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THE WHEAT REVIEW



MARCH, 1950



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE

THE
WHEAT REVIEW

(Formerly Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation)

MARCH, 1950

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THE WHEAT REVIEW

MARCH 1950

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

World Breadgrain Crop of 1949 - Latest revised estimates ^{1/} place 1949 breadgrain production at 235 million short tons—slightly larger than the prewar (1935-39) average of 229 million tons but slightly less than the large crop of 239 million in 1948. The increase over the prewar figure was all in wheat, which is estimated at 6.2 billion bushels, compared with the average of 6.0 billion. World production of rye in 1949 was just a little below the prewar average of 1.7 billion bushels.

The net gain over the prewar wheat level is noted principally in the sharply increased production in North America. The increase of about 450 million bushels there, together with some increase in Australia and a minor gain in Africa, more than offsets reduced production in other areas. The small decrease from prewar in the rye crop is attributed to substantial declines in Europe and North America. These were only partially offset by an increase of about 40 million bushels in the Soviet Union. Larger rye seedings in the Union are believed to result from some shift to rye from other grains.

Germany's Accession to International Wheat Agreement Approved - An official press release, dated March 16, stated: "The International Wheat Council held the final meeting of its second session in London on the 15th March, when it considered the applications of both Germany and Japan to accede to the International Wheat Agreement.

The request made by Germany, involving a guaranteed quantity of 1,800,000 metric tons (66,138,678 bushels) per year commencing with the current crop year, was approved subject to instruments of accession being deposited by 30th April 1950 and to conditions normally required of countries acceding to the Agreement.

In the case of Japan it was found that further time was necessary for the consideration of the issues involved. It was decided, therefore, to defer further consideration of this application until a later session of the Council, which it is anticipated will probably take place before the end of the current crop year which ends on 31st July, 1950."

The agreed shares of the German quantity are as follows:

	<u>1949-50</u>	<u>1950-51</u>	<u>1951-52</u>	<u>1952-53</u>
	- bushels -			
United States ...	66,138,678	54,328,345	46,328,345	44,328,345
Canada	nil	8,000,000	16,000,000	18,000,000
Australia	nil	3,333,333	3,333,333	3,333,333
France	nil	477,000	477,000	477,000

The above figures were made available to the press subject to the reservation that they were not yet final pending mathematical check and approval--and that the French figure (nil) for 1949-50 was not yet firm--that country still being hopeful of obtaining some part of the additional guaranteed sales for the current crop year.

International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases - An official statement, now released regularly, sets out weekly the cumulative sales and purchases under the I.W.A., together with the quantities guaranteed under the agreement by both exporting and importing countries. In view of the general interest in the progress of the I.W.A. this statement which summarizes operations registered under the agreement

^{1/} As reported by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S.D.A.

between August 1, 1949 and March 17, 1950 is reproduced herewith. (Conversions from metric tons to bushels have been made at the rate of 36.74371 bushels to the ton with the resulting figures being rounded to the nearest thousand bushels).

Sales under the International Wheat Agreement, August 1, 1949—March 17, 1950
Together with Annual Quantities Guaranteed

Exporting Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	Total Sales
- 000 bushels -		
Australia	80,101	76,791
Canada	203,377	159,549
France	3,307	3,284
U.S.A.	168,286	82,327
TOTALS	455,071	321,951

Purchases under the International Wheat Agreement, August 1, 1949—March 17, 1950
Together with Annual Quantities Guaranteed

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	Source:				Total Purchases
		Australia	Canada	France	U.S.A.	
- 000 bushels -						
Austria	11,023	-	-	-	6,526	6,526
Belgium	20,209	-	5,946	-	4,821	10,767
Bolivia	2,756	-	376	-	634	1,010
Brazil	13,228	-	-	-	-	-
Ceylon 1/	4,409	4,529	-	-	-	4,529
Cuba	7,422	-	2,512	-	1,051	3,563
Denmark	1,617	-	239	-	-	239
Dom. Republic	735	-	529	-	81	610
Ecuador 1/	1,102	-	309	-	831	1,140
Egypt	8,818	7,051	1,036	-	-	8,087
El Salvador 1/ ...	404	-	118	-	317	435
Greece	15,726	-	-	-	5,529	5,529
Guatemala 1/	367	-	113	-	288	401
Haiti 1/	1,029	-	971	-	94	1,065
India 2/	38,287	39,315	-	-	-	39,315
Ireland	10,105	-	2,406	-	1,761	4,167
Israel	5,144	338	3,024	-	779	4,141
Italy	40,418	-	-	-	6,912	6,912
Lebanon	2,388	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	9,186	-	359	-	8,436	8,795
Netherlands	25,721	1,956	514	1,510	17,799	21,779
New Zealand	4,593	33	-	-	-	33
Nicaragua 1/	294	-	91	-	219	310
Norway	7,716	528	1,184	-	4,287	5,999
Panama	625	-	225	-	85	310
Peru	5,512	-	57	-	2,479	2,536
Philippines	7,202	6	126	-	231	363
Portugal	5,144	24	178	-	4,372	4,574
Saudi Arabia	1,837	19	229	-	309	557
Sweden	2,756	1,035	-	-	-	1,035
Switzerland	6,430	-	5,135	-	-	5,135
Union of S. Africa	11,023	2,054	5,752	-	-	7,806
United Kingdom ...	177,068	19,903	124,069	1,774	13,541	159,287
Venezuela 1/	4,777	-	4,051	-	945	4,996
TOTALS	455,071	76,791	159,549	3,284	82,327	321,951

1/ Guaranteed quantity fulfilled.

2/ Fulfilment advised: Confirming reports awaited.

THE CANADIAN WHEAT SITUATION

Producers Urged to Speed Grain Deliveries -

The Secretary of the Canadian Wheat Board in a radio address on March 22 appealed to western producers to deliver their remaining surpluses of wheat, oats and barley at the earliest possible moment. This would permit prompt forwarding from country elevators and sale of the grain before the end of the crop year. The wheat, oats and barley pools terminate on July 31 next and if heavy quantities of grain are delivered in June and July, the winding-up of the pools and the final distribution of surpluses will be delayed as late deliveries will have to be sold before the books can be closed. The Secretary also referred to the attractive grain prices currently prevailing and pointed out to producers the desirability of making their grain available for sale while these conditions persist.

Supply Position -

Exports of wheat and flour during the August-February period of the current crop year totalled 131.6 million bushels, an increase of 15 million bushels over the similar period in 1948-49. Exports of wheat as grain to February 28, 1950 were 19.3 million bushels in excess of those of the same period last year but flour exports in terms of wheat were down by 4.3 million. The balance remaining on March 1 for export or carryover is estimated at 198.2 million bushels compared with 218.1 million bushels on the same date last year.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

	1949-50	1948-49
	- million bushels -	
Carryover in North America July 31	102.4	77.7
New Crop	367.4	386.3
Imports of wheat and wheat flour August 1-January 31	<u>1/</u>	0.3
Totals, Supply	469.8	464.3
Estimated Domestic Requirements	140.0 <u>2/</u>	129.6
Available for export or carryover	329.8	334.7
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain Aug. 1-Feb. 28 ...	99.0	86.1
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S. Aug. 1-Feb. 28	6.4	<u>1/</u>
Totals, Wheat Exports	105.4	86.1
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat Aug. 1-Feb. 28 .	26.2 <u>3/</u>	30.5 <u>3/</u>
Totals, Exports Wheat and Wheat Flour	131.6	116.6
Balance on March 1 for Export or Carryover	198.2	218.1

1/ Less than 50,000 bushels.

2/ Preliminary estimate.

3/ August-November 1949-50 and entire crop year 1948-49 adjusted for time-lag in returns made by Customs.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces, 1949-50

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -					
August 1-4	86,906	396,425	857,679	1,341,010	1,047,366
11	1,487,047	408,852	352,356	2,248,255	1,396,538
18	3,916,751	2,375,960	2,036,147	8,328,858	2,120,222
25	9,032,150	6,744,337	3,980,747	19,757,234	10,570,201
September 1	6,953,093	8,751,113	4,960,194	20,664,400	25,951,607
8	5,104,625	12,005,438	7,572,940	24,683,003	31,542,951
15	3,394,999	16,809,771	7,977,799	28,182,569	34,421,627
22	1,511,831	15,854,167	8,051,995	25,417,993	27,525,049
29	1,249,693	11,832,544	6,596,577	19,678,814	17,806,785
October 6	781,873	12,004,362	6,543,917	19,330,152	14,001,115
13	531,130	5,224,134	4,027,785	9,783,049	11,244,938
20	431,778	4,307,972	3,302,630	8,042,380	9,256,027
27	174,784	3,804,123	2,518,155	6,497,062	7,873,337
November 3	293,156	3,797,858	1,935,700	6,026,714	6,620,489
10	229,101	3,436,128	1,762,805	5,428,034	4,981,699
17	265,037	2,544,609	1,199,154	4,008,800	4,794,010
24	270,103	2,767,094	1,346,397	4,383,594	4,411,372
December 1	278,985	2,972,258	1,169,791	4,421,034	3,535,124
8	307,306	3,040,022	1,193,263	4,540,591	3,439,280
15	379,391	2,305,535	1,292,377	3,977,303	2,015,039
22	584,752	3,039,794	2,109,705	5,734,251	3,071,057
29	663,019	2,636,205	1,581,786	4,881,010	3,026,547
January 5	245,905	1,077,129	577,553	1,900,587	3,436,527
12	222,310	741,034	939,661	1,903,005	3,195,302
19	191,689	799,905	758,560	1,750,154	3,641,807
26	95,218	620,728	636,069	1,352,015	1,117,750
February 2	53,533	240,528	323,458	617,519	1,422,034
9	82,128	469,280	725,495	1,276,903	1,381,373
16	186,243	686,546	1,328,487	2,201,276	739,191
23	163,945	510,586	1,497,752	2,172,283	720,758
March 2	94,315	470,769	1,378,293	1,943,377	1,323,790
9	117,358	424,414	1,090,000	1,631,772	1,828,623
16	110,821	766,774	1,198,902	2,076,497	1,894,221
TOTALS	39,490,975	133,866,394	82,824,129	256,181,498	251,353,756

Marketings of wheat in the Prairie Provinces from the beginning of the current crop year to March 16 amounted to 256.2 million bushels, an increase of 4.8 million over the corresponding period of 1948-49. Weekly marketings for the four weeks ending March 16 varied between 1.6 million and 2.2 million bushels.

Farmers' Marketings by Crop Districts 1948-49 - Farmers in the Prairie Provinces and certain areas of British Columbia marketed 294.0 million bushels of wheat during the 1948-49 crop year according to revised figures compiled by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners.

In the following tables, farmers' deliveries are shown by the method of marketing employed, i.e., through country elevators, directly to Interior Private and Mill Elevators, etc. The deliveries to country elevators are, in turn, broken down by crop districts and provinces.

Total Farmers' Deliveries of Wheat

<u>Prairie Provinces</u>	<u>Total - All Wheat</u> - bushels -
Country Elevators	291,076,893
Platform Loadings	313,202
Interior Public and Semi-Public Terminals	29,805
Interior Private and Mill Elevators	2,541,322
From Farms Direct to U.S.A. by Truck <u>1/</u>	25,548
 TOTAL	 293,986,770

Farmers' Marketings Through Country Elevators

<u>Manitoba</u>	<u>Wheat</u> <u>(Other than Durum)</u> net bu.	<u>Durum Wheat</u> net bu.	<u>Totals Wheat</u> net bu.
Crop District 1	1,618,241	761,385	2,379,626
2	4,784,217	1,011,031	5,795,248
3	6,610,982	2,675,955	9,286,937
4	1,043,780	258,834	1,302,614
5	1,242,607	16,765	1,259,372
6	167,384	4,829	172,213
7	4,338,283	273,448	4,611,731
8	3,314,893	304,340	3,619,233
9	2,417,558	74,957	2,492,515
10	3,548,557	1,033	3,549,590
11	2,315,098	1,089	2,316,187
12	640,576	-	640,576
13	1,446,520	550	1,447,070
14	276,964	-	276,964
 TOTALS	 33,765,660	 5,384,216	 39,149,876
 Sub-Division Fort Francis Station Stratton, Ont.	 7,245	 318	 7,563
 TOTALS	 33,772,905	 5,384,534	 39,157,439

1/ Customs Returns, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Farmers' Marketings through Country Elevators - Concluded

		Wheat (Other than Durum) net bu.	Durum Wheat net bu.	Totals Wheat net bu.
<u>Saskatchewan</u>				
Crop District	1A	4,704,170	392,867	5,097,037
	1B	5,493,382	62,284	5,555,666
	2A	8,319,035	321,917	8,640,952
	2B	17,071,383	956,684	18,028,067
	3AN	3,321,223	601,725	3,922,948
	3AS	8,517,628	1,918,838	10,436,466
	3EN	7,263,436	1,321,157	8,584,593
	3BS	4,113,583	1,485,008	5,598,591
	4A	1,177,846	287,899	1,465,745
	4B	2,464,097	584,960	3,049,057
	5A	11,559,424	114,999	11,674,423
	5B	15,063,131	27,231	15,090,362
	6A	10,406,317	645,479	11,051,796
	6B	6,237,964	110,853	6,348,817
	7A	8,934,999	212,383	9,147,382
	7B	4,168,110	4,676	4,172,786
	8A	7,925,518	390	7,925,908
	8B	9,448,505	3,948	9,452,453
	9A	7,676,597	10	7,676,607
	9B	4,954,445	-	4,954,445
TOTALS		148,820,793	9,053,308	157,874,101
<u>Alberta</u>				
Crop District	1	11,394,571	411,896	11,806,467
	2	9,886,789	2,174	9,888,963
	3	2,809,473	149,313	2,958,786
	4	14,365,767	438,088	14,803,855
	5	4,767,699	3,180	4,770,879
	6	14,927,433	11,356	14,938,789
	7	6,417,560	-	6,417,560
	8	7,234,433	-	7,234,433
	9	699,371	-	699,371
	10	6,797,722	-	6,797,722
	11	3,146,478	-	3,146,478
	12	235,747	-	235,747
	13	1,168,410	-	1,168,410
	14	2,858,024	-	2,858,024
	15	688,639	-	688,639
	16	4,565,215	-	4,565,215
TOTALS		91,963,331	1,016,007	92,979,338
<u>British Columbia</u>		1,066,015	-	1,066,015
GRAND TOTALS		275,623,044	15,453,849	291,076,893

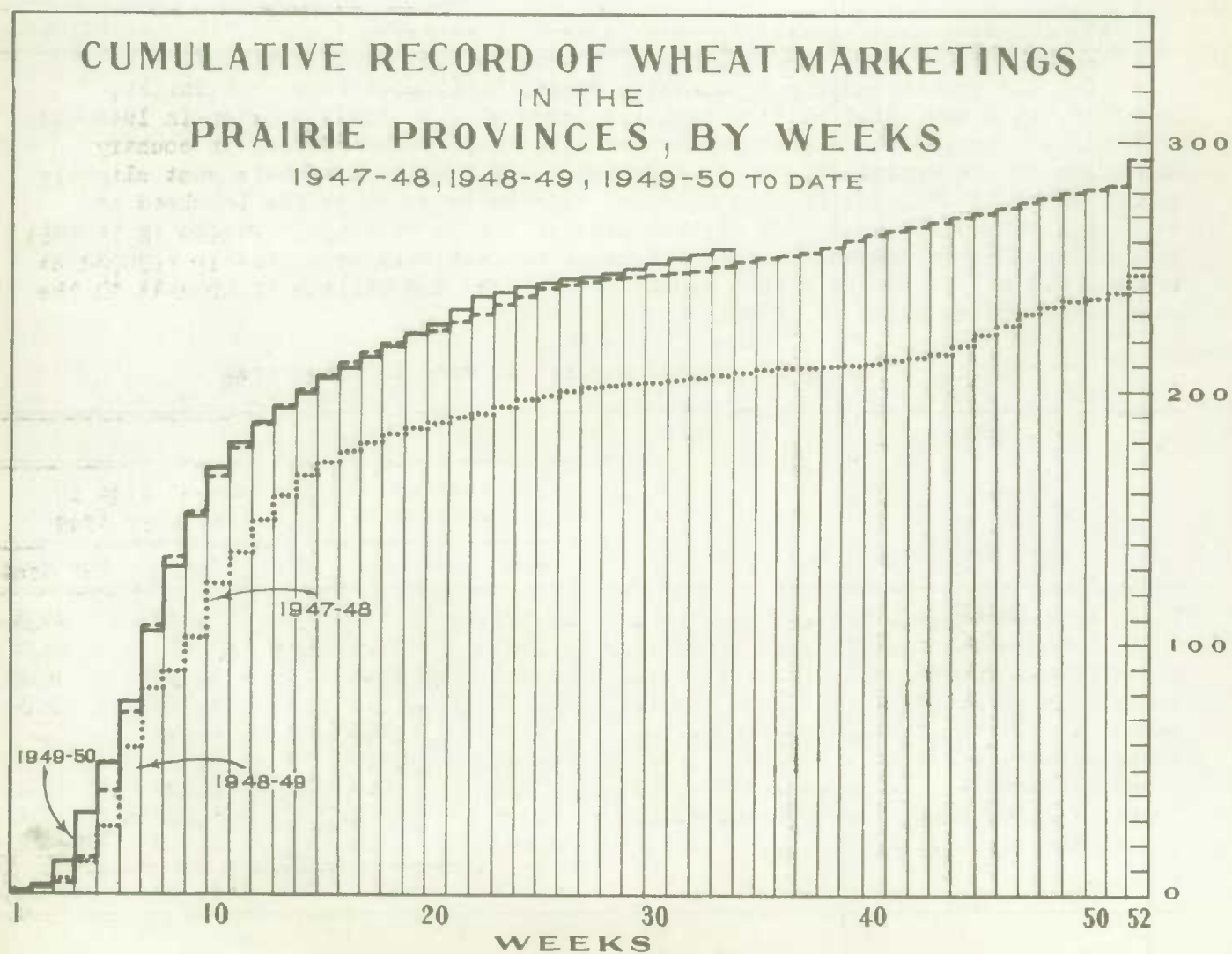
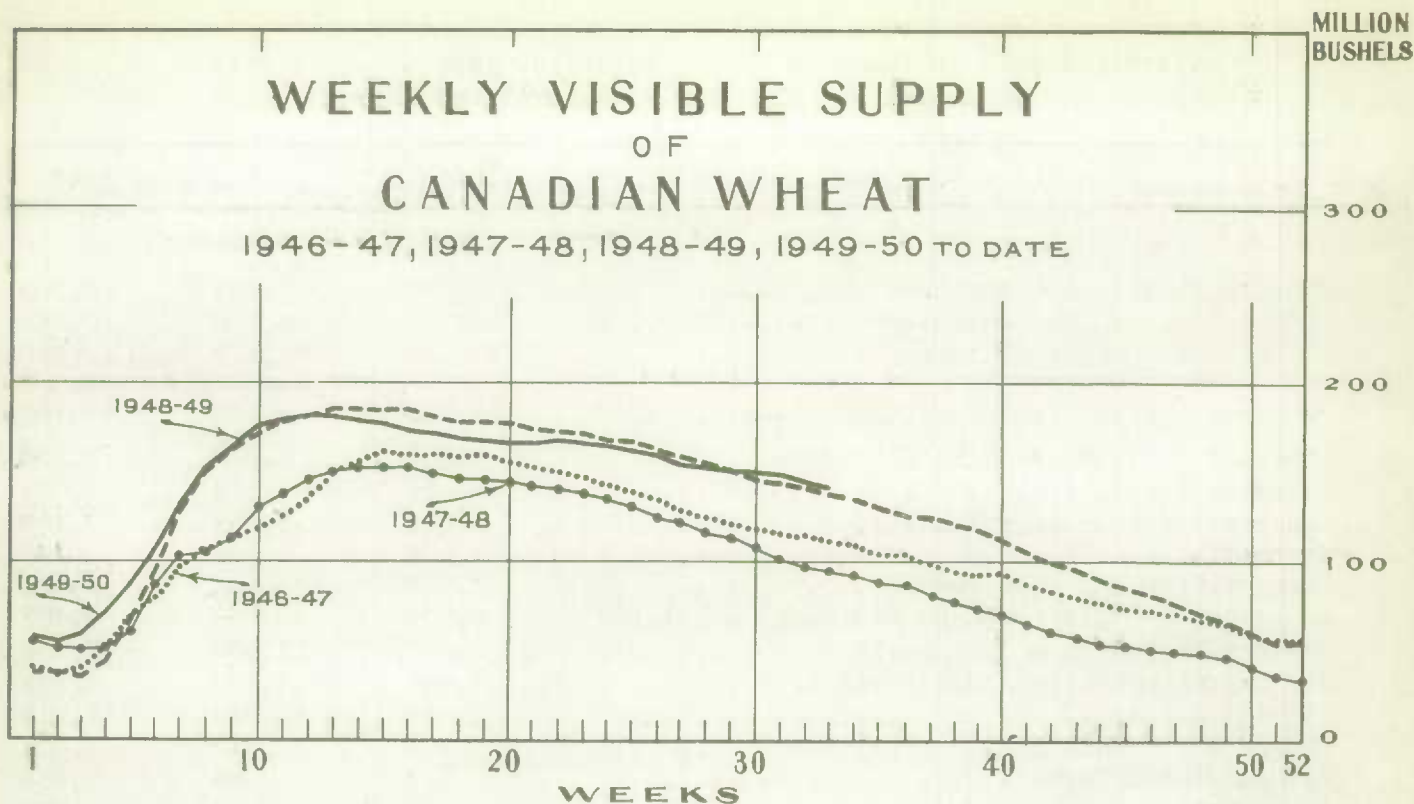
**Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, March 16, 1950 Compared With
Approximately the Same Date, 1949 and 1948**

	1950	1949	1948
	- 000 bushels -		
Country Elevators - Manitoba	3,250	5,465	3,009
Saskatchewan	26,242	25,758	20,643
Alberta	32,162	32,417	22,530
TOTALS	61,654	63,640	46,182
Interior Private and Mill Elevators	3,331	4,326	3,135
Interior Terminals	69	169	1,041
Vancouver-New Westminster	3,132	3,236	7,104
Churchill	126	100	110
Fort William and Port Arthur	44,750	33,296	15,550
In Transit - Rail (Western Division)	6,902	12,838	4,493
Eastern Elevators - Lake Ports	9,507	11,352	7,325
St. Lawrence and Seaboard Ports	7,920	4,220	2,731
Storage Afloat	2,686	1,649	1,919
In Transit - Rail (Eastern Division)	901	2,347	2,028
United States Ports	115	498	2,684
In Transit - U.S.A.	5	42	532
TOTALS	141,098	137,713	94,834

The visible supply of Canadian wheat in all positions at midnight, March 16, 1950 was 141.1 million bushels, compared with 137.7 million in 1949 and 94.8 million in 1948 on approximately the same date. Wheat stored in country elevators in the Prairie Provinces amounted to 61.7 million bushels just slightly down from the 1949 level of 63.6 million. Stocks in store at the Lakehead at 44.8 million bushels were 11.5 million greater than a year ago. Stocks in transit by rail in the western and eastern divisions respectively were greatly reduced at 6.9 and 0.9 million bushels from stocks of 12.8 and 2.3 million in transit in the same divisions on March 17, 1949.

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-February 1950 and 1949

	Inspections			
	August 1949 to February 1950		August 1948 to February 1949	
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent
1 Manitoba Northern	18,374	15.7	30,870	29.5
2 Manitoba Northern	67,131	57.5	43,712	41.7
3 Manitoba Northern	13,210	11.3	8,792	8.4
4 Manitoba Northern	2,758	2.4	1,722	1.6
Garnet	1,917	1.6	1,089	1.0
Amber Durum	4,740	4.1	6,520	6.2
Alberta Winter	737	0.6	1,109	1.1
Toughs - All Varieties and Grades	3,468	3.0	7,307	7.0
All others	4,493	3.8	3,667	3.5
TOTALS	116,828	100.0	104,788	100.0



Wheat Shipments to the United States, By Destination,
August 1, 1949-March 16, 1950

Compared with Approximately the Same Period, 1948-49 and 1947-48

	1949-50	1948-49	1947-48
	bu.	bu.	bu.
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Buffalo	6,738,682	7,161,915	14,266,961
Oswego	-	737,500	-
Erie	-	1,575,567	1,155,260
Toledo	-	325,053	-
Chicago	192,766	-	-
Totals - Vessel Shipments	6,931,448	9,800,035	15,422,221
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	72,225	-	-
Other U.S.A. Points	147,000	86,000	60,577
Totals - Rail Shipments	219,225	86,000	60,577
GRAND TOTALS	7,150,673	9,886,035	15,482,798

Total wheat shipments to the United States during the August 1-March 16 period of the current crop year amounted to 7.2 million bushels compared with 9.9 million for approximately the same period in 1948-49. Movement of wheat by rail to United States destination August 1 to March 16 amounted to 219,225 bushels compared with 86,000 for the similar period of 1948-49. Rail shipments during the period February 16 to March 16 were 124,015 bushels, 23,015 bushels going to United States seaboard ports and 101,000 to other United States points.

Rail Shipments of Wheat to Maritime Ports
from Bay, Lake and St. Lawrence Ports

	August 1, 1949 to March 16, 1950	August 1, 1948 to March 17, 1949
	- bushels -	
Collingwood	271,330	1,357,387
Midland	6,033,801	4,997,624
Owen Sound	1,147,892	1,250,730
Port McNicoll	6,211,434	2,695,480
Goderich	208,343	379,769
Barnia	-	992,108
Humberstone	232,900	-
Walkerville	13,329	-
Port Colborne	-	27,426
Prescott	-	11,066
Montreal	-	3,911
TOTALS	14,119,029	11,715,501

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime ports from Bay, Lake and St. Lawrence ports from August 1 to March 16 were 14.1 million bushels, 2.4 million greater than for approximately the same period in 1948-49. Leading ports of shipments were Port McNicoll and Midland from which ports 6.2 and 6.0 million bushels respectively were shipped.

Rail Shipments from Fort William-Port Arthur - Details of monthly rail shipments of wheat from the Lakehead for the current and preceding three crop years and the distribution of the February 1950 shipments are set forth in the tables below:

Monthly Rail Shipments of Wheat from the Lakehead, 1946-47 to 1949-50

	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
	- bushels -			
August	187,825	90,574	51,283	158,893
September	175,773	91,366	30,017	131,712
October	255,754	131,290	46,274	122,482
November	256,249	100,563	138,600	92,334
December	1,601,883	691,223	1,740,405	342,946
January	2,462,002	3,149,421	3,794,391	277,502
February	1,816,087	1,851,773	3,720,733	240,087
March	1,711,013	3,423,684	1,511,072	
April	566,006	371,950	659,467	
May	361,386	154,551	884,171	
June	241,475	81,133	330,348	
July	123,145	231,414	469,797	
TOTALS	9,758,598	10,368,942	13,376,558	

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from the Lakehead
by Provinces and Grades, February 1950

	Quebec	Ontario	United States
	- bushels -		
1 Northern	-	-	4,500
Selected 2 Northern	-	2,000	-
2 Northern	79,000	60,000	-
No. 5	6,000	1,550	-
Tough No. 5	1,333	1,500	-
Tough No. 6	5,667	-	-
Rejected 1 Nor. Mxd. Gravel and Cinders .	1,528	-	-
Rejected No. 5	8,967	4,667	-
Rejected No. 5 Mixed Htd.....	83	133	-
Tough Ref. No. 5 Mxd. Htd.	-	167	-
1 C.W. Amber Durum	-	19,823	-
2 C.W. Amber Durum	-	22,167	-
3 C.W. Amber Durum	4,500	3,480	-
2 C.W. Soft White Spring	-	3,475	-
Sample Red Spring Htd.	3,412	-	-
Tough Sample Red Spring Htd.	5,453	682	-
TOTALS	115,943	119,644	4,500

GRAND TOTAL 240,087

Freight Assistance Shipments -

According to claims filed for payment to January 31, freight assisted wheat shipments from the Prairie Provinces to eastern Canada and British Columbia during the first half of the current crop year amounted to 4.5 million bushels. While this total is subject to upward revisions as additional claims are filed, it is evident that shipments during the current crop year are running well below last year's levels. All provinces receiving shipments are included in the general decrease, except Newfoundland which entered Confederation as the tenth province on March 31, 1949.

Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Wheat Shipments 1949-50 and 1948-49

1949-50	Newfound- land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total
- 000 bushels -								
August	2	25	28	27	372	240	235	929
September ..	2	13	24	18	401	252	216	926
October	1	7	30	22	347	269	214	890
November ...	2	9	22	17	338	260	190	838
December ...	1	11	17	15	206	225	90	565
January	-	4	14	13	158	148	53	390
TOTALS ...	8	69	135	112	1,822	1,394	998	4,538
Same Period 1948-49 ...	-	70	218	158	1,934	2,326	1,471	6,177

Total freight assisted millfeed shipments for the first half of the current crop year are well below last year's shipments for the same period. Claims filed for payment during the first half of the 1949-50 crop year represent shipments of 271,038 tons as against 325,328 tons moved during the same period of 1948-49. As with freight assisted wheat shipments, data for the current year are subject to upward revision as further claims are filed for payment.

Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Millfeed Shipments 1949-50 and 1948-49

	August 1, 1949 to January 31, 1950	August 1, 1948 to January 31, 1949
- tons -		
Newfoundland	1,065	-
Prince Edward Island	5,251	5,270
Nova Scotia	21,031	25,694
New Brunswick	18,466	21,821
Quebec	123,694	140,579
Ontario	82,699	103,872
British Columbia	18,832	28,092
TOTALS	271,038	325,328

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 Grinding in Bond	Customs ^{2/} Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs ^{3/} Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- 000 bushels -					
<u>1947-48</u>					
August	9,601	2	7,048	16,651	18,140
September	9,363	12	5,864	15,239	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	10,080	3	5,783	15,866	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
TOTALS	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	3,671	14,229	11,942
October	11,566	1	6,509	18,076	21,913
November	15,604	6	5,455	21,065	20,792
December	12,744	8	3,803	16,555	18,205
January	14,431	22	3,756	18,209	18,342
February	12,053	43	3,082	15,178	14,214
March	13,806	206	3,612	17,624	13,707
April	13,769	869	3,368	18,006	20,303
May	22,483	1,381	3,780	27,644	26,683
June	23,286	1,899	3,225	28,410	24,850
July	19,552	816	3,589	23,957	23,422
TOTALS	178,960	5,255	48,094	232,309	228,202
<u>1949-50 ^{4/}</u>					
August	16,639	62	3,898	20,599	24,013
September	14,947	881	3,771	19,599	18,294
October	18,420	1,675	3,240	23,335	21,903
November	20,680	2,019	4,410	27,109	27,292
December	9,751	867	3,388	14,006	21,002
January	10,608	411	4,201	15,220	15,102
February	7,419	495	3,337	11,251	11,216
TOTALS	98,464	6,410	26,245	131,119	138,822

^{1/} U.S.A. official figures for 1947-48 and 1948-49. Later months compiled by Board of Grain Commissioners from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and advice from American grain correspondents.

^{2/} Exports for Crop Years 1947-48, 1948-49 and August to November 1949 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 the External Trade Division, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

^{4/} Subject to revision.

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour

August 1949 to February 1950

	January		February		August-February	
	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/3/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>
	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>						
United Kingdom	1,907,006	7,403,075 ^{4/}	1,610,037	4,641,657	11,391,507	67,818,917
Ireland	-	186,667	-	197,867	-	1,625,867
<u>Africa</u>						
Union of S. Africa.	-	369,600	-	-	1,030	1,308,183
<u>Br. West Africa</u>						
Gambia	1,836	-	1,836	-	3,672	-
Gold Coast	18,401	-	20,507	-	152,622	-
Nigeria	-	-	689	-	3,168	-
Sierra Leone	1,633	-	3,929	-	41,067	-
<u>Asia</u>						
British Malaya	390,271	-	-	-	596,033	-
Hong Kong	98,532	-	45,220	-	1,232,500	-
<u>Europe</u>						
Gibraltar	29,052	-	-	-	50,270	-
Malta	-	313,000	-	-	-	907,667
<u>North America</u>						
Bahamas	21,357	-	26,532	-	138,970	-
Barbados	23,873	-	29,506	-	271,390	866
Jamaica	118,868	-	208,003	-	1,030,307	-
Trinidad-Tobago ...	274,450	-	310,905	-	1,585,647	-
Leeward-Windward Is.	72,814	-	48,051	-	476,554	-
Bermuda	9,198	-	8,032	-	65,313	-
British Honduras ..	7,745	-	2,295	-	25,390	-
<u>South America</u>						
British Guiana	50,647	-	100,364	-	566,757	-
<u>TOTALS, COMMONWEALTH</u>						
COUNTRIES	3,025,683	8,272,342	2,415,906	4,839,524	17,632,197	71,661,500

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour - continued

	January		February		August-February	
	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/3/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>
	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES						
Africa						
Azores and Madeira	-	-	-	-	9,153	-
Belgian Congo	12,717	-	11,682	-	56,970	-
Canary Islands	-	-	1,719	-	8,141	-
Liberia	293	-	1,381	-	5,459	-
Madagascar	-	-	-	-	17,824	-
Morocco	81,072	-	37,976	-	286,988	213,124
Portuguese Africa .	136,755	-	3,721	-	202,382	-
Spanish Africa	25,299	-	2,529	-	48,024	-
Asia						
Arabia	-	-	23,890	10,932	137,308	91,768
China	4,590	-	-	-	59,684	-
Indonesia	-	-	-	-	14,706	-
Iran	9,653	-	-	-	9,653	4,274,108
Israel	1,566	362,133	-	552,692	1,566	2,965,770
Japan	1,467	-	5,738	1,328,228	7,295	2,407,161
Philippine Islands.	358,312	-	359,946	-	3,054,757	-
Siam	18,850	-	5,526	-	83,506	-
Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	2,114,933
Europe						
Belgium	-	1,181,600 <u>4/</u>	-	220,266	18,180	5,214,804
Denmark	-	-	513	-	513	122,000
Finland	-	-	-	110,236	-	110,236
France	-	-	-	-	1,377	-
Germany	3,600	-	-	-	36,913	-
Greece	-	-	-	-	20,326	-
Italy	2,295	-	918	3,674	14,688	255,935
Netherlands	-	-	-	-	13,212	-
Norway	-	-	-	-	-	1,153,007
Poland	-	-	-	-	1,062	-
Portugal	11,939	-	-	-	32,166	-
Spain	-	702,647	-	330,163	-	1,032,810
Switzerland	-	-	-	-	5,202	5,328,251
Yugoslavia	1,242	-	-	-	17,393	-
North America						
Alaska	67	-	-	-	67	-
Costa Rica	7,722	13,334	26,559	-	197,856	96,667
Cuba	91,886	-	98,433	-	1,368,846	-
Dominican Republic.	17,572	-	18,468	2,000	120,577	4,000
El Salvador	13,995	-	9,117	-	80,235	-
Guatemala	26,892	-	46,138	-	182,645	73,467
Haiti	36,297	-	14,549	-	144,581	-
Honduras	230	10,020	918	19,000	7,804	36,520
Mexico	-	-	-	-	-	349,440

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour - concluded

	January		February		August-February	
	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/3/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>
	- bushels -		- bushels -		- bushels -	
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
<u>North America</u>						
Nether. Antilles .	18,400	-	19,917	-	135,275	-
Nicaragua	5,783	-	5,139	1,666	56,097	3,333
Panama	15,498	-	16,700	-	122,980	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon	-	-	4,266	-	15,984	-
Virgin Islands ...	2,340	-	117	-	7,047	-
<u>United States</u>	5,522	-	22	-	76,298	-
For grinding in bond <u>5/</u>	-	401,628	-	442,214	-	5,821,827
For domestic consumption <u>5/</u> ...	-	9,755	-	52,300	-	587,795
<u>Oceania</u>						
Hawaii	-	-	-	-	1,377	433
<u>South America</u>						
Bolivia	-	-	-	-	3,838	354,668
Colombia	5,719	64,722	-	-	32,215	228,533
Ecuador	9,950	-	688	-	142,304	37,333
Peru	25,294	-	-	-	53,064	330,690
Surinam	18,279	-	22,311	-	107,339	-
Venezuela	204,651	500	182,057	1,000	1,591,844	3,500
<u>TOTALS, FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>						
	1,175,747	2,746,339	920,938	3,074,371	8,612,721	33,212,113
<u>GRAND TOTALS</u>						
EXPORTED	4,201,430	11,018,681	3,336,844	7,913,895	26,244,918	104,873,613

- 1/ Canadian Customs Returns - conversion rate 4 1/2 wheat bushels equal 1 barrel.
- 2/ Overseas clearances as reported by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners. Subject to revision.
- 3/ Exports for the month of August to November 1949 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by the Customs.
- 4/ Revised - 83,440 bushels. Previously reported Belgium now advised United Kingdom.
- 5/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and advice from American grain correspondents.

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				
		Feb. 18	Feb. 25	March 4	March 11	March 18
(A) CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD CASH PRICES		- cents and eighths per bushel -				
WHEAT						
(1) Initial Payment to Producers Compulsory Pool 1949-50						
1 Hard		175	175	175	175	175
1 Northern		175	175	175	175	175
2 Northern		172	172	172	172	172
3 Northern		170	170	170	170	170
4 Northern		165	165	165	165	165
Number 5		155	155	155	155	155
Number 6		151	151	151	151	151
Feed		149	149	149	149	149
(2) Class I (Domestic Sales) ^{1/}						
1 Hard		206	206	206	206	206
1 Northern		206	206	206	206	206
2 Northern		203	203	203	203	203
3 Northern		201	201	201	201	201
4 Northern		198	198	198	198	198
Number 5		186	186	186	186	186
Number 6		182	182	182	182	182
Feed		180	180	180	180	180
1 C.W. Garnet		201	201	201	201	201
2 C.W. Garnet		199	199	199	199	199
3 C.W. Garnet		197	197	197	197	197
1 Alta. Red Winter		206	206	206	206	206
2 Alberta Winter		205	205	205	205	205
3 Alberta Winter		202	202	202	202	202
1 C.W. Amber Durum		206	206	206	206	206
2 C.W. Amber Durum		203	203	203	203	203
3 C.W. Amber Durum		201	201	201	201	201
(3) Class II (Export Sales)						
(A) United Kingdom Contract ^{2/}						
1 Hard		206	206	206	206	206
1 Northern		206	206	206	206	206
2 Northern		203	203	203	203	203
3 Northern		201	201	201	201	201
(B) To International Wheat Agreement Countries ^{3/}						
1 Northern		198	198	198	198	198
2 Northern		195	195	195	195	195
3 Northern		193	193	193	193	193
(C) To All Other Countries						
1 Hard		215/1	220/5	220/5	222/4	222/5
1 Northern		215/1	220/5	220/5	222/4	222/5
2 Northern		212/1	217/5	217/5	219/4	219/5
3 Northern		210/1	215/5	215/5	217/4	217/5
1 C.W. Amber Durum		215/1	220/5	220/5	222/4	222/5
2 C.W. Amber Durum		212/1	217/5	217/5	219/4	219/5
3 C.W. Amber Durum		210/1	215/5	215/5	217/4	217/5

^{1/} Covers sales for seed and feed or to mills and includes 6 cents per bushel carrying charges. Sales prices to distillers at the discretion of the Board.

^{2/} Includes 6 cents per bushel carrying charges.

^{3/} 5 cents per bushel carrying charge discontinued effective December 14, 1949.

Grain and Summerfallow Acreages in the Prairie Provinces, 1949 and 1948

With the 1950 seeding season close at hand a good deal of interest is currently displayed relative to the acreages which will be sown this spring. In this connection no official estimates will be available until May 11 when the Bureau will issue its release on 'Intentions to Plant Field Crops' for harvest in 1950. Meanwhile, for purposes of comparison, the acreages seeded to principal field crops in the Prairie Provinces the past two years are set out in the tables presented herewith. Revisions to date have been included.

Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow by Crop Districts, in Manitoba, 1949 and 1948

Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Fall Rye	Spring Rye	Flax-seed	Summer-fallow
- '000 acres -							
<u>1949</u>							
1	275	101	38	10	-	21	155
2	440	173	195	2	-	16	310
3	843	450	502	6	0.4	27	419
4	40	23	26	-	-	2	21
5	146	90	112	2	-	4	69
6	47	41	21	2	-	1	20
7	375	190	150	6	2.0	15	325
8	245	140	119	4	1.0	16	200
9	180	117	110	1	-	18	130
10	240	151	180	5	1.0	2	227
11	150	100	95	1	0.5	5	130
12	51	42	50	-	-	3	33
13	90	45	75	1	0.2	1	67
14	45	40	26	-	1.0	3	50
TOTALS	3,167	1,703	1,699	40	6.1	134	2,156

1948

1	167	74	36	13.0	-	190	130
2	323	146	189	6.1	0.9	105	294
3	554	370	448	18.6	1.2	236	428
4	28	19	23	-	-	12	18
5	100	91	93	4.0	1.9	36	62
6	28	40	19	4.7	-	8	20
7	255	175	160	12.5	1.9	110	290
8	180	119	103	10.5	3.0	83	185
9	139	92	90	1.5	0.9	90	121
10	174	161	171	8.4	2.5	14	234
11	111	90	85	1.0	2.3	31	131
12	40	37	40	0.3	0.7	14	37
13	49	42	59	11.8	2.8	3	56
14	24	35	24	1.6	2.9	28	50
TOTALS	2,172	1,491	1,540	94.0	21.0	960	2,056

Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow by Crop Districts,
in Saskatchewan, 1949 and 1948

Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Fall Rye	Spring Rye	Flax-seed	Summer-fallow
- '000 acres -							
<u>1 9 4 9</u>							
1A	588	200	75	9.9	0.4	28.3	483
1B	356	240	74	6.4	0.8	5.1	339
2A	582	126	70	2.8	0.1	8.9	523
2B	1,269	120	38	7.2	1.4	4.3	782
3AS	1,036	116	97	19.5	1.6	12.1	791
3AN	564	75	127	28.4	2.4	2.1	490
3BS	693	57	86	19.0	1.7	1.6	762
3BN	1,035	66	83	55.3	9.2	8.8	931
4A	362	28	45	53.3	6.3	5.6	402
4B	722	10	19	138.8	7.8	7.8	424
5A	860	288	136	34.6	7.7	2.5	752
5B	774	345	224	10.4	8.3	1.7	833
6A	1,311	248	94	17.2	3.6	13.1	1,070
6B	1,124	208	74	56.0	17.2	4.1	821
7A	1,371	76	39	28.5	1.0	15.1	689
7B	659	323	47	29.8	9.9	2.3	578
8A	452	168	174	4.4	1.2	3.2	441
8B	677	196	114	7.5	7.1	2.3	603
9A	739	283	123	12.8	29.7	2.7	638
9B	563	208	61	15.2	15.6	0.4	334
TOTALS	15,737	3,381	1,800	557	133	132	12,686

<u>1 9 4 8</u>							
1A	449	233	110	18.6	0.6	166	447
1B	292	253	102	9.0	1.7	37	361
2A	571	150	103	4.6	0.2	47	484
2B	1,154	147	94	17.6	2.0	21	724
3AS	987	121	167	40.5	3.2	42	719
3AN	575	67	108	55.5	5.8	7	476
3BS	642	66	162	35.0	2.7	7	646
3BN	995	87	124	102.0	14.6	46	831
4A	355	38	66	115.5	10.1	12	270
4B	656	19	33	256.0	12.4	32	321
5A	711	288	177	66.3	17.4	9	752
5B	662	383	215	19.9	18.2	6	786
6A	1,285	276	136	30.0	7.5	57	930
6B	1,081	224	105	80.9	32.9	13	733
7A	1,162	86	49	26.3	1.9	72	774
7B	666	314	56	37.1	17.1	5	545
8A	332	187	167	9.8	2.0	8	437
8B	610	194	138	13.6	15.5	6	553
9A	697	311	115	28.2	59.1	6	580
9B	507	208	89	21.6	25.1	1	367
TOTALS	14,389	3,652	2,316	988	250	600	11,736

**Seeded Acreages of Principal Grain Crops and Summerfallow by Crop Districts,
in Alberta, 1949 and 1948**

Crop District	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Fall Rye	Spring Rye	Flax-seed	Summer-fallow
- '000 acres -							
<u>1949</u>							
1	841	23	53	15.0	7.0	0.9	765
2	552	45	52	5.2	4.0	3.7	425
3A	150	3	3	9.5	2.5	1.3	132
3B	197	25	20	15.7	0.3	4.6	60
4	794	75	65	20.1	12.0	2.6	667
5	617	89	30	3.6	35.1	-	457
6	941	186	225	36.8	2.0	4.2	907
7	738	221	76	40.0	28.1	0.3	545
8	656	309	338	11.5	40.0	3.7	625
9	113	66	196	3.3	-	-	163
10	716	376	239	5.8	10.0	1.9	508
11	192	231	289	0.2	2.0	2.5	274
12	27	32	23	-	-	1.0	40
13	153	89	102	-	1.0	1.0	106
14	291	159	293	0.4	10.7	0.3	171
15	106	82	38	-	-	0.5	39
16	468	235	74	2.9	0.3	6.0	213
17	34	9	2	-	-	3.0	19

TOTALS	7,586	2,255	2,118	170	155	37.5	6,116
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1948

1	786	25	56	75	77	23	643
2	397	52	77	14	11	37	494
3A	130	4	7	34	33	3	110
3B	144	24	25	29	14	46	61
4	679	84	93	45	23	43	654
5	566	100	46	19	54	14	444
6	791	216	289	80	5	17	840
7	690	235	79	41	54	3	545
8	482	303	348	41	15	6	679
9	54	72	198	8	-	5	209
10	587	396	239	6	27	10	541
11	160	248	311	1	2	5	263
12	20	29	18	-	-	1	50
13	116	91	107	-	2	1	114
14	205	161	266	2	7	5	208
15	82	85	26	-	-	5	63
16	339	253	39	5	8	23	263
17	31	14	2	-	-	3	18

TOTALS	6,259	2,392	2,226	400	212	250	6,199
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CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production and Exports -

During February Canadian flour mills produced 1.6 million barrels of flour some 56,000 more than the January outturn. Mills reporting operations for February had a total rated milling capacity of 99,070 barrels per 24-hour working day and on the basis of a 24-day working period 67.6 per cent of the rated capacity was effective. In January of the current crop year 63.4 per cent of rated milling capacity was utilized. Total flour production for the period August-February 1949-50 amounted to 12.2 million barrels, down slightly from the 12.4 million, turned out during the same period of 1948-49.

Canadian flour exports in February amounted to 741,521 barrels as against January exports of 933,651 barrels. Total exports for the first seven months of 1949-50 were 5,832,204 barrels, a decrease of some 14.0 per cent from exports for the similar period in 1948-49.

Production and Exports of Wheat Flour, Canada, 1938-39 to 1949-50

Crop Year	Production	Exports ^{1/}
- barrels of 196 pounds -		
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
1946-47	28,588,456	16,896,233
1947-48	24,159,696	13,661,573
1948-49	20,329,529	10,687,561
<u>1949-50</u>		
August	1,750,000	866,199
September	1,857,154	838,052
October	1,858,774	719,950
November	1,950,539	979,998
December	1,628,443	752,833
January	1,550,336	933,651
February	1,606,229	741,521
TOTALS	12,201,475	5,832,204
SAME PERIOD 1948-49 ...	12,379,748	6,782,331

^{1/} Based on Custom returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46 to 1948-49, and for August to November 1949 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.

THE UNITED STATES WHEAT SITUATION

The Supply Situation - With carryover stocks at July 1, 1949 of 307 million, a 1949 outturn of 1,146 million and probable imports of one million bushels, United States supplies of wheat for 1949-50 amount to some 1,454 million bushels. Domestic requirements for the crop year have been placed at about 687 million bushels leaving some 767 million for export and carryover at the end of the crop year. With exports of wheat, flour and other wheat products (all in terms of wheat) for 1949-50 recently estimated officially at about 375 million bushels, carryover stocks at June 30 should be in the neighbourhood of 390 million bushels. (United States exports of wheat and wheat products in 1948-49 reached a record 503 million bushels). With 212 million bushels exported during the first seven months of the United States crop year, some 163 million remain to be moved out between March 1 and June 30 if the export estimate of 375 million bushels for the crop year is to be realized. However, it is observed that late trade estimates place probable exports for the year at around 325 million, which would leave a crop year end carryover of over 440 million bushels.

United States Wheat Supplies

(Estimates rounded to nearest million bushels)

	1949-50	1948-49
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at July 1	307	196
New Crop	1,146	1,314
Probable imports for crop year	1	1
Total Estimated Supplies	1,454	1,511
Less Estimated domestic requirements	687	700
Available for export and carryover	767	811
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain July 1--February 28	185	249
Exports of flour and wheat by-products July 1-Feb. 28 ..	27	103
Total exports wheat and wheat products	212	352
Balance on March 1 for export and carryover	555	459

Prospective Plantings of Spring Wheat - The Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture in a report released March 20 stated "A 1950 acreage of all spring wheat one eighth less than last year is indicated by farmers' intentions as reported on March 1. The prospective 19,727,000 acres, however, still is 9 per cent more than the 1939-48 average of 18,072,000 acres planted. An all wheat total of 72,750,000 acres is indicated by adding this prospective acreage of all spring wheat to the fall seedings of winter wheat as estimated in December. This year's total will be about 14 per cent below the 84,931,000 acres planted for the 1949 crop, but 10 per cent above the 1939-48 average of 66,026,000 acres. The indicated total 1950 planted acreage is slightly less than the acreage allotment for all wheat including acreage allotted under the provisions of Public Law 272.

The prospective acreage of all spring wheat is indicated to be less than last year in all States except Idaho and New Mexico where the acreage is expected to be the same as in 1949. In the North Central States, where nearly three-fourths of the spring wheat is grown, the 1950 acreage will be 14 per cent less than last year. In the Western group of States, the reduction is indicated at 10 per cent. Spring wheat seedings show sharp reductions from last year in Colorado, Oregon, and Nebraska. Last year a large acreage of spring wheat in these States was planted on abandoned winter wheat land.

The intended acreage of durum wheat, indicated at 3,260,000 acres is 12 per cent less than the 3,693,000 acres planted last year, but is 24 per cent larger than the 10-year average of 2,623,000 acres. The durum wheat acreage in North Dakota and South Dakota is 12 per cent and 14 per cent respectively, below the 1949 acreage, while an increase of 5 per cent is reported for Minnesota's small acreage. The acreage of other spring wheat in these States is expected to be well below last year. Decreases are indicated at 12 per cent for North Dakota, 18 per cent for South Dakota, and 15 per cent for Minnesota.

Production of all spring wheat may be about 300 million bushels, if the intended acreage is planted, and if yields per seeded acre should equal the 1944-48 average, by States. This added to the 885 million bushels of winter wheat forecast last December, would give a total of 1,185 million bushels of all wheat in 1950, compared with 1,146 million bushels harvested in 1949."

Weather Conditions Affecting 1950 Crop -

An official weather and crop bulletin dated March 28 advises that "Dry, windy weather aggravated the deficient topsoil moisture condition in most of the middle and southern portions of the western Great Plains. The unusually high persistent winds from about Saturday to Monday caused considerable soil blowing in this area, with some damage to wheat. The chief complaints were from the Texas Panhandle, the Oklahoma Panhandle, the central third of Kansas, the extreme southwestern and Panhandle sections of Nebraska, and eastern portions of Colorado and New Mexico. Greenbugs and other insects caused more than their usual damage in northern Texas and much of Oklahoma and Kansas. Wheat remained in a critical condition in northwestern Texas where a few fields were abandoned, and small grains were mostly at a standstill elsewhere in that State awaiting rain, except eastern sections. Rain is needed badly in the western half of Oklahoma, with some abandonment of wheat fields reported from the Panhandle. Wheat is mostly developing satisfactorily in northern and eastern Kansas, but moisture is needed in the central and southwestern portions.

Except as mentioned above, the condition of small grains over the country was mostly satisfactory with greening noted northward to Nebraska and almost to the Great Lakes. Rains in the far West improved prospects, although they retarded seeding in the Pacific States."

January Flour Production -

According to the Bureau of the Census, January wheat flour production was estimated at 19.2 million sacks, 3 per cent above December output and 15 per cent below flour production in January of 1949. This was the lowest January figure reported since the end of the war. Flour mills operated at 65.9 per cent of capacity in January compared with 61.8 per cent of capacity the previous month.

Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat -

Cash wheat markets at both

Chicago and Minneapolis maintained a firm tone during the four week period ending March 25. Prices fluctuated in line with the upward trend in futures prices. Receipts were light and a good share of arrivals belong to the C.C.C. Holders of hard winter wheat were apparently not willing to sell, evidently being influenced by reported adverse moisture conditions prevailing in the winter wheat crop area. Some export and milling business kept the amount of cash wheat available at a minimum and this was a further influence in developing the upward market trend.

Daily Cash Wheat Prices on the Chicago and Minneapolis Markets

1950	Chicago		Minneapolis	
	Grade	Price	Grade	Price
February	25	None	1 Dark Northern	223 1/8 - 224 1/8
	27	1 Mixed	1 Dark Northern	222 1/4 - 223 1/4
	28	None	1 Dark Northern	223 1/4 - 224 1/4
March	1	None	1 Dark Northern	225 - 226
	2	2 Yellow Hard	1 Dark Northern	223 3/4 - 224 3/4
	3	None	1 Dark Northern	225 1/8 - 226 1/8
	4	1 Mixed	1 Dark Northern	225 - 226
	6	2 Yellow Hard	1 Dark Northern	223 1/2 - 225 1/2
	7	2 Red	1 Dark Northern	226 5/8 - 227 5/8
	8	None	1 Dark Northern	227 - 228
	9	None	1 Dark Northern	226 1/2 - 227 1/2
	10	None	1 Dark Northern	226 3/8 - 227 3/8
	11	2 Yellow Hard	1 Dark Northern	226 5/8 - 227 5/8
	13	None	1 Dark Northern	226 3/8 - 227 3/8
	14	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	226 3/4 - 227 3/4
	15	4 Red	1 Dark Northern	226 1/2 - 227 1/2
	16	2 Hard	1 Dark Northern	226 1/4 - 227 1/4
	17	2 Yellow Hard	1 Dark Northern	224 3/4 - 225 3/4
	18	3 Yellow Hard	1 Dark Northern	224 3/8 - 225 3/8
	20	2 Hard	1 Dark Northern	225 1/8 - 227 1/8
	21	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	224 1/2 - 225 1/2
	22	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	224 3/8 - 225 3/8
	23	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	225 - 227
	24	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	227 - 229
	25	3 Red	1 Dark Northern	226 1/2 - 227 1/2

Chicago Wheat Futures - Chicago wheat futures during the period February 27 to March 27, 1950 showed considerable strength upon reports of unfavourable weather forecasts from the southwest winter wheat belt. During the third week of March the tendency for futures to rise was checked by reports of precipitation occurring in parts of the southwest. However, the market strengthened again during the last few days of the period under review. A fairly good export business coupled with some flour sales and light deliveries of wheat for the cash market were also important factors in maintaining the strong tone of the market. May, July, September and December futures reached a high for the season on March 27.

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

1950		March	May	July	September	December
- cents and eighths per bushel -						
February	27	221	213/3	193/4	194/3	196/3
	28	220/4	213/2	193/4	194/4	196/6
March	1	221/4	214/6	194/5	195/6	197/6
	2	221/6	214	193/6	194/4	196/3
	3	221/6	215/2	195/1	195/6	198/1
	4	222/2	215/4	196/3	196/6	198/6
	6	224/2	217/2	197/7	198	200/2
	7	226/4	218/2	198/4	198/6	201
	8	226/2	218/5	198/3	198/2	200/4
	9	225/5	217/6	196/6	197/1	199/2
	10	226/5	217/7	195/5	195/7	198/2
	11	228/4	219/2	196/4	196/6	199
	13	231/6	219/5	196/4	196/6	199/1
	14	231/4	220/2	197/2	197/3	199/5
	15	230	219/7	196/3	197	199/2
	16	230	221	197/3	197/7	200/2
	17	230	220/5	196/7	197/2	199/5
	18	229/4	220/1	196/1	196/3	198/5
	20	231/4	221/7	197/7	198/2	200/6
	21	231/3	221/1	196/7	197/2	199/6
	22	229/3	220/6	196/6	197/1	199/7
	23	229/2	221/3	197/2	197/6	200/4
	24		223/4	199/5	200/2	202/7
	25		223/3	200	200/4	203/3
	27		225/2	204/4	205/4	208/2

THE ARGENTINE WHEAT SITUATION

Supply Position

Considerable difficulty is experienced in evaluating the wheat supply situation in the Argentine, due largely to the absence of official statistics. However, from trade and other unofficial sources it has been possible to construct the tentative balance sheet shown herewith. With an estimated carryover of 37 million bushels at December 1, 1949 and a new crop of some 210 million bushels, Argentina's supply of wheat for the Argentine current crop year is 247 million bushels. With probable domestic disappearance placed at 130 million bushels, the amount available for export and carryover into the next crop year stands at 117 million bushels. Wheat exported as grain during the period December 1, 1949—March 4, 1950 amounted to about 26 million bushels, an increase of some 5 million over exports for the same period of 1948-49. Exports of wheat flour were negligible in this period of both crop years. The balance remaining on March 5, 1950 for export and carryover is estimated at 91 million bushels as against 84 million at the same time last year.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

(Estimates rounded to nearest million bushels)

	1949-50	1948-49
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at December 1	37	37
New Crop	210	190
Total Estimated Supplies	247	227
Less Estimated domestic requirements	130	122
Available for export and carryover	117	105
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain Dec. 1, 1949—March 4, 1950 ...	26	21
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat		
December 1, 1949—March 4, 1950	1/	1/
Total Exports Wheat and Wheat Flour	26	21
Balance on March 5 for export and carryover	91	84

1/ Less than 10,000 bushels.

The following comments on the grain situation in the Argentine has been extracted from a report forwarded March 17, 1950 by Mr. W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary (Agriculture) at Buenos Aires and is reproduced by kind permission of the Trade Commissioner Service.

Weather and Crops - The drought from which Argentina had been suffering since last November was broken with the general rain on February 12th and since that date all the grain belt has received four widespread rainfalls, totalling up to 4 to 6 inches in some districts. Soil moisture conditions are now satisfactory throughout the grain zones except in the west of the Province of Buenos Aires and Territory of La Pampa where rainfall is still less than required. Since the first rain farmers have been rushing sowings of barley and rye for winter pasture. The rains have greatly improved the prospects for ploughing and seeding of the next wheat and flax crops.

Pastures have recovered remarkably well in recent weeks but further rain will be needed in April for cattlemen to face the winter with confidence. The rain was, of course, too late for the current corn crop but the late sown fields show some improvement. This year's crop will be about 79 million bushels. Sunflower came through the drought much better than the corn although yields will be reduced. It is believed that owing to the dry weather farmers did not sow the intended acreage and the total area may not reach the record previously forecast.

Subsidy on Selected Seed - On February 25 a government decree allocated the sum of \$6,222,500 to the Ministry of Agriculture to cover the difference in the purchase price and transportation of certified seed grain from registered growers and the sale price to farmers. The quantity of seed involved is 1.1 million 132.3 pound sacks. Seed wheat "original" will be purchased by the Ministry from registered growers at \$9.66 per sack and will be sold at \$7.37. These prices are per sack on railcar or truck at origin and at destination, respectively. Corresponding purchase prices established for 1st, 2nd and 3rd multiplication seed run from \$7.37 to \$8.35 while sales prices are set at \$5.08 to \$6.06 per sack.

Increase in Wheat Acreage Sought - There has been a steady decline in the acreages seeded to grain in Argentina over the past few years. This reflects various adverse factors such as adverse weather conditions, unsatisfactory official purchase prices and increased production costs, all of which have caused a general exodus of the rural population to the industrial centers. The total area seeded to grain in 1949-50 was about 32.1 million acres as compared with 34.8 million in 1948-49 and may be contrasted with the average of about 49.4 million acres for the decade ended 1940.

As a result of the declining acreages, Argentina's grain exports at 3.8 million short tons in 1949 are down from 6.1 million in 1948 and 13.1 million for the decade ended 1940. Argentina's portion of world exports of grains has also been substantially reduced and according to information released by the F.A.O., Argentina's participation in world exports of bread grains in 1948-49 was 6.4 per cent as against 11.5 per cent in 1947-48 and the five year prewar average of 21.3 per cent. Similarly, their portion of world exports of coarse grains in 1948-49 was 22.8 per cent compared with 46 per cent in 1947-48 and 53.8 per cent for the prewar average.

As a result of this decline in production and participation in the world grain market, Argentina has lost one of their principal sources of foreign exchange revenue. There is increasing evidence that the government recognizes the serious loss of exchange and last year the President announced the Three Year Plan for Agriculture and promised various measures of assistance to farmers to increase production. President Peron, in a speech at the closing session of the Conference of Agricultural Cooperatives on March 5th, reiterated the government's intention to assist producers and asked that the area seeded to wheat for the next crop be increased by 25 per cent, bringing the total area up to the traditional acreage of about 17 million acres.

Recent Sales - The trade reports that 1.5 million bushels of wheat and 1.6 million bushels of rye have been sold to Spain for free dollars. Late in 1949 Argentina suspended further credits to that country and all sales have now to be paid in dollars or essential goods.

Switzerland is at present negotiating for shipment in the 2nd quarter of 1.1 million bushels of wheat at \$2.35 per bushel, 1.6 million bushels of oats at \$1.20 and 787,358 bushels of rye at \$1.84 per bushel.

Grain Exports - Grain shipments for 1950 up to March 4th are as follows according to trade sources:

	Wheat	Corn	Oats	Barley	Rye	Wheat Flour
	- 000 bushels -					196 pound barrels
United Kingdom ..	-	996	-	-	-	-
France	-	1,517	-	-	-	-
Belgium	8	1,281	45	18	29	-
Italy	3,494	34	386	-	-	-
Germany	1,854	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	687	1,196	-	-	-	-
Rest of Europe ..	1,939	1,953	2,058	828	424	1,698
Brazil	7,194	-	-	-	-	-
Others	5,661	689	500	1,204	-	-
Totals	20,837	7,666	2,989	2,050	453	1,698

THE AUSTRALIAN WHEAT SITUATION

Supply Position - With a carryover of 19 million bushels at November 30, 1949 and a new crop estimated at 216 million the total Australian wheat supply for the current crop year amounts to some 235 million bushels. Domestic requirements are placed at 83 million bushels leaving approximately 152 million available for export and carryover. Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from December 1, 1949 to March 4, 1950 amounted to 25 million bushels, about five million less than shipments during the same period of 1948-49. The balance remaining on March 5 for export and carryover into the next crop year stood at 127 million bushels as against 109 million on the same date last year.

Australian Wheat Supplies (Estimates rounded to nearest million bushels)

	1949-50	1948-49
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at November 30 (including flour as wheat)	19	26
New Crop	216	191
Total Supply	235	217
Less Estimated domestic requirements	83	78
Available for export and carryover	152	139
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain December 1-March 4	16	21
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat Dec.1-March 4 .	9	9
Total Exports Wheat and Wheat Flour	25	30
Balance on March 5 for Export and Carryover	127	109

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- March 6 A trade report states that the harvesting of wheat in India is gaining momentum and a good outturn is expected. Despite prospects for a good crop various official sources estimate a grain deficiency of 75 million to 130 million bushels for the year.
- 9 Shipments of Australian wheat and wheat flour from December 1, 1949 to March 4, 1950 amounted to 25.0 million bushels. Of this amount 16.2 million bushels were shipped as wheat, the major takers being India, Japan, New Zealand and Egypt. Flour shipments in terms of wheat amounted to 8.8 million bushels, going principally to Ceylon, India, Malaya and Egypt.
- 15 The United States Department of Agriculture announced the effective parity price of wheat on March 15 was \$2.14 per bushel. Average price as a percentage of parity price equalled 93 per cent.
- 20 The Crop Reporting Board of the U.S.D.A. reports prospective planting of spring wheat at 19.7 million acres, down 12.5 per cent compared with 1949. The winter wheat acreage for harvest in 1950 has been estimated at 53.0 million acres, giving a prospective total of 72.8 million acres for both spring and winter wheat acreage for the 1950-51 crop year.
- 23 Wheat deliveries from farms in western Canada for the week ending March 23 amounted to 2.2 million bushels.
- 28 According to trade sources the Mexican Agriculture and Livestock Ministry in a preliminary estimate places the 1950 wheat crop at 750,000 tons, about 200,000 tons more than in 1949. Mexico imports about 250,000 tons of wheat every year. This year's estimated increase in wheat outturn is expected to considerably reduce needed imports of wheat.
- 29 The Commodity Credit Corporation of the United States Department of Agriculture announced that 1949 wheat placed under loans and purchase agreements during the period July through February amounted to 378.5 million bushels. Of 332.5 million bushels under loans, 76.1 million bushels were farm stored and 256.4 million were warehouse stored. Wheat under purchase agreements amounted to 46.0 million bushels.
- 31 It is estimated that at or about March 1, 1950, 971 million bushels of wheat were available for export or carryover from the four major wheat exporting countries, United States, Canada, Argentina and Australia. At the beginning of March 1949, 870 million bushels were available for export and carryover from the same four countries.

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