

22-005
v. 22
no. 9
Apr. 1952
c. 2



CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURE DIVISION

DOMINION BUREAU
OF STATISTICS

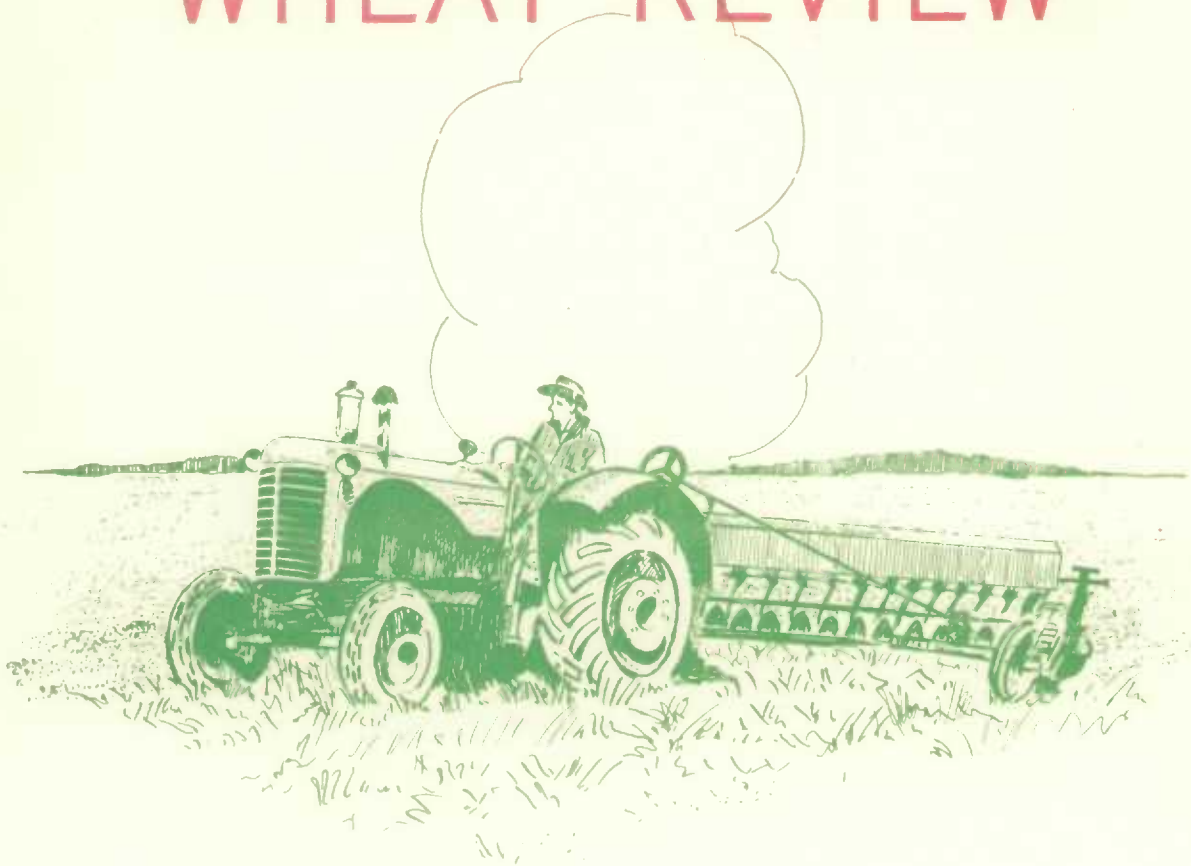
MAY 8 1952

R

RECEIVED BY THE

DOES NOT CIRCULATE
NE PAS PRÊTER

THE WHEAT REVIEW



APRIL, 1952

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Department of Trade and Commerce

THE WHEAT REVIEW

APRIL, 1952

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
World Wheat Situation	
Current Supplies	1
Outlook for New Crops	1
I.W.A. Sales and Purchases	2
Canadian Situation	
Initial Price for 1952-53 Set at \$1.40 Per Bushel	3
Spring Harvesting of Western Wheat	3
Supply Position	3
Chinook Wheat Licensed	5
Canadian Wheat Stocks at March 31, 1952	6
Farmers' Marketings by Weeks, 1951-52	7
Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat	8
Grading of Wheat Inspected, August—March 1951-52 and 1950-51	8
Weekly Visible Supply and Farmers' Marketings (Charts)	9
Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain	10
Tough and Damp Grain Dried at Terminal Elevators	10
Wheat Shipments to the United States by Destination	11
Rail Shipments of Wheat to Maritime Ports	11
Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur	12
Estimated Use of Wheat for Feed	13
Freight Assistance Shipments	13
Monthly Export Clearances	14
Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination	15
Canadian Wheat Board Weekly Average Cash Wheat Prices	17
Canadian Flour Milling Situation	
Production and Exports	18
United States Situation	
Supply Position	19
1952 Winter Wheat Crop Forecast at 947 Million Bushels	20
Wheat Stocks on Farms at April 1, 1952	20
Flour Production	21
Stocks of Wheat in All Positions, April 1, 1952	21
Kansas City and Minneapolis Cash Wheat Prices	22
Chicago Wheat Futures	22
Argentine Situation	23
Australian Situation	27
Calendar of Wheat Events	30

WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies The latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about April 1, 1952 in the four major exporting countries for export and carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 818 million bushels. At the same time in 1951, 1,006 million were available. Supplies this year (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, last year's figures in brackets: Canada, 402 (294); United States, 339 (537); Australia, 73 (103); and Argentina, 3.7 (72). The current supply level is thus running almost 19 per cent below that of a year ago.

At April 1 the estimate of Canadian supplies included an allowance for unharvested wheat which had remained over winter in the fields of Western Canada. However, excellent weather prevailed in the West during April and there is every reason to believe that the greater part of the 1951 crop will now be salvaged without undue loss. Moreover, the spring-threshed grain is grading dry and can be used for mixing with damp and tough stocks, thus reducing the moisture content of the latter by the 'natural' drying process. Abnormally large quantities of damp and tough grain were threshed in the fall of 1951 and all available drying facilities have been worked to capacity in an effort to save this out-of-condition grain. By making the fullest possible use of both the artificial and 'natural' drying processes it would now appear losses from heating and spoilage of out-of-condition grain will be held to a very low level.

Outlook for New Crops In Western Canada, conditions in April were ideal for spring seeding as well as for the harvesting of the remaining 1951 crop. At the close of the month seeding was far advanced in Manitoba, well under way in Saskatchewan and just beginning in Alberta. Soil moisture reserves were generally good. The United States Department of Agriculture has forecast a 947 million bushel crop of winter wheat and, given average yields on the acreage indicated by farmers' intentions at March 1, the spring wheat crop would amount to some 307 million bushels. The total U.S. wheat crop could thus be well above 1,200 million bushels as compared to the 1951 out-turn of 988 million and the 10-year (1940-1949) average of 1,071 million bushels.

The Argentine Government has announced a 1952-53 wheat acreage target of 18.6 million acres, some 15 per cent above the 1950-51 level of 16.2 million. Sowings of wheat in 1951-52 were reduced sharply by drought and amounted to only 11.9 million acres. Late trade reports indicate that seeding has made fairly good progress and that a sizable increase in acreage is anticipated. However, reserve moisture is low due to the long drought and good rains will be required to ensure completion of seeding and satisfactory development of the new crop. Trade reports also indicate some optimism regarding the wheat planting outlook in Australia where recent rains have fallen in important producing areas. Seeding is now well under way and a moderate increase in wheat acreage in New South Wales is anticipated.

Crop reports from the United Kingdom and continental Europe are quite generally favourable. Little winterkilling is indicated and spring seeding is making good progress. In North Africa, harvesting is well under way in most sections, particularly in Algeria and Tunis. However, it is reported that crops have suffered damage from drought in southern Morocco. The wheat harvest in India is well advanced and, with continued favourable weather, is expected to be completed by mid-May. Private estimates indicate that the wheat outturn in that country may fall slightly under that of last year.

International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases for Crop Year 1951-52

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	Source				Total Purchases	Remainder
		Canada 1/	Australia 2/	France 2/	U.S.A. 2/		
- thousand bushels -							
Austria	11,023	264	-	73	9,384	9,721	1,302
Belgium	20,209	11,188	-	-	8,774	19,962	247
Bolivia 3/	2,756	2,050	-	-	782	2,832	-
Brazil 3/	13,228	2,461	-	-	10,671	13,132	-
Ceylon 2/	6,614	-	5,166	-	1,404	6,570	-
Costa Rica 3/	1,213	777	-	-	435	1,212	-
Cuba 3/	7,422	3,415	-	-	4,016	7,431	-
Denmark 3/	1,617	538	-	-	1,100	1,638	-
Dominican Republic 3/..	876	475	-	-	325	800	-
Ecuador 3/	1,286	174	-	-	1,156	1,330	-
Egypt	14,697	-	-	-	7,666	7,666	7,031
El Salvador 3/.....	404	66	-	-	234	300	-
Germany	66,139	4	2,904	1,837	48,193	52,938	13,201
Greece	15,726	30	-	-	13,974	14,004	1,722
Guatemala 3/	919	239	-	-	684	923	-
Haiti 2/	1,029	419	-	-	684	1,103	-
Honduras Republic 3/...	367	170	-	-	197	367	-
Iceland	404	101	-	-	239	340	64
India	55,116	16,651	10,014	-	28,423	55,088	28
Indonesia 3/	3,674	29	1,946	-	1,825	3,800	-
Ireland	10,104	7,022	1,628	-	1,132	9,782	322
Israel 3/	5,879	1,536	-	-	4,338	5,874	-
Italy	40,418	13,660	3,879	-	18,244	35,783	4,635
Japan	18,372	3,375	-	-	13,457	16,832	1,540
Lebanon 3/	2,388	8	-	-	2,457	2,465	-
Liberia 3/	37	25	-	-	11	36	-
Mexico	12,860	-	-	-	12,772	12,772	88
Netherlands 3/	24,802	6,800	2,856	-	15,279	24,935	-
New Zealand	4,593	-	4,550	-	-	4,550	43
Nicaragua 3/	331	195	-	-	127	322	-
Norway 3/	7,716	2,987	-	-	4,729	7,716	-
Panama 3/	625	303	-	-	321	624	-
Peru 3/	5,512	3,189	-	-	2,464	5,653	-
Philippines	7,202	3,426	3	-	2,885	6,314	888
Portugal	5,626	689	144	-	4,510	5,343	283
Saudi Arabia	1,837	-	52	-	1,617	1,669	168
Spain	4,373	1,102	-	-	1,102	2,204	2,169
Sweden 3/	2,756	-	1,493	-	1,315	2,808	-
Switzerland 3/	6,430	4,323	-	-	2,107	6,430	-
Union of South Africa .	11,023	5,600	-	-	4,293	9,893	1,130
United Kingdom	177,068	124,538	30,555	-	16,647	171,740	5,328
Venezuela	6,246	4,702	-	-	1,464	6,166	80
Totals	580,917	222,531	65,190	1,910	251,437	541,068	
Guaranteed Quantities (Importing Countries) .		232,979	88,700	4,089	255,149	580,917	
Balance		10,448	23,510	2,179	3,712	39,849	

1/ Canadian sales through April 22, 1952.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through April 18, 1952.

3/ Quota filled.

CANADIAN SITUATION

Initial Price for 1952-53 Set At \$1.40 Per Bushel

Speaking in the House of Commons on April 8, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that initial prices of wheat, oats, and barley for 1952-53 would be the same as those prevailing at the beginning of the current crop year. For wheat the initial price will be \$1.40 per bushel, basis No. 1 Northern in store at Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver for the crop year beginning August 1, 1952. With respect to all three grains Mr. Howe stated that: "these are initial prices only, and it is always the hope of the government that pooling operations conducted by the Wheat Board will result in surpluses which will permit either increases in the initial prices during the crop year, or final payments to producers after the close of the crop year, or both."

Spring Harvesting of Western Wheat

An almost unbroken spell of unusually warm weather over Western Canada during most of April has produced ideal conditions for harvesting the large quantities of wheat remaining in fields over winter. While some low-lying areas were still too wet at the end of April to permit the use of heavy harvesting machinery, most sections of the Prairies in which grain was still to be harvested reported excellent progress. The moisture content of most of the grain being spring harvested is low enough to qualify for the straight grades, thus easing to a considerable extent the load on drying facilities both on and off farms.

According to a Canadian press report of April 28 wheat threshed this spring in Saskatchewan is averaging about No. 4 in grade but is extremely dry. There is some evidence of damage from bleaching and mildew and a considerable loss of weight. Loss in yield, however, has apparently not been excessive, with many points reporting a loss of only 10 per cent.

An Alberta Department of Agriculture press release, also dated April 28, indicates that the grade of spring-threshed wheat is generally from 1 to 2 grades lower than that harvested last fall. Damage from weathering and rodents was generally more serious in grain remaining in the swath than that in the stook. The highest wheat grade in most of the southwestern part of the province appears to be No. 5, with the bulk weighing between 46 and 55 pounds per bushel. Most grain is threshing dry, with moisture content as low as 10.5 per cent being reported.

In Manitoba, where the unharvested part of the crop was confined largely to the northwestern part of the province, rapid progress is also being made with spring harvesting. A provincial Department of Agriculture survey showed that, while there was some deterioration of grade in the crop since last fall, yields are reported high. According to the report, the grain is generally dry and loss from weathering has been practically negligible.

Supply Position

Total marketings for the current crop year up to April 17 amounted to 297.2 million bushels as against 272.4 million for the comparable period in 1950-51. Reflecting the excellent harvesting progress made during the latter part of the month, almost 10 million bushels of wheat were marketed in the week ending April 24, in marked contrast to less than 2 million in each of the preceding two weeks. Supplies of wheat in all commercial positions as at April 17 were 196.4 million bushels, compared with 178.9 million and 129.1 million, respectively, on approximately the same date of the two preceding years.

Smaller primary marketings and the continuing heavy rail movement of wheat from interior positions to the Lakehead and to West Coast terminals had reduced wheat stocks in country elevators on April 17 to 80.3 million bushels 27 million less than a year ago. With the official opening of lake navigation on April 15, an excellent start has been made on what is expected to be a near-record lake movement of grain. By April 17, some 19.4 million bushels of wheat had been cleared from the Lakehead terminals. Priority is being given to the movement of grain of high moisture content, with substantial quantities of wheat being shipped to terminals in Buffalo and Duluth for drying in bond.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1951-52 <u>1/</u>	1950-51
	- million bushels -	
Carryover in North America at July 31	189.2	112.2
New crop	562.4	461.7
Imports of wheat, August 1—February 29	<u>2/</u>	<u>2/</u>
Total estimated supplies	751.6	573.9
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year ...	150.0	143.7
Available for export and carryover	601.6	430.2
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain		
August 1—March 31	145.6	91.0
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S.,		
August 1—March 31	24.2	10.4
Total exports of wheat	169.8	101.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat,		
August 1—March 31	29.5 <u>3/</u>	34.5 <u>3/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	199.3	135.9
Balance on April 1 for export and carryover	402.3	294.3

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 50,000 bushels. 3/ Adjusted for time lag in returns made by Customs.

Exports of wheat as grain during March 1952 amounted to 17.1 million bushels, somewhat below the preceding month's total of 18.6 million, but more than half as large again as the March 1951 level of 11.1 million. Total exports of wheat as grain for the first eight months of the current crop year, at 169.8 million bushels, were approximately 67 per cent above the 101.4 million exported during the August-March period of 1950-51. Some 55.6 million bushels, representing one-third of this year's August-March exports of wheat as grain, went to the United Kingdom. Other major markets for Canadian wheat during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels were as follows: the United States, 24.2 (of which 3.3 million were for milling in bond); Belgium, 11.7; Japan, 10.8; India, 7.3; the Netherlands, 7.3; Germany 6.3; Italy, 5.8; Switzerland 5.6; and Ireland, 5.1.

Preliminary Customs returns indicate that exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat during March amounted to 5.1 million bushels, well above the February total of 3.1 million but somewhat below the March 1951 revised total of 5.2 million. Total exports of wheat flour, in wheat equivalent, for the August-March period of the current crop year, at 29.5 million bushels, were down about 14 per cent from the 34.5 million exported during the first eight months of 1950-51. Combined exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat during the August 1-March 31 period of 1951-52 amounted to 199.3 million bushels, an increase of 63.4 million over the comparable period of 1950-51.

The balance remaining on April 1, 1952 for export and carryover was estimated at 402.3 million bushels, 108 million more than on the same date last year.

Chinook Wheat Chinook, a new sawfly resistant variety of hard, red spring
Licensed* wheat qualified for licence at the joint conference at
Winnipeg, February 20, of the National Research Council's
Associate Committees on Grain Research, Plant Pathology, and Plant Breeding.

This new variety marks another important step forward by the Department of Agriculture research men, being the first variety to have both sawfly resistance and high quality. In milling and baking tests conducted in Canada and the United Kingdom Chinook has been judged equal in quality to Marquis, long the standard variety. For this reason, it is expected that Chinook will be eligible for the top grades of hard red spring wheat.

Chinook is adapted primarily to Southwestern Saskatchewan and South-eastern Alberta, where its sawfly resistance, high yield, and excellent bushel weight excel under drought conditions. In 72 tests conducted throughout Southwestern Saskatchewan since 1945 by the Swift Current Experimental Station, Chinook has outyielded both Rescue and Thatcher on the average.

The development of this new variety is largely a story of teamwork by Canadian Government scientists. However, special mention should be made of Mr. A. W. Platt, who initiated the breeding program and directed all activities until he resigned from the Experimental Farms Service in 1950, and of Mr. H. J. Kemp, formerly of the Swift Current Experimental Station, whose pioneer work and vision resulted in the importation of solid-stemmed wheats from New Zealand.

Chinook is the result of a selection made in 1942 at Swift Current from a cross between the solid-stemmed wheat, S-615, and the popular variety, Thatcher. The objective was to produce a sawfly-resistant, high quality wheat for that part of the prairies where sawfly damage is a serious problem. Seed of this new variety will be increased during 1952 under the direction of Dr. M. N. Grant, Officer-in-Charge of the Cereal Breeding Laboratory at Lethbridge. Seed of Chinook should be available to farmers in fairly large quantities in the spring of 1953.

*Press Release, Information Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Canadian Wheat Stocks
at March 31, 1952

Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions at March 31, 1952 were estimated at 465.9 million bushels, 113 million more than a year ago and 45.0 million greater than the 1941-1950 average. This year's March 31 stocks of Canadian wheat in United States positions amounted to 5.1 million bushels, the greater part of which was held for drying in bond in Duluth elevators. Farm-held wheat stocks (including an allowance for unharvested wheat in the Prairie Provinces) were estimated at almost 252 million bushels, about 54 per cent of the total in all positions. Of the 208.9 million bushels in Canadian off-farm positions slightly more than half, some 108.0 million bushels, was held in country elevators, interior private and mill elevators, and interior terminal elevators. Stocks in Fort William-Port Arthur and Pacific Coast elevators were 42.8 million and 11.8 million bushels, respectively. The remaining 46.3 million bushels were either in transit or held in mill bins, in eastern elevators and at Churchill.

The quantity of wheat remaining on farms at March 31, 1952 was estimated at 251.9 million bushels or 45 per cent of the 1951 crop of 562.4 million. Comparable figures for a year ago and the 1941-1950 average were 161.4 million bushels or 35 per cent, and 156.0 million bushels or 40 per cent, respectively. Farm stocks of wheat in the Prairie Provinces were estimated at 246.0 million bushels, with the provincial distribution as follows: Manitoba, 14.4 million; Saskatchewan, 162.6 million; and Alberta, 69.0 million bushels.

Stocks of Canadian Wheat at March 31, 1952 and 1951

Position	1952 1/	1951 1/
- thousand bushels -		
<u>In Canada</u>		
On farms	251,915	161,450
Country elevators	91,733	119,368
Interior private and mill elevators	5,846	3,910
Interior terminal elevators	10,446	9,476
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators	11,340	3,506
Prince Rupert elevator	487	-
Churchill elevator	1,997	461
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators	42,757	35,732
In transit - rail	20,493	5,160
Eastern elevators	20,970 2/	10,768 3/
Eastern mills	2,496	2,323 4/
Western mills	336	353 4/
Totals, in Canada	460,816	352,506 4/
<u>In United States</u>	5,099	370
Totals, in Canada and United States ...	465,915	352,876 4/

1/ Stocks other than on farms and in mills compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, as at March 27, 1952 and March 29, 1951.

2/ Includes 1,699 thousand bushels in storage afloat.

3/ Includes 76 thousand bushels in storage afloat.

4/ Revised.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces, 1951-52

Week ending		Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -						
August	9	59,493	620,562	1,338,831	2,018,886	942,807
	16	93,082	524,729	211,439	829,250	187,897
	23	112,590	497,186	242,210	851,986	884,628
	30	403,058	679,813	235,332	1,318,203	3,004,682
September	6	477,903	209,692	118,184	805,779	17,079,804
	13	850,575	2,122,084	1,267,183	4,239,842	20,915,650
	20	2,286,507	8,117,947	3,442,011	13,846,465	18,718,298
	27	3,990,641	12,437,527	3,671,494	20,099,662	36,817,488
October	4	1,140,960	4,811,683	1,580,259	7,532,902	20,857,886
	11	3,642,881	8,909,082	4,002,911	16,554,874	9,913,670
	18	6,829,154	25,964,251	10,890,756	43,684,161	15,342,219
	25	2,889,123	16,901,420	7,418,838	27,209,381	9,282,832
November	1	1,764,548	8,346,796	3,662,096	13,773,440	11,425,054
	8	1,233,784	5,432,322	2,799,173	9,465,279	13,106,208
	15	1,059,468	4,113,854	2,472,007	7,645,329	11,805,491
	22	752,098	4,567,360	2,705,307	8,024,765	10,841,810
	29	675,980	4,545,904	2,946,092	8,167,976	8,453,757
December	6	552,962	5,371,868	4,418,351	10,343,181	7,320,744
	13	707,055	5,969,556	3,927,366	10,603,977	6,620,807
	20	648,927	4,237,451	2,064,504	6,950,882	8,563,235
	27	620,366	4,148,578	1,636,761	6,405,705	6,437,088
January	3	228,260	3,841,896	1,263,521	5,333,677	4,560,268
	10	981,598	5,300,345	2,190,317	8,472,260	3,878,629
	17	716,958	4,321,164	2,327,375	7,365,497	5,662,980
	24	299,222	2,068,288	870,199	3,237,709	3,013,360
	31	200,888	1,811,128	983,209	2,995,225	1,363,719
February	7	343,978	3,503,572	2,361,619	6,209,169	1,295,513
	14	192,499	3,435,437	1,599,885	5,227,821	1,491,550
	21	569,279	3,083,216	1,894,428	5,546,923	1,942,935
	28	340,702	2,780,067	1,352,687	4,473,456	2,330,563
March	6	301,234	3,753,527	1,931,959	5,986,720	1,340,074
	13	349,398	3,796,031	1,689,609	5,835,038	469,727
	20	386,576	2,984,427	1,312,502	4,683,505	676,453
	27	437,901	2,529,542	1,495,072	4,462,515	784,050
April	3	473,193	2,430,048	665,418	3,568,659	1,280,610
	10	368,863	745,829	294,179	1,408,871	1,470,348
	17	332,151	1,183,477	475,914	1,991,542	2,334,731
Totals		37,313,855	176,097,659	83,758,998	297,170,512	272,417,565

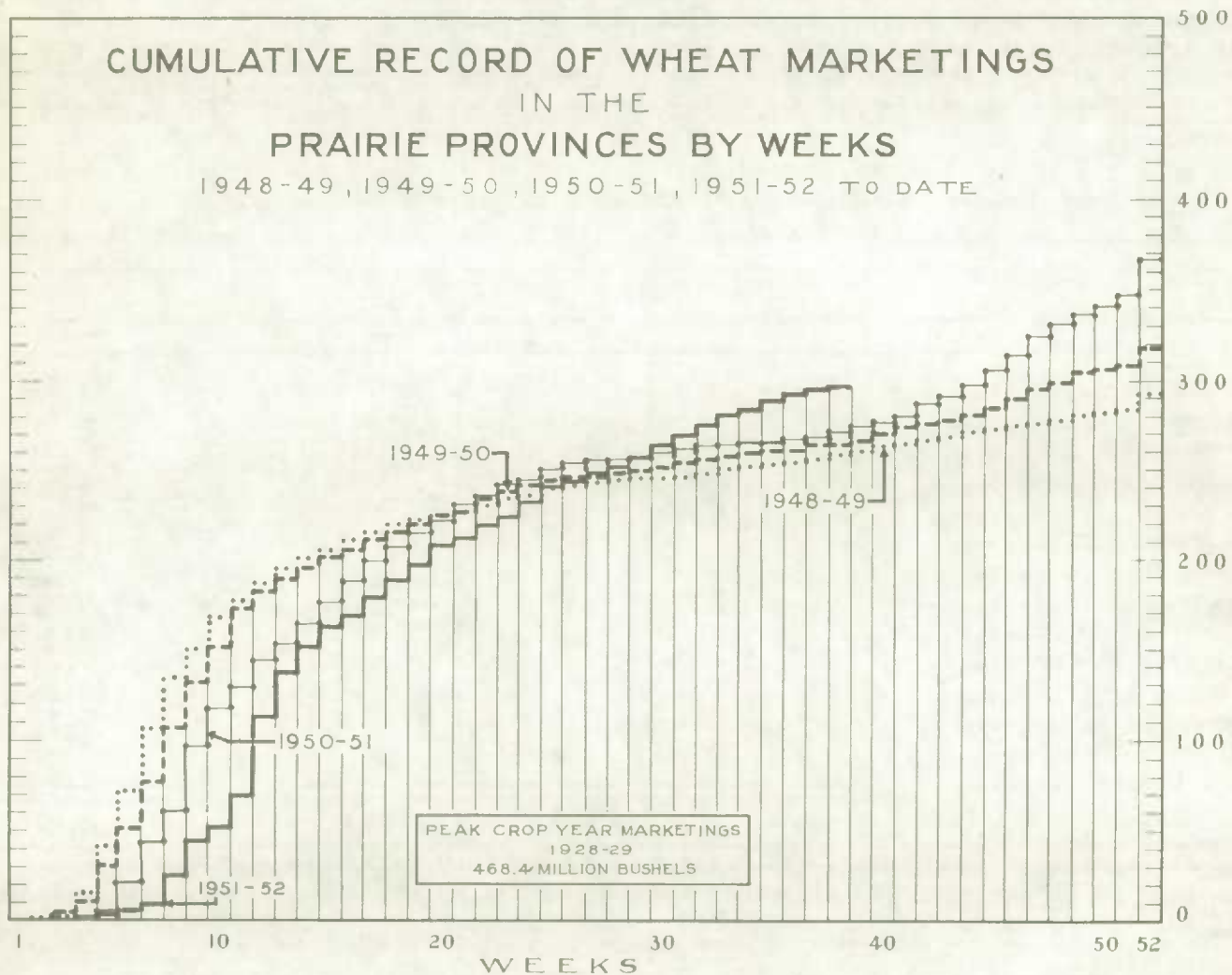
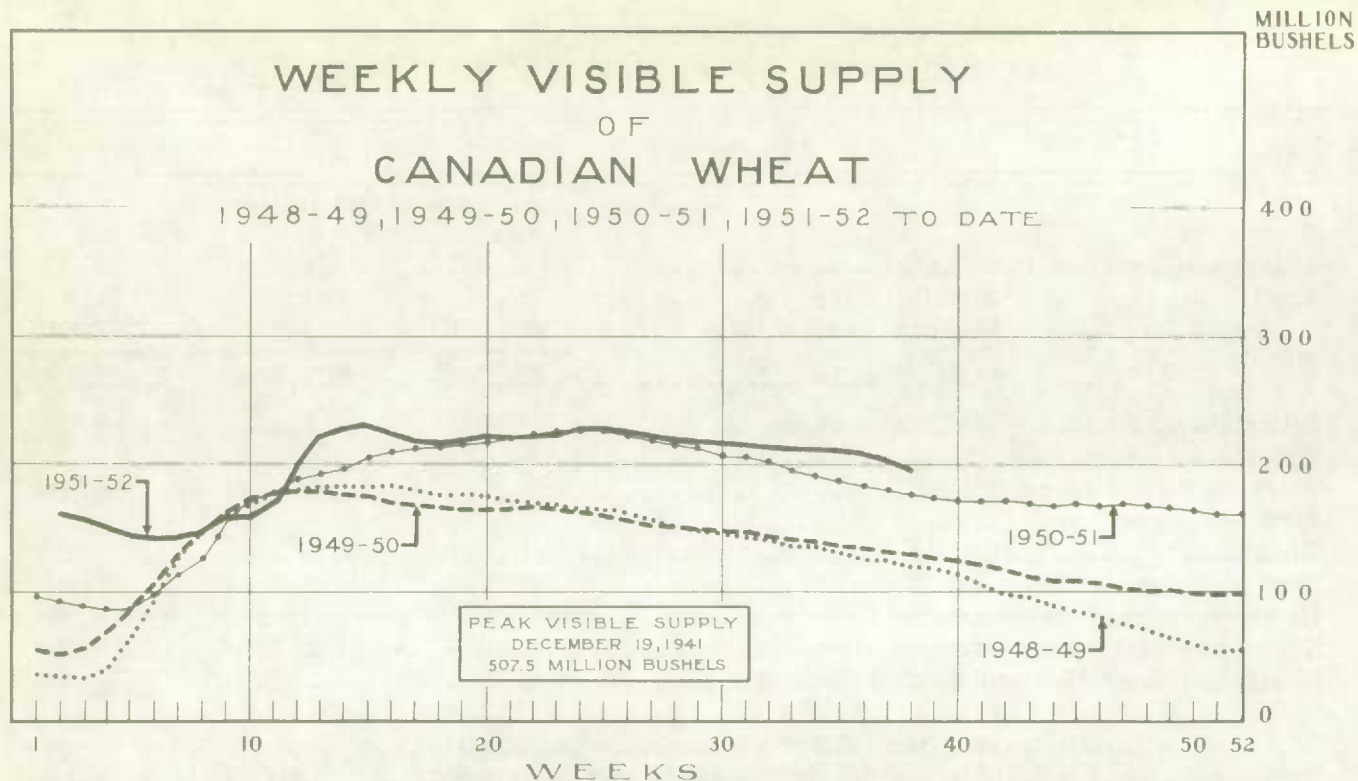
Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, April 17, 1952, Compared with
Approximately the Same Date, 1951 and 1950

Position	1952	1951	1950
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	7,932	10,217	2,530
Saskatchewan	47,857	61,673	17,832
Alberta	24,506	35,365	22,833
Totals	80,294	107,256	43,195
Interior private and mill elevators	5,935	4,454	3,779
Interior terminals	9,401	9,612	60
Vancouver-New Westminster	10,763	3,919	8,524
Prince Rupert	65	-	-
Churchill	1,997	461	126
Fort William-Port Arthur	30,438	29,547	51,600
In transit rail (Western Division)	16,066	6,914	8,363
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports	10,087	6,298	5,269
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports	11,450	2,645	6,959
Storage afloat (Eastern Division)	1,038	-	-
In transit lake (Eastern Division)	7,160	4,195	-
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	3,117	608	1,239
United States ports	8,593	2,939	-
In transit U.S.A.	-	42	18
Totals	196,403	178,889	129,131

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August—March, 1951-52 and 1950-51
Compared with Averages for the Crop Years 1946-47—1950-51

Grade	1951-52		1950-51		Average 1946-47—1950-51
	cars	per cent	cars	per cent	per cent
1 Northern.....	850	0.5	4,794	4.6	14.8
2 Northern	8,056	5.0	18,015	17.2	37.6
3 Northern	23,032	14.3	16,704	16.0	13.0
4 Northern	13,263	8.2	12,051	11.5	4.4
5 Wheat	10,805	6.7	10,481	10.0	3.7
6 Wheat	8,476	5.3	6,985	6.7	2.2
Feed Wheat	1,196	0.7	1,758	1.7	0.4
Garnet	494	0.3	1,190	1.1	0.9
Amber Durum	2,256	1.4	3,000	2.9	3.5
Alberta Winter	285	0.2	416	0.4	0.7
Toughs 1/ 2/.....	61,141	37.9	20,921	20.0	15.6
Damps 1/ 3/	30,303	18.8	7,447	7.1	1.3
Dried 5 Wheat	6	4/	-	-	-
All Others	1,046	0.6	877	0.8	1.9
Totals	161,209	100.0	104,639	100.0	100.0

1/ All varieties and grades. 2/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for durum,
14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties. 3/ Moisture content over 17 per cent.
4/ Less than .05 per cent.



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

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to April 17, 1952
and to Approximately the Same Date, 1942 to 1951*

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
1942 ...	12,735	31	191	-	-	12,957
1943 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
1944 ...	9,171	1,263	2,344	42	-	12,820
1945 ...	20,200	9,351	4,621	345	272	34,788
1946 ...	2,115	1,480	949	154	-	4,698
1947 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
1948 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
1949 ...	9,924	397	208	1,481	35	12,045
1950 ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
1951 ...	9,612	2,118	1,209	441	73	13,453
1952 ...	19,420	3,157	2,710	99	92	25,477

* Shipments from opening of navigation to April 14, 1942 through 1949. Since 1950, shipments are to the Thursday nearest April 17.

The 1952 lake navigation season was declared officially opened on April 15, twelve days after the arrival at Port Arthur of the S.S. Scott Misener, first vessel to reach the Lakehead this year. Delay in the official opening date was caused by ic drifting into shipping channels but, despite this, by April 17 total lake shipments from Lakehead terminals amounted to 25.5 million bushels, 19.4 million of which was wheat. While most of the wheat was moved into forward positions for export, substantial shipments went to Buffalo for drying in bond.

Tough and Damp Grain Dried at Terminal Elevators, Western Division
August 1, 1951—April 17, 1952

Grain		Lakehead	Pacific Coast	Interior Points	Churchill	Total
- thousand bushels -						
Wheat <u>1/</u>	Tough	4,807	16,520	1,876	-	23,203
	Damp	17,249	2,002	5,148	16	24,415
Durum Wheat	Tough	1,525	-	-	-	1,525
	Damp	1,248	-	2	-	1,250
Oats	Tough	1,273	52	1	-	1,327
	Damp	5,773	2	12	-	5,786
Barley	Tough	4,833	328	1	-	5,162
	Damp	6,033	60	15	-	6,108
Rye	Tough	863	-	-	-	863
	Damp	249	-	4	-	253
Flaxseed	Tough	2,185	-	-	-	2,185
	Damp	203	-	4	-	206
Totals	Tough	15,485	16,900	1,878	-	34,264
	Damp	30,755	2,064	5,184	16	38,018

1/ Other than Durum.

Wheat Shipments* to the United States by Destination
August 1, 1951 to April 17, 1952
Compared with Approximately the Same Period, 1950-51 and 1949-50

Destination	1951-1952	1950-1951	1949-1950
- bushels -			
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Duluth-Superior	4,361,258	978,121	-
Milwaukee	298,326	140,673	-
Chicago	1,161,571	269,510	192,766
Detroit	-	375,080	-
Toledo	-	108,570	-
Erie	93,107	212,605	-
Buffalo	15,831,770	10,290,106	6,980,551
Oswego	514,005	-	-
Totals, Vessel Shipments	22,260,037	12,374,665	7,173,317
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	1,903,416	362,087	72,225
Other U.S.A. Points	4,486,551	2,505,626	592,052
Totals, Rail Shipments	6,389,967	2,867,713	664,277
Totals	28,650,004	15,242,378	7,837,594

*Does not include shipments of wheat to Duluth or Buffalo for drying in bond.

Total shipments of Canadian wheat to the United States, either for re-export or retention for domestic use, from the beginning of the current crop year to April 17 amounted to 28.7 million bushels, up sharply from the 15.2 million and 7.8 million shipped during the corresponding periods of 1950-51 and 1949-50, respectively. In addition to current crop-year shipments shown in the above table, a substantial volume of wheat is being shipped to United States terminals for drying in bond. As at April 17, 1952 stocks of Canadian wheat for drying in bond at Duluth and Buffalo elevators amounted to 5.9 million and 1.9 million bushels, respectively. With lake shipping of grain now in full swing, an accelerated movement of Canadian wheat to the United States is anticipated.

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

Ports	August 1, 1951 to March 31, 1952	August 1, 1950 to March 31, 1951
- bushels -		
Collingwood	301,000	1,108,396
Midland	4,106,376	2,413,538
Owen Sound	1,426,039	413,975
Port McNicoll	3,528,654	2,085,592
Goderich	123,745	246,053
Sarnia	287,788	169,733
Walkerville	1,786	8,000
Humberstone	-	205,671
Toronto	5,672	116,084
Prescott	1,500	-
Totals	9,782,560	6,767,042

Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, 1948-49 to 1951-52

Month	1951-52	1950-51	1949-50	1948-49
- bushels -				
August	283,914	122,532	158,893	51,283
September	435,068	123,256	131,711	30,017
October	159,667	73,543	122,482	46,274
November	465,193	133,847	92,334	138,600
December	1,387,827	1,517,624	342,946	1,740,405
January	5,839,567	4,394,047	277,502	3,794,391
February	3,618,007	3,303,248	240,087	3,720,733
March	1,564,586	3,476,161	423,774	1,511,072
April		1,196,236	2,305,727	659,467
May		462,676	124,533	884,171
June		356,443	96,626	330,348
July		199,603	52,122	469,797
Totals		15,359,216	4,368,737	13,376,558

After reaching a current crop-year peak of 5.8 million bushels in January, rail shipments of wheat from the Lakehead tapered off rather sharply in February and March. The March 1952 shipments of 1.6 million bushels were less than half those of the preceding month and of March 1951. Total rail shipments of wheat from the Lakehead for the first eight months of the current crop year amounted to 13.8 million bushels as against 13.1 million and 1.8 million for the comparable periods of 1950-51 and 1949-50, respectively.

Distribution of the March 1952 shipments by grade and destination is shown in the table below. In contrast to the December-February period, when the bulk of rail shipments from the Lakehead went to Maritime points, most of the March total went to destinations in Quebec in preparation for the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence.

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, March, 1952

Grade	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	U.S.A.
- bushels -						
2 Northern	-	-	-	1,500	1,500	6,000
3 Northern	-	-	29,500	60,000	-	24,000
4 Northern	-	83,500	-	-	-	33,000
5 Wheat	-	148,000	-	-	15,000	-
6 Wheat	-	-	-	1,833	7,500	-
Amber Durum	1,500	-	1,500	425,000	149,669	-
Toughs	83	-	-	450,432	33,377	9,000
Damps	-	-	-	1,333	50,000	10,000
All Others	-	-	167	7,609	13,583	-
Totals	1,583	231,500	31,167	947,707	270,629	82,000

Estimated Use of Wheat for Feed According to the March 31 survey made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the estimated quantities of wheat for use as feed in the provinces where it was produced during the crop year 1951-52 amount to 38.1 million bushels, one million less than the estimate for 1950-51. While increases are indicated in the use of locally-grown wheat for feed in all provinces except Quebec and Ontario, the estimated decrease of 3.2 million bushels in the latter province more than offset increases in the Maritimes, the Prairies and in British Columbia.

Estimated quantities fed or to be fed in the Prairie Provinces are up from 21.8 million bushels in 1950-51 to 23.4 million bushels during the current crop year. In Ontario, the other major wheat-feeding area, the estimated quantities of wheat for use as feed have dropped from 15.9 million bushels in 1950-51 to 12.7 million in 1951-52. These estimates do not include wheat moved interprovincially under the federal Freight Assistance Plan. Some 13.9 million bushels of feed wheat were shipped under this plan in 1950-51 and current crop-year shipments have been running somewhat above last year's levels.

Estimate of Wheat Fed 1/ to Live Stock and Poultry,
1950-51 and 1951-52

Province	Production 1950	Fed Crop Year 1950-51		Production 1951	Fed and to be Fed Crop Year 1951-52 <u>2/</u>	
		p.c. of 1950 Crop	Quantity		p.c. of 1951 Crop	Quantity
	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.
Prince Edward Is.	187	72	135	235	71	167
Nova Scotia	45	88	40	53	79	42
New Brunswick ...	90	81	73	126	75	94
Quebec	691	86	594	650	82	533
Ontario	31,233	51	15,929	26,506	48	12,723
Manitoba	50,000	7	3,400	52,000	7	3,800
Saskatchewan	260,000	4	10,400	329,000	3	10,500
Alberta	117,000	7	8,000	150,000	6	9,100
British Columbia.	2,418	22	520	3,825	30	1,148
Canada	461,664	8	39,091	562,395	7	38,107

1/ These figures do not include wheat shipped from one province to another and used for feed as, for example, wheat moved under the federal Freight Assistance Plan.

2/ Preliminary; subject to revision.

Freight Assistance Shipments Since funds allotted during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1952 were insufficient to permit payment of all claims submitted during March under the freight assistance plan, the usual statements on freight assistance shipments are not being published this month. They will, however, appear as usual in the May issue when data on payment of claims during March will more accurately reflect the movement of grains and feeds under the plan.

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

Year and Month	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat 1/	Exports of Canadian Wheat to U.S.A. for Domestic Use and Grinding in Bond 2/	Customs Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour 3/	Total	Customs 4/ Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- thousand bushels -					
<u>1949-50</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	2,020	4,410	27,110	27,292
December	9,751	867	3,798	14,416	21,002
January	10,607	411	3,279	14,297	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	3,466	5,317	26,886	23,993
June	17,949	1,460	4,140	23,549	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</u>					
August	11,957	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	5,669	23,477	20,140
December	8,030	2,149	4,157	14,335	20,424
January	9,891	1,935	5,700	17,526	16,315
February	9,259	929	4,727	14,915	14,180
March	9,969	1,097	5,221	16,287	17,663
April	9,604	3,105	5,809	18,518	16,870
May	15,140	2,558	6,677	24,375	21,748
June	23,302	2,198	4,813	30,313	25,968
July	25,662	2,062	4,163	31,888	33,097
Totals	164,736	20,303	55,921	240,961	236,624
<u>1951-52 5/</u>					
August	16,921	2,240	2,581	21,742	27,182
September	16,726	2,376	3,151	22,253	22,161
October	23,764	3,830	3,851	31,445	24,212
November	29,830	5,687	4,033	39,550	34,671
December	12,075	4,701	3,683	20,459	37,347
January	14,382	1,620	4,044	20,047	18,523
February	16,010	2,574	3,103	21,687	18,472
March	15,876	1,215	5,054	22,145	21,904
Totals	145,584	24,244	29,501	199,329	204,472

1/ As compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

2/ U.S.A. official figures used for imports of Canadian wheat for domestic use 1949-50. Data on shipments for grinding in bond since August 1949 and for domestic use since August 1950 have been compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, from returns of Canadian elevator licenses and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.

3/ Exports for crop years 1949-50, 1950-51 and August to December, 1951 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.

4/ Unadjusted, as published by the International Trade Division, D.B.S.

5/ Subject to revision.

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour, 1951-52

Destination	December	March		August—March	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/ - bushels -	Wheat Flour 2/ - bushels -	Wheat 3/ - bushels -	Wheat Flour 2/4/ - bushels -	Wheat 2/ - bushels -
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom	976,527	2,195,960	6,762,567	10,360,593	55,533,489
<u>Africa</u>					
Rhodesia	-	-	-	-	3,733
Union of South Africa	-	-	216,771	-	2,021,043
<u>British West Africa</u>					
Gambia	-	-	-	3,672	-
Gold Coast	17,492	-	-	109,224	-
Nigeria	6,291	2,061	-	54,634	-
Sierra Leone	3,213	2,182	-	29,129	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Aden	-	-	-	32,134	-
British Malaya	8,037	2,295	-	27,824	-
Hong Kong	44,001	212,468	-	921,218	-
India	-	-	1,326,453	90	7,279,813
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar	28,121	25,353	-	152,988	-
Malta	-	-	369,600	-	1,164,901
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas	12,298	24,394	-	160,451	-
Barbados	39,587	20,628	17	292,635	792
Bermuda	10,517	15,219	-	83,183	-
British Honduras	6,799	4,459	-	40,787	-
Jamaica	161,383	182,556	-	1,027,535	-
Leeward and Windward Islands	65,115	112,131	-	616,742	-
Trinidad and Tobago	199,575	194,211	-	1,695,411	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana	58,275	82,395	-	606,541	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries ...	1,637,231	3,076,312	8,675,408	16,214,791	66,003,771
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira	841	6,719	-	20,133	-
Belgian Congo	20,380	49,955	-	287,627	-
Canary Islands	-	-	-	44,483	-
Egypt	-	168,543	-	195,543	424,015
French Africa	1,723	-	-	6,799	2,589,410
Liberia	688	918	-	5,549	-
Morocco	41,400	6,656	-	321,071	-
Portuguese Africa	-	9,162	-	145,940	-
Tripoli	-	-	-	-	445,180
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia	3,051	16,533	-	96,178	-
Indonesia	3,717	259,790	-	321,953	-
Iraq	-	-	-	513	-
Israel	-	-	-	-	965,200
Japan	1,377	63,166	1,875,556	228,365	10,780,026
Lebanon	457,654	149,774	-	991,678 6/	-
Philippine Islands	809,798	256,676	-	3,523,536	-
Portuguese Asia	6,246	19,426	-	53,136	-
Siam	23,328	18,666	-	124,375	-
Syria	59,607	-	-	579,775 6/	2,398,180

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour, 1951-52

Destination	December	March		August—March	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/4/	Wheat 2/
	- bushels -	- bushels -		- bushels -	
FOREIGN COUNTRIES					
Europe					
Belgium	-	-	964,393	-	11,725,361
Denmark	459	-	-	918	537,600
Finland	-	-	315,000	-	315,000
France	-	229	952,619	6,700	4,897,756
Germany	3,434	45,211	-	133,313	6,280,666
Greece	7,574	27,184	-	46,345	-
Iceland	3,253	3,996	-	87,831	-
Ireland	-	-	190,400	-	5,054,068
Italy	13,730	-	732,013	46,652	5,759,957
Netherlands	-	-	186,667	-	7,258,388
Norway	-	-	399,351	-	2,840,660
Portugal	6,426	-	-	24,124	-
Spain	-	-	-	-	304,500
Sweden	-	-	-	-	1,313,418
Switzerland	-	-	58,613	-	5,608,670
Yugoslavia	4,131	2,983	-	26,163	1,092,277
North America					
Costa Rica	8,509	31,518	-	242,320	41,867
Cuba	194,769	175,968	160,230	1,592,015	160,730
Dominican Republic	27,711	36,531	-	177,043	3,800
El Salvador	13,131	16,533	-	201,906	-
French West Indies	229	1,287	-	3,856	-
Guatemala	15,156	9,823	-	257,396	-
Haiti	55,152	50,337	-	339,061	-
Honduras	-	2,295	-	4,823	10,000
Netherlands Antilles	23,058	16,587	-	126,337	-
Nicaragua	11,516	1,147	-	123,943	-
Panama	20,102	11,133	-	156,195	-
St. Pierre-Miquelon	2,394	1,822	-	10,296	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat	12,852	5,054	-	257,350	-
For grinding in bond 5/	-	-	-	-	3,345,518
For domestic use 5/	-	-	1,215,323	-	20,898,779
Virgin Islands	-	-	-	7,996	-
Oceania					
French Oceania	19,845	-	-	47,277	-
Guam	-	-	-	45	-
Hawaii	-	-	-	6,656	-
South America					
Bolivia	-	25,034	99,712	27,329	847,094
Brazil	-	-	730,200	-	3,824,012
Chile	-	-	-	-	2,214,504
Colombia	10,175	-	-	138,752	233,322
Ecuador	49,540	2,412	-	229,257	55,115
Peru	-	-	535,626	-	1,599,830
Surinam	3,704	6,039	-	63,000	-
Venezuela	109,071	478,850	-	1,954,211	-
Totals, Foreign Countries	2,045,731	1,977,957	8,415,703	13,285,764	103,824,903
Grand Totals	3,682,962	5,054,269	17,091,111	29,500,555	169,828,674

1/ Exports for December, 1951 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

2/ In terms of wheat equivalent. Source: Canadian Customs returns. Conversion rate: 4 1/2 bushels of wheat equal 1 barrel of 196 pounds of wheat flour.

3/ Overseas clearances as reported by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners for all countries except the United States. Subject to revision.

4/ Exports for August to December, 1951 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

5/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and advice from American grain correspondents.

6/ For the month of January, 1952 add to Lebanon and deduct from Syria 384,250 bushels.

Canadian Wheat Board Weekly Average Cash Wheat Prices
Basis in Store Fort William—Port Arthur or Vancouver

Class and Grade	Week ending				
	March 29	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
- cents and eighths per bushel -					
<u>Initial Payment to Producers 1951-52 Pool</u>					
1 Hard	160	160	160	160	160
1 Northern	160	160	160	160	160
2 Northern	157	157	157	157	157
3 Northern	154	154	154	154	154
4 Northern	146	146	146	146	146
5 Wheat	136	136	136	136	136
6 Wheat	126	126	126	126	126
Feed Wheat	120	120	120	120	120
<u>Domestic and Export 1/</u> (International Wheat Agreement)					
1 Hard	178/7	177	176/6	176/5	176/4
1 Northern	178/7	177	176/6	176/5	176/4
2 Northern	176/7	175	174/6	174/5	174/4
3 Northern	174/7	173	172/6	172/5	172/4
4 Northern	168/7	167	166/6	166/5	166/4
5 Wheat	165/7	164	163/6	163/5	163/4
6 Wheat	155/7	154	153/6	153/5	153/4
Feed Wheat	149/7	148	147/6	147/5	147/4
1 C.W. Garnet	176/7	175	174/6	174/5	174/4
2 C.W. Garnet	175/7	174	173/6	173/5	173/4
3 C.W. Garnet	172/7	171	170/6	170/5	170/4
1 Alberta Red Winter	178/7	177	176/6	176/5	176/4
2 Alberta Winter	176/7	175	174/6	174/5	174/4
3 Alberta Winter	174/7	173	172/6	172/5	172/4
1 C.W. Amber Durum	178/7	177	176/6	176/5	176/4
2 C.W. Amber Durum	176/7	175	174/6	174/5	174/4
3 C.W. Amber Durum	175/7	174	173/6	173/5	173/4
<u>Export - Class II</u>					
1 Hard	228/7	227	226/6	226/5	226/4
1 Northern	228/7	227	226/6	226/5	226/4
2 Northern	226/7	225	224/6	224/5	224/4
3 Northern	224/7	223	222/6	222/5	222/4
4 Northern	218/7	217	216/6	216/5	216/4
5 Wheat	171/7	170	169/6	169/5	169/4
6 Wheat	161/7	160	159/6	159/5	159/4
Feed Wheat	155/7	154	153/6	153/5	153/4
1 C.W. Amber Durum	235/7	234	233/6	233/5	233/4
2 C.W. Amber Durum	233/7	232	231/6	231/5	231/4
3 C.W. Amber Durum	232/7	231	230/6	230/5	230/4

1/ Plus 6 cents carrying charge.

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production Wheat flour production reported by Canadian mills for March 1952 amounted to 1.9 million barrels, 6 per cent greater than in February but almost 13 per cent below the March 1951 output of 2.2 million barrels. Mills reporting operations during March 1952 had a rated daily capacity of 95,791 barrels and, on the basis of a 26-day working period, 77.3 per cent of this capacity was effective. Mill grindings during the month totalled 8.8 million bushels of wheat compared with 8.4 million in February and 10.0 million in March 1951.

Exports According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during March 1952 amounted to 1,123,171 million barrels (5.1 million bushels of wheat equivalent), surpassing by substantial margins the individual monthly exports for the August-February period of the current crop year. Flour shipments during the month were reported to 49 countries and colonies, with the largest amount, some 2.2 million bushels of wheat equivalent, going to the United Kingdom. Other major shipments, in thousand bushels of wheat equivalent, went to Venezuela (479), Indonesia (260), Philippine Islands (257), Hong Kong (212), Trinidad and Tobago (194), and Jamaica (182).

Wheat Milled for Flour, and Production and Exports of Wheat Flour, Canada

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports <u>1/</u>
	- bushels -	- barrels of 196 pounds -	
1935-36—1939-40 average	67,845,114	15,002,781	4,899,970
1940-41—1944-45 average	99,704,638	22,402,166	12,091,605
1945-46	118,074,774	26,435,341	14,470,177
1946-47	127,775,176	28,588,456	16,896,233
1947-48	109,822,011	24,159,696	13,661,573
1948-49	90,896,984	20,379,997	10,687,561
1949-50	90,082,917	20,259,200	10,151,090
1950-51	106,748,343	23,630,180	12,426,996
<u>1951-52</u>			
August	7,747,885 <u>2/</u>	1,699,569 <u>2/</u>	573,624
September	8,173,807 <u>2/</u>	1,797,624 <u>2/</u>	700,228
October	8,832,670 <u>2/</u>	1,926,302 <u>2/</u>	855,721
November	8,957,474 <u>2/</u>	1,944,215 <u>2/</u>	896,318
December	8,064,982 <u>2/</u>	1,755,062 <u>2/</u>	818,436
January	8,505,951 <u>2/</u>	1,844,408 <u>2/</u>	898,711
February	8,378,104 <u>2/</u>	1,812,383 <u>2/</u>	689,470
March	8,804,729 <u>2/</u>	1,926,301 <u>2/</u>	1,123,171
Totals	67,465,602	14,705,864	6,555,679

1/ Based on Customs returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46 to 1950-51 and August to December, 1951 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Subsequent months to be revised as data become available.

2/ Subject to revision.

UNITED STATES SITUATION

Supply Position Total disappearance of wheat during the crop year ending June 30, 1952 is now estimated at 1,155 million bushels, according to the April 24 issue of The Wheat Situation. Domestic disappearance is placed at 705 million bushels, slightly lower than previously anticipated due to a reduction in the estimate for feed, and exports are expected to reach 450 million bushels. Disappearance of this magnitude would reduce year-end carryover stocks to about 270 million bushels as against 396.2 million at July 1, 1951.

Offsetting the effect of a reduced carryover on the 1952-53 wheat supply position, however, is the prospect of a crop well in excess of one billion bushels. The winter wheat crop was estimated at 947 million bushels in early April. While the first estimate of spring wheat production will not be made until June 10, average yields on the acreage indicated by farmers' intentions at March 1 would produce a crop of about 307 million bushels.

United States Wheat Supplies

	1951-52 1/	1950-51
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at July 1	396.2 2/	424.7 2/
New crop	987.5	1,019.4
Total estimated domestic supplies	1,383.7 2/	1,444.1 2/
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July 1—March 31	23.0	5.3
Total estimated supplies 3/	1,406.7	1,449.4
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year 4/	705.0 2/	694.4
Available for export and carryover	701.7	755.0
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July 1—March 31	330.3	187.4
Exports of wheat flour and macaroni in terms of wheat, July 1—March 31	32.8	30.4
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and macaroni	363.1	217.8
Balance on April 1 for export and carryover	338.6	537.2

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Revised.

3/ Excluding imports for April—June period.

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

Preliminary data on exports of wheat as grain in the July—March period of the current crop year indicate a total of 330.3 million bushels, compared with 187.4 million during the first nine months of 1950-51. In addition, exports

of wheat flour and macaroni, in wheat equivalent, amounted to 32.8 million bushels, an increase of 2.4 million over the comparable period of the preceding crop year. Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and macaroni in terms of wheat, at 363.1 million bushels, were up by 67 per cent over last year's comparable figure of 217.8 million. The balance remaining on April 1, 1952 for export and carryover was estimated at 338.6 million bushels, almost 200 million less than a year ago.

1952 Winter Wheat
Crop Forecast at
947 Million Bushels

In a report released on April 10, the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, forecast the 1952 winter wheat crop at 947 million bushels. A production of this size would exceed the 1951 crop of 645 million bushels by 47 per cent and would be nearly one-fifth larger than the average of 800 million bushels. With continued favourable prospects in most areas, except in the Southwest, production prospects since last December 1 have improved 29 million bushels,—or about 3 per cent. Current prospects are based upon an appraisal of the April 1 condition of the crop as reported by individual growers, on moisture reserves, winter survival of plants and other factors affecting crop production.

Snow and rain during the winter and early spring, has built up a good reserve of soil moisture for wheat in most sections of the country. The notable exception is an area covering New Mexico, much of the important Texas wheat producing areas, western and Panhandle counties of Oklahoma, southern Colorado and extreme southwestern Kansas. Although surface soil moisture in southwestern Kansas is limited, subsoil moisture supply is mostly good. In much of the remainder of this dry area, subsequent growth and maturity of the crop will depend primarily upon timely and sufficient rainfall. Loss of seeded acreage expected in New Mexico and Texas is placed at 70 and 35 per cent, respectively. Total abandonment and diversion of wheat acreage for the Nation is indicated at 5.4 million acres. Last year 16.0 million acres were lost and diverted. The forecast of yield, at 16.8 bushels per seeded acre for the current crop, compares with yields of 11.6 bushels in 1951 and 14.1 bushels in 1950. The 10-year average yield is 15.9 bushels per seeded acre.

Wheat Stocks on Farms
at April 1, 1952

In the same report the Crop Reporting Board estimated that stocks of wheat on farms at April 1, 1952 totalled 201,500,000 bushels compared with 217,111,000 bushels a year ago, and the 10-year average of 226,697,000 bushels. Current farm stocks are equivalent to 20.4 per cent of the previous year's wheat crop, compared with 21.3 per cent on April 1 last year and the 10-year average of 21.9 per cent.

During the January-March quarter of 1952, the disappearance of wheat from farms was 138 million bushels compared with 119 million bushels during the corresponding period last year and the 10-year average of 150 million bushels. Between July 1, 1951 and April 1, 1952, total disappearance of wheat from farms was 859 million bushels compared with 868 million bushels during the same period a year earlier.

In the North Central States farm stocks of wheat on April 1 amounted to 130,434,000 bushels, with North Dakota holding 72,468,000, or 56 per cent, of the total for the region. In the Western States farm stocks were 61,474,000 bushels. The 38,215,000 bushels held on Montana farms were about 62 per cent of the farm holdings in the 11 Western States. The combined stocks in North Dakota and Montana were 55 per cent of the April 1 farm holdings in the United States. These two States, together with Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota, had 75 per cent of the April 1 farm stocks of the Nation.

Flour Production In a report released on April 10 the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, estimated February wheat flour production at 18,519 thousand sacks, or an average of 926 thousand sacks per working day, compared with 964 thousand sacks per working day in January, and 937 thousand sacks per day in February 1951. Wheat flour mills in February operated at 83.0 per cent of capacity compared with 86.4 per cent the previous month. Wheat flour mills in February ground 43,337 thousand bushels of wheat, compared with 49,683 thousand in January. Production of offal was estimated at 376 thousand tons. These figures represent the production of all commercial flour mills in the United States. About 97 per cent of the totals are reported by the 375 largest mills, and the balance estimated. The estimated portion is derived from an annual survey of the smaller mills in 1950.

Stocks of Wheat in all Positions, April 1, 1952 Stocks of 521 million bushels of wheat were stored in all positions on April 1, 1952, according to reports assembled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture. These stocks are one-fourth smaller than the 716 million bushels held in reserve a year ago, but only about 9 per cent smaller than average holdings for the date. The quantity on hand was smaller than on January 1, 1952 by about 336 million bushels, indicating a disappearance about one-sixth greater than during the first three months of 1951.

Among the stocks data assembled to obtain the current total were 202 million bushels on farms, 81 million in merchant mills, and 112 million bushels at interior mills, elevators, and warehouses, all estimated by the Crop Reporting Board. Commercial stocks at terminals, as reported by the Production and Marketing Administration, were nearly 125 million bushels. Commodity Credit Corporation reported slightly over 2 million bushels of wheat stocks in its own bins or in transit. Other Government-owned wheat is included in the estimates by positions. The 319 million bushels in off-farm storages are approximately one-third smaller than were in these positions a year earlier, while wheat stored on farms was about 7 per cent less than on April 1, 1951.

Stocks of Wheat, April 1, 1952, With Comparisons

Position	April 1 1950	April 1 1951	January 1 1952	April 1 1952
- thousand bushels -				
On farms 1/.....	193,579	217,111	339,336	201,500
Terminals 2/.....	180,659	193,663	199,947	124,865
Commodity Credit Corporation 3/.....	5,548	3,156	2,538	2,037
Merchant mills 1/4/.....	88,423	101,052	113,007	80,630
Interior mills, elevators & warehouses 1/5/.....	190,884	200,642	201,979	111,837
Totals	659,093	715,624	856,807	520,869

1/ Estimates of Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Commercial stocks reported by the Grain Branch, P.M.A., at 43 terminal markets.

3/ Owned by CCC and stored in bins or other storages owned or controlled by CCC; also CCC-owned in transit to ports and in Canadian elevators. Other CCC-owned grain is included in the estimates by positions.

4/ Mills reporting to the Bureau of the Census on millings and stocks of flour.

5/ All off-farm storages not otherwise designated for each grain.

Daily Cash Wheat Prices on the Kansas City and Minneapolis Markets

No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City			No. 1 Northern Spring, Minneapolis		
Date	Price		Date	Price	
	cents per bushel			cents per bushel	
March 25, 1952	249 1/2 - 251 1/4		March 25, 1952	242 7/8 - 244 7/8	
26	247 3/4 - 256		26	242 1/8 - 244 1/8	
27	249 - 252 3/4		27	242 - 244	
28	250 1/4 - 250 3/4		28	242 7/8 - 244 7/8	
29	250 1/2 - 253 1/2		29	243 1/8 - 245 1/8	
31	249 1/2 - 252		31	242 3/4 - 244 3/4	
April 1	249 - 251 3/4		April 1	241 1/8 - 243 1/8	
2	250 - 253 1/4		2	241 3/4 - 243 3/4	
3	249 - 251		3	241 1/8 - 243 1/8	
4	249 1/4 - 250 1/4		4	241 1/8 - 243 1/8	
5	249 3/4 - 250 3/4		5	240 3/4 - 242 3/4	
7	248 - 249 3/4		7	240 3/4 - 242 3/4	
8	248 1/2 - 251		8	241 7/8 - 243 7/8	
9	250 1/2 - 251		9	242 7/8 - 244 7/8	
10	250 - 251 3/4		10	242 1/8 - 244 1/8	
11	Good Friday		11	Good Friday	
12	Not available due to strike		12	242 1/8 - 244 1/8	
14	247 1/2 - 250 1/4		14	238 3/4 - 240 3/4	
15	246 1/2 - 249 1/2		15	240 1/4 - 242 1/4	
16	248 3/4 - 251 1/4		16	239 3/4 - 241 3/4	
17	248 1/4 - 250 3/4		17	240 1/4 - 242 1/4	
18	249 1/2 - 250 3/4		18	239 5/8 - 241 5/8	
19	247 1/4 - 250		19	238 1/8 - 240 1/8	
21	248 1/2 - 251		21	238 1/2 - 240 1/2	
22	248 3/4 - 250 1/4		22	240 1/2 - 241 1/2	
23	247 - 249 1/4		23	239 7/8 - 241 7/8	
24	244 1/4 - 249 3/4		24	239 7/8 - 241 7/8	
25	246 1/2 - 247 1/2		25	241 1/4 - 243 1/4	

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	May	July	September	December
	- cents and eighths per bushel -			
March 25, 1952	251/3	243/5	244/7	248/3
26	250	242/6	244/1	247/4
27	250/2	242/5	244/1	247/3
28	251/3	243/4	245	248/1
29	251/7	244/2	245/5	249
31	251/2	243/6	245/2	248/5
April 1	250/1	242/2	243/6	247/2
2	250/6	243	244/4	248
3	249/6	241/7	243	246/5
4	250	241/4	242/5	246/1
5	249/5	240/6	242/1	245/3
7	250	240/5	242/1	245/3
8	251/4	241	242/5	245/7
9	251/6	240/7	242/3	245/4
10	251	240/3	241/7	245/2
11			Good Friday	
12	251/2	239/7	241/2	244/4
14	247/3	234/4	236/6	240/2
15	248/5	236/3	237/7	241
16	247/1	236/1	237/4	241/2
17	247	236/3	237/7	241/7
18	246/1	235/2	236/7	240/7
19	245/2	234/7	236/2	240/1
21	244/4	235/1	236/5	240/2
22	245/6	236/3	238	241/6
23	244/6	234/5	236/5	240/3
24	243/1	235/2	236/6	240/6
25	244/1	237	238/6	242/6

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position The statistical supply position of Argentine wheat for the current crop year remains virtually unchanged from that of a month ago. There are still no official estimates on the size of the 1951-52 crop, and there are some indications that it may be even less than the current trade estimate of 84.5 million. The only exports during March were shipments of 55,000 bushels to Paraguay against old contracts. Exports of wheat for the first four months of 1951-52 were 3.6 million bushels, compared with 34.2 million in the December-March period of 1950-51. The balance remaining on April 1 for export and carryover at the end of the current crop year was estimated at 3.7 million bushels as against 72.0 million a year ago.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1951-52 <u>1/</u>	1950-51 <u>2/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1)	11.0	7.3
New crop	84.5	213.1
Total estimated supplies	95.5	220.4
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	88.2	114.2
Available for export and carryover	7.3	106.2
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1—March 31	3.6	34.2
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1—March 31	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	3.6	34.2
Balance on April 1 for export and carryover	3.7	72.0

1/Preliminary; based on information obtained from trade and other sources.

2/Subject to revision.

3/Less than 50,000 bushels.

The following account of the Argentine grain situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. W. B. McCullough, Agricultural Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Buenos Aires, under date of April 15, 1952, and is reproduced with the kind permission of the Trade Commissioner Service. Where practicable, conversions from Argentine to Canadian measures have been made for the convenience of our readers. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of 5 pesos to the United States dollar.

Weather and Crops During the last fortnight of March there were heavy widespread rains throughout the important agricultural areas. These were followed by further rains early in April so that the three month summer drought is broken. Moisture conditions throughout the grain belt are now considered generally satisfactory which has enabled farmers to plow and seed coarse grains for winter pasture. Farmers are also able to prepare land for wheat and flax.

The March rains were too late to benefit the corn crop except some of the late planted fields which, in any case, are used largely for home consumption.

Pastures have recovered and grazing conditions can be described as from very good to excellent in most areas.

1951-52 Wheat Crop No official estimate on the 1951-52 wheat crop has been announced but the trade opinion is that the outturn may be even less than 2.3 million metric tons (84.5 million bushels) currently forecast which, together with the small carryover of 300,000 tons (11.0 million bushels) leaves Argentina short by about a million tons (37 million bushels) of their normal requirements. As this country is short of wheat for domestic consumption no sales abroad have been made for some months and the only shipments in March were 1,500 tons (55,000 bushels) to Paraguay against old contracts.

Agricultural Policy The Government's grave anxiety over the decline in agricultural production and the resultant loss of foreign exchange owing to the sharply reduced export surpluses is evident in recent radio broadcasts by President Perón and press announcements by his Ministers. It is apparent that the Government now recognizes that the nation's prosperity basically depends on her agricultural surpluses of which grain is an important item, normally accounting for nearly half of their foreign exchange earnings and official activities are largely concentrated on plans to stimulate the production of those surpluses.

In a radio broadcast on February 18th President Perón announced the new official prices at which the State would purchase the 1952-53 grain crops and exhorted the producers to sow more. The new price for wheat is 50.00 pesos per 100 kilos basis in sacks on rail at ports, which represents a 47 per cent increase over the official price established for the last crop. Details of these prices were covered in the last review.

Since the announcement of the new prices the following further steps to increase sowings have been announced:

Planned Agrarian Credits In pursuance of President Perón's economic plan for 1952 to stimulate agricultural production, his Minister of Finance recently made an important announcement on the Government's program of agricultural loans under a new system to be known as the "Planned Agrarian Credits". This program has been drawn up by the Banco de la Nación and approved by the Central Bank with the fundamental purpose of increasing agricultural production. The Ministry of Agriculture has prepared an ecological map on the basis of three degrees of suitability of crops or live stock for each zone, optimum, good and medium. The agrarian loans are to be based on the principle that, without neglecting diversification, the land must be utilized for the purpose for which it is best suited. The loans will be agreed upon on a strictly indispensable basis, avoiding unnecessary credit expansion that would tend to increase inflation. The producer seeking credit must draw up his program and submit it to the local manager of the Banco de la Nación, first utilizing his own finances and the agrarian **credit** for the balance. The banks will seek to attain an ecological redistribution and intensification of all cereals, oilseeds and live stock in the principal agricultural zones.

Production Targets 1952-53

In announcing the planned agrarian credits, the Minister of Finance gave the targets suggested by the Ministry of Agriculture for the 1952-53 sowings. The percentage of increases aimed at over the 1950-51 seeded areas are as follows: wheat 15 per cent; corn 55 per cent; flax 45 per cent; barley 35 per cent; oats 25 per cent and rye 15 per cent. These targets represent an overall increase of some 20 per cent on 1950-51 but on the 1951-52 sowings, which were reduced on account of drought, the increase would be nearly 50 per cent. It is believed that these production goals cannot be reached in the coming crop year but the objective could be achieved during the next five years, the period covered by the second Five-Year Plan. The suggested targets for the seeded areas in the next crop year as compared with those in previous years are shown in the following table:

Argentine Grain Sowings

Grain	Targets	1951-52	1950-51	10-year Average ended 1939-40
- thousand acres -				
Wheat	18,617	11,856	16,189	19,009
Corn	9,338	6,916	6,024	15,596
Flax	3,894	1,640	2,686	7,506
Oats	4,046	2,996	3,237	3,619
Barley	2,994	2,162	2,218	1,714
Rye	6,224	4,960	5,412	1,991
Totals	45,114	30,530	35,767	49,435

Eva Peron

Agrarian Plan

The Fundacion Eva Peron (social welfare organization) announced that they have organized a plan to collaborate with the President's economic program for 1952, which is named "Plan Agrario Eva Perón". This plan, which will be wholly financed by the Fundación, has been drawn up to assist in solving the problems of agricultural production and the first phase has already been decided upon. This consists of ten mechanized units for plowing and seeding cereals. Each unit comprises ten tractors with corresponding attachments for plowing, harrowing and seeding. In addition, each unit will be accompanied by trucks, travelling workshops, a cabin for workers, cookhouse, ambulance and everything necessary for the smooth and efficient operation of the unit. The rates established for grain are 45.00 pesos per hectare (\$3.64 per acre) for plowing and harrowing and 65.00 pesos (\$5.26) for plowing, harrowing and seeding, included in the latter is a provision for seed at current official prices. For harvesting, contracts can be made with the Fundación at official rates applying in the particular zone. The tractors and attachments have already been procured from the allocation of imported machinery held by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. On March 28th the units paraded in the city of Buenos Aires and were reviewed by President Perón before proceeding to the rural areas.

Grain Shipments

Grain shipments from Argentina during the month of March totalled 82,975 metric tons, about a fifth of the volume for March 1951 and a record low for this country. Paraguay was the sole destination for wheat receiving 1,500 tons (55,000 bushels) and flax shipments, to Norway and Chile, contributed only 2,221 tons (87,000 bushels) to the still further diminished total of grain exports for the month. Rye shipments were the only comparatively bright

spot and were similar in quantity to those effected in the corresponding month of 1951; of a total of 36,403 tons (1,433,000 bushels) the principal customers were Finland and Sweden. Corn shipments at 26,246 tons (1,033,000 bushels) compare favourably with the 5,584 tons (220,000 bushels) exported in March 1951 but show a 60 per cent decrease over February this year. In fact the only grains on which exports exceeded those of the previous month were rye and flax, although on flax the improvement was but slight.

The following table, compiled from trade sources, shows shipments of all grains from Argentina in March, compared to the same month in the three preceding years:

Argentine Grain Exports in March

Grain	1952	1951	1950	1949
- thousand bushels -				
Wheat	55	11,788	13,379	6,424
Corn	1,033	220	5,569	1,646
Flax	87	1,237	-	-
Oats	426	826	1,631	97
Rye	1,433	1,438	971	215
Barley	461	-	-	1,212

March shipments brought the total of grain exported from Argentina during the first quarter of 1952 to 494,538 metric tons, little over one-half of the quantity shipped in the corresponding period of 1951. The following table, compiled from trade sources, gives exports of all grains during the first three months of 1952 compared with the same period of previous years:

Argentine Shipments of Grain First Quarter of Year

Grain	1952	1951	1950	1949
- thousand bushels -				
Wheat	2,063	29,261	33,391	22,575
Corn	8,007	369	13,215	13,760
Flax	905	3,278	*	*
Oats	2,305	1,310	4,207	1,265
Rye	3,566	1,677	1,373	930
Barley	3,944	275	2,322	1,872

*Shipments of unprocessed flax prohibited from 1947 until mid-1950.

From the above can be seen the extent to which shipments of grain from Argentina have declined compared even to recent years, while it has to be taken into account that pre-war Argentina exported an average of over 10 million metric tons of grains annually and in 1937 a record of 16 million tons was exported.

The following table gives exports of grain from Argentina by destination during the first three months of 1952:

Argentine Grain Shipments, January-March, 1952

Destination	Wheat	Corn	Flax	Oats	Rye	Barley
- thousand bushels -						
Austria	-	217	-	-	-	-
Belgium	-	1,409	71	-	146	-
Brazil	1,049	-	-	6	-	-
Chile	-	-	9	-	-	-
Denmark	-	-	-	-	-	606
Finland	-	-	-	-	926	-
France	-	1,471	614	-	-	-
Germany	-	486	25	337	405	2,219
Holland	-	193	19	534	245	191
Norway	-	79	79	-	110	-
Paraguay	434	-	-	-	-	-
Peru	580	-	-	-	-	-
Sweden	-	3,352	81	834	1,664	850
Switzerland	-	163	-	595	70	78
United Kingdom	-	639	7	-	-	-
Totals	2,063	8,007	905	2,305	3,566	3,944

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position An upward revision in Australia's estimated domestic requirements of wheat for the current crop year to 84 million bushels* has resulted in reducing supplies available for export and carryover to approximately 97 million bushels, almost 47 million less than last year's revised total. The reduction in exportable supplies is particularly evident in this year's smaller exports of wheat as grain. During the December 1-March 29 period of the current crop year exports of wheat as grain amounted to only 12.7 million bushels, less than half the 28.6 million exported during the comparable period of 1950-51.

Reduction in exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat was not nearly so marked, the current and previous crop year's totals amounting to 10.9 million and 12.0 million bushels, respectively, for the period under review. Combined exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of wheat for the first four months of 1951-52 amounted to 23.6 million bushels, as against 40.6 million for the same period last year. The balance remaining on March 30 for export and carryover was estimated at 73.3 million bushels, compared with 103.2 million a year ago.

*Summary of the Wheat Situation: Australia, March, 1952.

Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1951-52 <u>1/</u>	1950-51 <u>2/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at November 30 (including flour as wheat)	19.5	43.9
New crop	161.4	184.2
Total estimated supplies	180.9	228.1
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	84.0 <u>3/</u>	84.3 <u>3/</u>
Available for export and carryover	96.9 <u>3/</u>	143.8 <u>3/</u>
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1—March 29	12.7	28.6
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat December 1—March 29	10.9	12.0
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	23.6	40.6
Balance on March 30 for export and carryover	73.3	103.2

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Subject to revision. 3/ Revised.

Australian Cable The following cable, dated April 16, 1952, has been received from the Agricultural Secretary for Canada in Melbourne:

"Australian wheat stocks at March 22nd totalled 119,441,000 bushels. Yesterday Victorian wheat growers rejected the Commonwealth Marketing Plan proposed by Australian Wheat Growers' Federation to take the place of the present Wheat Stabilization Scheme. They also disagreed with the Federation's proposal to increase the local price of wheat to 19/1 a bushel."

Increased Prices for Wheat for Feed The present Australian policy with reference to the price of wheat for home consumption is set out in the following extracts from an article appearing in the Australian Wheat Board Gazette for December, 1951—January, 1952:

"In accordance with the provisions of the State Wheat Industry Stabilization Acts as they stood prior to November-December 1951, one price operated in respect to all wheat sold by the Board for home consumption. The State legalisation provided that the Board's selling price should be the guaranteed price as fixed annually under the Commonwealth Act.

For some time, wheatgrowers have been agitating for a revision in the price of wheat sold for stockfeeding, contending it was inequitable that they should continue to subsidise other industries. During last year, conferences were held between the Minister for Commerce and Agriculture, State Ministers for Agriculture and growers' organisations and, arising therefrom, it was announced that the price of wheat for stockfeed should be based upon the International Wheat Agreement maximum price, i.e., 16/1. Several alternative plans for placing this decision into effect were considered and, finally, agreement was reached between the Commonwealth and States, whereby the State Wheat Industry Stabilisation Acts would be amended to

provide that wheat for stockfeed could be sold at a price 2/ per bushel in excess of the guaranteed price and the Commonwealth Government undertook to introduce a Bill to provide for a bounty, payable to the Wheat Board for distribution to growers, of an amount sufficient to bring the return to wheatgrowers up to 16/1 per bushel.

The guaranteed price for the 1951-52 season has been declared at 10/- per bushel and thus the effect of the proposed legislation was to increase the selling price of stockfeed wheat to 12/- per bushel, with a Commonwealth bounty of 4/1 per bushel (i.e., 16/1, less 12/-).

With the exception of Western Australia, all State Parliaments passed the amending Acts and the Commonwealth Bounty Act also became law.

By reason of the failure of the Western Australia Parliament to pass the Bill introduced into State House (vide a separate statement regarding interstate freight costs) the selling price for stockfeed wheat in that State remains at the guaranteed price, namely, 10/- per bushel. Notwithstanding the failure of the Western Australian Parliament to pass the amending legislation the Commonwealth Bounty applies to sales in that State.

The provisions of the State Acts and also of the Commonwealth Bounty Act limit the operation of the amending legislation to a maximum of 26 million bushels of wheat sold for stockfeeding. That is to say, the Board may sell a total of 26 million bushels only at the increased price of 12/- and then only as feed for poultry, pigs and dairy cattle, and the Commonwealth bounty is applicable also to a maximum of 26 million bushels. However, provision had been made for the Board to sell wheat as feed for animals other than poultry, pigs or dairy cattle at 16/1, and the Board may also sell in excess of 26 million bushels for poultry, pigs, and dairy cattle at the same price.

The nett effect of the amending legislation, were it not for the question of interstate freight costs, would have been to increase the return to the growers for stockfeed wheat from 10/- per bushel, which would have applied under the previous legislation to 16/1 per bushel. As it is now, provided the Board pays interstate freight and handling costs to deficiency States, the gross return will be 16/1 per bushel on sales in all States except Western Australia, and 14/1 in Western Australia (i.e., 10/- selling price, plus 4/1 Commonwealth Bounty), but less the costs the Board will incur in moving wheat interstate to Tasmania and Queensland, estimated for the 1951-52 season at £1 million, or, say 9d. per bushel, averaged over a total of 26 million bushels."

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS, APRIL, 1952

- 3 - The S.S. Scott Misener, the first vessel to reach the Lakehead this year, docked at Port Arthur and commenced loading wheat.

- 8 - The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the initial payment for wheat during 1952-53 would be \$1.40 per bushel, basis No. 1 Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur, the same price that was in effect at the beginning of the current crop year.

- 10 - The 1952 United States winter wheat crop was forecast at 947 million bushels. An outturn of this size would exceed the 1951 crop of 645 million bushels by 47 per cent and would be nearly one-fifth larger than the ten-year average of 800 million bushels.

Stocks of wheat on United States farms were estimated at 201.5 million bushels compared with 217.1 million a year ago, and the ten-year average of 226.7 million bushels.

According to the London Corn Circular, regulations governing grists for bread-making in England and Wales were altered on April 7 as follows: a minimum of 20 per cent home-grown wheat; a maximum of 45 per cent Manitoba wheat; a maximum of 10 per cent Australian and/or White American wheat; the remainder must be made up of other imported wheats as available.

- 15 - The 1952 lake navigation season was declared officially opened by the Board of Governors of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The official opening means that grain contracts calling for shipment at the opening of navigation and contracts calling for delivery in store at the Lakehead for the opening became effective this date.

- 17 - The International Wheat Council, consisting of delegates from the 42 importing and 4 exporting countries participating in the International Wheat Agreement, met in London, England. The Council has before it the task of reaching agreement on a recommendation to member governments covering the terms of an extension of the International Wheat Agreement beyond its present expiry date of July 31, 1953.

- 22 - Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions at March 31, 1952 were estimated at 465.9 million, 113 million more than a year ago and 45 million greater than the 1941-1950 average. Farm stocks of wheat, including an allowance for unharvested grain in the Prairie Provinces, were estimated at 251.9 million bushels, compared with 161.4 million a year ago and 156.0 million for the ten-year average.

- 23 - The Canadian Wheat Board issued revised instructions to the trade concerning shipping preferences on grain. By giving higher preferences to the shipment of damp grain the Board's instructions stated "it is hoped that the damp grain situation in the country can be cleaned up within a reasonable time, particularly in view of the fact that most of the grain now being harvested or awaiting harvest is reported as being in a dry condition".

STATISTICS CANADA LIBRARY
BIBLIOTHÈQUE STATISTIQUE CANADA



1010686703