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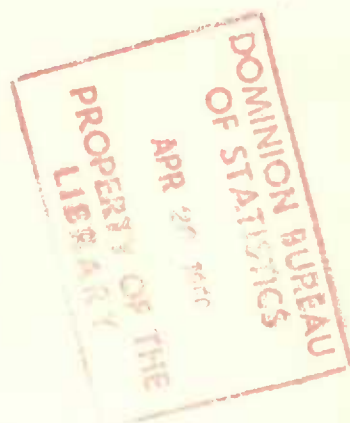
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CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURE DIVISION



THE WHEAT REVIEW



MARCH, 1956

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THE
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MARCH, 1956

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about March 1, 1956 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,148.9 million bushels, about 4 per cent more than the 2,058.7 million available a year ago. Supplies at March 1, 1956 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: United States, 1,165.9 (1,120.0); Canada, 697.1 (599.2); Australia, 196.3 (161.9); and Argentina, 89.6 (177.6). 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 seven months (August—February) of the Canadian crop year, at 405.4 million bushels, are 8 per cent lower than the 439.2 million exported during the corresponding period of 1954-55. Shipments from each of the four countries during the period August, 1955—February, 1956 and for the comparable period of the preceding five crop years are shown in the table below.

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

| August—February | United States | Canada | Argentina | Australia | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|--------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| - million bushels - | | | | | |
| 1950-51 | 160.2 | 119.6 | 42.6 | 70.0 | 392.4 |
| 1951-52 | 280.4 | 177.6 | 23.8 | 56.2 | 538.0 |
| 1952-53 | 197.7 | 207.8 | 3.2 | 45.9 | 454.6 |
| 1953-54 | 111.0 | 152.7 | 69.2 | 34.7 | 367.6 |
| 1954-55 1/ | 154.8 | 152.3 | 78.2 | 53.9 | 439.2 |
| 1955-56 2/ | 147.3 | 136.7 | 72.8 | 48.6 | 405.4 |

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

Conference on International Wheat Agreement Adjourns

According to press reports from Geneva, the conference which has been meeting at Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations for the purpose of evolving a new International Wheat Agreement has adjourned without reaching a binding decision. The Conference will reconvene in London on April 16. The 60 delegations at the Conference included 40 importing countries and seven exporting countries. Eleven countries were represented by observers while two groups represented international organizations.

World Breadgrain Production

World breadgrain production in 1955-56 is estimated at 261 million short tons, according to reports issued by the Foreign Agricultural Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. World wheat production, estimated at 7,285 million bushels, is one of the largest of record, being exceeded only by the harvests of 1952 and 1953. The current estimate is 325 million bushels larger than the 1954 total and 1,385 million

bushels more than the postwar (1945-49) average. The world rye crop is estimated at 1,520 million bushels, slightly less than in 1954 and near the 1945-49 level, though sharply below the prewar average.

North America's wheat harvest is now estimated at 1,463 million bushels. This is about 140 million bushels above the 1954 total but is, with that exception, the smallest outturn during the past 10 years. The current estimate is about 20 million bushels above the previous figure because of the increase in the estimate for the United States.

The crop of 938 million bushels in the United States grown under acreage allotments and marketing quotas was harvested from the smallest acreage since 1934. New record yields, however, brought production within 47 million bushels of the 1954 crop when the harvested acreage was 7 million acres larger than in 1955. Production in Canada is still estimated at 494 million bushels. Rye production in North America is estimated at 44 million bushels, little change from the previous estimate.

Wheat production in Western Europe is estimated at 1,384 million bushels. This is an all-time record for the area, and exceeds the large 1954 crop by 57 million bushels. It is 437 million bushels above the low 1945-49 average. New records were reported for France and Italy, the ranking producers. Rye production for the area was 265 million bushels. This is 35 million bushels less than the 1954 harvest. The reduction is attributed to smaller acreage and lower yields than in 1954. Production of both wheat and rye in Eastern Europe is slightly above the low level of a year ago, though still somewhat below the prewar level.

Official estimates for the Soviet Union are not available, but indications point to a substantially larger wheat crop than in 1954 but no significant change in the rye harvest. A sharp increase in wheat acreage accounts for the increased production. Spring wheat acreage was increased by about 27 million acres, and total wheat acreage now appears to be in excess of 150 million acres.

Lower yielding spring wheat now is believed to account for over 70 per cent of total wheat acreage. Unlike last year when weather conditions in the eastern regions of the Union were, for the most part, very favorable to yields, production there this year was adversely affected by a severe drought. This was only partially offset by somewhat better yields this year over a large part of the winter wheat belt of the South, which suffered from a severe drought in 1954.

Total wheat production in Asia is still estimated at 1,815 million bushels, an all-time record. Conditions varied widely within the area, with somewhat larger crops than last year in Turkey, India and Iran and smaller harvests in Pakistan, Syria, Iraq, and many minor producing countries. Rye production is considerably larger than in 1954 because of the larger crop in Turkey. This is the only rye producer of significance in the area.

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 | 6,851 | 4 | - | 3,563 | 10,418 | 13,465 |
| Bolivia | 4,042 | - | - | - | 3,991 | 3,991 | 51 |
| Brazil | 13,228 | - | - | - | 216 | 216 | 13,012 |
| Ceylon | 10,288 | - | 7,259 | 363 | - | 7,622 | 2,666 |
| Costa Rica | 1,286 | 397 | - | - | 504 | 901 | 385 |
| Cuba | 7,422 | 720 | - | - | 4,565 | 5,285 | 2,137 |
| Denmark | 1,837 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,837 |
| Dominican Republic . | 1,102 | 357 | - | - | 370 | 727 | 375 |
| Ecuador | 2,388 | 485 | - | - | 73 | 558 | 1,830 |
| Egypt | 14,697 | - | - | - | 6,577 | 6,577 | 8,120 |
| El Salvador | 735 | 153 | - | - | 472 | 625 | 110 |
| Germany | 55,116 | 17,440 | 7,055 | - | 15,742 | 40,237 | 14,879 |
| Greece | 12,860 | - | - | - | 8,534 | 8,534 | 4,326 |
| Guatemala | 1,286 | 110 | - | - | 247 | 357 | 929 |
| Haiti | 1,837 | 396 | - | - | 955 | 1,351 | 486 |
| Honduras Republic .. | 735 | 24 | - | - | 251 | 275 | 460 |
| Iceland | 404 | 4 | - | - | 22 | 26 | 378 |
| India | 36,744 | - | 3,024 | - | 3,713 | 6,737 | 30,007 |
| Indonesia | 6,246 | - | 5,411 | - | 106 | 5,517 | 729 |
| Ireland | 10,105 | 3,031 | 1,019 | - | - | 4,050 | 6,055 |
| Israel | 8,267 | 724 | - | - | 235 | 959 | 7,308 |
| Italy | 3,674 | - | - | - | 2,604 | 2,604 | 1,070 |
| Japan | 36,744 | 15,756 | 6,756 | - | 11,905 | 34,417 | 2,327 |
| Jordan | 2,940 | - | - | - | 3 | 3 | 2,937 |
| Korea | 1,470 | - | - | - | - | - | 1,470 |
| Lebanon | 2,756 | - | - | - | 636 | 636 | 2,120 |
| Liberia | 73 | 7 | - | - | 19 | 26 | 47 |
| Mexico | 14,697 | - | - | - | 3,713 | 3,713 | 10,984 |
| Netherlands | 24,802 | 1,587 | 95 | - | 6,508 | 8,190 | 16,612 |
| New Zealand | 5,879 | - | 5,312 | - | - | 5,312 | 567 |
| Nicaragua 1/ | 367 | 131 | - | - | 229 | 360 | - |
| Norway | 8,451 | 3,485 | - | - | 2,390 | 5,875 | 2,576 |
| Panama | 845 | 191 | - | - | 338 | 529 | 316 |
| Peru | 7,349 | - | - | - | 33 | 33 | 7,316 |
| Philippines 1/ | 8,672 | 4,968 | 205 | - | 3,635 | 8,808 | - |
| Portugal | 7,349 | 313 | 594 | - | 2,887 | 3,794 | 3,555 |
| Saudi Arabia | 4,409 | - | - | - | 629 | 629 | 3,780 |
| Spain | 9,186 | - | - | - | 1,719 | 1,719 | 7,467 |
| Switzerland | 7,900 | 4,663 | - | - | - | 4,663 | 3,237 |
| Union of S. Africa . | 13,228 | 5,040 | - | - | 1,045 | 6,085 | 7,143 |
| Vatican City | 551 | - | - | - | 321 | 321 | 230 |
| Venezuela | 6,247 | 2,545 | - | - | 3,286 | 5,831 | 416 |
| Yugoslavia | 3,674 | - | - | - | 653 | 653 | 3,021 |
| Totals | 394,957 | 70,386 | 36,734 | 363 | 92,689 | 200,172 | |
| Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries) | | 153,077 | 45,013 | 344 | 196,523 | 394,957 | |
| Balance | | 82,691 | 8,279 | (19) | 103,834 | 194,785 | |

1/ Canadian Sales through March 27, 1956.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through March 23, 1956.

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

1/ Quota filled.

CANADIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Total supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1955-56 crop year total some 993.8 million bushels, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 499.7 million and the 1955 production of 494.1 million. The comparable 1954-55 total was 910.6 million bushels. After deducting 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 751.5 million in 1954-55.

Total exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the August-February period of the current crop year have amounted to 136.7 million bushels, about 10 per cent below the 152.3 million bushels exported during the same period of the preceding crop year. The balance on March 1, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 697.1 million bushels, 16 per cent above the 599.2 million on hand at March 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-January | 0.1 | 3/ |
| Total estimated supplies | 910.6 | 993.8 |
| Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year | 159.1 | 160.0 |
| Available for export and for carryover | 751.5 | 833.8 |
| Deduct: | | |
| Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, August-February. | 126.7 | 111.5 |
| Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-February | 2.2 | 3.1 |
| Total exports of wheat | 128.9 | 114.6 |
| Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-February | 23.4 4/ | 22.1 5/ |
| Total exports of wheat and wheat flour | 152.3 | 136.7 |
| Balance on March 1 for export and for carryover | 599.2 | 697.1 |

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.

Marketings of wheat by farmers in the three Prairie Provinces up to March 14 of the current crop year have amounted to some 134.5 million bushels, about 10 per cent below the comparable 1954-55 total of 150.0 million. During the four-week period February 16 to March 14 deliveries averaged some 3.2 million bushels as against an average weekly disappearance (overseas clearances, exports to United States and Canadian domestic use) of about 6.2 million bushels. Reflecting this situation the visible supply of Canadian wheat continued the gradual decline which commenced during the week ending January 4.

At March 14 this year the total visible supply of Canadian wheat was 344.1 million bushels, up slightly from the 336.3 million bushels at approximately mid-March a year ago but below the 362.8 million two years ago. The 197.9 million bushels in country elevators at March 14 showed relatively little change from supplies of 202.9 million and 198.5 million in this position at approximately the same date in 1955 and 1954, respectively. Lakehead stocks amounting to 50.5 million bushels were up considerably from last year's mid-March total of 40.4 million but were down somewhat from the total of 54.7 million of two years ago. The 19.9 million bushels held in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports were also up from the 1955 level of 16.2 million but were well below the 1954 total of 33.5 million. Supplies in forward eastern export positions (Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime ports) at 16.7 million bushels were down from both the 1955 and 1954 totals of 17.9 million and 19.2 million bushels, respectively. In addition, some 10.3 million bushels are in "Storage Afloat" as against 15.1 million bushels in this position last year and 10.4 million two years ago. In west coast ports (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert) supplies at mid-March this year totalled 10.1 million bushels compared with 8.7 million in 1955 and 12.7 million bushels in 1954.

February Exports
of Wheat and
Flour Total 21.0
Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour during February, 1956 amounted to 21.0 million bushels, some 6 per cent below the January total of 22.3 million bushels but 21 per cent above the February, 1955 figure of 17.4 million. The ten-year 1945-1954 average for the month of February was 16.8 million bushels.

Exports of wheat as grain during the month totalled 17.5 million bushels as against 19.5 million during January and 14.2 million during February, 1955. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 3.4 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during February, 1956. This amount exceeds both the January total of 2.8 million bushels and the adjusted February, 1955 figure of 3.2 million.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first seven months of the current crop year amounted to 114.6 million bushels, representing a decrease of about 11 per cent from the comparable 1954-55 total of 128.9 million bushels. The United Kingdom continued as Canada's leading market for wheat as grain, receiving shipments totalling 51.7 million bushels or 45 per cent of the August-February total. Other principal markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels, were as follows: Japan, 14.2; Federal Republic of Germany, 13.2; Belgium, 6.6; Poland, 6.5; Switzerland, 3.2; Netherlands, 3.1; United States, 3.1; Italy, 2.2; Austria, 2.2; Norway, 2.1; Union of South Africa, 1.8; and Ireland, 1.8.

Exports of wheat flour from the beginning of the current crop year to February 29, based on preliminary Customs returns, were the equivalent of 22.1

million bushels of wheat, about 6 per cent below the adjusted total of 23.4 million bushels exported during the same period of 1954-55. As with wheat as grain the United Kingdom continues to be the major market for Canadian wheat flour, accounting for the equivalent of 6.6 million bushels or 30 per cent of the seven-month total. Other major markets for Canadian wheat flour during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels of wheat equivalent were as follows: Philippine Islands, 3.3; Venezuela, 2.1; Trinidad and Tobago, 1.3; Jamaica, 0.9; Leeward and Windward Islands, 0.6; Belgian Congo, 0.5; and the Gold Coast, 0.5.

General Quota Position By April 4, out of a total of 2,080 shipping points in the Western Division, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 184 on a 5-bushel quota, 330 on a 4-bushel quota and 565 on a 3-bushel quota. Of the remaining points, 765 were on a 2-bushel quota, 221 were on a 1-bushel quota and 15 stations were reported as "closed".

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group
as at April 4, 1956

| Province | General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre | | | | | Closed Stations | Total |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|-----|-------|------|------|--------------------|-------|
| | One | Two | Three | Four | Five | | |
| Ontario | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Manitoba | 1 | 85 | 118 | 85 | 86 | 3 | 378 |
| Saskatchewan | 205 | 481 | 290 | 103 | 26 | 2 | 1,107 |
| Alberta | 15 | 197 | 157 | 142 | 69 | 9 | 589 |
| British Columbia . | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | - | 4 |
| All Provinces ... | 221 | 765 | 565 | 330 | 184 | 15 | 2,080 |

Continued from Page 2

No change has been made in Africa's estimates, and the total of 190 million bushels of wheat is about 30 million bushels less than in 1954. Reductions were reported for all Northern Hemisphere countries. A slight increase is reported for the Union of South Africa, the only important Southern Hemisphere producer of that continent. Rye is of no significance in Africa.

Wheat production in South America is now estimated at 300 million bushels. This is a substantial reduction from the earlier forecast, mainly because of deterioration in Argentina. Though sharply below the 1954 figure, the continental total is above average principally because of expansion in Brazil and Uruguay. Rye production is estimated at 29 million bushels. More than 95 per cent of the continent's rye is produced in Argentina. That country's crop is placed at 28 million bushels compared with the prewar average of about 10 million bushels and the 1954 outturn of 33 million.

Area Intended for Wheat 1956 On the basis of farmers' intentions at March 1, the acreage seeded to spring wheat will be 20.2 million acres, a decrease of over 700,000 acres from 1955 seedings and 4.8 million acres or 19.1 per cent below the 1950-54 average. If farmers' current plans are realized, wheat acreage in Canada in 1956 will register the fourth consecutive annual decrease. The major part of the 1956 anticipated decline in spring wheat acreage is in the Province of Alberta where a reduction of 10 per cent from 1955 seedings is indicated.

Intended Acreage of Spring Wheat in Canada, as at March 1, 1956
Compared with Acreages in 1955

| Province | Acreage Seeded in 1955 1/ acres | Acreage Intended to be Seeded in 1956 | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Per Cent of 1955 | Area 1956 1/ acres | Indicated Change acres |
| Prince Edward Island .. | 3,400 | 98 | 3,300 | - 100 |
| Nova Scotia | 1,000 | 100 | 1,000 | unchanged |
| New Brunswick | 2,200 | 100 | 2,200 | unchanged |
| Quebec | 12,200 | 96 | 11,700 | - 500 |
| Ontario | 27,000 | 96 | 25,900 | - 1,100 |
| Manitoba | 1,950,000 | 103 | 2,008,000 | + 58,000 |
| Saskatchewan | 13,148,000 | 99 | 12,957,000 | -191,000 |
| Alberta | 5,714,000 | 90 | 5,130,000 | -584,000 |
| British Columbia | 66,000 | 105 | 69,000 | + 3,000 |
| Totals | 20,923,800 | 96.6 | 20,208,100 | -715,700 |

1/ For provinces other than Ontario includes relatively small acreages of winter wheat for which annual estimates are not available.

The combined acreage of spring and winter wheat at 20.8 million acres will, if realized, be the smallest since 1943 and will be about 19 per cent below the five-year (1950-54) average of 25.7 million. Ontario's winter wheat acreage, based on the preliminary estimate issued last November, is placed at 640,000 acres, up 10 per cent from the acreage seeded in the fall of 1954. The relatively small amount of winter wheat grown in other provinces is included with spring wheat for the purposes of these estimates. Durum wheat is also included with spring wheat.

Indicated Acreage Changes from 1955 in the Prairie Provinces

| Crop | Manitoba | Saskatchewan | Alberta | Prairie Provinces |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
| - acres - | | | | |
| Wheat | + 58,000 | - 191,000 | - 584,000 | - 717,000 |
| Oats for grain | + 312,000 | + 37,000 | + 265,000 | + 614,000 |
| Barley | - 188,000 | - 231,000 | - 24,000 | - 443,000 |
| Rye | - 16,000 | - 130,000 | - 55,000 | - 201,000 |
| Flaxseed | + 330,000 | + 1,180,000 | + 307,000 | + 1,817,000 |
| Summerfallow | - 471,000 | - 550,000 | unchanged | - 1,021,000 |

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 | 10,778,849* |
| 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 | 516,679 | 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 |
| | 22 | 208,227 | 1,240,180 | 1,074,384 | 2,522,791 | 2,806,090 |
| | 29 | 195,086 | 849,338 | 1,161,480 | 2,205,904 | 1,526,166 |
| March | 7 | 396,436 | 2,319,894 | 2,071,449 | 4,787,779 | 1,889,922 |
| | 14 | 246,793 | 1,537,176 | 1,352,587 | 3,136,556 | 3,833,387 |
| Totals | | 15,040,723 | 79,005,792 | 40,465,361 | 134,511,876 | 149,973,463* |

Average similar period:

1944-45-1953-54. 32,746,017 147,881,865 76,001,427 256,629,310

*Revised.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, March 14, 1956
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1953 and 1954

| Position | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|
| | - thousand bushels - | | |
| Country elevators - Manitoba | 23,201 | 24,393 | 21,263 |
| Saskatchewan | 117,125 | 113,667 | 105,557 |
| Alberta | 58,220 | 64,850 | 71,055 |
| Totals | 198,546 | 202,911 | 197,876 |
| Interior private and mill | 6,542 | 7,100 | 6,407 |
| Interior terminals | 14,912 | 15,202 | 13,861 |
| Vancouver-New Westminster | 12,088 | 8,193 | 9,512 |
| Victoria | 562 | 472 | 575 |
| Prince Rupert | 53 | 53 | 37 |
| Churchill | 2,516 | 2,400 | 4,206 |
| Fort William-Port Arthur | 54,674 | 40,433 | 50,517 |
| Storage Afloat | 195 | - | 177 |
| In transit rail (Western Division) | 7,818 | 5,495 | 9,166 |
| Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports | 33,538 | 16,213 | 19,860 |
| Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports | 19,243 | 17,913 | 16,661 |
| Storage Afloat | 10,442 | 15,066 | 10,264 |
| In transit rail (Eastern Division) | 1,039 | 4,859 | 4,866 |
| United States ports | 609 | - | 94 |
| In transit U.S.A. | - | 23 | - |
| Totals | 362,777 | 336,332 | 344,078 |

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-February, 1955-56 with Comparisons

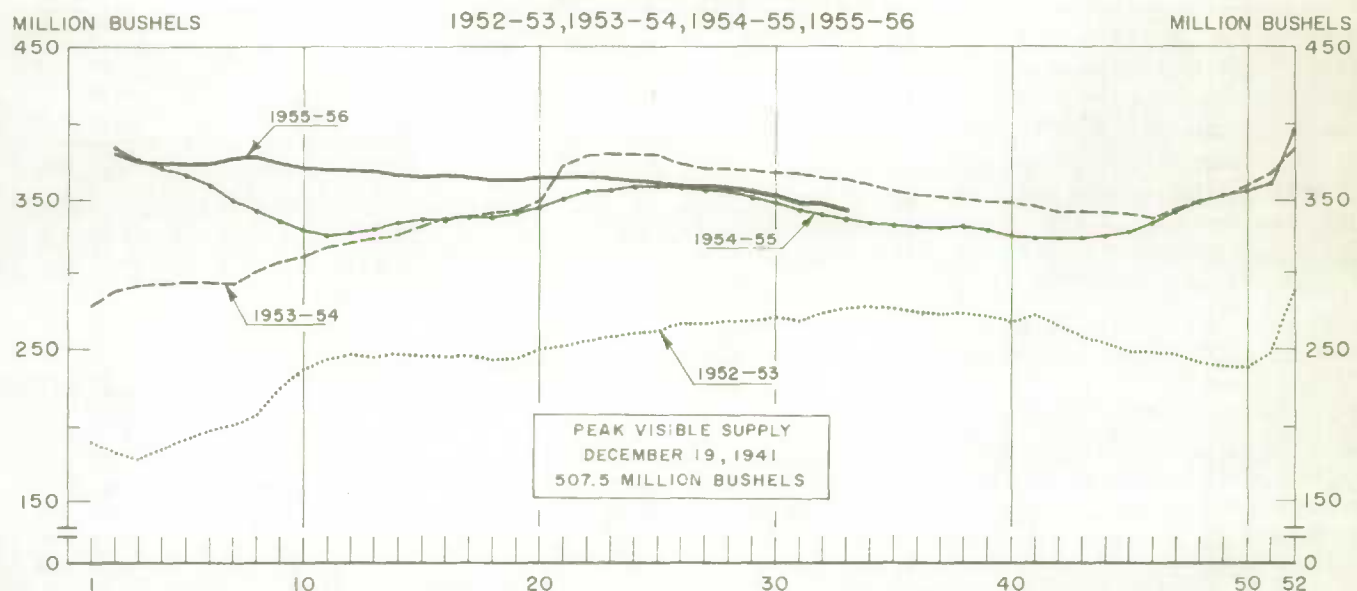
| Grade | Crop Year | | August-February | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|----------|
| | Average | 1954-55 | 1954-55 | | 1955-56 | |
| | 1949-50- 1953-54 | | cars | per cent | cars | per cent |
| 1 Hard | 1/ | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 Man. Northern | 7.6 | 4.3 | 4,892 | 5.3 | 3,296 | 3.7 |
| 2 Man. Northern | 30.8 | 35.8 | 38,232 | 41.5 | 31,549 | 35.3 |
| 3 Man. Northern | 16.1 | 26.4 | 21,376 | 23.2 | 22,346 | 25.0 |
| 4 Man. Northern | 8.0 | 8.3 | 5,565 | 6.0 | 4,480 | 5.0 |
| 5 Wheat | 8.2 | 4.5 | 2,760 | 3.0 | 6,893 | 7.7 |
| 6 Wheat | 4.2 | 2.2 | 1,408 | 1.5 | 2,914 | 3.3 |
| Feed Wheat | 0.7 | 1.0 | 706 | 0.8 | 500 | 0.6 |
| Garnet | 0.8 | 0.9 | 1,216 | 1.3 | 415 | 0.5 |
| Amber Durum | 2.3 | 1.8 | 2,283 | 2.5 | 5,472 | 6.1 |
| Alberta Winter | 0.3 | 0.4 | 402 | 0.4 | 368 | 0.4 |
| Toughs 2/ 3/ | 16.2 | 11.9 | 11,195 | 12.2 | 7,156 | 8.0 |
| Damps 2/ 4/ | 3.6 | 0.3 | 323 | 0.4 | 9 | 1/ |
| Rejected 2/ | 0.7 | 2.1 | 1,366 | 1.5 | 3,376 | 3.8 |
| All Others | 0.5 | 0.4 | 391 | 0.4 | 486 | 0.5 |
| Totals | 100.0 | 100.0 | 92,115 | 100.0 | 89,260 | 100.0 |

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

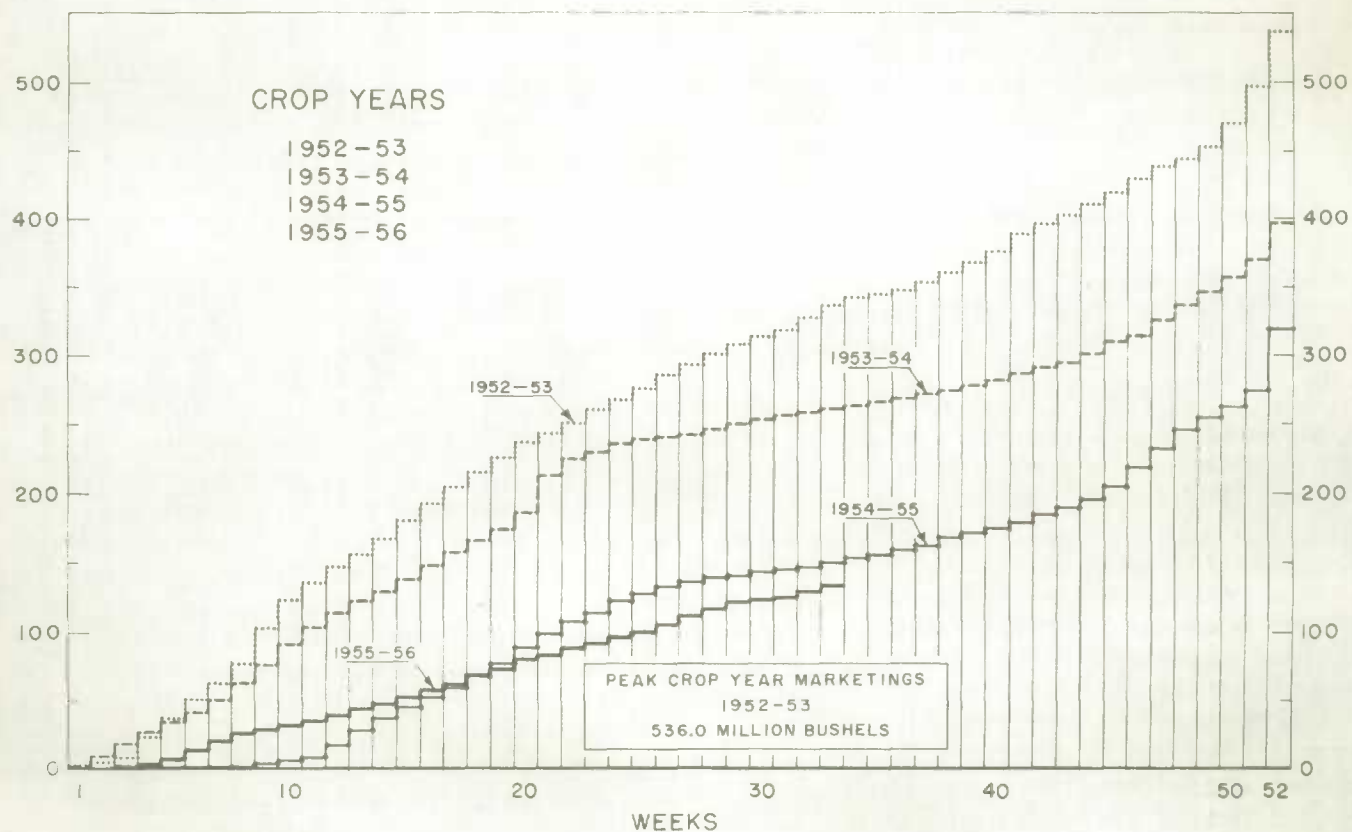
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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 March 14, 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 | - | 668,626 |
| Milwaukee | 15,940 | - | 52,923 |
| Chicago | - | - | 234,616 |
| Huron | - | 40,000 | - |
| Buffalo | 2,684,191 | 1,683,591 | 613,571 |
| Totals, Vessel | 2,726,672 | 1,723,591 | 1,569,736 |
| <u>By Rail</u> | | | |
| U.S.A. Seaboard Ports | 16,534 | 23,126 | 1,333 |
| Other U.S.A. Points | 1,508,780 | 461,149 | 1,406,754 |
| Totals, Rail | 1,525,314 | 484,275 | 1,408,087 |
| Totals, Shipments | 4,251,986 | 2,207,866 | 2,977,823 |

*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 March 14, amounted to some 3.0 million bushels, somewhat above the 2.2 million shipped during the corresponding period of 1954-55 but below the 4.3 million of two years ago. Slightly more than half of this season's total movement to date has been moved by vessel.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first seven months of the current crop year totalled 20.2 million bushels as against 18.8 million during the August-February 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 February 28, 1955 | August 1, 1955 to February 29, 1956 |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| - bushels - | | |
| Port McNicoll | 5,032,038 | 5,748,712 |
| Midland | 7,884,868 | 7,473,056 |
| Collingwood | 1,349,450 | 1,175,633 |
| Owen Sound | 1,752,331 | 2,528,041 |
| Goderich | 491,678 | 525,289 |
| Sarnia | 2,283,164 | 2,749,989 |
| Walkerville | 9,334 | - |
| Totals | 18,802,863 | 20,200,720 |

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 | 1,735,097 |
| 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, February, 1956

| Grade | Prince Edward Island | Nova Scotia | New Brunswick | Quebec | Ontario | U.S.A. |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| - bushels - | | | | | | |
| 1 Northern | - | - | - | 6,000 | - | - |
| 2 Northern | - | 380,000 | 249,866 | 26,000 | - | - |
| 3 Northern | - | - | - | 28,000 | - | - |
| 5 Wheat | - | 5,167 | 1,333 | 83,385 | 19,956 | 1,583 |
| 6 Wheat | - | - | - | 3,000 | 3,500 | 504,433 |
| Feed | - | - | - | 1,500 | 1,500 | - |
| Toughs | - | - | 4,431 | 22,804 | 32,275 | - |
| Rejected | - | - | 6,004 | 48,531 | 4,474 | - |
| Amber Durum | - | 171,000 | 20,000 | 7,000 | 79,009 | - |
| All Others | 2,885 | 1,469 | - | 4,317 | 15,674 | - |
| Totals | 2,885 | 557,636 | 281,634 | 230,538 | 156,388 | 506,017 |

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1955-March 14, 1956, with Comparisons

| Ports | Wheat | Oats | Barley | Rye | Flaxseed |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| - bushels - | | | | | |
| <u>Pacific Seaboard</u> | | | | | |
| Vancouver-New Westminster | 49,318,527 | 268,663 | 5,659,580 | 284,607 | 532,308 |
| Victoria | 1,171,412 | - | - | - | - |
| Prince Rupert | 354,667 | - | 2,204,533 | - | - |
| <u>Churchill</u> | 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 | 1,583,440 | - | - | - | - |
| West Saint John | 13,243,176 | 49,420 | 69,928 | 152,796 | 2,075,440 |
| Halifax | 10,960,741 | - | - | - | 978,047 |
| <u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u> | 182,333 | - | - | 92,163 | - |
| Totals | 120,346,755 | 1,558,531 | 15,175,736 | 2,168,006 | 8,990,659 |
| August 1, 1954-March 16, 1955 .. | 136,203,829 | 3,987,403 | 34,365,890 | 2,391,099 | 3,557,732 |

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to February 29, 1956 represent the movement of some 7,960 thousand bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the first six months of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims has already exceeded by a narrow margin the revised August-January, 1954-55 total of 7,598 thousand bushels. Approximately 76 per cent of the current year's shipments went to destinations in Ontario and Quebec, 12 per cent to British Columbia and the remainder to the Maritime Provinces.

**Provincial Distribution of Wheat Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August-January, 1955-56 and 1954-55**

| 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 | 194 | 1,325 |
| October | 11 | 15 | 57 | 48 | 543 | 446 | 167 | 1,288 |
| November | 12 | 22 | 90 | 58 | 581 | 535 | 217 | 1,515 |
| December | 3 | 12 | 81 | 44 | 598 | 511 | 110 | 1,358 |
| January, 1956 | 3 | 16 | 43 | 42 | 541 | 466 | 45 | 1,156 |
| Totals 1/ | 46 | 112 | 460 | 303 | 3,245 | 2,837 | 957 | 7,960 |
| Same period 1954-55: | | | | | | | | |
| Preliminary 2/ | 38 | 49 | 394 | 234 | 2,824 | 2,303 | 1,148 | 6,990 |
| Revised 1/ | 45 | 52 | 427 | 254 | 2,910 | 2,426 | 1,485 | 7,598 |

Preliminary data on the movement of millfeeds under the freight assistance policy indicate that, on the basis of claims filed up to February 29, 1956 a total of 254,948 tons were shipped during the August-January period of the current crop year. Over the same period of 1954-55 claims had been filed for 248,625 tons, indicating on the assumption of approximately the same rate of submission of claims during both the current and preceding crop years that the 1955-56 August-January shipments under the policy were running slightly above those of 1954-55. Revised data on millfeed shipments during the first half of the preceding crop year, based on claims submitted up to February 29, 1956 place the total at 276,714 tons.

**Provincial Distribution of Millfeed Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August-January, 1955-56 and 1954-55**

| Province | 1954-55 | | 1955-56 |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|
| | Preliminary 2/ | Revised 1/ | Preliminary 1/ |
| - tons - | | | |
| Newfoundland | 1,472 | 1,771 | 1,803 |
| Prince Edward Island | 3,010 | 3,320 | 3,670 |
| Nova Scotia | 15,570 | 17,917 | 17,192 |
| New Brunswick | 14,160 | 15,550 | 15,695 |
| Quebec | 127,190 | 137,412 | 129,937 |
| Ontario | 68,274 | 75,687 | 70,330 |
| British Columbia | 18,949 | 25,057 | 16,321 |
| Totals | 248,625 | 276,714 | 254,948 |

1/ Based on claims filed up to February 29, 1956.

2/ Based on claims filed up to February 28, 1955.

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 4/</u> | | | | | |
| August | 19,777 | 469 | 2,673 | 22,920 | 20,830 |
| September | 14,877 | 292 | 3,462 | 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 | 2,792 5/ | 22,320 5/ | 19,057 5/ |
| February | 16,985 | 537 | 3,445 | 20,967 | 23,764 |
| Totals | 111,536 | 3,058 | 22,091 | 136,686 | 137,020 |

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. Wheat flour conversion rate: 4.5 bushels per barrel of 196 pounds.

4/ Subject to revision. Wheat flour conversion rate: 2.3 bushels per cwt.

5/ Revised.

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

| Destination | November | February | | August-February | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Wheat Flour 1/2/ | Wheat Flour 2/ | Wheat 3/ | Wheat Flour 2/ | Wheat 3/ |
| | | | - bushels - | | |
| COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES | | | | | |
| United Kingdom | 1,130,697 | 1,103,478 | 8,014,504 | 6,562,878 | 51,694,504 |
| Africa | | | | | |
| British East Africa | 1,542 | 2,063 | - | 9,122 | - |
| Gambia | 920 | 3,961 | - | 28,872 | - |
| Gold Coast | 57,576 | 42,410 | - | 451,290 | - |
| Nigeria | 13,186 | 39,902 | - | 187,068 | - |
| Other British West Africa | - | - | - | 13,158 | - |
| Rhodesia | - | - | 22,400 | - | 281,867 |
| Sierra Leone | 26,403 | 11,815 | - | 178,579 | - |
| Union of South Africa | - | - | 373,333 | - | 1,844,267 |
| Asia | | | | | |
| Ceylon | - | - | - | 113,146 | - |
| Hong Kong | 36,781 | 61,323 | 37,333 | 364,359 | 401,874 |
| Malaya and Singapore | 27,282 | 66,412 | - | 239,552 | - |
| Europe | | | | | |
| Gibraltar | 12,866 | 9,274 | - | 53,560 | - |
| Malta | - | - | - | - | 420,000 |
| North America | | | | | |
| Bahamas | 14,822 | 30,199 | - | 142,795 | - |
| Barbados | 28,874 | 37,460 | - | 207,925 | 833 |
| Bermuda | 6,888 | 13,455 | - | 64,913 | - |
| British Honduras | 1,253 | 2,360 | - | 25,261 | - |
| Jamaica | 117,294 | 252,181 | - | 871,113 | 8,264 |
| Leeward and Windward Islands ... | 94,438 | 101,984 | - | 615,149 | - |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 269,910 | 153,879 | - | 1,327,571 | 1,877 |
| Oceania | | | | | |
| Fiji | - | 920 | - | 920 | - |
| South America | | | | | |
| British Guiana | 3,128 | 11,762 | - | 31,349 | - |
| Totals, Commonwealth Countries. | 1,841,860 | 1,944,838 | 8,447,570 | 11,488,580 | 54,653,486 |
| FOREIGN COUNTRIES | | | | | |
| Africa | | | | | |
| Azores and Madeira | 8,967 | 6,037 | - | 36,952 | - |
| Belgian Congo | 74,752 | 42,941 | - | 488,078 | 4,592 |
| Ethiopia | - | - | - | - | 1,333 |
| Liberia | 284 | 630 | - | 8,238 | - |
| Morocco | 5,053 | - | - | 31,434 | - |
| Portuguese East Africa | 3,057 | 1,771 | 12,416 | 8,830 | 74,666 |
| Portuguese West Africa | 6,483 | 575 | - | 44,894 | - |
| Asia | | | | | |
| Arabia | 2,380 | 1,658 | - | 12,510 | 20,209 |
| Israel | - | - | - | - | 724,266 |
| Japan | 160,525 | 26,685 | 1,260,052 | 394,298 | 14,210,250 |
| Korea | - | - | 50 | 50,706 | 50 |
| Lebanon | 5,356 | 35,356 | - | 107,999 | - |
| Philippine Islands | 899,540 | 507,302 | - | 3,277,512 | - |
| Portuguese Asia | 3,818 | 24,962 | - | 76,790 | - |
| Syria | - | 228 | - | 1,309 | - |
| Thailand | 29,888 | 37,145 | - | 182,627 | - |
| Europe | | | | | |
| Austria | - | - | - | - | 2,158,834 |
| Belgium | 31,074 | 96,287 | 789,506 | 188,204 | 6,603,712 |

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

| Destination | November | February | | August-February | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | Wheat Flour 1/2/ | Wheat Flour 2/ | Wheat 3/ | Wheat Flour 2/ | Wheat 3/ |
| - bushels - | | | | | |
| FOREIGN COUNTRIES | | | | | |
| Europe | | | | | |
| Denmark | 226 | 225 | - | 1,352 | - |
| Finland | - | - | - | - | 368,106 |
| France | - | 759 | - | 759 | - |
| Germany, Federal Republic | - | - | 3,033,261 | 198,469 | 13,193,229 |
| Greece | 18,014 | 5,440 | - | 54,722 | - |
| Iceland | - | - | - | 11,546 | - |
| Ireland | - | - | 210,933 | - | 1,829,333 |
| Italy | 41,577 | - | 178,659 | 145,976 | 2,219,474 |
| Netherlands | - | - | 1,394,736 | 483 | 3,106,594 |
| Norway | - | - | 200,107 | - | 2,073,460 |
| Poland | - | - | 735,467 | - | 6,544,902 |
| Portugal | - | 8,073 | - | 11,350 | - |
| Switzerland | - | - | 621,396 | - | 3,151,230 |
| Yugoslavia | - | - | - | 6,898 | - |
| North America | | | | | |
| American Virgin Islands | 3,805 | 978 | - | 16,581 | - |
| Costa Rica | 52,856 | 32,722 | - | 335,561 | - |
| Cuba | 69,428 | 58,581 | - | 355,582 | 1,000 |
| Dominican Republic | 27,080 | 52,325 | - | 277,401 | 2,500 |
| El Salvador | 24,586 | 21,061 | - | 189,407 | - |
| French West Indies | 460 | 115 | - | 1,720 | - |
| Guatemala | 34,171 | 4,982 | - | 221,294 | 12,519 |
| Haiti | 94,645 | 29,187 | - | 368,251 | - |
| Honduras | 5,062 | 4,370 | - | 47,380 | - |
| Netherlands Antilles | 13,181 | 20,488 | - | 137,386 | - |
| Nicaragua | 27,305 | 13,729 | - | 198,117 | - |
| Panama | 22,306 | 31,770 | - | 178,110 | - |
| St. Pierre and Miquelon | 171 | 1,840 | - | 10,194 | - |
| United States | | | | | |
| Flour in terms of wheat | 56,075 | 77,303 | - | 448,866 | - |
| For domestic use 1/ | - | - | 537,482 | - | 3,058,438 |
| Oceania | | | | | |
| French Oceania | 14,903 | - | - | 41,920 | - |
| Guam | 9,841 | 276 | - | 27,207 | - |
| South America | | | | | |
| Bolivia | - | - | - | 3,452 | - |
| Chile | - | - | - | 2,183 | - |
| Colombia | 28,157 | 17,020 | - | 147,616 | 735 |
| Ecuador | - | - | 100,498 | - | 576,326 |
| Peru | 4,251 | 7,592 | - | 27,586 | - |
| Surinam | 22,179 | 21,137 | - | 105,722 | - |
| Venezuela | 195,958 | 308,126 | - | 2,119,305 | 5,253 |
| Totals, Foreign Countries | 1,997,414 | 1,499,676 | 9,074,563 | 10,602,777 | 59,941,011 |
| Totals, All Countries | 3,839,274 | 3,444,514 | 17,522,133 | 22,091,357 | 114,594,497 |

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 | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | February 24 | March 2 | March 9 | March 16 |

- cents and eighths per bushel -

Initial Payment to Producers

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 |

International Wheat Agreement

and Domestic Sales

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 Northern | 174 | 174/6 | 175/6 | 175/6 |
| 2 Northern | 170 | 170/6 | 171/6 | 171/6 |
| 3 Northern | 164 | 164/6 | 165/6 | 165/6 |
| 4 Northern | 153/6 | 153/6 | 153/6 | 155/1 |
| 5 Wheat | 125 | 126/2 | 128 | 130 |
| 6 Wheat | 121 | 122/2 | 124 | 126 |
| Feed Wheat | 117 | 118/2 | 120 | 122 |
| 1 C.W. Garnet | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 |
| 2 C.W. Garnet | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 |
| 3 C.W. Garnet | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 |
| 1 Alberta Red Winter | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 |
| 2 Alberta Winter | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 |
| 3 Alberta Winter | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 |
| 1 C.W. Amber Durum | 204/6 | 204/6 | 204/6 | 204/6 |
| 2 C.W. Amber Durum | 202/6 | 202/6 | 202/6 | 202/6 |
| 3 C.W. Amber Durum | 201/6 | 201/6 | 201/6 | 201/6 |

Exports - Class II

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 Northern | 174 | 174/6 | 175/6 | 175/6 |
| 2 Northern | 170 | 170/6 | 171/6 | 171/6 |
| 3 Northern | 164 | 164/6 | 165/6 | 165/6 |
| 4 Northern | 153/6 | 153/6 | 153/6 | 155/1 |
| 5 Wheat | 125 | 126/2 | 128 | 130 |
| 6 Wheat | 121 | 122/2 | 124 | 126 |
| Feed Wheat | 117 | 118/2 | 120 | 122 |
| 1 C.W. Garnet | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 |
| 2 C.W. Garnet | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 |
| 3 C.W. Garnet | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 |
| 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 | | | |
|-----------------|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | February 24 | March 2 | March 9 | March 16 |

- cents and eighths per bushel -

Initial Payment to Producers

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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 |

International Wheat Agreement

and Domestic Sales

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 Northern | 172/6 | 172/6 | 172/6 | 172/6 |
| 2 Northern | 168/6 | 168/6 | 168/6 | 168/6 |
| 3 Northern | 162/6 | 162/6 | 162/6 | 162/6 |
| 4 Northern | 153/6 | 153/6 | 153/6 | 154/4 |
| 5 Wheat | 123 | 124/2 | 126 | 128/5 |
| 6 Wheat | 119 | 120/2 | 122 | 124/5 |
| Feed Wheat | 115 | 116/2 | 118 | 120/5 |
| 1 C.W. Garnet | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 |
| 2 C.W. Garnet | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 |
| 3 C.W. Garnet | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 |
| 1 Alberta Red Winter | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 |
| 2 Alberta Winter | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 |
| 3 Alberta Winter | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 |

Export - Class II

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1 Northern | 172/6 | 172/6 | 172/6 | 172/6 |
| 2 Northern | 168/6 | 168/6 | 168/6 | 168/6 |
| 3 Northern | 162/6 | 162/6 | 162/6 | 162/6 |
| 4 Northern | 153/6 | 153/6 | 153/6 | 154/4 |
| 5 Wheat | 123 | 124/2 | 126 | 128/5 |
| 6 Wheat | 119 | 120/2 | 122 | 124/5 |
| Feed Wheat | 115 | 116/2 | 118 | 120/5 |
| 1 C.W. Garnet | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 | 144/6 |
| 2 C.W. Garnet | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 | 140/6 |
| 3 C.W. Garnet | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 | 137/6 |
| 1 Alberta Red Winter | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 | 143/6 |
| 2 Alberta Winter | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 | 139/6 |
| 3 Alberta Winter | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 | 135/6 |

Licensed Storage Capacity of Canadian Grain Elevators
as at March 31, 1956

| Province | Kind of Licence | Elevators, including Permanent and Temporary Annexes | Special Annexes | Total |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <u>WESTERN DIVISION</u> | | - bushels - | | |
| Manitoba | Public Country | 45,855,300 | 485,000 | 46,340,300 |
| | Private Country | 88,000 | - | 88,000 |
| | Mill | 1,775,000 | - | 1,775,000 |
| | Private Terminal | 3,145,500 | - | 3,145,500 |
| | Semi-Public Terminal. | 6,000,000 | - | 6,000,000 |
| | Totals | 56,863,800 | 485,000 | 57,348,800 |
| Saskatchewan | Public Country | 182,356,900 | 5,462,150 | 187,819,050 |
| | Private Country | 29,000 | - | 29,000 |
| | Mill | 4,915,500 | - | 4,915,500 |
| | Public Terminal | 11,000,000 | - | 11,000,000 |
| | Totals | 198,301,400 | 5,462,150 | 203,763,550 |
| Alberta | Public Country | 120,134,450 | 4,572,050 | 124,706,500 |
| | Private Country | 232,500 | - | 232,500 |
| | Mill | 4,294,000 | - | 4,294,000 |
| | Private Terminal | 1,490,000 | - | 1,490,000 |
| | Public Terminal | 6,100,000 | - | 6,100,000 |
| | Totals | 132,250,950 | 4,572,050 | 136,823,000 |
| British Columbia | Public Country | 1,788,000 | - | 1,788,000 |
| | Mill | 1,060,100 | - | 1,060,100 |
| | Public Terminal | - | - | - |
| | Semi-Public Terminal. | 20,106,500 | - | 20,106,500 |
| | Totals | 22,954,600 | - | 22,954,600 |
| Ontario | Public Country | 65,000 | 1,400,000 | 1,465,000 |
| | Mill | 1,480,000 | - | 1,480,000 |
| | Private Terminal | 2,435,000 | - | 2,435,000 |
| | Semi-Public Terminal. | 90,517,210 | - | 90,517,210 |
| | Totals | 94,497,210 | 1,400,000 | 95,897,210 |
| Totals | Western Division | 504,867,960 | 11,919,200 | 516,787,160 |
| <u>EASTERN DIVISION</u> | | | | |
| Ontario | | 57,041,000 | - | 57,041,000 |
| Quebec | | 27,912,000 | - | 27,912,000 |
| New Brunswick | | 3,076,800 | - | 3,076,800 |
| Nova Scotia | | 4,152,500 | - | 4,152,500 |
| Totals | Eastern Division | 92,182,300 | - | 92,182,300 |
| Totals, Licensed Storage | | 597,050,260 | 11,919,200 | 608,969,460 |

Source: Licence and Bonding Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

Summary of Grain Storage Capacity as at March 31, 1956

| Type of Storage | Location | Capacity | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | - bushels - | |
| Licensed Storage* | Western Division | 504,867,960 | |
| | Eastern Division | 92,182,300 | 597,050,260 |
| Special Annexes | Western Division | 11,919,200 | 11,919,200 |
| Unlicensed Storage* | Manitoba | 130,000 | |
| | Saskatchewan | 285,000 | |
| | Alberta | 459,000 | |
| | British Columbia | 1,820,000 | |
| | Ontario | 70,000 | 2,764,000 |
| Total Storage Capacity, Licensed and Unlicensed, Permanent, Temporary and Special Annexes | | | 611,733,460 |

*Including permanent and temporary annexes.

Source: Licence and Bonding Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

Total licensed grain storage capacity at March 31, 1956, according to records of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, amounted to 609.0 million bushels. Some 597.1 million bushels of this total consisted of storage space in elevators including permanent and temporary annexes, with the balance of 11.9 million bushels being located in special annexes. The latter are buildings located either on or off railway sites and suitable for the emergency storing of grain. Although they cannot qualify for licensing as country elevators under the Canada Grain Act, order in council P.C. 5122, dated September 26, 1951, provides for the licensing of such buildings on a temporary basis for emergency grain storage.

Unlicensed off-farm storage capacity at March 31, 1956 amounted to 2.8 million bushels, making a combined total of 611.7 million bushels of licensed and unlicensed storage, as against a combined total of 586.9 million bushels at March 31, 1955.

On a regional basis, licensed storage capacity for some 516.8 million bushels representing 85 per cent of the licensed total, was located in the Western Division. Total licensed storage capacity of elevators in the Prairie Provinces at March 31, 1956, in millions of bushels, were as follows, (comparable data for March 31, 1955, in brackets): Saskatchewan, 203.8 (193.9); Alberta, 136.8 (127.3); and Manitoba, 57.3 (53.5). On the basis of type of license, public country elevators accounted for a storage capacity of 362.1 million bushels or 70 per cent of the total licensed storage capacity in the Western Division at March 31, 1956.

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during February, 1956 amounted to 3,125,000 hundredweight, relatively unchanged from either the January total of 3,101,000 hundredweight or the February, 1955 level of 3,113,000 hundredweight. The ten-year (1946-1955) average production for the month of February was 3,561,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during February this year had a total rated capacity of 179,397 hundredweight per 24-hour day and, on the basis of a 25-day working period 69.7 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during February amounted to 7.2 million bushels compared with 7.1 million bushels milled during both the preceding month and during February, 1955. Of the wheat milled for flour during February, 1956, some 6.5 million bushels were Western Canadian spring wheat (other than Durum), with the remainder consisting of Ontario Winter Wheat (403,000 bushels) and Durum wheat (112,000 bushels).

Exports According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during February, 1956 amounted to 1,498,000 hundredweight (some 3,445,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) representing an increase of 23 per cent over flour exports of the preceding month. Flour exports during the month went to 54 countries with shipments equivalent to 1.1 million bushels to the United Kingdom accounting for 32 per cent of the total February movement. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat flour during the month, with shipments in thousands of bushels of wheat equivalent, were as follows: Philippine Islands, 507; Venezuela, 308; Jamaica, 252; Trinidad and Tobago, 154; and Leeward and Windward Islands, 102.

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 | 1,213,809 3/ |
| February | 7,160,710 | 3,124,518 | 1,497,615 |
| Totals | 53,494,589 | 23,360,594 | 9,604,938 |
| Same period 1954-55 3/ | 55,037,617 | 24,265,115 | 10,190,483 |

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, consisting of the July 1 carryover of 1,021.6 million bushels and the 1955 crop of 938.2 million, amount to some 1,959.8 million bushels. Imports of wheat from Canada for all purposes during the first eight months of the current United States crop year totalled 3.4 million bushels as against 1.1 million during the July-February period of 1954-55. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 625.0 million bushels some 1,338.2 million are available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 compared with 1,295.5 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 |
| New Crop | 984.8 | 938.2 |
| Total estimated domestic supplies | 1,887.2 | 1,959.8 |
| Imports of wheat for domestic use, July-February | 1.1 | 3.4 |
| Total estimated supplies 2/ | 1,888.3 | 1,963.2 |
| Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year 3/ . | 592.8 | 625.0 |
| Available for export and for carryover | 1,295.5 | 1,338.2 |
| Deduct: | | |
| Exports of wheat as grain, July-February | 147.6 | 140.2 |
| Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July-February | 27.9 | 32.1 |
| Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products . | 175.5 | 172.3 |
| Balance on March 1 for export and for carryover | 1,120.0 | 1,165.9 |

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Excluding imports for March-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, wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-February period of the current crop year amounted to 172.3 million bushels compared with 175.5 million exported during the same months of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on March 1, 1956 for export and for carryover, at 1,165.9 million bushels, was about 4 per cent above the March 1, 1955 total of 1,120.0 million.

Prospective
Plantings of
Spring Wheat

The following report on prespective plantings of spring wheat in the United States was taken from the March 16 report of the Crop Reporting Board, United States Department of Agriculture.

Wheat.— Acreage of all spring wheat planted in 1956 will be nearly one million acres larger than in 1955, if growers carry out their planting intentions as of March 1. Intentions point to a seeding of 14.6 million acres this year, 5 per cent more than last year but still the third smallest acreage of record. The 10-year average is 20.1 million acres seeded to all spring wheat. A total of 59.8 million acres of all wheat is indicated by combining the intended seeded acreage of spring wheat with the acreage of winter wheat planted as estimated last December. This is an increase of 1.5 million acres from the 58.3 million acres planted for the 1955 wheat crop.

Intended plantings of durum wheat amount to 2 million acres and would be the largest acreage planted since 1953. The prospective acreage may be altered by liberalized durum acreage allotments announced in mid-March — after farmers returned their intentions reports. Therefore, the indicated increases may be partially explained by farmers' expectations of larger durum allotments. Another factor is the relative success of the crop in 1955 when much of the acreage escaped serious rust damage, which had taken a heavy toll of the 1953 and 1954 crops. North Dakota farmers, who produce the bulk of the crop, intended a 20 per cent increase in seedings as of March 1. The largest relative increases are indicated from outside the main durum area. Montana producers are planning to more than double the 1955 acreage and Minnesota acreage will be twice that seeded last year.

The acreage of other spring wheat that farmers intend to plant is indicated at 12.6 million acres. This would be nearly 1 per cent more than the acreage planted in 1955 but nearly 5 million acres or 28 per cent below average. North Dakota accounts for more than half of the total indicated acreage with Montana and South Dakota each intending to seed a sixth or more of the total acreage. The intended acreage in these three States accounts for 86 per cent of the total acreage.

If yields per planted acre this year should equal the 1950-54 average, by States, and acreage planted equals that indicated by farmers as of March 1, an all spring wheat crop of 188 million bushels would be produced. Based on conditions as of December 1, 1955, a winter wheat crop of 735 million bushels was indicated for 1956. These add to an all wheat total of 923 million bushels. In 1955, an all wheat crop of 938 million bushels was produced.

Crop and
Weather
Conditions

According to the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin of April 2, dry, sunny weather, above-normal warmth, and several very windy days sapped the scant soil moisture from the droughty middle and southern Great Plains area. The worst duststorms of the season caused light to locally considerable damage to wheat in northwestern Texas, northwestern Oklahoma, middle and western Kansas, western Nebraska, extreme western South Dakota, and the eastern portions of Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. Texas reports considerable abandonment in the Panhandle counties west of Spearman, while in the northern Rolling Plains, Cross Timbers, and Blackland areas wheat has good color and is jointing but urgently needs rain. Wheat is making rapid growth in eastern Oklahoma under the influence of warm weather and more favorable moisture,

but the need for rain is acute in the northwestern portion. Wind damage was locally severe along the Kansas-Colorado border. Warm weather stimulated development of wheat in Kansas, especially in the eastern third where moisture is less deficient, but some fields are showing brown spots. Seeding oats is virtually completed in Kansas, most of Missouri, and southern Nebraska, and is well underway in northern Nebraska and southern Iowa, but more moisture is needed for germination and growth.

In Arkansas, Louisiana, and nearly all of the region east of the Mississippi River small grains are in good condition or improving, with the plants growing rapidly in southern districts but still slowly in the southern Great Lakes region. Oat sowing is underway in the Ohio Valley, where this work is 60 per cent completed in Illinois, but less advanced eastward.

Sowing spring grains is increasing in the Pacific Northwest. Some winter-wheat acreage in Washington is being reseeded to spring wheat.

Program Announced for
Limited Durum Wheat
Increase for the 1956 Crop

On March 21 the United States Department of Agriculture announced a program to encourage increased production of durum wheat (Class II), as provided by Public Law 431, 84th Congress, approved by President Eisenhower March 16, 1956. "Durum wheat" under the program includes hard amber durum, amber durum, and durum of Class II varieties.

The program is available to farmers in designated counties in California, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota where durum wheat (Class II) was produced in one or more of the past five years for commercial food products. In these counties farmers may plant three acres of durum wheat for each acre of the farm wheat allotment not planted to "other" wheat. For farms with wheat allotments of less than 15 acres, the increase permitted in durum will be on the basis that the allotment is 15 acres.

Farmers in the designated counties who intend to plant durum wheat in 1956 under the program may get full information about the program from their county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office.

Under the durum wheat program for 1955, production increased from a low of about 6 million bushels in 1954 to more than 20 million bushels in 1955. The average annual production for the five-year period 1948-52 was 34 million bushels.

CCC Authorized to
Buy up to 100 Million
Bushels of Grain
Storage Bin Capacity

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced on March 13 that purchase by the Commodity Credit Corporation of additional standard-type grain storage bins with a capacity of up to 100 million bushels had been authorized to assure adequate storage for the take-over next summer and fall of 1955-crop grains under price support. Details, including bin specifications, bid due date, and other information, will be announced later. Extremely heavy movement of 1955-crop corn under price support, totalling 300 million bushels through February 15, indicates a major storage problem for CCC this summer and fall. Additional space will be required for take-over of the probable near-record quantities of corn put under 1955 support. A large part of the sizeable emergency type storage capacity that CCC has is filled with grains. In bin-type storage, the CCC has a capacity of approximately 884 million bushels. In addition, more than 85 million bushels of wheat are stored in 373 ships of the U.S. Maritime Administration Reserve Fleet.

Cash Wheat Prices on the Kansas City and Minneapolis Markets

| No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City | | | No. 1 Northern Spring, Minneapolis | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Date | Price | | Date | Price | |
| | cents per bushel | | | cents per bushel | |
| March 1, 1956 | 218 | | March 1, 1956 | 231 3/4 | |
| 2 | 218 1/2 - 242 3/4 | | 2 | 231 1/2 | |
| 5 | 220 1/4 - 226 | | 5 | 231 3/8 | |
| 6 | 219 - 243 1/2 | | 6 | 229 1/4 | |
| 7 | 218 1/2 - 242 3/4 | | 7 | 229 3/4 | |
| 8 | 220 1/2 - 221 | | 8 | 230 3/8 | |
| 9 | 223 1/2 - 235 1/4 | | 9 | 230 3/4 | |
| 12 | 222 3/4 | | 12 | 230 3/8 | |
| 13 | 222 - 246 | | 13 | 229 3/8 | |
| 14 | 222 1/2 - 246 | | 14 | 230 | |
| 15 | 224 1/2 - 247 1/2 | | 15 | 230 5/8 | |
| 16 | 225 1/4 - 242 | | 16 | 230 1/2 | |
| 19 | 227 3/4 - 246 3/4 | | 19 | 231 1/8 | |
| 20 | 229 - 247 1/2 | | 20 | 231 1/4 | |
| 21 | 228 1/4 - 247 3/4 | | 21 | 231 7/8 | |
| 22 | 230 3/4 | | 22 | 232 3/8 - 233 3/8 | |
| 23 | 233 | | 23 | 232 7/8 - 233 7/8 | |
| 26 | 232 1/2 - 238 1/2 | | 26 | 232 1/4 - 233 1/4 | |
| 27 | 233 - 234 | | 27 | 232 1/2 - 234 1/2 | |
| 28 | 231 1/2 - 251 | | 28 | 232 5/8 - 234 5/8 | |
| 29 | 232 1/4 - 251 | | 29 | 232 1/4 - 234 1/4 | |
| 30 | Good Friday | | 30 | Good Friday | |

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

| Date | March | May | July | September | December | March |
|---------------|----------------------------------|-------|-------------|-----------|----------|-------|
| | - cents and eighths per bushel - | | | | | |
| March 1, 1956 | 219/5 | 215/6 | 198 | 200 | 203/4 | |
| 2 | 220/7 | 217 | 199/3 | 201/3 | 204/7 | |
| 5 | 220/2 | 216/6 | 199/2 | 201/2 | 204/6 | |
| 6 | 219 | 216 | 198 | 200 | 203/4 | |
| 7 | 218/2 | 215/6 | 198/5 | 200/5 | 204 | |
| 8 | 219/2 | 216/5 | 197/6 | 199/6 | 203/1 | |
| 9 | 221/4 | 217/4 | 196/5 | 198/5 | 202/1 | |
| 12 | 223/3 | 219 | 197/4 | 199/5 | 203/1 | |
| 13 | 222/5 | 218/6 | 198/2 | 200/1 | 203/6 | |
| 14 | 223 | 219/5 | 198/6 | 200/6 | 204/1 | |
| 15 | 223/2 | 219/6 | 199 | 200/7 | 204/1 | |
| 16 | 223/7 | 219/7 | 199/1 | 201/6 | 204/4 | |
| 19 | 226/1 | 221 | 199/2 | 201/3 | 204/4 | |
| 20 | 236 | 221/3 | 200/2 | 201/4 | 206 | |
| 21 | | 224/6 | 200/5 | 202/6 | 206/3 | |
| 22 | | 226/1 | 201/5 | 203/6 | 207/1 | |
| 23 | | 227/1 | 206/3 | 208/4 | 212/2 | |
| 26 | | 228 | 209/2 | 211/4 | 215 | 217/2 |
| 27 | | 227/1 | 207/5 | 209/7 | 213/6 | 216/6 |
| 28 | | 226/6 | 208/2 | 210/3 | 214/3 | 217/2 |
| 29 | | 226/6 | 207/4 | 209/2 | 213/4 | 216 |
| 30 | | | Good Friday | | | |

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the crop year 1955-56 amount to 255.0 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1955 carryover of 77.9 million bushels and the new crop of 177.1 million. Supplies of this size are some 26 per cent below the comparable total of 342.9 million bushels in 1954-55. Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the three month period December, 1955—February, 1956 amounted to 29.4 million bushels, down somewhat from the level of 33.0 million exported during the same months of the preceding crop year. The balance on March 1, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 89.6 million bushels, little more than one-half of the March 1, 1955 total of 177.6 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 domestic 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, December—February | 32.6 | 28.3 |
| Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec.—Feb. .. | 0.4 | 1.2 |
| Total exports of wheat and wheat flour | 33.0 | 29.4 |
| Balance on March 1 for export and for carryover | 177.6 | 89.6 |

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 March 16, 1956, 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 After a few weeks of scattered showers, very heavy rains have fallen throughout the whole grain zone. These rains were so torrential in southern Buenos Aires that extensive flooding has washed out railways, roads, and bridges and has reportedly caused the death of some livestock. Generally, however, and especially in the west, these rains will be welcomed as permitting the farmers to get back on the land to prepare it for sowing winter grains. The growing summer crops - sunflower, peanuts, sudan grass, etc., have generally made satisfactory progress during the past month although in some zones the sunflower is suffering from insect infestations, rust and virus disease. The harvest of the corn crop is beginning in the north and although the outturn of some rust ridden and early sown lots has been disappointing, optimism is still running high that average yields will be the best for some years. Alfalfa and natural pastures are generally in good condition.

Wheat - 1955-56 Crop Wheat sales since February 16 amounted to 77,000 tons (2,829,000 bushels) including 10,000 tons (367,000 bushels) of Durum which was sold on tender for more than 100 dollars per ton, (\$2.72 per bushel) f.o.b. This brought total sales since December to almost 925,000 tons (33,988,000 bushels) and I.N.G.E. has withdrawn from the market. In view of the relatively low estimated total availability for export and carryover of about 3.1 million tons (115.5 million bushels) and the large bilateral trade commitments, especially to Brazil and Italy, it is not expected that Argentina will offer much more wheat for sale unless subsequent estimates of production increase, the trade agreements are not fulfilled or reserves are drawn down. Wheat shipments continued at a good pace during February but are running slightly behind last year's rather exceptional exports.

Oats, Barley and Rye Carryover stocks and hence export availabilities of these grains are difficult to determine. However, it is generally agreed that, in spite of smaller crops total availabilities for export and carryover of these crops and particularly of barley are greater this year than last. This opinion is certainly supported by the sales activity which has been noted so far this crop year. Sales of these grains since December 1 have exceeded 565,000 tons of which 316,000 (14,514,000 bushels) have been barley and 200,000 oats (12,968,000 bushels). These compare with sales of only 66,000 tons during the same period last year. Oat sales already more than double last year's total exports and barley sales, including those made during the second half of November exceed 80 per cent of last year's total shipments of 495,000 tons (22,735,000 bushels).

Recent heavy rains will facilitate, especially in the western zone, the preparation of land for the sowing of winter grains. Oats, barley and rye compete with each other, with wheat and, to a lesser extent, with flax for the use of land. The present producer prices for these three grains are in all cases less favourable in relation to the price of linseed than they have been in recent years and except for oats, are also less favourable compared to the wheat price. Rye has been the least favoured by the increases in producer prices, hence it may be expected that the area sown to this crop may be reduced rather considerably. As a matter of interest, in pre-war years when Argentina was regularly exporting well above 10 million tons of grain per year, the area sown to rye was only 1 1/2 million hectares (3.7 million acres) compared with over 2 1/2 million (6.2 million acres) in 1955-56. In recent years land has been sown to rye mainly for forage purposes which formerly was sown to other grains primarily for harvest. The present producer prices are expected to reverse that trend.

Corn The first official estimate of the area sown to corn which was placed at 2,860,000 hectares (7,064,000 acres) has quickly been followed by the second estimate, which is very slightly higher at 2,870,000 (7,089,000 acres). This estimate is disappointingly low, being even below last year's 3,001,500 hectares (7,414,000 acres) which, it was officially hoped, would be exceeded at least slightly in view of the higher producer prices which were announced late in the season but before seeding was completed. In spite of the small seedings and unsatisfactorily dry, hot weather in December, there is much optimism both in trade and official circles that production will be at least 2 million tons (78.7 million bushels) larger than last year's very unsatisfactory 2.45 million tons (96.5 million bushels). To achieve such an outturn yields on the late planted fields which did not suffer from the dry spell, would have to be rather phenomenal. Weather conditions during harvesting will, of course, influence the amount of grain that is actually picked and undoubtedly the recent very heavy rains were unwelcome except in the very late planted fields. Present trade opinion varies widely but the consensus of opinion is that Argentina will have at least a million tons (39.4 million bushels) more corn to export than last year's very low 375,000 tons (14.8 million bushels), even allowing for some reserve.

Oilseeds The flaxseed crop which for 1955-56 has been estimated at the phenomenally low figure of 231,000 tons (9,094,000 bushels) is in such short supply that it has not yet been allocated to the mills. The stocks are being selected for seed by the government as a large increase in seedings is expected this year in response to the higher producer prices.

Seedings of sunflower and peanuts have obviously been influenced by the higher producer prices as official estimates of seeded area place sunflower at 1.22 million hectares (3,013,000 acres) more than double the previous year and peanuts at 191,200 hectares (472,000 acres) a new record. Although much of the sunflower was sown late and sections of it are suffering from rust, virus and caterpillars, production is expected to be far above last year's 280,000 tons (25,720,000 bushels). The condition of the peanut crop is considered to be good and production is expected to exceed last year's 118,000 tons by a good margin. As noted elsewhere the marketing of these crops is being returned to the private trade.

Policy Argentina Applies for Membership in the I.W.A. Reversing a policy of many years standing and reflecting the new outlook, objectives, and policy of the Provisional Government, Argentina formally has stated its desire to become a member of the new International Wheat Agreement presently being negotiated in Geneva.

Release from State Control. A decree has just been published which frees from state control the purchase from the farmers and the marketing domestically and abroad of sunflowerseed and peanuts of the 1955-56 crop and their oils and by-products. It is reliably reported by trade sources that the government would also have restored the merchandising of this year's corn crop to private hands but that the general trade opinion was that they had insufficient time to properly organize their establishments especially in the interior. These actions give positive proof, if any was needed, that the present government intends to make good on its promise to get the state out of business and industry except where its presence is required for the good of the country as a whole.

Sales A flurry of Oats sales beginning on February 20 and continuing until the present has been the outstanding feature of grains sales during the past month. Sales of this grain totalled over 150,000 tons (9.7 million bushels) during the period and prices rose on March 12 from \$44.46 per ton (69 cents per bushel) f.o.b. for payment in Italian, Austria, Czechoslovakian and Dutch agreement dollars to \$45.19 per ton (70 cents per bushel) for payment in the same currencies. Barley sales during March to date have amounted to an even 100,000 tons (4,593,000 bushels) mostly for Western German agreement dollars and pounds sterling at prices which rose by one dollar a ton (2 cents per bushel) on March 12 to \$55.00 (\$1.20 per bushel) for payment in those currencies. Wheat sales since February 16 amounted to about 75,000 tons (2,756,000 bushels) including 10,000 tons (367,000 bushels) of Durum at \$100.17 (\$2.73 per bushel) for payment in pounds. I.N.G.E. has not been in the market for wheat recently and is not expected to return for the present at least. During the last few days of February and on March 2, 28,000 tons (1,102,000 bushels) of Rye were sold for prices rising from \$46.25 to \$52.00 per ton (\$1.17 to \$1.32 per bushel) all for payment in pounds. Millet sales during the past month have also been noteworthy, totalling almost 12,000 tons to many destinations at a basic price of \$40.00 per ton for pounds sterling and similar currencies. Over 23,000 tons of millet have now been sold since December 1 compared with total exports in 1955 of only 9,500 tons.

Shipments Grain shipments during February at about 350,000 tons were at the same level as in January. Wheat exports at 252,000 tons (9,259,000 bushels) were down slightly while those of rye, barley and particularly oats were up from the previous month. Germany was the main destination with 91,000 tons (3,344,000 bushels) of wheat and all the barley shipments which totalled over 68,000 tons (3,123,000 bushels). Other major wheat shipments went to the United Kingdom 70,000 (2,577,000 bushels); Holland 24,000 (894,000 bushels) and Czechoslovakia and Italy 18,000 and 15,000 tons (668,000 and 539,000 bushels), respectively. Reduced shipments to Brazil suggest that Argentine exports to that country will be heavy during the later months of the year and that some of this year's trade commitments may even come from the 1956-57 crop. Italy, Belgium, United Kingdom and Holland were the only consignees for barley and oats. Details of wheat shipments during the first three months of the crop year and comparative totals for recent years are given in the following table:

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

| Destination | Wheat | Destination | Wheat |
|----------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| | '000 bu. | | '000 bu. |
| Austria | 555 | Italy | 2,642 |
| Belgium | 933 | Netherlands | 2,160 |
| Brazil | 4,687 | Norway | 383 |
| Chile | 1,116 | Paraguay | 171 |
| Czechoslovakia | 1,036 | Peru | 1,153 |
| Denmark | 621 | Switzerland | 23 |
| Finland | 170 | United Kingdom | 5,713 |
| Germany | 6,891 | Total | 28,253 |
| Same period: 1954-55 | | | 32,375 |
| 1953-54 | | | 25,566 |
| 1952-53 | | | 3,167 |
| 1951-52 | | | 3,529 |
| 1950-51 | | | 22,425 |

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1955-56 crop year amount to some 287.2 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1955 carryover of 91.6 million bushels and the new crop placed at 195.6 million. Estimated supplies in 1954-55 were somewhat lower at 260.2 million bushels. After deducting an estimated 72.0 million bushels for domestic requirements, some 215.2 million remain available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 as against 189.0 million in 1954-55.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent up to February 25 of the Australian crop year amounted to 18.9 million bushels, representing a considerable decrease from the 27.1 million exported during the corresponding period of the preceding crop year. The balance on February 26, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 196.3 million bushels, about 21 per cent greater than the 161.9 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) | 93.6 | 91.6 |
| New crop | 166.6 | 195.6 |
| Total estimated supplies | 260.2 | 287.2 |
| Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year | 71.2 | 72.0 2/ |
| Available for export and for carryover | 189.0 | 215.2 |
| Deduct: | | |
| Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 to February 25. | 17.4 | 12.8 |
| Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1 to February 25 | 9.7 | 6.1 |
| Total exports of wheat and wheat flour | 27.1 | 18.9 |
| Balance on February 26 for export and for carryover ... | 161.9 | 196.3 |

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Adjusted figure.

The following information relative to the Australian situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. R. W. Blake, Commercial Secretary for Canada, Melbourne, under date of March 9, 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 \$2.2445 (Canadian), the quotation in effect on March 2, 1956.

Wheat Acreage and Yield The area sown to wheat for grain in Australia for harvest in the 1955-56 season, amounting to an estimated 10,093,000 acres, was at a slightly lower level than in the three preceding years and about 27 per cent less than the post-war maximum area of 13,880,000 acres sown in 1947-48. Compared with 1954-55, the current estimate shows that less wheat was sown in all mainland States in 1955-56. With production placed at 195.6 million bushels, the estimated average yield of 19.4 bushels per acre was the highest on record. The previous record was set in 1952-53 with a yield of 19.1 bushels. Yields for the respective States are shown in the accompanying table.

Australian Wheat Production, 1955-56

| State | Million bushels | Yield per Acre |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| New South Wales | 57.0 | 20.9 |
| Victoria | 41.5 | 19.0 |
| South Australia | 29.5 | 18.0 |
| Queensland | 15.0 | 23.8 |
| Western Australia | 52.5 | 18.1 |
| Tasmania and A.C.T. | 0.1 | 14.3 |
| Australia | 195.6 | 19.4 |

No Restriction on Wheat Acreage The Minister for the new Department of Trade, in reply to a question put to him in the House stated that there was no valid reason why Australia should reduce wheat production.

Australia's wheat acreage was much lower than the pre-war average, being only about 10 million acres in 1955-56 compared with over 15 million acres in 1932-33.

Production per acre was much higher, and the cost of production was probably the lowest in the world. Australian growers, he said, ought to be able to sell their wheat at a price at least equal to cost of production. The Minister said that Australia was strongly opposed to the uneconomic production of highly subsidised wheat at costs far above market levels.

The Farmers and Settlers Association General Council also reaffirmed previous decisions by the F.S.A. and Australian Wheatgrowers Federation conferences for no restrictions on wheat acreages. The F.S.A. Council announced that there was no reason, however, why farmers should not be warned of the seriousness of piling up wheat surpluses.

F.A.Q. Standard for South Australia The South Australian wheat standard for the 1955-56 season has been fixed at 64 lbs. to the imperial bushel. This is half a pound a bushel lighter than for the previous year.

Wheat Sales and Exports A member of the Australian Wheat Board stated that Australia had made very good sales of wheat during the latter part of February, when more than 11 million bushels were sold. The sales included about 5.5 million bushels to Germany, and 1.25 million bushels to the United Kingdom. Figures published by the Department of Trade showed that Australia had

sold more than half its quota of 44,958,000 bushels under the I.W.A. by January 6. Sales to January 6 totalled 23,048,000 bushels, leaving a balance of 21,910,000 bushels.

Shipping Freights The general president of the Queensland Grain Growers' Association told members of the Council that the recent increase of 7 1/2 per cent in overseas shipping freights for wheat, will cost Australian wheat producers about £A2.2 million (approx. \$4.9 million) a year.

Low Quality Flour The director of the Bread Research Institute of Australia reported that the protein content of the current New South Wales wheat crop f.a.q. sample is only 9.5 per cent, and a drop in flour quality is likely.

Pastoral Conditions Pastoral conditions in Australia generally continue to be good, and production of milk, beef, lamb and mutton are at high levels. Severe floods have occurred in Queensland and parts of New South Wales, but rain will be needed in other areas before long.

Other Grains Barley.- Western Australian barley production this season has been estimated at 5.8 million bushels from 379,000 acres, as against 2.8 million bushels from 259,688 acres last season. For the first time, West Australian two-row malting barley production has exceeded local demand, and grain from the current harvest may be exported overseas in addition to the six-row stock feed type.

Rice.- Rice growing experiments in the Northern Territory have produced an excellent strike and rice sown on November 20, 1955 is now over 6 inches high. Further sections of the projected 300 acres for this season are being planted according to variety and expected time of maturity. Rice crops in the Griffiths irrigation district of New South Wales are growing vigorously, and the overall prospects are good, but yields are not expected to reach the high peak attained last season.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to February 25, 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 | 1 | 4 | 400 | 174 |
| Borneo | - | - | 2 | - |
| British North Borneo | - | - | 43 | 34 |
| British Somaliland | - | - | - | 1 |
| British West Indies | 2 | - | 16 | 13 |
| Brunei | - | - | 7 | 4 |
| Burma | - | 20 | 197 | 16 |
| Ceylon | 8 | - | 2,332 | 1,238 |
| Cocos Islands | - | - | - | 1/ |
| Cyprus | - | - | - | 1/ |
| Dutch New Guinea | - | - | 10 | 14 |
| Egypt | - | - | - | 3 |

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to February 25, 1955-56 and Corresponding Period 1954-55 (continued)

| Destination | Wheat | | Wheat Flour | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | 1954-55 | 1955-56 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 |
| | - thousand bushels - | | | |
| Egypt (a/c War Office) | - | - | - | 5 |
| Eire | 670 | - | - | - |
| French Somaliland | - | - | 2 | 11 |
| Germany | 806 | 863 | - | - |
| Hadhranaut | - | - | 5 | - |
| Hong Kong | 114 | 147 | - | - |
| Hong Kong (General) | - | - | 73 | 56 |
| Hong Kong (a/c War Office) ... | - | - | 17 | 11 |
| India | 6,632 | - | - | - |
| Indonesia | - | - | 1,479 | 2,114 |
| Iraq | - | 728 | - | - |
| Italy | - | - | 5 | 4 |
| Japan | 106 | 3,653 | - | - |
| Kure (a/c War Office) | - | - | 3 | 7 |
| Lebanon | 359 | - | 268 | - |
| Libya | - | - | 32 | - |
| Malaya | 183 | 57 | - | - |
| Malaya (General) | - | - | 2,209 | 1,183 |
| Malaya (a/c War Office) | - | - | 37 | 11 |
| Malta | 281 | 193 | - | - |
| Mauritius | 1 | - | 383 | 104 |
| New Zealand | 2,021 | 2,071 | - | - |
| Nyasaland | - | - | 7 | 4 |
| Pacific Islands | 7 | 6 | 670 | 426 |
| Palestine | - | - | 6 | - |
| Persian Gulf | 39 | 44 | 100 | 34 |
| Philippine Islands | - | - | 17 | 33 |
| Poland | - | 1,047 | - | - |
| Pondicherry | - | - | 2 | - |
| Port Said (a/c S/S) | - | - | 11 | 16 |
| Portuguese East Africa | 137 | - | 1/ | - |
| Portuguese India (Goa) | 26 | - | 30 | - |
| Rhodesia | 1,025 | 111 | - | - |
| Roumania | 283 | - | - | - |
| Sarawak | - | - | 43 | 27 |
| Saudi Arabia | 59 | 37 | 65 | - |
| Seychelles Islands | - | - | 11 | 3 |
| Sudan | - | - | 243 | 56 |
| Syria | - | 338 | - | - |
| Tahiti | - | - | 41 | 36 |
| Thailand (Siam) | 2 | 1 | 163 | 132 |
| Timor | - | - | 6 | - |
| United Kingdom | 4,657 | 3,469 | 651 | 285 |
| Yemen | - | - | 3 | - |
| Yugoslavia | - | - | 1/ | - |
| Zanzibar | - | 40 | 75 | - |

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to February 25, 1955-56 and Corresponding Period 1954-55 (concluded)

| Destination | Wheat | | Wheat Flour | |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | 1954-55 | 1955-56 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 |
| | - thousand bushels - | | | |
| Royal Navy | - | - | 5 | 6 |
| Ships' Stores | - | - | 30 | 37 |
| Totals | 17,419 | 12,829 | 9,700 | 6,100 |

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 March 16, 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 .00286 Canadian dollars, the rate in effect on March 2, 1956.

Time has now permitted an appraisal of the damage to grain fields resulting from the severe February frosts. Apart from the sharp drop in temperature of around 25 degrees in less than 48 hours, frosts were prolonged throughout February, with 24 days of frost at Caen in Normandy, (-5 to -16 deg.C); 28 days of frost at Nancy in the Lorraine (-5 to -22 deg.C) and 25 days of frost at Montpellier in the South (falling as low as -17 deg.C).

Obviously such severe and prolonged frosts would cause considerable havoc to Winter grains, as is confirmed in the following statement from the Ministry of Agriculture:

"Wheat - The percentage of destruction ranges from 25 per cent in the South to 70 per cent in the North. Of the 4.4 million hectares (10.9 million acres) seeded to wheat on February 1, it would appear that nearly 2 million hectares (4.9 million acres) have been destroyed. Furthermore, an additional 1.5 million hectares (3.7 million acres) were more or less affected. Fields seeded after November 1 suffered the most damage.

Considering the extent of winter-killing, there is no question of re-seeding the full acreage lost, particularly as stocks of seed are low and as the season is already well advanced. In addition, farmers hesitate to sow Spring wheat which often produces unsatisfactory yields. Many of these fields will therefore be sown to barley, oats and forage crops.

Other Grains - Barley fields have similarly suffered from the

February frosts; over 200,000 hectares (494,000 acres) are presumed destroyed out of the 400,000 hectares (988,000 acres) seeded in the Fall. Spring sowings will be a great deal higher than customary.

Destruction of oats fields ranges from 50 per cent in the South to 95 per cent in the North. In the West 55 per cent of the seeded acreage was lost. For the country as a whole, it would appear that 315,000 hectares (778,000 acres) were destroyed out of a total of 550,000 hectares (1,358,000 acres) of Fall oats.

Little damage is reported to fields of rye."

Subsidy on Wheat Seed As part of the measures designed to assist farmers whose fields have been destroyed by frost, the French government has announced a subsidy of 1,200 francs per quintal (93 cents per bushel) on either domestic or imported seed wheat. In addition, prices for all seed grain have been frozen at the level of January 15, to be applied to the end of the 1955-56 crop year (at August 1, 1956).

Marketing Quota Withdrawn on Small Deliveries The Secretary for Agriculture has announced the withdrawal for small deliveries of the marketing quota established last Fall whereby 8 per cent of deliveries would receive an initial payment and the rest of the price would be determined by that received on export sales. This withdrawal applies to all deliveries under 200 quintals (735 bushels) and is designed to aid the small-scale farmer who represents 860,000 out of the total of 935,000 delivering wheat to the Board.

Position of Wheat Producers Association The French Wheat Producers Association has announced its position with regard to the losses suffered by its members. They have asked that the price for the next crop be established as soon as possible to encourage Spring sowings. Furthermore, in setting the price in accordance with the Wheat Plan, they ask that (1) the government suppress the productivity index of 3 per cent which would normally lower the price in accordance with increasing yields; (2) the use of the 6 per cent price adjustment at the disposal of the government in accordance with the size of the crop in order to raise the price for the new season; and (3) the suppression of the marketing quota whereby a small percentage of the crop would be paid at the export price.

Imports of Seed Wheat As soon as it became evident that damage to wheat fields was extensive and that stocks of seed would not be adequate, the French Grain Board authorized the immediate import of seed from wherever suitable varieties could be found. Imports have totalled around 135,000 tons (4,960,000 bushels) of which 40,000 tons (1,470,000 bushels) were the Florence Aurore variety from North Africa for seeding in Southern France; 60,000 tons (2,205,000 bushels) of European Spring varieties from Sweden, United Kingdom, Denmark and Netherlands for seeding in the North; and 35,000 tons (1,286,000 bushels) of Manitoba (mainly No. 2).

As indicated in the Ministry's statement above, only a portion of the frost-killed fields will be resown to wheat, and it is not considered likely that the area resown would exceed 500,000 hectares (1,235,000 acres). As French farmers average around 2 quintals per hectare in seeding (around 2.5 bushels per acre), seed requirements for the current season would appear to amount to around 100,000 metric

tons (3,674,000 bushels). Stocks of French Spring varieties in the country are believed to run around 30,000 tons (1,102,000 bushels) to be added to the above imports. Under the circumstances it would not appear necessary to use all the Manitoba wheat for sowing although it is understood at present that demand for seed is outrunning supply in certain areas. It is probable that part of the Manitoba wheat will be milled and exported as flour. This would enable mills to meet their commitments and retain their customers, and this policy may be followed with regard to flour exports during the rest of the crop year.

French Supplies of Soft Wheat

| 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-January | 54.8 3/ |
| Balance February 1 for export and carryover | 88.8 |

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Official estimate of Central Council of the Grain Board.
3/ Comprising 49.9 million bushels for Foreign countries and 4.9 million bushels for French Union - including exports of flour in wheat equivalent of 9.4 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, 1955--January 31, 1956

| Countries | Wheat and Flour | Countries | Wheat and Flour |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | - thousand bushels - | | - thousand bushels - |
| Ceylon | 1,032 | Norway | 806 |
| Denmark | 2,317 | Poland | 7,691 |
| Germany | 9,414 | Sweden | 1,376 |
| Lebanon | 862 | Switzerland | 2,488 |
| Netherlands | 4,552 | United Kingdom ... | 13,126 |

Monthly Wheat and Flour Exports, August 1--January 31, 1955-56
and the Corresponding Period in 1954-55

| Month | Foreign Countries | | French Union | | Total | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1954-55 | 1955-56 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 | 1954-55 | 1955-56 |
| - thousand bushels - | | | | | | |
| August | 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 |
| January | 15,194 | 16,086 | 739 | 943 | 15,933 | 17,029 |
| Totals | 38,613 | 49,907 | 5,934 | 4,902 | 44,547 | 54,809 |

Market Position As the extent of frost damage became known, exports of wheat were suspended, except for the commercial agreement with Germany for half a million tons (18,372,000 bushels) this season. Export sales at that point had totalled 1.9 million tons (69.8 million bushels) out of the anticipated 2.3 million (84.5 million bushels). The Central Council of the Grain Board has now recommended the resumption of flour exports in order to retain their markets, and which will probably continue on the basis of imported flour. The Council estimates that the carryover at the end of the crop year at July 31 will be around 800,000 metric tons (29,395,000 bushels) which represents about two months' domestic consumption.

Barley The barley import quota has now been raised to 80,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels), of which 45,000 (2,067,000 bushels) is brewers barley and 35,000 tons (1,608,000 bushels), for feed, for delivery by May 15. The Secretary for Agriculture has stated that the support price for barley of the 1956 crop will be set at 2,500 francs per quintal (\$1.56 per bushel).

In view of the much larger barley crop which will be grown on the destroyed wheat fields, the Central Council of the Grain Board asks that the barley market be organized similar to that of wheat at a price 72 to 75 per cent of wheat; this would make the French Grain Board the sole marketing agency. Since present legislation for coarse grains provides only a support price operative at the end of the season, such a change would have to go through the National Assembly.

Corn Farmers' deliveries to the Board from October 1 to February 1 have reached a record 120,000 tons (4,724,000 bushels), while imports during the same period totalled 123,000 tons (4,842,000 bushels). It is understood that another 100,000 tons (3,937,000 bushels) will be brought in to cover requirements during the rest of the crop year. Imports of 8,000 tons (315,000 bushels) of rye are reported.

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

March 7 The Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, estimated wheat flour production in the United States in January, 1956 at 19,490,000 sacks, an average of 928,000 sacks per working day, compared with working-day averages of 920,000 sacks during the previous month and 912,000 sacks in January, 1955.

16 According to a report issued by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture, prospective seedings of all spring wheat for 1956 are expected to total 14.6 million acres, 5 per cent more than in 1955 but still the third smallest acreage on record. A total of 59.8 million acres of all wheat is indicated by combining the intended seeded acreage of spring wheat with the seeded acreage of winter wheat as estimated last December.

19 According to a report issued by the Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture, the world rice harvest (excluding Communist China, North Korea and the Soviet Union) for the 1955-56 (August-July) crop year is estimated at 275,000 million pounds of rough rice as compared with 262,400 million pounds in 1954-55. This crop is only slightly below the record of 276,300 million pounds produced in 1953-54.

A report from the Canadian Commercial Counsellor, Montevideo, Uruguay, indicates that the final yield report, issued by the Ministry of Cattle and Agriculture covering 1954-55 crops, places wheat production in that country at 854,000 tons (about 31.4 million bushels) compared with 819,000 tons (30.1 million bushels) in 1953-54.

21 On the basis of farmers' intentions at March 1, the acreage to be seeded to spring wheat in Canada in 1956 is estimated at 20.2 million acres. The combined acreage of spring and winter wheat, at 20.8 million acres, will, if realized, be the smallest since 1943 and about 19 per cent below the five-year (1950-54) average of 25.7 million.

The United States Department of Agriculture announced a program to increase the 1956 production of Durum wheat.

April 2 The navigation season opened at the port of Montreal with the docking of the British freighter, the Manchester Regiment.

3 According to Broomhall:

The weather in the United Kingdom is favorable for planting of spring grains but warmth and rains would be beneficial for germination. It is expected that spring plantings will make up most of the winter damaged acreage.

Weather conditions in Italy are mainly favorable for development of grain crops. Winter losses were comparatively small.

Additional rains during the past week in Spain and Portugal have been beneficial for winter grains and germination of spring plantings.

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