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CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

MONTHLY REVIEW

of the

WHEAT SITUATION

DECEMBER 1930

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

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WESTERN UNION

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MONTHLY REPORT

1911

WESTERN UNION

DECEMBER, 1911

Report of the Western Union Telegraph Company for the month of December, 1911.

Submitted to the Department of Commerce.

CHAS. E. SMITH

1911

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

(Issued January 24, 1931)

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.
Chief, Agricultural Branch:	T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

The Agricultural Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today the Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation for December. The foreign statistics in this release refer mainly to the month of December, while the situation in Canada is covered up to the middle of January. Through the co-operation of Canadian Trade Commissioners stationed abroad, reports on the wheat situation in important consuming centres are included.

THE GENERAL SITUATION

During the past month the world movement from wheat exporting countries to consuming centres has increased, and of this Canada has received a considerable amount.

Surveying the world situation from a Canadian viewpoint, no marked increase in demand is visible. European countries, apart from France, will not increase their imports to any great extent. It will be remembered, however, that France has undertaken that between seven and nine million bushels of wheat would be imported during the season. From August 1 to December 30, the Canadian exports to France amounted to 3,739,877 bushels. So far the tariff, together with the laws regarding the mixture of foreign with native wheat in France, has discouraged any imports of large quantities until the native wheat has been all consumed. Germany's policy with regard to imports of foreign wheat is identical with that of France, the endeavour being to force consumption of rye as bread and as a mixture with wheat. The net result in these two countries is that native wheat is selling at prices from \$1.67 to \$1.87 per bushel, while good North American wheat cannot be imported at the very low price of 65 to 75 cents per bushel.

The situation with regard to surpluses in exporting countries is as follows: Argentine 200 million bushels; Australia 165 million bushels; Canada 253 million bushels; United States 241 million bushels. The surplus in Russia is not known; it has been estimated that there has been harvested the largest crop of its history, namely, 1,157,400,000 bushels.

The Argentine surplus as exports will compete in the open world markets and it has to be disposed of as soon as possible on account of inadequate storage facilities. At the present time inclement weather in that country is hindering large exports as well as deteriorating qualities. The bulk of Australia's surplus will be sold in the open world market due to little storage accommodation. A new outlet has been found in India which is taking large imports from the Antipodes. Australia is experiencing the same kind of weather as the Argentine during the harvesting of the crops which will reduce the surplus figure as well as the quality. United States at the present time is not a competitor in the world market, but the large wheat stocks there overhang the importing centres. This is due to the Farm Board policy of purchasing wheat in order to stabilize prices. Russia has forwarded 72,208,000 bushels through the Black Sea ports since August 1, but recently export shipments have fallen off, being only 625,000 and 400,000 bushels for the weeks ending January 7 and 15 respectively. It is forecasted, however, that increased shipments are forthcoming due to large vessel charterings for January. Whether these will materialize, only the coming winter months will reveal, but shipments will doubtless be resumed in the spring.

Non-European countries are expanding their imports and unless India receives rain immediately there should be good demand for wheat from these countries.

The Orient is looked upon as a possible outlet for Canadian wheat; the exchange situation has to be contended with, as well as the unsettled condition of China and owing to the unsteady movement of silver prices, the exports in this direction seem likely to be uncertain. Large areas in the aforementioned country do not produce wheat, but flour is imported.

It is expected that large shipments can be looked for from the Southern Hemisphere during the coming months.

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The following is taken from a review issued from Berlin, Germany, with regard to export of Canadian wheat: "Canada will certainly market a part of her surplus, for it is the best strong wheat obtainable, and must be used by nearly every country in Europe, and the sale of Canadian wheat will naturally be facilitated, if buyers can fill their requirements at a reasonable figure in the next few months".

The Course of Wheat Prices.— The following summary of the course of wheat prices in December was prepared by the Internal Trade Branch of the Bureau.

The record low price of 54½¢ per bushel for December No. 1 Northern wheat established on the 13th of November, was repeatedly broken in the final month of the year, and a new extreme low of 50¢ per bushel was established on the morning of December 27th. December cash closing prices were consistently and substantially under the lowest daily closing November quotation after the first ten days of the month. The course of the Winnipeg market up to December 10th held for the most part steady and firm. Broomhall announced early in the opening week the belief that Russian wheat exports would dwindle during the winter months, although shipments from that source still favoured bear interests. Later, on the 6th and 8th, news of rain in Argentina and Australia which it was feared might seriously affect harvesting operations, gave considerable support to the market. Announcement by the Canadian Wheat Pool on the 9th that their European marketing of grain would in future be carried on through regular trade channels was reported to have been well received. From the 10th to the 26th prices moved steadily lower, with the exception of a short rally on the 15th, which came with a temporary improvement in export demand and further reports of rain damage in Australia and central Europe.

For the most part, however, news for this period was decidedly bearish. Weakness on the Buenos Aires exchange discounted reports of crop damage from the Argentine, and the governmental crop estimate of 271,000,000 bushels issued on the 20th was high when compared with earlier private figures. Russian shipments continued in considerable volume, some of them being upon a consignment basis. Canadian country marketings during this period, while tapering considerably, held above last year's figures. Following a steady recession, as mentioned above, the low point of 50¢ per bushel for December wheat came during the Christmas interval when Liverpool was closed. Weakness at Buenos Aires and uncovering of local stop loss orders were given credit for the final dip which was of short duration. The return in the last days of the month was apparently due in part to optimism regarding expected political pronouncements.

The December monthly average price for Manitoba Northern cash wheat, Fort William and Port Arthur basis, was 55.6¢ as compared with 64.4¢ in November and \$1.30 per bushel in January, 1930.

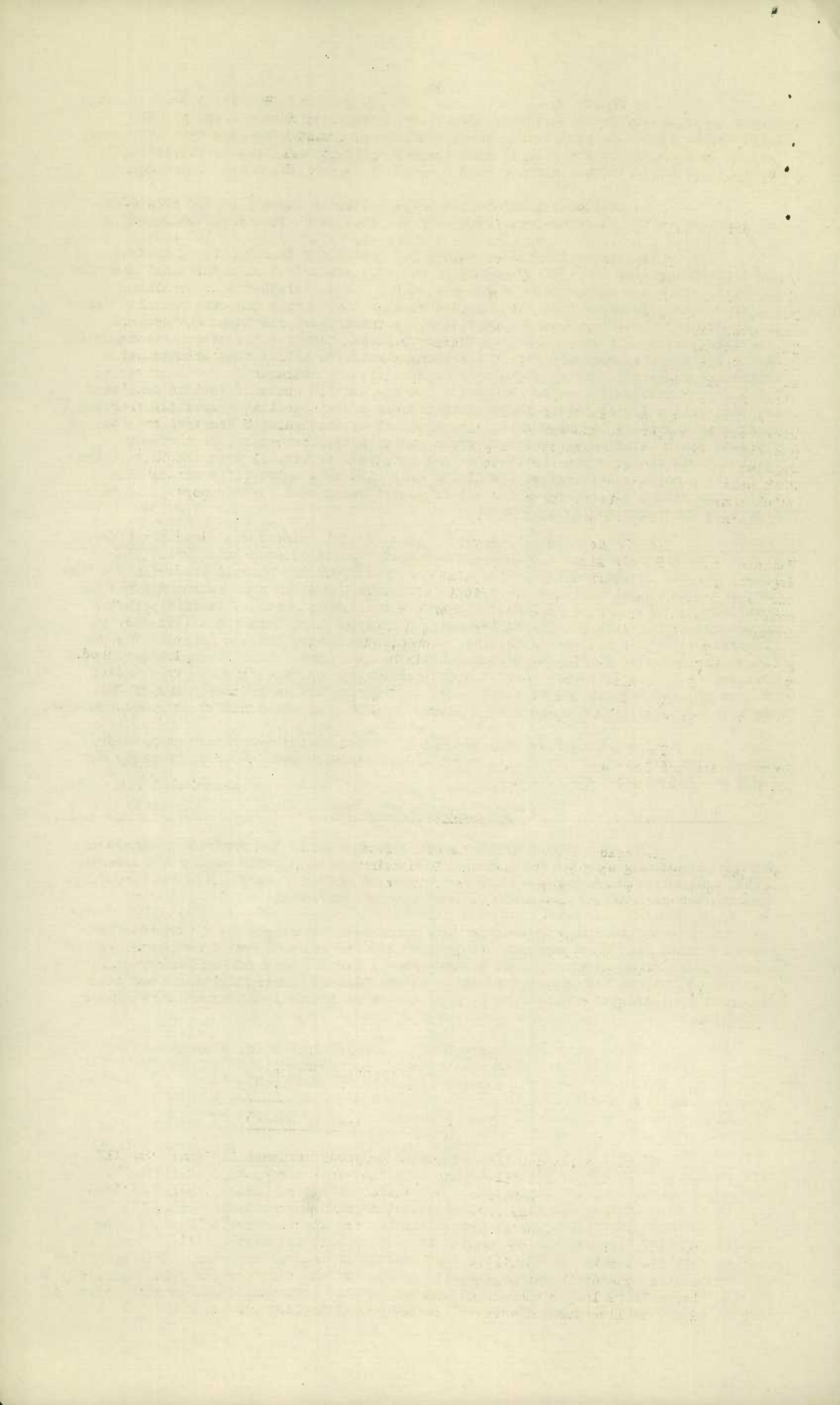
THE CANADIAN SITUATION

The cold winter weather usually prevalent in the Prairie Provinces has not been experienced so far this season. It continues mild, with hardly any snow or frost. Conditions were unfavourable for drying of grain in the field, and the results show that 68 per cent of the wheat is grading damp and tough.

Deliveries of wheat for the month were not as great as those of the previous month, but they were notably larger than for the same month last year. A marked decline from previous weeks was registered for the week ending January 2nd., when only 1,215,379 bushels were received at the Western Country Elevators and over the loading platforms. Deliveries by provinces from August 1 to January 2, 1931 were as follows:—

Manitoba	30,654,101 bushels.
Saskatchewan	136,660,903 "
Alberta	82,766,809 "
Total	<u>250,081,813</u> "

On July 31, 1930, the estimated carryover of wheat in Canada was 112 million bushels and the provisional estimate of the Year's crop is 396 million bushels, which make a total amount in Canada of 508 million bushels. Deducting 110 million bushels as an allowance for seed, home consumption and unmerchantable grain, it is calculated that 398 million bushels are available for export. During December the exports exceeded those of the same month in 1929 by a little over 3 million bushels, leaving available stocks of 253 million on hand at the end of the year. This amount is only 44 millions greater than the quantity on hand at the same date in 1929, and offsetting this, will be larger amounts of unmerchantable grain and together with increased tonnage fed to the livestock on account of the prevailing low prices.



With seven months of the crop year remaining the surplus of 253 million bushels in Canada is not unreasonably high considering also that the five-year average export for the seven months ending July 31, amounted to 141,115,554 bushels or 20,159,365 bushels per month.

A continual improvement has been noted in the exports of wheat and wheatflour during the first five months of the crop year. Exports of wheat and wheatflour expressed in bushels for December amounted to 24,938,920 bushels, compared with 18,683,198 bushels exported for the same month last year and the five-year average of 46,319,649 bushels.

Total exports for the five-month period ending December 31, 1930 were 144,751,046 bushels as compared with 89,440,890 bushels for 1929 and the average for the five-year period 1925-29 of 167,737,966 bushels. Results thus show that the 1930 exports, compared favourably with the five year average, largely exceed those of the previous year.

The following table lists the exports of wheat and wheat flour in the months of August to December inclusive, 1930, compared with crop year figures for 1929-30 and with the average for the five years, 1925-26 to 1929-30:-

TOTAL EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR

Month	1930 - 1931	1929 - 1930	Average 1925-26 to 1929-30
	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>	<u>Bushels</u>
August	20,451,776	13,050,873	17,360,617
September	31,121,623	9,625,524	17,970,697
October	33,445,884	23,215,028	35,409,445
November	34,782,843	24,866,067	50,677,558
December	24,938,920	18,683,198	46,319,649
January		7,257,050	16,682,720
February		8,895,458	16,616,866
March		14,655,609	21,526,470
April		5,459,684	11,552,050
May		16,046,226	27,204,945
June		21,679,434	25,750,589
July		22,833,051	21,781,964
TOTAL		186,267,212	308,853,540

In analyzing the exports of wheat and wheat flour by shipping routes it is noted that 6,826,614 bushels were exported from the Pacific ports in December, 1930, compared with 4,304,450 bushels for the same month in 1929. The Atlantic Port exports amounted to 7,279,718 bushels and for the same month in 1929 they were 4,734,705 bushels. A large increase is noted in the movement via the Pacific Ports for the five months ended December 1930, the amount being 32,184,557 bushels as compared with 17,427,735 bushels for the same period in 1929. The Atlantic ports exports were 33,026,259 bushels, and 20,124,735 bushels for 1930 and 1929 respectively. The greater part of the shipments went to the United Kingdom and the Continent, but during the month of December and the last ^{five} months the amounts to the Orient were also high, totalling to 2,360,779 bushels and 6,460,717 bushels respectively.

The percentage of operation of Canadian flour mills has continued to advance since the beginning of the crop year. Mill grindings during the month of November in Canada amounted to 7,738,827 bushels as compared with 7,260,750 bushels for same month in 1929. The total for the four months of 30,322,239 bushels is 3,324,864 bushels greater than for the same months of 1929. As stated in the previous press letter custom milling has increased in the West during the period of low prices. In the first four months of the crop year 640,545 bushels were milled in the west, as compared with 357,131 bushels last year, an increase of 79.4 percent.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

TO THE HONORABLE
THE SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION PASSED
AT ITS MEETING OF MAY 10, 1934

BY
J. H. HARRIS
PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
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FOREIGN SITUATION

United States.- The continued buying of the Farm Board has enabled the United States wheat prices to remain above the quotations in the grain markets of Winnipeg, Buenos Aires, and Liverpool. During the month, Chicago futures have been quoted from 10 to 20¢ higher per bushel than at Winnipeg.

Since writing last month's review the United States Department of Agriculture has published its final figures of the wheat crop. This figure has been placed at 350,596,000 bushels, against 309,176,000 bushels last year, an increase of 5.2 percent over the crop of 1929. The carryover from the last crop amounted to 275,404,000 bushels, which would make a total available supply of 1,126,000,000 bushels, proposed distribution of which is as follows: Seed requirements 79,000,000 bushels; animal feed 236,000,000 bushels and food 500,000,000 bushels, leaving a total of 311,000,000 bushels available for export. From July 1st to December 27, 1930, the exports of wheat and wheat flour are estimated at 85,277,000 bushels, deduction of which from above would leave 225,723,000 bushels as an exportable surplus.

The corn crop in the United States was the lowest since the year 1921. It was thought the price of corn would remain above that of wheat, but recently corn prices have dropped to lower levels than those of wheat with the result that there was no incentive to the feeding of wheat.

In the recent review issued by the United States Department of Agriculture on the feed grain situation, it was shown there was a reduction in the feed grain supplies of the Northern Hemisphere, compared with the previous year. This reduced amount was caused almost wholly by the low corn crop in the United States.

According to the United States Department of Commerce 59.7 percent of the total capacity of the flour mills is in operation for November and 61.3 percent for the four months period. The milling inbound and export trade from July 1 to January 10, 1931, amounted to 10,988,000 bushels, compared with 4,444,000 bushels for the same period in 1929.

United Kingdom.- According to Broomhall the port stocks of wheat and wheat flour in the United Kingdom were 19,720,000 bushels on January 1, 1931, as compared with 13,920,000 bushels for the previous week and 16,840,000 bushels for the same week last year. Large quantities of Russian wheat ^{are} reported in store at Bristol and Hull. Russian wheat is reported being sold ex-quary or ex-slip at prices a little above the millfeed produced and complaints have been heard that Russian wheat is badly mixed with Rye which is objectionable to the British miller. A new departure has been adopted by the Liverpool Exchange whereby Canadian and United States Traders are admitted as subscriber Broker Members of the Liverpool Corn Trade Association.

Seeding is completed and wintry weather prevails in the United Kingdom. Native wheat is in little demand, as the value is above the International prices.

France.- The Canadian Trade Commissioners at Paris reports that the prices on the French market fluctuated several times during the past two weeks caused by the different reports on Argentine and Australian crops. According to an official statement it would appear that rust has severely damaged Argentine wheat this year and will reduce the surplus of wheat to be exported by about 30 million bushels. There has scarcely been any sale of Russian wheat in France in the course of the past two weeks, and although it was known that there are large quantities of wheat afloat and also stored in England there was no activity.

Several sales of Manitoba wheat have been made this week and it is expected that this is the prelude to large sales which will take place shortly. It is known to the trade that the French Government has guaranteed to the Canadian Premier, The Hon. R.B. Bennett, that France would import a minimum of 2 to 2½ million quintals (7 to 9 million bushels) of Manitoba wheat within the next four months, and it is expected that a rise in price will result.

Native wheat is selling rapidly, and the quality offered is of poor average 70 to 72 kilos to the hectolitre. Millers are complaining and they insist that the percentage of foreign wheat allowed in the panification should be increased to fifteen percent. This measure would have been taken long ago had it not met with opposition from the Ministry of Agriculture who will refuse its consent until it feels satisfied that all native wheat is sold. It is expected, however, that by the beginning of next year the barrier against foreign wheat will have been removed.

THE CHINESE

The Chinese population of the United States is estimated to be about 1,000,000. It is the largest foreign-born population in the United States. The Chinese are found in all parts of the country, but are most numerous in the West.

The Chinese have been in the United States since the early part of the 19th century. They first came to the United States as laborers on the California gold mines. They were later employed in the construction of the transcontinental railroads. In the early 20th century, they began to settle in the United States in larger numbers. They are now found in all parts of the country, but are most numerous in the West.

The Chinese have made many contributions to the United States. They have been instrumental in the development of the West. They have also made many contributions to the culture and arts of the United States.

In the early 20th century, the Chinese were often discriminated against. They were not allowed to own property or to vote. They were also often subjected to violence and harassment.

Today, the Chinese are an important part of the United States population. They have made many contributions to the United States and are an integral part of the American fabric.

The Chinese have a long and rich history. They have been instrumental in the development of many of the world's great civilizations. They have also made many contributions to the culture and arts of the world.

The Chinese are a proud and resilient people. They have overcome many hardships and challenges throughout their history. They are now an important part of the world's population.

The Chinese have a deep respect for family and community. They value education and hard work. They are also known for their hospitality and generosity.

The Chinese are a diverse and vibrant people. They have many different customs and traditions. They are also known for their sense of humor and wit.

The Chinese are a people of great strength and resilience. They have overcome many hardships and challenges throughout their history. They are now an important part of the world's population.

Denmark.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Oslo reports to the Department of Trade and Commerce from the Danish Department of Statistics at Copenhagen that cereal crops for 1930 showed slightly lower figures than those of 1929.

The following table gives the comparative figures:-

	1 9 3 0 bushels	1 9 2 9 bushels
Wheat	10,655,499	11,757,792
Rye	10,235,810	10,629,495
Barley	49,605,048	50,932,966
Oats	66,787,672	66,787,672

Switzerland.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Rotterdam reports that the imports of wheat into Switzerland for the month of November 1930, were 849,548 bushels, as compared with 259,289 bushels in November 1929. Canada still exports the bulk of the wheat imported by Switzerland. During the eleven months ended November 1930, 8,355,408 bushels were credited to Canada.

Finland.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Oslo Norway under date of December 29, 1930 reports that the 1930 grain crops were of a good average quality. Wheat and barley yields were approximately the same as those of the previous year, while Rye and Oats were slightly higher as will be seen from the following table

	1 9 3 0 bushels	1 9 2 9 bushels
Wheat	1,188,786	1,096,010
Rye	14,104,474	12,907,671
Oats	39,020,146	36,451,804
Barley	6,222,907	6,280,550

Holland.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Rotterdam has forwarded statements showing that wheat stocks show increases, due to increased imports from Russian. The stocks at Rotterdam were 9,013,594 bushels of which 3,156,968 bushels were of Russian origin and at Amsterdam there were 1,465,682 bushels, all of which was of Russian origin.

During the month of December arrivals of wheat in Holland from principal countries were as follows:- Canada 1,165,087 bushels; United States 690,550 bushels; Russian 4,007,386 bushels; Germany 2,152,448 bushels; and Argentina 102,844 bushels.

Germany.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Hamburg reports that according to the estimates of the German Agricultural Council the following table illustrates the grain situation in Germany at November 15th. 1930, with comparative figures for the same date in the previous year:-

	Total Crop		Stocks on and November 15th.	
	1 9 2 9	1 9 3 0	1 9 2 9	1 9 3 0
	(Bushels 000's omitted).			
Winter wheat	112,801	119,783	60,847	62,757
Summer wheat	10,288	11,390	7,716	8,524
Winter rye	316,916	299,988	204,026	190,139
Winter barley	17,454	20,209	7,762	6,981
Summer barley	128,606	102,885	85,201	62,052
Oats	478,537	354,688	363,571	288,678

While the total wheat crop is approximately 8,000,000 bushels greater than for the previous year it is estimated nevertheless that, including carry-over, the available quantities will be some 11,000,000 bushels less for the present crop year. This condition, however, is offset by a decrease in the consumption of wheat bread and an increase in the use of rye and barley for human consumption, of which the economic crisis is held to be an important responsible factor. This is also illustrated in the slowness of the decline of wheat stocks in spite of the compulsory milling quota, which is double that of a year ago. In view of these considerations the wheat import requirements will probably be even less than last year.

Of further importance is the increase in the number of hogs which alone should result in the increased consumption of 1,653,472 bushels of grain, so that it is expected that altogether the total consumption of feeding stuffs, including rye, in the present crop year will have increased by more than 2,204,630 bushels of grain.

The official German report on the condition of seeds states that the mild and rainy weather during November was conducive to the development of growth generally. The rain made field work in the clay districts difficult. The crop which was sown earlier on the whole stands close; later crops have suffered through wetness, while complaints have been received concerning the damage caused by field mice and snails. On the basis of 2 - good, 3 - average and 4 - poor, the following figures illustrate the average for Germany; winter rye 2.7; winter wheat 2.6; winter spelt 2.6; winter barley 2.6.

The Prussian Statistical Land Office reports that the acreage sown to winter rye in all Germany is 10.2 per cent less than last year, whereas that sown to winter wheat is 6.6 per cent, and that to winter barley 1.8 per cent greater.

Estimates of the stocks of wheat at the Port of Hamburg on recent dates are as follows:

	December 8th.	December 15th.	December 23rd.	December 30th.
	Bushels.			
North American wheat	220,459	238,830	183,716	146,972
Russian wheat	73,486	73,486	293,945	293,945
German wheat	35,743	73,486	6,743	(insignificant)

Austria.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Hamburg reports that an official estimate of the condition of the Austrian crop at the end of November, with comparative figures, is as follows:-

	October 31, 1930	November 30, 1930	November 30, 1929
Winter wheat	2.2	2.3	2.5
Winter rye	2.2	2.2	2.4
Winter barley	2.3	2.3	2.4
Winter rape	2.4	2.4	2.4
Beetroot	2.5	2.5	3.1
Red clover	2.4	2.4	2.5
Alfalfa	3.0	3.0	2.9

Note: 2 - above average; 3 - average.

Poland.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Hamburg reports that the Head Statistical Office in Warsaw has given out the following estimate of the grain crop in Poland as at the end of November, with figures for comparison:

	September 30, 1930	November 30, 1920
	(Bushels, 000's omitted)	
Wheat	70,179	79,733
Rye	268,493	272,430
Barley	63,384	67,518
Oats	141,356	153,028

Compared with the 1929 estimate at the same date, the above figures for November 30th. show an increase of 21.3 per cent for wheat, but a decrease of 13; 11.4 and 20.2 per cent for rye, barley and oats respectively.

Italy.- The crop of 1930-31 has been a short one and large importations will be required. Sometime ago it was estimated that about 94,400,000 bushels would be imported. To-date the majority of the imports have been from Russia. According to the Canadian Trade statistics exports of wheat from Canada to Italy from August 1, to December 31 amounted to 6,725,351 bushels.

The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Milan has forwarded the following report, dated January 5, 1931.

show

Reports received in this office, for the month of December, the condition of the Italian wheat crop to be well advanced. The weather has been generally fine and mild. What is wanted now is a good fall of snow to protect the plants against any winter frost and check premature ripening, as well as to strengthen the roots.

In regard to the estimates of the area under cultivation, it is not yet possible to give figures. According to private sources, it appears, however, that the area under cultivation for wheat has not been changed considerably from last year, while the consumption of chemical fertilizers and manures has been reduced.

In regard to stocks on hand, the following table shows the variations between the 22nd November and December 20th in regard to those stocks available in the warehouses and public depots in Genoa.

	On November 22, 1930 bushels	On December 20, 1930 bushels.
Manitoba	409,906	253,197
Amber Durum	255,438	186,067
Hard Winter	55,476	50,081
Plata	4,777	3,674
Russia and Danube	1,328,853	1,731,298
T O T A L	2,053,750	2,224,317

About 734,862 bushels are lying at Naples and as many in Venice, these stocks being about two thirds Russian grain.

During the month of November 9,005,624 bushels of grain arrived from:

North America	2,663,324 bushels.
Australia	989,051 "
Russian	4,196,429 "
Danube	1,156,820 "
T O T A L	9,005,624 bushels.

Norway.- A report under date of December 16, of the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Oslo to the Department of Trade and Commerce on the Norwegian Grain Crop, 1930 is as follows:-

The Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics reports that as regards all cereals the 1930 crops compare favourably with those of 1929, as is shown in the following table:

	1929 Crop Bushels	Estimated 1930 Crop. Bushels.
Wheat	750,368	776,125
Rye	537,774	586,748
Oats	11,431,456	13,220,976
Barley	4,532,707	5,038,862

With the exception of wheat, this year's crops are above those of an average year. If the average crop is represented by 100, the figures for the last two years would be as follows:-

	1929 Crop (Average 100).	Estimated 1930 Crop.
Wheat	93	96
Rye	94	103
Oats	91	105
Barley	91	101.

The quality of the grain has, on the whole, been good. In the eastern and southern districts, however, the crops have suffered considerable damage on account of the excessive rainfall. In the remaining districts the quality is reported to have been extremely good throughout.

Soviet Russia.- The shipments from the Black sea ports show a sharp falling-off during the last two weeks, but it is reported in recent reviews by Broomhall, that charterings of vessels for Russian shipments have increased, and good supplies of grain are in sight. The exports of Russian wheat, by weeks, for the period from December 4, to January 15, 1931 were as follows:-

	Wheat Bushels
December 4,	3,448,000
December 11,	2,416,000
December 18,	2,568,000
December 25,	1,920,000
January 1, 1931	1,216,000
January 8, "	648,000
January 15, "	400,000

Since August 1, to January 15, 1931, 81,352,000 bushels were shipped from the Black Sea ports, of which 72,208,000 bushels were from Russia.

A new estimate of the Russian wheat crop has been issued, according to the United States Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and wheat production is placed at 1,157,400, 000 bushels.

India.- For this year India as an exporter is not going to be a great factor. The shipments from April 1, to January 8, 1931 amounted to 7,038,000 bushels.

The new crop is suffering from lack of rain, which if not received immediately, serious damage will result to the growing crop.

Hong Kong - China - According to a communication received from the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Hong Kong the territory under the jurisdiction of the above office includes Hong Kong, South China, French Indo-China, the Philippine Islands and British North Borneo, and it has been definitely ascertained that there is no wheat grown in, nor imported into any of these areas.

In the above mentioned territory, however, considerable quantities of wheatflour from the United States, Australia and Canada have been received. Imports into China during the calendar year 1929 were as follows:-

Total Import	8,119,352 Barrells.
United States	2,815,176 "
Australia	500 "
Canada	2,126,243 "
Japan	2,180,710 "
Hong Kong	871,617 "

Australia.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Melbourne has forwarded the following report dated December 11, 1929.

A month ago the estimate of this season's Australian production of wheat was given by the Commonwealth Statist at the record of 215,000,000 bushels, but during the last fortnight climatic conditions for harvesting have been unfavourable; hence the returns may be considerably less than anticipated.

Rather unseasonal and untimely heavy rains which have fallen this month over a wide area of the wheat growing districts have, it is feared, done considerable damage. It is considered inevitable that much of the wheat will be bleached, though the loss of grain may not be heavy. Harvesting will be delayed at least two weeks and shipments, perforce, deferred. Business in new wheat is at a standstill, even for domestic requirements, as millers must wait to see the condition of the crops. The soaking downfall just when harvesting had commenced was an unfortunate experience for growers in large areas of country particularly in Victoria and New South Wales, the result of which (at this date) is mere conjecture.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637

TO THE EDITOR:
I am writing to you to inform you of the results of my research on the properties of the new material which I have discovered. The material has been found to have a number of interesting properties, including a high degree of stability and a unique ability to conduct electricity. I am currently working on a series of experiments to determine the exact nature of these properties and to develop a method for producing the material in large quantities.

I am sure that you will find these results of great interest and I am sure that you will be able to help me in my work.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with you and I am sure that you will be able to help me in my work.

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MONETARY ADVANCE ON WHEAT SHIPMENTS.

Early in December the Board of the Commonwealth (Government) Bank announced that the Bank was prepared to advance 2s. (49 cents) per bushel - on the basis of "free on board steamer" - on wheat of standard quality. As this mail closes, the Commonwealth Parliament is debating proposed legislation under which it is suggested that the advance may be increased to 2s.6d. (61 cents) per bushel f.o.b.

As an alternative suggestion, it has been proposed that the Bank's advance of 2s. per bushel be retained with the addition of a sales tax of £3.12.0 (\$17.52) per ton on flour for domestic consumption, the proceeds to be ultimately distributed, upon an equitable basis, to all wheat growers who submit proof of their sales. Whether either the increased advance or the sales tax will become effective remains to be seen.

WHEAT - During November there was a general clearance of last season's wheat, and a number of shipments were made principally to China and Japan at from 2s.9d. to 2s.10d. (67 to 69 cents) per bushel f.o.b. steamer. Four steamers have been chartered to load new wheat during December for South African ports on a c.i.f. and c. basis of, approximately, £1.5.0 (\$6.08) per quarter. The market is without animation as conditions overseas are so uncertain, and buyers are showing little desire to acquire stocks.

Today's nominal price on the basis of a bushel of 60 pounds f.o.b. steamer at principal Australian ports is 2s.8½d. (66 cents). Shipments of wheat from all Australian States since the beginning of the 1929-30 season to the end of November, in comparison with the similar period of the two previous seasons, are estimated as follows:-

1927-28	50,879,364 bushels.
1928-29	80,860,746 bushels.
1929-30	49,115,387 bushels.

FLOUR - Exports of Australian flour during the last four weeks have been comparatively small (chiefly from old season's wheat) and exports to South Africa have ceased on account of reports of prohibitive customs or dumping duties being contemplated. Some flour has been shipped on consignment as, owing to the scarcity of parcel (part cargo) space, milling companies made forward bookings which they had to fill. The overseas demand has been and is exceedingly dull, and little inquiry has been received by millers from their usual export sources.

Today's prices for standard quality of flour per ton of 2,000 pounds f.o.b. steamer at main Australian ports are:-

Packed in sacks 140 to 150 pounds gross	£6.12.6 (\$32.24)
Packed in hessian bags 98 to 101 pounds gross	£6.10.0 (\$31.63)
Packed in calico bags 49 pounds gross	£7. 0.0 (\$34.07)

Shipments of flour from all Australian ports since the beginning of the season, in comparison with previous year, to the end of November are as follows:-

1927-28	430,897 tons
1928-29	511,709 tons
1929-30	422,294 tons.

FREIGHT RATES - There has been a lull in chartering owing to climatic conditions which will likely delay the movement of new season's wheat to the seaboard. Parcel (part cargo) space for either wheat or flour is now quoted at earliest, for February/March shipments except to the Far East. On the whole, there is a slightly firmer tendency in overseas freight rates which may increase early in the new year, because of inadequate tonnage being available. Today's quotations on part cargoes are as follows for January shipments:-

To	Port Said, U.K. and Europe	Egypt Alexandria	South Africa.
Wheat	32s.6d. (\$7.91)	35s. (\$8.52)	32s.6d. (\$7.91)
Flour	35s. (\$8.52)	37s.6d. (\$9.12)	35s. (\$8.52)
To	Main Ports in Japan	Hong Kong	Manila
Wheat	18s. (\$4.38)	25s. (\$6.08)	25s. (\$6.08)
Flour	20s.6d. (\$4.99)	25s. (\$6.08)	25s. (\$6.08)

(Flour to the East is per ton of 2,000 pounds).

The following cablegrams, dated January 14 and 19, respectively, were received from Rome through the Department of Agriculture:-

January 14: "Australia wheat December weather conditions unfavourable harvesting (Stop) Boisterous with heavy rains and some hail in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia (Stop) Anticipate yields affected in New South Wales and Victoria account lodging of crops and shedding of grain Some bleaching also reported (Stop) Area not affected, good to record yields (Stop) South Australia no alterations cereals outlook (Stop) Western Australia despite weather conditions anticipate record yields (Stop) Harvesting generally delayed owing weather conditions (Stop) Date insufficient revise estimates."

January 19: "Australia wheat yield current year forecasted 1,000 metric bushels, 205,000 according telegram 19th. January".

Argentine.- The Canadian Trade Commissioner at Buenos Aires favours the Bureau with the following information under date of December 22, 1930.

The first official estimate of production for 1930-31 was issued on December 20, by the Statistical and Rural Economy office of the Ministry of Agriculture for the Argentine Republic. The following are the estimates:-

	Area Sown Acres	Area Harvested Acres	Yield per Acre	Production Bushels
Wheat	21,286,030	19,700,000	13.8	271,402,430
Linseed	7,522,540	7,262,000	13.3	100,070,900
Oats	3,978,450	2,050,650	17.4	63,326,317
Barley	1,411,240	920,715	14.3	19,860,667
Rye	1,322,100	625,930	5.1	6,670,362

It was found that the country closes the year with a carry-over of 18,258,785 bushels of wheat. In order to ascertain, as accurately as possible the exportable surplus, a careful investigation was made of the stocks in the ports, private deposits, elevators, mills and railway stations, as well as the amounts on farms.

In making the calculations of local requirements it was decided to increase this amount from former years, owing to the light specific quality of some of the wheat and the low prices, making it probable that more wheat would be ground into flour and used as fodder.

The following table shows the exportable surplus:-

Estimated production of wheat 1930-31	271,402,430 bushels.
Carry-over 1929-30	18,258,785 "
T O T A L	289,661,215 "
Seeding and Consumption	89,653,164 "
Exportable surplus on Dec. 19, 1930	200,008,051 "

The above figures are considered quite reasonable by the Traders, although private reports based on railway figures, show a higher amount of old wheat in the country, making it doubtful whether the local requirements will be as high as 91,092,500 bushels.

The following is taken from Broomhalls review "After a period of wet weather, which has delayed the harvesting of the crop, the grain is commencing to move, but owing to low prices prevailing farmers are not anxious to extend offers. It has been reported that 63 lb. Rosafe wheat for February and March delivery is offered by shippers at 61½¢ per bushel C.I.F. From August 1, to January 10, the shipments amounted to 23,025,000 bushels, as compared with 87,640,000 bushels.

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