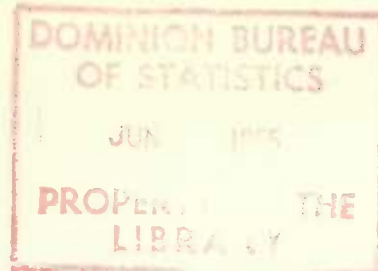


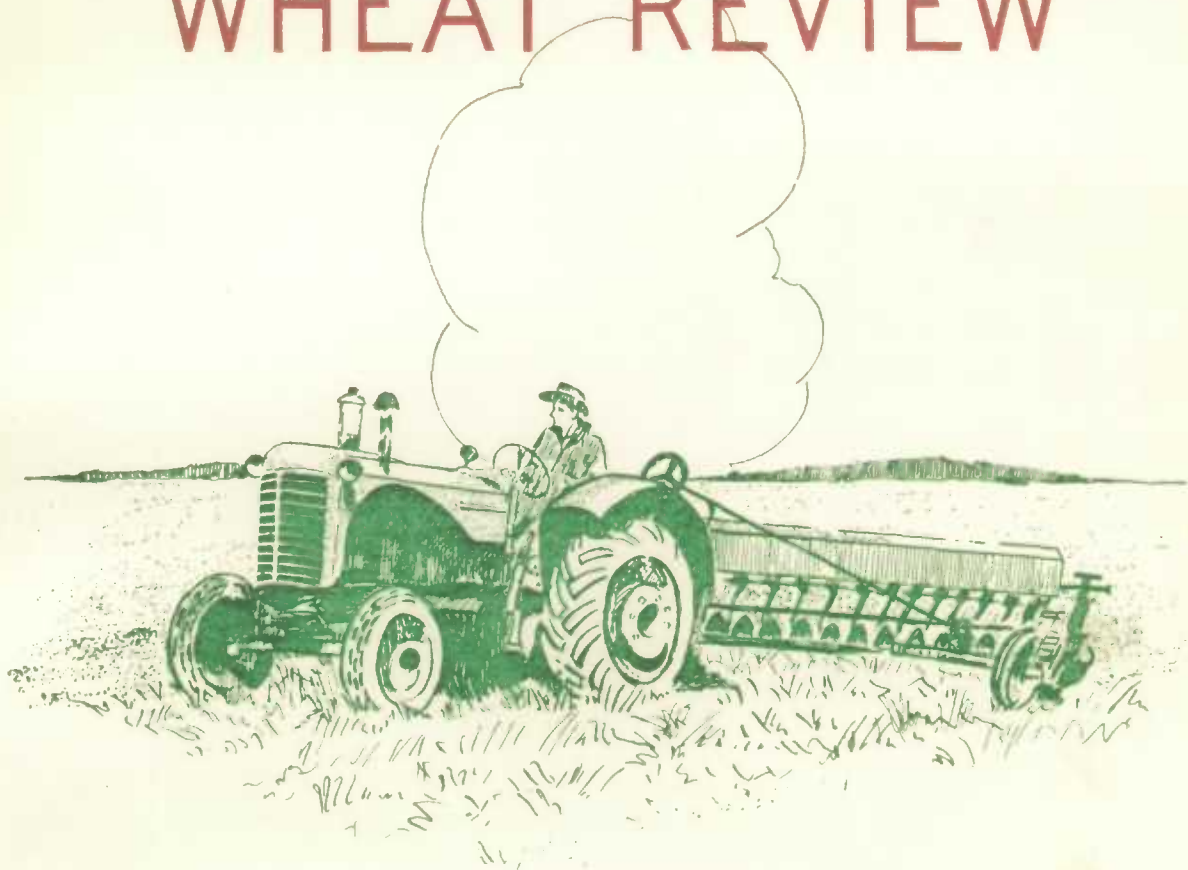
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CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURE DIVISION

THE WHEAT REVIEW



MAY, 1955

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THE
WHEAT REVIEW

MAY, 1955

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about May 1, 1955 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 1,849.6 million bushels, about one per cent less than the 1,865.0 million available a year ago. Supplies at May 1, 1955 (in million of bushels) were held as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: United States, 1,024.9 (945.0); Canada, 532.3 (650.3); Argentina, 147.0 (128.9); and Australia 145.4 (140.8). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions.

Exports Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first nine months (August—April) of the current Canadian crop year, at 566.1 million bushels, were some 22 per cent greater than the shipments of 463.2 million during the comparable period of 1953-54. Shipments from each of the four countries during the August—April period of 1954-55 and for the comparable period of the four preceding crop years are shown in the table below.

Exports of Wheat and Flour in Terms of Wheat, August—April Period
with Comparisons

August—April	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950-51	257.3	154.4	67.5	89.7	568.9
1951-52	372.5	224.5	24.0	69.8	690.8
1952-53	260.8	249.6	10.6	68.0	589.0
1953-54	146.4	187.0	86.8	43.0	463.2
1954-55	204.0	189.4	102.6	70.1	566.1

New Crops The 1955 wheat crop is now being planted in the Southern Hemisphere and is in varying stages of development in northern regions. Although it is much too early to forecast the world outturn for 1955, certain indications are becoming apparent. In the United States the latest estimate places the winter wheat crop, based on conditions at May 1, at 653 million bushels. To this will be added the spring wheat crop which, if the intended area of 14.0 million acres and average yields are realized, would amount to about 177 million bushels. Seeding of spring wheat in Western Canada was still in progress at the end of May, considerably later than usual. There will no doubt be sharp reductions in acreage in those areas most seriously affected by excessive rainfall and flooding but the over-all change in area is not yet known. In addition to the effects of flooding, lateness of the season could cause a greater shift from wheat to other crops than was indicated on the basis of farmers' intentions at March 1.

Weather conditions were more favourable over most of Europe during the last week in May but a number of countries still reported the need of more moisture. Higher temperatures have stimulated growth which is still backward over wide areas. Prospects are for a good wheat crop in France but trade sources indicate that it is unlikely that early optimistic

(continued on page 37)

International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases for Crop Year 1954-55

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	Source				Total Purchases	Remainder 2/
		Canada 1/	Australia 2/	France 2/	U.S.A. 2/		
- thousand bushels -							
Austria	9,186	2,549	-	-	1,622	4,171	5,015
Belgium	23,883	14,018	2	-	5,474	19,494	4,389
Bolivia	4,042	-	-	-	824	824	3,218
Brazil	13,228	-	-	-	7,350	7,350	5,878
Ceylon	10,288	-	5,724	-	-	5,724	4,564
Costa Rica	1,286	637	-	-	613	1,250	36
Cuba	7,422	2,003	-	-	5,039	7,042	380
Denmark	1,837	-	-	-	-	-	1,837
Dominican Republic	1,028	279	-	-	455	734	294
Ecuador	2,388	1,592	-	-	204	1,796	592
Egypt	14,697	-	-	376	212	588	14,109
El Salvador	735	221	-	-	433	654	81
Germany	55,116	21,410	5,152	-	27,764	54,326	790
Greece	12,860	-	-	-	12,012	12,012	848
Guatemala 4/	1,286	364	-	-	954	1,318	-
Haiti	1,837	247	-	-	1,312	1,559	278
Honduras Republic.	735	13	-	-	368	381	354
Iceland	404	18	-	-	31	49	355
India	36,744	2,187	16,919	-	5,341	24,447	12,297
Indonesia	6,246	-	3,663	-	368	4,031	2,215
Ireland	10,105	3,890	1,659	-	379	5,928	4,177
Israel 4/	8,267	1,849	-	-	6,550	8,399	-
Italy	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Japan	36,744	16,837	-	-	18,955	35,792	952
Jordan	2,940	-	-	-	-	-	2,940
Korea	1,470	-	-	-	1,408	1,408	62
Lebanon	2,756	-	374	-	1,533	1,907	849
Liberia	73	7	-	-	39	46	27
Mexico	11,023	-	-	-	150	150	10,873
Netherlands	28,476	10,695	660	-	14,406	25,761	2,715
New Zealand 4/ ...	5,879	-	5,879	-	-	5,879	-
Nicaragua 4/	367	177	-	-	190	367	-
Norway	8,451	3,267	-	-	5,037	8,304	147
Panama.....	845	236	-	-	331	567	278
Peru	7,349	-	-	-	729	729	6,620
Philippines 4/ ...	8,672	4,978	55	-	3,676	8,709	-
Portugal	7,349	264	384	-	2,235	2,883	4,466
Saudi Arabia	2,572	54	-	-	724	778	1,794
Spain	9,186	-	-	-	672	672	8,514
Switzerland	7,900	6,907	-	-	-	6,907	993
Union of S. Africa	13,228	5,600	-	-	2,053	7,653	5,575
Vatican City 4/ ..	551	-	-	-	559	559	-
Venezuela	6,247	3,464	-	-	2,658	6,122	125
Yugoslavia	3,674	3,620	-	-	13	3,633	41
Totals	393,046	107,383	40,471	376	132,673	280,903	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		152,337	44,795	342	195,572	393,046	
Balance		44,954	4,324	(34)	62,899	112,143	

1/ Canadian Sales through May 24, 1955.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through May 20, 1955.

3/ The quantities are the unfulfilled balances of the total guaranteed quantities for the year.

4/ Quota filled.

CANADIAN SITUATION

1953-54 Wheat Pool Account Closed The following statement on the closing of the 1953-54 Wheat Pool Account was made in the House of Commons by the Rt. Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, on Monday, May 16, 1955:

"I am now in a position to make a statement about the result of the 1953-54 wheat pool. This pool was closed as at April 29th. I had suggested an earlier date but in the opinion of the Canadian Wheat Board a more satisfactory accounting could be made if the closing of the pool were delayed until after the opening of navigation on the Great Lakes and on the St. Lawrence. Therefore, the government agreed to the closing date recommended by the Wheat Board, namely, April 29, 1955.

From the standpoint of a marketing operation, the 1953-54 pool was the most difficult in the post-war history of the Wheat Board.

In the first place, as Honourable Members will recall, the 1953 wheat crop was the third in a succession of three bumper crops produced in the Prairie Provinces. In spite of a very high level of exports and domestic demand in 1951-52 and 1952-53, substantial stocks of wheat remained in elevators on July 31, 1953. Sales from the 1953-54 pool could not begin until these carryover stocks from the previous pool had been reduced to reasonable proportions. Actually, sales from the 1953-54 pool did not begin until February 1, 1954. To put the matter briefly, stocks of wheat were carried in the 1953-54 pool from August 1, 1953 to April 29, 1955 -- a period of twenty-one months. Sales operations were carried on over a period of fifteen months. It is not surprising, therefore, that carrying charges applicable to the 1953-54 pool were substantially higher than in any previous pooling period administered by the Wheat Board.

Now, let me describe briefly the marketing situation faced by the Wheat Board during the life of the pool. Following the unprecedented export demand for cereals in 1952-53, world demand for wheat fell away sharply in the crop year 1953-54. As the House knows, our exports of wheat and flour in that crop year were 255 million bushels as compared with 385 million bushels in the preceding crop year. This decline in world demand affected particularly Canada, the United States and Australia.

While world demand improved during the first nine months of the present crop year, competition has been extremely keen and during this period the United States surplus disposal programme has emerged as one of the chief factors in the international wheat position. Canadian export sales have improved, but not to the extent that would achieve the rapid movement of wheat hoped for earlier in the crop year.

The United States has a triple-barrelled surplus disposal programme in effect. Wheat may be bartered for strategic materials, may be distributed to importing countries for local currencies which are usually left in the recipient country for development or other purposes, or may be given away as a relief measure. So far the cost of procurement of wheat in the United States for surplus disposal abroad has amounted to over \$200 million. In addition to this surplus disposal programme, which cannot be regarded in any way as ordinary commercial transactions, the United States have during the present crop year

increased their export subsidies in order to effect sales. As at the end of March, the United States had increased their exports of wheat and flour by over 60 million bushels as compared with the previous crop year, and the increase will undoubtedly be larger by the end of the crop year.

The Wheat Board and the Government expect, and are fully prepared, to deal with competition in world wheat markets. The record shows that we have met this competition most effectively. Canada has retained a high proportion of commercial markets throughout the world. In recent months, however, the surplus disposal programmes of the United States are being pressed to the point where, in our opinion, they are having a disturbing effect upon commercial markets.

The purpose behind the surplus disposal efforts of the United States is to increase consumption in areas that cannot afford to buy wheat. Canada has no quarrel with that principle. It is doubtful, however, whether anything is gained, and certainly much is lost, if surplus disposal programmes are pushed to the point where they disturb normal trading relationships.

I should add that during the period of the 1953-54 pool, wheat prices declined substantially and this, of course, has lowered the return which the Wheat Board have been able to secure from their sales. With these general observations in mind, let me deal now with the financial results of the 1953-54 wheat pool.

Producers' deliveries of wheat to the pool were 398 million bushels. A total of 148.7 million bushels, including 21.4 million bushels of priced open sales contracts, were transferred to the 1953-54 pool from the 1952-53 pool as at January 30, 1954. Deliveries from others than producers were 1.4 million bushels, bringing the total volume of wheat in the pool to 548.1 million bushels. Completed sales to the close of business on April 29th amounted to 384 million bushels. Therefore there remained as at April 29th a balance of 164.1 million bushels. These stocks included 42.9 million bushels covered by priced open sales contracts and unsold stocks of 121.2 million bushels.

In closing out the 1953-54 pool the open sales contracts were transferred to the 1954-55 pool at contract prices and unsold stocks were transferred on the basis of Board selling prices for April 29th less an allowance for carrying charges subsequent to the date of transfer and an allowance for market risk in the case of certain slow-moving grades.

The final operating surplus in the pool is \$64,725,147.55 from which must be deducted the 10 cents per bushel interim payment made last fall. This payment amounted to \$38,638,704.15. After providing for P.F.A.A. levy on the interim and final payments and after allowing for final payment expenses, the surplus for distribution to producers as a final payment is \$25,411,407.89.

On producers' deliveries of 398 million bushels the average final payment is 6.384 cents per bushel.

The final net payments to producers on the principal grades of wheat are as follows:

	<u>cents per bushel</u>
No. 1 Northern	6.262
No. 2 Northern	4.771
No. 3 Northern	5.333
No. 4 Northern	8.382
No. 5 Wheat	10.715
No. 6 Wheat	13.303
Feed Wheat	16.459

Prior to the deduction of the P.F.A.A. levy, the net price realized by producers for No. 1 Northern Wheat basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver will be \$1.56426 per bushel.

The Durum wheat position continued very strong in 1953-54 and again in the present crop year. The final payments on Durum grades are as follows:

	<u>cents per bushel</u>
No. 1 Amber Durum	51.987
No. 2 Amber Durum	52.307
No. 3 Amber Durum	56.427
No. 4 Amber Durum	55.063
No. 5 Amber Durum	19.159
No. 6 Amber Durum	21.139

Prior to the deduction of the P.F.A.A. levy, the net price realized by producers for No. 1 Amber Durum will be \$2.12613 per bushel.

There will be final payments on grades of wheat which did not participate in the interim payment last fall. For example, the final net payment on No. 2 Garnet is 5.105 cents per bushel; on No. 2 Alberta Winters, 3.002 cents per bushel; and on No. 2 C.W. Soft White Springs, 13.798 cents per bushel.

To complete the story, here are representative Board selling prices applicable to the 1953-54 pool. The average selling price for No. 1 Northern Wheat basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver was, in round figures, \$1.73 per bushel. The corresponding result in the case of the 1952-53 pool was \$1.90 per bushel. Therefore, by reason of the decline in wheat prices the Board in 1953-54 received 17 cents per bushel less than in the preceding pool, measured of course, by the return for No. 1 Northern Wheat. The lower level of Board selling prices is reflected in the prices which producers realized on their deliveries to the 1953-54 pool. I have already referred to the relatively high carrying charges in this pool; the actual increase as compared with the 1952-53 pool was approximately 8 1/2 cents per bushel. In these two factors, lower selling prices and increased carrying charges, we have the difference between prices realized by producers. The distribution of final payment cheques will commence before the end of this month."

Initial Prices Announced for 1955-56 Crop Year Speaking in the House of Commons on May 31, the Right Hon. C.D. Howe announced that the government had approved initial prices paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1955 at the same levels as during the current crop year. The initial prices for 1955-56 are as follows:

Wheat: \$1.40 per bushel basis No. 1 Manitoba Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver.

Oats: 65 cents per bushel basis No. 2 C.W. in store Fort William-Port Arthur

Barley: 96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 C.W. six-row in store Fort William-Port Arthur.

In reply to a question, Mr. Howe stated that grade spreads would be established after the quality of the grain is known.

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1954-55 crop year, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 582.7 million bushels, the 1954 crop of 298.9 million and August-March imports of 0.1 million, amount to some 881.7 million bushels. The comparable 1953-54 total was 983.1 million bushels. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 160.0 million bushels, some 721.7 million are available for export and for carryover during 1954-55, compared with 837.3 million available in 1953-54.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1953-54 1/	1954-55 2/
- million bushels -		
Carryover in North America at beginning of crop year (August 1)	369.2	582.7
New crop	614.0	298.9
Imports of wheat, August-March	3/	0.1
Total estimated supplies	983.1	881.7
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year ..	145.8	160.0
Available for export and for carryover	837.3	721.7
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, Aug.-Apr. ..	147.0	156.1
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., Aug.-Apr.	5.0	2.5
Total exports of wheat	152.1	158.6
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Aug.-Apr. ..	35.0 4/	30.8
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	187.0	189.4
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	650.3	532.3

1/ Subject to revision. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Less than 50,000 bushels.

4/ Adjusted to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the August-April period of the current crop year amounted to 189.4 million bushels, exceeding by a narrow margin the 187.0 million exported during the same period of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on May 1, 1955 for export and for carryover was estimated at 532.3 million bushels, about 18 per cent below the May 1, 1954 total of 650.3 million.

Farmers' deliveries of wheat in the Prairie Provinces during the period April 21 to May 18 of the current crop year were at the rate of a weekly average of 4.2 million bushels, virtually the same as the average of 4.1 million bushels for the corresponding period last year. Disappearance of Canadian wheat through domestic and export channels (overseas clearances, domestic use and exports to the United States) exceeded primary marketings during each of the four weeks during the period under review. As a result the visible supply showed a slight but gradual decline, decreasing from 331.2 million bushels at April 20 to 322.7 million at May 18. Comparable totals at approximately the same date in each of the two preceding crop years were 341.6 million and 264.0 million bushels, respectively.

Supplies of wheat in country elevators at May 18, amounting to some 183.5 million bushels, accounted for 57 per cent of the total visible supply. At the corresponding date in 1954 supplies in this position totalled 191.5 million bushels and in 1953, 130.0 million. Stocks of wheat in Lakehead positions at May 18 this year amounted to 30.5 million bushels, considerably below the comparable 1954 total of 55.8 million bushels but above the 1953 total of 26.5 million bushels. Some 31.2 million bushels were in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports compared with 26.7 million in 1954 and 32.5 million in 1953. Stocks in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports, at 23.9 million bushels, were considerably above the 19.6 million bushels in this position a year ago and 14.5 million two years ago. Supplies in forward western export positions (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria and Prince Rupert) amounted to 9.6 million bushels as against 12.0 million and 7.2 million bushels in 1954 and 1953, respectively.

April Exports of
Wheat and Flour Total
16.7 Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour during April 1955 amounted to 16.7 million bushels as against 20.7 million exported during the preceding month and 16.1 million in April, 1954. The ten-year (1945-1954) average for the month of April was 20.2 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain during April, 1955 amounted to 12.9 million bushels, compared with 16.9 million during March, 1955 and 11.5 million during April, 1954. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 3.9 million bushels of wheat were exported in the form of flour during April 1955, about equal to the March total of 3.8 million bushels, but below the adjusted April, 1954 total of 4.6 million.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the August-April period of the current crop year amounted to 158.6 million bushels, exceeding by about 4 per cent the comparable 1953-54 total of 152.1 million. Some 67.2 million bushels, representing 42 per cent of the total August-April export movement of wheat as grain, were shipped to the United Kingdom. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels,

were as follows: Japan, 17.4; Federal Republic of Germany, 17.1; Belgium, 11.4; Netherlands, 9.8; Switzerland, 7.2; Yugoslavia, 3.6; Ireland, 3.1; Norway, 2.7; Union of South Africa, 2.7; Austria, 2.5; United States, 2.5 (of which 1.2 was for milling in bond); India, 2.2; Israel, 1.8; Malta, 1.5; Columbia, 1.3; and Cuba, 1.1.

Cumulative exports of wheat flour during the first three-quarters of the 1954-55 crop year, based on preliminary Customs returns, were the equivalent of 30.8 million bushels of wheat. This total is about 12 per cent below the adjusted total of 35.0 million bushels exported during the same period of 1953-54. As with wheat as grain, the United Kingdom continued as the major market for Canadian wheat flour, taking the equivalent of 9.9 million bushels, or 32 per cent of the August 1954-April 1955 shipments. Other principal markets for Canadian wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent, with quantities in millions of bushels, were as follows: Philippine Islands, 5.1; Venezuela, 3.1; Trinidad and Tobago, 1.3; Jamaica, 1.0; Hong Kong, 0.8; Japan, 0.8; Colombia, 0.7; Cuba, 0.6; and Belgian Congo, 0.5.

Crop and Weather
Conditions in the
Prairie Provinces

According to the Bureau's telegraphic crop report of June 1 the general crop outlook had improved considerably over most areas of the Prairie Provinces during the preceding week.

Good progress had been made with wheat seeding, operations being practically completed in Manitoba, western Saskatchewan and in Alberta except for Foothill sections. A considerable advance had been made in northern, central and eastern districts of Saskatchewan during the week. The situation was still serious in flooded areas, however, and might cause a reduction in total crop area. Seeding of coarse grains had also advanced rapidly but a considerable acreage remained to be sown.

Seeding was nearly completed in Manitoba except in scattered areas where operations had been held up because of excessive moisture. Delay in seeding was also attributable to cultivation for wild oat control prior to seeding. Grain acreages will likely fall short of intentions except for barley and flax. The crop outlook in general was promising, with moisture in ample supply, germination good and growth strong.

Considerable improvement in the general crop situation had occurred in Saskatchewan during the week, particularly in northern and eastern districts. Showers in southern districts, however, had again delayed seeding and caused further difficulty in flooded areas. Sharp reductions in wheat acreage were indicated in many districts where seeding had been unusually late but, since seeding was still in progress, it was too soon to assess the overall effect of changes in seeding plans. Indications were that some of the land intended for wheat would be sown to coarse grains and flaxseed if the season was not too late. While the situation in those areas affected by flooding was still serious, the overall outlook was considerably more promising than earlier in the season.

Good progress had been made with seeding in Alberta during the week. Wheat seeding was practically completed in the Peace River District and in the area east and north of a line from Edmonton to Red Deer, Drumheller and Empress. About 80 to 90 per cent had been done from Medicine Hat through to Coutts. Seeding had been very slow, however, in the Foothills and Cypress Hills areas.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces, 1954-55*

Week ending	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -					
August 11, 1954	2,105	1,801	403	4,309	8,553,128
18	-	5,138	-	5,138	9,260,410
25	2,360	249	-	2,609	8,717,439
September 1	36,888	70,049	42,983	149,920	7,940,876
8	87,706	130,042	74,197	291,945	6,173,123
15	46,406	386,002	169,180	601,588	9,454,131
22	45,889	507,923	211,592	765,404	13,734,935
29	37,928	1,090,255	431,177	1,559,360	12,500,992
October 6	57,424	1,389,836	558,014	2,005,274	14,687,130
13	215,283	1,582,821	832,406	2,630,510	12,415,921
20	1,311,584	4,984,872	2,448,081	8,744,537	9,842,042
27	906,558	6,668,350	3,208,600	10,783,508	8,166,436
November 3	679,045	5,743,816	2,843,527	9,266,388	7,510,266
10	628,805	4,710,121	2,688,593	8,027,519	8,575,483
17	678,648	4,491,537	1,989,126	7,159,311	10,221,685
24	860,365	4,361,781	2,313,620	7,535,766	9,619,761
December 1	773,311	5,210,323	2,256,125	8,239,759	9,349,937
8	1,380,370	5,868,390	2,307,724	9,556,484	7,965,526
15	1,574,453	6,687,615	2,559,364	10,821,432	12,118,847
22	1,522,339	6,409,341	2,758,608	10,690,288	25,522,144
29	824,747	5,461,664	2,157,273	8,443,684	12,330,776
January 5, 1955	370,216	3,024,518	2,278,727	5,673,461	4,991,217
12	529,174	5,468,664	2,658,378	8,656,216	5,739,776
19	314,184	3,404,426	1,627,356	5,345,966	3,836,495
26	271,226	2,465,802	1,515,185	4,252,213	1,018,965
February 2	159,207	1,937,823	1,719,139	3,816,169	1,445,837
9	169,027	1,449,337	1,471,323	3,089,687	4,685,908
16	101,914	699,110	1,003,088	1,804,112	3,789,131
23	156,888	1,303,298	1,345,904	2,806,090	3,030,791
March 2	87,991	570,404	867,771	1,526,166	3,163,733
9	46,263	753,727	1,089,932	1,889,922	2,248,171
16	78,870	1,853,056	1,901,461	3,833,387	2,589,608
23	95,205	1,268,086	1,528,664	2,891,955	2,307,908
30	94,360	1,015,894	1,077,220	2,187,474	2,872,732
April 6	207,920	2,149,357	1,217,394	3,574,671	2,504,338
13	282,263	1,344,957	1,159,838	2,787,058	3,687,171
20	521,176	3,536,998	2,012,682	6,070,856	2,512,488
27	259,861	1,808,520	1,058,947	3,127,328	3,431,950
May 4	374,772	2,251,631	940,707	3,567,110	3,844,295
11	437,848	2,484,387	1,522,554	4,444,789	4,887,539
18	394,443	3,698,788	1,378,141	5,471,372	4,336,494
Totals	16,625,022	108,250,709	59,225,004	184,100,735	291,585,535
Adjusted Totals**	16,694,726	109,383,433	58,022,576	184,100,735	
Average similar period 1943-44-1952-53 ...	35,737,102	162,497,432	83,072,460	281,306,994	

*Preliminary. **Details of adjustments not available by weeks.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, May 18, 1955
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

Position	1953	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba	6,851	23,876	21,420
Saskatchewan	73,262	115,770	99,794
Alberta	49,856	51,888	62,266
Totals	129,970	191,534	183,480
Interior private and mill	5,798	7,121	6,564
Interior terminals	15,379	15,161	15,295
Vancouver-New Westminster	7,006	11,210	8,708
Victoria	63	774	842
Prince Rupert	154	53	53
Churchill	2,094	2,516	2,400
Fort William-Port Arthur	26,509	55,777	30,548
In transit rail (Western Division)	19,865	7,309	11,462
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports	32,481	26,743	31,184
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports	14,543	19,577	23,904
Storage Afloat	-	-	-
In transit lake	5,805	1,284	5,825
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	3,556	968	1,604
United States ports	782	1,578	873
Totals	264,003	341,605	322,742

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-April, 1954-55 with Comparisons

Grade	Crop Year		August-April			
	Average 1948-49- 1952-53	1953-54	1953-54		1954-55	
	per cent	per cent	cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Man. Northern	12.1	8.0	12,171	8.6	6,093	5.3
2 Man. Northern	29.7	45.9	59,580	41.9	46,661	40.9
3 Man. Northern	13.9	20.4	29,605	20.8	27,894	24.4
4 Man. Northern	7.4	5.0	8,180	5.8	6,765	5.9
5 Wheat	7.7	4.8	8,147	5.7	3,382	3.0
6 Wheat	3.8	2.1	3,392	2.4	1,786	1.6
Feed Wheat	0.6	0.2	266	0.2	936	0.8
Garnet	0.9	0.5	701	0.5	1,309	1.1
Amber Durum	2.9	2.2	3,842	2.7	2,398	2.1
Alberta Winter	0.4	0.1	160	0.1	430	0.4
Toughs 2/ 3/	15.6	9.0	13,756	9.7	13,712	12.0
Damps 2/ 4/	3.6	1/	77	0.1	428	0.4
Rejected 2/	0.7	1.2	1,594	1.1	1,878	1.6
All Others	0.6	0.6	738	0.5	444	0.4
Totals	100.0	100.0	142,209	100.0	114,116	100.0

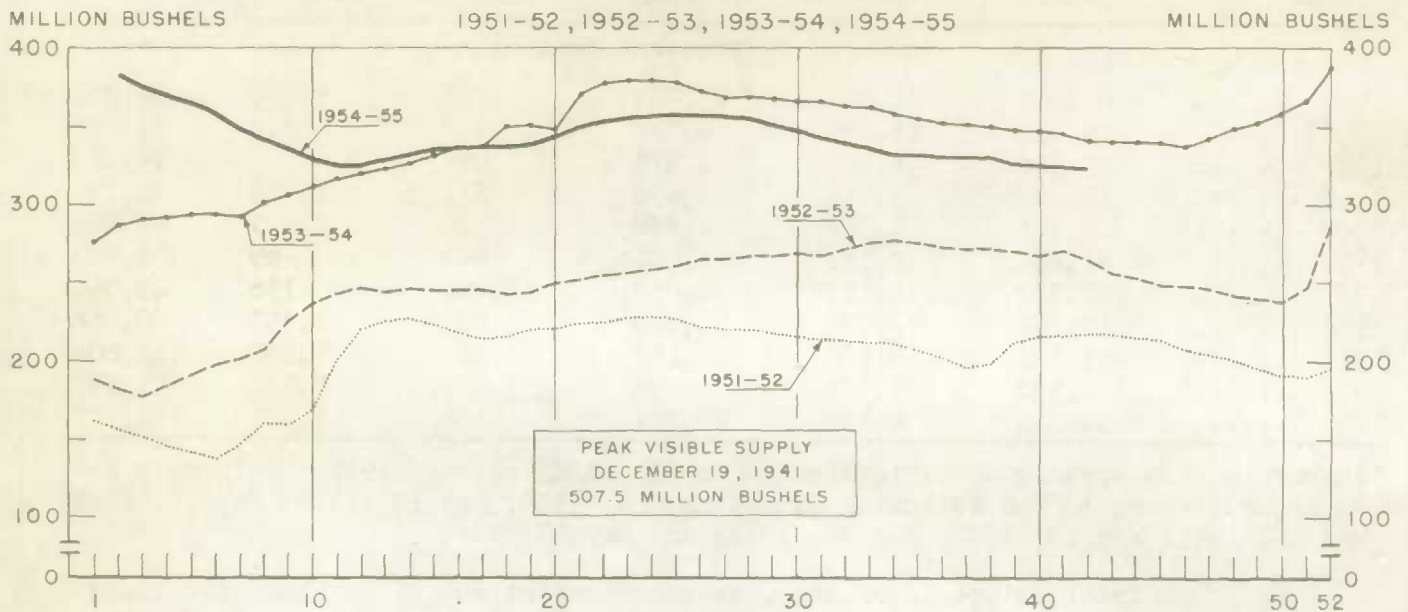
1/ Less than .05 per cent.

2/ All varieties and grades.

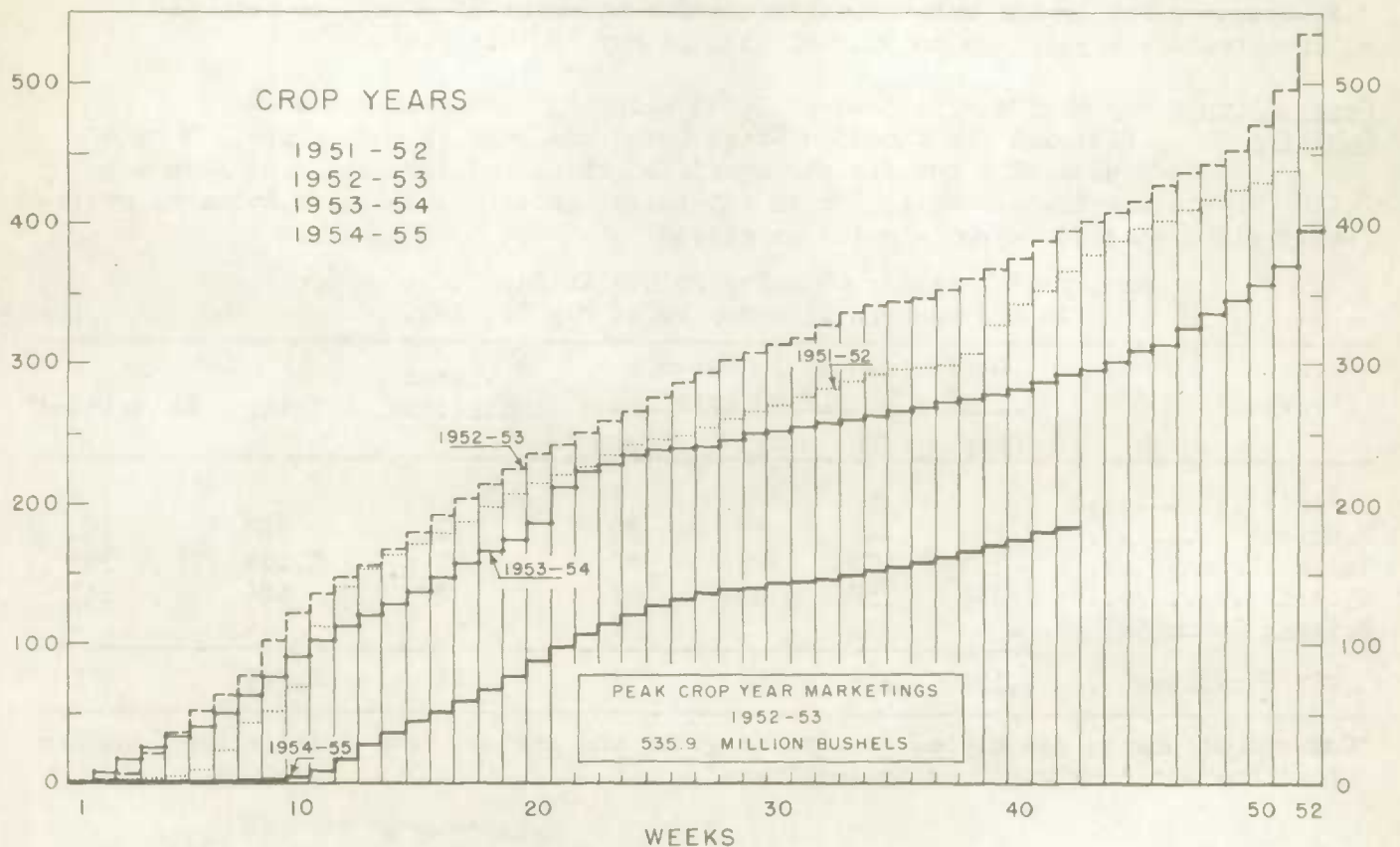
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

4/ Moisture content over 17 per cent.

WEEKLY VISIBLE SUPPLY OF CANADIAN WHEAT



CUMULATIVE RECORD OF WHEAT MARKETINGS IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES, BY WEEKS



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

Lake Shipments of Canadian Grain from the Opening of Navigation to May 18, 1955
and to Approximately the Same Date, 1945 to 1954*

Year	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed	Total
- thousand bushels -						
1945	60,082	24,062	11,905	1,736	1,089	98,874
1946	29,044	18,259	6,738	518	334	54,893
1947	25,264	8,801	4,373	987	-	39,425
1948	22,407	3,716	3,656	231	1,176	31,187
1949	48,361	4,351	4,888	3,540	2,993	64,133
1950	21,847	2,155	4,024	662	69	28,757
1951	32,253	10,147	6,068	1,362	136	49,966
1952	50,532	12,876	14,006	1,882	1,392	80,688
1953	66,674	18,188	25,412	3,146	1,183	114,604
1954	4,988	12,771	11,196	1,223	1,123	31,301
1955	35,343	6,330	16,271	4,481	1,381	63,807

*Shipments from opening of navigation to May 21, 1945 through 1947. Shipments for subsequent years to the following dates: May 20, 1948; May 19, 1949; May 18, 1950; May 17, 1951; May 15, 1952; May 21, 1953; and May 17, 1954.

Total shipments of the five major grains out of Lakehead terminals from the opening of navigation on April 20 to May 18, 1955 amounted to 63.8 million bushels, slightly more than double the 31.3 million bushels shipped during the corresponding period last year, when the official opening of navigation was also April 20. Although shipments of each of the grains, with the exception of oats, were above 1954 levels for the period under review, 93 per cent of the increase was accounted for by the substantially heavier movement of wheat, up from 5.0 million bushels a year ago to 35.3 million at May 18 this year.

General Quota Position By May 24, 1955 out of 2,079 shipping points in the Western Division the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 273 on a quota of 8 bushels per specified acre. Of the remaining points 1,138 were on a 4-bushel quota, 376 on a 5-bushel quota and 264 on a 6-bushel quota. Twenty-eight stations were reported as closed.

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group
in the Western Division as at May 24, 1955

Province	General Quota in Bushels Per Specified Acre				Closed Stations	Total	Restricted*
	Four	Five	Six	Eight			
Ontario	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
Manitoba	193	47	57	80	3	380	184
Saskatchewan	712	170	123	87	17	1,109	380
Alberta	233	158	83	102	8	584	343
British Columbia ..	-	1	1	2	-	4	4
All Provinces ..	1,138	376	264	273	28	2,079	913

*Outward shipments restricted to certain gains and grades. For details see Canadian Wheat Board's 'Instructions to the Trade'.

Wheat Shipments* to the United States by Destination
August 1, 1954 to May 18, 1955
Compared with Approximately the Same Period 1952-53 and 1953-54

Destination	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
- bushels -			
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Duluth-Superior	2,643,223	73,026	26,619
Milwaukee	-	40,940	71,923
Chicago	383,222	68,700	-
Huron	320,734	68,592	80,000
Erie	276,567	153,776	-
Buffalo	12,881,591	5,169,931	2,750,168
Oswego	1,642,791	-	-
Totals, Vessel	18,148,128	5,574,965	2,928,710
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	648,480	16,534	35,822
Other U.S.A. Points	4,181,271	1,711,419	867,357
Totals, Rail	4,829,751	1,727,953	903,179
Totals, Shipments	22,977,879	7,302,918	3,831,889

*Either for re-export or retention for domestic use.

Total shipments of wheat to the United States, either for re-export or retention for domestic use, from the beginning of the current crop year to May 18 amounted to 3.8 million bushels. During the comparable periods of 1953-54 and 1952-53 shipments amounted to some 7.3 million and 23.0 million bushels, respectively. Of this season's total to date about 76 per cent has been shipped by vessel, almost all of which was unloaded at Buffalo.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime Ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first three-quarters of the current crop year totalled 29.9 million bushels, more than three times as great as the 9.7 million shipped during the comparable period of 1953-54.

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

Origin of Shipments	August 1, 1953 to April 30, 1954	August 1, 1954 to April 30, 1955
- bushels -		
Port McNicoll	3,469,474	8,689,290
Midland	3,872,981	11,010,304
Collingwood	797,448	2,032,709
Owen Sound	916,431	2,955,967
Goderich	240,278	1,087,464
Sarnia	286,263	3,782,365
Walkerville	145,082	348,776
Totals	9,727,957	29,906,875

Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, 1951-52-1954-55

Month	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
- bushels -				
August	283,914	191,711	191,336	61,070
September	435,068	1,181,046	236,030	50,633
October	159,667	936,757	173,043	46,053
November	465,193	651,957	138,440	81,253
December	1,387,828	464,914	347,824	179,272
January	5,839,567	6,550,958	510,486	352,109
February	3,618,007	9,566,151	368,662	318,009
March	1,564,586	6,285,944	555,518	245,958
April	107,061	189,339	378,681	169,137
May	132,496	216,046	253,606	
June	196,083	136,014	37,349	
July	113,827	223,687	74,020	
Totals	14,303,297	26,594,524	3,264,995	

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, April, 1955

Grade	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
- bushels -					
1 Northern	-	-	-	-	50
2 Northern	-	-	-	1,200	-
4 Northern	-	-	-	-	3,000
5 Wheat	-	13,334	-	46,791	7,333
6 Wheat	-	-	-	2,000	3,500
Toughs	2,833	6,000	13,333	25,639	6,000
Rejected	-	-	-	-	10,888
Amber Durum	-	-	-	4,000	16,349
All Others	-	-	-	3,473	3,414
Totals	2,833	19,334	13,333	83,103	50,534

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1954 to May 18, 1955
with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels -					
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster	63,249	3,635	8,503	-	318
Victoria	1,051	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert	315	-	4,436	-	-
Churchill	11,986	-	-	-	-
<u>Lakehead Direct</u>	-	-	158	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal	35,425	703	21,216	2,252	1,431
Sorel	6,356	66	1,986	399	323
Three Rivers	8,165	-	454	-	-
Quebec	9,365	-	-	-	-
<u>Maritime Ports</u>					
Saint John	2,049	-	47	-	-
West Saint John	14,469	511	4,417	295	2,025
Halifax	13,602	-	1,240	-	907
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u> ...	36	-	-	884	-
Totals	166,069	4,915	42,457	3,831	5,004
August 1, 1953 to May 19, 1954	158,853	3,248	44,077	472	4,613

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to April 30, 1955 represent shipments of 9.1 million bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the first eight months of the current crop year. This preliminary total subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims has already exceeded by a small margin the revised total of 8.7 million bushels moved under the policy during the same period of the 1953-54 crop year.

Provincial Distribution of Wheat Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August—March, 1954-55 and 1953-54

Month	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	B.C.	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August, 1954	5	12	77	46	468	476	265	1,348
September	8	9	65	42	538	422	261	1,345
October	8	7	74	50	528	348	233	1,246
November	12	4	68	45	514	404	295	1,341
December	6	15	80	40	458	367	213	1,178
January, 1955	5	6	63	32	405	410	218	1,140
February	4	16	69	39	334	258	89	809
March	3	9	48	24	275	258	27	644
Totals 1/	52	78	543	316	3,519	2,942	1,600	9,051
Same period 1953-54:								
Preliminary 2/	56	80	475	275	2,993	2,908	1,538	8,325
Revised 1/	63	82	491	287	3,087	3,002	1,691	8,702

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 345,163 tons during the August—March period of the current crop year. As with freight-assisted shipments of wheat, this total is based on claims filed up to April 30, 1955 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. The current preliminary figure for the first eight months of the current crop year is, already, about 10 per cent above the revised total of 315,191 tons for the same months of 1953-54.

Provincial Distribution of Millfeed Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August—March, 1954-55 and 1953-54

Province	1953-54		1954-55
	Preliminary 2/	Revised 1/	Preliminary 1/
- tons -			
Newfoundland	2,327	2,532	2,204
Prince Edward Island	3,137	3,261	4,459
Nova Scotia	21,951	22,766	23,464
New Brunswick	19,063	20,307	20,147
Quebec	140,059	147,211	173,862
Ontario	79,004	85,273	93,628
British Columbia	30,111	33,841	27,399
Totals	295,652	315,191	345,163

1/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1955.

2/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1954.

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 Milling in Bond 2/	Customs 3/ Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs 3/ Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- thousand bushels -					
<u>1952-53</u>					
August	26,089	2,559	4,031	32,679	33,773
September	21,208	3,312	4,891	29,411	29,240
October	24,106	2,950	5,474	32,530	34,579
November	34,339	3,677	5,647	43,663	41,631
December	21,777	2,883	5,146	29,806	36,769
January	17,518	1,206	3,443	22,167	21,941
February	13,135	847	3,603	17,585	17,318
March	11,220	915	4,724	16,858	17,236
April	19,019	1,341	4,508	24,867	21,681
May	40,179	1,476	6,247	47,902	43,875
June	37,390	1,617	4,880	43,887	46,309
July	40,149	115	3,906	44,170	44,692
Totals	306,129	22,897	56,501	385,527	389,045
<u>1953-54</u>					
August	24,152	569	3,983	28,704	27,321
September	20,672	198	3,670	24,540	24,574
October	22,072	258	3,653	25,984	30,838
November	18,815	1,549	3,791	24,155	23,850
December	12,857	795	4,110	17,762	20,283
January	13,416	409	3,778	17,604	17,218
February	10,273	287	3,427	13,987	15,025
March	14,079	167	3,939	18,186	17,266
April	10,708	777	4,611	16,096	16,454
May	16,987	1,228	3,888	22,103	24,353
June	19,854	1,320	4,002	25,176	23,828
July	17,271	120	3,393	20,784	19,472
Totals	201,157	7,678	46,246	255,081	260,482
<u>1954-55 4/</u>					
August	15,666	185	3,380	19,230	20,088
September	25,744	209	3,579	29,533	22,814
October	20,046	882	3,596	24,524	21,713
November	20,160	331	3,495	23,985	30,146
December	16,201	131	3,586	19,918	23,807
January	14,792	335	2,814	17,940	17,381
February	14,102	96	2,700	16,899	14,818
March	16,719	173	3,817	20,709	22,585
April	12,705	152	3,853	16,710	17,079
Totals	156,135	2,493	30,821	189,449	190,431

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

2/ Compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.

3/ Exports for crop years 1952-53 and 1953-54 adjusted to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs for both wheat and wheat flour.

4/ Subject to revision.

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination 1954-55

Destination	January	April		August--April	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
- bushels -					
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom	1,131,196	1,105,475	5,050,277	9,895,811	67,236,839
<u>Africa</u>					
British East Africa	-	-	-	2,075	-
Gambia	2,318	2,569	-	15,880	-
Gold Coast	6,520	31,122	-	398,250	-
Nigeria	3,577	15,678	-	238,833	-
Other British West Africa	-	-	-	21,105	-
Rhodesia	-	-	-	-	434,933
Sierra Leone	9,297	30,073	-	147,199	-
Union of South Africa	-	-	795,200	-	2,723,653
<u>Asia</u>					
Ceylon	-	5,778	-	324,590	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	184,800
Hong Kong	57,443	80,541	-	822,807	-
India	-	-	-	85	2,186,613
Malaya and Singapore	21,812	31,567	-	311,611	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar	12,848	10,274	-	84,771	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	1,470,335
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas	16,817	12,794	-	180,315	-
Barbados	15,376	28,309	-	270,063	833
Bermuda	4,613	10,548	-	84,591	-
British Honduras	1,804	3,528	-	19,206	-
Jamaica	39,168	63,617	-	1,029,254	6,867
Leeward and Windward Islands	59,067	88,812	-	789,278	-
Trinidad and Tobago	75,141	177,687	-	1,309,154	-
<u>Oceania</u>					
New Zealand	-	-	-	459	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana	6,858	3,636	-	96,817	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries .	1,463,855	1,702,008	5,845,477	16,042,154	74,244,873
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira	7,767	3,856	-	42,354	-
Belgian Congo	50,863	67,356	-	518,670	-
Egypt	1,282	-	-	3,847	-
Ethiopia	-	113	-	113	-
French Africa	1,719	-	-	3,487	-
Liberia	554	1,418	-	7,331	-
Libya	-	-	-	-	224,000
Morocco	504	5,040	-	30,753	-
Portuguese East Africa	1,768	1,769	-	3,537	151,386
Portuguese West Africa	5,279	3,672	-	41,071	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia	346	230	35,822	2,777	151,183
Bahrein	-	-	-	-	44,836
Indonesia	-	5,850	-	5,850	-
Israel	-	-	-	-	1,849,306
Japan	161,775	148,441	2,614,250	807,372	17,434,579
Lebanon	36,041	-	-	86,755	-
Philippine Islands	292,662	838,017	-	5,146,344	-
Portuguese Asia	4,590	10,327	-	32,814	-
Syria	306	32	-	468	-

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination 1954-55

Destination	January	April		August-April	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
FOREIGN COUNTRIES					
- bushels -					
<u>Asia</u>					
Taiwan	338	-	-	360	-
Thailand	27,162	44,874	-	230,783	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Austria	-	-	-	-	2,548,841
Belgium	-	-	1,162,078	-	11,373,525
Denmark	450	220	-	900	-
Finland	-	-	-	-	328,067
France	-	-	-	2,020	-
Germany, Federal Republic	37,278	67,000	315,421	436,068	17,133,824
Greece	-	-	-	2,025	-
Iceland	1,516	-	-	20,304	-
Ireland	-	-	664,534	-	3,143,387
Italy	11,263	7,578	396,344	93,951	766,050
Netherlands	1,517	-	529,947	3,033	9,817,294
Norway	-	-	97,066	-	2,726,801
Portugal	-	-	-	17,658	-
Switzerland	-	-	381,733	-	7,167,177
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	9,639	3,620,007
<u>North America</u>					
Alaska	-	9	-	9	-
American Virgin Islands	3,452	3,335	-	19,431	-
Costa Rica	44,572	37,588	56,667	372,681	133,334
Cuba	86,639	98,640	373,400	646,591	1,111,800
Dominican Republic	24,084	19,679	-	201,137	6,500
El Salvador	31,716	18,491	-	274,019	-
French West Indies	594	1,089	-	5,575	-
Guatemala	16,619	14,143	-	318,744	-
Haiti	9,486	11,880	-	234,009	-
Honduras	-	-	-	459	-
Mexico	-	-	-	225	-
Netherlands Antilles	16,763	18,846	-	204,417	-
Nicaragua	27,297	29,592	-	253,251	-
Panama	13,860	26,154	-	217,327	-
St. Pierre and Miquelon	2,205	1,607	-	13,221	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat	46,147	70,497	-	463,910	-
For milling in bond 4/	-	-	-	-	1,209,153
For domestic use 4/	-	-	151,827	-	1,284,196
<u>Oceania</u>					
French Oceania	-	-	-	25,322	-
Guam	5,512	230	-	27,554	-
<u>South America</u>					
Chile	-	-	-	1,836	-
Colombia	53,793	57,438	38,520	653,081	1,321,319
Ecuador	2,754	-	194,050	5,161	831,265
Peru	-	6,412	-	77,188	-
Surinam	15,700	19,026	-	160,299	-
Venezuela	339,575	510,727	-	3,052,863	6,000
Totals, Foreign Countries	1,385,748	2,151,176	7,011,659	14,778,594	84,383,830
Totals, All Countries	2,849,603	3,853,184	12,857,136	30,820,748	158,628,703

1/ Adjusted 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 equals 1 barrel of 196 pounds of wheat flour. 3/ Overseas clearances as reported by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, for all countries except the United States. Subject to revision. 4/ Compiled from returns of Canadian elevator licensees and shippers and advice from American grain correspondents.

Canadian Wheat Board Weekly Average Cash Wheat Prices
Basis in Store Fort William-Port Arthur

Class and Grade	Week ending			
	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>				
1 Northern	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	134	134	134	134
4 Northern	126	126	126	126
5 Wheat	112	112	112	112
6 Wheat	106	106	106	106
Feed Wheat	100	100	100	100
1 C.W. Garnet	124	124	124	124
2 C.W. Garnet	119	119	119	119
1 Alberta Red Winter	127	127	127	127
2 Alberta Winter	122	122	122	122
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140
<u>International Wheat Agreement and Domestic Sales</u>				
1 Northern	176	176	176	176
2 Northern	173	173	173	173
3 Northern	171	171	171	171
4 Northern	166	166	166	166
5 Wheat	150/2	149	149	149
6 Wheat	148/2	147	147	147
Feed Wheat	145/2	144	144	144
1 C.W. Garnet	157/2	156	156	156
2 C.W. Garnet	155/2	154	154	154
3 C.W. Garnet	153/2	152	152	152
1 Alberta Red Winter	160	160	160	160
2 Alberta Winter	157	157	157	157
3 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154
1 C.W. Amber Durum 1/	202/4	202/2	202/1	201/6
2 C.W. Amber Durum 1/	201	201	201	201
3 C.W. Amber Durum 1/	200	200	200	200
<u>Export - Class II</u>				
1 Northern	176	176	176	176
2 Northern	173	173	173	173
3 Northern	171	171	171	171
4 Northern	166	166	166	166
5 Wheat	150/2	149	149	149
6 Wheat	148/2	147	147	147
Feed Wheat	145/2	144	144	144
1 C.W. Garnet	157/2	156	156	156
2 C.W. Garnet	155/2	154	154	154
3 C.W. Garnet	153/2	152	152	152
1 C.W. Amber Durum	275	275	275	275
2 C.W. Amber Durum	274	274	274	274
3 C.W. Amber Durum	273	273	273	273

1/ Prices of Durums sold for domestic use are ten cents per bushel higher than indicated in the table.

Canadian Wheat Board Weekly Average Cash Wheat Prices
Basis in Store Vancouver

Class and Grade	Week ending			
	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>				
1 Northern	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	134	134	134	134
4 Northern	126	126	126	126
5 Wheat	112	112	112	112
6 Wheat	106	106	106	106
Feed Wheat	100	100	100	100
1 C.W. Garnet	124	124	124	124
2 C.W. Garnet	119	119	119	119
1 Alberta Red Winter	127	127	127	127
2 Alberta Winter	122	122	122	122
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140
<u>International Wheat Agreement</u> <u>and Domestic Sales</u>				
1 Northern	176	176	176	176
2 Northern	173	173	173	173
3 Northern	171	171	171	171
4 Northern	166	166	166	166
5 Wheat	150/2	149	149	149
6 Wheat	148/2	147	147	147
Feed Wheat	145/2	144	144	144
1 C.W. Garnet	157/2	156	156	156
2 C.W. Garnet	155/2	154	154	154
3 C.W. Garnet	153/2	152	152	152
1 Alberta Red Winter	160	160	160	160
2 Alberta Winter	157	157	157	157
3 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154
<u>Export - Class II</u>				
1 Northern	176	176	176	176
2 Northern	173	173	173	173
3 Northern	171	171	171	171
4 Northern	166	166	166	166
5 Wheat	150/2	149	149	149
6 Wheat	148/2	147	147	147
Feed Wheat	145/2	144	144	144
1 C.W. Garnet	157/2	156	156	156
2 C.W. Garnet	155/2	154	154	154
3 C.W. Garnet	153/2	152	152	152
1 Alberta Red Winter	160	160	160	160
2 Alberta Winter	157	157	157	157
3 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production The production of wheat flour reported by Canadian mills for April 1955 at 1,694,000 barrels was down somewhat from both the March, 1955 output of 1,893,000 barrels and the April, 1954 output of 1,758,000 barrels. The ten-year (1945-1954) average production for the month of April was 1,959,000 barrels. Mills reporting operations during April, 1955 had a total rated capacity of 91,984 barrels per 24-hour day, and on the basis of a 25-day period, 73.7 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during the month amounted to 7.6 million bushels as against 8.5 million during the preceding month and 7.8 million bushels milled during April, 1954. Of the wheat milled for flour during April, 1955, some 7.0 million bushels were Western Canadian Spring wheat (other than Durum), with most of the remainder consisting of Ontario Winter wheat (448,000 bushels) and Durum wheat (41,000 bushels).

Exports According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during April, 1955 totalled 856,000 barrels (3,853,000 bushels of wheat equivalent), virtually unchanged from flour exports of the previous month. Flour shipments during the month of April went to fifty-three countries, with the United Kingdom accounting for 1.1 million bushels of wheat equivalent or 29 per cent of the total. Other major export markets for Canadian flour during April, with shipments in thousand bushels of wheat equivalent, were as follows: Philippine Islands, 838; Venezuela, 511; Trinidad and Tobago, 178; and Japan, 148.

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

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports 1/
	- 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
1951-52	104,494,021	22,842,441	11,356,288
1952-53	106,727,237	23,865,625	12,555,714
1953-54	91,855,269	20,800,974	10,276,951
1954-55 2/			
August	8,059,773	1,812,296	751,126
September	8,581,211	1,929,031	795,388
October	8,543,804	1,934,482	799,145
November	8,363,953	1,885,284	776,615
December	7,463,128	1,676,067	796,893
January	6,906,626	1,552,247	625,259
February	7,113,437	1,589,273	600,104
March	8,485,397	1,892,556	848,262
April	7,574,800	1,694,243	856,263
Totals	71,092,129	15,965,479	6,849,055
Same period 1953-54 (revised)	69,492,523	15,727,576	7,769,392

1/ Based on Customs returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46-1953-54 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

2/ Subject to revision.

UNITED STATES SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated domestic supplies of wheat for the 1954-55 crop year, consisting of the July 1, 1954 carryover of 901.9 million bushels and the 1954 crop of 969.8 million, amount to 1,871.7 million bushels. Imports of wheat from Canada for all purposes during the first ten months of the current United States crop year amounted to 1.4 million bushels, compared with 3.7 million during the July-April period of 1953-54. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 625.0 million bushels, some 1,248.1 million are available for export and for carryover during 1954-55 as against 1,117.3 million available during 1953-54.

United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1953-54	1954-55 1/
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (July 1)	562.5	901.9
New crop	1,169.5	969.8
Total estimated domestic supplies	1,732.0	1,871.7
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July-April	3.7	1.4
Total estimated supplies 2/	1,735.7	1,873.1
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year 3/.	618.4	625.0
Available for export and for carryover	1,117.3	1,248.1
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July-April	144.6	186.4
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July-April	27.7	36.9
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products.	172.3	223.2
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	945.0	1,024.9

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excluding imports for May-June period.

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

Exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-April period of the 1954-55 United States crop year amounted to 223.2 million bushels, about 30 per cent greater than the 172.3 million exported during the same months of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on May 1, 1955 for export and for carryover was estimated at 1,024.9 million bushels compared with 945.0 million on the same date a year ago.

Winter Wheat Crop
Now Estimated at
653 Million Bushels

In a report released on May 10, the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture stated that the winter wheat crop for harvest in 1955 is estimated at 653 million bushels, 9 million bushels less than forecast on April 1. A crop this size would be 17 per cent smaller than the 791 million bushels produced last year and one-fourth less than average production of 867 million bushels. In the central and southern Great Plains wheat area, continued shortage of soil moisture and dust storms lowered prospective production. This decline was partially offset by improved prospects in Montana, Washington, and Oregon, and in the East North Central States.

The estimated 33.8 million acres of winter wheat for harvest this year is the smallest since 1935. This acreage is one-eighth less than the 38.6 million acres harvested in 1954 and 30 per cent less than the average of 47.9 million acres. The portion of the seeded acreage that will not be harvested for grain is estimated at 22.3 per cent. This compares with 16.2 per cent for the 1954 crop and the average of 12.7 per cent; except for 1951 it is the largest since 1936. Based on May 1 conditions, the indicated yield per harvested acre is 19.3 bushels, which is less than last year's near record yield of 20.5 bushels, but larger than the average of 18.0 bushels.

Marketing Quotas
Proclaimed for
1956 Wheat Crop

On May 13, Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced the following actions in connection with the 1956 United States wheat program:

1. Proclaimed a national wheat marketing quota for the 1956 wheat crop, as required by law.
2. Announced a national wheat acreage allotment of 55 million acres for 1956 -- the level specified by law under present conditions of excessive supply, and the same allotment which was in effect for 1955.
3. Set June 25 as the date for the national referendum among wheat growers on whether or not quotas will be in effect for the 1956 crop.
4. Announced that, based on latest available supply information, a national average support price for 1956 production would be determined and announced before the wheat referendum.

"Under the present surplus situation, we are required to proclaim marketing quotas", Secretary Benson said in commenting on the announcement. "I regret this greatly, but we have no other choice.

"We are going to have almost as much wheat in the total supply after harvest this year as we had a year ago. In other words, we will have enough wheat to take care of all our domestic and export needs for two full years. And this will be true in spite of the fact that the crop being harvested this year has been limited to the 'minimum' national allotment of 55 million acres.

"Wheat truly represents one of the most serious problems in the entire farm program. Under present program operations, we are no more than holding our own. The tremendous surplus accumulated under high price supports still bears down on prices and forces the government into costly support activity.

By the time the current take-over of loan stocks is completed in the next few weeks, the Commodity Credit Corporation will be holding in its inventory around a billion bushels of wheat, costing more than two and one-half billion dollars -- and running up a storage bill of 150 million dollars a year.

"While the flexible price support provisions of the present law hold promise of future improvement, we still have a long way to go in meeting the wheat problem. We are working in various ways to improve the wheat situation. Among the steps are:

Legislative action already taken --

1. Under Public Law 8, 84th Congress, provision was made for an increase in acreage allotments for Durum wheat. There has been a shortage of this type of wheat, and the liberalized allotments will help meet the need for increased production.

Proposed legislation --

2. Proposed legislation is now before the Congress to exempt wheat growers from marketing quota penalties if all the wheat produced on their farms is used for feed or seed on the farms where produced. This would remove an inequity in the present program and permit greater freedom of operations on those many farms which do not produce wheat for sale.
3. Legislation is now under consideration which would broaden the non-commercial wheat areas. At present, 12 states are in the designated non-commercial areas, and growers in those states are not under allotment or quota controls. The proposed legislation would authorize the designation of additional areas, providing greater flexibility of production in 'marginal' regions where wheat is not a major crop.

Other steps --

4. The Department will continue its programs under which maximum practicable exports are maintained in spite of the fact that the world wheat price is well below the domestic level. In order to move wheat, and help meet the over-all surplus problem, substantial subsidies are paid to finance exports. During the present marketing year, wheat export subsidies have averaged about 70 cents a bushel. During the 12 months ending March 31, exports of wheat have cost around 200 million dollars, of which about 142 million dollars represent direct subsidy on movement of wheat through commercial channels.
5. We are reviewing the possible advantages of price differentials for special qualities and desirable varieties of wheat.
6. Active work is also being continued on other approaches in meeting the wheat problem."

Marketing Quotas This is the third consecutive year during which marketing quotas, as well as acreage allotments, have been proclaimed because of burdensome supplies of wheat.

Current estimates are that about 1,863,000,000 bushels of wheat will be available for the 1955-56 marketing year which begins on July 1. The "normal supply", used under legislative provisions in making the marketing quota determination for the 1956 crop, was found to be 1,122,000,000 bushels — determined on the basis of a year's domestic and export disappearance plus a 20 per cent allowance for reserves. When the available supply is 20 per cent above this "normal supply" level, the Secretary of Agriculture is required to proclaim marketing quotas on wheat. The available supply for the 1955-56 marketing year is actually 66 per cent above the normal supply.

Marketing Quota Referendum Any wheat producer in commercial areas who will have in excess of 15 acres of wheat for harvest as grain in 1956 is eligible to vote in the referendum. Local voting places for the June 25 referendum will be announced for each county in the commercial areas where wheat is grown. Two-thirds of the vote in the referendum must favour marketing quotas before they can be put into effect.

If quotas are approved, producers in commercial wheat states who stay within the acreage allotted for their farms will be eligible for the full level of price support. Producers in commercial states who do not comply with their allotments will not be eligible for price support and will be subject to marketing penalties on their excess wheat, if they have more than 15 acres for harvest.

If quotas are not approved by wheat growers in the June 25 referendum, the law provides for a wheat price support level at 50 per cent of parity for producers who stay within their acreage allotments. If quotas are voted out, farmers can exceed allotments without being subject to quota penalties. However, even when quotas are voted out, compliance with the established allotments is still a requirement for eligibility to receive any price support.

In the non-commercial states, the price support will be at 75 per cent of the level available in commercial states. There will be no allotments or quotas in the non-commercial states.

In the referendum last summer for quotas on the 1955-crop, 73.3 per cent of farmers voting approved quotas. The vote was 208,623 in favour, and 76,023 against.

Acreage Allotments Legislation provides for establishing a national wheat acreage allotment each year. As supplies go beyond certain levels, the size of the acreage allotment comes down, except that the legislation provides that the allotment shall not be less than 55 million acres. If it were not for this minimum allotment provision, current excessive supplies of wheat would reduce the national wheat acreage to be about 18.6 million acres, according to the formula in the legislation. The 55 million acre minimum allotment was also in effect for the 1955 crop of wheat.

The national wheat acreage allotment will be apportioned among all the states on the basis of acreage seeded for the production of wheat during the preceding ten years, with adjustments for abnormal weather and for trends in planting. State acreage allotments will be announced soon. The state allotments will be apportioned among counties in much the same manner. County

allotments will be apportioned among individual farms according to past acreage of wheat, tillable acres, crop rotation practices, type of soil, slope and lay of land. Every effort will be made to see that each producer who is affected receives notice of his wheat allotment before the referendum.

C.C.C. Extends Storage Plans The United States Department of Agriculture announced on May 19 the extension of two programs designed to provide additional grain storage. The farm storage facility and farm storage equipment loan programs were extended for another year through June 30, 1956. These loans are designed to help farmers throughout the country obtain needed farm storage. Under these loan programs, farmers and others can borrow a large part of the cost of additional storage space and drying equipment to provide additional farm storage and vital conditioning equipment for grains and seeds.

Any farm owner-operator, tenant, landlord, or producer partnership is eligible to participate in the programs. Application for a loan may be made at the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee (ASC) office. The loan may be made either directly through the county office or through a local bank. Loans may be obtained on storage for wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, soybeans, grain sorghums, dry edible beans, rice, peanuts, cottonseed, flaxseed, and winter cover crop seeds.

Farmers in most States can borrow up to 80 per cent of the cost of new storage bins, cribs, or other approved storage structures. The structure must meet requirements for storage under the price support program. The loan can be paid off over a four-year period which begins on the first anniversary of the loan, when the first installment is payable.

Interest on the loan is at the rate of 4 per cent per year. Since the program started, about 70,036 loans have been made covering structures with a capacity of approximately 258 million bushels. This is an increase during the last year of 23,918 loans, covering structures with a capacity of approximately 83 million bushels.

The Department also announced that arrangements have been made for the use of 30 additional ships of the U.S. Maritime Administration Reserve Fleet at Jones Point in the Hudson River for the emergency storage of about 7 million bushels of grain.

The additional ship storage will be used primarily for 1954-crop wheat now being taken over under the price-support program. Plans are to have the additional storage available by the latter part of June. The wheat will come mostly from the Chicago and Minneapolis areas.

Approximately 72 million bushels of Commodity Credit Corporation-owned wheat were in emergency ship storage as of January 1, 1955. Including the amount of storage in the ships arranged for as announced today, approximately 100 million bushels will be in a total of 452 ships at four East and West Coast locations at the end of take-over time. Recently, the USDA announced that 105 ships for additional emergency storage were being added to Olympia, Washington, and Astoria, Oregon, anchorages.

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
May 2, 1955	245 3/4 - 259	May 2, 1955	241 7/8 - 247 7/8
3	246 1/4 - 251 1/2	3	242 5/8 - 248 5/8
4	248 - 277 1/2	4	244 5/8 - 250 5/8
5	251 - 280 1/2	5	245 - 251
6	254 - 257 3/4	6	247 1/2 - 253 1/2
9	263 1/2	9	248 1/2 - 251 1/2
10	253 - 274 1/4	10	250 - 256
11	260 3/4	11	250 5/8 - 256 5/8
12	245 - 280 1/2	12	251 3/4 - 257 3/4
13	242 - 245 1/2	13	248 1/4 - 254 1/4
16	242	16	248 7/8 - 250 7/8
17	260	17	250 3/8 - 252 3/8
18	249 1/4	18	252 5/8 - 254 5/8
19	245 - 261	19	253 - 255
20	246 1/4	20	254 1/2 - 256 1/2
23	247 - 248 1/2	23	253 1/8 - 255 1/8
24	247	24	254 - 256
25	251 3/4 - 281 1/2	25	253 1/4 - 255 1/4
26	252 3/4 - 285	26	252 3/8 - 254 3/8
27	253 1/2 - 261	27	250 1/2 - 252 1/2
30	Memorial Day	30	Memorial Day
31	250 1/2 - 262	31	245 1/8 - 247 1/8

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	May	July	September	December	March
	- cents and eighths per bushel -				
May 2, 1955	210/7	194/4	195/4	198/3	199
3	211/3	197/3	198	201	201/3
4	216/4	200/2	201/2	204	204/6
5	217/4	200/3	201/7	204/7	205/6
6	217	201/6	202/7	206/2	207
9	218/5	201	202/3	205/5	206/2
10	218/6	201/7	203/3	206/4	206/7
11	218/7	201/1	202/5	205/4	205/7
12	221/4	203	204/5	207/5	207/6
13	220/5	201/7	203/1	205/5	206
16	219/2	199/5	201	203/5	204/2
17	220/2	198/5	200/3	202/7	203/4
18	221	198/3	199/7	202/6	203
19	221/2	198/7	200/6	203/2	203/5
20		201/3	202/5	204/6	205
23		201	202/3	203/3	204/4
24		202/3	203/4	205/5	205/4
25		203	204/1	206	206
26		201/4	202/5	204/1	203/6
27		200/2	201/3	203/1	202/6
30		Memorial	Day		
31		199/5	200/5	202/4	201/7

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the 1954-55 crop year stand at 336.7 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1954 carryover of 60.3 million bushels and the 1954 crop currently placed at 276.4 million. The comparable 1953-54 total was 301.1 million bushels. With domestic requirements estimated at 132.3 million bushels, some 204.4 million are available for export and for carryover during 1954-55 as against 172.5 million available in 1953-54.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the December—April period of the current crop year have amounted to 57.4 million bushels compared with 43.6 million during the same months of 1953-54. The balance remaining on May 1, 1955 for export and for carryover was estimated at 147.0 million bushels, 14 per cent above the May 1, 1954 total of 128.9 million bushels.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1953-54	1954-55 ^{1/}
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1)	77.3 ^{2/}	60.3 ^{2/}
New crop	227.8 ^{3/}	276.4 ^{3/}
Total estimated domestic supplies	301.1	336.7
Imports of wheat for domestic use	-	-
Total estimated supplies	301.1	336.7
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .	128.6	132.3
Available for export and for carryover	172.5	204.4
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December—April	42.6	56.9
Exports of wheatflour in terms of wheat, Dec.—Apr.	0.9	0.4
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	43.6	57.4
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	128.9	147.0

^{1/} Preliminary. ^{2/} Includes allowances for farm stocks. ^{3/} Official estimate.

The following account of the Argentine situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. W. F. Hillhouse, Agricultural Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Buenos Aires, under date of May 13, 1955, and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Where possible, 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 Weather during April, with rainfall of varying intensity in most of the cereal zone, continued to be favourable for the preparation of land for sowing and for the early growth of wheat, flaxseed and the forage grains. However continued dampness in much of the corn zone hindered harvesting of this crop. The first two weeks of May have been cool and dry favouring both corn harvesting and other cereal growth. The continued regular rains of the past three months have greatly improved the general condition of alfalfa and natural pastures which are now in good to excellent condition to enter the winter thus giving promise of relatively light grazing of the forage grains during the winter months.

1955-56 Wheat Crop Conditions for preparing the seed bed and sowing have been very good this year and wheat sowings have been early in some areas. It is estimated that more than fifty per cent of planned seedings have already been completed. The recent cool weather has been excellent for germination and root development. There has been no active campaign to increase sowings this year nor has any announcement yet been made regarding producer price although comments concerning the need for an increase have been numerous in the trade press.

1954-55 Wheat Crop Commercial sales, at steady prices, increased during the past month to an impressive total of 370,000 metric tons (13,595,000 bushels). Shipments in April declined by 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) from the previous month but were still a substantial 280,000 tons (10,288,000 bushels). This brought the total for the first five months of the crop year to more than 1.5 million tons, the highest during that period in recent years. Supplies in export position appear to be well maintained.

Recent Sales The resignation of Dr. A. Cafiero as Minister of Commerce on April 14 and his replacement by Dr. J. Palarea has coincided with a burst of grain sales activity through commercial channels. Between April 15 and May 12, 1,124,300 tons of wheat, corn, barley, rye and wheat by-products were sold. With the exception of wheat these were the first substantial commercial sales of these commodities in five months or more.

Wheat: Some 370,000 metric tons (13,595,000 bushels) of wheat were sold in the past four weeks at prices ranging from 296 pesos to 310 pesos per ton (\$1.61 to \$1.68 per bushel) f.o.b. for Rosafé wheat and 317 pesos (\$1.73 per bushel) for Southern type. However, it is understood that the exporters still have a large portion of this tonnage on hand. Sales since mid-March have totalled over 500,000 tons (18,372,000 bushels) in contrast to I.A.P.I.'s apparent reluctance earlier in the year to offer wheat for export apart from the heavy commitments entailed under bilateral trade agreements. The rise in the official production estimate, the shortage of oats for sale and poor outlook for corn have doubtless contributed to this change in policy.

Corn: Since May 10, 209,000 metric tons (8,228,000 bushels) of corn have been sold at prices ranging from 325 pesos per ton, f.o.b. to 330 pesos (\$1.65 to \$1.68 per bushel) for payment in sterling, Western German agreement and U.S. dollars. These are the first sales from the current crop and the prices compare with 295 pesos per ton (\$1.50 per bushel) at which the last substantial sale was effected last year for Western German agreement dollars. I.A.P.I. withdrew from the market in January and the dearth of sales in April contrasted sharply with last year when over 700,000 tons (27,558,000 bushels) were sold

during the one month.

Barley: Over 300,000 tons (13,779,000 bushels) of barley were sold in the four weeks under review, the largest sale was on April 20 when 163,500 tons (7,509,000 bushels) were sold at 25.75 pesos per 100 kilos (\$1.12 per bushel) f.o.b. for payment in sterling and Western German agreement dollars and 26.78 pesos (\$1.17 per bushel) for Dutch agreement dollars. These prices compared with 31 pesos per 100 kilos (\$1.35 per bushel) at which 20,000 tons (919,000 bushels) were sold at the beginning of March.

Rye: I.A.P.I. suspended rye sales on April 28 after selling 183,500 tons (7,224,000 bushels) earlier in the month. The price varied from 22 pesos (\$1.12 per bushel) for payment in sterling and Western German agreement dollars at the beginning of the month to 20.40 pesos (\$1.04 per bushel) rising again to 21.50 pesos (\$1.09 per bushel) prior to cessation of sales.

Grain Shipments The total of all grain shipped from Argentina in April at 333,420 metric tons compares with 587,797 tons in the same month last year and 486,014 tons in March 1955. The cumulative total for the first quarter of 1955 thus stands at 1,738,635 tons compared with 2,346,975 tons in the corresponding period of 1954.

Wheat at 281,735 tons (10,352,000 bushels) again comprised over 80 per cent of the month's shipments and was destined chiefly for Italy with 78,012 tons (2,866,000 bushels). Shipments to Brazil at 67,261 tons (2,471,000 bushels) showed no improvement over March and that country has received no flour shipments since January. Poland received 48,404 tons (1,779,000 bushels) of wheat in April.

Argentine Wheat Exports, April, 1955 and December, 1954—April, 1955

Destination	April	December-April	Destination	April	December-April
	- thousand bushels -			- thousand bushels -	
Austria	198	835	Italy	2,866	13,070
Belgium	254	1,816	Japan	-	2,615
Brazil	2,471	12,225	Netherlands ..	1,092	2,619
Chile	-	3,683	Paraguay	143	668
Czechoslovakia ..	-	729	Peru	882	1,950
Denmark	114	417	Poland	1,779	6,638
Finland	136	367	Switzerland ..	-	774
Germany	278	6,272	United Kingdom	139	2,263
Totals				10,352	56,943
Same period:					
1953-54					42,636
1952-53					10,635
1951-52					3,668
1950-51					47,330
1949-50					45,658

Corn shipments are at a standstill. At this time last season shipments from the new crop had already commenced and by the end of the crop year (March 31, 1955) had aggregated almost two million tons (78,736,000 bushels). Shipments from recent sales may be expected to start next month but there is little hope that export availabilities this season will exceed 500,000 tons (19,684,000 bushels).

Oats, Barley and Rye shipments were insignificant in April, reaching a combined total of only 51,685 tons. However, shipments of barley and rye should shortly reflect the substantial sales effected in April.

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1954-55 crop year amount to a total of some 260.2 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1954 carryover of 93.6 million and the new crop of 166.6 million. Supplies of this size, exceed by 26.2 million bushels the comparable 1953-54 total of 234.0 million. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 71.4 million bushels, some 188.8 million are available for export and for carryover during 1954-55, compared with 161.8 million available in 1953-54. Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the period December 1, 1954 to April 23, 1955 amounted to 43.4 million bushels, more than double the comparable 1953-54 total of 21.0 million. The balance remaining on April 24, 1955 for export and for carryover was estimated at 145.4 million bushels, about 3 per cent above the 140.8 million available a year ago.

Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1953-54	1954-55 1/
- million bushels -		
Carryover, including flour as wheat, at beginning of crop year (December 1)	36.0	93.6
New crop	198.0	166.6
Total estimated supplies	234.0	260.2
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	72.2	71.4
Available for export and for carryover	161.8	188.8
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 to April 23	10.2	28.1
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat December 1 to April 23	10.8	15.3
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	21.0	43.4
Balance on April 24 for export and for carryover	140.8	145.4

1/ Preliminary.

The following account of the Australian situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. R. W. Blake, Commercial Secretary for Canada,

Melbourne, under date of May 6, 1955 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce.

Sales and Exports of Wheat and Flour Export sales of Australian wheat during the four weeks ended April 23rd amounted to about 5 million bushels, and exports of flour in terms of wheat were 2.5 million bushels. The biggest individual sale was 1,378,000 bushels to Japan, with the United Kingdom being the second biggest buyer taking 960,000 bushels. Local sales were also good and accounted for 1,596,000 bushels during the period.

Remarking on the sale to Japan, the Chairman of the Australian Wheat Board said that for some time the Board has been trying to interest Oriental buyers in the hard wheat produced in Queensland as an alternative to Canadian and American hard wheats, and as a result, three cargoes of high protein Queensland wheat have been sold.

According to the report of a Western Australian flour miller, Western Australia has an "unprecedented opportunity now to capture the flour trade to Indonesia. A few months ago there had been an acute shortage of flour in the country and at one stage Djakarta, with a population of 3 million people, had been without bread for three weeks". He said there were credit difficulties but these could be overcome.

Pastoral Conditions The weather has been patchy during the month of April, some districts receiving heavy falls of rain, while others in the same State missed rain altogether.

Pastures deteriorated in south-west and eastern Victoria during April, but thunderstorms and heavy rains on the first of May relieved semi-drought conditions in this area. Only light rain fell in the northern wheat growing district, and farmers are awaiting more rain before starting to seed. Further follow-up rains are needed all over the State.

General pastoral conditions in New South Wales are good, with the paradoxical situation of districts that were flooded recently now being in need of rain. Moisture and soil conditions in the main wheat-growing areas are favourable. Huge areas of pasture land were killed by the floods and farmers in these parts face a severe shortage of fodder this winter.

South Australia has favourable conditions in the pastoral area, but it is dry in most of the Agricultural areas of the State. Conditions are generally good in Queensland, Western Australia and the extensive pastoral areas of the Kimberleys and the Northern Territory.

Grading of Wheat Rejected The General Manager of the Australian Wheat Board announced at the Victorian Chamber of Agriculture Annual Convention held recently, that the Board has rejected proposals for grading of wheat, either by protein content or variety. He said it was certain that a grading system would never be introduced in Victoria, where not enough top-quality wheat was produced to justify it. Victorian climate and soil conditions ruled against a high-protein yield. He said that the Board's vast bulk handling system could never be adapted to segregate varying grades of wheat, and if Australia did introduce a grading system, only a small proportion of export wheat would be

top grade and the gross return from all sales would be lower.

Farmers should aim at improving the general standard of F.A.Q. wheat by adopting farming practices which would build up the nitrogen content of their soils, and they should plant only those varieties best suited to their soils and climatic conditions.

Where possible the Board directed wheat of low-protein content elsewhere than to millers. By this method, and also by allowing millers to bid for premium wheats, the Board achieved results which could not be bettered substantially through a grading system.

Advance on Wheat A decision was made at a recent conference of the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers Association, to press the Commonwealth Government for the payment of a first advance on future wheat crops equivalent to the cost of production. It was claimed that many young farmers, especially service veterans just starting out as wheatgrowers, were being financially embarrassed by the lower payments which have been made on previous crops.

While the present surplus of wheat existed, causing large supplies of wheat to be carried over from one year to the next, the delay in making final payments was extended too long for most growers. The Commonwealth Government has established, under the Wheat Stabilisation Plan, that growers would be guaranteed cost of production for their wheat.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat,
December 1 to April 23, 1954-55 and Corresponding Period 1953-54

	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1953-54	1954-55	1953-54	1954-55
	- thousand bushels -			
Aden and Aden I/T	-	5	396	729
Belgian Congo	-	-	1/	1
Borneo	-	-	-	3
British North Borneo	-	-	12	75
British West Indies	-	2	-	53
Brunei	-	-	5	12
Burma	4	24	294	466
Ceylon	4	8	3,107	3,129
Dutch New Guinea	-	-	1	16
Egypt (a/c War Office)	-	-	299	30
Eire	299	1,323	-	-
French Somaliland	-	-	3	4
Germany	1,228	806	-	-
Hadhramaut	-	-	-	5
Hong Kong	7	348	-	-
Hong Kong (General)	-	-	-	(124
Hong Kong (a/c War Office)	-	-	180	(29
India	670	9,580	-	-
Indonesia	-	-	2,406	2,271
Italy (a/c S/S)	-	-	-	8

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat,
December 1 to April 23, 1954-55 and Corresponding Period 1953-54
(concluded)

	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1953-54	1954-55	1953-54	1954-55
- thousand bushels -				
Japan	103	338	-	-
Jordan	-	346	-	236
Korea	-	-	199	-
Kure (a/c War Office)	-	-	76	3
Lebanon.....	-	359	1	65
Libya	-	-	-	38
Malaya	126	270	-	-
Malaya (General)	-	-	2,009	(3,138
Malaya (a/c War Office) ...	-	-	-	(63
Malta	-	281	-	-
Mauritius	-	1	512	600
Netherlands	-	388	-	-
New Zealand	2,763	3,241	1/	-
Nyasaland	-	-	10	22
Pacific Islands	8	12	380	937
Palestine	-	-	-	5
Persian Gulf	37	41	37	120
Philippines	-	-	13	37
Pondicherry	-	-	6	2
Port Said (a/c S/S)	-	-	15	20
Portuguese East Africa	111	302	2	1/
Portuguese India	83	27	49	37
Rhodesia	982	1,025	-	-
Roumania	-	283	-	-
Sarawak	-	-	39	80
Saudi Arabia	29	59	3	74
Seychelles	-	-	9	20
Siam	3	2	173	246
Sudan	-	-	28	539
Tahiti	-	-	85	84
Timor	-	-	10	9
United Kingdom	3,748	9,011	390	1,756
Yemen	-	-	-	5
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	1/
Zanzibar	4	2	-	150
Royal Navy	12	4	7	8
Ships' Stores	-	-	43	50
Totals	10,221	28,088	10,800	15,300

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

FRENCH SITUATION

The following account of the current crop situation in France has been extracted from a report provided by Miss V. F. Wightman, Commercial Secretariat, Canadian Embassy, Paris, under date of May 17, 1955, and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Where possible, conversions from French to Canadian measures have been made and rounded for the convenience of our readers.

Growing Conditions The Ministry of Agriculture crop report of May 1 emphasizes the cool, dry weather which prevailed most of the spring. Save for isolated patches of little consequence, there was practically no rain in April, and not until mid-May was there any change from the dry weather prevailing since February. However, heavier than usual winter rains provided good reserve moisture and have prevented any marked deterioration.

Temperatures have, with few exceptions, remained below normal, although there have been no serious frosts. As a consequence, growth has been retarded and spring planting delayed. Nevertheless, it is expected that fields will rapidly recuperate with good rains, such as fell over the past few days. Grain acreages, except for oats and rye, are ahead of May 1 last year.

Wheat April sowings totalled 60,000 hectares (148,000 acres) and brought the total acreage under wheat to 4.5 million hectares (11,115,000 acres), which is around 2 per cent above last year. Growth has been delayed by the dry weather, and lack of rain has lessened the absorption of the nitrogen fertilizers. While the appearance of fields is a little less favourable than last year, with some yellowing, the subsequent rain has doubtless proven beneficial.

Other Grains Despite unfavourable sowing conditions, the barley acreage at 1.2 million hectares (2,964,000 acres) is slightly ahead of last year, and the Ministry expects a continued expansion in this crop. The area planted to rye and oats is down, in keeping with the trend over the past few years. Corn plantings have been delayed by the dry weather, and while the final acreage is expected to be higher, the increase will not be as marked as if conditions had been more favourable this spring.

The May 1 estimate of combined spring and winter sowings is as follows:

May 1 Estimate of Area Seeded

Grain	May 1, 1953	May 1, 1954	May 1, 1955
- thousand acres -			
Wheat	10,189	10,909	11,121
Wheat and Rye	59	54	61
Rye	1,028	1,028	992
Barley	2,853	2,995	3,001
Oats	5,553	5,358	5,238
Mixed Grains	232	230	203
Totals	19,913	20,573	20,617

Source: French Ministry of Agriculture.

French Wheat Supplies The following table gives the French Wheat position on commercial stocks of the 1954 crop held by the Grain Board on April 1.

French Supplies of Soft Wheat at April 1, 1955
(Commercial Stocks Owned by Grain Board)

Item	1954-55
	- million bushels -
Commercial carryover, August 1, 1954	30.4
Farmers marketings August-March	272.4
Total Commercial Supplies	302.8
Less domestic requirements for crop year	183.7
Available for export and carryover	119.1
Deduct exports of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent August-March	65.4*
Balance April 1, 1955 for export and carryover	53.6

*Comprising 1,581,593 tons (58.1 million bushels) to foreign countries and 199,204 tons (7.3 million bushels) to French Union including exports of flour in wheat equivalent of 197,312 tons (7.2 million bushels).

Source: Private estimate based on Grain Board figures.

Crop Year Exports The following countries have been the principal markets for French wheat and flour during the period August 1, 1954 to March 31, 1955.

Principal Markets for Wheat and Flour, August 1, 1954 - March 31, 1955

Countries	Wheat and Flour	Countries	Wheat and Flour
	- thousand bushels -		- thousand bushels -
Ceylon	1,851	Israel	763
Denmark	6,072	Poland	7,699
Finland	577	Roumania	2,844
Germany	8,134	Switzerland	1,724
Hungary	10,197	United Kingdom ...	10,434

Wheat and Flour exports, August 1, 1954—March 31, 1955

Month	Foreign Countries	French Union	Total
- thousand bushels -			
August, 1954	2,171	1,078	3,249
September	3,108	1,066	4,174
October	4,882	1,152	6,034
November	5,163	978	6,142
December	8,095	921	9,016
January, 1955	15,194	739	15,933
February	12,603	701	13,304
March	6,898	684	7,581
Totals	58,114	7,319	65,433

Market Activity

Over the past month there have been renewed purchases from the two chief markets, Germany and the United Kingdom, and on a smaller scale from Austria, Denmark and the Netherlands. Recently, however, competition has stiffened with offers of new crop from the United States and from other overseas sources. German activity has increased, although exports up to the end of April represented only about half those envisaged in the Franco-German agreement last January; prices remained unchanged at \$71 per ton f.o.b. (\$1.93 per bushel) Strasbourg or \$72.50 c.i.f. Hamburg (\$1.97 per bushel).

.....

The press reports that the recent meeting of the Grain Board Council discussed and approved recommendations on the means of applying next season's quota on which the official wheat price will be paid (see November 1954 issue of 'The Wheat Review'). These recommendations were drawn up jointly by the Wheat Producers Association and Union of Grain Cooperatives. They proposed that a provisional estimate of the proportion of the crop payable at the official price be made in August rather than October, as in the government's present plan with adjustments to be made the following May. Furthermore, they suggested that the price for wheat outside the quota be fixed by May 1, giving cooperatives ample time to adjust their accounts before the close of the season. Finally they asked that all wheat delivered, whether within the quota or not, benefit immediately from any bonuses or rebates for quality. It is not yet known whether the government will accept these recommendations.

New Crops

(cont'd. from forecasts will be realized. Moisture supplies are generally adequate in the United Kingdom where warmer weather is stimulating growth of crops which are about two weeks later than usual. Warmer weather is also benefiting crops in Western Germany where yields are expected to be about average. However, rain is needed in Italy where low moisture reserves are causing uncertainty about the new wheat crop.

In the Southern Hemisphere, field work and planting are under way in both Argentina and Australia. Good progress has been made with seeding in the

Argentine where conditions have been generally favourable. However, there are no definite indications to date that any significant changes are planned in the area seeded to wheat. Weather conditions have been rather variable in Australia, with some sections suffering from drought and others from excessive rainfall. Recent rains have improved conditions in those areas suffering from lack of moisture but have caused flooding and further delayed field work in other sections.

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- May 10 According to a report published by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture, the winter wheat crop for harvest in 1955 is forecast at 652.9 million bushels, some 17 per cent below the 1954 crop of 790.7 million bushels and one-fourth smaller than the ten-year (1944-1953) average of 867.4 million.

The Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, estimated wheat flour production in the United States in March, 1955 at 19,884,000 sacks, an average of 865,000 sacks per working day, compared with working-day averages of 886,000 sacks during February, 1955, and 820,000 sacks in March, 1954.

- 12 The United States Department of Agriculture announced that special 'distress' price-support loans will be available for a 90-day period this summer for 1955 crop wheat.
- 13 Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson proclaimed a national wheat marketing quota for the 1956 crop, announced a national wheat acreage allotment of 55 million acres for 1956 and set June 25 as the date for the national referendum among wheat growers on whether or not quotas will be in effect for the 1956 crop.
- 16 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced in the House of Commons that, after providing for the P.F.A.A. levy on the interim and final payments and after allowing for final payment expenses, the average final payment on the 1953-54 Wheat Pool was 6.384 cents per bushel on producers' deliveries of 398 million bushels.
- 31 Speaking in the House of Commons, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the initial price on wheat for the crop year beginning August 1, 1955 would remain at \$1.40 per bushel, basis No. 1 Manitoba Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver.

According to Broomhall, it has been officially announced that the price to producers in the Argentine for wheat during the 1955-56 crop year will remain at \$2.72 per bushel, the same as in the two preceding crop years.

According to an announcement by the United States Department of Agriculture minimum 1955-crop wheat price support rates will range from \$2.33 to \$1.57 per bushel in commercial-growing areas and from \$2.33 to \$1.16 per bushel in non-commercial areas.

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