



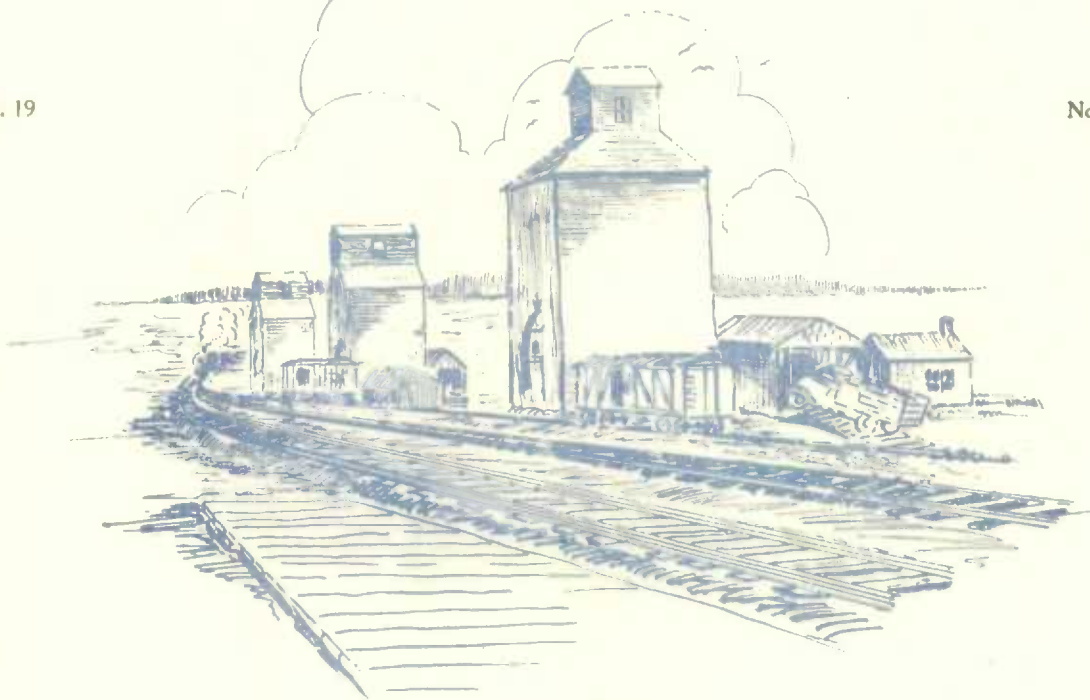
CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

# MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

Vol. 19

No. 3



OCTOBER, 1948

Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, M.P.  
Minister of Trade and Commerce  
Ottawa

Price \$1 a year



# MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

OCTOBER 1948

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

The World Supply Situation - Two important factors combine to present a brighter outlook for world grain supplies than has existed since 1939. In the first instance, domestic production in most importing countries, particularly in Europe, made a strong recovery in 1948 and yields generally were far higher than in 1947. The European wheat crop, while only 90 per cent of the 1935-39 average, exceeded production in 1947 by 41 per cent. Crops of wheat and rye in both Asia and Africa are well above prewar levels. Of perhaps equal importance to the advanced level of production in deficit areas is the existence of the largest total grain export supply available in nearly twenty years. Assuming that difficulties inherent in the current world trading situation will not prevent the relatively free export of surplus grain stocks, consumers in deficit areas may look quite confidently toward a raising of ration levels and improvements in bread quality. Probably no less important will be the opportunity provided to increase working stocks which have for years been practically non-existent in many importing countries.

Despite the indicated improvement in the supply outlook the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations warns that the stated import requirements of bread grains for 1948-49 still exceed the estimated availability in exporting countries. FAO sets out the statistical position in the table below.

Stated Grain Import Requirements and Estimated Export Supplies 1948-49 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	All Grains	Bread Grains	Coarse Grains
- million metric tons -			
Import requirements .....	42.7	30.8	11.9
Export supply .....	38.3	25.5	12.8
Difference .....	-4.4	-5.3	0.9

<sup>1/</sup> As of mid-August.

In commenting on these statistics FAO states that "As a result of the deficit created by the continued high level of import requirements, it is still necessary to carry on cereal allocations. Accordingly, the food programs of most countries this season cannot be liberalized to the extent desired, even though important progress is being made. Controls on distribution are being retained by most countries though they have been relaxed and modified in a great many cases. For coarse grains, on the other hand, considerable relaxation in controls is in prospect with less use of the supply for food and more for feed. In turn, some important gains in livestock rehabilitation appear possible."

While a statistical deficit of 4.4 million metric tons of all grains is indicated for 1948-49, the gap is quite small when compared with the stated deficit of 20 million metric tons in the previous crop year when many peoples



had to endure consumption restrictions more severe than those imposed during the war period. In assessing the significance of the statistical position relative to 1948-49 bread grain supplies FAO points out that:

"An examination of import requests for 1948-49 clearly shows that most countries are planning substantial increases in food consumption programs. Some claimants no longer ask that hunger or need be regarded as the yardstick for judging requirements, but rather such factors as the effect upon rehabilitation of the economy, the quantity and nature of foreign exchange available for purchase, bilateral trade agreements, the return of coarse-grain use to feed rather than food—in short, a return to more normal consumption patterns. The supply-demand position would appear to justify a considerable modification in previous criteria of allocation, i.e., minimum quantities to maintain food ration needs. In fact, on the basis of continued bread-grain utilization in importing countries at last year's levels, a definite surplus would result.

Moreover, the stated requirements for certain countries are in excess of the quantity of bread grain and coarse grain that would probably be purchased on world markets under present price and procurement conditions, even if no allocations were in effect in 1948-49. It is estimated that 2.5 to 3 million tons of bread grains, or approximately half of the indicated deficit, and at least 1 million tons of stated coarse-grain requirements for feed would not be procured because of price, foreign exchange, or other reasons. As a result, the net total of effective bread-grain requirements would appear to be around 28 million tons and of coarse-grain 10.5 to 11 million tons, leaving an apparent deficit of 2.5 million tons for bread grains and an indicated surplus of some 2 million tons of coarse grains. An examination of the proposed utilization pattern for many countries would seem to indicate that a substitution of 2 million tons of coarse grains for bread grains could easily be made and would probably interfere least with the general food objectives of most importing countries.

While it appears that the adjustment of supplies and import requests can be brought into a working balance, optimism should be tempered with caution until more information is available. If grain prices decline further, the effective demand may prove higher than postulated above. Furthermore, governments that move too fast and too far in relaxing consumption and collection controls for bread grains might need to reinstate them later in the season to bridge a gap until 1949 crop supplies are available. At the beginning of the 1946-47 season, when optimism was also widespread, some countries removed or liberalized rations and later found reinstatement difficult. Another three or four months should largely clarify such present uncertain factors as Southern Hemisphere harvests, trade agreements or procurement possibilities from non-IEFC sources, and revised requirements brought about by crop changes or other factors."

#### THE CANADIAN SITUATION

Varietal Composition of Canada's Export Wheat - In order to guard against any deterioration in the quality of Canada's export wheat, a very close check is kept on the varieties entering into the export grades. Only those equal to or better than Marquis wheat are acceptable in the top grades. To determine what varieties, and in what proportions, those varieties contribute to the wheat Canada exports, the Cereal Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, according to the 'Experimental Farms News' have been analyzing the varietal composition of official samples taken from cargoes leaving the Ports of Fort William, Ontario, Vancouver, British Columbia and whenever possible, Churchill, Manitoba. The official samples are obtained from the Chief Grain

Inspector, Board of Grain Commissioners, each season and present an excellent cross section of the season's shipments.

During the past twenty years that this work has been conducted, there has been a great change not only in the varieties themselves, but in the number and percentages of those varieties found in our export wheats. In 1927, anywhere from 60 to 77 per cent of the wheat was Marquis, and a number of other varieties of varying quality making up the balance. Then in 1935 came the introduction of the rust resistant wheat Thatcher, which completely changed the varietal make-up of most of the cargoes. By 1938 the average composition was Marquis 54 per cent, Thatcher 14 per cent, Red Bobs 10 per cent, Garnet and Reward around 8 and 6 per cent and the rest made up of various other varieties. With the introduction of the other rust-resistant wheats, Renown, Regent and Apex, the varietal composition has continued to change so that the analysis of the 1947 crop disclosed that Marquis comprised less than 10 per cent of the cargoes, and for the most part the remainder, ranging from 78 to 89 per cent in the case of cargoes stemming from Fort William, were made up of the four rust resistant mentioned above. The Vancouver cargoes have more Red Bobs wheat as a rule, but these carry anywhere from 17 to 46 per cent of rust resistant wheat varieties. One cargo of nearly 200,000 bushels was found to be made up of four varieties, 99.5 per cent of which were rust resistant wheats. It is considered that Thatcher has now reached its peak and Regent is assuming greater percentages each year.

#### Supply Position -

The quantity of wheat available for export and carry-over for the current crop year is estimated at 317.2 million bushels, considerably above the 1947-48 figure of 269.9 million. Exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat during August and September of 1948 amounted to 27.9 million bushels, down four million from the shipments recorded during the same period last year. On October 1 this year a balance of 289.3 million bushels remained for export and carry-over.

#### Canadian Wheat Supplies

	<u>1948-49</u>	<u>1947-48</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carry-over in North America July 31 .....	76.0 <sup>1/</sup>	87.4
New Crop .....	391.0 <sup>1/</sup>	336.8 <sup>2/</sup>
Imports of wheat and wheat flour, month of August ....	0.2	-
Total Supply .....	467.2	424.2
Estimated domestic requirements .....	150.0	154.3 <sup>2/</sup>
Available for export or carry-over .....	317.2	269.9
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain Aug.1 - Sept. 30	20.0	19.0
United States imports of Canadian wheat Aug.1-Sept.30.	<sup>3/</sup>	<sup>3/</sup>
Total wheat exports .....	20.0	19.0
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat Aug. 1-Sept.30	7.9	12.9 <sup>4/</sup>
Total exports wheat and wheat flour .....	27.9	31.9
Balance on October 1 for export or carry-over .....	289.3	238.0

<sup>1/</sup> September estimate of production. <sup>2/</sup> Revised estimate, basis preliminary disposition data. <sup>3/</sup> Less than 50,000 bushels. <sup>4/</sup> Adjusted for time-lag.



# Estimated Disposition of the 1947 Wheat Crop of the Prairie Provinces -

Preliminary disposition data indicate that the 1947 western wheat crop was over-estimated by some four million bushels or by a little more than one per cent. Based on present estimates the 1947 wheat crop in Saskatchewan and Manitoba should be revised downward by three million and one million bushels respectively to give a revised estimate of 315 million bushels for the 1947 Prairie wheat crop. Further revisions, however, may be required when marketing and other disposition data for the 1947-48 crop year are finalized.

## Wheat Supply and Estimated Disposition in the Prairie Provinces Crop Year 1947-48

	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	Prairie Provinces
- million bushels -				
Supply:				
Carry-over on farms July 31, 1947 ..	2.0	13.7	8.8	24.5
1947 crop <u>1/</u> .....	43.0	173.0	103.0	319.0
Total Supply .....	45.0	186.7	111.8	343.5
Disposition:				
Commercial marketings <u>2/</u> .....	32.0	128.9	79.4	240.3
Seed for 1948 crop <u>3/</u> .....	3.7	19.2	8.0	30.9
Feed and waste <u>4/</u> .....	5.0	13.2	11.1	29.3
Country millings <u>5/</u> .....	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.0
Carry-over on farms July 31, 1948 ..	3.0	22.0	13.0	38.0
Total Disposition .....	44.0	183.7	111.8	339.5
Indicated error in crop estimate .....	+1.0	+3.0	-	+4.0
Production estimate 1947 crop as indicated by preliminary disposition data .....	42.0	170.0	103.0	315.0

1/ From 'Revised Estimate of Value and Production of 1947 Field Crops'  
February 24, 1948.

2/ Subject to revision.

3/ Per Dominion Bureau of Statistics' survey.

4/ Includes wheat fed on farms per D.B.S. survey and estimated waste.

5/ Estimated.



Marketing Quotas - On October 20, delivery quotas were still in effect at a number of delivery points in western Canada but restrictions are being removed as rapidly as storage and transportation conditions permit.

Summary <sup>1/</sup> Showing the Number of Wheat, Oats and Barley Delivery Points in each Quota Group by Provinces  
(as at October 20, 1948)

Province	Wheat	Oats	Barley
<u>Manitoba</u>			
Open .....	375	375	375
<u>Saskatchewan</u>			
10 bushel quota .....	70	261	261
15 bushel quota .....	59	2	2
20 bushel quota .....	19	4	4
Open .....	967	848	848
	1,115	1,115	1,115
<u>Alberta</u>			
10 bushel quota .....	84	235	235
15 bushel quota .....	37	13	13
20 bushel quota .....	40	18	18
Open .....	430	325	325
	591	591	591
<u>British Columbia</u>			
10 bushel quota .....	-	2	2
15 bushel quota .....	1	-	-
Open .....	3	2	2
	4	4	4
<u>All Provinces</u>			
10 bushel quota .....	154	498	498
15 bushel quota .....	97	15	15
20 bushel quota .....	59	22	22
Open .....	1,775	1,550	1,550
	2,085	2,085	2,085

<sup>1/</sup> Data prepared by Quota Department, Canadian Wheat Board.

Distribution of Saunders Wheat - The Experimental Farms News reports that "The Experimental Farms Service of the Dominion Department of Agriculture is completing its plans for a further distribution of Saunders wheat this year.

This new, early maturing variety of wheat was first licensed in the spring of 1947 when there was only a comparatively small number of bushels in existence - some 225, to be exact. These were carefully grown under control at the Dominion Experimental Stations at Beaverlodge and Lacombe in Alberta, Melfort in Saskatchewan and the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa, where the variety originated. From this small start 5,700 bushels of certified and commercial seed were produced that year and distributed to some 887 wheat growers in the spring of 1948.

From estimated yields made in the early summer, it was calculated that there would be upwards of 100,000 bushels of the Saunders variety at harvest time.

However, reports reaching Ottawa from those who grew Saunders this past season indicate that this estimate will be low, since surprisingly good crops have been harvested, despite poor seeding conditions this spring and very dry weather this summer in the areas where this variety was grown. Where these reports have provided comparisons, Saunders has outyielded Thatcher in the Peace River country three out of four times, Red Bobs three out of five times, says J.G.C. Fraser, Senior Cerealists, Experimental Farms Service.

In maturity, Saunders was four to five days earlier in ripening than Thatcher and ripened with Garnet. The yields ranged from twelve to fifty-seven bushels for Saunders and from ten to fifty for Thatcher, Red Bobs being lower again.

In the Garnet growing areas, farmers report that the early maturity of Saunders will cause it to replace Garnet, the slightly higher yields of Garnet being more than compensated for by Saunders' eligibility for top grades, stronger straw and freedom from shattering. Some reports indicate that Saunders stood the August frost in some areas better than did Red Bobs.

In central Alberta, the reports indicate that Saunders has outyielded Thatcher and has given better grades in many cases. Many growers report that Saunders has withstood shattering very well, even when harvested as late as the 4th of October. "It is only fair to state that the Saunders wheat was in all probability sown on the best pieces of land and this would benefit the small acreages accordingly. However, it is gratifying to note that this new, early maturing, high quality, stem rust resistant variety of wheat has yielded so well the first season it has been grown commercially," says Mr. Fraser.

The recent decision of the Board of Grain Commissioners not to grade the Red Bobs variety any higher than No. 3 Manitoba Northern after August, 1951, might have caused considerable hardship to many wheat growers had there not been a suitable variety to replace it. Saunders, however, was bred for that particular purpose and by 1951 there should be ample stocks available to supply all seed requirements.

The fact that Saunders is resistant to stem rust and loose smut, moderately resistant to bunt, black chaff and root rot should add to its value where it is grown.

The distribution this year will again take place from the Dominion Experimental Stations at Beaverlodge and Lacombe in Alberta and somewhat limited distribution will be made from the Experimental Station at Melfort, Saskatchewan.

No distribution of Saunders wheat will be made in Saskatchewan pending the compilation of data from tests in the Northern areas of that province. A good quality of seed, however, has been set aside so that should favourable results be secured, those who have applied for seed may have an opportunity to sow a few acres in the spring of 1949.

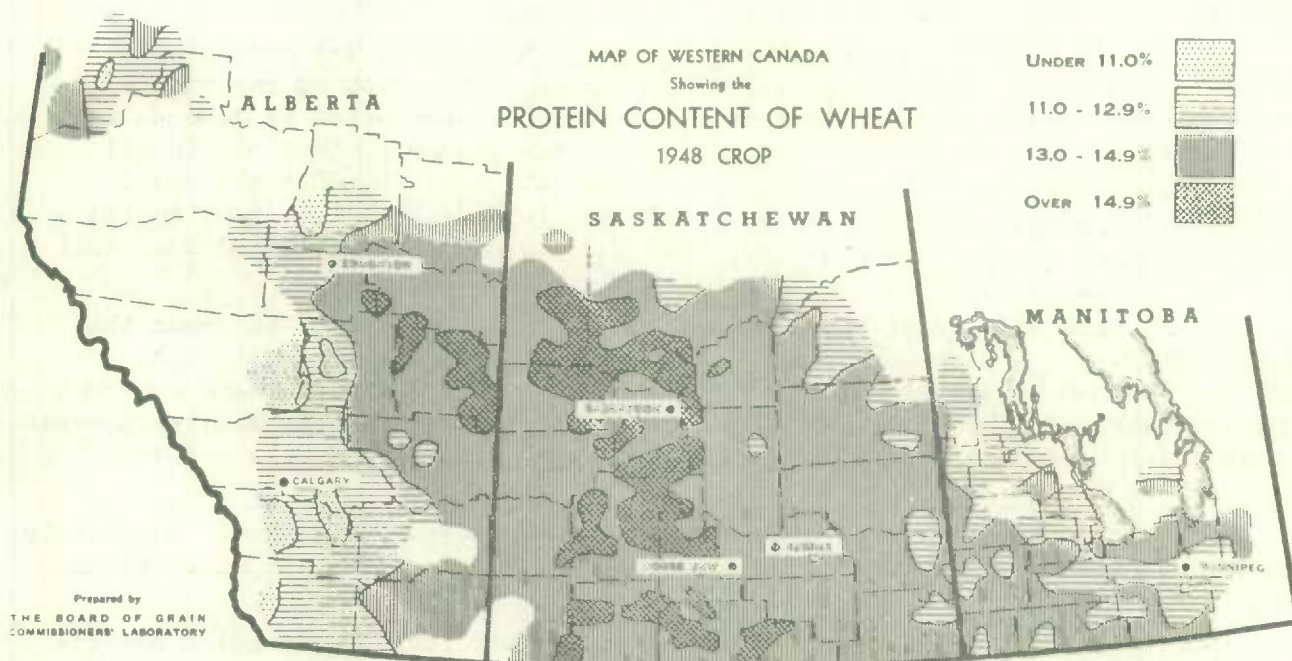
Applications now on hand will receive first consideration and those applying now will be served in order of application. Alberta growers desiring seed should write to the Experimental Station at Beaverlodge or Lacombe and those in Saskatchewan and Manitoba to the Experimental Station at Melfort, Saskatchewan.

The seed will be sold in not more than 6 bushel lots to each person.

Protein Content of Western Canada's 1948 Hard Red Spring Wheat Crop - The average protein content of the 1948 western hard red spring wheat crop is 13.6 per cent according to a report issued by the Grain Research Laboratory of the Board of Grain Commissioners. This figure is 0.5 percentage points lower than the value for last year's survey and is the same as the mean for the past twenty years.

Examination of the data by provinces shows that the average protein level for each of the three Prairie Provinces is below last year's figure. Protein levels for both Manitoba and Saskatchewan are lower by 0.5 percentage points and that for Alberta is 0.4 percentage points lower. Means by provinces and for Western Canada are as follows:

	Prairie Provinces	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta
	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1948 .....	13.6	13.0	14.2	12.9
1947 .....	14.1	13.5	14.7	13.3
Difference .....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4



The survey on which these data are based was made with 5,582 samples drawn from 1,378 shipping points in the Prairie Provinces. The samples were collected in such a way as to be representative of the volume of wheat grown in each particular area. There were 894 samples from 243 shipping points in Manitoba; 3,023 samples from 734 stations in Saskatchewan; and 1,665 samples from 401 stations in Alberta.

The protein content and number of samples for each grade are shown below for both 1948 and 1947.

Grade	Number of Samples		Protein Content	
	1948	1947	1948	1947
	- number -		- per cent -	
1 Northern .....	1,737	555	13.6	13.5
2 Northern .....	2,817	2,572	13.7	13.9
3 Northern .....	732	1,548	13.6	14.2
4 Northern .....	172	483	13.1	14.2
4 Special .....	2	281	16.6	16.7
Garnet grades .....	122	96	12.5	11.7



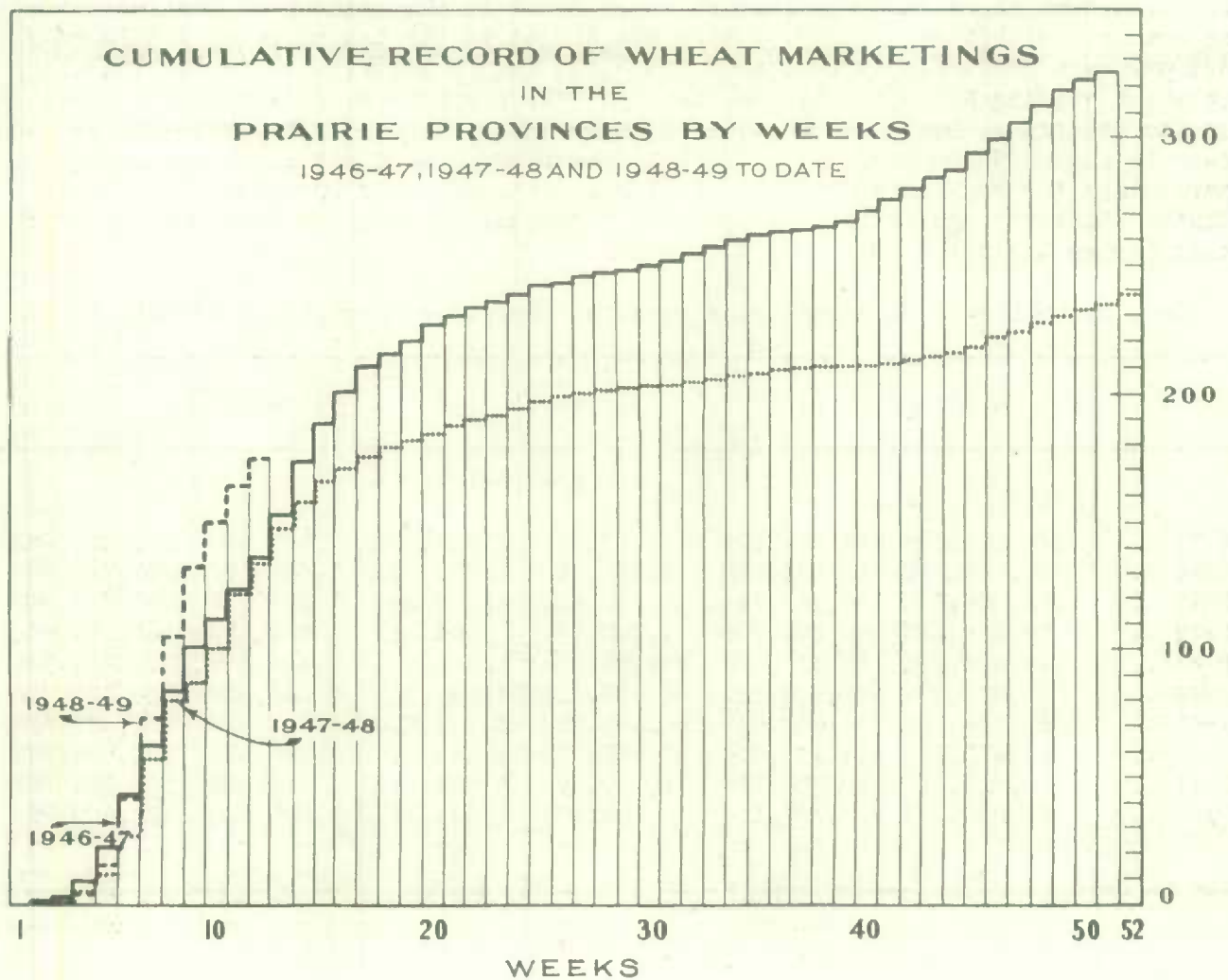
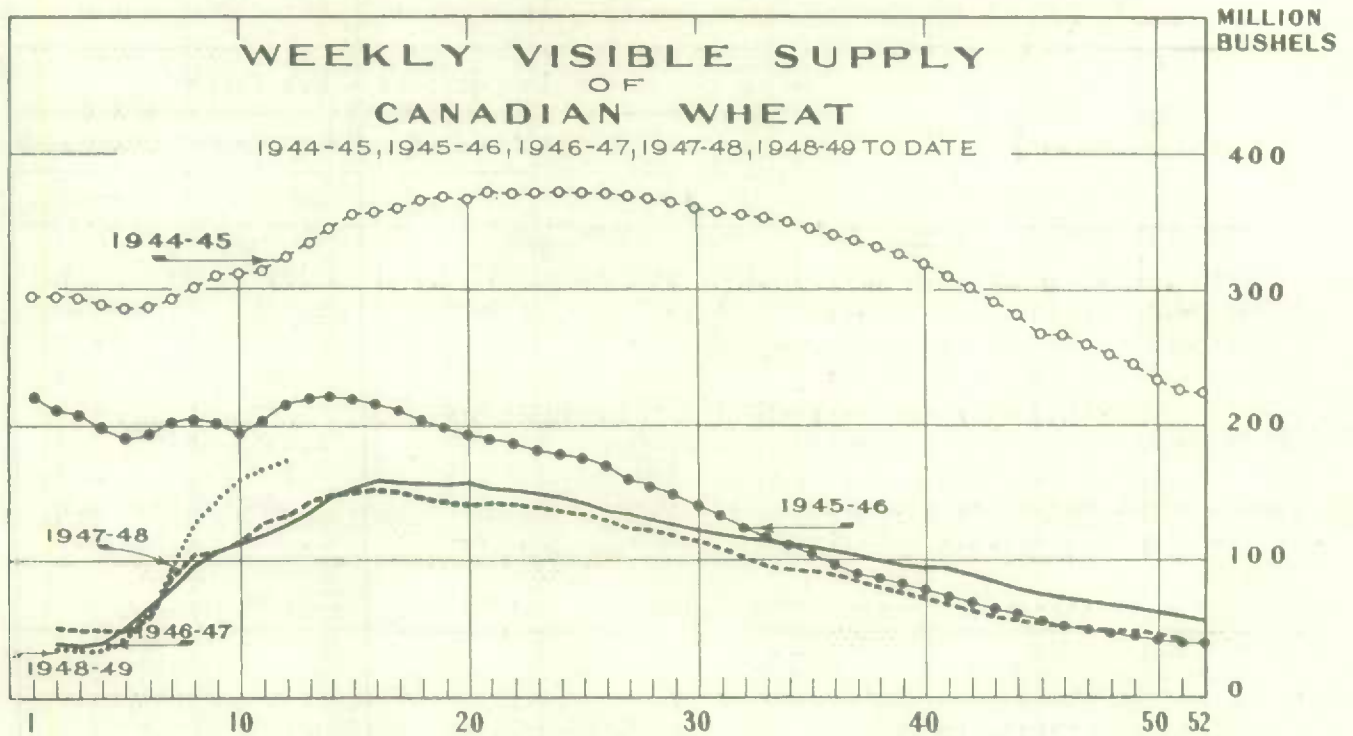
# Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -					
August 1-5	51,716	410,600	584,457	1,046,773	805,165
12	132,832	707,579	556,582	1,396,993	1,708,040
19	245,027	1,517,800	357,533	2,120,360	3,859,109
26	1,945,212	6,126,122	2,371,473	10,442,807	6,431,461
September 2	6,536,917	15,904,916	3,604,565	26,046,398	13,939,036
9	7,878,137	17,182,853	6,427,530	31,488,520	31,429,840
16	5,695,795	21,704,886	7,079,407	34,480,088	22,920,805
23	3,306,717	15,233,933	9,008,967	27,549,617	6,779,351
30	1,661,381	9,102,599	7,083,138	17,847,118	13,625,573
October 7	1,038,266	6,574,159	6,395,661	14,008,086	21,220,179
14	523,365	5,228,970	5,493,253	11,245,588	11,999,317
T o t a l	29,015,365	99,694,417	48,962,566	177,672,348	134,717,876

Primary receipts of wheat in the Prairie Provinces from the beginning of the 1948-49 crop year to October 14 were 177.7 million bushels, an increase of 43 million over the same period last year. After building up to a peak of 34.5 million bushels marketed in the week ending September 16, deliveries have been tapering off rather sharply. During the week ending October 14, marketings amounted to 11.2 million bushels, the smallest of any week since the beginning of September.

## Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, October 14, 1948 Compared With Approximately the Same Date, 1947 and 1946

	1948	1947	1946
- 000 bushels -			
Country Elevators - Manitoba .....	13,478	6,692	6,856
Saskatchewan .....	64,473	47,730	36,405
Alberta .....	41,234	26,175	20,660
T o t a l .....	119,185	80,597	63,920
Interior Private and Mill Elevators .....	4,696	3,632	4,111
Interior Public & Semi-Public Terminals .....	70	48	31
Pacific Ports .....	2,410	1,396	2,783
Churchill .....	97	110	43
Fort William and Port Arthur .....	22,377	19,587	18,036
In Transit Rail (Western Division) .....	9,906	8,552	13,829
Eastern Elevators - Lake Ports .....	9,394	17,378	11,311
St. Lawrence and Seaboard Ports .....	2,344	1,000	518
In Transit - Lake .....	3,446	4,005	4,367
In Transit - Rail (Eastern Division) .....	1,170	519	1,628
United States Ports .....	748	-	5,756
In Transit - U.S.A. ....	492	-	800
T o t a l .....	176,335	136,824	127,133



# Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-September 1948 and 1947

	Inspections - New Wheat			
	August-September 1948		August-September 1947	
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent
1 Northern .....	7,696	32.8	1,587	7.5
2 Northern .....	10,467	44.7	8,474	40.0
3 Northern .....	1,495	6.4	6,277	29.6
4 Northern .....	85	0.4	922	4.4
Garnet .....	78	0.3	26	0.1
Amber Durum .....	2,038	8.7	1,368	6.5
Alberta Winter .....	448	1.9	277	1.3
Toughs - All varieties and grades	881	3.8	1,042	4.9
All Others .....	235	1.0	1,205	5.7
T o t a l .....	23,423	100.0	21,178	100.0

During August and September, as in previous years, it has been possible to maintain separate records of new wheat inspected by the Board of Grain Commissioners. The results of the inspections, as set forth in the above table, indicate that there is a substantial improvement in the grading of the 1948 crop as compared with that of 1947. While the amount in the top three grades is only 6.8 per cent greater than last year there has been a significant redistribution in wheat grading No. 3 Northern or better. The proportion of this year's wheat in the top grade, No. 1 Northern, is 32.8 per cent compared with only 7.5 per cent in August-September, 1947. In both years No. 2 Northern had the largest percentage for any individual grade. Inspections of Amber Durum and Alberta Winter wheat, though of relatively small numerical importance, have been greater than during the comparable period of 1947.

## Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to October 14

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- bushels -						
1939 ...	128,189,504	12,081,274	13,169,347	2,964,732	104,406	156,509,263
1940 ...	126,465,862	11,464,582	6,818,883	2,336,133	643,182	147,728,642
1941 ...	172,566,340	6,768,764	7,205,822	4,796,549	996,108	192,333,583
1942 ...	133,176,726	2,553,904	4,023,777	904,911	520,522	141,179,840
1943 ...	148,924,604	32,931,250	35,567,656	1,286,454	3,406,176	222,116,140
1944 ...	226,837,990	58,168,161	36,322,713	6,140,055	5,048,809	332,517,728
1945 ...	259,154,263	66,852,847	30,425,752	3,411,200	2,823,553	362,667,615
1946 ...	84,475,912	43,436,576	20,368,952	1,047,746	1,175,091	150,504,277
1947 ...	111,210,443	30,758,712	16,890,202	4,894,847	152,188	163,906,392
1948 ...	77,032,294	18,777,114	18,986,489	2,741,651	5,070,688	122,608,236



# Wheat Shipments from Churchill, 1931-32 to 1948-49

Crop Year	Shipments <sup>1/</sup>	Crop Year	Shipments <sup>1/</sup>
	bu.		bu.
1931-32 .....	545,000	1940-41 .....	-
1932-33 .....	2,736,000	1941-42 .....	-
1933-34 .....	2,708,000	1942-43 .....	-
1934-35 .....	4,050,000	1943-44 .....	740,000
1935-36 .....	2,407,000	1944-45 .....	-
1936-37 .....	4,294,000	1945-46 .....	-
1937-38 .....	604,000	1946-47 .....	2,929,000
1938-39 .....	917,000	1947-48 .....	4,976,000
1939-40 .....	1,772,000	1948-49 <sup>2/</sup> .....	5,314,000

<sup>1/</sup> To nearest thousand bushels.

<sup>2/</sup> To close of navigation on October 15, 1948.

Wheat shipments from Churchill during the navigation season recently closed reached 5.3 million bushels, establishing a new record for that port since shipments began in September 1931. With the exception of 740,000 bushels shipped to the United States in 1943-44, no ocean shipments of wheat left Churchill from 1940-41 to 1945-46 inclusive. With the resumption of shipments following World War II, outgoing movement of grain from Churchill has increased from 2.9 million bushels in 1946 to the present peak of 5.3 million. All of this year's shipments was destined for the United Kingdom.

Wheat Shipments to the United States, by Destination, August 1-October 14, 1948  
Compared with Approximately the Same Period, 1947 and 1946

	1948	1947	1946
	- bushels -		
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Buffalo .....	947,260	-	6,093,165
Oswego .....	531,629	-	-
Erie .....	410,000	-	1,621,798
Total - Vessel Shipments ....	1,888,889	-	7,714,963
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports .....	-	-	4,337
Other U.S.A. Points .....	-	36,574	-
Total - Rail Shipments .....	-	36,574	4,337
GRAND TOTAL .....	1,888,889	36,574	7,719,300

Shipments of Canadian wheat to United States destinations in the period August 1 to October 14, 1948 amounted to 1.9 million bushels. Although this amount represents a sharp increase over the comparable period in 1947, it is only one-quarter of the shipments made during the corresponding period of 1946. Shipments from the beginning of the current crop year to October 14 have been made exclusively by vessel, with Buffalo receiving approximately half the total to date.

# Rail Movement from Fort William-Port Arthur -

Details of monthly rail

shipments of wheat from the Lakehead for the past three crop years and the distribution of the September 1948 shipments are set forth in the tables below.

## Monthly Rail Shipments of Wheat from the Lakehead, 1945-46 to 1948-49

	1948-49	1947-48	1946-47	1945-46
- bushels -				
August .....	51,283	90,574	187,825	23,255
September .....	30,017	91,366	175,773	57,533
October .....		131,290	255,754	73,776
November .....		100,563	256,249	99,197
December .....		691,223	1,601,883	2,280,636
January .....		3,149,421	2,462,002	4,533,707
February .....		1,851,773	1,816,087	1,127,764
March .....		3,423,684	1,711,013	2,223,266
April .....		371,950	566,006	1,015,730
May .....		154,551	361,386	536,462
June .....		81,133	241,475	920,233
July .....		231,414	123,145	130,276
T o t a l (12 months)		10,368,942	9,758,598	13,021,835

## Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from the Lakehead, by Provinces and Grades, September 1948

	Ontario	Quebec	Prince Edward Island
- bushels -			
No. 5 .....	-	667	166
No. 6 .....	-	1,133	-
Tough No. 5 .....	6,750	1,417	-
Tough Sample Heated .....	1,331	-	-
Tf. Sple. White Spg. Htd. & Htg. ...	2,053	-	-
2 C.W.A.D. ....	9,000	-	-
3 C.W.A.D. ....	-	7,500	-
T o t a l .....	19,134	10,717	166
Grand Total .....	30,017		

Freight Assistance Shipments - Claims filed to date for payment under the freight assistance plan indicate that shipments of wheat during August were down sharply from the same month in 1947. The million-bushel decrease was shared by all provinces, none of which exceeded 50 per cent of the August 1947 shipments. Reduced shipments to Ontario and Quebec, normally the largest consumers of freight-assisted wheat, accounted for approximately two-thirds of the total decrease. In view of the near-record fall wheat crop harvested in Ontario this year the reduced demand for western Canada wheat for feeding purposes in this province may be expected to continue. The filing of late claims will necessitate an upward revision of this year's August shipments, thereby diminishing to some extent the difference in freight-assisted wheat shipments between the first month of the 1947-48 and 1948-49 crop years.

Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Wheat Shipments,  
1948-49 and 1947-48

1948-49	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Prince Edward Island	British Columbia	Total
- bushels -							
August .....	249,930	248,348	21,693	25,581	7,200	52,278	605,030
Same Period							
1947-48 ...	630,495	521,323	59,503	51,185	26,023	320,732	1,609,261

The sharp downward trend in freight-assisted wheat shipments was duplicated in the greatly reduced shipments of millfeeds to eastern Canada and British Columbia during August 1948. Based on preliminary data, freight-assisted millfeed shipments in August amounted to only 40 per cent of shipments during the same month last year. Shipments to Ontario were less than one-third of those in August 1947 and accounted for the greatest single item in the general decrease from last year's millfeed shipments. The filing of late claims, however, will increase the August 1948 shipments over the amounts shown in the table below.

Provincial Distribution of Freight Assisted Millfeed Shipments,  
1948-49 and 1947-48

	August 1948	August 1947
- tons -		
Ontario .....	7,007	22,684
Quebec .....	12,935	25,919
New Brunswick .....	2,161	4,440
Nova Scotia .....	1,939	4,035
Prince Edward Island .....	697	1,131
British Columbia .....	953	6,463
T o t a l .....	25,692	64,672



Monthly Export 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 <sup>2/</sup> Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs <sup>3/</sup> Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- 000 bushels -					
<u>1946-47</u>					
August .....	5,982	227	6,306	12,515	17,339
September ..	10,131	241	4,080	14,452	11,338
October ....	12,481	437	5,771	18,689	23,653
November ...	20,494	441	5,748	26,683	23,008
December ...	11,044	124	3,604	14,772	17,488
January ....	14,333	77	6,247	20,657	20,406
February ...	10,439	75	5,601	16,115	13,639
March .....	8,121	31	6,211	14,363	14,085
April .....	10,286	4	7,113	17,403	12,152
May .....	17,859	1	10,623	28,483	28,701
June .....	22,192	5	7,301	29,498	31,594
July .....	18,354	9	7,428	25,791	26,404
T o t a l	161,716	1,672	76,033	239,421	239,807
<u>1947-48 <sup>4/</sup></u>					
August .....	9,601	2	7,048	16,651	18,140
September ..	9,362	12	5,864	15,238	15,990
October ....	9,680	35	7,001	16,716	17,204
November ...	12,006	1	5,796	17,803	22,763
December ...	7,480	2	3,829	11,311	20,717
January ....	15,175	3	4,064	19,242	15,961
February ...	11,296	71	4,970	16,337	10,743
March .....	10,323	2	4,082	14,407	15,058
April .....	10,081	3	5,783	15,867	9,965
May .....	12,955	1	5,086	18,042	19,924
June .....	12,464	1	4,730	17,195	15,881
July .....	12,949	-	2,975	15,924	17,129
T o t a l	133,372	133	61,228	194,733	199,475
<u>1948-49 <sup>4/</sup></u>					
August .....	9,112	1	4,200	13,313	13,829
September ..	10,555	5/	3,656	14,211	11,942
T o t a l	19,667	1	7,856	27,524	25,771

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

<sup>2/</sup> Exports for months of August 1946 to June 1948 revised to remove effect of time-lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.

<sup>3/</sup> Unadjusted, as published by External Trade Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

<sup>4/</sup> Subject to revision.

<sup>5/</sup> U.S.A. imports for September not available.

Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour (including United States Imports) August 1948 to September 1948 - The following statistics on monthly overseas clearances have been compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners:

	September		August		August-September	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/
	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
<u>BRITISH EMPIRE</u>						
United Kingdom .....	1,131,687	8,014,008	3,291,984	8,743,306	4,423,671	16,757,314
<u>Africa</u>						
Br. E. Africa .....	1,377	-	-	-	1,377	-
Br. S. Africa .....	53,280	815,929	-	-	53,280	815,929
<u>Br. W. Africa</u>						
Gold Coast .....	11,727	-	28,463	-	40,190	-
Sierra Leone .....	10,269	-	-	-	10,269	-
Other Br. W. Africa ..	2,065	-	-	-	2,065	-
<u>Asia</u>						
Hong Kong .....	135,887	-	-	-	135,887	-
India .....	189	-	-	-	189	-
<u>Europe</u>						
Malta .....	-	288,243	-	-	-	288,243
<u>North America</u>						
Bahamas .....	39,258	-	13,702	-	52,960	-
Barbados .....	56,358	-	44,707	-	101,065	-
Jamaica .....	124,088	-	149,256	4,616	273,344	4,616
Leeward-Windward Is. .	79,934	-	59,323	-	139,257	-
Trinidad-Tobago .....	195,016	-	117,347	-	312,363	-
Bermuda .....	8,649	-	5,890	-	14,539	-
Br. Honduras .....	1,813	-	8,325	-	10,138	-
Newfoundland .....	264,420	-	51,422	-	315,842	-
<u>South America</u>						
Br. Guiana .....	81,396	-	80,307	-	161,703	-
<b>TOTAL BRITISH EMPIRE ...</b>	<b>2,197,413</b>	<b>9,118,180</b>	<b>3,850,726</b>	<b>8,747,922</b>	<b>6,048,139</b>	<b>17,866,102</b>
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
<u>Africa</u>						
Azores & Madeira .....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgian Congo .....	8,811	-	2,295	-	11,106	-
Egypt .....	-	299,467	-	-	-	299,467
French Africa .....	-	-	18,288	-	18,288	-
Liberia .....	1,836	-	229	-	2,065	-
Morocco .....	17,235	-	15,822	-	33,057	-
Spanish Africa .....	-	-	3,672	-	3,672	-
<u>Asia</u>						
China .....	6,304	-	-	-	6,304	-
Philippine Is. ....	219,474	-	22,725	-	242,199	-
Syria .....	101,745	-	119,322	-	221,067	-
<u>Europe</u>						
Germany .....	43,155	-	9,828	-	52,983	-
Greece .....	1,390	-	-	-	1,390	-
Iceland .....	29,187	-	-	-	29,187	-
Italy .....	494,838	1,137,169	-	363,615	494,838	1,500,784

Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour - concluded

	September		August		August-September	
	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>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
<u>Europe</u>						
Netherlands .....	23,270	-	-	-	23,270	-
Portugal .....	6,885	-	26,132	-	33,017	-
Switzerland .....	29,034	-	11,934	-	40,968	-
<u>North America</u>						
Cuba .....	32,279	-	-	-	32,279	-
Guatemala .....	29,543	-	-	-	29,543	-
Haiti .....	2,065	-	2,295	-	4,360	-
Honduras .....	-	-	918	-	918	-
Nether. W. Indies ....	14,657	-	12,762	-	27,419	-
Nicaragua .....	1,800	-	-	-	1,800	-
Panama .....	1,080	-	-	-	1,080	-
Salvador .....	3,303	-	1,606	-	4,909	-
San Domingo .....	29,421	-	5,508	-	34,929	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon ..	1,606	-	3,200	-	4,806	-
<u>United States</u>						
For grinding in bond .	-	<u>3/</u>	-	-	-	-
For human						
consumption <u>4/</u> .....	-	<u>3/</u>	-	1,200	-	1,200
Unfit for human						
consumption <u>4/</u> .....	-	<u>3/</u>	-	58	-	58
Virgin Islands .....	54	-	54	-	108	-
<u>South America</u>						
Brazil .....	88,011	-	35,690	-	123,701	-
Colombia .....	12,244	-	-	-	12,244	-
Ecuador .....	3,101	-	3,901	-	7,002	-
French Guiana .....	8,388	-	-	-	8,388	-
Netherlands Guiana ...	5,661	-	-	-	5,661	-
Venezuela .....	242,870	-	52,605	-	295,475	-
TOTAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES.	1,459,247	1,436,636	348,786	364,873	1,808,033	1,801,509
GRAND TOTAL EXPORTED ...	3,656,660	10,554,816	4,199,512	9,112,795	7,856,172	19,667,611

1/ Canadian Customs Returns - conversion rate 4 1/2 wheat bushels equal 1 barrel.

2/ Subject to revision.

3/ United States imports for September not available.

4/ Source - United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census.



Current Wheat Prices - Prices of Canadian wheat for domestic use, established at the beginning of the 1948-49 crop year, remained unchanged throughout the four-week period ending October 16. Effective October 1, 1948 an increase of 1 1/2 cents per bushel in the carrying charges of wheat for sale to the United Kingdom made the prices of this class of wheat the same as for corresponding grades for domestic use. The price of Class II 'Commercial' (wheat for export to countries other than the United Kingdom) continued the mildly downward trend in evidence since the beginning of the current crop year.

Weekly Average Prices of Canadian Wheat,  
Basis in Store Fort William-Port Arthur and Vancouver  
(Source: Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners, Fort William)

	Weeks ending -			
	Sept. 25	Oct. 2	Oct. 9	Oct. 16
(1) Class I Domestic	- cents and eighths per bushel -			
(A) Domestic Use				
1 Hard .....	205	205	205	205
1 Northern .....	205	205	205	205
2 Northern .....	202	202	202	202
3 Northern .....	200	200	200	200
4 Northern .....	197	197	197	197
Number 5 .....	192	192	192	192
Number 6 .....	188	188	188	188
Feed .....	186	186	186	186
1 C. W. Garnet .....	200	200	200	200
2 C. W. Garnet .....	198	198	198	198
3 C. W. Garnet .....	196	196	196	196
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	205	205	205	205
2 Alberta Winter .....	204	204	204	204
3 Alberta Winter .....	201	201	201	201
1 C. W. Amber Durum .....	205	205	205	205
2 C. W. Amber Durum .....	202	202	202	202
3 C. W. Amber Durum .....	200	200	200	200
(B) Initial Price to Producers 50 cents per bushel under Schedule (A).				
(2) Class II Export				
(A) United Kingdom				
1 Hard .....	203/4	204	205	205
1 Northern .....	203/4	204	205	205
2 Northern .....	200/4	201	202	202
3 Northern .....	198/4	199	200	200
(B) Commercial				
1 Hard .....	236/5	235/1	235/3	234
1 Northern .....	236/5	235/1	235/3	234
2 Northern .....	233/5	232/1	232/3	231
3 Northern .....	231/5	230/1	230/3	229
1 C. W. Amber Durum .....	236/5	235/1	235/3	234
2 C. W. Amber Durum .....	233/5	232/1	232/3	231
3 C. W. Amber Durum .....	231/5	230/1	230/3	229

Note:- Prior to Oct. 1, 1948, prices quoted for domestic use and for sale to the United Kingdom include carrying charges of 5 cents and 3 1/2 cents per bushel respectively. Effective October 1, carrying charges on both classes are 5 cents per bushel.

Flour Milling Situation - Production of flour by Canadian mills during September amounted to 2,174,417 barrels, an increase of 34 per cent over the August output. Mills reporting operations for the month had a total rated capacity of 99,460 barrels per 24-hour working day and, on the basis of a 25-day working period, 87.5 per cent of the rated capacity was effective. The marked increase in effectiveness of rated capacity over the previous month is indicative of mill utilization of the large supplies of new-crop wheat now available.

Exports for the month, based on Customs returns, were 812,591 barrels, down sharply from the 1,303,181 barrels exported during September, 1947.

Production and Exports <sup>1/</sup> of Wheat Flour, 1937-38 to 1947-48

Crop Year	Production	Exports
- barrels of 196 pounds -		
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	14,470,177 <sup>2/</sup>
1946-47 .....	28,588,456	16,896,233 <sup>2/</sup>
1947-48 .....	24,243,711 <sup>3/</sup>	13,606,259 <sup>2/</sup>
<u>1948-49</u>		
August .....	1,619,752	933,225
September .....	2,174,417	812,591

<sup>1/</sup> Based on Customs returns.

<sup>2/</sup> Exports for months of August 1945 to June 1948 revised to remove effect of time-lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.

<sup>3/</sup> Subject to revision.

# THE UNITED STATES SITUATION

## United States Wheat Supplies -

Based on carry-over stocks of 194.9 million bushels at July 1, 1948 and new-crop supplies estimated on October 1 at 1,283.8 million, the United States will have total domestic supplies of 1,478.7 million bushels of wheat in 1948-49. The 1948-49 indicated supplies exceed those of 1947-48 by 30 million bushels. Disappearance through flour mills and export channels during the period July 1—September 30 amounted to 277.3 million bushels, an increase of 12.6 million over the same period in 1947. The estimated balance remaining on October 1 for milling, export or carry-over amounted to 953.4 million bushels, 48.9 million more than on the same date in 1947.

The following table, published by the Production and Marketing Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture, sets forth details of United States wheat supplies for 1947-48 and 1948-49.

## United States Wheat Supplies

	1947-48	1948-49
	- million bushels -	
Carry-over stocks, July 1 .....	83.8	194.9
New Crop .....	1,364.9	1,283.8 <sup>1/</sup>
Total Domestic Supplies .....	1,448.7	1,478.7
Estimated Quantity for Feed and Seed <sup>2/</sup> .....	279.5	248.0
Quantity remaining for Milling, Export or Carry-over ..	1,169.2	1,230.7
Disappearance during July 1—September 30:		
Wheat Milled for Flour .....	176.9	170.4
Exports of Wheat as Grain <sup>3/</sup> .....	87.8	106.9
Total Exported or Milled .....	264.7	277.3
Balance on Oct. 1 for milling, Export or Carry-over ...	904.5	953.4

<sup>1/</sup> October 1 estimate.

<sup>2/</sup> Includes an estimate for breakfast foods which is not included in the quantity of wheat milled for flour.

<sup>3/</sup> In addition to the grain exports, flour was exported in the equivalent of 46.8 million bushels during July—September this season compared with 51.8 million the same months last season. September flour milling and export data preliminary.

## July—September Grain Exports -

In a report released on October 15, 1948 the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, estimated that 4,789,000 long tons (182,443,000 bushels) of United States grain and grain products were exported in July, August, and September of 1948. Last year's exports during the same period totaled 5,000,000 long tons (193,637,000 bushels). The smaller total this year reflects principally the smaller quantity of corn and other coarse grains available from the short 1947 crops.

July—September 1948 exports included 4,282,000 long tons (159,847,000 bushels) of wheat and flour, and 507,000 long tons (22,596,000 bushels) of other grains and grain products. Exports during the same period of 1947 included 3,840,000 long tons (143,347,000 bushels) of wheat and flour, and 1,160,000 long



tons (50,290,000 bushels) of other grains and grain products. This year, the larger exports of wheat and flour were made possible by record loadings at Gulf ports (particularly in July and August) in the Department's effort to relieve the early-season crowding of terminal storage.

Of the total of 4,789,000 tons of all grain and grain products exported during July—September of this year, 2,305,000 tons or 48 per cent of the total, moved to the U. S. Occupied Zones of Germany, Japan and Korea.

Approximately 1,367,000 tons, or 29 per cent of the July—September 1948 total, went to the following ECA countries: Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, France and French North Africa, the French Zone of Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and Trieste. The quantity going to the ECA countries included grain and grain products financed by the importing countries as well as by ECA.

About 1,117,000 tons, or 23 per cent of the July—September 1948 total, were shipped to India, The Union of South Africa, the Philippines, Latin American countries, and other countries. Principal recipients among the Latin American countries were Brazil, Cuba, Mexico, and Venezuela.

The following table shows comparative monthly totals for July—September 1947 and 1948:

Exports of U. S. Grain and Grain Products  
July—September 1947 and 1948

	1 9 4 7				1 9 4 8			
	Wheat and Flour		Other		Wheat and Flour		Other	
	Long Tons	Bushels	Long Tons	Bushels	Long Tons	Bushels	Long Tons	Bushels
	- thousands -				- thousands -			
July .....	1,199	44,758	708	30,427	1,314	49,052	207	9,363
August .....	1,388	51,814	292	12,770	1,688	63,013	213	9,186
September 1/.	1,253	46,775	160	7,093	1,280	47,782	87	4,047
T o t a l ...	3,840	143,347	1,160	50,290	4,282	159,847	507	22,596

1/ September 1948 figures are preliminary.

Stocks of Wheat, October 1, 1948 - According to a report released on October 25 by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics relatively large stocks of 1,142 million bushels of wheat were in storage in all positions October 1, 1948. This total is the third largest of record, nearly equaling that of October 1, 1941, but falling far short of the 1,372 million bushels in storage October 1, 1942. In the current total are estimates by the Crop Reporting Board of 543 million bushels on farms, 247 million bushels in interior elevators, mills and warehouses, and 129 million bushels at merchant mills. Also included are 219 million bushels of commercial stocks at terminals, reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, and nearly 4 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, 599 million bushels, is relatively large compared with 518 million a year ago, 398 million two years ago and 502 million bushels on October 1, 1945. Stocks at interior elevators, mills and warehouses are unusually large; those at terminals are the largest in 6 years; merchant mills have about usual reserves.

Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat - Hesitancy in major commodity markets was reflected in relative inactivity of the cash wheat market for the first part of the period, September 22—October 23. With comparatively light marketings and continued demand for both domestic and export uses, prices firmed during the latter part of the period and, for the first time since late July, cash wheat reached the loan level of \$2.29 per bushel on the Chicago market on October 19. The Commodity Credit Corporation was an active buyer throughout the period under review, purchasing 2,527,000 bushels at Minneapolis and 1,653,284 bushels at Chicago during the week ending October 22. Cumulative purchases of wheat in all markets by the C.C.C. from July 1 to October 22 of the current crop year have been 138.1 million bushels.

The settlement of the mill workers' strike in Minneapolis lent support to cash prices which have advanced beyond the loan level of \$2.26 per bushel. Despite adequate interior supplies, receipts at Minneapolis have dropped rather sharply from 3,437 cars in the week ending September 30 to 1,542 cars in the week ending October 21.

Daily Cash Wheat Prices on the Chicago and Minneapolis Markets

1948	Chicago		Minneapolis	
	Grade	Price	Grade	Price
Sept. 22	3 Red Tough	223 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	223 1/8 - 228 1/8
	23 2 Mixed	225	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	222 3/4 - 226 3/4
	24 2 Mixed	225 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	220 3/4 - 225 3/4
	25 None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	218 1/4 - 223 1/4
	27 2 Red Tough	215	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	218 3/4 - 223 3/4
	28 2 Red	226	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	221 1/8 - 226 1/8
	29 2 Red	226	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	220 5/8 - 225 5/8
	30 2 Hard	225 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	220 1/4 - 225 1/4
Oct.	1 2 Yellow Hard	224 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	221 3/8 - 226 3/8
	2 3 Red	224 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	220 7/8 - 225 7/8
	4 2 Hard	224 1/4	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	220 3/4 - 225 3/4
	5 1 Dark Hard	226	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	221 1/2 - 226 1/2
	6 1 Red	227	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	221 7/8 - 226 7/8
	7 3 Red	226	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	223 5/8 - 228 5/8
	8 None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	224 3/8 - 229 3/8
	9 None		1 Heavy Dark Nor.	225 3/8 - 230 3/8
	11 2 Red	226 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	226 - 231
	12 Columbus Day		Columbus Day	
	13 3 Red	224 3/4 - 225	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	225 1/8 - 231 1/8
	14 2 Red	226	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	225 1/2 - 231 1/2
	15 3 Red	226 1/4	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	227 5/8 - 233 5/8
	16 3 Red	227 - 227 1/2	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	227 3/8 - 233 3/8
	18 1 Hard	228 1/4	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	228 5/8 - 234 5/8
	19 2 Red	229	1 Heavy Dark Nor.	229 3/4 - 234 3/4
	20 None		1 Dark Nor.	229 1/2 - 235 1/2
	21 None		1 Dark Nor.	229 1/2 - 235 1/2
	22 3 Red	227 3/4	1 Dark Nor.	230 - 236
	23 None		1 Dark Nor.	230 1/2 - 236 1/2



# Chicago Wheat Futures -

The firmer tone which characterized the cash wheat market was also present in the futures market at Chicago throughout the period September 27—October 25. The upward trend was particularly noticeable in the near-by futures which reached the loan level on October 23. May and July futures also moved upward in sympathy with December futures, but the premium on the latter increased slightly towards the end of the period under review. Among the factors contributing to the more optimistic outlook in wheat futures were fairly heavy domestic demand, large exports making available more storage room for producers wishing to avail themselves of the loan program and a marked decrease in country marketings.

## Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

1948	December	May 1949	July 1949
- cents and eighths per bushel -			
September 27 .....	223/3	215/6	201/2
28 .....	225/5	217/7	202/2
29 .....	224/7	217/2	201/2
30 .....	224/6	217/1	201/4
October 1 .....	224/7	217	200/4
2 .....	224/3	217	200/5
4 .....	224/4	217/4	201/7
5 .....	225	217/5	201/2
6 .....	225	217/5	201/3
7 .....	225/7	219/1	204
8 .....	225/6	219/1	203
9 .....	225/5	219/5	203/6
11 .....	225/2	218/7	203/4
12 .....			
13 .....	224/6	217/7	202
14 .....	225/2	218/1	201/7
15 .....	227/3	220	203/1
16 .....	227	219/1	202/2
18 .....	227/7	219/5	203/3
19 .....	227/2	219/2	202/4
20 .....	227/7	219/1	202/3
21 .....	227/5	218/5	202/2
22 .....	228/4	219/4	202/6
23 .....	229	219/6	203
25 .....	229/7	220/6	204

Columbus

Day



## THE AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Australian Cable - The following cable, dated October 16, was received from the Canadian Trade Commissioner in Melbourne:

"Australian wheat stocks at October 2 totalled 49,813,000 bushels. Exports of wheat from September 5 to October 2 totalled 5,908,000 bushels, principally to the United Kingdom and India, and flour 78,473 long tons of which 28,021 went to the United Kingdom, 25,855 to Ceylon and smaller quantities to Malaya and the Middle East. Much needed and timely rains fell last week in Victoria and south Australia and the Australian wheat yield for the coming season is now expected to reach 160 to 165 million bushels. During October a bill to enact the Government's Wheat Stabilization Plan was introduced in the Federal Parliament. Growers in Victoria, West Australia and New South Wales have already approved the plan and South Australian growers are now voting on it. Main features of the plan are that the Commonwealth would guarantee a price of 6/3d a bushel f.o.r. ports bulk basis, this guarantee to apply to the export from any one season's crop not exceeding 100 million bushels. A Stabilization Fund would be established by means of a tax on wheat exporters, the tax to apply when the export price is higher than the guaranteed price but not to exceed 2/2d a bushel or 50 per cent of the difference between the export and guaranteed prices. The effect of the scheme would be that the States would fix a home consumption price and direct all wheat to a federal marketing authority which would market both domestic and export wheat and pool the returns and pay the grower."

## THE ARGENTINE SITUATION

This review of the wheat situation in the Argentine is extracted from a report forwarded on October 19, 1948 by Mr. W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary (Agriculture) at Buenos Aires and is reproduced herewith by kind permission of the Trade Commissioner Service.

Note: Where possible, conversions of Argentine to Canadian measures have been made by the editors for the convenience of Canadian readers.

Weather and Crops - Widespread rains during the month of September and early October have greatly improved the crop prospects of all grain. Total rainfall throughout most of the provinces of Buenos Aires and Santa Fe varied from two to six inches. In the west of Buenos Aires province and La Pampa, normally dry areas, total rainfall for the month was from one to four inches. The drought continues only in a relatively small area in northern Santa Fe and Cordoba where the wheat crop is considered virtually lost. In the important southern zone in the province of Buenos Aires wheat crop prospects continue to be excellent and in the rest of the province the condition of the crops is considered good. Wheat is heading in the northern zones. In some districts of La Pampa there are reports of damage from "green fly" but the centers of infestation have disappeared in southern Cordoba. In general, the wheat crop is considered healthy.

No official estimate of the acreage planted to wheat has been published but trade circles calculate an increase of about six per cent over last year or about 14,306,000 acres. This may be compared with the ten year average of 16,812,000 acres.

Flour Production - Latest statistics on Argentine flour production show a lower figure for April than for the same month in 1947. Total production, however, for the first four months of 1948 was above that of the corresponding period in 1947.

	April		First Four Months	
	1948	1947	1948	1947
Wheat milled (bushels) ....	8,248,000	8,541,000	33,529,000	32,144,000
Flour (barrels of 196 lb.).	1,811,000	1,856,000	7,382,000	6,985,000
By-products (short tons) ..	60,000	63,000	244,000	235,000

Shipments - Grains continue to move out of Argentine ports slowly ..... Cereals have been accumulating at the ports and it is estimated that in some cases the quantities exceed over a month's shipment. Stocks of grain in port as at September 20th were privately estimated as follows:

	Rosario	La Plata	Necochea	Bahia Blanca
	- bushels -			
Wheat .....	8,084,000	110,000	1,066,000	3,638,000
Corn .....	1,712,000	118,000	-	-
Barley .....	3,031,000	184,000	1,286,000	459,000
Rye .....	2,834,000	157,000	138,000	2,401,000
Oats .....	-	-	4,085,000	2,529,000

Argentine Exports, January to August, 1948

	Wheat	Corn	Oats	Barley	Wheat Flour <sup>1/</sup>
	- thousand bushels -				barrels
United Kingdom .....	1,725	25,935	-	11,665	-
France .....	305	4,099	281	1,382	-
Belgium .....	3,453	4,196	13	519	-
Italy .....	23,933	2,171	176	2,925	34
Netherlands <sup>2/</sup> .....	388	5,839	30	3,276	-
Sweden .....	154	-	-	-	-
Spain .....	11,296	1,526	39	1,234	720
Switzerland .....	5,702	23	3,857	802	-
Rest of Europe .....	1,468	7,886	-	-	56
Brazil .....	8,998	-	555	34	14,082
Other S.A. Republics .	4,474	106	90	-	-
Others .....	3,186	9,598	-	5,423	19,392
8 Months 1948 .....	65,082	61,379	5,041	27,260	34,284
8 Months 1947 .....	55,161	32,067	3,490	7,062	90,040
8 Months 1946 .....	40,346	55,369	13,912	21,988	314,966

<sup>1/</sup> For convenience of Canadian readers export shipments of flour have been converted from metric tons to barrels of 196 pounds.

<sup>2/</sup> Correction: In the September issue of the Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation "Netherlands" should be substituted for "Norway" in the table on page 25.



## CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- October 1 The Canadian Wheat Board announced that, effective September 1, 1948 the refund to flour mills and wheat processors on western wheat and western wheat products sold and delivered for human consumption, was increased from 45 cents per bushel to 46 1/2 cents per bushel.
- Rationing of wheat and wheat flour ended in Denmark and controls on rye and rye flour are expected to be removed in the near future.
- 7 The final estimate of the 1947-48 wheat crop in the Indian Union, according to a report from the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, is 178.2 million bushels compared with 158.2 million in 1946-47.
- 8 The last ship cleared from Churchill for the current navigation season. Shipments from this port in 1948 reached 5,314,000 bushels, establishing a record.
- 9 The monthly agricultural report published by the British Ministry of Agriculture increased the estimate of this year's yield of wheat to 37.1 bushels per acre, compared with a ten-year average of 34.9 bushels and a yield of 28.4 bushels in 1947.
- 11 The October estimate of the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture placed production of all wheat at 1,283.8 million bushels, down 1.2 million from the September estimate.
- 13 The Board of Grain Commissioners announced that maximum lake freight rates for hauling wheat, rye, oats and barley by lake vessel on the all-water route from the head of the lakes to St. Lawrence River ports would be increased 1 1/2 cents per bushel, effective October 14, 1948. At the same time, maximum rates for carrying grain from Fort William-Port Arthur to lower lake ports were increased 1/2 cent per bushel.
- 14 Farmers' marketings of wheat in the Prairie Provinces since August 1, 1948 have amounted to 177.7 million bushels compared with 134.7 million during the corresponding period of 1947.
- 22 Purchases of United States wheat by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the week ending October 22 amounted to 5,455,259 bushels, bringing the total since July 1, 1948 to 138,107,781 bushels.
- 25 The United States Department of Agriculture reported stocks of wheat in all positions as of October 1, 1948 at 1,142,133,000 bushels, compared with 1,128,043,000 on October 1, 1947.
- 28 Stocks of Canadian wheat in store or in transit in North American positions at midnight October 21 totalled 180.4 million bushels, an increase of 36.2 million bushels over stocks on October 23, 1947.



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