

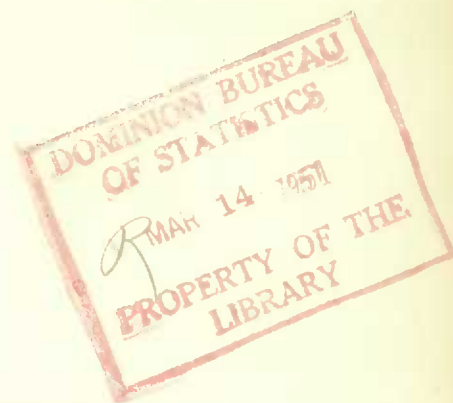
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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
AGRICULTURE DIVISION



# THE WHEAT REVIEW



FEBRUARY, 1951



DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Department of Trade and Commerce

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# THE WHEAT REVIEW

(Formerly Monthly Review of the Wheat Situation)

FEBRUARY, 1951

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*Published by Authority of the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe*  
**Minister of Trade and Commerce**

*Prepared in the*  
Crops Section, Agriculture Division  
Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa

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## WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies - The latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about February 1, 1951 in the four major exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,102 million bushels. At the same time in 1950, 985 million bushels were available. Supplies this year (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, last year's figures in brackets: United States, 577 (531); Canada, 315 (218); Australia, 124 (145); and Argentina, 86 (91). It may be noted that significant proportions of the current supplies in Canada and Australia consist of low grade wheat.

Trade Outlook, 1950-51 - Despite somewhat larger exportable supplies, it is probable that world trade in wheat and wheat flour during 1950-51 may be slightly less than in 1949-50. Requirements, however, are somewhat higher than anticipated earlier in the season largely as a result of the unsettled international situation and the drought in India. Transportation difficulties have so far retarded movement from North America, and Southern Hemisphere supplies are somewhat smaller than in 1949-50. On the other hand, an increased rate of export is anticipated over the next few months. Canada and the United States have both sold large quantities of wheat and flour for future delivery and January clearances were well in excess of December shipments. The opening of lake navigation will add further impetus to export movements. Exports for December and January from the Argentine and Australia were somewhat above shipments from these countries during the same months of the previous Southern Hemisphere crop year.

A large proportion of the current season's trade will move under the International Wheat Agreement. A number of importing countries have already purchased their Agreement quotas while sales already recorded by exporting countries represent a large proportion of the total quantities available under the Agreement.

Notes on New Crops - Precipitation during the third week of February afforded some relief to sections of the United States winter wheat belt where dry conditions had prevailed for some time. Latest available reports, however, indicated that the Texas Panhandle, western Oklahoma, western Kansas, eastern Colorado, much of New Mexico, and northern and western Arizona were still critically dry. Conditions in the winter wheat areas of Europe are variable. The general crop situation is deemed favourable in Italy. In France the winter wheat condition is somewhat inferior to a year ago but the general outlook is considered satisfactory. Wet weather has delayed field work in the United Kingdom. With winter wheat acreage below expectations in that country considerable spring planting will be needed if the Government's acreage goal is to be reached.

International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases - According to the International Wheat Council purchases of wheat recorded under the I.W.A. from August 1, 1950 to February 16, 1951, amounted to 394.9 million bushels or about 70 per cent of the total guaranteed quantities. Leading purchasers under the Agreement, with quantities in millions of bushels, were: the United Kingdom, 128.9; Germany, 40.0; India 36.9; Belgium, 20.3; Greece, 13.9; the Netherlands, 13.7; Egypt, 13.5; Italy, 12.4; and Mexico, 12.0. Sales recorded to February 16 by the four exporting countries were (in millions of bushels); the United States, 183.5; Canada, 123.5; Australia, 85.7; and France, 2.2.



International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases, Aug. 1, 1950 to Feb. 16, 1951  
Together with Annual Quantities Guaranteed

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Purchases	Source				Total Purchases
		Australia	Canada	France	U.S.A.	
- thousand bushels -						
Austria .....	11,023	-	-	-	7,051	7,051
Belgium 1/ .....	20,209	-	9,693	-	10,565	20,258
Bolivia 1/.....	2,756	-	730	-	2,026	2,756
Brazil .....	13,228	-	377	1,670	5,506	7,553
Ceylon 1/ .....	6,614	6,614	-	-	-	6,614
Costa Rica .....	1,212	-	571	-	234	805
Cuba 2/ .....	7,422	-	4,426	-	2,309	6,735
Denmark .....	1,617	-	-	-	713	713
Dominican Republic .	876	-	514	-	231	745
Ecuador 1/ .....	1,286	-	622	-	673	1,295
Egypt .....	14,698	10,543	-	-	2,999	13,542
El Salvador 1/ .....	404	-	80	-	373	453
Germany .....	66,139	1,400	2	367	38,275	40,044
Greece .....	15,726	-	-	-	13,906	13,906
Guatemala .....	919	-	318	-	527	845
Haiti 1/ .....	1,029	-	837	-	225	1,062
Honduras Republic ..	367	-	17	-	38	55
Iceland .....	404	-	21	-	-	21
India .....	55,116	15,589	11,200	-	10,079	36,868
Indonesia 1/.....	3,674	2,379	63	-	1,292	3,734
Ireland .....	10,105	1,867	3,606	-	1,006	6,479
Israel .....	5,879	320	1,648	184	3,650	5,802
Italy .....	40,418	-	1,964	-	10,403	12,368
Lebanon .....	2,388	-	249	-	1,042	1,291
Liberia .....	36	-	17	-	5	22
Mexico .....	12,860	-	-	-	11,951	11,951
Netherlands .....	24,802	1,904	398	-	11,362	13,664
New Zealand .....	4,593	4,530	-	-	-	4,530
Nicaragua 1/ .....	331	-	135	-	196	331
Norway .....	7,716	1,120	1,528	-	4,026	6,674
Panama .....	625	-	318	-	134	452
Peru .....	5,512	902	103	-	3,465	4,470
Philippines .....	7,202	-	2,486	-	2,161	4,647
Portugal .....	5,626	172	227	-	4,073	4,472
Saudi Arabia .....	1,837	154	45	-	667	866
Spain .....	4,372	-	276	-	2,998	3,274
Sweden .....	2,756	1,232	-	-	896	2,128
Switzerland 1/ .....	6,430	-	2,050	-	4,405	6,455
Union of S. Africa .	11,023	-	8,213	-	-	8,213
United Kingdom .....	177,068	36,969	68,571	-	23,330	128,870
Venezuela .....	6,246	-	2,232	-	677	2,909
Totals .....	562,544	85,695	123,538	2,221	183,469	394,923
Guaranteed Sales ...		88,700	221,592	4,089	248,163	562,544
Balance .....		3,005	98,054	1,868	64,694	167,621

1/ Guaranteed quantity fulfilled.

2/ Fulfilment advised, confirming reports awaited.

## CANADIAN SITUATION

Final Settlement of Five-Year Wheat Pool - On March 2, 1951, the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. L. S. St. Laurent, made the following statement in the House of Commons concerning the final settlement of the five-year (1945-46-1949-50) wheat pool:

"As the house is aware, there have been discussions with the United Kingdom government on several occasions concerning article 2(b) of the wheat agreement entered into in 1946—the so-called "have regard to" clause. The United Kingdom government has made it clear that no further payment will be made by them under that agreement. Hon. members may also have seen an announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on February 20 that the United Kingdom will not draw further on the remainder of the credit of \$1,250 million which was made available in May, 1946, and which expires on December 31, 1951.

The government has decided to recommend to parliament that an amount equal to the balance of the United Kingdom credit, namely, \$65 million, be added to the sums now awaiting distribution in settlement of the five-year pool. The amount will be included in the final supplementary estimates for the fiscal year 1950-51 which are shortly to be placed before the house for approval.

The contribution we will be asking parliament to make is the equivalent of about 23 cents per bushel on the deliveries made during the last two years of the agreement to which article 2(b) had reference. The addition of \$65 million to the pool would make a total of approximately \$120 million for distribution. On the basis of deliveries of 1,428 million bushels during the period of the five-year pool, this would provide a final payment of about 8.3 cents per bushel. Final payments will be made as soon as possible after parliament has dealt with the supplementary estimates."

Amendment of Canadian Wheat Board Act - The Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in introducing Bill No. 5 to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935, made the following statement in the House of Commons on February 14, 1951:

"Mr. Speaker, this bill will have the effect of amending the present act in two particulars. Under the act as it stands, it is necessary to sell every last bushel of wheat or oats or barley in a pool before the pool can be liquidated and the participation payments made to those who have delivered grain to the pool. This amendment will make it possible for the pool to sell the remnants of grain to the succeeding pool, thus making it possible to wind up pools more quickly than can be done under the act as it is today.

The bill also amends the present act in another particular. Today interim payments must be uniform for all the grain in the pool, regardless of grade. The amendment will make it possible to vary the interim payments for different grades. Owing to a problem that arises from time to time, occasionally it would be in the interest of the pool not to make the same interim payments on all grades of grain."

In answer to a question as to whether the amendments would also apply to coarse grains, Mr. Howe replied in the affirmative.



Maximum Lake Freight Rates on Grain Increased - Effective February 5, 1951, increases in maximum rates for carrying grain by lake and river navigation from Fort William and Port Arthur were authorized by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada. Current and former rates to various ports on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are shown in the accompanying table.

Maximum Lake Freight Rates for Grain from Fort William-Port Arthur

Destination	Wheat and Rye		Barley		Oats	
	Current	Former	Current	Former	Current	Former
- cents per bushel -						
Georgian Bay ports, Goderich, Sarnia and Walkerville .....	5 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/4	4 1/4	5	4
Port Colborne .....	7 1/2	6	7 1/4	5 3/4	6 3/4	5 1/4
Toronto .....	8	6 1/2	7 1/2	6	7 1/4	5 3/4
Kingston .....	8 3/4	7	8 1/4	6 1/2	8	6 1/4
Prescott .....	9	7 1/4	8 1/2	6 3/4	8 1/4	6 1/2
Montreal, Sorel, Three Rivers and Quebec City						
(a) direct .....	16	12 1/2	15 1/4	11 3/4	14	11
(b) transferred at inter- mediate points .....	16	13	15 1/4	12 1/4	14	11 1/2

An additional increase of 2 cents per bushel is allowed for grain loaded during the month of December 1951, on account of increased insurance costs.

Revised Estimate of the 1949 Wheat Crop - Based upon revised disposition data the 1949 wheat crop in the Prairie Provinces is now placed at 341 million bushels. The 1949 all-Canada wheat crop is now estimated at 371,406,000 bushels, the acreage at 27,574,700 and the average yield at 13.5 bushels per acre. Acreages and yields for the Prairie Provinces are as follows: Manitoba 2,887,000 acres, 18.0 bushels per acre; Saskatchewan 15,737,000 acres, 11.8 bushels per acre; and Alberta 7,900,000 acres, 13.0 bushels per acre.

Wheat Supply and Disposition in the Prairie Provinces, 1949-50

Item	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Prairie Provinces
- million bushels -				
Supply -				
Carryover on farms, July 31, 1949 ...	3.0	24.0	15.0	42.0
Revised estimate 1949 crop <u>1/</u> .....	52.0	186.0	103.0	341.0
Total supply .....	55.0	210.0	118.0	383.0
Disposition -				
Commercial marketings <u>2/</u> .....	46.1	174.5	99.0	319.6
Seed for 1950 crop <u>3/</u> .....	3.7	21.4	9.2	34.3
Feed and waste <u>4/</u> .....	3.9	7.7	5.5	17.1
Country millings <u>5/</u> .....	0.3	0.4	0.3	1.0
Carryover on farms, July 31, 1950 ...	1.0	6.0	4.0	11.0
Total disposition .....	55.0	210.0	118.0	383.0

1/ Basis disposition data. 2/ Revised. 3/ Per D.B.S. survey.

4/ Includes wheat fed on farms per D.B.S. survey and estimated waste. 5/ Estimated.



Payments Under The Prairie Farm Assistance Act -

Based on awards made to December 21, 1950, 688 farmers living in areas of the Prairie Provinces where wheat yields were unduly low in 1950 received some \$125,000 under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act. Payments are down sharply from those on the 1949 crop, for which revised data indicate that more than \$22 million has been paid to 85,138 farmers in 3,086 townships. On a provincial basis, approximately 70 per cent of the payments on the 1949 crop went to Saskatchewan, 29 per cent to Alberta, and 1 per cent to Manitoba. Claims for payments on the 1950 crop up to December 21 have been confined to farmers living in 45 townships of Saskatchewan, but the settling of later claims will necessitate some increase in the total expenditure as shown in the accompanying table.

Payments under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act, 1949 and 1950 <sup>1/</sup>

Item	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total
Net expenditure				
1949 crop .....	\$332,454	\$15,373,262	\$6,336,359	\$22,042,075
1950 crop .....	-	\$125,009	-	\$125,009
Number of awards				
1949 crop .....	2,069	49,651	33,418	85,138
1950 crop .....	-	688	-	688
Number of townships				
1949 crop .....	97	1,721	1,268	3,086
1950 crop .....	-	45	-	45

<sup>1/</sup> Payments on 1949 crop based on claims paid to November 24, 1950; on 1950 crop, to December 21, 1950.

Payments under the Act, which came into force in 1940, fall into two main categories, depending on the average wheat yield per acre in a township. <sup>2/</sup> Where the average wheat yield in a township is four bushels or less per acre, payment of \$2.50 per acre is made on half of the cultivated acreage, the maximum amount payable being \$500. Where the wheat yield in a township averages from more than four to eight bushels per acre, payment is made at the rate of \$1.50 per acre on half the cultivated acreage up to a maximum of \$300. Funds for the Act's operations are obtained from a levy of one per cent on the value of all wheat, oats, barley and rye marketed in the Prairie Provinces, with any deficits made up from the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

<sup>2/</sup> For areas of less than township size which may be eligible or ineligible for awards, please see page 11 of this issue.

Supply Position - Recent revisions in the July 31, 1950 carryover stocks and the 1949 western wheat crop now place total supplies for the 1950-51 and 1949-50 crop years at 573.9 million and 473.8 million bushels, respectively. Estimated domestic requirements for the current crop year remain unchanged at 155 million bushels, leaving 418.9 million for export and carryover. On the basis of revised marketing and disposition data, domestic disappearance for the 1949-50 crop year has been placed at 136.5 million bushels.

Deliveries from farms in the Prairie Provinces up to February 15 of the current crop year amounted to 259.1 million bushels as against 248.4 million for the comparable period of 1949-50, and it is estimated that approximately 100 million bushels still remain on western Canadian farms for delivery up to July 31, 1951. Visible supplies on February 15, 1951 were 211.6 million bushels, as against 149.4 million in 1950 and 149.5 million in 1949. This year's stocks in interior western positions (country elevators, private and mill elevators, and interior terminals) amounted to 141.3 million bushels, approximately double those of last year. Stocks at Vancouver-New Westminster and at eastern lake ports were also above those of last year, but supplies at Fort William-Port Arthur and St. Lawrence and seaboard ports were down by 3.4 million and 5.4 million bushels, respectively.

#### Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1950-51	1949-50
	- million bushels -	
Carryover in North America at July 31 .....	112.2 <u>1/</u>	102.4
New crop .....	461.7	371.4 <u>1/</u>
Imports of wheat, August 1-December 31 .....	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Total estimated supplies .....	573.9 <u>1/</u>	473.8 <u>1/</u>
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	155.0	136.5 <u>1/</u>
Available for export and carryover .....	418.9 <u>1/</u>	337.3 <u>1/</u>
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, Aug. 1-Jan. 31 ..	71.8	91.0
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., Aug. 1-Jan. 31 .....	8.4	5.9
Total exports of wheat .....	80.2	96.9
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Aug. 1-Jan. 31 ..	23.6 <u>3/</u>	22.4 <u>3/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	103.8	119.3
Balance on February 1 for export and carryover .....	315.1	218.0

1/ Revised. 2/ Less than 50,000 bushels.

3/ Adjusted for time lag in the returns made by Customs.

Combined exports of wheat and flour are below those of last year, with the totals for the first six months of 1950-51 and 1949-50 standing at 103.8 million and 119.3 million bushels, respectively. Exports of wheat as grain, at 80.2 million bushels, were down by 16.7 million from the first half of 1949-50, but exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, at 23.6 million bushels, were up slightly from last year's level. The chief export markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the first half of 1950-51 were, with purchases in millions of bushels: the United Kingdom, 34.1; Belgium, 8.8, the United States, 8.4 (of which 5.2 million was for milling in bond); India, 5.4 and Switzerland, 4.6. The balance remaining on February 1, 1951 for export and carryover was placed at 315.1 million bushels as against 218.0 million a year ago.



Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in Prairie Provinces, 1950-51

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -					
August 3	56,630	200,501	479,171	736,302	1,341,010
10	4,974	72,619	128,912	206,505	2,248,255
17	4,066	21,645	162,186	187,897	8,328,858
24	4,598	144,894	735,136	884,628	19,757,234
31	19,680	1,508,096	1,476,906	3,004,682	20,664,400
September 7	482,380	11,872,230	4,725,194	17,079,804	24,683,003
14	1,124,925	14,528,820	5,261,905	20,915,650	28,182,569
21	546,440	9,353,787	8,718,071	18,618,298	25,417,993
28	5,399,449	20,640,005	10,778,034	36,817,488	19,678,814
October 5	2,242,056	13,367,828	5,148,002	20,757,886	19,330,152
12	845,821	6,382,477	2,685,372	9,913,670	9,783,049
19	2,719,537	9,227,407	3,295,275	15,242,219	8,042,380
26	1,742,624	5,563,617	1,976,591	9,282,832	6,497,062
November 2	2,404,846	6,476,560	2,543,648	11,425,054	6,026,714
9	2,055,569	8,099,070	2,951,569	13,106,208	5,428,034
16	2,045,166	6,040,186	3,306,361	11,391,713	4,008,800
23	2,293,679	5,709,968	2,838,163	10,841,810	4,383,594
30	1,308,044	5,003,321	2,142,392	8,453,757	4,421,034
December 7	916,472	4,610,955	1,793,317	7,320,744	4,540,591
14	929,170	3,709,269	1,982,368	6,620,807	3,977,303
21	988,830	4,816,832	2,757,573	8,563,235	5,734,251
28	759,970	3,574,122	2,102,996	6,437,088	4,881,010
January 4	472,039	2,471,371	1,616,858	4,560,268	1,900,587
11	554,005	2,322,898	1,001,726	3,878,629	1,903,005
18	464,659	3,272,512	1,925,809	5,662,980	1,750,154
25	284,159	1,670,656	1,058,545	3,013,360	1,352,015
February 1	138,303	771,440	453,976	1,363,719	617,519
8	164,465	690,459	440,589	1,295,513	1,276,903
15	181,103	694,614	615,833	1,491,550	2,201,276
Totals	31,153,659	152,818,159	75,102,478	259,074,296	248,357,569

Marketings of wheat in the Prairie Provinces from August 1 to February 15 of the current crop year amounted to 259.1 million bushels, an increase of 10.7 million over the comparable period for 1949-50. While there has been the usual seasonal tapering off in marketings since the September peak, weekly totals remained above the corresponding figures for 1949-50 until the last week of the period under review.

Wheat marketings in Saskatchewan during the period of 1950-51 under review totalled 152.8 million bushels or 59 per cent of the total. Alberta, with 75.1 million bushels, and Manitoba with 31.2 million bushels accounted for 29 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively, of the total. Saskatchewan's wheat marketings are some 21.1 million bushels greater than for the comparable period in 1949-50 but the totals in Manitoba and Alberta are down by 7.9 million and 2.6 million bushels, respectively.



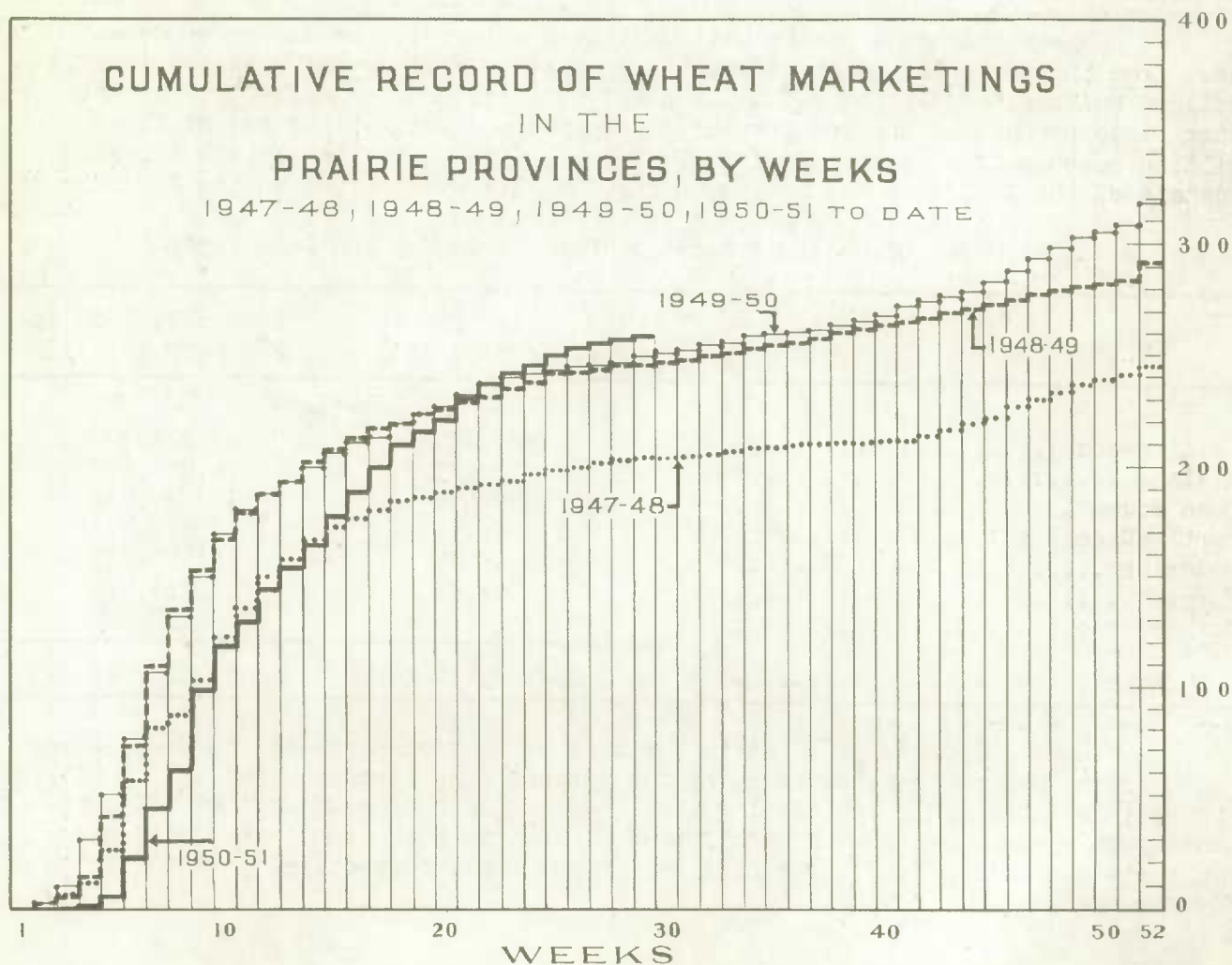
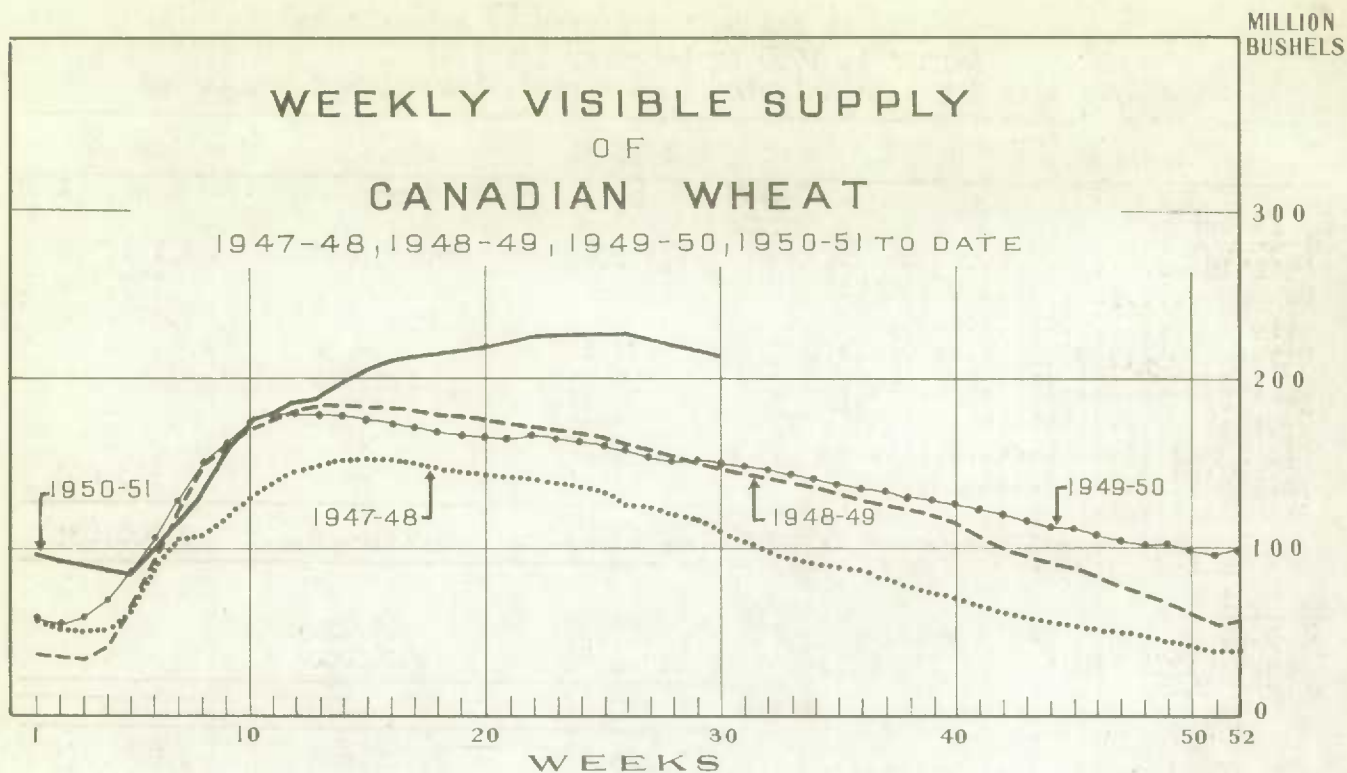
Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, February 15, 1951 Compared with  
Approximately the Same Date, 1950 and 1949

Position	1951	1950	1949
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	11,527	3,730	7,538
Saskatchewan .....	71,211	30,283	36,249
Alberta .....	45,210	33,665	36,117
Totals .....	127,948	67,678	79,904
Interior private and mill elevators .....	4,668	3,180	4,310
Interior terminals .....	8,710	87	186
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	6,127	2,507	3,605
Churchill .....	461	126	100
Fort William and Port Arthur .....	36,063	39,462	24,233
Storage afloat .....	-	347	-
In transit rail (western division) .....	4,509	6,479	10,306
Eastern elevators lake ports .....	13,364	12,865	13,478
St. Lawrence and seaboard ports .....	4,542	9,966	4,636
Storage afloat .....	1,677	4,752	4,518
In transit rail (eastern division) .....	2,164	1,171	3,282
United States ports .....	1,269	778	915
In transit U.S.A. ....	65	12	73
Totals .....	211,567	149,410	149,546

Grading of Wheat Inspected - Inspections of wheat during the first half of the current crop year amounted to 89,816 cars, a decrease of approximately 19 per cent from the total for the August-January period of 1949-50. Only minor changes in the proportions qualifying for the various grades are indicated from those established earlier in the crop year. Slightly less than half of the 1950-51 inspections to date graded No. 4 Northern or better (excluding 'Toughs' in these grades) as against 87 per cent for the comparable period of 1949-50, while almost one-fifth has graded 'Tough'.

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-January, 1950-51 and 1949-50

Grade	Inspections			
	1950-51		1949-50	
	Cars	Per Cent	Cars	Per Cent
1 Northern .....	4,389	4.9	17,427	15.7
2 Northern .....	15,880	17.7	63,970	57.6
3 Northern .....	13,226	14.7	12,561	11.3
4 Northern .....	10,181	11.3	2,569	2.3
5 Wheat .....	9,698	10.8	2,262	2.0
6 Wheat .....	6,593	7.3	533)	0.5
Feed Wheat .....	1,702	1.9	49)	
Garnet .....	908	1.0	1,819	1.6
Amber Durum .....	4,627	5.2	4,616	4.2
Alberta Winter .....	382	0.4	713	0.6
Toughs - All Varieties and Grades .	17,408	19.4	3,301	3.0
All Others .....	4,822	5.4	1,296	1.2
Totals .....	89,816	100.0	111,116	100.0



(Data in both charts for crop years beginning August 1)

Wheat Shipments to the United States by Destination  
August 1, 1950 to February 15, 1951  
Compared with Approximately the Same Period, 1949-50 and 1948-49

Destination	1950-51	1949-50	1948-49
	bu.	bu.	bu.
<b>By Vessel</b>			
Buffalo .....	7,121,643	6,738,682	7,161,915
Oswego .....	-	-	737,500
Erie .....	-	-	1,575,567
Duluth-Superior .....	978,121	-	-
Chicago .....	269,510	192,766	-
Detroit .....	287,165	-	-
Milwaukee .....	140,673	-	-
Toledo .....	-	-	325,053
<b>Totals, Vessel Shipments ..</b>	<b>8,797,112</b>	<b>6,931,448</b>	<b>9,800,035</b>
<b>By Rail</b>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports .....	76,835	49,210	-
Other U.S.A. Points .....	1,251,934	46,000	-
<b>Totals, Rail Shipments ....</b>	<b>1,328,769</b>	<b>95,210</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Grand Totals .....</b>	<b>10,125,881</b>	<b>7,026,658</b>	<b>9,800,035</b>

Wheat shipments to the United States, either for re-export or domestic use, from the beginning of the current crop year to February 15 amounted to 10.1 million bushels, as against 7.0 million and 9.8 million, respectively, for the comparable periods of the two preceding crop years. Rail shipments, at 1.3 million bushels, are up sharply from last year, with approximately 574 thousand bushels of the 1950-51 total moving during the five-week period ending February 15.

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

Ports	August 1, 1950 to February 15, 1951	August 1, 1949 to February 16, 1950
	- bushels -	
Collingwood .....	608,404	271,330
Midland .....	2,025,073	4,999,493
Owen Sound .....	384,656	837,624
Port McNicoll .....	1,925,591	5,822,773
Goderich .....	248,053	139,271
Sarnia .....	70,398	216,224
Humberstone .....	-	232,900
<b>Totals .....</b>	<b>5,262,175</b>	<b>12,519,615</b>

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime ports from ports on the Great Lakes and Georgian Bay up to February 15 of the current crop year amounted to 5.3 million bushels, less than half the total for the corresponding period of 1949-50. Shipments from Midland and Port McNicoll predominated in both crop years, with these two ports accounting for 75 per cent and 86 per cent, respectively, of the total for the period under review.



Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, 1947-48 to 1950-51

Month	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51
- bushels -				
August .....	90,574	51,283	158,893	122,532
September .....	91,366	30,017	131,711	123,256
October .....	131,290	46,274	122,482	73,543
November .....	100,563	138,600	92,334	133,847
December .....	691,223	1,740,405	342,946	1,517,624
January .....	3,149,421	3,794,391	277,502	4,394,047
February .....	1,851,773	3,720,733	240,087	
March .....	3,423,684	1,511,072	423,774	
April .....	371,950	659,467	2,305,727	
May .....	154,551	884,171	124,533	
June .....	81,133	330,348	96,626	
July .....	231,414	469,797	52,122	
Totals .....	10,368,942	13,376,558	4,368,737	

Payments under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act (continued from page 5)

Areas of less than township size may be either eligible or ineligible for awards as set out in Section 7 of the Act, as amended on December 10, 1949:

"7. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act

- (a) where a rectangular block of sections of land within an eligible township having an area of not less than one-sixth of the township and a side that lies along the boundary of an ineligible area is determined by the Board to have an average yield of more than ten bushels of wheat per acre, such block of sections of land shall be ineligible for award;
- (b) where a rectangular block of sections of land within an ineligible township having an area of not less than one-sixth of the township and a side that lies along the boundary of an eligible township is determined by the Board to have an average yield of eight bushels of wheat or less per acre, such block of sections of land shall be eligible for awards as though it were a complete township;
- (c) where the Board has determined that an area is eligible for award and a rectangular block of sections of land outside such area having an area of not less than one-half a township is determined by the Board to have an average yield of eight bushels of wheat or less per acre, such block of sections of land shall be eligible for award as though it were a complete township."

Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, 1947-48 to 1950-51

Note: The table ordinarily appearing on this page will be found on page 11.

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur,  
January 1951

Grade	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	Sask.	U.S.A.
- bushels -							
1 Northern .....	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
2 Northern .....	-	280,000	428,000	3,000	175,500	-	6,000
3 Northern .....	-	500,000	212,000	28,000	36,000	-	34,000
4 Northern .....	-	48,500	214,500	107,000	79,945	-	92,500
Number 5 .....	-	101,500	313,000	10,667	28,167	-	50,000
Number 6 .....	-	-	82,000	3,000	9,000	-	29,000
Feed .....	-	-	1,500	20,333	17,000	-	12,239
Rejected No. 5 .....	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	-
Rejected No. 6 .....	-	-	-	-	3,000	-	-
Tough 3 Northern .....	-	632,000	368,000	-	12,000	-	-
Tough No. 5 .....	1,500	3,000	10,500	38,642	14,333	-	-
Tough No. 6 .....	-	-	-	50,750	3,917	-	1,500
Tough Feed .....	-	-	-	12,000	16,616	-	-
Tough Rejected No. 5 ....	-	-	-	1,430	-	-	-
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	-	-	-	-	2,000	-	-
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	-	-	-	-	36,500	-	-
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	-	-	-	4,000	32,500	-	-
5 C.W. Amber Durum .....	-	-	-	-	2,668	-	-
6 C.W. Amber Durum .....	-	-	-	17,833	16,800	-	-
Tough 5 C.W. Amber Durum.	-	-	1,500	8,731	4,110	-	-
Tough 6 C.W. Amber Durum.	-	-	1,487	8,900	3,000	-	-
Sample C.W. Amber Durum							
Heated .....	-	-	-	2,950	4,284	-	-
3 C.W. Sample Red Spring.	-	-	-	-	12,000	-	-
Sample Red Spring Heated.	-	-	-	1,208	3,419	-	-
Tough Sample Red Spring							
Heated .....	-	-	-	5,345	-	-	-
Tough Sample Red Spring							
Fireburnt .....	-	-	-	241	-	-	-
1 C.W. Soft White Spring.	-	-	-	-	6,000	-	-
2 C.W. Soft White Spring.	-	-	-	-	58,959	10,000	-
3 C.W. Soft White Spring.	-	-	-	-	8,508	-	-
4 C.W. Soft White Spring.	-	-	-	-	24,237	-	-
Rejected No. 5 Mixed							
Heated .....	-	-	-	1,325	-	-	-
2 Alberta Winter .....	-	-	-	-	21,000	-	-
Totals .....	1,500	1,565,003	1,632,487	325,355	634,463	10,000	225,239

Grand Total - 4,394,047

**Freight Assistance Shipments -** Preliminary data indicate that movement of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance plan during the first five months of 1950-51 was up about 25 per cent over the total for the comparable period of 1949-50. Claims filed up to January 31 represent shipments of 5.4 million bushels during the August-December period of 1950-51 as against 4.3 million bushels for the same five-month period of 1949-50. Increases over the 1949-50 totals were registered for all provinces except British Columbia which, on the basis of preliminary returns, received only 59 per cent of the August-December total of the previous crop year. However, the filing of additional claims for the period of the current crop year under review will increase the totals over those shown in the accompanying table.

**Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Wheat Shipments,  
1950-51 and 1949-50**

Month	New found- land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunsw- wick	Quebec	Ontario	British Columbia	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August 1950	4	31	60	37	563	476	242	1,413
September .	4	24	78	48	575	380	159	1,268
October ...	5	6	43	26	377	286	161	904
November ..	5	11	54	31	464	416	78	1,059
December ..	-	12	39	22	403	294	4	774
Totals .	18	84	274	164	2,382	1,852	644	5,418
Same period 1949-50 ..	9	66	128	102	1,680	1,271	1,090	4,346

Claims filed for payment up to January 31, 1951 represent shipments of millfeeds under the freight assistance plan during the August-December period of 1950-51 of 215,062 tons, a decrease of 49,447 tons from the total for the comparable period of 1949-50. The indicated difference between the shipments for the two crop years will, however, be diminished as additional claims are filed for the first five months of 1950-51.

**Provincial Distribution of Freight-Assisted Millfeed Shipments,  
1950-51 and 1949-50**

Province	August 1 to December 31, 1950	August 1 to December 31, 1949
- tons -		
Newfoundland .....	1,369	1,246
Prince Edward Island .....	3,641	5,244
Nova Scotia .....	18,131	20,414
New Brunswick .....	13,518	17,217
Quebec .....	107,324	117,940
Ontario .....	59,043	81,797
British Columbia .....	12,036	20,651
Totals .....	215,062	264,509



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

Year and Month	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat	U.S. Imports <sup>1/</sup> of Canadian Wheat for Consumption and Grinding in Bond	Customs <sup>2/</sup> Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs <sup>3/</sup> Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- thousand bushels -					
<u>1948-49</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	23,297	1,899	3,225	28,421	24,850
July	19,561	816	3,589	23,966	23,422
Totals	178,980	5,255	48,094	232,329	228,202
<u>1949-50 <sup>4/</sup></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	3,798	14,416	21,002
January	10,608	411	3,280	14,299	15,102
February	7,419	495	3,551	11,465	11,216
March	10,232	964	3,712	14,908	13,607
April	8,460	515	3,076	12,051	12,628
May	18,103	4,223	5,317	27,643	23,993
June	17,949	703	4,140	22,792	23,870
July	12,762	672	3,487	16,921	17,222
Totals	165,970	13,487	45,680	225,137	230,142
<u>1950-51 <sup>4/</sup></u>					
August	11,956	459	3,060	15,475	15,247
September	13,172	904	2,273	16,349	15,257
October	12,950	900	3,652	17,502	19,715
November	15,801	2,007	4,732	22,540	20,140
December	8,030	2,149	3,960	14,139	20,424
January	9,891	1,935	5,909	17,735	16,315
Totals	71,800	8,354	23,586	103,740	107,098

<sup>1/</sup> U.S.A. official figures for 1948-49. From August 1949 to date compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and advice from American grain correspondents. <sup>2/</sup> Exports for crop years 1948-49, 1949-50 and August to October 1950 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available. <sup>3/</sup> Unadjusted as published by the External Trade Division, D.B.S. <sup>4/</sup> Subject to revision.

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour  
August, 1950—January, 1951

Destination	January		August—January	
	Wheat <u>1/</u> Flour	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat <u>1/3/</u> Flour	Wheat <u>2/</u>
- bushels -				
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>				
United Kingdom .....	2,946,172	3,232,933	10,455,241	34,099,557
<u>Africa</u>				
British East Africa .....	-	-	2,295	-
Union of S. Africa .....	-	1,049,440	-	3,736,059
<u>British West Africa</u>				
Gold Coast .....	12,465	-	104,585	-
Nigeria .....	2,349	-	13,990	-
Sierra Leone .....	5,058	-	25,587	-
<u>Asia</u>				
British Malaya .....	50,508	-	50,508	-
Hong Kong .....	109,242	-	852,503	-
India .....	-	2,464,199	-	5,385,383
<u>Europe</u>				
Gibraltar .....	28,260	-	133,848	-
Malta .....	-	22,400	-	1,051,633
<u>North America</u>				
Bahamas .....	21,047	-	113,382	-
Barbados .....	61,713	-	211,392	933
Bermuda .....	16,474	-	59,580	-
British Honduras .....	-	-	31,285	34,136
Jamaica .....	135,927	-	658,386	-
Leeward-Windward Is. ....	79,263	-	435,352	-
Trinidad and Tobago .....	216,815	-	1,051,614	-
<u>South America</u>				
British Guiana .....	82,885	-	518,553	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries	3,768,178	6,768,972	14,718,101	44,307,701

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour  
August, 1950—January, 1951 - Continued

Destination	January		August—January	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat 2/
- bushels -				
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>Africa</u>				
Azores and Madeira .....	-	-	20,349	-
Belgian Congo .....	15,350	-	105,517	3,674
Canary Islands .....	-	-	61,339	-
French Africa .....	2,020	-	22,279	-
Liberia .....	459	-	5,701	-
Morocco .....	42,070	-	295,169	-
Portuguese Africa .....	2,525	-	85,158	-
Tripoli .....	-	97,066	-	97,066
<u>Asia</u>				
Arabia .....	1,030	-	24,151	45,119
China .....	2,295	-	62,478	-
Indonesia .....	21,028	-	29,524	-
Israel .....	-	-	-	1,280,874
Japan .....	25,047	1,000,437	447,386	1,017,093
Philippine Islands .....	1,192,581	-	2,322,365	-
Siam .....	49,235	-	94,262	-
Syria .....	25,294	-	207,468	-
<u>Europe</u>				
Belgium .....	369	989,865	738	8,821,304
France .....	-	-	207	-
Germany .....	29,547	-	75,513	-
Greece .....	1,836	-	1,836	-
Iceland .....	6,804	-	139,032	-
Ireland .....	-	377,067	-	2,420,043
Italy .....	3,479	126,378	48,587	2,634,004
Netherlands .....	-	-	1,130	29,307
Norway .....	-	262,902	-	922,103
Portugal .....	23,895	-	50,062	-
Spain .....	-	-	-	976,064
Switzerland .....	1,606	184,800	1,606	4,581,388
Yugoslavia .....	5,049	-	33,629	-
<u>North America</u>				
Alaska .....	-	-	2,299	-
Costa Rica .....	56,826	-	215,159	93,334
Cuba .....	162,680	-	1,223,370	5,000
Dominican Republic .....	27,544	-	137,281	7,200
El Salvador .....	19,130	-	102,731	20,000
French West Indies .....	459	-	4,131	-
Guatemala .....	57,172	-	200,669	-
Haiti .....	36,495	-	219,879	-



Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour  
August, 1950—January, 1951 - Concluded

Destination	January		August—January	
	Wheat Flour <u>1/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>	Wheat Flour <u>1/3/</u>	Wheat <u>2/</u>
- bushels -				
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>				
<u>North America</u>				
Honduras .....	229	-	14,373	15,380
Netherlands Antilles .....	18,725	-	107,577	-
Nicaragua .....	12,672	-	45,859	-
Panama .....	24,062	-	139,054	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon .....	1,836	-	10,381	-
<u>United States</u>				
Flour in terms of wheat .....	56,520	-	300,987	-
For grinding in bond <u>4/</u> .....	-	173,050	-	5,190,306
For domestic consumption <u>4/</u> ..	-	1,761,909	-	3,163,629
Virgin Islands .....	2,047	-	10,786	-
<u>Oceania</u>				
Guam .....	-	-	918	-
<u>South America</u>				
Bolivia .....	-	-	1,148	716,167
Brazil .....	-	-	-	377,066
Chile .....	-	-	-	2,136,664
Colombia .....	10,715	83,710	408,078	1,070,996
Ecuador .....	29,858	-	86,954	141,818
Peru .....	2,290	-	34,420	75,627
Surinam .....	14,904	-	82,129	-
Venezuela .....	154,751	-	1,384,228	4,770
Totals, Foreign Countries ..	2,140,434	5,057,184	8,867,897	35,845,996
Grand Totals, Exported .....	5,908,612	11,826,156	23,585,998	80,153,697

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 August to October 1950 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

4/ 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 or Vancouver

Grade	Week ending			
	Jan. 27	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD CASH PRICES</u>				
<u>WHEAT</u>				
(1) Initial Payment to Producers 1950-51 Pool <sup>1/</sup>				
1 Hard .....	140	150	160	160
1 Northern .....	140	150	160	160
2 Northern .....	137	147	157	157
3 Northern .....	130	140	150	150
4 Northern .....	122	132	142	142
5 Wheat .....	112	122	132	132
6 Wheat .....	106	116	126	126
Feed Wheat .....	100	110	120	120
(2) Domestic and Export				
(International Wheat Agreement)				
1 Hard .....	189/5	189/5	189/2	189/1
1 Northern .....	189/5	189/5	189/2	189/1
2 Northern .....	186/5	186/5	186/2	186/1
3 Northern .....	183/1	183/5	183/2	183/1
4 Northern .....	179	179/5	179/2	179/1
5 Wheat .....	168/5	168/5	170/1	172/1
6 Wheat .....	165/5	165/5	167/1	169/1
Feed Wheat .....	152/5	152/5	155/2	159/1
1 C.W. Garnet .....	182/5	182/5	182/2	182/1
2 C.W. Garnet .....	181/5	181/5	181/2	181/1
3 C.W. Garnet .....	176/5	176/5	176/2	176/1
1 Alta. Red Winter .....	189/5	189/5	189/2	189/1
2 Alberta Winter .....	186/5	186/5	186/2	186/1
3 Alberta Winter .....	181/5	181/5	181/2	181/1
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	189/5	189/5	189/2	189/1
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	187/5	187/5	187/2	187/1
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	177/5	177/5	177/7	180/4
(3) Export - Class II				
1 Hard .....	205	210/1	211/6	213/7
1 Northern .....	205	210/1	211/6	213/7
2 Northern .....	202	207/1	208/6	210/7
3 Northern .....	198/4	204/1	205/6	207/7
4 Northern .....	194/2	200/1	201/6	203/7
5 Wheat .....	168/5	168/5	170/1	172/1
6 Wheat .....	165/5	165/5	167/1	169/1
Feed Wheat .....	152/5	152/5	155/2	159/1
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	205	210/1	211/6	213/7
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	203	208/1	209/6	211/7
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	193	198/1	200/3	205/1

<sup>1/</sup> Initial payment to producers increased by the Canadian Wheat Board effective February 1, 1951.

## CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production - Wheat flour production reported by Canadian mills for January 1951 amounted to slightly under 2.0 million barrels, practically unchanged from the previous month. Mills reporting operations during December had a rated capacity of 96,584 barrels and, on the basis of a 26-day working period, 78.6 per cent of the rated capacity was effective. Production for the first half of 1950-51 totalled 11.7 million barrels as compared with 10.6 million for the August-January period of 1949-50.

Exports - Customs returns indicate that exports of Canadian wheat flour during January 1951 amounted to 1,313,025 barrels, considerably above the December total of 880,014. The largest shipments of this year's January flour exports, in barrels, went to the United Kingdom (654,705), the Philippine Islands (265,018), Trinidad and Tobago (48,181), Cuba (36,151), Venezuela (34,389), and Jamaica (30,206).

Production and Exports of Wheat Flour, Canada,  
1935-36--1939-40 average, and 1940-41 to 1950-51

Crop Year	Production	Exports <sup>1/</sup>
	- barrels of 196 pounds -	
1935-36--1939-40 average .....	15,002,781	4,899,970
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 .....	20,379,997	10,687,561
1949-50 .....	20,259,200	10,151,090
<u>1950-51</u>		
August .....	1,713,860	680,010
September .....	1,859,762	505,125
October .....	2,107,612	811,504
November .....	2,104,476	1,051,655
December .....	1,974,903	880,014
January .....	1,973,354	1,313,025
Totals .....	11,733,967	5,241,333
Same Period 1949-50 .....	10,570,019	4,976,940

<sup>1/</sup> Based on Customs returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46 to 1949-50, and August to October 1950 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.



## UNITED STATES SITUATION

### Supply Position -

Latest available information on supplies and estimated domestic requirements indicates that approximately 718 million bushels of United States wheat are available for export and carryover in the current crop year. Slightly less than one-fifth of this amount, 141.3 million bushels, was exported during the first seven months of 1950-51, as against 190.2 million for the comparable period of 1949-50. Exports of wheat during the July-January period of the current crop year were 120.7 million bushels, compared with the previous year's 165.9 million, while wheat flour and macaroni exports, in terms of wheat, dropped from 24.3 million to 20.6 million bushels. The estimated balance remaining on February 1, 1951 for export and carryover was 577.1 million bushels, an increase of 45.7 million over last year's total on the same date.

### United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1950-51	1949-50
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at July 1.....	423.3	307.8
New crop .....	1,026.8	1,141.2
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July 1-January 31 .....	3.3	.6
Total estimated supplies .....	1,453.4	1,449.6
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year 1/ .....	735.0	728.0
Available for export and carryover .....	718.4	721.6
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July 1-January 31 .....	120.7	165.9
Exports of wheat flour and macaroni in terms of wheat, July 1-January 31 .....	20.6	24.3
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and macaroni .....	141.3	190.2
Balance on February 1 for export and carryover .....	577.1	531.4

1/ Includes allowances for shipments of United States wheat and wheat products to Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands. These shipments are not included in exports as set out in the table.

### Temporary Suspension of Grain Export Offers -

On February 19, United States exporters withdrew all offers of grain to foreign buyers for export until further notice. This action, taken after a meeting with Department of Agriculture and Economic Cooperation Administration officials, was taken when the exporters learned that government and commercial export commitments between February 9 and March 31 amounted to 2,728,000 tons of all grains. On the basis of past experience, lack of stocks in forward positions, and the shortage of both rail and ocean transportation facilities, it was realized that it was improbable that this quantity of grain could be moved out of the country in such a short period.

Sales of wheat under the International Wheat Agreement have been particularly heavy during the past two months and, a few days prior to the

exporters' action, the United States Department of Agriculture announced that it was discontinuing payment of export subsidies on wheat sales under the Agreement. However, it is continuing the payment of subsidies on flour sales, currently amounting to just over 70 cents per bushel (wheat equivalent) for export from East Coast ports. Trade sources were of the opinion that this move was designed to allocate the remainder of the I.W.A. quota among those countries which have been long-time customers for United States wheat flour. The Economic Cooperation Administration also announced on February 20 that further authorizations of funds for grain exports would be withheld, pending clarification of the whole export situation.

Condition of Winter Wheat - The following account of the condition of United States winter wheat has been extracted from the February 9 crop report of the United States Department of Agriculture:

"The condition of winter wheat is causing considerable concern in much of the central and southern Great Plains area, and some winterkill is expected in eastern Washington. In most other important areas, however, the crop is in fairly satisfactory condition at present. In the Great Plains area, most of the wheat was seeded under favourable conditions and a good early growth covered the ground. For 18 weeks, however, rainfall has been deficient, almost totally lacking at some southwestern points, and topsoils had become powdery dry. Subsoil moisture was in good supply in most of the area. Because of the dry topsoil, wheat was not grazed to the usual extent and much top growth remains as protection against soil blowing. Light rain and snow has enabled plants to hold on, so that deterioration was limited in Texas, New Mexico and Colorado, while some improvement occurred in most of Oklahoma and Kansas during January. In even the poorest instances it is felt that the condition of wheat is not hopeless, but that a drought-breaking rain would enable the well-known recuperative powers of the wheat plants to bring about recovery. February will be a critical month, however, in the Great Plains. Wheat was mostly dormant when the early February cold wave occurred, so that freeze damage was minimized; it was, perhaps, offset by the destroying effect of the cold on aphids and other pests. The situation was satisfactory in Nebraska and northward. In the West, snow covered wheat in most areas, except in parts of eastern Washington, where it is feared some reseedling will be necessary this spring because of winterkill in fields lacking snow cover. In the important East North Central wheat area, snow cover has been intermittent, but usually has been present when temperatures became low. In many sections the soil is unfrozen and snow-water has soaked in with little runoff at the time of thaws. In the South some damage to fall-sown grains is feared as the result of February freezes, which in some areas killed cover crops replanted after the November freeze."

A later report on weather conditions affecting the winter wheat crop was given in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin for the week ending February 20, 1951:

"Precipitation during the first and latter parts of the period brought some relief to the droughty sections of the middle and southern portions of the western Great Plains. However, the amounts were mostly too light for substantial relief, except in eastern Texas, eastern Oklahoma, southeastern Kansas, most of Missouri, and southeastern Iowa, and areas to the eastward. Much of the moisture that fell in this area at the beginning of the period in connection with a southward advancing cold wave was in the form of snow, thereby affording some protection to small grains from the low temperatures.



Mild weather generally followed and prevailed over practically the entire country during most of the week. Small grain fields are now generally bare. Snowcover is mostly confined to the higher elevations in the far West and in northern areas as far south as northeastern Montana, southern North Dakota, extreme northeastern South Dakota, northeastern Iowa, southern Wisconsin, south-central Lower Michigan, and the higher elevations of New York and New England. The warm weather stimulated the recovery of small grains from the effects of the freezes in the South, lower Mississippi Valley, and southern Great Plains. There were a few reports of soil preparation, but this work was generally delayed by wet soils. The most critically dry areas are the Texas Panhandle, western Oklahoma, western Kansas, eastern Colorado, much of New Mexico, and northeastern and western Arizona."

July 1950 - January 1951 Grain Exports -

On February 23 the Production and Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimated July--January exports of United States grains and grain products at approximately 6,891,000 long tons (269,302,000 bushels of grain equivalent) as compared with 8,224,000 long tons (323,585,000 bushels of grain equivalent) in the like period of 1949-50.

United States Grain Exports, July--January, 1949-50 and 1950-51

Month	1949-50		1950-51	
	Wheat, Flour and Macaroni	Other Grains and Products <sup>1/</sup>	Wheat, Flour and Macaroni	Other Grains and Products <sup>1/</sup>
- thousand bushels -				
July .....	30,949	19,999	18,316	13,694
August .....	30,799	24,086	14,830	18,290
September .....	33,337	15,950	18,141	15,540
October .....	25,947	12,923	18,353	17,948
November .....	23,095	24,256	18,719	22,495
December .....	24,973	22,394	22,852	21,490
January .....	21,104	13,773	30,103 <sup>2/</sup>	18,531 <sup>2/</sup>
Totals .....	190,204	133,381	141,314	127,988 <sup>3/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Includes corn, oats, grain sorghums, barley, rye, corn grits and meal, corn starch and flour, oatmeal and malt.

<sup>2/</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>3/</sup> Includes 60,192,000 bushels of corn, 853,000 bushels of oats, 44,789,000 bushels of grain sorghums, 15,077,000 bushels of barley, and 856,000 bushels of rye. (Corn includes 17,813,000 bushels to Canada, a part of which is for storage for U.S. commercial accounts).



# Chicago and Minneapolis Cash Wheat -

The Chicago cash wheat market was rather inactive during the period January 25—February 24, with receipts of only 227 cars in the four weeks ending February 22. No sales were reported on ten of the market days in the period under review, but the few sales which were made conformed to the trends established in other markets. No. 2 Red Winter advanced from \$2.42 3/4 per bushel on January 26 to \$2.59 on February 13, the latter date also marking seasonal highs on the Chicago futures and Minneapolis cash wheat markets.

Restricted offerings due to the transportation situation, coupled with good demand, helped to advance prices on the Minneapolis cash market in the latter part of January and the first half of February. No. 1 Dark Northern reached a high of \$2.55 5/8 on February 13 but had dropped approximately 10 cents per bushel by the 24th of the month. This downward trend was in line with developments in the futures market but it was also accentuated by increased receipts after the ending of the rail strike plus the inclination of terminal buyers and millers to proceed cautiously until more information became available on wheat, flour and millfeed ceilings.

## Daily Cash Wheat Prices on the Chicago and Minneapolis Markets

Date	Chicago		Minneapolis	
	Grade	Price	Grade	Price
		cents per bu.		cents per bu.
Jan. 25, 1951	Sple. Gr. Yellow Tough	207	1 Dark Northern	241
26	2 Red	242 3/4	1 Dark Northern	239 3/4
27	3 Red Tough	240	1 Dark Northern	241 1/2
29	2 Red	249 1/2	1 Dark Northern	247 3/8
30	Sple. Gr. Red	233	1 Dark Northern	249 5/8
31	None		1 Dark Northern	249
Feb. 1	None		1 Dark Northern	253
2	None		1 Dark Northern	250
3	None		1 Dark Northern	250 1/2
5	2 Mixed	252 1/2	1 Dark Northern	250 1/2
6	None		1 Dark Northern	250 1/4
7	2 Mixed	254 1/2	1 Dark Northern	251 3/8
8	None		1 Dark Northern	252 1/4
9	4 Red	254	1 Dark Northern	252 7/8
10	None		1 Dark Northern	253
12		Lincoln's Birthday		
13	2 Red	259	1 Dark Northern	255 5/8
14	2 Mixed	257	1 Dark Northern	254 1/4
15	4 Red	254 1/2	1 Dark Northern	254 3/8
16	None		1 Dark Northern	255
17	3 Red Tough	255	1 Dark Northern	253 7/8
19	3 Red Tough	255	1 Dark Northern	249 3/4
20	3 Red Tough	247 1/4	1 Dark Northern	247 1/8
21	4 Mixed	243 1/2	1 Dark Northern	246 - 247
22		Washington's Birthday		
23	None		1 Dark Northern	245 5/8 - 246 5/8
24	None		1 Dark Northern	244 3/4 - 245 3/4

# Chicago Wheat Futures -

Despite considerable fluctuation in the Chicago wheat futures market during the period January 29 to February 28, two fairly pronounced trends were evident. In the first part of the period all futures advanced to new seasonal highs on February 13, having made gains of approximately 10 cents per bushel in slightly over two weeks. While some confusion regarding price ceilings still influenced the market during the first part of the period, the predominant tone was bullish. Developments shortly after mid-February, however, caused a fairly sharp break in all futures, with losses by the end of the month amounting to as much as 17 cents per bushel from the high point for March futures. Among the factors contributing to this reversal in the futures market were the temporary withdrawal of the government's subsidy on export wheat, confusion regarding the status of the whole grain export situation, and additional moisture over large areas of the winter wheat belt improving the outlook for the 1951 crop.

## Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	March	May	July	September	December
- cents and eighths per bushel -					
January 29, 1951	250/4	250/6	246/2	247/4	
30	252/5	253/6	249	249/7	
31	251/4	252/7	248/1	249/3	
February 1	257/4	257/5	252/3	253/4	
2	254/4	255/1	250	251	
3	255/3	256/2	251/1	253/3	
5	255/6	256/1	251/4	253	
6	254/6	255/2	250/4	251/2	
7	256/7	256/7	251/2	252/2	
8	257/6	257/5	252/1	253/2	
9	258/5	258/5	252/7	254/3	256/2
10	258/2	257/6	252/5	253/7	255/4
12			Lincoln's Birthday		
13	260/6	260/4	256	257/1	259
14	258/5	258/6	254/7	256/3	258/3
15	259/4	259/3	255	256/3	257/2
16	260/4	260/3	255/2	256/4	258/3
17	258/6	259/4	254/4	255/3	257/2
19	255/1	256/1	250/1	251/1	253
20	250/6	252/7	247/3	248/4	250/5
21	250/6	253/1	248/2	249/2	251
22			Washington's Birthday		
23	250/4	252/6	247/2	248/2	250
24	249/2	251/1	245	245/7	248/2
26	247/4	249/7	243/7	244/4	246/4
27	243/4	246	240/3	241/3	244
28	243/7	247	241/7	242/6	245/3

## ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position - While no change has been made in the official estimate of 222 million bushels for the 1950 Argentine wheat crop, trade sources continue to place the outturn at about 202 million. In any event, it appears that the surplus available for export has already been committed to a large extent, and that another small carryover is in prospect at the end of the current crop year. Exports of wheat during January amounted to 8.5 million bushels, of which 2.9 million went to Brazil and 2.4 million to India. Exports for the first two months of 1950-51 were approximately 14 million bushels as against 13 million for the comparable period of 1949-50. The balance remaining on February 1, 1951 for export and carryover was estimated (on the basis of official production figures) at 86 million bushels, compared with 91 million a year ago.

### Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1950-51	1949-50
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) .....	7	44
New crop .....	222	189
Total estimated supplies .....	229	233
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	129	129
Available for export and carryover .....	100	104
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1--January 31 .....	14	13
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec. 1-Jan. 31 .	1/	1/
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	14	13
Balance on February 1 for export and carryover .....	86	91

1/ Less than 500,000 bushels.

The following account of the Argentine situation has been extracted from a report provided by Mr. W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary (Agriculture) at Buenos Aires, and is reproduced with the kind permission of the Trade Commissioner Service. Where practicable, conversions of Argentine measures to Canadian equivalents have been made for the convenience of our readers. Price conversions have been made in terms of the United States dollar at the rate of 5 pesos to the dollar.

Growing Conditions - Over the past month growing conditions have continued good for the sunflower and corn crops. There was a fair amount of rainfall in early January but this was offset by intense heat and strong winds. However, during late January and early February there were heavy general rains which materially improved the situation. The rain came too late to benefit the early corn fields which had been affected by dry weather since December, but it will assure a fairly good yield in the later sown fields. Pastures are excellent in all zones.



Corn - Prospects for the corn crop have improved recently, but, on the whole, the picture is variable. Early fields have suffered seriously from lack of moisture. Around Venado Tuerto, which is the center of the corn belt, more land was sown to wheat this season and correspondingly less to corn; furthermore, as a result of dry weather in December, yields will be only 40 per cent of normal. To the west, in the Rio Cuarto district, plantings to corn are 50 per cent higher than last year, chiefly because drought conditions ended in time for corn but not for the earlier fine grain crops. In eastern Santa Fe, conditions are the best for the corn crop and there is a small increase in acreage.

In the north of the Province of Buenos Aires early estimates place sowings at 427,300 hectares (1,055,900 acres) as compared with 461,900 hectares (1,141,400 acres) last year. This is significant in that conditions for ploughing and seeding were far better this season and it would appear that even two increases in the basic price did not sufficiently allay fears as to the high cost of harvest labor. Wheat appeared to be more remunerative and corn land was turned to that use.

As a result of the above variations, estimates on the current corn acreage tend to vary considerably, from 2.5 to 3.5 million hectares (6.2 to 8.6 million acres), although many in the trade place it at around 2.7 million hectares (6.7 million acres) as compared with 2,140,000 (5.3 million acres) last year. Early forecasts on production are around 4 million metric tons (157.0 million bushels), much higher than last year's 844,000 tons (33.2 million bushels) and also above the 3,450,000 (135.8 million bushels) in 1948-49.

Wheat Market - The trade continue to estimate the Argentine wheat crop at around 5.5 million metric tons (202.1 million bushels), but all reports indicate a great variation in weight as a result of damage from frost and rust. Weights vary from 69 to 83 kilos per hectolitre (55.2 to 66.4 pounds per bushel); the standard is 78. (62.4 pounds per bushel). Some 15 per cent of the total crop is not fit for milling, and the government has announced that it will buy this feed wheat at 21.00 pesos per quintal (\$1.14 per bushel), as compared with 30.50 for the regular grades (\$1.66 per bushel).

New crop wheat has begun to move out of Argentina and it can be expected that exports will start in volume within the next month. Due to the grain shortage in that country, India is anxious to take delivery of its new purchase of 468,000 metric tons (17.2 million bushels) as soon as possible. Other countries are equally desirous for short delivery dates and it is reported that about fifty vessels have been chartered for grain between January and April. It would therefore appear that a good part of the wheat crop will be shipped by the end of June. Argentine commitments from the current wheat crop are privately calculated as follows:

#### Argentine Wheat Commitments

	<u>million bushels</u>		<u>million bushels</u>
India .....	17.2	Peru .....	3.7
Italy .....	18.3	Brazil .....	29.4
Switzerland .....	3.7	Germany .....	9.2
France .....	5.1	Total .....	86.6

Inasmuch as Argentina's exportable surplus is estimated at only from 2 to 2.5 million metric tons (73.5 to 91.9 million bushels), there will be no disposal problem. However, it should be kept in mind that these commitments represent only intentions to ship and not sales and there is often considerable variation between these commitments, as included in trade agreements, and actual exports.

Official Estimate of Grain Acreages - In late January the Argentine government published official estimates on grain sowings for the 1950-51 season which are as follows, compared with previous years.

#### Argentine Grain Sowings

Year	Wheat	Flax	Oats	Barley	Rye
- thousand acres -					
1950-51 .....	16,190	2,680	3,220	2,221	5,375
1949-50 .....	14,065	2,663	3,037	1,984	4,603
1948-49 .....	14,346	3,224	3,444	2,328	4,534
1947-48 .....	13,466	3,887	3,268	2,591	4,364
1946-47 .....	16,490	4,708	3,880	3,388	4,804

Grain Exports - Total grain exports during January amounted to 267,199 tons as against 354,199 tons during January 1950. Wheat exports were approximately on the same level as the previous year but corn shipments are almost negligible as are those of the other feed grains.

#### Argentine Grain Shipments, January 1951

	Wheat	Corn	Flax	Oats	Rye
- thousand bushels -					
Belgium .....	363	91	-	-	98
Brazil .....	2,882	-	-	-	-
Egypt .....	341	-	-	-	-
France .....	-	-	222	-	-
Germany .....	844	-	-	-	-
Holland .....	246	59	382	117	-
India .....	2,450	-	-	-	-
Italy .....	989	-	102	-	-
Paraguay .....	203	-	-	-	-
Peru .....	37	-	-	-	-
Switzerland ....	145	-	-	38	-
United Kingdom .	-	-	364	-	-
Totals .....	8,500	150	1,070	155	98

New Sales: Sweden - Under the terms of an agreement signed with Sweden on January 23rd, Argentina has agreed to provide unspecified quantities of wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye.

Germany - is reported to have bought 47,000 tons (1.7 million bushels) of inferior wheat at U\$S 105 to 115 per ton c & f (\$2.86 to \$3.13 per bushel).

United Kingdom - It is reported in trade circles that the U.K. has purchased about 40,000 metric tons (1.5 million bushels) of wheat from exporters at £42-43 per ton c & f, and about 30,000 tons (1.1 million bushels) of Argentine wheat from France.

It is understood that IAPI has no wheat to offer at the present time, but they have established the price for barter at 48.50 pesos per quintal (\$2.62 per bushel).

IAPI has re-entered the export market for 1950-51 crop oats at a price of 38.00 pesos per 100 kilos, f.o.b. (\$1.17 per bushel).

#### URUGUAYAN SITUATION

The following account of the Uruguayan situation has also been provided by Mr. W. B. McCullough, Commercial Secretary (Agriculture), at Buenos Aires.

Both the area seeded and production figures for the current wheat crop in Uruguay are down by about 15 per cent. This was due to excessive rains and later to attacks of rust. The flax and oat crops remain on the same level as the preceding year. The second estimate of sowings and the first on production and yields for the 1950-51 season, as compared with last year, are as follows:

Uruguayan Grain Estimates

Grain	Area Sown - thousand acres -		Production -thousand bushels-		Average Yield -bushels per acre-	
	1950-51	1949-50	1950-51	1949-50	1950-51	1949-50
Wheat .....	1,092	1,276	14,020	16,607	13.0	13.1
Flax .....	396	395	3,911	2,939	9.9	7.5
Oats .....	276	274	4,391	3,834	15.8	13.9
Barley .....	29	38	426	589	14.8	15.8
Brewers' Barley	43	43	688	651	16.2	15.6
Rye .....	1	1	9	7	10.9	10.4

Small sales have been made to India and Brazil from the old crop wheat, and Uruguay has practically no carryover. While the new crop is down considerably from the previous season, it will be sufficient to cover home consumption.

#### AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position - A small downward revision in the official estimate of the 1950 Australian wheat crop now places it at 183.4 million bushels, as compared with 218.2 million in 1949. Current crop year supplies, comprised of the new crop and carryover at November 30, 1950, are estimated at 225 million bushels, 12.3 million below the 1949-50 total. No official estimates of current



crop year domestic requirements are available but, should they be the same as last year's 79 million bushels, some 146 million bushels will be available for export and carryover.

#### Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1950-51 <sup>1/</sup>	1949-50
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at November 30 (including flour as wheat) .	41.6	19.1
New crop .....	183.4 <sup>2/</sup>	218.2
Total estimated supplies .....	225.0 <sup>2/</sup>	237.3
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year ...	79.0	79.0
Available for export and carryover .....	146.0 <sup>2/</sup>	158.3
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1--February 1 ...	15.4	8.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat		
December 1--February 1 .....	6.6	5.3
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	22.0	13.7
Balance on February 2 for export and carryover .....	124.0	144.6

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary.    <sup>2/</sup> Revised.

Exports of both wheat and flour for the first two months of 1950-51 were above the totals for the comparable period of 1949-50. Exports of wheat as grain were 15.4 million bushels as against 8.4 million in the December 1--February 1 period a year ago while exports of wheat as flour were up from 5.3 million to 6.6 million bushels. The balance remaining on February 2, 1951 for export and carryover was estimated at 124.0 million bushels, compared with 144.6 million a year ago.

#### Revised Estimate of 1950 Wheat Crop -

On February 20, 1951, the Commonwealth Statistician issued a revised estimate of production of the 1950 Australian wheat crop, placing it at 183,445,000 bushels from an area of 11,868,000 acres. Excessive rains not only reduced the yield of the 1950 crop but also caused some deterioration in quality. A crop of the size indicated in the latest estimate would be somewhat smaller than those harvested in the three preceding years but well above the 1934-1938 average of 154.3 million bushels.

#### Australian Cable -

The following cable, dated February 16, 1951, has been received from the Commercial Secretary for Canada (Agricultural) in Melbourne.

"Australian wheat stocks at February 1st totalled 173 million bushels. Wheat exports from December 1st, 1950 to February 1st totalled 15,446,000 bushels, with shipments during the preceding four weeks mainly to the United Kingdom, Egypt, and India. Flour exports for the same period were 122,334 long tons, with 21,879 going to Ceylon, 12,402 to Egypt, 7,623 to Malaya, and 7,461 to the United Kingdom. The Wheat Board reports sale to Ceylon since Christmas of approximately 33,000 long tons of flour outside IWA."

## CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

February 5 - The Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada announced increases in the maximum lake freight rates that may be charged for carrying grain from Fort William-Port Arthur to ports on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River. The new maximum rates for wheat and rye from the lakehead to selected destinations, with former rates in brackets, are as follows: Georgian Bay ports, Goderich, Sarnia and Walkerville, 5 1/2 (4 1/2) cents per bushel; Port Colborne, 7 1/2 (6) cents; Montreal, Sorel, Three Rivers and Quebec City, direct, 16 (12 1/2) cents.

14 - The Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe introduced in parliament a bill to amend the Canadian Wheat Board Act so that marketing pools may be liquidated more quickly and that interim payments for different grades may be varied. Both provisions would apply to coarse grains as well as to wheat.

15 - The July 31, 1950 carryover stocks of Canadian wheat in all positions have been revised to 112,199,543 bushels.

19 - Pending clarification of the whole United States grain export situation, exporters temporarily withdrew all offers of United States grain to foreign buyers.

20 - The 1950 Australian wheat crop is now estimated at 183,445,000 bushels from 11,868,000 acres.

22 - Production of the 1949 wheat crop in the Prairie Provinces was revised as follows, in millions of bushels: Manitoba, 52; Saskatchewan, 186; and Alberta, 103. The all-Canada 1949 wheat crop is now placed at 371,406,000 bushels, the acreage at 27,574,700, and the average yield at 13.5 bushels per acre.

Based on prices received by farmers for the first half of the current crop year, and with no allowance made for further participation payments, the value of the 1950 Canadian wheat crop was estimated at \$578 million. The gross dollar value of all field crops was placed at \$1,637 million, an increase of about 6 per cent over the 1949 total.

28 - The United States Department of Agriculture announced that farmers had placed 194.5 million bushels of wheat under Commodity Credit Corporation price support in the July-January period of the current crop year.

March 2 - Prime Minister St. Laurent announced that the government was recommending that \$65 million be added to the amount to be distributed in settlement of the five-year (1945-46—1949-50) wheat pool. The total for distribution would be approximately \$120 million, or 8.3 cents per bushel on the 1,428 million bushels delivered to the Wheat Board during the five-year period.





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