



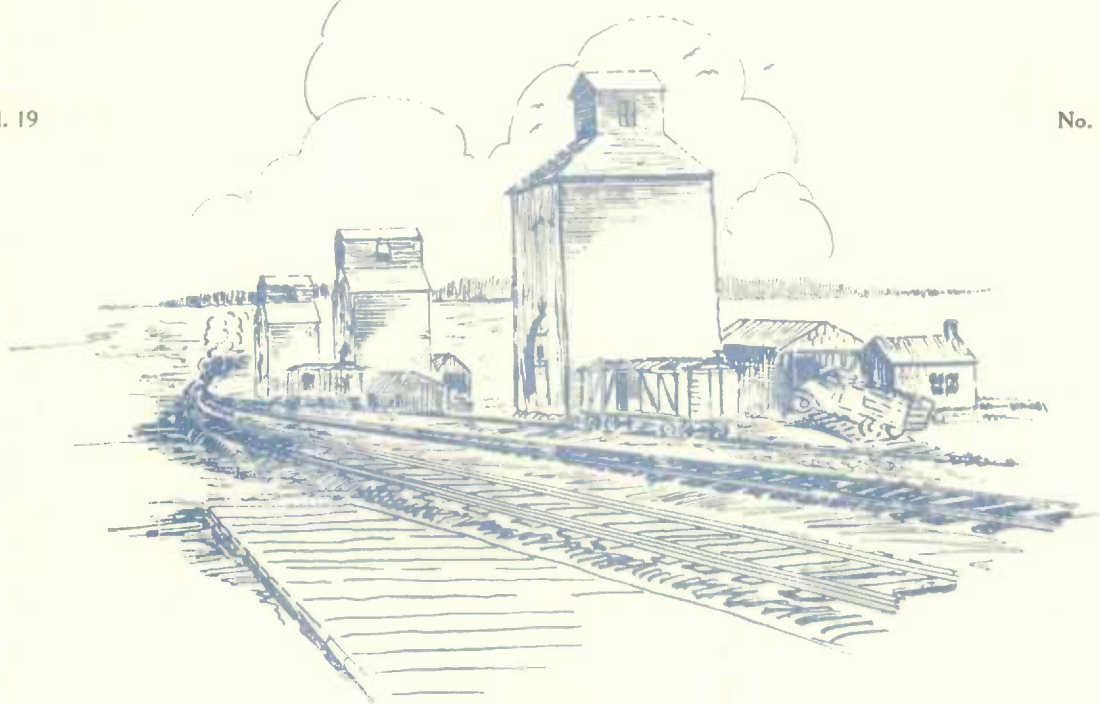
CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

MONTHLY REVIEW OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

Vol. 19

No. 5



DECEMBER, 1948

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

Price \$1 a year

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

The Production Outlook - While substantial wheat supplies are a distinct possibility for 1949, adverse weather in the large producing areas could easily change the outlook. Weather has already taken its toll of the current Argentine wheat harvest where severe November frosts and prolonged drought in some provinces have reduced crop estimates from the 180 million bushel level to around 150 million bushels, down some 100 million from the previous harvest. Satisfactory maturing weather in Australia has favoured the harvest of a crop now estimated at about 190 million bushels—some thirty million below last year's crop but still 20 million above the 1935-39 average. Both Argentine and Australia have moderate carry-overs of old grain but, despite this, it is apparent that the contribution of both these countries to world trade during 1949 is likely to be less than in 1948.

With the bulk of the wheat crops in the Northern Hemisphere not ready for harvest until mid-summer any comments about probable production must be in the nature of very tentative forecasts. In Canada it is considered likely that some increase in spring wheat plantings may occur in the Prairie Provinces. The minimum initial payment to farmers (\$1.55 per bushel) is known and with decreased prices prevailing for flaxseed and rye a significant diversion of acreage from these crops to wheat may be anticipated. Again, western Canada experienced one of the driest autumn seasons on record, and while precipitation and other weather conditions during the growing season are the dominant factors, the shortage of fall moisture and its possible adverse effects on spring seeding and germination cannot be overlooked. A dry spring may encourage sowings of wheat at the expense of coarse grains as that crop can withstand drought to a greater extent than other cereals. However, should serious drought conditions persist throughout the seeding season increased summerfallow acreages would probably curtail any tendency toward a large increase in wheat seedings. Unsatisfactory fall seeding weather has resulted in an estimated decline of 19 per cent or 175,000 acres in the acreage seeded to fall wheat in the province of Ontario.

The largest addition to world wheat supplies in 1949 may again come from the United States. On December 20 the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture reported that the acreage of winter wheat seeded for all purposes is estimated at 61,370,000 acres, more than 5 per cent larger than last year's record 58,161,000 acres. The estimated acreage is one-fourth greater than the ten-year average of 47,684,000 acres. On the basis of December 1 conditions, the 1949 winter wheat crop is forecast at 965 million bushels. Should such a crop be realized and an average United States spring wheat crop also be harvested total 1949 wheat production in the United States would for the third year in succession exceed one and a quarter billion bushels.

While few official estimates are available from wheat importing countries, trade advices from Europe indicate that fall wheat sowings in several countries have exceeded or equalled those of a year ago. Weather has favoured fall seeding and germination, and the outlook in areas reported upon is quite generally optimistic.

World Grain Exports High in 1947-48 - According to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the United States Department of Agriculture world exports of grain and grain products, exclusive of rice, for the year ended June 30, 1948 totalled 34.6 million long tons, nearly all of which was for direct human consumption. This compares with 28.5 million tons exported a year earlier, the 1934-38 average of 28.2 million tons and the all-time record of 40.6 million tons in 1928-29. Approximately 90 per cent of the 1947-48 exports were supplied by four countries--the United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia.

Exportable Supplies for 1948-49 - The December issue of 'The Wheat Situation' published by the United States Department of Agriculture reports that "Exportable wheat supplies for 1948-49 from the four principal exporting countries--United States, Canada, Australia and Argentina--are tentatively estimated at about 880 million bushels, assuming 475 million from the United States and about 240 million bushels from Canada. Other countries, including the Soviet Union, may possibly export another 50 million, making a total for 1948-49 about the same as the 935 million bushels exported in 1947-48, when exports from other countries also totalled about 50 million bushels.

Roughly, it is expected that about two-thirds of such a quantity will go to European countries participating in the European Recovery Program. Exports of this size to these countries, in addition to estimated domestic production, would provide a per capita consumption of wheat approaching prewar levels for the area as a whole, if no allowance is made for rebuilding stocks. However, in addition to a substantial increase in population, these countries have a low level of reserve stocks of all food products, and there is continued need for using food grains as a substitute for other foods in short supply."

New International Wheat Agreement to be Considered - Meeting in Washington on December 3, a preparatory committee consisting of delegates from eleven countries decided to hold a conference in Washington on January 25, 1949, to negotiate a new international wheat agreement. The decision was announced by the United States Department of State following the meeting of representatives from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Egypt, India, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg and Brazil. The proposed wheat agreement would replace one negotiated last March but which was never ratified.

THE CANADIAN SITUATION

Licensed Grain Storage Position - Total licensed grain storage capacity in Canada at 486.2 million bushels on December 1, 1948 had increased by some 4 million bushels from the level of December 1, 1947. Practically all of the difference is accounted for by increased licensed capacity at Fort William-Port Arthur. Changes at other points were mostly of minor importance.

Stocks in store at December 9, 1948 were 196.4 million bushels, or 40.4 per cent of the licensed storage capacity. Last year at December 11, some 177 million bushels were in store, amounting to 36.7 per cent of the capacity at December 1, 1947. Better crops in western Canada in 1948 are reflected in the higher percentage of licensed capacity occupied in most western positions at December 9, 1948 as compared with the situation existing at approximately the same date in 1947. On the other hand, stocks in store at Bay and Lower Lake ports are down substantially from the December 1947 level. Quantities in store at other interior positions and at St. Lawrence and Maritime ports do not differ greatly from last year. As has been the situation for the last two years, low storage stock levels at the end of the crop year, along with quite substantial export programs, have resulted in generally ample storage space being available all across Canada.

Summary - Licensed Grain Storage as at December 1, 1948

Location	Storage Capacity	Grain in Store December 9, 1948	% Capacity Occupied
- million bushels -			
Western Country Elevators	265.2	125.1	47.2
Interior, Private and Mill	20.6	8.6	41.7
Interior, Public and Semi-Public .	20.6	2.1	10.2
Pacific Coast	17.2	6.3	36.6
Fort William-Port Arthur	80.1	25.8	32.2
Bay Ports, Goderich and Sarnia ...	33.2	16.7	50.3
Lower Lake Ports	19.1	7.1	37.2
St. Lawrence Ports	24.9	2.7	10.8
Maritime Ports	5.3	2.0	37.7
T o t a l	486.2	196.4	40.4

Supply Position - Of the 319.6 million bushels of Canadian wheat estimated to be available for export or carry-over in 1948-49, 65.5 million bushels were exported as wheat and wheat flour in the period August 1 to November 30. Although wheat exports in the first four months of the current crop year are 6 million bushels greater than in the comparable period of 1947-48, exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat are down by 7 million bushels, causing an over-all decrease of one million bushels from last year's four-month total exports. The balance remaining on December 1, 1948 for export or carry-over was 254.1 million bushels, 50.7 million greater than on the same date last year.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

	1948-49	1947-48
- million bushels -		
Carry-over in North America July 31	76.0 ^{1/}	87.4
New Crop	393.3 ^{2/}	336.8 ^{3/}
Imports of wheat and wheat flour, Aug. 1—Oct. 30	0.3	-
Total Supply	469.6	424.2
Estimated domestic requirements	150.0	154.3 ^{3/}
Available for export or carry-over	319.6	269.9
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain Aug. 1—Nov. 30 ...	46.8	40.7
United States imports of Canadian wheat Aug. 1—Nov. 30 .	^{4/}	0.1
Total wheat exports	46.8	40.8
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat Aug.1—Nov.30 ..	18.7	25.7 ^{5/}
Total exports wheat and wheat flour	65.5	66.5
Balance on December 1 for export or carry-over	254.1	203.4

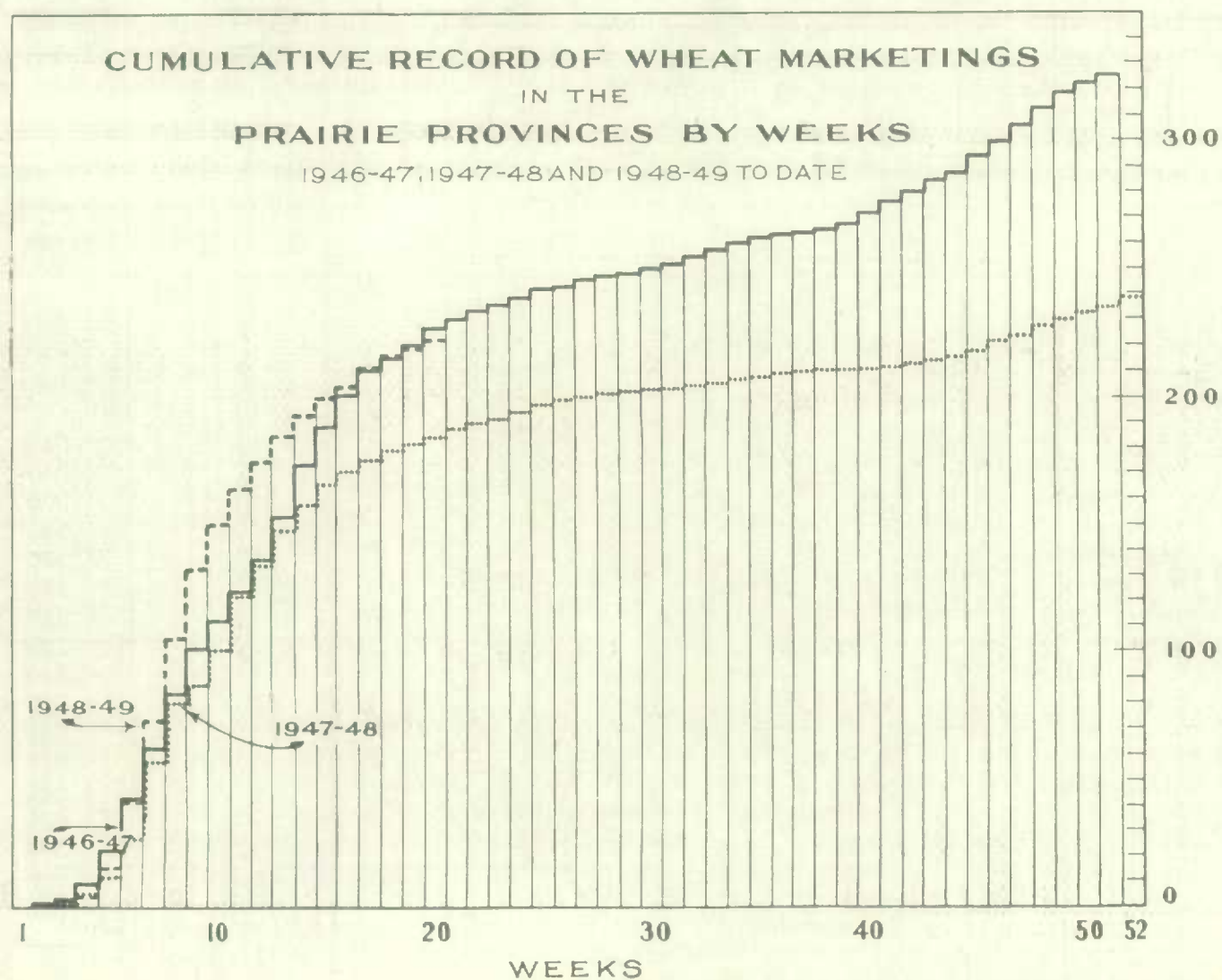
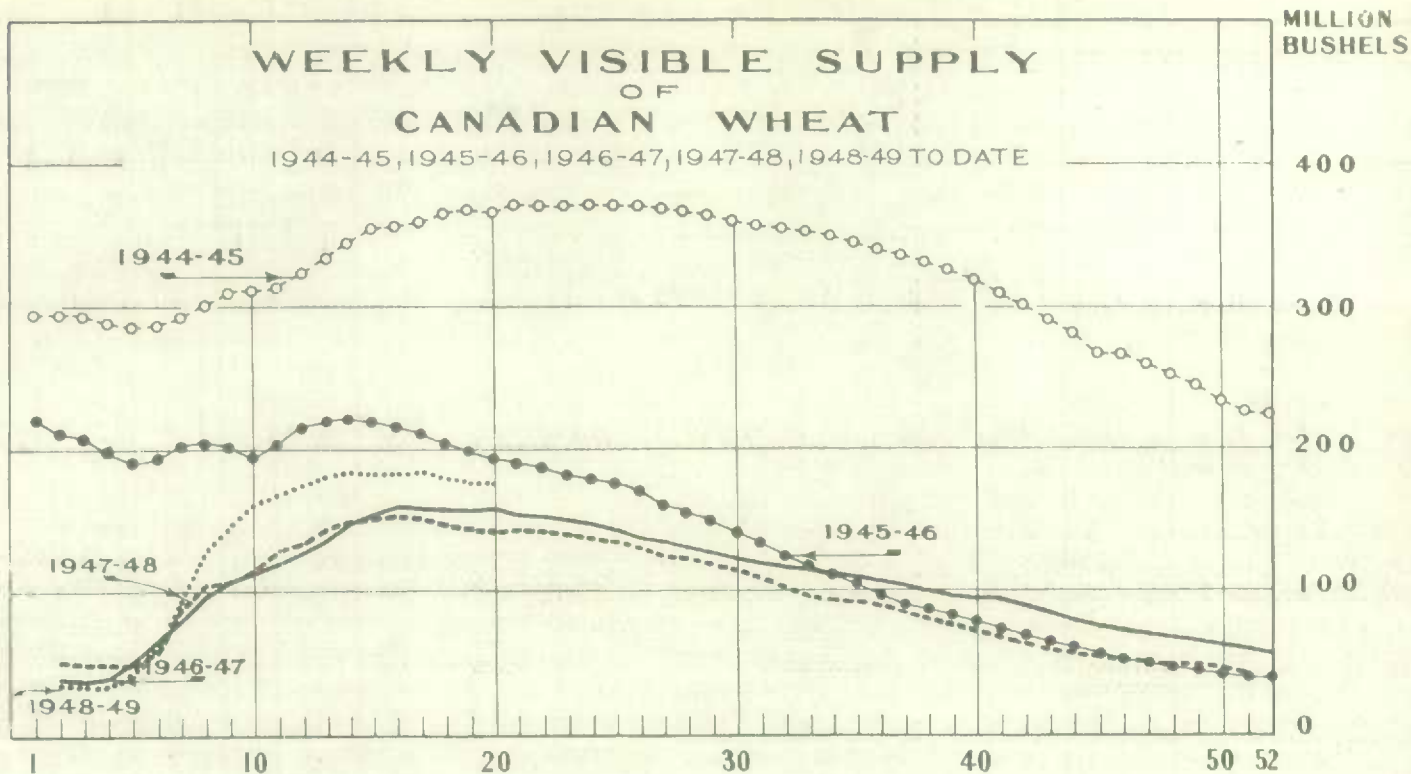
^{1/} Subject to revision. ^{2/} November estimate of production. ^{3/} Revised estimate, basis preliminary disposition data. ^{4/} U.S. imports August to October amount to 5,134 bushels. November 1948 data not yet available. ^{5/} Adjusted for time-lag.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, December 9, 1948 Compared With
Approximately the Same Date, 1947 and 1946

	1948	1947	1946
- 000 bushels -			
Country Elevators - Manitoba	9,711	5,398	5,825
Saskatchewan	52,341	37,236	40,490
Alberta	42,451	35,232	38,365
T o t a l	104,503	77,866	84,680
Interior Private and Mill Elevators	4,851	4,201	3,134
Interior Public & Semi-Public Terminals	145	110	354
Pacific Ports	5,904	4,373	8,449
Churchill	101	110	43
Fort William and Port Arthur	8,579	3,703	7,174
In Transit Rail (Western Division)	9,479	7,932	7,215
Eastern Elevators - Lake Ports	15,039	15,938	21,127
St. Lawrence and Seaboard Ports	3,312	2,089	2,389
In Transit - Lake	14,754	11,909	16,290
In Transit - Rail (Eastern Division)	2,584	1,579	2,374
United States Ports	5,888	13,507	5,138
In Transit - U.S.A.	1,869	1,203	40
T o t a l	177,008	144,520	158,407

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
21	610,668	4,493,233	4,158,751	9,262,652	13,270,109
28	503,263	4,069,166	3,294,105	7,866,534	9,793,740
November 4	650,593	3,397,120	2,580,479	6,628,192	7,964,001
11	301,508	3,105,262	1,567,409	4,974,179	5,103,341
18	440,480	2,639,126	1,719,238	4,798,844	4,695,817
25	305,274	2,468,702	1,639,182	4,413,158	3,681,241
December 2	213,292	2,048,423	1,273,179	3,534,894	2,911,051
9	311,094	2,059,856	1,068,560	3,439,510	2,752,374
T o t a l	32,351,537	123,975,305	66,263,469	222,590,311	184,889,550



Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-November 1948 and 1947

	Inspections			
	August-November 1948		August-November 1947	
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent
1 Northern	20,499	29.5	4,358	6.6
2 Northern	29,504	42.6	23,730	35.9
3 Northern	5,387	7.8	14,348	21.7
4 Northern	820	1.2	2,510	3.8
Garnet	436	0.6	133	0.2
Amber Durum	5,342	7.7	3,291	5.0
Alberta Winter	791	1.1	531	0.8
Toughs - All varieties and grades	4,726	6.8	13,493	20.4
All Others	1,879	2.7	3,726	5.6
T o t a l	69,384	100.0	66,120	100.0

The proportion of inspected wheat in the various grades for the first four months of the 1947-48 crop year shows little difference from that established during the August-October period and is indicative of the continuation of wheat deliveries of high grade during November. In the period August 1 to November 30, 1948, 72.1 per cent of the 69,384 cars inspected by the Board of Grain Commissioners graded No. 1 and No. 2 Northern, compared with only 42.5 per cent in the same period of 1947-48. The proportion of wheat grading tough during the first four months of 1948-49 was 6.8 per cent, only one-third as much as during the comparable period last year. Inspections for both crop years include a relatively small amount of old-crop wheat.

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain, Season of Navigation 1948

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
	- bushels -					
1939	209,455,707	18,535,466	18,434,157	478,392	4,660,226	251,563,948
1940	174,690,569	16,825,516	10,021,225	3,609,169	1,239,225	206,385,704
1941	232,974,065	9,045,970	11,574,432	6,092,242	2,336,713	262,023,422
1942	178,511,465	17,041,947	10,509,652	1,029,646	4,039,697	211,132,407
1943	246,159,212	39,406,385	44,034,116	5,439,160	8,875,758	343,914,631
1944	304,249,000	80,010,547	56,343,559	8,156,022	7,205,054	455,964,182
1945	344,406,436	84,927,712	45,186,570	4,827,679	4,384,070	483,732,467
1946	147,431,373	56,006,383	30,777,084	3,770,656	2,184,421	240,169,917
1947	167,333,848	46,859,717	29,827,375	9,908,684	2,465,342	256,394,966
1948 1/ ...	133,487,091	37,549,209	33,664,024	6,808,372	8,353,188	219,861,884

1/ Subject to revision.

With the last ship for the 1948 navigation season clearing from the Lake-head on December 13, this year's lake shipments of Canadian grain amounted to 219.9 million bushels, 36.5 million bushels less than in 1947 and the third smallest in the past ten years. The comparatively small 1947 western grain crop accounted for the light shipments prior to the availability of new-crop grain. Shipments during the last few weeks of the navigation season were relatively heavy, with movement of 7,088,000 bushels reported to have been made on November 30, prior to the raising of lake insurance rates on December 1. With the closing of navigation on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence, the eastward export movement of grain from western Canada will now have to take place via rail to Maritime Ports.

Wheat Shipments to the United States, by Destination, August 1—December 9, 1948
Compared with Approximately the Same Period, 1947 and 1946

	1948	1947	1946
	- bushels -		
By Vessel			
Buffalo	7,161,915	14,266,961	8,442,772
Oswego	737,500	-	-
Erie	1,575,567	1,155,260	2,948,382
Toledo	325,053	-	-
Total - Vessel Shipments ...	9,800,035	15,422,221	11,391,154
By Rail			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	-	-	217,463
Other U.S.A. Points	-	57,809	3,210
Total - Rail Shipments	-	57,809	220,673
GRAND TOTAL	9,800,035	15,480,030	11,611,827

Shipments of Canadian wheat to United States destinations from August 1 to December 9, 1948 amounted to 9.8 million bushels as against 15.5 million in 1947 and 11.6 million in 1946. Most of this crop year's shipments have taken place in recent weeks, 7.9 million bushels having been shipped in the eight-week period ending December 9. All shipments during the period of the current crop year have been made by vessel, with Buffalo receiving 73 per cent of the total. Shipments to Oswego and Erie remain unchanged since the week ending November 18, 1948.

Rail Movement of Wheat to Maritime Ports from Bay and Lake Ports

	August 1, 1948 to December 9, 1948	August 1, 1947 to December 11, 1947
	- bushels -	
Collingwood	405,459	71,859
Midland	1,359,483	1,673,314
Owen Sound	65,440	203,758
Port McNicoll	2,472,107	1,330,234
Goderich	56,839	233,514
Sarnia	-	89,712
Port Colborne	27,426	339,496
Prescott	11,066	-
Montreal	-	1,549
T o t a l	4,397,820	3,943,436

After a period of inactivity during the first three and one-half months of the current crop year, rail movements of wheat to Maritime ports from lake and bay ports amounted to 4.4 million bushels in the three-week period ending December 9, 1948, somewhat higher than for the period August 1-December 11, 1947. Over half of this year's shipments have originated at Port McNicoll, with Midland and Collingwood shipping the next largest amounts of wheat destined for ports in the Maritimes.

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 November 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	46,274	131,290	255,754	73,776
November	138,600	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, November 1948

	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	Manitoba
- bushels -					
4 Northern	-	-	-	-	2
Tough 3 Northern	-	-	-	-	2
No. 5	11,334	12,417	3,400	-	-
No. 6	3,400	13,468	1,133	-	-
Tough No. 5	12,167	19,267	-	1,133	-
Tough No. 6	1,133	6,967	-	-	-
Tf. Rej. No. 5 Mxd. Htd.	13,700	15,733	-	-	-
Tf. Smutty Rej. No. 5 M.H. ..	1,133	-	-	-	-
Rej. Feed Mxd. Htd.	-	2,266	-	-	-
Tf. Rej. Feed Mxd. Htd.	-	5,666	-	-	-
Tf. Sample Htd.	1,083	-	-	1,134	-
Sample Htd.	-	2,266	-	-	-
3 Alberta Winter	-	-	-	-	2
S. Red Spring Broken	67	-	-	-	-
2 C.W. Soft White Spring	3,723	-	-	-	-
1 C.W.A.D.	4,500	-	-	-	-
2 C.W.A.D.	-	-	-	-	2
3 C.W.A.D.	-	1,500	-	-	2
T o t a l	52,240	79,550	4,533	2,267	10

GRAND TOTAL 138,600

Freight Assistance Shipments - Preliminary claims filed for payment indicate that wheat shipments from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance plan were down considerably during the first quarter of the current crop year. The present total of 2.6 million bushels shipped during August-October of 1948 is only 35 per cent of last year's shipments but this proportion will be increased as additional claims are filed. Some indication of the effect of late claims may be obtained by comparing the August and September totals as they now appear with claims filed for these two months to October 31. On that date claims for payment of freight assistance on wheat shipments during August and September totalled 835,470 and 551,441 bushels respectively. By November 30 additional claims had been filed to bring these totals to 1,098,004 and 926,799 bushels. Ontario and Quebec continue to receive the bulk of freight-assisted wheat shipments, 75 per cent of the total going to these two provinces during the period August-October, 1948

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	390,612	377,340	30,630	37,560	11,985	249,877	1,098,004
September	391,582	297,917	30,387	35,353	15,587	155,973	926,799
October	281,561	192,898	10,922	24,512	5,890	23,180	538,963
Total	1,063,755	868,155	71,939	97,425	33,462	429,030	2,563,766
Same period							
1947-48	3,141,094	2,464,486	236,736	255,063	80,083	1,083,372	7,260,834

Although freight-assisted millfeed shipments during the first three months were also down from the comparable period last year, the decline has not been as marked as in wheat shipments. According to preliminary claims filed for payment to November 30, shipments during August-October 1948 amounted to 130,788 tons, 60 per cent of the total shipped in the same period last year. The filing of late claims will increase the 1948 total over that appearing in the table below.

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

	August 1 to October 31, 1948	August 1 to October 31, 1947
- tons -		
Ontario	40,872	76,938
Quebec	60,871	87,446
New Brunswick	9,418	15,171
Nova Scotia	8,660	14,420
Prince Edward Island	2,251	3,408
British Columbia	8,716	19,959
Total	130,788	217,342

Monthly Export Clearances, Etc., in Comparison with the Customs Exports
of Wheat and Wheat Flour

	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat	U.S. Imports ^{1/} of Canadian Wheat for Consumption and Milling in Bond	Customs ^{2/} Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs ^{3/} 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 ^{4/}</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	-	3,224	16,173	17,129
T o t a l	133,372	133	61,477	194,982	199,475
<u>1948-49 ^{4/}</u>					
August	9,111	1	4,244	13,356	13,829
September	10,555	3	3,657	14,215	11,942
October	11,566	1	5,851	17,418	21,913
November	15,604	^{5/}	4,989	20,593	20,792
T o t a l	46,836	5	18,741	65,582	68,476

^{1/} U.S.A. official figures.

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

^{3/} Unadjusted, as published by External Trade Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

^{4/} Subject to revision.

^{5/} U.S.A. imports for November not available.

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

	October		November		August-November	
	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>
BRITISH EMPIRE	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
United Kingdom	1,869,161	9,316,651	2,194,213	12,136,406	8,487,045	38,210,205
Eire	-	-	22	892,400	22	892,400
<u>Africa</u>						
Br. E. Africa	1,381	-	1,377	-	4,135	-
Br. S. Africa	54,833	-	118,881	93,400	226,994	909,329
<u>Br. W. Africa</u>						
Gold Coast	28,489	-	14,832	-	83,511	-
Nigeria	1,431	-	-	-	1,431	-
Sierra Leone	12,564	-	11,524	-	34,357	-
Other Br.W.Africa.	-	-	-	-	2,065	-
<u>Asia</u>						
Aden	32,153	-	-	-	32,153	-
Hong Kong	151,380	-	93,262	-	380,529	-
India	-	-	-	619,733	189	619,733
Palestine	115,663	-	86,913	-	202,576	-
<u>Europe</u>						
Malta	-	304,946	-	-	-	593,189
<u>North America</u>						
Bahamas	25,943	-	11,741	-	90,644	-
Barbados	43,722	-	40,784	-	185,571	-
Jamaica	90,391	2,678	67,914	1,018	431,649	8,312
Trinidad-Tobago ..	330,381	-	295,956	-	938,700	-
Leeward-Windward Is.	98,874	-	68,774	-	306,905	-
Bermuda	11,574	-	7,925	-	34,038	-
Br. Honduras	3,398	-	5,612	-	19,148	-
Newfoundland	190,935	-	179,293	-	686,070	-
<u>South America</u>						
Br. Guiana	68,445	-	94,973	-	325,121	-
TOTAL BRITISH EMPIRE	3,130,718	9,624,275	3,293,996	13,742,957	12,472,853	41,233,168
FOREIGN COUNTRIES						
<u>Africa</u>						
Belgian Congo	14,049	-	1,737	-	26,892	-
Canary Is.	1,377	-	-	-	1,377	-
Egypt	172,638	884,681	25,700	-	198,338	1,184,148
French Africa	-	-	-	-	18,288	-
Liberia	229	-	1,494	-	3,789	-
Morocco	19,516	-	2,066	-	54,639	-
Portuguese Africa.	1,881	-	1,035	-	2,916	-
Spanish Africa ...	-	-	-	-	3,672	-
<u>Asia</u>						
China	24,661	-	2,511	-	33,476	-
Japan	-	-	274	-	274	-
Lebanon	-	-	-	74,667	-	74,667
Philippine Is. ...	384,489	-	412,461	-	1,039,149	-
Portuguese Asia ..	1,377	-	19,561	-	20,938	-
Siam	1,836	-	5,967	-	7,803	-
Syria	158,841	-	595,400	-	975,308	-

Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour - concluded

	October		November		August-November	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/
FOREIGN COUNTRIES	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
<u>Europe</u>						
Belgium	-	-	6,430	45,805	6,430	45,805
Denmark	1,530	-	-	-	1,530	-
Germany	17,676	-	-	-	70,659	-
Greece	1,845	-	13,770	-	17,455	-
Iceland	49,230	-	-	-	78,417	-
Italy	1,398,173	757,874	245,250	110,460	2,138,261	2,369,118
Netherlands	1,377	-	3,029	361,066	27,675	361,066
Norway	-	-	-	957,830	-	957,830
Portugal	24,821	-	3,672	-	61,510	-
Switzerland	7,664	298,667	-	301,333	48,632	600,000
<u>North America</u>						
Costa Rica	8,833	-	14,688	-	23,521	-
Cuba	37,763	-	12,852	-	82,894	-
French West Indies.	-	-	1,444	-	1,444	-
Guatemala	16,641	-	11,196	-	57,380	-
Haiti	11,363	-	18,239	-	33,962	-
Hawaii	3,420	-	1,836	-	5,256	-
Honduras	2,754	-	-	-	3,672	-
Nether. W. Indies .	11,160	-	7,151	-	45,729	-
Nicaragua	1,148	-	2,304	-	5,252	-
Panama	7,915	-	2,867	-	11,862	-
Salvador	5,401	-	1,732	10,000	12,042	10,000
San Domingo	16,857	-	3,951	-	55,737	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon	-	-	3,582	-	8,388	-
<u>Oceania</u>						
Guam	-	-	4,545	-	4,545	-
<u>United States</u>						
For human consumption	1,836	550	103	3/	1,939	4,972 1/2
Unfit for human consumption	-	37	-	3/	-	162 1/2
Alaska	135	166	1,327	-	1,462	166
Virgin Islands	54	-	-	-	162	-
<u>South America</u>						
Brazil	6,340	-	36,558	-	166,599	-
Colombia	-	-	1,030	-	13,275	-
Ecuador	5,049	-	7,461	-	19,512	-
French Guiana	-	-	-	-	8,388	-
Netherlands Guiana.	3,267	-	12,506	-	21,434	-
Venezuela	296,973	-	208,966	-	801,414	-
<u>TOTAL FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
	2,720,119	1,941,975	1,694,695	1,861,161	6,223,297	5,607,934
<u>GRAND TOTAL EXPORTED.</u>						
	5,850,837	11,566,250	4,988,691	15,604,118	18,696,150	46,841,102

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

2/ Subject to revision.

3/ United States imports for November not available.

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

Current Wheat Prices - Prices of Canadian wheat for domestic use and for export to the United Kingdom remain unchanged at \$2.05 per bushel, basis No. 1 Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver. This price includes carrying charges of 5 cents per bushel for both classes. After advancing to \$2.47 per bushel on November 22, within one cent of the high for the current crop year established on August 14, the price of Class II 'Commercial' (wheat for export to countries other than the United Kingdom) had fallen to \$2.40 per bushel on December 11. As a result of the reduction in price during the week ending December 11, the weekly average price dropped to \$2.43 7/8, the same as that of the first week under review in the table below.

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 -			
	Nov. 20	Nov. 27	Dec. 4	Dec. 11
	- cents and eighths per bushel -			
(1) Class I Domestic				
(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	205	205	205	205
1 Northern	205	205	205	205
2 Northern	202	202	202	202
3 Northern	200	200	200	200
(B) Commercial				
1 Hard	243/7	245/3	245/7	243/7
1 Northern	243/7	245/3	245/7	243/7
2 Northern	240/7	242/3	242/7	240/7
3 Northern	238/7	240/3	240/7	238/7
1 C. W. Amber Durum	243/7	245/3	245/7	243/7
2 C. W. Amber Durum	240/7	242/3	242/7	240/7
3 C. W. Amber Durum	238/7	240/3	240/7	238/7

Flour Milling Situation -

Production of flour by Canadian mills for the month of November amounted to 1,936,427 barrels, only slightly below the October output. Mills reporting operations for the month had a total rated capacity of 98,215 barrels per 24-hour day and, on the basis of a 26-day working period, 75.8 per cent of the rated capacity was effective. During the first four months of the current crop year production of flour totalled 7,689,802 barrels compared with 9,561,354 barrels in the same period of 1947-48.

Exports of flour for November and the August-November period are also down from the corresponding periods in 1947-48. In the first four months of 1948-49 flour exports amounted to 4,164,627 barrels, a decrease of 27 per cent from the total exported during the same interval of 1947-48.

Production and Exports 1/ 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 ^{2/}
1946-47	28,588,456	16,896,233 ^{2/}
1947-48	24,243,711 ^{3/}	13,661,573 ^{2/}
<u>1948-49</u>		
August	1,619,752	943,152
September	2,174,417	812,591
October	1,959,206	1,300,286
November	1,936,427	1,108,598
Total - 4 Months	7,689,802	4,164,627
Same Period 1947-48	9,561,354	5,713,227

1/ Based on Customs returns.

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

3/ Subject to revision.

THE UNITED STATES SITUATION

Outlook for Winter Wheat - The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture issued on December 20 the following release on acreage, condition and possible production of the new winter wheat crop as at December 1, 1948:

"Acreage of winter wheat seeded for all purposes is estimated at 61,370,000 acres, more than 5 per cent larger than last year's record 58,161,000 acres. The estimated acreage is one-fourth greater than the 10-year average of 47,684,000 acres. On the basis of December 1 conditions, the 1949 winter wheat crop is forecast at 965 million bushels.

In Oklahoma, dryness in southern and southwestern parts of the State was only partly relieved by general rains in late November. Seedings were delayed, particularly in those areas, and the condition of the crop is very spotted. The best condition is reported in the northern third of the State. In western Kansas, wheat was seeded under generally favourable soil moisture conditions, and early planted fields came up to good stand. Somewhat dry conditions throughout central and western Kansas, were broken in late October and early November when general rains fell over all but northwestern counties. Heavy snowfall the middle of November brought additional moisture to the western half of Kansas. The Nebraska acreage is slightly above a year ago, despite abnormally dry weather in September and October and above normal precipitation in November. The condition of wheat in Texas is relatively poor in all crop reporting districts except the northern pan-handle. Unfavourable conditions in Texas were continuing even to December 1 and some small grain acreage has been reported lost because of high winds and sand storms. Stands in Colorado are surprisingly good considering the small amount of surface moisture. September and October rainfall in Montana was the lowest in 54 years and much of the wheat was seeded in dry soil. However, November rainfall and early December snows have brought relief.

In the North Atlantic, South Central, and some of the North Central States planting was delayed, and in some cases restricted, by dry soil. Excessive rainfall in early October interfered with planting to some extent in Virginia and Indiana, but rapid progress was made during the balance of the month. Good seeding weather held out in those States until November 1, permitting the seeding of an acreage equal to that of last year. In Minnesota and South Dakota the acreage of winter wheat has been decreasing in recent years. This year's seedings were further reduced by dry weather, the heavy winter-kill experienced last year, and a gradual retraction of wheat acreage to the better adapted soils. In Michigan, the seeded acreage is 8 per cent below the unusually large acreage sown in the fall of 1947.

Winter wheat production in 1949 of 964,808,000 bushels is forecast on the basis of reported condition of the crop on December 1 this year, an appraisal of soil moisture conditions to date, and other factors affecting yields. This is 3 per cent less than the 990,098,000 bushels produced in 1948, 10 per cent below the record 1947 crop of 1,068,048,000 bushels, but exceeds the 10-year average of 688,606,000 bushels by 40 per cent. In the present forecast of production, only normal weather has been assumed for the rest of the crop season. Reported condition as of December 1 at 82 per cent compares with 76 per cent a year earlier, 93 per cent on December 1, 1946, and the 1937-46 average of 78 per cent.

The indicated yield is 15.7 bushels per seeded acre. This is about a bushel better than the 1937-46 average, but is the lowest since the 1943 crop. Last year the average yield was 17.0 bushels and the 10-year average was 14.6

bushels. Good yields are in prospect in most States, but insufficient moisture, resulting in poor germination and poor stands, indicates low yields and possible heavy abandonment in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, New Mexico, South Dakota, and Montana. On the other hand, excellent prospects prevail in the Pacific Northwest and in the East North Central States.

The acreage that will not be harvested for grain, because of abandonment and diversion to other uses, such as hay and winter cover, is estimated at 9.5 per cent of the planted acreage compared with 9.1 per cent not harvested for grain in 1948, and the 10-year average of 12.4 per cent. The average for the 5-year period 1942-46 was 8.8 per cent."

Supply Situation - According to the Production and Marketing Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture, disappearance of wheat July through November for milling and export amounted to about 442 million bushels, exceeding by a small margin the disappearance in the same period last season. Supplies remaining on November 1 for milling, export or carry-over totalled 831 million bushels compared with 736 million bushels a year ago and the 1942-46 November 1 average of 666 millions.

United States Wheat Supplies

	1942-46 Average	1947-48	1948-49 Preliminary
- million bushels -			
Carry-over stocks, July 1	389.1	83.8	195.7
New crop	1,026.9	1,364.9	1,288.4 ^{1/}
Total domestic supplies	1,416.0	1,448.7	1,484.1
Estimated Quantity for feed and seed ^{2/}	452.0	278.9	211.0
Quantity remaining for milling, export or carry-over	964.0	1,169.8	1,273.1
Disappearance, July 1 to November 30			
Wheat milled for flour	256.5	293.8	280.3
Exports of wheat as grain ^{3/}	41.9	139.8	161.9
Total exported or milled	298.4	433.6	442.2
Balance on December 1 for milling, export or carry-over	665.6	736.2	830.9

^{1/} December estimate.

^{2/} Includes an estimate for breakfast foods which is not included in the quantity of wheat milled for flour. In the 1942-46 average 53 million bushels of wheat used for industrial alcohol are also included. Use of wheat for alcohol in 1947-48 and this season to date was unimportant.

^{3/} In addition to grain exports, flour was exported in the equivalent of 65.5 million bushels during July-November this season compared with 76.4 million the same months last season and 27.5 million the 1942-46 average.

Flour Milling Production - Wheat flour production in October was estimated at 24.2 million sacks, by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. This was 3 per cent higher than production in the previous month (23.4 million sacks), but 8 per cent below that of October 1947 (26.3 sacks). During the first 10 months of 1948, over 231 million sacks of flour were produced, a decrease of 9 per cent from the 255 million sacks produced in the corresponding months of 1947. Production for October was at the rate of 84.2 per cent of capacity.

Exports to Reach High Level During Current Crop Year - According to calculations published in the September-November issue of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics' publication 'The Wheat Situation' total exports (of wheat and flour equivalent) may be between 450 million and 500 million bushels—leaving a carry-over at June 30, 1949 of 275-325 million, well above the 1932-41 average of 235 million bushels. By way of comparison United States' exports of wheat and flour in terms of grain, reached a record total of 480 million bushels during the 1947-48 crop year with a carry-over at July 1, 1948 of 196 million bushels.

Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat - The spot market at Chicago has been quiet during the period under review with the CCC the principal buyers. Mill buying has been light. At Minneapolis, prices eased downward after the first week in December. Mills reported slow flour trade and were buying cash wheat sparingly, limiting their takings largely to the higher protein lots.

Daily Cash Wheat Prices on the Chicago and Minneapolis Markets

1948	Chicago		Minneapolis	
	Grade	Price	Grade	Price
November 27	None		1 Dark Nor.	234 5/8 - 238 5/8
29	2 Red	239 1/2	1 Dark Nor.	233 - 237
30	None		1 Dark Nor.	231 5/8 - 233 5/8
December 1	None		1 Dark Nor.	232 - 234
2	3 Red	240	1 Dark Nor.	231 3/4 - 233 3/4
3	None		1 Dark Nor.	232 3/8 - 234 3/8
4	S.R. Tough	192	1 Dark Nor.	233 1/8 - 235 1/8
6	3 Hard	242	1 Dark Nor.	234 5/8 - 236 5/8
7	2 Mixed	235 1/2	1 Dark Nor.	232 1/4 - 234 1/4
8	2 Hard	240 3/4	1 Dark Nor.	232 7/8 - 234 7/8
9	None		1 Dark Nor.	231 - 234
10	None		1 Dark Nor.	230 1/8 - 232 1/8
11	2 Hard	238	1 Dark Nor.	228 3/8 - 230 3/8
13	2 Hard	236	1 Dark Nor.	228 - 229
14	3 Red	236	1 Dark Nor.	227 3/8 - 228 3/8
15	2 Hard	237	1 Dark Nor.	232 3/4 - 236 3/4
16	None		1 Dark Nor.	225 7/8 - 227 7/8
17	2 Hard	233 1/2	1 Dark Nor.	226 3/8 - 228 3/8
18	None		1 Dark Nor.	226 7/8 - 228 7/8
20	3 Red	233 - 232 1/2	1 Dark Nor.	226 3/8 - 227 3/8
21	None		1 Dark Nor.	227 1/2 - 229 1/2
22	None		1 Dark Nor.	227 5/8 - 228 5/8
23	4 Red	233	1 Dark Nor.	228 5/8 - 229 5/8

Chicago Wheat Futures -

The wheat futures market remained generally firm throughout the weeks under review, with prices during the latter part of the period being influenced by December evening up and larger government purchases for export. The final crop report for the year made little change in the 1948 wheat production estimate and apparently was not a factor in the market. The official report on the new winter wheat crop would ordinarily be construed as bearish but it likewise appeared to have little effect on the futures market.

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

1948	December	May 1949	July 1949	Sept. 1949
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
November 29	240/3	230/4	212/7	211/4
30	239/5	229/5	211/4	210/2
December 1	240/1	231/1	212/6	211/2
2	240/6	231/2	212/1	210/7
3	242/1	232/3	213/3	212
4	242/3	232/4	214/3	212/7
6	242/1	232	214/4	213/2
7	240/5	230/5	213/4	212
8	240/6	231	214/7	213/4
9	239/5	230/4	213/4	212/3
10	239/2	230/2	212/2	211
11	236/2	227/4	209	207/4
13	237/1	228	209/5	208/2
14	238/5	228/3	209	208/4
15	237/6	227/6	208/4	207/7
16	236/4	225/6	207/1	207
17	236/6	225/7	207	207/4
18	235/7	224/7	205/4	206
20	236/6	225/4	206/4	206/6
21	238/7	227/3	208/3	208/2
22	243/4	227/1	208	207/7
23		228/2	210	209/7
24		228	210/6	210/5
25	Christmas Day			
27		227/5	210/7	210/6
28		228/4	210/4	210

THE ARGENTINE SITUATION

The following review of the wheat situation in the Argentine is extracted from a report forwarded on December 18, 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 - The grain crops in the west and centre of the Province of Buenos Aires suffered the heaviest damage from the frosts on November 11-12. In this area, losses to grains are up to virtually 100 per cent. Fields up to that date had made excellent growth and crop prospects were very good, but now many farmers have turned cattle into the wheat fields while others are burning them and some are ploughing the fields with the intention of sowing sunflower. Throughout this area one can see fields of wheat which have the appearance of a good crop but, on examining the heads, there is no grain. Other fields which were a little more mature at the time of the frost show wrinkled kernels which are extremely light; many of them cannot be harvested. Since the mid-November frost which extended throughout all grain zones with varying intensity, the temperature has been high - over 100°F. in Santa Fe - with scattered rainfall in some areas. In the north of the provinces of Santa Fe and Cordoba, the drought continues; grain crops in this area are a failure and pastures are in extremely poor condition with reported losses of live stock. Further south in these provinces conditions improve, and, except for the damage caused by the frost, are generally satisfactory throughout the Province of Buenos Aires. The corn crop is recovering satisfactorily from the setback after the frost, which inflicted damage of varying intensity throughout the principal zone. The greatest damage was in the centre and west of Buenos Aires Province where up to 40 per cent of the sowings are considered lost. For the most part, there was very little harm to sunflower. The same adverse climatic conditions have affected the current linseed crop and for this reason the prospects which were formerly satisfactory have deteriorated appreciably. Harvesting has commenced in the northern zone with low yields being reported. Argentina will have one of the poorest linseed crops ever recorded; production is not expected to reach 20,000,000 bushels.

Crop prospects for oats, barley and rye are also considerably below normal and, with the exception of oats, the exportable surpluses will be materially reduced. The oat crop has not suffered from frost damage as most of the acreage is in the southwest of the Province of Buenos Aires which was affected to a lesser extent than the rest of the Province.

1948-49 Wheat Crop - The harvesting of wheat is well advanced in the northern grain zone with considerable variations in yield reflecting moisture conditions throughout the growing season. In the north of Santa Fe and Cordoba where there has been no rain for months, the wheat crop is considered lost. In the central and southern areas of these provinces, yields vary from 7.4 to 19.3 bushels per acre although in the west of Cordoba yields as low as 4.5 bushels are reported. In the southern sector yields are better, ranging from 19.3 to 23.8 bushels per acre.

In centre and western Buenos Aires, harvesting has commenced on those fields which escaped severe frost damage but yields are low and the grain of poor quality. Abandonments in this area will be up to 50 per cent. Grain crops in the southwest and south of the Province of Buenos Aires suffered less from frost than farther north. A strip of about 40 miles along the coast from Bahia

Blanca through Tres Arroyos to Necochea has suffered comparatively slight damage from frost; this zone was headed for a bumper crop and while the yields will be reduced by the frost and latterly by lack of rain, crop prospects are still good. Harvesting in this area is later than in the north and only a few fields of wheat have been gathered. Yields in the Bahia Blanca district are up to 29.7 bushels per acre; the average for this zone is expected to be between 19.3 and 23.8 bushels per acre. Over 50 per cent of the Argentine crop this year will come from this zone.

Total Argentine wheat production for the season 1948-49 is privately estimated at from 140 to 165 million bushels as against 242.5 million last year and the five-year average of 198.4 million bushels. Some calculate that about 147 million bushels is the nearest figure and if conditions continue favourable in the southwest, the total would be slightly higher. The carry-over of old wheat at December 1st is privately estimated at about 37 million bushels. After allowing for domestic requirements, seed and shrinkage, the exportable surplus is calculated at about 44 to 55 million bushels.

New Price for Wheat - The National Economic Council announced in November that the price at which IAPI would buy the 1948-49 wheat crop had been raised from \$1.62 to \$1.86 per bushel, bagged on rail car in port. No mention was made of a lower price for landlords who receive payment of rent in kind or of price variation according to quantity such as prevailed last year. Rural entities have already expressed dissatisfaction, pointing out that salaries of permanent personnel have increased by 20 per cent, harvest wages by 30 per cent, grain bags by 85 per cent and fuel by 95 per cent, which would indicate that operating costs have risen by more than the 15 per cent increase in price. This will be accentuated by low yields and a large percentage of abandoned fields in many districts, which will increase the expense of harvesting.

Shipments - During the month of November, grain clearances from Argentine ports consisted of 3,383 thousand bushels of wheat, 13,091 thousand bushels of corn and 1,549 thousand bushels of barley. In the first three months of the cereal year beginning with August 1st, it is estimated that Argentina shipped 3 1/2 per cent of total world wheat and flour exports compared with 8.7 per cent during the same period of 1947. Exports by destination for the first ten months of the year are as follows:

Argentine Exports, January-October, 1948

	Wheat	Corn	Oats	Barley	Wheat Flour 1/
	- thousand bushels -				barrels
United Kingdom	1,725	38,801	-	12,340	-
France	305	4,675	280	1,381	-
Belgium	3,453	4,432	13	519	-
Italy	24,202	2,171	176	2,925	34
Netherlands	388	7,318	30	3,506	-
Sweden	154	-	-	-	-
Spain	12,574	2,328	39	1,234	720
Switzerland	5,702	23	3,857	802	-
Rest of Europe	1,468	7,886	-	-	56
Brazil	10,825	-	555	54	43,968
Other S. A. Reps.	4,699	202	90	-	-
Other Countries	5,539	10,255	-	5,423	19,392
10 Months, 1948	71,034	78,091	5,040	28,184	64,170
10 Months, 1947	68,808	52,670	3,795	17,256	105,000
10 Months, 1946	46,046	73,504	18,651	25,587	366,167

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

Australian Cable - The following cable, dated December 16, 1948 was received from the Canadian Trade Commissioner in Melbourne:

"Australian wheat stocks at November 30 totalled 26 million bushels. Exports of wheat from October 31 to November 27 totalled 3,776,000 bushels, principally to the United Kingdom, India and New Zealand. Exports of flour were 55,713 long tons of which 28,423 went to Ceylon, 20,422 to Malaya and none to the United Kingdom. The new season's crop is now expected to reach 190 million bushels. Following enquiry by Bureau of Agricultural Economics into present production costs, the home consumption price for wheat was increased from six shillings threepence to six shillings eightpence as from December first. This will be the guaranteed price to growers for 1948-49 crop on bulk basis f.o.r. As Wheat Industry Stabilization Act has been passed by Parliament the wartime marketing scheme operated by the Commonwealth will now continue until the 1952-53 season."

New Winter Wheat Variety Developed in Australia - In a news despatch from Sydney, dated December 7, 1948, Reuters gives the following account of the discovery of a new winter wheat variety in Australia:

A rugged new winter wheat, announced in Melbourne a few days ago, was discovered by accident. W. Single, a New South Wales Department of Agriculture breeder who made the discovery, sowed an ounce of Minflor wheat for routine seed tests. He was surprised when the crop did not come to ear. Ears, in fact, did not develop for some time, during which low temperatures were registered, but the wheat was not affected by the usual winter rust diseases. Single then crossed the Minflor with Charter and Yalta, two summer rust-resistant wheats with good flour qualities, to produce the new winter variety. This wheat, as yet unnamed, is resistant to cold, rust and other diseases, and produces a better quality flour than most varieties. Dr. S. L. MacIndoe, principal research agronomist of the Department of Agriculture, said it will be at least two years before full-scale production of the new wheat is attempted. It will not be placed on the market for five years.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION

The following summary on the South African wheat situation is extracted from an article by F. T. Cook, Assistant Commercial Secretary for Canada (Agricultural Specialist) which appeared in the December 18th issue of Foreign Trade. For the convenience of our readers, the various quantities of wheat appearing in the table in the original article have been converted from bags of 200 pounds to bushels.

South African Wheat Position

	Bushels
Estimated stocks, October 31, 1948, including imports since August, 1948 .	3,996,000
Less total imports since August, 1948	2,664,000
Estimated carry-over of local production, 1947-48	1,332,000
New crop September, 1948, total production estimate	18,841,000
T o t a l	20,173,000
Less feed, seed requirements and waste	3,330,000
Available for human consumption	16,843,000
Plus imports:	
Australia	1,592,000
United States	3,017,000
Canada	794,000
Total Available	22,246,000
Estimated requirements November 1, 1948--October, 1949	26,640,000
Deficit	4,394,000

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS



- November 30 The official estimate of winter wheat acreage in Canada, as reported by Broomhall, is 7,283,000 acres compared with 6,140,000 in 1947 and 3,930,000 in 1946.
- December 2 The Production and Marketing Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture announced that the January-March 1949 grain export allocations included 108,891,000 bushels of wheat and flour (in wheat equivalent).
- 3 Following a meeting of an 11-country preparatory committee of which Dr. C. F. Wilson of Ottawa is Chairman, the United States Department of State announced that a conference would convene in Washington on January 25, 1949, to negotiate a new international wheat agreement.
- The Board of Grain Commissioners announced that, effective August 1, 1951, Red Bobs spring wheat will not be graded higher than No. 3 Northern. The announcement followed an investigation resulting in the decision that Red Bobs is not equal in quality to the standard, Marquis, as stipulated in the Canadian Grain Act.
- 7 It is reported that the winter wheat acreage target in Poland has been exceeded by 14 per cent despite unfavourable seeding weather.
- 13 The last ship load of grain for the 1948 navigation season cleared from the Lakehead to-day. Lake shipments of wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur during 1948 amounted to 133.5 million bushels, 33.8 million less than in 1947 and the smallest during the past ten years.
- 14 Based on average prices received by farmers from the beginning of the crop year, August 1 up to the end of November, Canada's 1948 wheat crop is valued at \$550,427,000. Revised estimates place the value of the 1946 and 1947 Canadian wheat crops at \$551,861,000 and \$455,436,000 respectively.
- 16 Broomhall reports that Italy has signed an agreement to take 11,000,000 bushels of wheat from Russia this season. Italian wheat production this year, according to an estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is placed at 250 million bushels, lower than the normal consumption.
- 17 The United States Department of Agriculture states that U.S. wheat production totalled 1,288 million bushels in 1948, less than the 1947 record crop of 1,367 million bushels but 37 per cent larger than the 10-year average. This is the fifth consecutive year that production of all wheat has exceeded a billion bushels.
- 18 According to Foreign Trade restrictions on the milling and sale of flour and meal have been eased in the Union of South Africa effective November 1, 1948. Wartime regulation required that bread be made from whole wheat flour.
- 20 The United States Department of Agriculture estimated the area seeded to winter wheat at 61,370,000 acres, an increase of 3,209,000 acres over the area seeded in the autumn of 1947. Condition of the winter wheat crop at December 1 was placed at 82 per cent compared with 76 per cent for last year's crop on the same date. On the basis of December 1 conditions the 1949 winter wheat crop is forecast at 965 million bushels.