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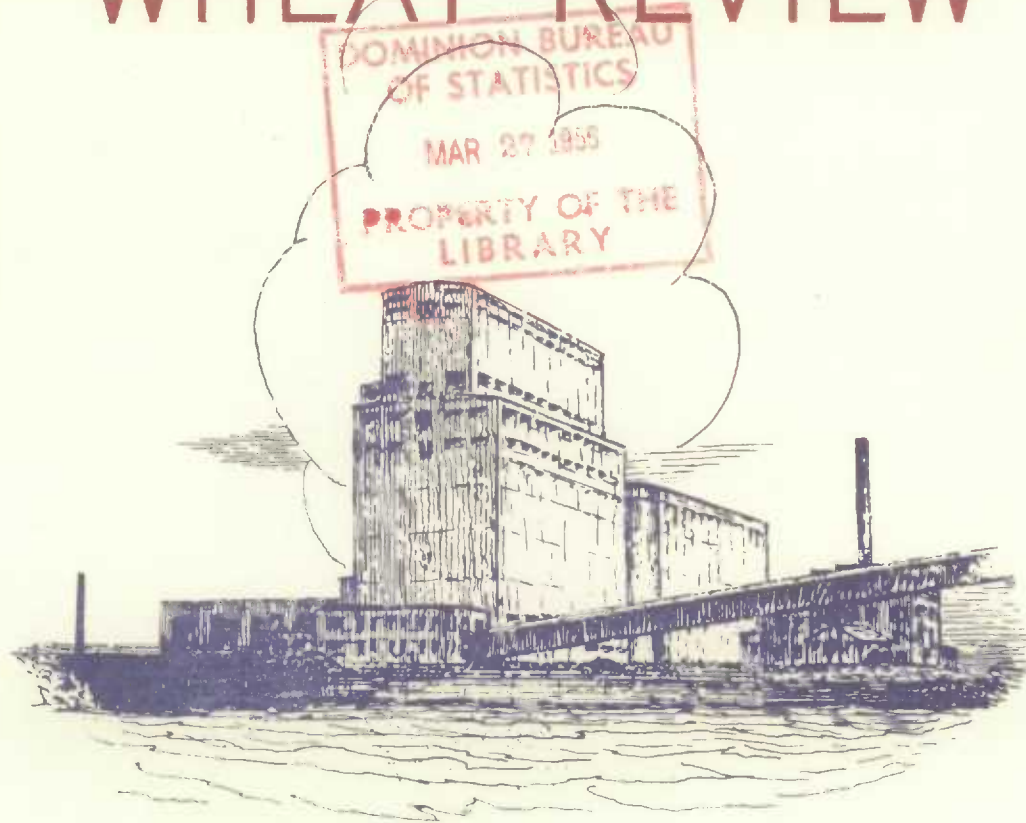


CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

AGRICULTURE DIVISION

# THE WHEAT REVIEW



FEBRUARY, 1956

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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
Department of Trade and Commerce

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THE  
WHEAT REVIEW

FEBRUARY, 1956

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Minister of Trade and Commerce

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division  
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## WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

**Current Supplies** Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about February 1, 1956 in the four major exporting countries, for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to some 2,210.5 million bushels, about 4 per cent greater than the 2,125.1 million available at the same date a year ago. Supplies at February 1, 1956 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with comparable 1955 figures in brackets: United States, 1,190.1 (1,148.5); Canada, 718.1 (616.7); Australia, 203.4 (170.5); and Argentina, 98.9 (189.4). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions. Latest available estimates on the recently harvested 1955-56 crops in Argentina and Australia have been considered in the above estimates. The Argentine is the only one of the four countries showing supplies of wheat at a lower level this year than last.

**Exports** Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat equivalent during the first half of the Canadian crop year amounted to 344.3 million bushels, eight per cent lower than the 372.9 million exported during the corresponding period of 1954-55. Shipments from each of the four countries during the period August, 1955-January, 1956 and during the same six months of the preceding five crop years are shown in the table below.

Exports of Wheat and Flour in Terms of Wheat, August-January with Comparisons

August-January	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950-51 .....	121.5	104.7	33.7	61.5	321.4
1951-52 .....	234.1	154.9	23.1	50.1	462.2
1952-53 .....	168.7	190.3	1.1	40.8	400.9
1953-54 .....	94.8	138.7	60.8	30.2	324.5
1954-55 1/ .....	126.2	134.9	66.4	45.4	372.9
1955-56 2/ .....	122.6	115.7	63.5	42.5	344.3

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

**Winter Wheat Prospects in Europe Reduced by Cold and Floods** According to the February 28 issue of "The Wheat Situation" published by the United States Department of Agriculture Europe's winter wheat was seeded under favorable conditions, and the weather continued generally favorable through January. In early February a cold wave hit Europe, and unusually low temperatures were recorded over most of the continent. In addition to the cold, which lasted past the middle of February, damage was also reported from floods in a number of countries. Good snow cover was a favorable factor in many areas. While it is not yet possible to appraise the full extent of damage to crops, a larger than usual acreage will probably be reseeded this spring. Yields from spring seedings are normally below those of fall-sown wheat.



International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases for Crop Year 1955-56

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	S O U R C E				Total Purchases	Remainder 3/
		Canada 1/	Australia 2/	France 2/	U.S.A. 2/		
- thousand bushels -							
Austria .....	9,186	1,008	-	-	-	1,008	8,178
Belgium .....	23,883	6,954	3	-	1,782	8,739	15,144
Bolivia .....	4,042	-	-	-	1,534	1,534	2,508
Brazil .....	13,228	-	-	-	216	216	13,012
Ceylon .....	10,288	-	7,259	363	-	7,622	2,666
Costa Rica .....	1,286	372	-	-	454	826	460
Cuba .....	7,422	667	-	-	3,782	4,449	2,973
Denmark .....	1,837	-	-	-	-	-	1,837
Dominican Republic ..	1,102	311	-	-	327	638	464
Ecuador .....	2,388	485	-	-	73	558	1,830
Egypt .....	14,697	-	-	-	5,753	5,753	8,944
El Salvador .....	735	152	-	-	465	617	118
Germany .....	55,116	14,738	1,992	-	6,600	23,330	31,786
Greece .....	12,860	-	-	-	8,494	8,494	4,366
Guatemala .....	1,286	47	-	-	150	197	1,089
Haiti .....	1,837	375	-	-	867	1,242	595
Honduras Republic ...	735	24	-	-	223	247	488
Iceland .....	404	3	-	-	20	23	381
India .....	36,744	-	3,024	-	1,897	4,921	31,823
Indonesia .....	6,246	-	4,628	-	99	4,727	1,519
Ireland .....	10,105	3,045	1,019	-	-	4,064	6,041
Israel .....	8,267	724	-	-	235	959	7,308
Italy .....	3,674	-	-	-	2,604	2,604	1,070
Japan .....	36,744	10,916	6,131	-	8,039	25,086	11,658
Jordan .....	2,940	-	-	-	3	3	2,937
Korea .....	1,470	-	-	-	-	-	1,470
Lebanon .....	2,756	-	-	-	460	460	2,296
Liberia .....	73	6	-	-	18	24	49
Mexico .....	14,697	-	-	-	2,353	2,353	12,344
Netherlands .....	24,802	1,540	95	-	4,582	6,217	18,585
New Zealand .....	5,879	-	4,630	-	-	4,630	1,249
Nicaragua <sup>L/</sup> .....	367	133	-	-	234	367	-
Norway .....	8,451	3,485	-	-	2,243	5,728	2,723
Panama .....	845	149	-	-	296	445	400
Peru .....	7,349	-	-	-	24	24	7,325
Philippines .....	8,672	4,540	191	-	3,030	7,761	911
Portugal .....	7,349	259	426	-	2,174	2,859	4,490
Saudi Arabia .....	4,409	-	-	-	491	491	3,918
Spain .....	9,186	-	-	-	1,372	1,372	7,814
Switzerland .....	7,900	3,244	-	-	-	3,244	4,656
Union of S. Africa ..	13,228	5,040	-	-	1,045	6,085	7,143
Vatican City .....	551	-	-	-	321	321	230
Venezuela .....	6,247	2,389	-	-	2,492	4,881	1,366
Yugoslavia .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Totals .....	394,957	60,606	29,398	363	64,752	155,119	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		153,077	45,013	344	196,523	394,957	
Balance .....		92,471	15,615	(19)	131,771	239,838	

1/ Canadian Sales through February 28, 1956.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through February 24, 1956.

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

<sup>L/</sup> Quota filled.

### CANADIAN SITUATION

Grain Bills Given Royal Assent      On March 7, 1956 the Hon. L. René Beaudoin, Speaker of the House of Commons announced that "The Deputy Governor General had been pleased to give, in Her Majesty's name, the royal assent to the following bills:

An act respecting the payment of carrying costs of temporary wheat reserves owned by the Canadian wheat board. (For reference see Wheat Review, December, 1955, page 3).

An act to provide for short-term credit to grain producers in the prairie provinces to meet temporary financial difficulties arising from inability to deliver all their grain." (For reference see Wheat Review, October, 1955, page 7).

Trade Agreement With the U.S.S.R.      Speaking in the House of Commons on February 29, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce announced the conclusion of a trade agreement with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The agreement was set forth in five documents, with number four, concerning wheat, reading as follows:

"The fourth of the five documents forming the agreement is a letter by which the Government of the U.S.S.R. guarantees to purchase and take delivery from Canada, during the three years of the agreement, a total between 1,200,000 and 1,500,000 tons of wheat, in annual lots of between 400,000 and 500,000 tons. The exact amounts to be purchased in the second and third years, within these annual amounts, will be determined by the Government of the U.S.S.R., taking into account the volume of Soviet goods sold to Canada. The total over the three years, however, will amount to not less than 1,200,000 tons and the amount in any individual year to not less than 400,000 tons. The Russian purchases of wheat are to be made at the prices and on the terms at which the Canadian Wheat Board is making sales to its major customers at such times as the Soviet purchases take place."

Editor's Note: 1 metric ton of wheat = 36.7437 bushels.

Czechoslovakia and Hungary Purchase Canadian Wheat      In answer to a question in the House of Commons on March 7, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce confirmed that the government of Czechoslovakia, through its official grain procurement agency, will be buying between 100,000 and 320,000 tons (between 3.7 and 11.8 million bushels) of Canadian wheat for shipment during the present crop year. The purchases will be made from agents of the Canadian wheat board on the basis of 25 per cent down payment and the remaining 75 per cent within one year. The Export Credits Insurance Corporation will insure the board's agents with respect to the outstanding balances.

On March 12, in answer to an inquiry as to reported wheat sales to Hungary, Mr. Howe replied that negotiations with Hungary were completed some days ago for the purchase of 5.5 million bushels of wheat.

Supply Position      Supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1955-56 crop year are estimated at some 993.8 million bushels, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 499.7 million and the 1955 crop of 494.1 million. Comparable supplies in 1954-55 amounted to 910.7 million bushels. After deducting this year's anticipated domestic requirements of 160.0 million bushels, an estimated 833.8

million are available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 as against 751.6 million in 1954-55.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the first six months of the current crop year amounted to some 115.7 million bushels, 14 per cent below the 134.9 million exported during the same months of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on February 1, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 718.1 million bushels, 16 per cent above the 616.7 million available at February 1, 1955.

#### Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55 1/	1955-56 2/
- million bushels -		
Carryover in North America at beginning of crop year (August 1) .....	601.7	499.7
New crop .....	308.9	494.1
Imports of wheat, August-December .....	0.1	3/
Total estimated supplies .....	910.7	993.8
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	159.1	160.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	751.6	833.8
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, August-January ..	112.6	94.6
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-January .....	2.1	2.5
Total exports of wheat .....	114.7	97.1
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-January.	20.2 4/	18.6 5/
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	134.9	115.7
Balance on February 1 for export and for carryover .....	616.7	718.1

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.

Conversion rate: 4.5 bushels per barrel of 196 pounds.

5/ Conversion rate: 2.3 bushels per cwt.

Deliveries of wheat by farmers in the three Prairie Provinces during the four-week period January 19 to February 15, 1956 amounted to some 21.0 million bushels, considerably above deliveries of 13.0 million during the comparable period of 1955. The quantity of wheat entering export and domestic channels (overseas clearances, plus Canadian domestic use, plus imports into United States) during the period totalled almost 27.0 million bushels with the result that visible supplies declined from 362.0 million bushels at January 18 to a level of 356.3 million at February 15.



This year's visible supply at mid-February was slightly above the corresponding 1955 figure of 352.0 million bushels but below the 1954 total of 368.2 million. Supplies in country elevators amounting to 205.5 million bushels showed relatively little change from the 204.1 million in this position a year ago and 201.5 million two years ago. Lakehead stocks at February 15, 1956 amounted to 43.5 million bushels as compared with 38.5 million and 54.3 million at approximately the same date in 1955 and 1954, respectively. The 28.8 million bushels held in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports were above last year's 23.5 million but below the total of 35.8 million two years ago. Supplies of 17.3 million bushels in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports were below both the 1955 total of 20.1 million and the 1954 figure of 19.0 million bushels. Supplies of wheat in West coast ports (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert) amounted to 8.3 million bushels as against 11.8 million at mid-February in 1955 and 9.6 million in 1954.

January Exports  
of Wheat and  
Flour Total 22.3  
Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during January, 1956 amounted to 22.3 million bushels exceeding December, 1955 total of 13.8 million and the January, 1955 figure of 18.0 million by some 61 per cent and 24 per cent, respectively. The ten-year (1945-1954) average for the month of January was 19.8 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain totalled 19.5 million bushels as against 10.8 million during the preceding month and 15.1 million during January, 1955. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 2.7 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during January, 1956. This amount is slightly below both the December total of 3.1 million and the revised January, 1955 figure of 2.8 million bushels.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first half of the current crop year amounted to 97.1 million bushels, about 15 per cent below the comparable 1954-55 total of 114.7 million. The United Kingdom, as Canada's principal export outlet for wheat as grain has accounted for a total of 43.7 million bushels, representing 45 per cent of the August-January total. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels, were as follows; Japan, 13.0; Federal Republic of Germany, 10.2; Belgium, 5.8; Poland, 5.8; Switzerland, 2.5; United States, 2.5; Austria, 2.2; Italy, 2.0; Norway, 1.9; Netherlands, 1.7; Ireland, 1.6; and the Union of South Africa, 1.5.

Wheat flour exports from the beginning of the current crop year to January 31, based on preliminary Customs returns, were the equivalent of 18.6 million bushels of wheat, about 8 per cent below the adjusted August, 1954-January, 1955 total of 20.2 million bushels. As with wheat as grain the United Kingdom continued as the major market for Canadian wheat flour, accounting for the equivalent of 5.4 million bushels or 29 per cent of the six-month total. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat flour during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels of wheat equivalent were as follows: Philippine Islands, 2.8; Venezuela, 1.8; Trinidad and Tobago, 1.2; Jamaica, 0.6; and Leeward and Windward Islands, 0.5.

Exchange of Feeding Grades  
of Board Wheat for  
Higher Grades of Wheat

In its Instruction to the Trade No. 33, under date of February 29, the Canadian Wheat Board announced that "Instructions to the Trade No. 18 of November 18, 1955, which authorized elevator companies to exchange stocks of feeding grades of Board wheat for a similar quantity of higher grades of wheat,

is hereby amended, and effective from this date transactions are limited to a maximum of three hundred (300) bushels to the holder or holders of any one delivery permit book.

Transactions completed prior to this date must apply against this maximum, and in the event that any producer desires to exchange a greater amount for use on his own land, he must make application to the Board's Winnipeg or Calgary office.

All other provisions of the above mentioned instructions remain unchanged."

General Quota Position By March 7, 1956 out of a total of 2,080 shipping points in the Western Division, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 498 on a general quota of 1 bushel per specified acre, 953 on a 2-bushel quota, 425 on a 3-bushel quota and 187 on a 4-bushel quota. Of the remaining points, only three were still on the initial unit quota, with fourteen stations reported as "closed".

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group  
as at March 7, 1956

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre				Initial Unit Quota 1955-56	Closed Stations	Total
	One	Two	Three	Four			
Ontario .....	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Manitoba .....	23	146	123	84	-	2	378
Saskatchewan .....	391	500	174	37	3	2	1,107
Alberta .....	83	305	128	64	-	9	589
British Columbia ..	1	1	-	2	-	-	4
All Provinces.	498	953	425	187	3	14	2,080

Quality Data of Canadian Wheat Cargoes According to Quarterly Bulletin No. 2, re "Canadian Wheat Cargoes" 1955-56, published by the Grain Research Laboratory of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, quality data for the second quarter show little change from the previous quarter in bushel weight, protein content, or moisture content. But there has been an appreciable increase in loaf volume in all four grades and at both coasts. For Atlantic shipments, the extensibility of the dough increased with a corresponding decrease in resistance to extension (i.e., increased length and decreased height of Extensograms), and the latter tendency was also apparent in Pacific shipments. In the opinion of the Chemistry Division of the Board, these trends result from increased percentages of new wheat in export shipments made during the second quarter.

Farmers' Marketings by Crop Districts 1954-55      Farmers in the Prairie Provinces and certain areas of British Columbia and Ontario marketed 319.8 million bushels of wheat during the 1954-55 crop year according to revised figures compiled by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners.

In the following tables, farmers' deliveries are shown by the marketing channel employed, i.e., through country elevators, directly to interior private and mill elevators, etc. Deliveries to country elevators are, in turn, broken down by provinces and crop districts.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Western Division, 1954-55

Marketing Channel	Total Wheat
	- bushels -
Country elevators .....	316,467,138
Platform loadings .....	180,712
Public and semi-public terminals .....	2,919
Interior private and mill elevators .....	3,128,914
Total .....	319,779,683

Farmers' Marketings through Country Elevators, 1954-55

Province and District	Wheat (Other than Durum)	Durum Wheat	Total Wheat
		- bushels -	
<u>Manitoba</u>			
Crop District 1 .....	1,381,155	7,640	1,388,795
2 .....	3,180,859	22,729	3,203,588
3 .....	5,386,786	243,713	5,630,499
4 .....	718,569	40,227	758,796
5 .....	763,499	186	763,685
6 .....	71,839	-	71,839
7 .....	3,357,933	10,575	3,368,508
8 .....	2,106,450	11,192	2,117,642
9 .....	1,940,070	4,194	1,944,264
10 .....	1,829,955	173	1,830,128
11 .....	1,625,414	4,300	1,629,714
12 .....	583,899	111	584,010
13 .....	674,909	696	675,605
14 .....	173,412	-	173,412
Totals .....	23,794,749	345,736	24,140,485
<u>Ontario</u>			
Country elevators in the Western Division .....	1,260	-	1,260
Totals .....	23,796,009	345,736	24,141,745



Farmers' Marketings through Country Elevators, 1954-55

Province and District	Wheat (Other than Durum)	Durum Wheat	Total Wheat
		- bushels -	
<u>Saskatchewan</u>			
Crop District 1A .....	4,230,445	6,337	4,236,782
1B .....	3,330,196	2,716	3,332,912
2A .....	6,044,738	7,945	6,052,683
2B .....	11,925,891	46,742	11,972,633
3AN .....	6,417,191	48,903	6,466,094
3AS .....	11,066,929	177,365	11,244,294
3BN .....	15,538,528	1,095,684	16,634,212
3BS .....	11,322,028	900,947	12,222,975
4A .....	3,417,648	88,115	3,505,763
4B .....	10,138,199	962,159	11,100,358
5A .....	10,847,917	2,331	10,850,248
5B .....	10,281,333	1,551	10,282,884
6A .....	18,429,892	33,129	18,463,021
6B .....	11,318,443	24,060	11,342,503
7A .....	17,914,771	608,773	18,523,544
7B .....	9,195,685	6,547	9,202,232
8A .....	5,909,472	2,868	5,912,340
8B .....	11,820,383	373	11,820,756
9A .....	7,724,362	1,025	7,725,387
9B .....	6,589,746	610	6,590,356
Totals .....	193,463,797	4,018,180	197,481,977
<u>Alberta</u>			
Crop District 1 .....	13,247,578	577,960	13,825,538
2 .....	8,391,037	107,688	8,498,725
3 .....	4,468,158	153,207	4,621,365
4 .....	12,403,885	234,966	12,638,851
5 .....	7,870,792	69,286	7,940,078
6 .....	13,722,882	15,521	13,738,403
7 .....	10,013,480	1,797	10,015,277
8 .....	4,897,934	1,435	4,899,369
9 .....	98,179	-	98,179
10 .....	6,743,044	-	6,743,044
11 .....	1,117,845	1,000	1,118,845
12 .....	35,730	-	35,730
13 .....	845,995	-	845,995
14 .....	1,714,361	-	1,714,361
15 .....	1,485,574	-	1,485,574
16 .....	4,983,988	1,982	4,985,970
Totals .....	92,040,462	1,164,842	93,205,304
British Columbia .....	1,628,672	9,440	1,638,112
Totals Marketed .....	310,928,940	5,538,198	316,467,138



Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces, 1955-56

Week ending		Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
- bushels -						
August	10, 1955 ..	-	-	-	-	4,309
	17 .....	31,456	109,355	43,576	184,387	5,138
	24 .....	437,746	1,472,425	450,092	2,360,263	2,609
	31 .....	656,780	2,174,213	675,519	3,506,512	149,920
September	7 .....	697,862	4,984,565	983,712	6,666,139	291,945
	14 .....	667,123	4,667,118	1,744,408	7,078,649	601,588
	21 .....	475,731	3,309,906	1,714,465	5,500,102	765,404
	28 .....	316,008	1,776,279	925,933	3,018,220	1,559,360
October	5 .....	429,775	2,345,989	1,070,864	3,846,628	2,005,274
	12 .....	401,022	1,781,424	1,016,420	3,198,866	2,630,510
	19 .....	504,323	2,111,378	1,348,295	3,963,996	8,744,537
	26 .....	560,576	2,187,426	1,271,783	4,019,785	10,783,508
November	2 .....	733,638	2,202,273	1,121,821	4,057,732	9,266,388
	9 .....	745,002	3,061,854	975,578	4,782,434	8,027,519
	16 .....	769,387	3,834,898	1,053,152	5,657,437	7,159,311
	23 .....	654,412	3,815,850	1,127,161	5,597,423	7,535,766
	30 .....	439,614	3,466,772	1,052,857	4,959,243	8,239,759
December	7 .....	516,879	3,550,977	1,040,755	5,108,611	9,556,484
	14 .....	678,774	4,298,529	1,520,139	6,497,442	10,821,432
	21 .....	418,894	1,997,236	1,177,246	3,593,376	10,690,288
	28 .....	360,226	1,330,437	1,224,384	2,915,047	8,443,684
January	4, 1956 ..	514,361	1,991,856	1,363,145	3,869,362	5,673,461
	11 .....	599,347	2,663,110	1,507,972	4,770,429	8,656,216
	18 .....	568,479	3,344,909	1,807,506	5,720,894	5,345,966
	25 .....	377,814	2,021,080	2,079,468	4,478,362	4,252,213
February	1 .....	544,148	2,967,617	2,109,843	5,621,608	3,816,169
	8 .....	438,140	2,239,319	2,011,334	4,688,793	3,089,687
	15 .....	456,664	3,352,409	2,388,033	6,197,106	1,804,112
Totals .....		13,994,181	73,059,204	34,805,461	121,858,846	139,922,557

Average similar period:

1944-45-1953-54 ... 31,999,896 141,982,324 71,697,346 245,679,567

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, February 15, 1956  
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1954 and 1955

Position	1954	1955	1956
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	21,374	24,324	22,366
Saskatchewan .....	117,861	115,097	110,991
Alberta .....	62,230	64,702	72,121
Totals .....	201,464	204,123	205,478
Interior private and mill .....	6,425	7,276	7,182
Interior terminals .....	14,763	14,893	14,350
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	9,080	11,034	7,799
Victoria .....	469	749	420
Prince Rupert .....	50	53	38
Churchill .....	2,516	2,400	4,206
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	54,328	38,538	43,546
Storage Afloat .....	195	-	177
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	9,138	7,306	9,445
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports .....	35,785	23,477	28,827
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports .....	19,003	20,170	17,348
Storage Afloat .....	13,877	17,516	12,397
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	446	4,415	5,011
United States ports .....	689	-	118
Totals .....	368,229	351,950	356,343

Grading of wheat Inspected, August-January, 1955-56 with Comparisons

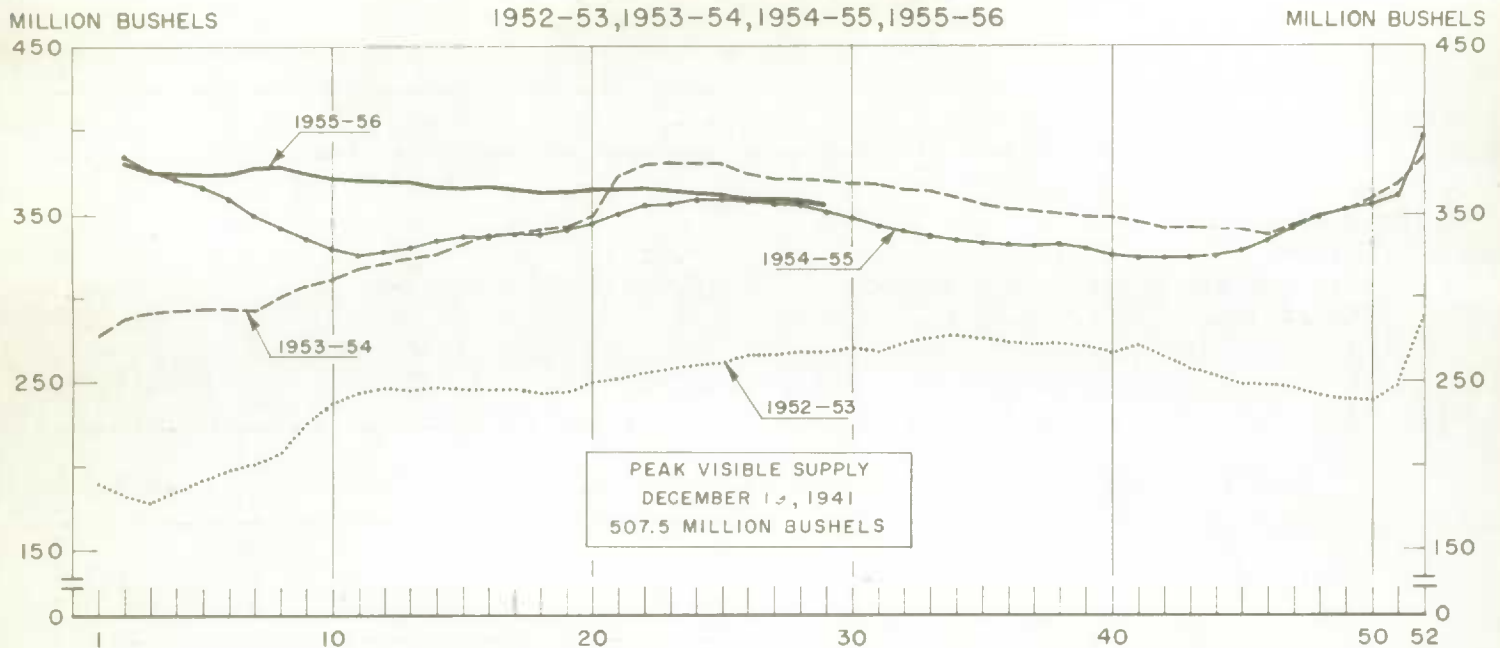
Grade	Crop Year		August-January			
	Average	1954-55	1954-55		1955-56	
	1949-50- 1953-54		cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard .....	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Man. Northern .....	7.6	4.3	4,314	5.0	2,821	3.8
2 Man. Northern .....	30.8	35.8	35,585	41.6	26,685	35.5
3 Man. Northern .....	16.1	26.4	19,693	23.0	19,480	25.9
4 Man. Northern .....	8.0	8.3	5,164	6.0	3,941	5.2
5 Wheat .....	8.2	4.5	2,674	3.1	5,136	6.8
6 Wheat .....	4.2	2.2	1,356	1.6	2,126	2.8
Feed Wheat .....	0.7	1.0	667	0.8	375	0.5
Garnet .....	0.8	0.9	1,165	1.4	349	0.5
Amber Durum .....	2.3	1.8	2,253	2.6	5,163	6.9
Alberta Winter .....	0.3	0.4	397	0.5	114	0.2
Toughs 2/ 3/ .....	16.2	11.9	10,454	12.2	5,525	7.4
Dumps 2/ 4/ .....	3.6	0.3	279	0.3	7	1/
Rejected 2/ .....	0.7	2.1	1,219	1.4	2,913	3.9
All Others .....	0.5	0.4	374	0.4	439	0.6
Totals .....	100.0	100.0	85,594	100.0	75,074	100.0

1/ Less than .05 per cent. 2/ All varieties and grades.

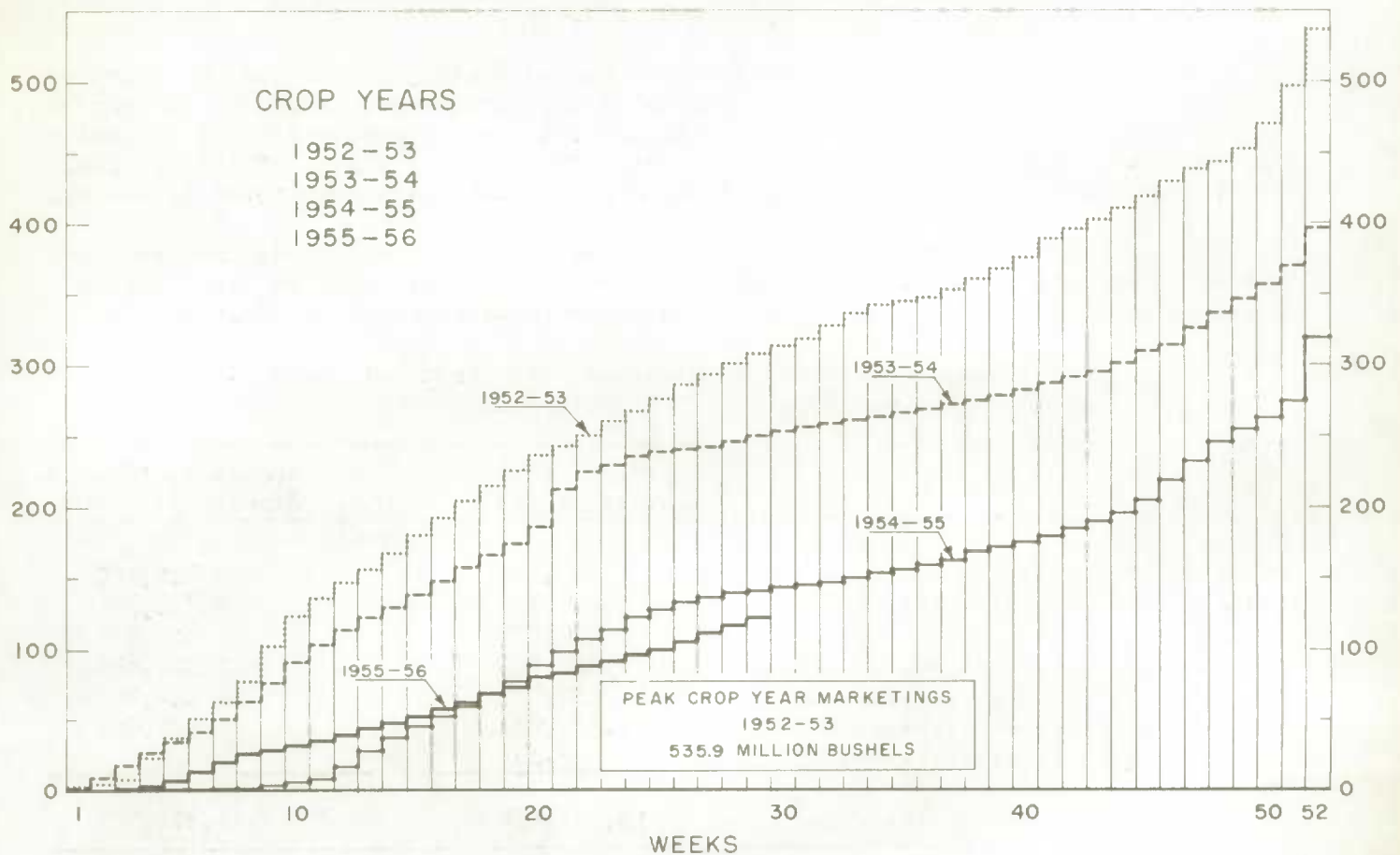
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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 )

Wheat Shipments\* to the United States by Destination  
August 1, 1955 to February 15, 1956  
Compared with Approximately the Same Period 1953-54 and 1954-55

Destination	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
- bushels -			
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Duluth-Superior .....	26,541	-	668,625
Milwaukee .....	15,940	-	52,923
Chicago .....	-	-	234,616
Huron .....	-	40,000	-
Buffalo .....	2,684,191	1,683,591	613,572
Totals, Vessel .....	2,726,672	1,723,591	1,569,736
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports .....	16,534	-	1,335
Other U.S.A. Points .....	1,398,888	352,278	1,182,727
Totals, Rail .....	1,415,422	352,278	1,184,062
Totals, Shipments .....	4,142,094	2,075,869	2,753,798

\*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 February 15, amounted to 2.8 million bushels. This total exceeds the comparable 1954-55 shipments of 2.1 million bushels but is below the corresponding 1953-54 figure of 4.1 million. About 57 per cent of this season's total shipments to date have been moved by vessel.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first half of the current crop year totalled 11.4 million bushels as against 13.4 million during the August-January period of 1954-55.

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

Origin of Shipments	August 1, 1954 to January 31, 1955	August 1, 1955 to January 31, 1956
- bushels -		
Port McNicoll .....	3,716,709	3,641,107
Midland .....	5,666,275	3,754,311
Collingwood .....	966,957	665,631
Owen Sound .....	1,343,861	1,374,613
Goderich .....	431,678	442,005
Sarnia .....	1,287,034	1,495,054
Walkerville .....	9,334	-
Totals .....	13,421,848	11,372,721



Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William—Port Arthur, 1952-53—1955-56

Month	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
- bushels -				
August .....	191,711	191,336	61,070	56,951
September .....	1,181,046	236,030	50,633	64,033
October .....	936,757	173,043	46,053	63,975
November .....	651,957	138,440	81,253	148,576
December .....	464,914	347,824	179,272	477,622
January .....	6,550,958	510,486	352,109	2,340,921
February .....	9,566,151	368,662	318,009	
March .....	6,285,944	555,518	245,958	
April .....	189,339	378,681	169,137	
May .....	216,046	253,606	68,878	
June .....	136,014	37,349	43,601	
July .....	223,687	74,020	57,619	
Totals .....	26,594,524	3,264,995	1,673,591	

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William—Port Arthur, January, 1956

Grade	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	U.S.A.
- bushels -						
1 Northern .....	-	-	-	-	1,500	-
2 Northern .....	-	-	-	12,000	42,000	-
3 Northern .....	-	-	-	4,000	12,000	-
5 Wheat .....	1,500	1,500	4,100	45,667	6,500	-
6 Wheat .....	-	-	-	-	5,500	400,417
Feed .....	-	-	-	3,000	-	-
Toughs .....	-	-	2,877	10,753	20,818	-
Rejected .....	-	-	1,500	54,584	36,127	-
Amber Durum .....	-	716,500	746,000	18,500	55,000	-
All Others .....	-	-	4,083	1,333	133,162	-
Totals .....	1,500	718,000	758,560	149,837	312,607	400,417

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1955 to February 15, 1956, with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels -					
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	42,235,639	263,174	4,860,183	246,607	492,624
Victoria .....	1,071,883	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert .....	354,667	-	1,334,200	-	-
Churchill .....	12,818,845	-	-	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal .....	21,298,537	1,240,448	6,480,518	1,638,440	5,249,095
Sorel .....	3,090,149	-	341,177	-	155,769
Three Rivers .....	2,708,228	-	420,000	-	-
Quebec .....	3,616,700	-	-	-	-
<u>Maritime Ports</u>					
Saint John .....	1,157,175	-	-	-	-
West Saint John .....	7,851,832	16,484	34,981	152,796	1,674,640
Halifax .....	7,249,147	-	-	92,163	876,836
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u>	182,333	-	-	-	-
Totals .....	103,635,135	1,520,106	13,471,059	2,130,006	8,448,964
August 1—February 16, 1955 ....	118,150,753	3,492,369	30,352,884	2,263,686	2,491,767

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to January 31, 1956 represent the shipment of some 6,463 thousand bushels of wheat moved from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the first five months of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims, is virtually the same as the 6,458 thousand bushels moved under the policy during the August-December period of the 1954-55 crop year. About 77 per cent of this year's shipments went to destinations in Ontario and Quebec.

Provincial Distribution of Wheat Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy  
August-December, 1955 and 1954

Month	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	B.C.	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August, 1955 .....	7	26	76	58	487	441	224	1,319
September .....	10	21	114	52	495	439	168	1,298
October .....	11	15	57	48	543	446	146	1,267
November .....	12	22	86	58	573	532	145	1,429
December .....	3	11	76	43	552	449	17	1,151
Totals 1/ .....	43	95	409	259	2,650	2,307	700	6,463
Same period 1954:								
Preliminary 2/ .....	33	45	344	209	2,418	1,903	944	5,895
Revised 1/ .....	39	46	364	222	2,505	2,016	1,266	6,458

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 205,453 tons during the August-December period of the current crop year. This total is based on claims filed up to January 31, 1956 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. By January 31, 1955 claims had been filed for 206,688 tons out of a total of 229,462 shipped during the first five months of the 1954-55 crop year. As with freight-assisted wheat shipments, the bulk of the millfeed shipments, (161,056 tons) during the period under review went to destinations in Ontario and Quebec.

Provincial Distribution of Millfeed Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy  
August-December, 1955 and 1954

Province	1954		1955
	Preliminary 2/	Revised 1/	Preliminary 1/
- tons -			
Newfoundland .....	1,181	1,480	1,638
Prince Edward Island .....	2,555	2,750	3,276
Nova Scotia .....	13,014	14,554	14,081
New Brunswick .....	12,478	13,587	13,018
Quebec .....	107,596	115,217	103,976
Ontario .....	54,732	61,291	57,080
British Columbia .....	15,132	20,583	12,384
Totals .....	206,688	229,462	205,453

1/ Based on claims filed up to January 31, 1956.

2/ Based on claims filed up to January 31, 1955.

Supply and Disposition of Wheat and Rye, Canada,  
Crop Year 1954-55

Item	Wheat	Rye
	- bushels -	
Stocks at commencement of crop year -		
On farms .....	214,860,000	12,860,000
Pacific Coast elevators .....	7,064,947	-
Western country elevators .....	211,475,266	3,616,842
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	52,313,495	1,400,180
Eastern elevators .....	66,490,350	813,742
In transit rail .....	17,374,001	474,409
In transit lake .....	5,388,742	58,702
Other Canadian positions .....	26,601,122	61,602
U.S.A. positions .....	107,279	-
Totals, in store July 31, 1954 .....	601,675,202	19,285,477
1954 production .....	308,909,000	14,176,000
Imports 1/ .....	177,696	3,215
Totals, supplies .....	910,761,898	33,464,692
Export clearances including U.S.A. 1/ .....	251,909,132	9,311,410
Consumed in Canada -		
Human food 2/ .....	53,776,000	336,000
Seed requirements .....	30,506,000	904,000
Industrial use 3/ .....	447,559	731,873
Loss in handling 4/ .....	150,933	172,916
Animal feed, waste, and dockage 5/ .....	74,223,802	3,523,840
Totals, domestic use .....	159,104,294	5,668,629
Stocks at end of crop year -		
On farms .....	100,855,000	10,180,000
Pacific Coast elevators .....	8,279,185	-
Western country elevators .....	221,665,852	3,148,206
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	40,509,330	3,228,854
Eastern elevators .....	68,317,359	911,042
In transit rail .....	22,905,938	657,258
In transit lake .....	8,729,089	170,880
Other Canadian positions .....	28,075,641	97,863
U.S.A. positions .....	411,078	90,550
Totals, in store July 31, 1955 .....	499,748,472	18,484,653
Totals, distribution .....	910,761,898	33,464,692

1/ Import and export data for wheat and rye, respectively, include wheat flour in terms of wheat and rye flour in terms of rye.

2/ Food uses estimated as follows: Wheat - wheat flour and breakfast foods;  
Rye - rye flour and breakfast foods.

3/ Distilling.

4/ Includes drying loss, outturn loss (lake and rail), fire loss, etc.

5/ Residual after estimating for other uses.



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>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</u>					
August .....	15,666	185	3,326	19,177	18,481
September .....	25,744	209	3,699	29,653	28,460
October .....	20,046	882	4,063	24,990	28,269
November .....	20,160	331	3,145	23,636	21,526
December .....	16,201	131	3,132	19,465	22,001
January .....	14,792	335	2,850	17,976	17,184
February .....	14,102	96	3,181	17,379	17,706
March .....	16,719	173	3,564	20,456	17,603
April .....	12,705	152	4,844	17,701	20,080
May .....	15,041	531	3,649	19,221	20,175
June .....	18,510	1,048	2,710	22,268	21,992
July .....	17,143	386	2,458	19,987	19,491
Totals .....	206,829	4,458	40,622	251,909	252,968
<u>1955-56</u> 4/					
August .....	19,777	469	2,673	22,920	20,830
September .....	14,877	292	3,461	18,631	18,138
October .....	14,075	416	3,559	18,049	18,141
November .....	16,447	440	3,085	19,972	19,382
December .....	10,323	429	3,076	13,828	17,708
January .....	19,053	476	2,738	22,266	18,952
Totals .....	94,551	2,521	18,593 5/	115,665 5/	113,151 5/

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 1953-54 and 1954-55 adjusted to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs for both wheat and wheat flour. Conversion rate: 4.5 bushels per barrel of 196 pounds.

4/ Subject to revision.

5/ Revised wheat flour conversion rate: 2.3 bushels per cwt.



Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination 1955-56

Destination	October	January		August--January	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
- bushels -					
<b>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</b>					
United Kingdom	620,273	930,444	7,772,524	5,416,120	43,680,000
<b>Africa</b>					
British East Africa .....	-	-	-	7,059	-
Gambia .....	3,082	4,570	-	24,911	-
Gold Coast .....	111,258	21,760	-	408,880	-
Nigeria .....	35,103	1,168	-	147,166	-
Other British West Africa .....	-	6,438	-	13,158	-
Rhodesia .....	-	-	83,067	-	259,467
Sierra Leone .....	33,171	24,987	-	166,764	-
Union of South Africa .....	-	-	380,800	-	1,470,934
<b>Asia</b>					
Ceylon .....	-	72,593	-	113,146	-
Hong Kong .....	37,209	57,788	45,173	303,036	364,541
Malaya and Singapore .....	31,128	25,521	-	173,139	-
<b>Europe</b>					
Gibraltar .....	21,178	-	-	44,286	-
Malta .....	-	-	-	-	420,000
<b>North America</b>					
Bahamas .....	18,506	12,374	-	112,484	-
Barbados .....	28,216	21,597	-	169,671	833
Bermuda .....	8,101	12,050	-	51,458	-
British Honduras .....	7,579	1,654	-	22,901	-
Jamaica .....	107,070	86,652	-	612,037	8,264
Leeward and Windward Islands ....	76,330	71,353	-	512,136	-
Trinidad and Tobago .....	216,991	131,949	-	1,173,692	1,877
<b>South America</b>					
British Guiana .....	2,415	5,805	-	19,587	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries .	1,357,612	1,488,702	8,281,564	9,491,633	46,205,916
<b>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</b>					
<b>Africa</b>					
Azores and Madeira .....	5,368	6,725	-	30,914	-
Belgian Congo .....	62,026	69,711	-	445,137	4,592
Ethiopia .....	-	-	1,333	-	1,333
Gambia .....	844	1,428	-	7,608	-
Morocco .....	5,522	3,024	-	31,264	-
Portuguese East Africa .....	-	-	6,250	7,059	62,250
Portuguese West Africa .....	11,762	8,538	-	44,319	-
<b>Asia</b>					
Arabia .....	3,574	1,934	-	10,734	20,209
Israel .....	-	-	-	-	724,266
Japan .....	24,713	50,499	1,909,567	367,614	12,950,198
Korea .....	-	-	-	50,706	-
Lebanon .....	5,347	12,105	-	72,643	-
Philippine Islands .....	784,284	202,485	-	2,770,210	-
Portuguese Asia .....	8,048	3,818	-	51,828	-
Syria .....	324	400	-	1,081	-
Thailand .....	27,340	21,385	-	145,482	-
<b>Europe</b>					
Austria .....	-	-	386,400	-	2,158,834
Belgium .....	-	52,477	1,029,422	91,917	5,814,206
Denmark .....	225	-	-	1,127	-
Finland .....	-	-	149,333	-	368,106

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination, 1955-56

Destination	October	January		August-January	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
			- bushels -		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES					
Europe					
Germany, Federal Republic .....	57,445	-	1,785,781	198,469	10,159,968
Greece .....	2,429	9,945	-	49,282	-
Iceland .....	-	-	-	9,936	-
Ireland .....	-	-	205,333	-	1,618,400
Italy .....	17,703	25,316	532,162	145,976	2,040,815
Netherlands .....	-	483	731,187	483	1,711,858
Norway .....	-	-	164,267	-	1,873,353
Poland .....	-	-	3,044,528	-	5,809,435
Portugal .....	1,141	-	-	3,278	-
Switzerland .....	-	-	816,234	-	2,529,834
Yugoslavia .....	-	-	-	6,898	-
North America					
American Virgin Islands .....	1,033	1,046	-	15,603	-
Costa Rica .....	33,753	63,521	-	302,839	-
Cuba .....	69,738	31,034	-	297,001	1,000
Dominican Republic .....	39,928	50,842	-	225,076	2,500
El Salvador .....	27,020	42,506	-	168,346	-
French West Indies .....	-	-	-	1,605	-
Guatemala .....	9,750	21,689	9,186	216,313	12,519
Haiti .....	68,395	35,162	-	339,064	-
Honduras .....	9,908	5,058	-	43,010	-
Netherlands Antilles .....	23,347	29,504	-	116,898	-
Nicaragua .....	19,999	21,020	-	184,389	-
Panama .....	15,553	26,165	-	146,340	-
St. Pierre and Miquelon .....	2,893	-	-	8,354	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat .....	83,610	47,587	-	371,563	-
For domestic use 1/ .....	-	-	475,829	-	2,520,956
Oceania					
French Oceania .....	15,201	1,681	-	41,920	-
Guam .....	5,785	690	-	26,931	-
South America					
Bolivia .....	-	-	-	3,452	-
Chile .....	-	113	-	2,183	-
Colombia .....	21,286	16,346	-	130,596	735
Ecuador .....	-	-	-	-	475,828
Peru .....	6,897	113	-	19,994	-
Surinam .....	8,494	24,155	-	84,585	-
Venezuela .....	253,115	360,546	-	1,811,179	5,253
Totals, Foreign Countries .....	1,733,800	1,249,052	11,246,812	9,101,204	50,866,448
Totals, All Countries .....	3,091,412	2,737,754	19,528,376	18,592,837	97,072,364

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: 2.3 bushels per cwt.

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			
	Jan. 27	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17
- 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 .....	110	110	110	110
6 Wheat .....	104	104	104	104
Feed Wheat .....	98	98	98	98
1 C.W. Garnet .....	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet .....	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter .....	119	119	119	119
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 .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	172/7
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	168/7
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/7
4 Northern .....	154/1	153/6	153/6	153/7
5 Wheat .....	123/3	124	124/3	125
6 Wheat .....	119/5	120	120/3	121
Feed Wheat .....	115/5	116	116/3	117
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146/6	146/6	146/6	145/2
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142/6	142/6	142/6	141/2
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	138/2
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	143/6	143/6	143/6	143/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	139/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	135/6	135/6	135/6	135/7
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	204/6	204/6	204/6	204/7
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	202/6	202/6	202/6	202/7
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	201/6	201/6	201/6	201/7
<u>Exports - Class II</u>				
1 Northern .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	172/7
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	168/7
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/7
4 Northern .....	154/1	153/6	153/6	153/7
5 Wheat .....	123/3	124	124/3	125
6 Wheat .....	119/5	120	120/3	121
Feed Wheat .....	115/5	116	116/3	117
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146/6	146/6	146/6	145/2
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142/6	142/6	142/6	141/2
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	138/2
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	254	254	254	254
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	250	250	250	250
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	244	244	244	244

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

Class and Grade	Week ending			
	Jan. 27	Feb. 3	Feb. 10	Feb. 17
- 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 .....	110	110	110	110
6 Wheat .....	104	104	104	104
Feed Wheat .....	98	98	98	98
1 C.W. Garnet .....	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet .....	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter .....	119	119	119	119
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 .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	172/7
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	168/7
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/7
4 Northern .....	154/1	153/6	153/6	153/7
5 Wheat .....	122	122	122/3	123
6 Wheat .....	118	118	118/3	119
Feed Wheat .....	114	114	114/3	115
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146/6	146/6	146/6	145/2
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142/6	142/6	142/6	141/2
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	138/2
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	143/6	143/6	143/6	143/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	139/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	135/6	135/6	135/6	135/7
<u>Export - Class II</u>				
1 Northern .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	172/7
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	168/7
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/7
4 Northern .....	154/1	153/6	153/6	153/7
5 Wheat .....	122	122	122/3	123
6 Wheat .....	118	118	118/3	119
Feed Wheat .....	114	114	114/3	115
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146/6	146/6	146/6	145/2
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142/6	142/6	142/6	141/2
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	138/2
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	143/6	143/6	143/6	143/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	139/6	139/6	139/6	139/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	135/6	135/6	135/6	135/7



# CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

**Production** Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during January, 1956 amounted to 3,101,000 hundredweight, representing a decrease of some 4 per cent from the December, 1955 production of 3,215,000 hundredweight and an increase of about 2 per cent from the January, 1955 level of 3,041,000 hundredweight. The ten-year (1946-1955) average production for the month of January was 3,616,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during January, 1956 had a total rated capacity of 178,093 hundredweight per 24-hour day and, on the basis of a 25-day period 69.6 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during January amounted to 7.1 million bushels, compared with 7.3 million bushels milled during the preceding month and 6.9 million bushels milled during January, 1955. Of the wheat milled for flour during January, 1956 some 6.4 million bushels were Western Canadian spring wheat (other than Durum), with most of the remainder consisting of Ontario winter wheat (407,000 bushels) and Durum wheat (112,000 bushels).

**Exports** According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during January, 1956 amounted to 1,190,000 hundredweight (2,732,000 bushels of wheat equivalent), representing a decrease of some 11 per cent from flour exports of the preceding month. Flour shipments during the month went to 52 countries with the United Kingdom accounting for 930 thousand bushels or 34 per cent of the total January wheat flour exports. Other major markets for Canadian wheat flour during January were Venezuela, Philippping Islands and Trinidad and Tobago, receiving shipments of 361 thousand, 202 thousand and 132 thousand bushels of wheat equivalent, respectively.

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

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports 1/
	- bushels -		- cwt. -
1935-36-1939-40 average .....	67,845,114	29,405,451	9,603,941
1940-41-1944-45 average .....	99,704,638	43,908,245	23,699,546
1945-46 .....	118,074,774	52,018,498	28,361,547
1946-47 .....	127,775,176	56,033,374	33,116,617
1947-48 .....	109,822,011	47,353,004	26,776,683
1948-49 .....	90,896,984	39,944,794	20,947,620
1949-50 .....	90,082,917	39,708,032	19,896,136
1950-51 .....	106,748,343	46,315,153	24,356,912
1951-52 .....	104,494,021	44,771,184	22,258,324
1952-53 .....	106,727,237	46,776,625	24,609,199
1953-54 .....	91,855,269	40,769,909	20,142,824
1954-55 .....	92,406,768	40,606,599	17,692,945
1955-56 2/			
August .....	7,580,542	3,295,109	1,162,347
September .....	8,039,098	3,513,073	1,505,186
October .....	7,964,143	3,471,597	1,547,224
November .....	8,307,997	3,640,577	1,341,357
December .....	7,342,888	3,214,933	1,337,400
January .....	7,099,211	3,100,787	1,190,328
Totals .....	46,333,879	20,236,076	8,083,842
Same period 1954-55 3/ .....	47,927,555	21,151,628	8,805,055

1/ Based on Customs returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46-1954-55 revised to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs.

2/ Subject to revision.

3/ Revised.

UNITED STATES SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated domestic supplies of wheat for the 1955-56 crop year amount to some 1,959.8 million bushels, consisting of the July 1 carryover of 1,021.6 million bushels and the 1955 crop of 938.2 million. Imports of wheat from Canada for all purposes during the first seven months of the current United States crop year amounted to 2.9 million bushels compared with 1.0 million during the July-January period of 1954-55. Domestic disappearance in 1955-56 is estimated at about 625 million bushels which would leave some 1,337.7 million available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 compared with 1,295.4 million available during 1954-55.

United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 1/
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (July 1) .....	902.4	1,021.6 2/
New crop .....	984.8	938.2
Total estimated domestic supplies .....	1,887.2	1,959.8 2/
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July-January .....	1.0	2.9
Total estimated supplies 3/ .....	1,888.2	1,962.7
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year 4/.	592.8	625.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	1,295.4	1,337.7
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July-January .....	123.1	118.9
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July-January .....	23.9	28.7
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products.	146.9	147.6
Balance on February 1 for export and for carryover ...	1,148.5	1,190.1

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Revised.

3/ Excluding imports for February-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 Island. These shipments are not included in exports as set out in the table.

Exports of wheat, wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-January period of the current crop year amounted to 147.6 million bushels, virtually unchanged from the 146.9 million bushels exported during the same months of 1954-55. The balance remaining for export and for carryover at February 1 this year amounted to 1,190.1 million bushels compared with 1,148.5 million a year ago.

According to the February 28 issue of the "Wheat Situation", published by the United States Department of Agriculture, exports for the marketing year are expected to total about 275 million bushels, or about the same as in the preceding year. If domestic disappearance totals 625 million bushels as now estimated and 275 million are exported, a carryover (including an allowance for imports of 4 million bushels) of around 1,065 million bushels is indicated. This amount would be some 40 million bushels above stocks at last July 1, compared with an increase of 120 million bushels between July 1, 1954 and July 1, 1955.

Winter Wheat Prospects  
Improved: Crops in Excess  
of Disappearance Possible

According to the "Wheat Situation" prospects have improved for fall seeded wheat and rye as well as spring wheat as a result of rain or snow. Much of this has come since mid-January. Winter wheat in extensive Great Plains areas has had some relief from the drought that had persisted since last October. Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas have had substantial snow or rain and many fields which had steadily deteriorated now have a favorable outlook. Relatively little acreage has been completely lost so far from drought or wind erosion but more rain or snow will be needed to overcome the soil moisture deficit. Snow also has provided some protection to wheat in Wyoming, Montana and eastern Washington and Oregon.

The fall seeded crops in most north central and north eastern States now have good prospects for winter survival because of recent snow or rain and light damage to date from soil heaving. Southern fall seeded crops have made generally slow headway but have improved from the late rains.

Reseal Program Announced  
for 1955-Crop Wheat

On February 10 the United States Department of Agriculture announced a reseal program in certain States for loans on farm-stored 1955-crop wheat under price support. Under the program, such wheat may be resealed for another program year. Farmers will also be able to convert purchase agreements on these commodities, now held in farm storage, into price-support loans for the extended period. Operations of the 1955-crop reseal program will be similar to those for previous crops.

Announcement of the program was made early in order to give farmers time to plan and construct any additional farm storage facilities needed to make it possible for them to reseal their 1955 crops and still have space to handle their 1956 crops in an orderly fashion. To be eligible for the price-support loans, the commodities must be housed in satisfactory storage.

A storage payment in line with Uniform Grain Storage Agreement rates will be paid farmers who reseal their 1955 crops. Farmers who hold their grain until the maturity date for the resealed 1955-crop grain will receive a full storage payment for the entire period. If a farmer redeems his loan prior to maturity, he will receive a storage payment for the period beginning 60 days after the maturity of the regular 1955-crop support program and continuing through the time he keeps the commodity in storage as loan security.

Farmers who desire to reseal their grain, or convert purchase agreements into "reseal" loans, should make application to their county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee during the month before the 1955-crop maturity date.



1956 Winter Wheat Acreage  
Seeded Compared with Indicated  
Winter Wheat Allotment

The "Wheat Situation" indicated that the acreage seeded to winter wheat for harvest in 1956 is about 11.3 per cent above the indicated allotted acreage. Since many States seed winter wheat only, estimates

of the 1956 seeded acreages may be compared with the 1956 total wheat allotments. For States seeding both winter and spring wheat, an indicated winter wheat allotment was derived in order that the data for all States would be more nearly comparable. The derived allotment was obtained by multiplying the 1956 total wheat allotment by the percentage the 3-year (1953-55) average winter wheat acreage seeded was of the 3-year average total wheat acreage seeded for each State. Farmers may seed an acreage in excess of the farm allotment and still be eligible for price support and obtain a marketing card provided the acreage in excess of the allotment is used for pasture, silage, hay, or green manure by the date established by the State ASC Committee. The farm allotment is applicable to the entire wheat acreage on the farm and is not established separately for spring and winter wheat.

Title I 480 Sales  
Through February 1, 1956

A total of 36 agreements providing for sales of United States surplus agricultural commodities under Title I of Public Law 480, have been entered into to date with 22

importing countries. Title I of Public Law 480 authorizes a program under which foreign countries can buy surplus agricultural commodities from United States suppliers and pay for them with local currencies. The currencies are then spent abroad for the mutual benefit of the United States and the purchasing countries. Included in these programs, under which shipments started in January 1955, are 102 million bushels of wheat and flour in terms of wheat.

Winter Wheat Prices at  
High for Season to Date

Cash wheat prices continue generally around the high of the season to date. On February 20 the price of No. 2 Hard Red Winter Wheat, ordinary protein, at Kansas City

and that of No. 2 Soft Red Winter at St. Louis at \$2.20 and \$2.27, respectively, were both at the highest level of the marketing year to date. The price of No. 1 Soft White at Portland at \$2.20 was only fractionally below its high. On the other hand, the price of No. 1 Dark Northern Spring at Minneapolis at \$2.36 was 8 cents below its peak reached in September. The prices at Kansas City and Minneapolis were 16 and 13 cents, respectively, above the low of the season, while prices at St. Louis and Portland were 38 cents and 7 cents above their low points. The average price received by farmers in mid-January was \$1.95, the same as a month earlier, but 19 cents below a year earlier. The average support rate to growers this year at \$2.08 per bushel is 16 cents below a year ago. Strength in wheat prices, in the face of the largest supplies in our history, is due to effects of the support programs.

Flour Production

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, estimated wheat flour production in the United States in December, 1955 at 19,317,000 sacks, an average of 920,000 sacks per working day. This compares with a daily average of 941,000 sacks during the previous month and 834,000 sacks in December, 1954. Production of wheat flour in December was at 86.3 per cent of capacity, compared with 88.3 and 78.3 per cent, respectively, for the previous month and the same month a year ago. Flour mills in December ground an estimated 44,462,000 bushels of wheat, compared with 45,489,000 bushels in November.

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	
February 1, 1956	216 1/4 - 223 1/4		February 1, 1956	232 5/8 - 233 5/8	
2	222 1/2 - 225 1/2		2	233 1/8 - 234 1/8	
3	222 3/4 - 223 1/4		3	233 3/8 - 234 3/8	
6	225 1/2		6	234 - 235	
7	215 1/2 - 224 1/2		7	223 1/4	
8	216 1/4		8	233 1/8	
9	216 3/4		9	233 3/4	
10	222 3/4 - 226 1/2		10	234 1/8	
13	218 1/2 - 222 1/4		13	231 1/4 - 232 1/4	
14	219 1/4		14	231 1/2 - 232 1/2	
15	222 1/2		15	231 1/2	
16	217 1/2 - 243		16	232 1/4	
17	218 3/4 - 223		17	234 3/8 - 235 3/8	
20	220 1/2		20	235 5/8	
21	219 - 245 1/4		21	234 1/4	
22	Washington's Birthday		22	Washington's Birthday	
23	221 - 229 3/4		23	234 1/8	
24	220		24	234	
27	219 1/2 - 221 1/4		27	233 3/4	
28	217 - 230		28	233	
29	220 - 225		29	233 1/8	

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	March	May	July	September	December
	- cents and eighths per bushel -				
February 1, 1956	212/6	208	196/2	198/6	203
2	214	209	197/2	199/3	203/4
3	214/6	209/6	197/2	199/4	203/4
6	214/5	209/5	197	199/3	203/4
7	213/6	209/2	197/4	199/3	203/3
8	214/5	209/5	197	198/7	203/1
9	215/5	210/7	197	199/2	203/3
10	216/4	211/7	197/4	199/5	204
13	216/4	211/5	197/2	199/1	203/4
14	216/4	211/5	196/4	198/3	202/4
15	216/4	211/7	195/3	197/2	201/3
16	216/4	212/2	196	198/1	202/1
17	217/5	213/5	196/6	198/7	202/7
20	220/1	216/4	198/6	201	204/7
21	219/4	216/2	199/5	201/4	205/2
22		Washington's Birthday			
23	221/1	217/2	202	204/1	207/7
24	220/7	217/1	201	203	207
27	219/7	216/2	201/6	203/7	207/4
28	217/3	214/1	199/6	201/6	205/4
29	219	215	198/6	200/7	204/2

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position      Estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the 1955-56 crop year amount to some 255.0 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1955 carryover of 77.9 million and the new crop placed at 177.1 million. Supplies of the size indicated are about one quarter below the comparable 1954-55 total of 342.9 million bushels. With anticipated domestic requirements placed at 136.0 million bushels, some 119.0 million remain available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 as against 210.6 million in 1954-55. Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the period December, 1955-January, 1956 amounted to 20.1 million bushels compared with 21.2 million during the first two months of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on February 1, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 98.9 million bushels, some 48 per cent below the February 1, 1955 total of 189.4 million.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 1/
- million bushels -		
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) .....	60.3 2/	77.9 2/
New crop .....	282.6 3/	177.1 3/
Total estimated supplies .....	342.9	255.0
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	132.3	136.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	210.6	119.0
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, Dec.—Jan. ....	20.8	18.9
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec.—Jan. ..	0.4	1.2
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	21.2	20.1
Balance on February 1 for export and for carryover .....	189.4	98.9

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 February 17, 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 16.20 pesos to the United States dollar. (18.00 pesos per U.S. dollar less 10 per cent export tax.)



Weather and Crops Widespread abundant rainfalls and relatively cool weather have provided good to excellent growing conditions for the summer crops as well as alfalfa and natural pastures during the past month. Harvesting of wheat, oats, barley and rye has been completed with production below that of last year in all cases but quality and specific weight are very satisfactory.

The rains have been particularly beneficial to the growing corn and sunflower crops which, except for early planted fields are now generally considered to be in excellent condition. Grasshoppers are being combatted by means of an officially sponsored campaign but are still doing damage to pasture and crops in some limited areas. Due to the improvement in pastures the condition of cattle is generally good to excellent.

Official Estimates During the past month the second official estimate of production has been announced for the winter grains and flaxseed. They are given below and compared with the first estimates and with previous years.

#### Argentine Grain Production

	Average 1945-46-1954-55	Estimate 1954-55	1st. Estimate 1955-56	2nd. Estimate 1955-56
	- thousand bushels -			
Wheat .....	204,977	282,559	167,184	177,105
Oats .....	51,226	57,709	52,359	46,751
Barley .....	37,190	51,073	45,585	44,092
Rye .....	21,245	33,230	28,483	28,392
Flaxseed .....	24,760	16,314	10,669	9,094

The first estimate of area seeded to corn has also been published as 2,860,000 hectares (7,064,000 acres) which compares with 3,001,500 (7,414,000 acres) in 1954-55 and an average of 3,032,380 (7,490,000 acres) during the last ten years.

Wheat 1955-56 Crop Harvesting has been completed and the second official estimate of 4,820,000 metric tons (177.1 million bushels) coincides quite closely with trade estimates of five million tons (183.7 million bushels). Harvesting weather was good, quality and specific weight of the grain is generally very satisfactory and the crop was quickly moved into storage positions. The carryin at December 1, 1955 is estimated at approximately 500,000 tons (17.6 million bushels) more than a year earlier but this does little to offset the drop in production of over 3 million tons (105 million bushels). With an estimated total availability for carryover and export of only slightly more than three million metric tons (115.5 million bushels), exports this year are sure to fall well below last year's 3.6 million tons (132.7 million bushels), even if, as is quite possible this year, Argentina reduces her reserve well below that generally carried since the disastrous 1951-52 crop when wheat had to be imported.

Exports during the first two months of the crop year at approximately 550,000 tons (20,105,000 bushels) compare favourably with last year. After a quiet

four weeks following Christmas, sales activity was again stepped up in late January since when over 300,000 tons (11,023,000 bushels) have been sold. This brings total sales from December 1 to mid-February to approximately 850,000 tons.

**Sales** A sudden spurt in wheat sales totalling almost 320,000 tons (11,758,000 bushels) between January 25 and February 16 has been the outstanding feature of Argentine grain sales during the past month. These sales at unchanged prices were all for March-April shipment. The largest known single operation involved 42,000 tons (1,543,000 bushels) of "Rosafe" wheat to Japan. Almost 50,000 tons (3,242,000 bushels) of oats were sold during the last week in January at prices ranging down to 692.55 pesos per ton (66 cents per bushel) for payment in sterling which compared with 814.05 (77 cents) received in November and 921.60 (88 cents) in October. Over 30,000 tons (1,378,000 bushels) of barley were also sold in the second half of January mostly for payment in German agreement dollars at 874.80 pesos per ton (\$1.18 per bushel). Twenty thousand tons (787,000 bushels) of rye were also sold during that month at prices falling from 757.35 to 692.55 pesos per ton (\$1.19 to \$1.09 per bushel).

**Shipments** Grain exports in January totalled less than 350,000 tons, down slightly from December's 360,000 and well below the 507,000 tons shipped in January, 1955. Wheat shipments at almost 270,000 tons (9,921,000 bushels) accounted for the majority of the shipments. Barley exports of over 63,000 tons (2,894,000 bushels) accounted for most of the remainder followed by 10,600 tons (417,000 bushels) of rye and 3,400 tons (220,000 bushels) of oats. Germany was the destination for almost one third of total exports including 41,000 tons (1,883,000 bushels) of barley, 64,000 tons (2,352,000 bushels) of wheat and 4,800 tons (189,000 bushels) of rye. United Kingdom, Italy, Brazil and Holland each took more than 20,000 tons. The following table gives wheat shipments by destination during the first two months of this crop year and comparative totals for recent years.

Argentine Wheat Exports, December, 1955-January, 1956  
with Comparisons

Destination	Wheat	Destination	Wheat
	'000 bu.		'000 bu.
Austria .....	402	Germany .....	3,533
Belgium .....	593	Italy .....	2,103
Brazil .....	4,586	Netherlands .....	1,266
Chile .....	1,116	Norway .....	383
Czechoslovakia .....	367	Peru .....	959
Denmark .....	305	United Kingdom .....	3,136
Finland .....	170		
		Total .....	18,920
Same period:			
1954-55 .....			20,814
1953-54 .....			17,177
1952-53 .....			1,140
1951-52 .....			2,793
1950-51 .....			13,453

# AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1955-56 crop year, consisting of the December 1, 1955 carryover of 91.6 million bushels and the current crop now placed at 195.6 million bushels, amount to some 287.2 million bushels. The comparable 1954-55 total was 260.4 million bushels. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 71.0 million bushels, an estimated 216.2 million are available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 as against 189.1 million available in 1954-55.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent up to January 28 of the current Australian crop year, at 12.8 million bushels, were down considerably from the 18.6 million exported during the same period of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on January 29, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 203.4 million bushels, almost 20 per cent above the 170.5 million available at the same date a year ago.

## Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 1/
	- million bushels -	
Carryover, including flour as wheat, at beginning of crop year (December 1) .....	93.8	91.6
New crop .....	166.6	195.6 2/
Total estimated supplies .....	260.4	287.2 2/
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	71.3	71.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	189.1	216.2 2/
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 to January 28 ..	12.0	7.1
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1 to January 28 .....	6.6	5.7
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	18.6	12.8
Balance on January 29 for export and for carryover .....	170.5	203.4

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Revised.

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 February 10, 1956 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of £1 equals \$2.2433 (Canadian), the quotation in effect on February 3, 1956.



Wheat Crop Estimate      Production of wheat in Australia for 1955-56 is estimated at 195,600 thousand bushels, from an area of 10,093 thousand acres according to a cable received from the Commonwealth Statistician under date of March 7, 1956. A crop of the size indicated would be slightly above the recent Australian Wheat Board estimate of 192 million bushels and would exceed by about 17 per cent the 1954-55 outturn of 166.6 million.

F.A.O. Standards      An improved fair average quality has been declared for this season's West Australian wheat. The external standard was fixed at 64 lb., which is 1 lb. higher than last year's f.a.q. The internal standard was set at 62 3/4 lb.

The New South Wales fair average quality has been fixed at 62 lb. bulk and 61 lb. bagged. At the request of the Australian Wheat Board the Standard Committee also fixed a standard for what is to be known as N.S.W.-B. grade wheat at 57 lb. bulk and 56 lb. bagged.

Shipments Affected by Waterside Strike      A strike on the Australian water front is causing concern to the Australian Wheat Board, who have chartered ships for loading grain for export. The strike has been on for three weeks now, and has seriously hampered the Government's export drive. Wool sales have been cancelled until the strike is over, and it is feared that wheat importers may buy wheat from other countries and sales may be permanently lost to Australia.

At the time of writing (February 10) indications are that the waterside workers will resume work in a few days time, but nothing definite has been settled yet.

A representative of the Australian Wheat Board disclosed that 20 million bushels of wheat valued at £13 million to £14 million (\$29 to 31 million), on firm contract to the United Kingdom, the Continent and Eastern countries, were due for shipment by the end of March. If the contracts were not fulfilled they could be lost by default. About 60 shiploads of wheat were involved in the contract.

Storage Situation      The chairman of the Australian Wheat Board said that all storage in Australia was full, but weevil damage in the big accumulated stocks was less than the Board had expected, although there would always be some trouble from weevils where grain was stored for a year or two.

Sales      In a review of the wheat situation recently, the Australian Wheat Board chairman said that the Board had reason to hope that wheat sales this year will exceed those of last year. Export sales had brightened during the past three months, he said. Big British groups were taking a proportion of their grists from Australia, Japan had bought high protein consignments and India had bought nine cargoes in one week recently.

A member of the Wheat Board announced that sales of wheat for the four weeks ending January 4 totalled 15,373,000 bushels. Of this quantity, 3,630,000 bushels were taken by the local flour and produce trade, and the balance of 11,743,000 bushels was sold to 31 different overseas buyers at prices ranging from 13/- to 12/- (\$1.46 to \$1.35) f.o.b. Australian ports. The biggest sales made were 3,043,000 bushels to India, 2.5 million bushels (as flour) to Ceylon, and 2 million bushels to Japan. The sales to Japan were made at a premium on the basis of a guaranteed minimum protein content. This was 12 per cent for shipment from Queensland and 11 1/2 per cent from New South Wales.

During the 14 days ended January 31 it was reported that the Australian Wheat Board disposed of the following quantities of wheat: for local flour 1,371,000 bushels; for local produce trade 683,000 bushels; for export flour 616,000 bushels and for export wheat 1,489,000 bushels.

With the upward revision of the estimate for the 1955-56 crop, and with the hold-up in shipments caused by the waterfront strike, even if sustained selling all the year round is maintained, it is probable that by the end of the crop year (November 30) Australia will have a larger carryover than last year's 91.6 million bushels of wheat.

Value of Wheat Exports up Australia's wheat exports in 1954-55 were valued at £A45.2 million (\$101.4 million), compared with £A31.0 million (\$69.5 million) a year earlier, but were well below the £A55.3 and £A52.0 million (\$124.1 and \$116.7 million) received in the peak years 1951-52 and 1952-53, respectively.

Exports of flour were valued at £A21.2 million (\$47.6 million) in 1954-55 compared with £A30.6 million (\$68.6 million) in 1953-54 and £A37.5 million (\$84.1 million) in 1952-53.

Flour Freights Raised According to the press, overseas shipping firms have announced an increase of 15/- a ton on flour freight (3 cents per bushel of wheat equivalent) from February 1, 1956. This will bring the freight for Australian flour to Malaya and Indonesia to 155/- a ton (34 cents per bushel of wheat equivalent). Australia sent more than 400,000 tons of flour (20,571,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) to Malaya, Indonesia and Ceylon last year.

The chairman of the New South Wales Flour Millers' Council said the increased rates might deprive Australia of flour markets. Competition is very keen and the new rates would put an extra burden on the industry, especially as Australia had to compete with countries which subsidised their flour exports.

Wheat Storage in United Kingdom not Favoured Following on reports of a statement by an English flour miller that the Australian Wheat Board refused to sell wheat to English millers in less than 5,000 tons (187,000 bushels) lots, the executive of the Wheat and Woolgrowers Association of New South Wales asked the Wheat Board to investigate the possibility of storing Australian wheat in England, so that small consumers could be supplied in lots of less than a shipload.

The chairman of the Wheat Board stated that storing wheat in warehouses in Britain was not a practical proposition, particularly in small lots. A representative of the Wheat Board said that the position as stated by the English flour miller was not correct.

The chairman said that for about two years the Board has been following the policy of having 50,000 to 60,000 tons (1,867,000 to 2,240,000 bushels) chartered unsold all the time. As the unallotted charters load in Australia or move along to Britain, the London committee of the Australian Wheat Board sells their cargoes, in parcels if need be, or as whole cargoes if nearby positions are required. He said that the Board have been able to satisfy the smaller millers by that process, and have split cargoes up to lots of 250 tons (9,300 bushels) upwards, to meet buyers' demands.

1955-56 Wheat  
Payments Delayed

In answering growers' complaints of slow payments for 1955-56 wheat, a member of the Australian Wheat Board stated that the Board was making every effort to effect payments as quickly as possible.

Apart from No. 19 Pool's later start, other factors which did not occur in the previous season and which had caused slower payments this year, were:

(a) There were three pools (Nos. 19- 19a- 19b) causing a multiplicity of claims, where one claim would have been lodged for the same quantity of wheat for all of one quality as in former Pools.

(b) The large quantity of dockage wheat and the multiple scale of dockage charges had caused much extra work and calculation. Where joint deliveries were made and subsequently individual claims were lodged for the proportion of the joint deliveries, the total dockage had to be analyzed and each individual claim noted with its share of the dockage, distinguishing the various rates.

At the best possible rate of progress, these payments should be completed by the first week in March.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to  
January 28, 1955-56 and Corresponding Period 1954-55

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
- thousand bushels -				
Aden and Aden I/T .....	-	4	237	160
Borneo .....	-	-	2	-
British North Borneo .....	-	-	40	15
British Somaliland .....	-	-	-	1
British West Indies .....	2	-	-	13
Brunei .....	-	-	5	4
Burma .....	-	20	173	16
Ceylon .....	8	-	1,696	1,245
Cocos Islands .....	-	-	-	1/
Cyprus .....	-	-	-	1/
Dutch New Guinea .....	-	-	6	9
Egypt .....	-	-	-	3
Egypt (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	-	5
Eire .....	670	-	-	-
French Somaliland .....	-	-	2	11
Germany .....	806	480	-	-
Hadhrmaut .....	-	-	1	-
Hong Kong .....	38	79	-	-
Hong Kong (General) .....	-	-	65	52
Hong Kong (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	10	12
India .....	4,157	-	-	-



Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to  
January 28, 1955-56 and Corresponding Period 1954-55

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
- thousand bushels -				
Indonesia .....	-	-	1,151	1,968
Iraq .....	-	614	-	-
Italy .....	-	-	5	4
Japan .....	36	2,312	-	-
Kure (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	3	7
Libya .....	-	-	27	-
Malaya .....	114	54	-	-
Malaya (General) .....	-	-	1,595	1,047
Malaya (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	24	11
Malta .....	281	193	-	-
Mauritius .....	-	-	207	104
New Zealand .....	1,531	1,400	-	-
Nyasaland .....	7	5	3	4
Pacific Islands .....	-	-	506	389
Palestine .....	-	-	6	-
Persian Gulf .....	36	44	76	34
Philippine Islands .....	-	-	12	15
Pondicherry .....	-	-	2	-
Port Said (a/c S/S) .....	-	-	9	16
Portuguese East Africa .....	137	-	-	-
Portuguese India .....	-	-	3	-
Rhodesia .....	699	111	-	-
Sarawak .....	-	-	28	22
Saudi Arabia .....	55	37	1	-
Seychelles Islands .....	-	-	10	3
Sudan .....	-	-	101	56
Tahiti .....	-	-	41	36
Thailand (Siam) .....	2	1	117	133
Timor .....	-	-	1	-
United Kingdom .....	3,398	1,664	399	276
Yemen .....	-	-	3	-
Yugoslavia .....	-	-	1/	-
Zanzibar .....	-	40	13	-
Royal Navy .....	-	-	3	3
Ships' Stores .....	-	-	19	25
Totals .....	11,977	7,058	6,600	5,700

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 February 20, 1956, 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. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of one franc equals .00285 Canadian dollars, the rate in effect on February 3, 1956.

Up to the end of January, wheat fields had developed well due to the mild weather, and sowings were 4 per cent higher than in the previous year. However, on February 1, widespread damage was caused by a drop of 25 degrees Centigrade in 48 hours, to temperatures ranging from minus 13 to minus 18 degrees Centigrade. At that time fields were very wet and there was no snow cover.

Alternate freezing and thawing since then has not permitted full appraisal of the situation, but reports indicate the destruction of over a million hectares (2.5 million acres) of wheat, ranging from 50 to 80 per cent destruction to the crop East of Paris where the wheat country suffered minus 14 degrees Centigrade, to lower percentages in the West. Preliminary statements from official sources indicate overall destruction of 30 per cent of the 4.4 million hectares (10.9 million acres) sown to wheat by January.

Preliminary calculations indicate that the 1956 wheat crop may be from 3 to 4 million tons (110.2 to 147 million bushels) below last season's 10.3 million (378.5 million bushels). Domestic requirements will be met, particularly in view of the quantities still on hand from last Summer's crop. However, there is speculation as to whether imports would eventually be made to cover export commitments and in order to retain France's position in the export market.

Spring sowings will obviously replace many of the frost-damaged fields but yields are considerably lower and it is not expected that sowings to Spring wheat would cover more than half of the area destroyed by frost. Barley will be sown on much of the remaining land.

There has also been concern lest seed supplies be inadequate for Spring sowing. Immediately after the frost, the Grain Board

- (1) suspended exports of seed wheat;
- (2) blocked supplies held by co-operatives and merchants;
- (3) made a survey of availabilities.

Arrangements have been made to import quantities of seed reported at around 30,000 tons (1,102,000 bushels) from North Africa.

The Wheat Producers Association has asked that full account be taken of this calamity when establishing the 1956 wheat price and that the government suspend such measures as the levy to offset export losses and the marketing quota.

French Supplies  
of Soft Wheat

The following is a preliminary estimate of French supplies of soft wheat for the 1955-56 crop year.

French Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56 1/
	- million bushels -
Commercial carryover, August 1 .....	51.7
Anticipated Deliveries to Grain Board .....	275.6 2/
Total Commercial Supplies .....	327.3
Less domestic requirements for crop year .....	183.7
Available for export and carryover .....	143.6
Deduct exports of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent August-December .....	37.8 3/
Balance January 1 for export and carryover .....	105.8

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Official estimate of Central Council of the Grain Board.

3/ Comprising 33.8 million bushels for Foreign countries and 4.0 million bushels for French Union - including exports of flour in wheat equivalent of 7.2 million bushels.

Principal Markets

The following countries have been the chief markets for French wheat and flour during the 1955-56 crop year to date.

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

Countries	Wheat and Flour	Countries	Wheat and Flour
	- thousand bushels -		- thousand bushels -
Denmark .....	1,654	Poland .....	5,133
Germany .....	5,300	Sweden .....	829
Lebanon .....	826	Switzerland .....	1,686
Netherlands .....	3,994	United Kingdom ....	8,749

Monthly Exports

As will be seen in the accompanying table, combined shipments of wheat and wheat flour, (in terms of grain equivalent) to foreign countries during the first five months of the current crop year are some 44 per cent above those of the preceding year. Exports to the French Union during August-December, 1955, are considerably lower than in the same months of 1954.



Monthly Wheat and Flour Exports, August 1,—December 31, 1955 and 1954

Month	Foreign Countries		French Union		Total	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
- thousand bushels -						
August, 1955 .....	2,171	5,277	1,078	610	3,249	5,887
September .....	3,108	3,104	1,066	667	4,174	3,771
October .....	4,882	7,750	1,152	884	6,034	8,635
November .....	5,163	9,281	978	588	6,142	9,869
December .....	8,095	8,409	921	1,209	9,016	9,618
Totals .....	23,419	33,821	5,195	3,959	28,614	37,780

By December 31, wheat deliveries to the Grain Board had totalled 6.1 million metric tons (224.1 million bushels), which is just slightly above the level reached by the end of 1954. The Central Council of the Grain Board estimates deliveries for the 1955-56 crop year at 7.5 million tons (275.6 million bushels); this is 200,000 (7,349,000 bushels) less than that registered the previous season, due to a slightly lower crop and to a reported greater use of wheat for feed.

Market Operations By mid-January, the trade reports that 1,865,000 tons (68,527,000 bushels) of wheat had been sold, of which 455,690 tons (16,744,000 bushels) was in the form of flour. Total export subsidies required for such shipments amount to 33.2 billion francs (\$95 million), of which 12 billion (\$35 million) is provided by the levy on farmers' deliveries. The average loss for such sales was 1,800 francs per quintal for wheat and 1,874 francs per quintal for flour.

On corn operations, the Grain Board is expected to break even because of the policy of taking a profit on imports to bring the price into line with that paid French growers - 3,600 francs per quintal (\$2.61 per bushel). Imports are understood to have yielded 924 million francs (\$2.6 million), which will cover 550 million francs (\$1.6 million) for the transport subsidy, 100 million francs (\$285,000) for storage of imported corn and 275 million francs (\$784,000) for discount on sales to farmers.

Deliveries of durum wheat to the Board by December 31 at 16,152 metric tons (593,000 bushels) were about one-quarter higher than at the end of 1954. It is expected that these supplies, along with the North African surplus of 226,100 tons (8,308,000 bushels) will easily cover French requirements of 223,000 tons (8,194,000 bushels) and allow a small quantity for export.

In assuring that adequate supplies of barley are on hand, the Grain Board Council has recommended that the import quotas be raised from 5,000 to 15,000 tons (230,000 to 689,000 bushels) for feed and from 10,000 to 20,000 tons (459,000 to 919,000 bushels) for brewers barley. It is understood that the first quota of 5,000 tons (230,000 bushels) of barley from Morocco was acquired by the Grain Board on the basis of 2,083 francs per quintal (\$1.29 per bushel) f.o.b. Casablanca for

minimum specific weight of 58 kilos per hectolitre (46 pounds per bushel) and 3 per cent foreign matter. This barley will be resold at 2,590 francs per quintal (\$1.61 per bushel) unsacked, f.o.b. French port.

Credits for Various Subsidies on Wheat By decree of January 20, supplementary credits totalling 11.6 billion francs (\$33.1 million) were allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture to subsidize wheat and bread as follows:

450 million francs (\$1.3 million) to keep down the price of bread in the Overseas Territories.

3 billion francs (\$8.6 million) to subsidize bread in France.

8.2 billion francs (\$23.4 million) to offset losses on wheat exports.

#### CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- February 13 The December census of winter crops in the Netherlands indicates an increase of 43 per cent in the area sown to winter wheat, from 96,000 acres in 1954 to a level of 137,800 acres in 1955.
- 23 The United States Department of Agriculture announced issuance to Egypt of authorization to purchase approximately 4.5 million bushels of wheat from U.S. supplies under Title 1 of Public Law 480.
- 27 A report from the Canadian Agricultural Secretary, London, indicates that wheat acreage in England and Wales declined from 2,376,000 acres in 1954 to 1,895,000 in 1955, however, the average yield during the period rose from 41.5 to 49.8 bushels per acre and as a result the 1955 production of 94.3 million bushels was only 6 per cent below that of the preceding year.
- 29 A trade agreement between Canada and the U.S.S.R. was announced in the House of Commons by the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce.
- March 2 A revised estimate places the gross value of production of Canada's 1954 wheat crop, based on prices received by farmers during the 1954-55 crop year at \$350 million. This total will be further increased by final payments to be made on that part of the wheat crop marketed through the Canadian Wheat Board.
- 7 Royal assent was given in the House of Commons to two bills on grain legislation with respect to (1) payment of carrying costs of temporary wheat reserves (2) provision for short term credit to grain producers in the Prairie Provinces.
- According to a cable received from the Commonwealth Statistician the 1955-56 Australian wheat crop is estimated at 195.6 million bushels.
- 12 According to the Foreign Agricultural Service world wheat production is estimated at 7,285 million bushels, one of the largest crops on record and exceeded only by the harvests of 1952 and 1953.







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