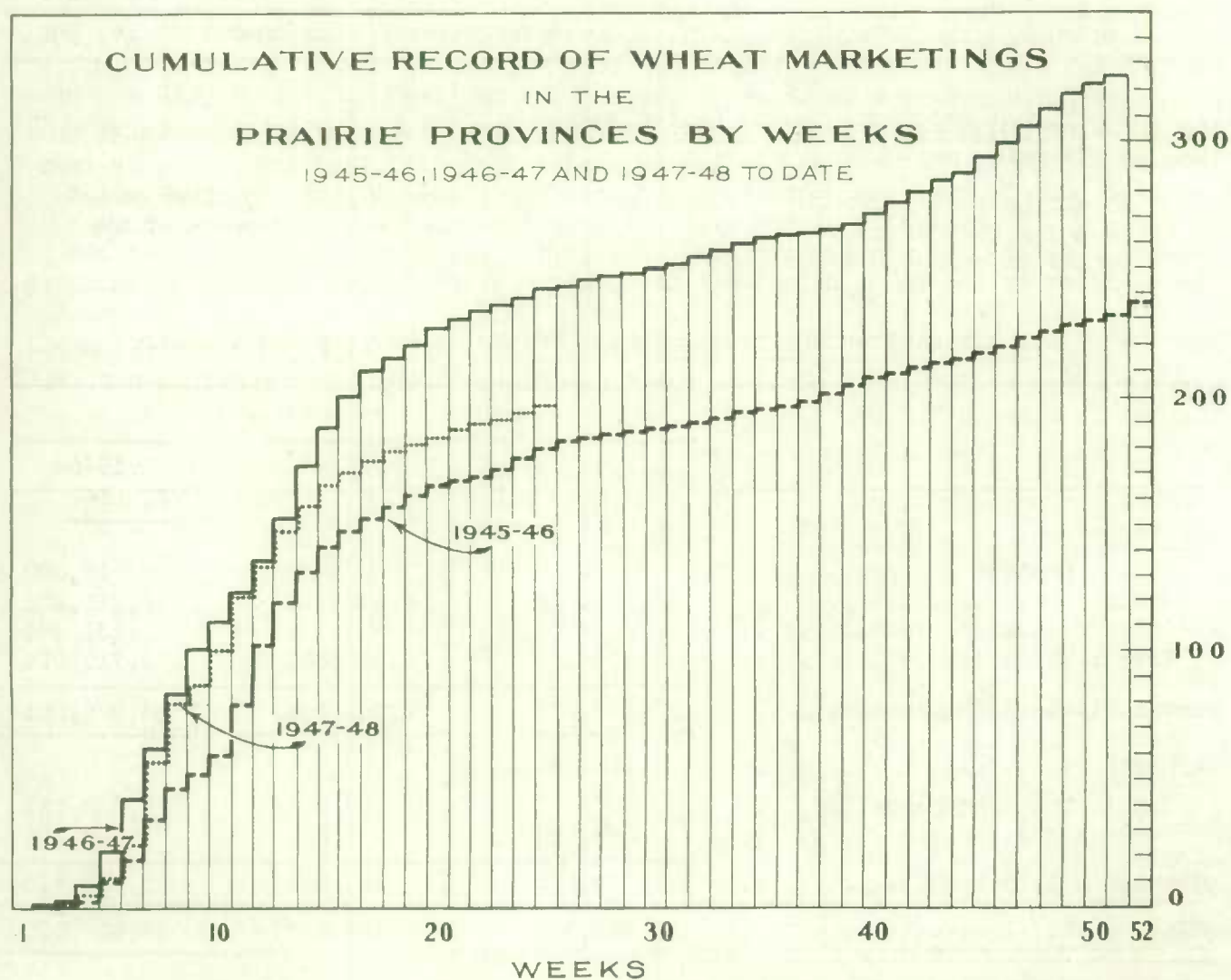
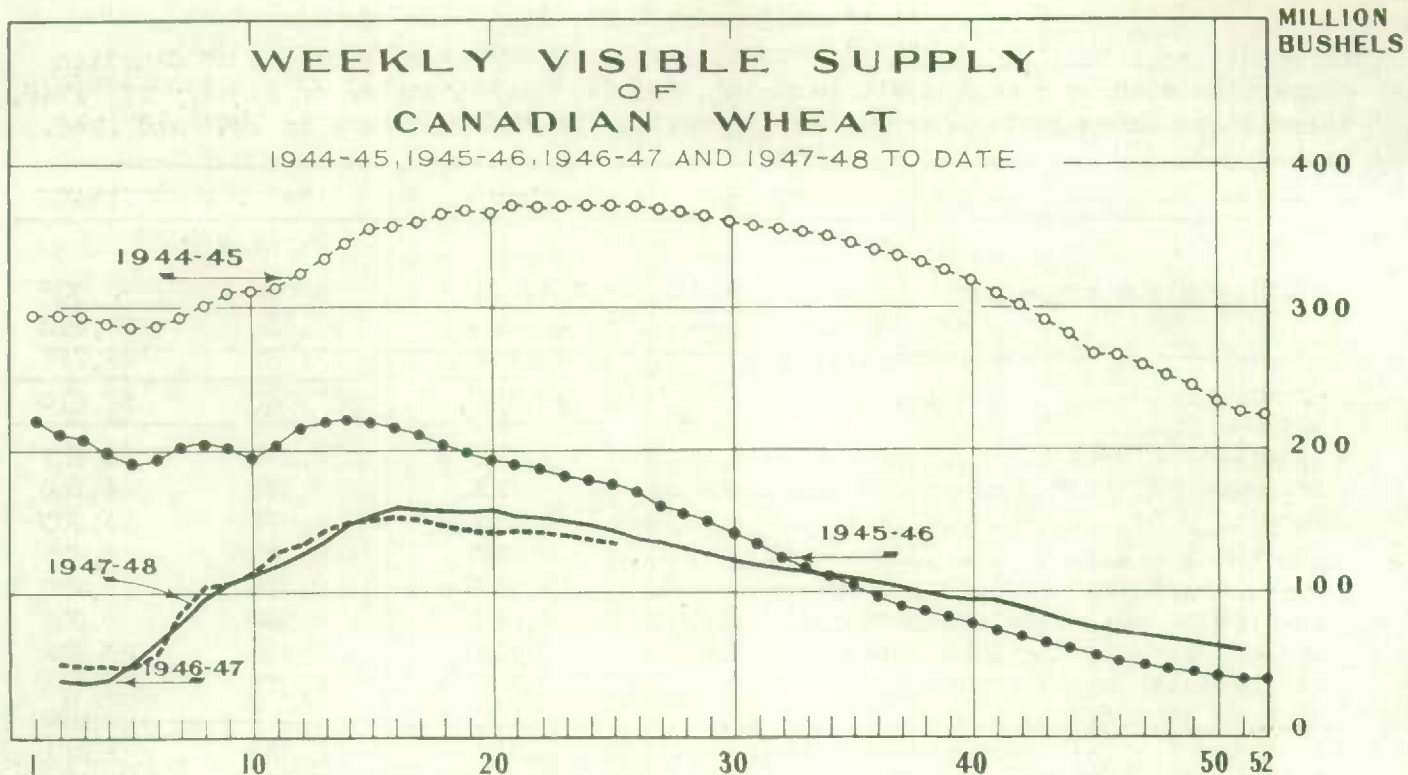
Wheat Visible Supply - The following table shows stocks of Canadian wheat in store and in transit in Canada and the United States on January 15, 1948, along with comparative figures for approximately the same date in 1947 and 1946.

	1948	1947	1946
	- 000 bushels -		
Country Elevators - Manitoba .....	4,724	6,010	3,905
Saskatchewan .....	33,296	37,250	25,615
Alberta .....	32,426	37,785	29,290
T o t a l .....	70,446	81,045	58,810
Interior Private and Mill Elevators .....	4,741	2,871	4,917
Interior Public & Semi-Public Terminals ..	183	296	4,150
Pacific Ports .....	6,179	4,079	10,200
Churchill .....	110	43	1,878
Fort William and Port Arthur .....	9,250	12,417	17,230
In Transit Rail (Western Division) .....	6,750	5,948	6,237
Eastern Elevators - Lake Ports .....	12,103	18,826	24,232
St. Lawrence and Seaboard Ports .....	2,869	2,077	12,854
Storage Afloat .....	7,190	8,184	5,929
In Transit - Rail (Eastern Division) .....	3,562	2,837	3,301
United States Ports .....	9,933	3,734	20,754
In Transit - U.S.A. ....	1,534	550	6,498
T o t a l .....	134,850	142,907	176,990

Wheat Shipments to the United States - Shipments of Canadian wheat to the United States between August 1, 1947 and January 15, 1948 are up nearly four million bushels over the quantity moved into the States during the same period a year ago. Practically all of this grain is scheduled for re-export. From August 1 to the end of November 1947 only 38,781 bushels of Canadian wheat had been listed by the U. S. Department of Commerce as being imported for consumption.

Details of Wheat Shipments to the United States, by Destination

	August 1 - January 15		
	1948	1947	1946
	bu.	bu.	bu.
<u>By Vessel</u>			
U.S.A. Pacific Ports .....	-	-	15,000
Buffalo .....	14,266,961	8,442,772	47,211,121
Chicago .....	-	-	331,494
Erie .....	1,155,260	2,948,382	6,719,050
Total - Vessel Shipments .....	15,422,221	11,391,154	54,276,665
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports .....	-	217,463	5,270,239
Other U.S.A. Points .....	59,109	5,081	88,601
Total - Rail Shipments .....	59,109	222,544	5,358,840
GRAND TOTAL .....	15,481,330	11,613,698	59,635,505



Grading of Wheat - The following table shows the grading of all cars of wheat inspected during the five-month period August to December 1947. Comparable figures for 1946 are also included in the table. It is observed that these inspections include a relatively small proportion of old-crop wheat in both years.

	Inspections -			
	August-December 1947		August-December 1946	
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent
1 Northern .....	5,122	6.5	12,861	13.4
2 Northern .....	26,726	34.0	44,417	46.4
3 Northern .....	15,638	20.0	10,848	11.3
4 Northern .....	2,697	3.4	2,528	2.6
Garnet .....	154	0.2	439	0.5
Amber Durum .....	3,541	4.5	2,695	2.8
Alberta Winter .....	621	0.8	1,197	1.3
Tough - All varieties and grades	19,682	25.0	16,947	17.7
All others .....	4,405	5.6	3,813	4.0
T o t a l .....	78,586	100.0	95,745	100.0

As more wheat comes forward for inspection, the percentage of inspections falling into the higher grades continues to decline, while the percentage falling into the tough categories is on the increase. Approximately 60 per cent of cars inspected during the first five months of the current crop year graded No. 3 Northern or better (excluding toughs in these grades) as against nearly 74 per cent during the comparable period of 1946. The proportion of toughs (all grades and varieties) at 25 per cent is well above last year's level of 17.7 per cent for the corresponding period.

While it appears that the top grades will account for a smaller percentage of the 1947 crop, it is worthy of note that the protein content of the lower grades is somewhat higher than for the 1946 crop.

Rail Movement of Wheat to Maritime Ports - The table sets out the movement of wheat by RAIL from ports on the Great Lakes during the current season, with comparable figures for last year.

	August 1, 1947 to January 15, 1948	August 1, 1946 to January 16, 1947
- bushels -		
Collingwood .....	390,225	282,578
Midland .....	3,894,707	2,734,360
Owen Sound .....	598,198	298,651
Port McNicoll .....	2,129,024	3,041,813
Goderich .....	233,514	122,658
Sarnia .....	167,446	1,257,721
Port Colborne .....	339,496	66,100
Toronto .....	68,369	-
Kingston .....	164,272	-
Montreal .....	4,706	-
T o t a l .....	7,989,957	7,803,881



Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur - Rail shipments during December amounted to nearly 700,000 bushels, an increase of more than half a million bushels from the November level. With the closing of lake navigation in December, rail shipments normally show a sharp seasonal increase during that month. It is noted, however, that the December increase this crop year is very moderate relative to that experienced in the three previous crop years. Most of the wheat shipped by rail from the Lakehead in December consisted of contract grades for export from Maritime ports.

Rail shipments of wheat from the Lakehead month-by-month during the past four crop years are shown in the following table:

	1947-48	1946-47	1945-46	1944-45
- bushels -				
August .....	90,573	187,825	23,255	91,891
September .....	91,366	175,773	57,533	169,603
October .....	131,290	255,754	73,776	86,571
November .....	100,562	256,249	99,197	97,512
December .....	691,223	1,601,883	2,280,636	1,236,339
January .....		2,462,002	4,533,707	1,936,038
February .....		1,816,087	1,127,764	764,629
March .....		1,711,013	2,223,266	1,091,909
April .....		566,006	1,015,730	196,042
May .....		361,386	536,462	66,154
June .....		241,475	920,233	58,642
July .....		123,145	130,276	52,726
Total - 12 months .....		9,758,598	13,021,835	5,848,056

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

	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	U.S.A.
- bushels -					
1 Northern .....	-	-	-	-	1
2 Northern .....	-	-	214,000	-	-
3 Northern .....	-	-	74,000	234,000	-
4 Northern .....	4,134	1,133	2,267	-	-
No. 5 .....	-	2,267	-	-	-
Tough 3 Northern .....	-	-	-	100,000	-
Tough 4 Northern .....	5,900	-	3,400	-	-
Tough No. 5 .....	3,134	5,533	-	-	-
Tough No. 6 .....	4,000	11,267	-	-	-
Tough Ref. 4 Nor. Mxd. Htd. ....	1,133	-	-	-	-
Tough Sample Heated .....	2,000	-	-	-	-
1 C.W.A.D. ....	3,000	-	-	-	2
3 C.W.A.D. ....	2,733	-	-	-	-
Tough Sample Heated A.D. ....	1,054	-	-	-	-
Tough Ref. 2 C.W.A.D. Musty ....	167	-	-	-	-
Tough 2 C.W. Soft White Spring .	1,905	-	-	-	-
Special Bin .....	8,997	-	-	-	-
3 A.W. ....	1,615	-	-	-	-
Ref. 2 A.W. ....	1,583	-	-	-	-
Tough 2 A.W. ....	1,998	-	-	-	-
T o t a l .....	43,353	20,200	293,667	334,000	3
GRAND TOTAL .....	691,223				

Freight Assistance Shipments - The quantities of wheat on which the freight subsidy has been claimed dropped off from 2.4 million bushels in November to just over one million bushels in December. The total movement indicated for the first four months of the current crop year now lags somewhat behind shipments for the corresponding period of 1946-47. Consideration must, however, be given to the fact that the filing of late claims for assistance under the plan will necessitate upward revisions, particularly in the current figures. As a consequence, the relative position of shipments in the two crop years may be reversed when all claims have been settled.

The provincial distribution of freight-assisted wheat shipments is shown in the following table, by months, with comparative figures for the crop year 1946-47:

1947-48	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	British Columbia	Total
- bushels -							
August .....	628,453	518,485	59,503	51,185	26,023	320,038	1,603,687
September ..	1,556,590	862,738	84,840	89,048	22,472	365,137	2,980,825
October ....	902,465	1,026,428	84,030	100,027	28,520	271,777	2,413,247
November ...	496,953	331,315	32,963	48,795	17,823	113,138	1,040,987
T o t a l ..	3,584,461	2,738,966	261,336	289,055	94,838	1,070,090	8,038,746
Same Period							
1946-47 ...	3,279,138	2,595,221	311,635	362,973	149,407	1,602,196	8,300,570

Freight assisted shipments of millfeeds for the first four months of the current crop year are considerably below movements during the same period of 1946-47. While late claims will necessitate upward revisions of the current data, decreased production of millfeeds will adversely affect shipments and it is anticipated that movement of millfeeds in 1947-48 will be significantly lower than the level achieved in 1946-47.

The provincial distribution of millfeeds under the freight assistance plan is shown in the following table. One column of figures cover the first four months of the present crop year and the other the corresponding period a year ago.

	August 1, 1947 to November 30, 1947	August 1, 1946 to November 30, 1946
- tons -		
Ontario .....	84,230	98,357
Quebec .....	99,030	116,745
New Brunswick .....	15,970	21,457
Nova Scotia .....	14,949	21,996
Prince Edward Island .....	3,815	6,203
British Columbia .....	19,501	25,276
T o t a l .....	237,495	290,034

Monthly Overseas Clearances, Etc., in Comparison with the Customs Exports of

Wheat and Wheat Flour

	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat	U. S. Imports <sup>1/</sup> of Canadian Wheat for consumption and milling in bond	Customs Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
1945-46					
		- 000 bushels -			
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 ....	19,592	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
T o t a l ...	265,735	12,333	62,037	340,105	336,034
1946-47 <sup>2/</sup>					
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	31	6,102	14,254	14,085
April .....	10,273	4	5,015	15,292	12,152
May .....	17,803	1	10,385	28,189	28,701
June .....	22,192	5	10,537	32,734	31,594
July .....	18,354	9	7,386	25,749	26,404
T o t a l ...	161,387	1,672	79,470	242,529	239,807
1947-48 <sup>2/</sup>					
August .....	9,601	2	6,956	16,559	18,140
September ...	9,362	12	5,817	15,191	15,990
October .....	9,680	35	7,123	16,838	17,204
November ....	12,006	1	5,389	17,396	22,763
December ....	7,480	3/	4,912	12,392	20,717
T o t a l ...	48,129	50	30,197	78,376	94,814

<sup>1/</sup> U.S.A. official figures.

<sup>2/</sup> Subject to revision.

<sup>3/</sup> U.S.A. imports for December not available.



Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour (including U.S.A. Imports) August 1947 to December 1947 - The following statistics on monthly overseas clearances have been compiled by the Statistical Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners.

	December		November		August-December	
	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>
	bushels		bushels		bushels	
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>						
United Kingdom	3,462,016	7,381,092	3,273,952	10,384,772	15,193,786	41,553,391
Eire	47,718	-	45,441	-	811,404	-
<u>Africa</u>						
Br. E. Africa	-	-	-	-	4,036	-
Br. S. Africa	-	-	-	-	1,818	-
<u>Br. W. Africa</u>						
Gold Coast	-	-	-	-	34,646	-
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	851	-
Sierra Leone	3,249	-	20,012	-	44,478	-
<u>Asia</u>						
Aden	-	-	-	-	450	-
Hong Kong	-	-	-	-	37,530	-
India	26,032	-	363,641	-	3,897,342	-
Palestine	-	-	-	589,933 <sup>3/</sup>	9,162	777,785
<u>Europe</u>						
Gibraltar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malta	-	-	-	336,306	-	1,085,773
<u>North America</u>						
Bahamas	22,923	-	48,533	-	118,863	-
Barbados	51,894	-	51,323	-	217,868	767
Jamaica	94,909	600	191,201	13,502	619,587	16,273
St. Vincent	-	-	-	-	-	10
Trinidad-Tobago	147,384	-	213,876	-	945,792	-
Other Br.W.Indies	90,954	-	75,146	-	281,201	-
Bermuda	15,934	-	11,669	-	52,191	-
Br. Honduras	-	-	6,849 <sup>3/</sup>	-	22,415	-
Newfoundland	189,990	-	303,718 <sup>3/</sup>	-	930,235	-
<u>South America</u>						
Br. Guiana	73,822	-	75,605	-	345,861	-
<b>TOTAL BR. EMPIRE</b>	<b>4,226,825</b>	<b>7,381,692</b>	<b>4,680,966</b>	<b>11,324,513</b>	<b>23,569,516</b>	<b>43,433,999</b>
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
<u>Africa</u>						
Azores & Madeira	11,466	-	8,933	-	31,581	-
Belgian Congo	-	-	-	-	8,298	-
Egypt	53,973	-	32,139	681,211 <sup>3/</sup>	143,496	1,716,131
Liberia	-	-	918	-	5,706	-
Portuguese Africa	8,672	-	14,206	-	35,501	-
<u>Asia</u>						
China	-	-	2,295	-	14,274	-
Iraq-Iran	-	-	-	-	-	339,000
Philippine Is.	-	-	3,447	-	404,176	-
Portuguese Asia	-	-	-	-	18,797	-
Syria	27,549	-	51,196	-	323,325	-
<u>Europe</u>						
Austria	-	-	29,074	-	29,074	-
Belgium	166,603	98,106	145,188	-	325,327	1,644,525
Denmark	4,500	-	6,750	-	16,596	-
France	37,022	-	27,396	-	667,121	-
Germany	12,326	-	9,949	-	108,725	-
Greece	-	-	16,884	-	19,134	-
Iceland	16,047	-	18,841	-	45,013	-

## Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour - concluded

	December		November		August-December	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/
FOREIGN COUNTRIES	bushels		bushels		bushels	
<u>Europe (Con't)</u>						
Italy	4,622	-	139,360	-	1,772,645	-
Netherlands	172,728	-	19,400	-	222,075	995,467
Norway	-	-	68,940	-	727,078	-
Poland	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portugal	-	-	-	-	30,803	-
Switzerland	52,430	-	4,581	-	109,346	-
<u>North America</u>						
Costa Rica	12,173	-	-	-	58,658	-
Cuba	-	-	-	-	199,269	-
Dom. Republic	7,344	-	-	-	64,490	-
Fr. W. Indies	22,959	-	15,386	-	105,732	-
Guatemala	12,753	-	6,462	-	31,851	-
Haiti	-	-	-	-	29,498	-
Honduras	-	-	1,831	-	8,716	-
Nether W. Indies	6,201	-	3,433	-	71,482	-
Nicaragua	2,561	-	1,435	-	8,136	-
Panama	7,573	-	4,532	-	52,573	-
Salvador	-	-	-	-	2,983	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon	459	-	2,515	-	6,169	-
<u>United States</u>						
For grinding in bond -	-	4/	-	-	-	10,731 <sup>5/</sup>
For human consumption 63	-	4/	-	2 <sup>3/</sup>	401	97 <sup>5/</sup>
Unfit for human consumption	-	4/	-	820 <sup>3/</sup>	-	38,684 <sup>5/</sup>
Alaska	-	-	-	-	508	-
Virgin Island	-	-	-	-	5,661	-
<u>South America</u>						
Brazil	27,680	-	46,948	-	420,831	-
Colombia	-	-	17,213	-	110,907	-
Ecuador	5,508	-	8,815	-	24,889	-
Nether. Guiana	2,664	-	-	-	34,942	-
Peru	-	-	-	-	5,742	-
Venezuela	9,297	-	-	-	325,917	-
TOTAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES	685,173	98,106	708,067	682,033	6,627,446	4,744,635
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>						
EXPORTED	4,911,998	7,479,798	5,389,033	12,006,546	30,196,962	48,178,634

1/ Canadian Customs Returns - Conversion Rate - 4 1/2 wheat bushels = 1 Barrel.

2/ Subject to revision.

3/ Revised.

4/ U.S.A. imports for December not available.

5/ Source - Department of Commerce - Bureau of Census.

# 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 January 3 through January 24. The prices for domestic use, for export to the United Kingdom, and the initial price to producers have remained unchanged during the period covered. It has, however, been stated in the House of Commons that legislation to provide an increase in the initial payment to producers will be brought down in the near future. The amount of such increase has not yet been determined. The price of commercial' wheat for export to countries other than the United Kingdom fluctuated considerably over the four-week period with the average for the week ending January 24 standing 5 3/8 cents per bushel higher than for the week ending January 3.

Note:- The prices quoted for domestic use and for sale to the United Kingdom include carrying charges of 3 1/2 cents per bushel.

		Average Prices for the weeks ending <u>1/</u>			
		Jan. 3	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24
		- cents and eighths per bushel -			
<u>WHEAT</u> <u>2/</u>					
(1) Class I Domestic					
(A) Domestic Use					
1 Hard .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
1 Northern .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
2 Northern .....	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4
3 Northern .....	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4
4 Northern .....	150/4	150/4	150/4	150/4	150/4
Number 5 .....	145/4	145/4	145/4	145/4	145/4
Number 6 .....	141/4	141/4	141/4	141/4	141/4
Feed .....	139/4	139/4	139/4	139/4	139/4
1 C. W. Garnet .....	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4
2 C. W. Garnet .....	151/4	151/4	151/4	151/4	151/4
3 C. W. Garnet .....	149/4	149/4	149/4	149/4	149/4
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
2 Alberta Winter .....	157/4	157/4	157/4	157/4	157/4
3 Alberta Winter .....	154/4	154/4	154/4	154/4	154/4
1 C. W. Amber Durum .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
2 C. W. Amber Durum .....	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4
3 C. W. Amber Durum .....	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4
(B) Initial Price to Producers - 23 1/2 cents under Schedule A.					
(2) Class II Export					
(A) United Kingdom .					
1 Hard .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
1 Northern .....	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4	158/4
2 Northern .....	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4	155/4
3 Northern .....	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4	153/4
(B) Commercial					
1 Hard .....	321/5	323/5	334/7	327	327
1 Northern .....	321/5	323/5	334/7	327	327
2 Northern .....	318/5	320/5	331/7	324	324
3 Northern .....	316/5	318/5	329/7	322	322
1 C. W. Amber Durum .....	321/5	323/5	334/7	327	327
2 C. W. Amber Durum .....	318/5	320/5	331/7	324	324
3 C. W. Amber Durum .....	316/5	318/5	329/7	322	322

1/ Source: Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners, Fort William.

2/ Price - Basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur and Vancouver.



Flour Milling Situation - For the second month in succession, production of wheat flour in Canada's mills has declined sharply. Production in December amounted to only 1,691,610 barrels the lowest outturn of any month since July of 1942 and the lowest December production since 1941.

Total wheat flour production for the first five months of the current crop year is more than 400,000 barrels below output for the corresponding period of the previous crop year. The smaller 1947 wheat crop has resulted in lowered supplies available to millers, and flour production in 1947-48 is expected to be well below the record output achieved in 1946-47. According to Customs returns more than half of the flour produced in Canada continues to flow into export channels.

Mills reporting operations in December had a total rated milling capacity of 98,865 barrels per 24-hour day and on the basis of a 26-day working period in the month 65.8 per cent of the rated capacity was effective.

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

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

<u>Crop Year</u>	<u>Production</u>	<u>Exports</u>
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 .....	28,518,602	17,660,109
1947-48 August .....	2,412,394	1,545,784
September .....	2,481,189	1,292,628
October .....	2,531,104	1,582,906
November .....	2,159,483	1,197,563
December .....	1,691,610	1,091,555
Total - 5 months .....	11,275,780	6,710,436
Same Period 1946-47 .....	11,687,845	6,288,663

\* Based on Customs returns.

## UNITED STATES SITUATION

Supply Position and Outlook - The following is extracted from the 'Summary' section of the September-December issue of "The Wheat Situation" -

"Total 1947-48 wheat supplies are now estimated at 1,449 million bushels, including the carry-over on July 1 of 84 million and the crop now estimated at 1,365 million.

Wheat feeding in July-September turned out much less than expected. Wheat prices were high relative to corn prices which discouraged wheat feeding. In addition, the quality of the corn crop has been much better than had been expected. In the half year ending December 31 about 260 million bushels of wheat and flour in terms of wheat will be exported, and possibly 60 million to 75 million fed. If, as is now estimated for the 1947-48 year, 250 million bushels are fed, 510 million used for food, 88 million for seed, and less than a million for industrial use, about 600 million bushels would be available for export and carry-over.

United States exports during the remainder of the 1947-48 year will depend upon the outlook for the 1948 wheat crop. We could export 190 million bushels more, or a total of 450 million bushels, and still have a carry-over of about 150 million bushels. With normal weather from now to harvest and a spring wheat acreage about the size seeded in 1947, another crop of over a billion bushels is possible.

If 450 million bushels are exported in 1947-48, it will be by far the most wheat ever exported in one year by a single nation. In the three years ended October 1, 1947, exports totalled almost 1.1 billion bushels. This was more than was exported in the preceding 16 years. ....

A 1948 winter wheat crop of about 839 million bushels was forecast as of December 1, based upon reported condition to that date, an appraisal of soil moisture condition and other factors affecting yields. Normal weather for the remainder of the crop season was assumed. If average spring wheat yields are obtained, and the acreage is about the same as in 1947, resulting in a 275 million-bushel spring crop, another 1.1 billion-bushel crop is possible. We have had only five billion-bushel crops in our history, four of them in the last four years. With domestic disappearance at about 800 million bushels, such a crop would leave about 300 million bushels for export."

Stocks of Wheat January 1, 1948 - Stocks of wheat in all positions in the United States are at substantial levels, and providing amounts fed to live stock do not increase too sharply over the next few months little difficulty should be experienced in meeting export commitments and maintaining necessary carry-over stocks. The statistical position is set out in the following extract from the Crop Reporting Board's release of January 23, entitled "Stocks of Wheat and Rye, January 1, 1948".

"Relatively large stocks of 795 million bushels of wheat were stored in all positions January 1, 1948, despite near-record disappearance since July 1, 1947. Rye stocks of 14.4 million bushels, though relatively small, were larger than on January 1 in the two preceding years, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. Current stocks of wheat are nearly one-fourth larger than a year ago and one-sixth larger than on January 1, 1946. Although exceeded by January 1 stocks in each of the four years 1942 to 1945, they are larger than on January 1 of any other year of record. From a supply of nearly 1,449 million bushels (a very small carry-over of 83,673,000 bushels plus the record crop of 1,364,919,000 bushels) the disappearance to January 1 is computed at over 653 million bushels. In comparable July-December periods, this disappearance was



exceeded only in that of 1945, when it was 705 million bushels. Disappearance in the October-December quarter was 327 million bushels, compared with 307 million in the same period of 1946 and 338 million bushels in 1945. In no other October-December quarter has disappearance exceeded 300 million bushels.

Included in current reserves are quantities estimated by the Crop Reporting Board--428 million bushels on farms, 112 million bushels at merchant mills and 111 million bushels in interior mills, elevators and warehouses--as well as 142 million bushels of commercial stocks at terminals and 3.1 million bushels in transit owned by Commodity Credit Corporation. Other CCC--owned wheat is included in the estimates by positions. No estimate is made for other wheat in transit. The off-farm portion of the total is nearly 368 million bushels, compared with 276 million on January 1, 1947 and 321 million bushels on January 1, 1946.

#### Stocks of Wheat, January 1, 1948, with Comparisons

Position	Jan. 1 1945	Jan. 1 1946	Jan. 1 1947	Oct. 1 1947	Jan. 1 1948
- thousand bushels -					
On Farms <u>1/</u> .....	384,638	361,031	365,794	610,300	427,820
Commodity Credit Corp. <u>2/</u> .....	16,847	14,778	4,404	3,990	3,100
Terminals <u>3/</u> .....	152,043	102,131	56,256	175,069	141,889
Merchant Mills <u>1/ 4/</u> .....	114,387	95,276	96,779	136,216	111,730
Int. Mills, Elev. & Whses. <u>1/5/</u> .....	160,432	108,776	119,044	196,631	110,796
T o t a l .....	828,347	681,992	642,277	1,122,206	795,135

1/ Estimates of Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Owned by C. C. C. stored in their own steel or wooden bins and in transit.

3/ Commercial stocks reported by Grain Branch, P.M.A. at 40 terminal cities.

4/ Mills reporting to Bureau of the Census on milling and stocks of flour.

5/ All off-farm storages not otherwise designated for each grain."

#### Crop Conditions -

An official report dated January 20 states that the severe cold weather that prevailed during the past week over practically the entire portion of the country east of the Rockies was unfavourable for small grains. The snow cover was mostly sufficient for the protection of small grains from this cold weather in the Northern Border States, Appalachian Mountain area, Tennessee, and some adjacent sections, but the major portion of the main Winter Wheat Belt and most areas in the South were bare.

Small grains are dormant in northern and most middle sections, with growth retarded by cold weather in southern areas. In northwestern Texas growth of winter wheat was retarded by cold, dry weather, but progress was satisfactory in the eastern and southern portions of that State. Wheat is mostly dormant in Kansas, where it generally covers the ground in the eastern third and northwest and shows in drill rows in the southwest and most of the central third with some fields not yet up.

The lack of a protective snow cover in many sections of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific States is causing some concern. Droughty conditions in California are adversely affecting seeding and growth of small grains.



Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat - At Chicago the spot market was generally a nominal affair throughout the period under review. Relatively few cars were received and practically all were applied on previous contracts. During most of the period, No. 2 Red Winter was quoted around 17 1/2 cents over the May future.

Rather more interest was displayed in the Minneapolis cash market although the anticipated increases in country marketings which were expected to take place with the turn of the income tax year have not yet materialized. In fact many producers and shippers have ordered their wheat into store rather than sell on the current market. Toward the middle of the month the light offerings combined with good mill demand advanced premiums on cash wheat at Minneapolis. Toward the end of the period the movement of cash wheat to the spring wheat terminals (Minneapolis and Duluth) dropped off sharply; the Commodity Credit Corporation was not buying in the spring wheat markets and with mill demand quiet, premiums ruled barely steady to somewhat lower. Minneapolis May wheat declined 6 1/4 cents during the third week of the month closing on January 22 at \$2.92 1/2. The spot market moved in sympathy, with the trading range on ordinary No. 1 Dark Northern Spring at the close standing at \$2.99 1/2 to \$3.02 1/2.

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

1947-48		Chicago -		Minneapolis -	
		Grade	Price	Grade	Price
December	24	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	297 1/4 - 298 1/4
	25		Christmas Day		
	26	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	295 - 297
	27	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	294 1/2
	29	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	294 1/2 - 295 1/2
	30	Sample Red	275 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	297 1/2 - 298 1/2
	31	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	299 - 300
January	1		New Year's Day		
	2	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	295 1/2 - 296 1/2
	3	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	290 1/2 - 291 1/2
	5	3 Red	304 1/4	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	295 1/2 - 296 1/2
	6	3 Red	309	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	296 - 298
	7	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	298 1/4 - 301 1/4
	8	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	301 3/4 - 304 3/4
	9	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	303 3/4 - 306 3/4
	10	1 Hard	309	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	301 - 304
	12	3 Red	317 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	306 1/2 - 309 1/2
	13	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	305 1/4 - 307 1/4
	14	4 Red Tough	301	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	306 3/4 - 308 3/4
	15	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	308 3/4 - 310 3/4
	16	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	311 1/2 - 313 1/2
	17	3 Red	320 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	306 1/2 - 309 1/2
	19	2 Red	315 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	299 1/2 - 302 1/2
	20	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	302 - 305
	21	2 Red	318 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	302 3/4 - 305 3/4
	22	None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	300 1/2 - 303 1/2
	23	2 Red	316	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	299 1/4 - 302 1/4

# Chicago Wheat Futures -

The market was not marked by extreme fluctuations during the period under review and in general the undertone was firm. An upward trend around mid-January was considered by some traders to be a reflection of less than anticipated marketings by producers since the beginning of the new income tax year. Farmers were apparently selling some wheat on the sharp upturns but were withdrawing offerings when the market sagged. Other strengthening factors were the relatively small stocks of corn and oats at January 1, which pointed up the possibility of heavier feeding of wheat to live stock in the latter half of the crop year; the re-entry of the Production and Marketing Administration into the market for flour for export, and small purchases of export wheat by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Prices eased off somewhat during the latter part of January, being influenced in part by the Government's announcement that only some 75 to 80 million bushels of wheat and flour remained to be procured to complete their export program. The projected anti-inflation program and the possibility of Congressional slashes in the funds requested to implement the Marshall plan were also interpreted bearishly.

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

<u>1947-48</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>December</u>
- cents and eighths per bushel -					
December 24	301/4	293/6	261	253/4	-
25		Christmas	Day		
26	300/4	292/4	263/2	255/6	251
27	301/2	293/6	265/4	258/4	255/2
29	301/6	294/4	266	259/2	256
30	303/6	296	266/2	259/2	256/4
31	302/6	296	267/6	261	257
January 1		New Year's	Day		
2	301/4	293/4	264	257	253/6
3	297/4	289/2	259	253/2	249/4
5	301/6	293/2	263	256/4	253
6	299/4	292	261/4	254/4	252
7	302/4	294	263/6	256/7	254
8	304	295/4	264/6	257/6	254/4
9	305/6	297/6	266/6	259/4	257/4
10	306/2	298/4	267	259/6	256/4
12	313	305	272/4	265	261/4
13	312/4	303/6	270/4	263	259
14	311/2	302/4	269/2	262	257
15	313/2	303/6	272	265	260/6
16	315	305/4	273/2	266	262
17	312/6	302/6	269/4	263/6	260
19	306/6	296/6	264/4	257/4	255
20	308/4	299/4	266/6	260/6	257/4
21	309/4	299/4	266/4	260/4	256/6
22	305/4	297/4	265	259/4	256
23	303/4	294/6	261/4	254/6	251/6
24	302/2	294	261	255/4	252/6
26	297/4	289	257/4	251/6	249/4



## ARGENTINE SITUATION

A review of the grain situation in the Argentine has been received from Mr. W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary (Agriculture) at Buenos Aires and is quoted herewith. The editors of this review have taken the liberty of converting Argentine measures to Canadian measures wherever possible for the convenience of Canadian readers.

Weather and Crops - Since the beginning of 1948 Argentina has had exceptionally heavy rainfall which is unusual for this time of year, or, during the summer season. Throughout the main agricultural zones from 1.4 to 7.4 inches of rainfall were registered, which came fairly evenly over several days. This moisture was virtually at the opportune time for the growing corn crop and a bumper yield now seems pretty well assured. The official estimate on the corn acreage is still unpublished but most agree that the acreage is down from last year's 3,612,200 hectares. Pastures throughout the country were badly in need of moisture and the recent rains were welcome. Conditions throughout the grazing, as well as the crop zones, are now reported from satisfactory to excellent.

Wheat - The official estimate for the 1947-48 wheat harvest has not yet been published. In previous years this estimate was usually out by the end of the year and last year it was announced early in December. In grain circles it is the consensus that despite the decline in the area sown to wheat, production will be much higher than was at first anticipated. In the province of Cordoba the yield was reported phenomenally high, in some instances reaching 68 bushels per acre. The average for the whole country appears, now, to be from 22 to 24 bushels per acre. In contrast with the pessimistic forecast of around 184 million bushels of wheat a month or two ago, trade circles estimate the present crop at 228 to 240 million bushels, or 12 to 18 per cent higher than last year. "La Prensa" in a roundup of trade opinions from authoritative sources has suggested a crop of nearly 260 million bushels. While this latter figure may prove over optimistic there is no doubt that Argentina has escaped the consequences of decidedly lower production which seemed the inevitable result of reduced acreages, coupled with unfavourable conditions at the time of seeding.

The Government has decreed that the remaining stocks of wheat of the 1945-46 crop, produced outside the wheat belt, may now be bought and sold without official intervention, but only when the wheat is for use or industrialization in the same area in which it was produced.

Flour Production - Statistics published by the Department of Industry and Commerce reveal that 8,288,818 bushels of wheat were milled during October, yielding 1,758,000 barrels of flour and 71,439 metric tons of by-products. During the first ten months of 1947, the mills processed 84,369,230 bushels of wheat and obtained 18,240,038 barrels of flour and 692,371 metric tons of by-products.

Linseed - The linseed crop has not made as favourable a development as other crops. Trade circles estimate the current crop to be around 27,557,530 bushels, or about 20 per cent less than the production last year.

Shipments - Exports of cereals were greatly speeded up during the last two months of the year, with the result that 1947's figures compare favourably with those of the preceding two years:-

	<u>1947</u> bu.	<u>1946</u> bu.	<u>1945</u> bu.
Wheat .....	82,295,659	49,207,252	84,776,530
Corn .....	92,237,061	86,011,618	22,801,533
Linseed .....	-	1,533,577	5,360,806
Oats .....	4,910,748	21,407,387	5,072,527
Rye .....	10,127,943	6,187,532	5,619,374
Barley .....	27,835,024	28,163,464	11,674,927



## AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

The following cable was received in mid-January from the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Melbourne, Australia:-

"Australian wheat stocks at January 10 totalled 104 million bushels. Exports of wheat during December totalled 3,084,000 bushels to the United Kingdom, India, France and New Zealand and flour 74,008 long tons principally to Malaya, Mauritius and Ceylon. Latest estimate of wheat yield is 220 million bushels.

In December the British Government contracted to purchase 80 million bushels of wheat comprising 50 million bushels of wheat and 550,000 tons of flour at 17 shillings\* a bushel f.o.b. Australian ports. India purchased at 18 shillings 6 pence a bushel 25 million bushels.

As from January 19th the guaranteed price of wheat to growers will be increased to 6 shillings 3 pence a bushel f.o.b. ports. This price is dependent on the States passing legislation complementary to the Wheat Stabilization Act of 1946".

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\* 1 shilling, Australian, equals 16.1 cents, Canadian.

## CHILEAN WHEAT PRODUCTION

A letter received early this month from the Canadian Commercial Secretary, Mr. J. L. Mutter, at Santiago, Chile is quoted below. Note - Conversions to measures familiar to Canadian readers have been made by the editors of this review.

"The Minister of Agriculture has expressed optimism as regards the wheat crop for the year 1947-48. Although he adds that this crop is obviously subject to climatic contingencies as the harvest will not be effected until February, he estimates that the production will be sufficient to assure the flour supplies of the country.

According to calculations made by the Statistical Department of the Board of Agriculture the wheat production for 1947-48 will be 39,700,000 bushels with an average yield of 19.6 bushels per acre over a total planted area of 2,023,000 acres. The yield for 1946-47 was 33,150,000 bushels with an average of 17.7 bushels per acre over a total planted area of 1,873,000 acres".

## SOUTH AFRICAN WHEAT PRODUCTION

Mr. John H. English, Canadian Commercial Counsellor at Johannesburg reported under date of December 31 that the latest official estimate of the South African Wheat crop, based on conditions at the end of November, indicates a crop of 18,763,000 bushels. This is a decrease of 410,000 bushels from the official estimate of a month previous.

During December, a serious protracted drought in the wheat crop areas of the Union was largely broken. It is anticipated, therefore, that the next crop estimate will be of a more optimistic character.

- 31 The International Emergency Food Council announced today that, effective January 1, 1948, its functions and responsibilities would be transferred to the Council of F.A.O. and the International Emergency Food Council itself dissolved.

January

- 2 The guaranteed fixed price for millable wheat to United Kingdom farmers is 19s 1d (\$2.06 per bushel) ex farm, January delivery. February price to farmers is listed at 19s 5d (\$2.10 per bushel).  
Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg have concluded the first stage of their program for co-operative economic action. The "Benelux" plan provides for the adoption of a common tariff. This came into effect on January 1, 1948. Further plans call for the creation of a complete customs union or free trade area which has not yet come into operation.
- 6 The Food and Agriculture Organization announced today that Ethiopia has joined the F.A.O., bringing the total membership of the organization to 55 nations.
- 7 Holland's 1947 wheat production is now officially estimated at 7,120,000 bushels, approximately 6 million below the 1946 production of 13,000,000. Rye production is placed at 11,632,000 bushels compared with 16,376,000 bushels in 1946.
- 8 Official figures from England give a wheat acreage for England and Wales in 1947 of 2,075,000 compared with 1,982,000 in 1946. Yield per acre in 1946 was estimated at 35.5 bushels, while in 1947 this dropped to 28.4 bushels. Production in 1947 of approximately 60 million bushels was down by approximately 11 million bushels from the previous year's crop.
- 10 Broomhall reports that Russia has sold Norway 100,000 tons of wheat (3,730,000 bushels) and 50,000 tons of rye (2,000,000 bushels). Prices have not been definitely fixed, but may be in line with the lowest world price.
- 21 Finland and Russia, according to trade reports, have concluded an agreement whereby Finland will purchase 2.3 million bushels of wheat, 4.7 million bushels of oats and 3.6 million bushels of rye. An additional 2.7 million bushels of grain will be made available to Finland if Russian supplies are sufficient.
- For the 1948 harvest a target of 2.5 million acres of wheat was set for the United Kingdom, but farmers were unable to attain this target because of drought which made sowing difficult or impossible in many areas until very late. Appeals have gone out to farmers to endeavour to reach this acreage by late sowings of winter wheat, or by sowing spring wheat.
- 23 Leslie A. Wheeler, Chairman of the International Wheat Council, announced that a special session of the Council will be held in Washington, D.C., January 28, in the hope of being able to negotiate and sign an international wheat agreement along the lines of the draft agreement prepared by the London Wheat Conference in March-April 1947.
- 24 Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North America at midnight January 15, totalled 134,849,965 bushels compared with 137,045,894 in the preceding week, and 142,906,945 bushels in the corresponding week last year. Visible supplies on the latest date comprised 123,382,813 bushels in Canadian positions and 11,467,152 bushels in United States positions.
- 26 It was stated in the House of Commons that the Minister of Trade and Commerce "intends bringing down legislation very shortly to enable an increase to be made in the advance or initial payment to be made to producers of wheat. No decision as to the actual amount of that payment has yet been made".
- 27 According to Broomhall, the Acreage sown to wheat in France by January 1, 1948 is officially estimated at 10,028,000 acres as compared with 9,512,000 acres last year.

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