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# THE WHEAT REVIEW

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**DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS**  
**Department of Trade and Commerce**

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**THE**  
**WHEAT REVIEW**

**APRIL, 1956**

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

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

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## WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about April 1, 1956 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,091.3 million bushels, about 6 per cent more than the 1,982.2 million available a year ago. Supplies at April 1, 1956 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: United States, 1,144.5 (1,087.0); Canada, 676.2 (578.8); Australia, 183.4 (152.8); and Argentina, 87.2 (163.6). 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 eight months (August—March) of the current Canadian crop year, at 479.2 million bushels, are 7 per cent lower than the 515.8 million exported during the corresponding period of 1954-55. Shipments from each of the four countries during the period August, 1955—March, 1956 and for the comparable period of the five preceding crop years are shown in the table below.

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

August—March	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950-51 .....	198.3	135.9	54.4	80.3	468.9
1951-52 .....	333.4	200.1	23.9	62.8	620.2
1952-53 .....	233.0	224.7	6.0	56.7	520.4
1953-54 .....	125.7	170.9	78.0	40.2	414.8
1954-55 <u>1</u> / .....	188.1	172.7	92.2	62.8	515.8
1955-56 <u>2</u> / .....	180.8	157.6	80.5	60.3	479.2

New Draft Wheat Agreement The United Nations Wheat Conference, which held its final plenary meeting April 25, agreed to open for signature a new International Wheat Agreement to come into force on August 1, 1956. The new Agreement provides for a price range of \$1.50 at minimum and \$2.00 at maximum for No. 1 Manitoba Northern Wheat in bulk in store Fort William-Port Arthur and for a duration of three years. The total guaranteed quantities inscribed in the Agreement by six exporting countries and 44 importing countries is 8,244,000 metric tons (302,915,145 bushels).

Guaranteed sales under the new agreement are:

	- bushels -
Argentina (new member) .....	14,697,484
Australia .....	30,257,380
Canada .....	102,896,902
France .....	16,534,669
Sweden (new member) .....	6,430,149
United States .....	<u>132,098,561</u>
	302,915,145

Details as to the current position of sales and purchases under the 1953-54—1955-56 Agreement will be found on the following page.

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

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	S O U R C E				Total Purchases	Remainder 2/
		Canada 1/	Australia 2/	France 2/	U.S.A. 2/		
		- thousand bushels -					
Austria .....	9,186	1,008	-	-	-	1,008	8,178
Belgium .....	23,883	7,221	4	-	4,183	11,408	12,475
Bolivia .....	4,042	-	-	-	3,996	3,996	46
Brazil .....	13,228	-	-	-	216	216	13,012
Ceylon .....	10,288	-	7,259	363	-	7,622	2,666
Costa Rica .....	1,286	423	-	-	578	1,001	285
Cuba .....	7,422	755	-	-	4,910	5,665	1,757
Denmark .....	1,837	-	-	-	611	611	1,226
Dominican Republic ..	1,102	389	-	-	412	801	301
Ecuador .....	2,388	960	-	-	147	1,107	1,281
Egypt .....	14,697	-	-	-	6,746	6,746	7,951
El Salvador .....	735	153	-	-	478	631	104
Germany .....	55,116	17,478	7,577	-	16,743	41,798	13,318
Greece .....	12,860	-	-	-	8,552	8,552	4,308
Guatemala .....	1,286	141	-	-	467	608	678
Haiti .....	1,837	405	-	-	1,022	1,427	410
Honduras Republic ...	735	26	-	-	285	311	424
Iceland .....	404	4	-	-	25	29	375
India .....	36,744	-	5,899	-	4,774	10,673	26,071
Indonesia 4/ .....	6,246	-	6,251	-	106	6,357	-
Ireland .....	10,105	3,038	1,019	-	-	4,057	6,048
Israel .....	8,267	724	-	-	3,146	3,870	4,397
Italy .....	3,674	-	-	-	2,604	2,604	1,070
Japan .....	36,744	15,797	6,756	-	12,996	35,549	1,195
Jordan .....	2,940	-	-	-	3	3	2,937
Korea .....	1,470	-	-	-	-	-	1,470
Lebanon .....	2,756	-	-	-	758	758	1,998
Liberia .....	73	7	-	-	25	32	41
Mexico .....	14,697	-	-	-	3,977	3,977	10,720
Netherlands .....	24,802	1,606	95	-	8,104	9,805	14,997
New Zealand .....	5,879	-	5,859	-	-	5,859	20
Nicaragua 4/ .....	367	131	-	-	229	360	-
Norway .....	8,451	3,480	-	-	2,611	6,091	2,360
Panama .....	845	195	-	-	375	570	275
Peru .....	7,349	-	-	-	43	43	7,306
Philippines 4/ .....	8,672	4,968	205	-	3,635	8,808	-
Portugal .....	7,349	328	620	-	2,896	3,844	3,505
Saudi Arabia .....	4,409	-	-	-	653	653	3,756
Spain .....	9,186	-	-	-	1,728	1,728	7,458
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	2,601	-	-	3,516	6,117	130
Yugoslavia .....	3,674	-	-	-	3,512	3,512	162
Totals .....	394,957	71,541	41,544	363	106,428	219,876	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		153,077	45,013	344	196,523	394,957	
Balance .....		81,536	3,469	(19)	90,095	175,081	

1/ Canadian sales through April 24, 1956.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through April 20, 1956.

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

4/ Quota filled.



### CANADIAN SITUATION

Final Payment on 1954-55 Pool:

Policy re Delivery Quotas:

Initial Prices for 1956-57 Crop Year.

On May 3, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce made the following statement. "Mr. Speaker, having

received notice of the question I have been able to get certain information and can make a statement to the house concerning three aspects of the western grain marketing situation: one, the final payment on the 1954-55 wheat pool account; two, the policy of the wheat board with respect to delivery quotas during the remainder of the present crop year; three, initial prices for wheat, oats and barley during the crop year which begins August 1 next.

Dealing first with the final payment covering the 1954-55 pool account wheat, I am pleased to be able to advise the house that the Canadian wheat board propose making a cut-off as at May 4, tomorrow, and are recommending to the government a transfer of the unsold stocks, approximately 50 million bushels in amount to the 1955-56 pool account as at that date. This action will enable the board to close out the 1954-55 pool account.

Total receipts of wheat from producers in this pool amounted to 318,439,061 bushels plus 615,839 bushels purchased from other than producers and 164,055,511 bushels transferred from 1953-54 pool account, a total of 483,110,411 bushels.

As soon as the board's accounts have been completed, I shall be in a position to announce to the house the exact amount of the final payment and the rate per bushel for each grade of grain delivered to the pool. I expect to be in a position to make this announcement about the middle of this month. According to present plans, the wheat board will begin issuing cheques to producers on or about May 22 or 23 and will have completed this final payment about the end of this month of May.

I turn now to policy with respect to delivery quotas at country points. A very heavy movement of wheat and other grain into and out of country elevators is now under way. Deliveries by farmers will increase as road conditions improve and will continue at a high level during the balance of the current crop year. The movement of grain to seaboard is also very heavy. Our export clearances are now reflecting heavy sales commitments entered into in recent months, about which I have previously informed the house. I am not yet in a position to put a firm estimate on export clearances for the whole of the crop year but I can assure hon. members that wheat and flour export clearances will substantially exceed last year's figure of about 252 million bushels.

As a result of this heavy outward movement, the wheat board has been able to increase its grain delivery quotas very substantially in recent weeks. As at May 1 only 14 stations remained on a quota of 1 bushel per specified acre. A 2-bushel quota is in effect at 478 stations. Some 572 stations have a 3-bushel quota, 602 stations a 4-bushel quota and 400 stations a 5-bushel quota. In addition to these basic quotas, supplementary quotas are in effect covering delivery of malting barley, high grade oats, rye and various classes of seed grain. Since the beginning of the season an open quota has been in effect covering the delivery of Durum wheat and flaxseed.

Total grain deliveries since August 1 are now about 300 million bushels and the Canadian wheat board expects that space will be provided at country elevators to enable total farm deliveries of about 500 million bushels during the crop year. It is expected that wheat deliveries for the whole of the present crop year will exceed 1954-55 but that deliveries of oats and barley will fall somewhat short of last year's figure.

I have been advised by the board that although they expect that they will be in a position to accept delivery from producers of as much grain as in 1954-55, it may not be possible for them to arrange to equalize deliveries by individual farmers to the extent that this was arranged for during the past two crop years. Hon. members may remember that during last crop year the board endeavoured to provide delivery opportunities to enable all producers to deliver a minimum quota of eight-bushels per specified acre. This looked like a feasible target. However, estimates of potential deliveries at many delivery stations proved to be wide of the mark, and it was not possible for the board to accept all the eight-bushel deliveries prior to July 31. It therefore became necessary for the board to issue special 1955-56 quota delivery permits to enable producers who had not delivered their eight-bushel quota prior to July 31 to complete these deliveries along with new quota deliveries during the current season.

It is always the aim of the board to equalize delivery opportunities in so far as this is possible. The board has advised me, however, that last year the attempt to reach a uniform target did have an adverse effect upon the marketing of Canadian grain in export markets. Much of the grain delivered last fall against the previous year's quota and moved to terminal positions was made up of varieties and grades not needed for immediate marketing requirements. This grain added to the congestion in storage facilities and utilized scarce transportation, thus creating difficulties for the board in moving to seaboard position for immediate clearance those varieties and grades of new crop grain for which there was an immediate and urgent demand.

In the light of this experience the Canadian wheat board have advised me, that if they are to meet market requirements and their forward sales commitments, it may not be possible to attain a uniform quota at all delivery stations during the present crop year.

The primary objective of the board will be to bring forward grain to cover sales commitments or for which there appears to be a ready demand. The board will however, working with the transport controller, the elevator companies and the railways, continue to endeavour to achieve as high a degree of equality of delivery opportunity as is possible without interfering with the sales objective. The board will increase delivery quotas at individual stations as space is created, but will restrict shipments of grain from higher quota stations to the movement of grain required to meet commitments. In order to avoid the serious situation that arose last year, the wheat board has decided that all quotas in effect as at July 31, 1956, will expire as at that date and deliveries after August 1 will apply against the 1956-57 crop year quotas which will be made effective on August 1.

Although this wheat quota policy may result in some producers in western Canada, at the end of the current crop year, having delivered more grain per specified acre than others, there should be general agreement that at a time of intense international competition, the Canadian wheat board must have freedom to give



preference to deliveries of the varieties and grades of grain for which there is an immediate demand and that the board cannot afford to pass up market opportunities in an endeavour to equalize farm deliveries between producers.

At this time, I also wish to announce to the house that the government has approved initial prices to be paid by the Canadian wheat board on the basic grades of wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1956, at the same level as during the present crop year. These initial prices are as follows:

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

Oats—65 cents per bushel No. 2 Canada Western in store Fort William-Port Arthur.

Barley—96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 Canada Western six-row in store Fort William-Port Arthur."

Supply Position Supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1955-56 crop year amount to some 993.8 million bushels, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 499.7 million and the 1955 crop placed at 494.1 million. Total supplies in the preceding year were slightly lower, at an estimated 910.6 million bushels. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 160.0 million bushels, some 833.8 million are available for export and for carryover during 1955-56 compared with 751.5 million in 1954-55.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain, equivalent during the first eight months (August—March) of the current crop year amounted to 157.6 million bushels, about 9 per cent lower than the 172.7 million exported in the corresponding period of the preceding year. The balance of 676.2 million bushels remaining on April 1 this year for export and for carryover exceeded by 17 per cent the 578.8 million on hand at the same date a year ago.

Deliveries of wheat from farms in the Prairie Provinces up to April 18 of the current crop year amounted to 157.7 million bushels, representing a decrease of about 6 per cent from the 167.5 million marketed during the same period of 1954-55. Due largely to poor road conditions wheat deliveries continued to fall behind outward shipments. During the five weeks preceding April 18, marketings of wheat totalled some 23.2 million bushels while exports (overseas clearances plus imports into the United States) and domestic use accounted for a disappearance of approximately 37.3 million bushels. Consequently the visible supply of Canadian wheat, although subject to minor fluctuations, declined from 344.1 million bushels at March 14 to a level of 329.9 million at April 18. Visible supplies at approximately the same date last year totalled 331.2 million bushels and 350.1 million two years ago.

Some 192.5 million bushels or 58 per cent of the current visible supply of wheat at April 18 were held in country elevators, compared with 196.5 million (59 per cent of total) and 192.5 million (55 per cent) in this position at approximately the same date in 1955 and 1954, respectively. Reflecting the heavy movement of wheat out of Lakehead terminals since the opening of navigation, April 18 stocks of 37.4 million bushels at Fort William-Port Arthur were down sharply from a month ago and below both the comparable 1955 and 1954 totals of 41.8 million and 54.2 million, respectively. In addition, some 10.2 million bushels are shown "in transit

lake" as against 3.8 million a year ago and 0.7 million two years ago. The 27.8 million bushels in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports were well above the 1955 figure of 16.3 million but down somewhat from the 32.8 million in 1954 with overseas clearances proceeding a brisk rate, supplies in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports at 12.5 million bushels were also down from the mid-March total and considerably below the 1955 and 1954 levels (at approximately April 18) of 19.0 million and 19.6 million bushels, respectively. Supplies in West Coast ports, (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert) at 11.8 million bushels were slightly above the 10.3 million last year and 10.6 million in 1954.

### Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55 <u>1/</u>	1955-56 <u>2/</u>
	- 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-February .....	0.1	<u>2/</u>
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-March ...	143.4	129.2
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-March .....	2.3	3.2
Total exports of wheat .....	145.8	132.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-March ..	27.0 <u>4/</u>	25.3 <u>5/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	172.7	157.6
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover .....	578.8	676.2

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.

### March Exports of Wheat and Flour Total 20.9 Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during March this year amounted to some 20.9 million bushels, virtually unchanged from the February, 1956 level of 21.0 million, but 2 per cent above the March, 1955 total of 20.5 million and 13 per cent greater than the ten-year (1945-1954)

March average of 18.6 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain during March, 1956



totalled 17.8 million bushels compared with 17.5 million during February and 16.9 million during March, 1955. On the basis of preliminary Customs returns, the equivalent of 3.2 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during March this year. This total is slightly below both the February figure of 3.4 million and the adjusted March, 1955 total of 3.6 million bushels.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first eight months of the current crop year amounted to 132.4 million bushels, about 9 per cent below the 145.8 million exported during the August—March period of 1954-55. The United Kingdom, Canada's leading purchaser of wheat as grain has received shipments totalling some 58.3 million bushels, representing 44 per cent of this year's total export movement. Other major markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels, were as follows: Federal Republic of Germany, 15.9; Japan, 15.8; Belgium, 8.2; Poland, 7.6; Netherlands, 3.9; Switzerland, 3.3; Italy, 3.2; United States, 3.2; Union of South Africa, 2.5; Norway, 2.3; Austria, 2.2; and Ireland, 1.8.

Exports of wheat flour from August 1 to March 31 of the current crop year, according to preliminary Customs returns, amounted to the equivalent of some 25.3 million bushels of wheat. This total is 6 per cent below the adjusted figure of 27.0 million bushels exported during the corresponding period of 1954-55. The United Kingdom was also the principal market for Canadian wheat flour, accounting for some 7.5 million bushels of wheat equivalent, or 30 per cent of the eight month total. Other substantial shipments of Canadian wheat flour during the period, with quantities in millions of bushels of wheat equivalent went to the following: Philippine Islands, 4.0; Venezuela, 2.4; Trinidad and Tobago, 1.5; Jamaica, 1.0; Leeward and Windward Islands, 0.7; United States, 0.5; Belgian Congo, 0.5; and the Gold Coast, 0.5.

1956 Season of  
Navigation Opens

Navigation at the Lakehead was opened for the 1956 season on April 5 by the arrival of the S.S. John E.F. Misener, although the official opening was not declared until Wednesday, April 11.

In 1955 the official opening was April 20 while the earliest opening on record was March 27 in both 1945 and 1953. Up to Wednesday, April 18, a total of some 32.1 million bushels of grain had already been cleared from Lakehead ports. Of this total, about 75 per cent or 24.1 million bushels, was wheat.

Delivery Quotas

Supplementary Rye Quota - In its Instructions to the Trade, re Quotas, No. 95, under date of April 30, the Canadian Wheat Board announced in part that "effective immediately, producers whose 1955-56 delivery permits indicate an acreage seeded to rye may deliver an additional supplementary quota of three (3) bushels per seeded acre to rye or a minimum of 100 bushels. This will bring the total supplementary rye quota authorized to date to six (6) bushels per seeded acre or a minimum of 200 bushels.

The Board also authorizes an additional maximum delivery of 100 bushels of rye by any producer who had no acreage seeded to rye in 1955 but had stocks of rye grown from the lands described in his permit book which were carried over from the previous year. This will increase the total quantity of rye which can be delivered by such producers this season to a maximum of 200 bushels."

General Quota Position

By May 2 this year, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 425 out of a total of 2,080 shipping points in the Western Division on a quota of 5 bushels per specified acre, while an additional 613



were on a 4-bushel quota. Of the remaining points, 13 were on a 1-bushel quota, 438 on a 2-bushel quota and 577 on a 3-bushel quota. Fourteen stations were reported as "closed".

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group  
as at May 2, 1956

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre					Closed Stations	Total
	One	Two	Three	Four	Five		
Ontario .....	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Manitoba .....	-	14	75	141	146	2	378
Saskatchewan .....	13	348	380	267	97	2	1,107
Alberta .....	-	76	122	203	179	9	589
British Columbia .	-	-	-	2	2	-	4
All Provinces ...	13	438	577	613	425	14	2,080

Rust Development      The following is the text of a report issued on April 11 by the Plant Pathology Laboratory at Winnipeg.

"The weather and conditions of crop growth in the Texas area are very important factors in determining the amount of rust overwintering. Over most of Texas cereal crops had a hard time during the winter owing to deficient moisture, but snow and rains in early February and, in some areas, in the latter part of March, have enabled the crops to survive. Despite the difficult growing conditions the rusts of wheat and oats have managed to survive the winter and have shown signs of considerable increase with the advent of somewhat better growing conditions.

Stem rust and leaf rust of wheat became established in the Panhandle of Texas and in adjacent areas of Oklahoma early last fall. A southward movement of these rusts apparently took place early in December when both rusts appeared on wheat at College Station in eastern central Texas. Early in December stem rust of oats and crown rust were found in many fields in eastern Texas, along the Gulf coast. By the middle of March stem rust of oats was general in south central Texas and was considered to present a serious threat. Crown rust was also prevalent though less widespread. Stem rust and leaf rust of wheat were present also but were less common than the oat rusts.

By the end of the first week in April wheat stem rust and oat stem rust were found in all fields examined in the Gulf coast area. In most oat fields all plants were infected, severity of oat stem rust ranging from 1 to 5 per cent. Leaf rust of wheat and crown rust of oats had increased rapidly, and it was estimated that the severity of crown rust infection in the coastal area would generally amount to 35 per cent on all plants, which is a heavier infection than has occurred in the last 4 years. In Oklahoma, which lies directly north of Texas, there was no evidence, about the first of April, that either stem rust or leaf rust of wheat had overwintered.

Canadian Wheat  
Stocks at  
March 31, 1956

Total stocks of Canadian wheat at March 31, 1956 were estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 751.6 million bushels, compared with 621.2 million on the same date in 1955 and the record 762.4 million in 1943. The ten-year (1946-1955) average was 399.8 million bushels. Data for these estimates were obtained from the Bureau's annual March 31 survey of grain held on farms, from returns by mill operators, and from information supplied by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, relative to stocks of grain in commercial positions. An estimated 403.8 million bushels, representing about 54 per cent of the total were held on farms, exceeding by a small margin the previous record holdings of 401.7 million in 1954. All but 7.8 million bushels of the total farm stocks were held on farms in the Prairie Provinces. Farm-held stocks in Saskatchewan were placed at 255.0 million while those in Alberta and Manitoba were estimated at 117.0 million and 24.0 million bushels, respectively. Of the 347.9 million bushels held in off-farm positions, 200.5 were in country elevators. Stocks in Lakehead positions amounted to 52.4 million bushels, compared with 41.6 million a year ago and 54.6 million two years ago. Supplies in Eastern elevators totalled 33.1 million bushels, relatively unchanged from the March-end stocks of 32.6 million in 1955 but considerably below the 1954 total of 50.9 million bushels.

Stocks of Canadian Wheat at March 31, 1954-1956 1/

Position	1954 <u>2/</u>	1955 <u>2/</u>	1956
- thousand bushels -			
<u>In Canada</u>			
On farms .....	401,660	286,050	403,760
Country elevators .....	197,235	199,585	200,541
Interior private and mill elevators ....	6,928	7,286	6,346
Interior terminal elevators .....	15,000	15,252	13,790
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators ....	10,880	8,243	10,217
Victoria elevator .....	239	622	745
Prince Rupert elevator .....	53	53	37
Churchill elevator .....	2,516	2,400	4,206
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators .....	54,557	41,582	52,406
Storage afloat (Lakehead) .....	195	-	177
In transit-rail (Western Division) .....	6,870	8,364	9,843
Eastern elevators .....	50,904	32,632	33,078
Storage afloat (Eastern Division) .....	8,066	12,796	8,328
In transit-rail (Eastern Division) .....	1,352	3,206	4,934
Eastern mills (mill bins only) .....	2,248	2,907	2,694
Western mills (mill bins only) .....	342	235	402
Totals, in Canada .....	759,044	621,214	751,503
<u>In United States</u> .....	609	36	117
Totals, in Canada and United States ..	759,653	621,249	751,620

1/ Stocks other than on farms and in mills compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, as at the close of business on March 31, 1954, March 30, 1955, and March 28, 1956.

2/ Revised.



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 .....	516,879	3,550,977	1,040,755	5,108,611	9,556,484
	14 .....	678,774	4,298,529	1,520,139	6,497,442	10,821,432
	21 .....	418,894	1,997,236	1,177,246	3,593,376	10,690,288
	28 .....	360,226	1,330,437	1,224,384	2,915,047	8,443,684
January	4, 1956 .	514,361	1,991,856	1,363,145	3,869,362	5,673,461
	11 .....	599,347	2,663,110	1,507,972	4,770,429	8,656,216
	18 .....	568,479	3,344,909	1,807,506	5,720,894	5,345,966
	25 .....	377,814	2,021,080	2,079,468	4,478,362	4,252,213
February	1 .....	544,148	2,967,617	2,109,843	5,621,608	3,816,169
	8 .....	438,140	2,239,319	2,011,334	4,688,793	3,089,687
	15 .....	456,664	3,352,409	2,388,033	6,197,106	1,804,112
	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
	21 .....	469,686	3,039,030	2,071,750	5,580,466	2,891,955
	28 .....	859,183	3,488,778	2,035,825	6,383,786	2,187,474
April	4 .....	302,901	1,793,759	1,006,550	3,103,210	3,574,671
	11 .....	481,857	2,069,605	1,222,818	3,774,280	2,787,058
	18 .....	379,155	2,708,419	1,296,491	4,384,065	6,070,856
Totals .....		17,533,505	92,105,383	48,098,795	157,737,683	167,485,477
Average similar period:						
1944-45--1953-54.		33,822,299	154,509,987	79,832,258	268,164,544	



Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, April 18, 1956  
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1954 and 1955

Position	1954	1955	1956
- thousand bushels -			
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	23,589	23,629	20,390
Saskatchewan .....	115,681	109,355	102,551
Alberta .....	53,188	63,510	69,543
Totals .....	192,458	196,494	192,484
Interior private and mill .....	7,289	7,064	6,278
Interior terminals .....	15,109	15,294	13,910
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	10,202	9,411	11,254
Victoria .....	331	789	498
Prince Rupert .....	53	53	37
Churchill .....	2,516	2,400	4,206
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	54,168	41,845	37,366
Storage Afloat .....	195	-	177
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	9,687	14,331	9,595
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports .....	32,757	16,295	27,806
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports .....	19,643	18,951	12,537
Storage Afloat .....	3,555	1,586	-
In transit lake .....	668	3,789	10,223
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	519	2,858	3,016
United States ports .....	931	-	470
Totals .....	350,080	331,161	329,857

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August—March, 1955-56 with Comparisons

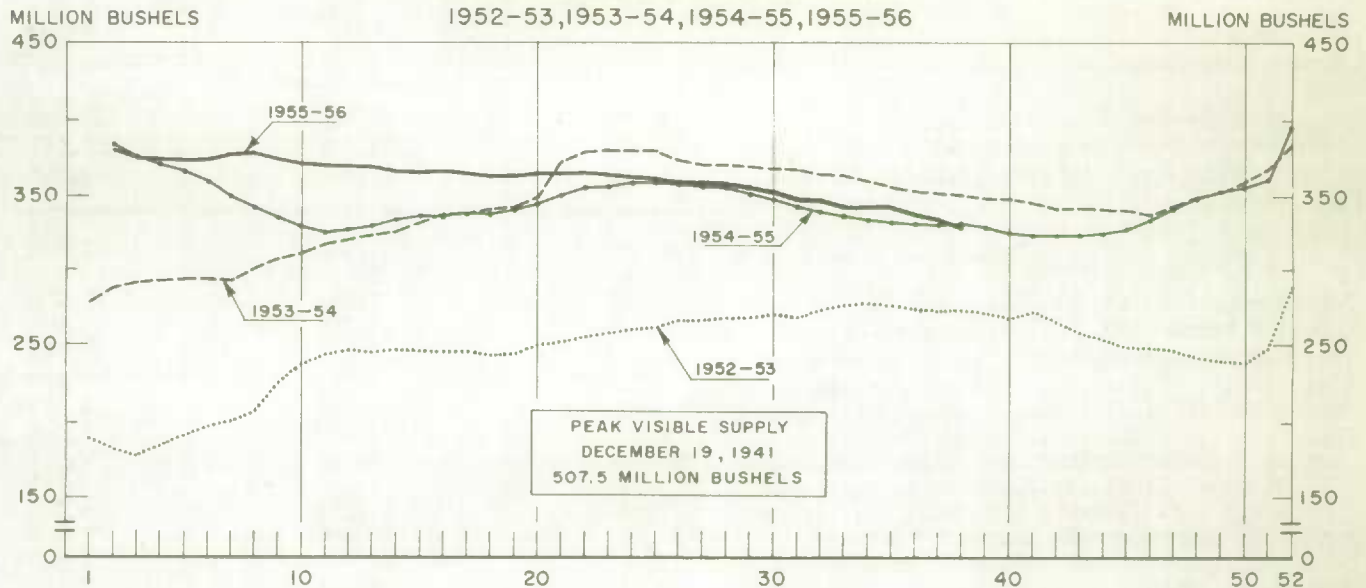
Grade	Crop Year		August—March			
	Average 1949-50— 1953-54	1954-55	1954-55		1955-56	
	per cent	per cent	cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard .....	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Man. Northern .....	7.6	4.3	5,559	5.5	3,482	3.4
2 Man. Northern .....	30.8	35.8	41,735	41.2	34,502	34.1
3 Man. Northern .....	16.1	26.4	24,211	23.9	24,000	23.7
4 Man. Northern .....	8.0	8.3	6,047	6.0	5,207	5.1
5 Wheat .....	8.2	4.5	2,935	2.9	9,902	9.8
6 Wheat .....	4.2	2.2	1,467	1.4	3,508	3.5
Feed Wheat .....	0.7	1.0	775	0.8	620	0.6
Garnet .....	0.8	0.9	1,263	1.2	456	0.5
Amber Durum .....	2.3	1.8	2,311	2.3	5,896	5.8
Alberta Winter .....	0.3	0.4	418	0.4	680	0.7
Toughs 2/ 3/ .....	16.2	11.9	12,124	12.0	8,649	8.5
Damps 2/ 4/ .....	3.6	0.3	374	0.4	9	1/
Rejected 2/ .....	0.7	2.1	1,583	1.6	3,805	3.8
All Others .....	0.5	0.4	423	0.4	541	0.5
Totals .....	100.0	100.0	101,225	100.0	101,257	100.0

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

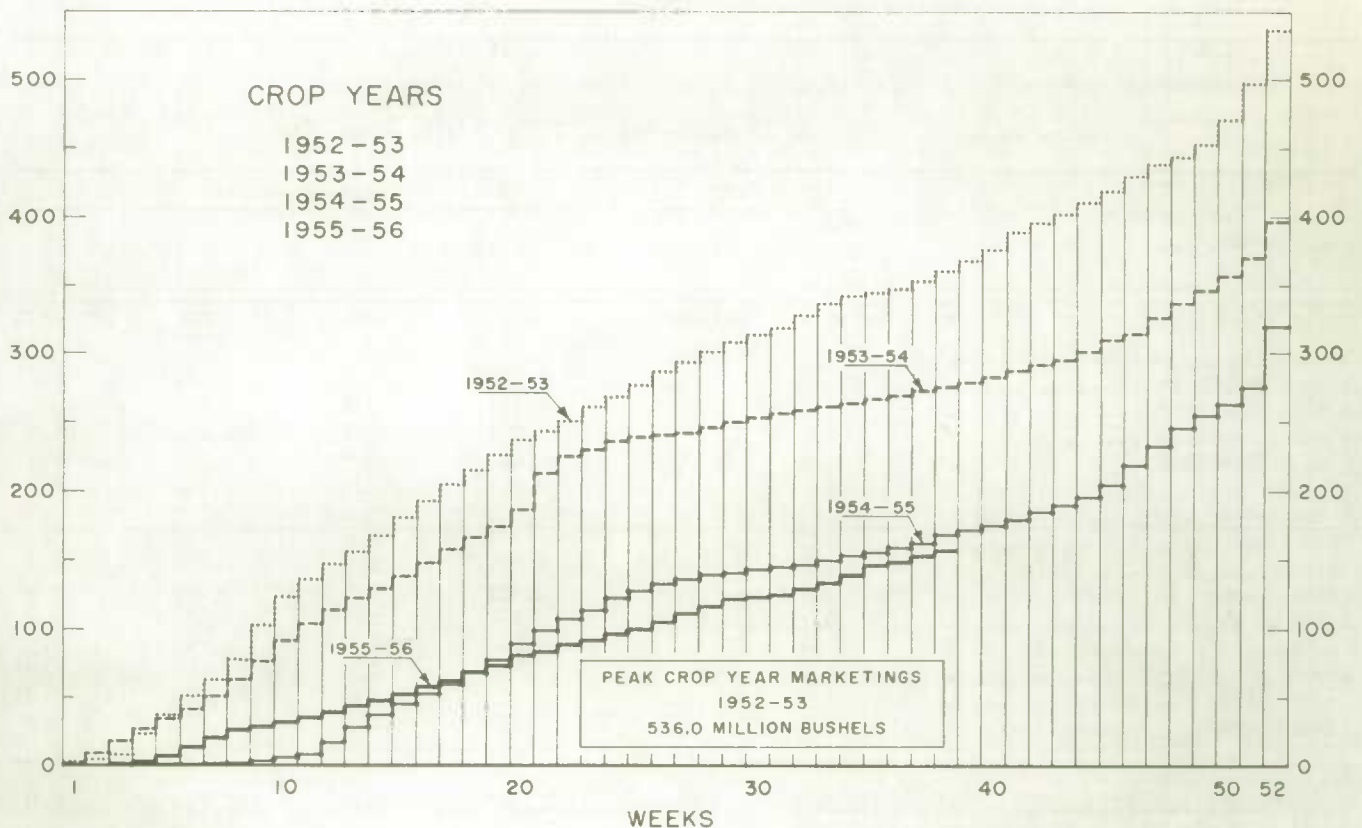
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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 April 18, 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 .....	73,026	-	742,411
Milwaukee .....	15,940	-	52,923
Chicago .....	68,700	-	341,044
Huron .....	-	40,000	40,000
Buffalo .....	3,026,038	1,683,591	1,494,997
Totals, Vessel .....	3,183,704	1,723,591	2,671,375
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports .....	16,534	35,822	1,335
Other U.S.A. Points .....	1,659,919	648,337	1,575,046
Totals, Rail .....	1,676,453	684,159	1,576,381
Totals, Shipments .....	4,860,157	2,407,750	4,247,756

\*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 April 18, amounted to some 4.2 million bushels, exceeding by a wide margin the 2.4 million shipped during the corresponding period of 1954-55 but about 13 per cent below the 4.9 million of two years ago. Slightly more than half of this season's shipments have been moved by vessel, with Buffalo being the principal destination.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first eight months of the current crop year amounted to some 29.5 million bushels as against 27.0 million during the August-March 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 March 31, 1955	August 1, 1955 to March 31, 1956
- bushels -		
Port McNicoll .....	7,412,487	8,697,950
Midland .....	10,012,830	11,951,671
Collingwood .....	1,872,709	1,426,896
Owen Sound .....	2,855,967	3,486,965
Goderich .....	682,594	575,289
Sarnia .....	3,782,365	3,223,539
Walkerville .....	348,776	-
Lakefield .....	-	99,282
Totals .....	26,967,728	29,461,592



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	1,599,503
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, March, 1956

Grade	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	U.S.A.
- bushels -						
1 Northern .....	-	-	-	-	20	-
2 Northern .....	-	-	-	-	10,000	-
3 Northern .....	-	-	-	18,000	-	-
5 Wheat .....	5,333	5,100	6,000	131,650	69,500	-
6 Wheat .....	-	-	-	-	7,500	115,000
Toughs .....	2,000	7,500	9,000	42,739	29,495	-
Rejected .....	-	1,456	4,500	25,548	6,000	-
Amber Durum .....	-	237,500	769,000	5,987	80,500	-
All Others .....	-	1,555	-	5,786	2,833	-
Totals .....	7,333	253,111	788,500	229,710	205,848	115,000

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1955 to April 18, 1956, with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels -					
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	58,119,805	272,192	8,065,014	353,927	650,856
Victoria .....	1,579,039	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert .....	354,667	-	3,059,490	-	-
<u>Churchill</u> .....	12,818,845	-	-	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal .....	22,704,971	1,247,707	6,480,518	1,678,440	5,249,095
Sorel .....	3,835,116	-	341,177	-	155,769
Three Rivers .....	3,462,828	-	420,000	-	-
Quebec .....	4,530,680	-	128,218	-	-
<u>Maritime Ports</u>					
Saint John .....	2,334,081	-	-	-	-
West Saint John .....	20,717,004	49,420	81,588	232,560	2,465,737
Halifax .....	17,003,365	-	-	92,163	1,059,398
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u> .....	182,333	-	-	-	-
Totals .....	147,642,734	1,569,319	18,576,005	2,357,090	9,580,855
August 1-April 20, 1955 .....	150,123,657	4,377,622	36,990,508	2,809,239	4,352,458

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to March 31, 1956 represent the movement of some 9,316 thousand bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the first seven months of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims already exceeds by 10 per cent the revised August-February, 1954-55 total of 8,465 thousand bushels. Approximately 76 per cent of the current year's shipments went to destinations in Quebec and Ontario, with an additional 13 per cent going to British Columbia and the remainder to the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland.

Provincial Distribution of Wheat Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy  
August-February, 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	234	1,329
September .....	10	21	114	52	495	439	195	1,325
October .....	11	15	57	48	543	446	177	1,298
November .....	12	22	90	58	588	544	271	1,586
December .....	5	12	85	47	615	530	172	1,468
January, 1956 .....	4	18	54	53	583	529	110	1,351
February .....	2	21	54	24	402	431	23	959
Totals <u>1/</u> .....	52	136	530	340	3,714	3,361	1,182	9,316
Same period 1954-55:								
Preliminary <u>2/</u> .....	48	66	478	286	3,206	2,649	1,436	8,168
Revised <u>1/</u> .....	51	69	497	294	3,252	2,685	1,616	8,465

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 297,642 tons during the August-February period of the current crop year. As with freight-assisted shipments of wheat, this total is based on claims submitted up to March 31, 1956 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. By March 31, 1955 claims had been filed for 302,662 tons out of a total of 317,605 tons shipped during the first seven months of the 1954-55 crop year. Approximately one half (150,710 tons) of the current shipments went to destinations in Quebec, while 83,242 tons went to various Ontario points.

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

Province	1954-55		1955-56
	Preliminary <u>2/</u>	Revised <u>1/</u>	Preliminary <u>1/</u>
- tons -			
Newfoundland .....	1,880	2,095	2,154
Prince Edward Island .....	3,682	3,991	4,225
Nova Scotia .....	19,929	21,328	19,582
New Brunswick .....	17,153	18,083	17,881
Quebec .....	152,375	157,354	150,710
Ontario .....	83,131	85,935	83,242
British Columbia .....	24,512	28,819	19,848
Totals .....	302,662	317,605	297,642

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

2/ Based on claims filed up to March 31, 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	22,320	19,057
February .....	16,985	537	3,445	20,967	23,764
March .....	17,631	130	3,181	20,942	20,789
Totals .....	129,167	3,189	25,272	157,628	157,808

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.



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

Destination	December	March		August—March	
	Wheat Flour 1/2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
			- bushels -		
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom .....	966,556	951,443	6,630,886	7,514,321	58,325,390
<u>Africa</u>					
British East Africa .....	-	172	-	9,294	-
Gambia .....	6,406	1,546	-	30,418	-
Gold Coast .....	43,683	30,337	-	481,627	-
Nigeria .....	7,646	16,832	-	203,900	-
Other British West Africa .....	-	-	-	13,158	-
Rhodesia .....	-	-	93,333	-	375,200
Sierra Leone .....	29,572	12,144	-	190,723	-
Union of South Africa .....	-	-	671,253	-	2,515,520
<u>Asia</u>					
Ceylon .....	113,146	-	-	113,146	-
Cyprus .....	-	-	343,467	-	343,467
Hong Kong .....	52,654	46,368	19,040	410,727	420,914
Malaya and Singapore .....	42,984	111,435	-	350,987	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar .....	-	10,304	-	63,864	-
Malta .....	-	-	-	-	420,000
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas .....	15,990	8,499	-	151,294	-
Barbados .....	23,671	29,957	-	237,882	833
Bermuda .....	6,830	7,510	-	72,423	-
British Honduras .....	5,071	460	-	25,721	-
Jamaica .....	101,791	103,153	-	974,266	8,264
Leeward and Windward Islands ...	64,473	82,259	-	697,408	-
Trinidad and Tobago .....	141,484	141,082	-	1,468,653	1,877
<u>Oceania</u>					
Fiji .....	-	-	-	920	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana .....	4,251	11,546	-	42,895	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries.	1,626,207	1,565,047	7,757,979	13,053,627	62,411,465
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira .....	-	-	-	36,952	-
Belgian Congo .....	54,051	44,022	-	532,100	4,592
Ethiopia .....	-	-	-	-	1,333
Liberia .....	893	336	-	8,574	-
Morocco .....	5,058	-	-	31,434	-
Portuguese East Africa .....	-	257	76,160	9,087	150,826
Portuguese West Africa .....	5,721	2,465	-	47,359	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia .....	1,059	773	-	13,283	20,209
Israel .....	-	-	-	-	724,266
Japan .....	81,040	41,110	1,635,147	435,408	15,845,397
Korea .....	-	-	-	50,706	50
Lebanon .....	3,746	2,254	-	110,253	-
Philippine Islands .....	132,269	760,016	-	4,037,528	-
Portuguese Asia .....	6,117	4,740	-	81,530	-
Syria .....	306	-	-	1,309	-
Thailand .....	28,166	52,613	-	235,240	-

- 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				
	March 23	March 30	April 6	April 13	April 20

- cents and eighths per bushel -

Initial Payment to Producers

1 Northern .....	140	140	140	140	140
2 Northern .....	136	136	136	136	136
3 Northern .....	134	134	134	134	134
4 Northern .....	126	126	126	126	126
5 Wheat .....	110	110	110	110	110
6 Wheat .....	104	104	104	104	104
Feed Wheat .....	98	98	98	98	98
1 C.W. Garnet .....	122	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet .....	117	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	124	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter .....	119	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	150	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	147	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	140	140	140	140	140

International Wheat Agreement

and Domestic Sales

1 Northern .....	175/6	175/4	174/6	175/3	175/4
2 Northern .....	171/6	171/4	170/6	171/3	171/4
3 Northern .....	165/6	165/4	164/6	164/4	164/2
4 Northern .....	156/6	156/6	156/6	157/3	157/5
5 Wheat .....	132	132	133/2	134	134/3
6 Wheat .....	128	128	129/2	130	130/3
Feed Wheat .....	124	124	125/2	126	126/3
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/6	146/6	146/4	146/7
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142	142/6	142/6	142/4	142/7
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139	139/6	139/6	139/4	139/7
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	144/1	145/6	146/3	146/4	146/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	140/1	141/6	142/3	142/4	142/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	136/1	137/6	138/7	139/4	139/7
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	204/6	204/6	204/6	204/4	204/4
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	202/6	202/6	202/6	202/4	202/4
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	201/6	201/6	201/6	201/4	201/4

Exports - Class II

1 Northern .....	175/6	175/4	174/6	175/3	175/4
2 Northern .....	171/6	171/4	170/6	171/3	171/4
3 Northern .....	165/6	165/4	164/6	164/4	164/2
4 Northern .....	156/6	156/6	156/6	157/3	157/5
5 Wheat .....	132	132	133/2	134	134/3
6 Wheat .....	128	128	129/2	130	130/3
Feed Wheat .....	124	124	125/2	126	126/3
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/6	146/6	146/4	146/7
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142	142/6	142/6	142/4	142/7
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139	139/6	139/6	139/4	139/7
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	254	254	254	254	254
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	250	250	250	250	250/6
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	244	244	244	244	246/6



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

Class and Grade	Week ending				
	March 23	March 30	April 6	April 13	April 20

- cents and eighths per bushel -

Initial Payment to Producers

1 Northern .....	140	140	140	140	140
2 Northern .....	136	136	136	136	136
3 Northern .....	134	134	134	134	134
4 Northern .....	126	126	126	126	126
5 Wheat .....	110	110	110	110	110
6 Wheat .....	104	104	104	104	104
Feed Wheat .....	98	98	98	98	98
1 C.W. Garnet .....	122	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet .....	117	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	124	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter .....	119	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	150	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	147	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	140	140	140	140	140

International Wheat Agreement

and Domestic Sales

1 Northern .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	173/3	173/4
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	169/3	169/4
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/4	162/4
4 Northern .....	154/6	154/6	154/6	155/3	155/5
5 Wheat .....	131	131	132/2	133	133/3
6 Wheat .....	127	127	128/2	129	129/3
Feed Wheat .....	123	123	124/2	125	125/3
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/6	146/6	146/4	146/7
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142	142/6	142/6	142/4	142/7
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139	139/6	139/6	139/4	139/7
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	144/1	145/6	146/3	146/4	146/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	140/1	141/6	142/3	142/4	142/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	136/1	137/6	138/7	139/4	139/7

Export - Class II

1 Northern .....	172/6	172/6	172/6	173/3	173/4
2 Northern .....	168/6	168/6	168/6	169/3	169/4
3 Northern .....	162/6	162/6	162/6	162/4	162/4
4 Northern .....	154/6	154/6	154/6	155/3	155/5
5 Wheat .....	131	131	132/2	133	133/3
6 Wheat .....	127	127	128/2	129	129/3
Feed Wheat .....	123	123	124/2	125	125/3
1 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/6	146/6	146/4	146/7
2 C.W. Garnet .....	142	142/6	142/6	142/4	142/7
3 C.W. Garnet .....	139	139/6	139/6	139/4	139/7
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	144/1	145/6	146/3	146/4	146/7
2 Alberta Winter .....	140/1	141/6	142/3	142/4	142/7
3 Alberta Winter .....	136/1	137/6	138/7	139/4	139/7

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during March, 1956 amounted to 3,337,000 hundredweight, some seven per cent above the February total of 3,125,000 hundredweight but ten per cent below the March, 1955 level of 3,721,000 hundredweight. The ten-year (1946-1955) average production for the month of March was 3,938,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during March this year had a total rated capacity of 179,026 hundredweight per 24-hour day and, on the basis of a 26-day working period 71.7 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during March amounted to 7.6 million bushels compared with 7.2 million bushels milled during the preceding month and 8.5 million bushels milled during March, 1955. Of the wheat milled for flour during March, 1956, some 6.9 million bushels were Western Canadian Spring wheat (other than Durum), with the remainder consisting of Ontario Winter wheat (427,000 bushels) and Durum wheat (104,000 bushels).

Exports According to preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during March, 1956 amounted to 1,383,000 hundredweight (some 3,181,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) representing a decrease of about eight per cent from flour exports of the preceding month. Flour exports during March went to 51 countries with the United Kingdom accounting for shipments equivalent to 951 thousand bushels or 30 per cent of the total. Other major markets for Canadian wheat flour during the month, with shipments in thousands of bushels of wheat equivalent, were as follows: Philippine Islands, 760; Venezuela, 278; Trinidad and Tobago, 141; Malaya and Singapore, 111; and Jamaica, 103.

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
February .....	7,160,710	3,124,518	1,497,615
March .....	7,593,348	3,336,875	1,382,973
Totals .....	61,087,937	26,697,469	10,987,911
Same period 1954-55 (Revised) .....	63,523,152	27,985,801	11,742,830

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.



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 July-March period of the current United States crop year totalled 3.5 million bushels as against 1.3 million during the same months of 1954-55. Domestic disappearance in 1955-56 is placed at 613.0 million bushels, leaving some 1,350.3 million available for export and for carryover in 1955-56 compared with 1,295.7 million available during 1954-55.

United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 <u>1/</u>
- 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-March .....	1.3	3.5
Total estimated supplies <u>2/</u> .....	1,888.5	1,963.3
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year <u>3/</u> .	592.8	613.0 <u>4/</u>
Available for export and for carryover .....	1,295.7	1,350.3
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July-March .....	175.8	170.1
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July-March .....	32.9	35.7
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products .	208.7	205.8
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover .....	1,087.0	1,144.5

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Excluding imports for April-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.

4/ Revised.

Exports of wheat, wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-March period of the current crop year amounted to 205.8 million bushels, about 1 per cent below the 208.7 million exported during the corresponding period of 1954-55. The balance remaining at April 1 this year for export and for carryover totalled 1,144.5 million bushels, exceeding by 5 per cent the 1,087.0 million at the same date last year.



According to the April 27 issue of the "Wheat Situation", published by the United States Department of Agriculture, it is anticipated that exports during the current marketing year may reach 275 million bushels. With domestic requirements expected to total about 613 million a total disappearance of some 888 million bushels is in prospect and a carryover of approximately 1,080 million would be on hand July 1, 1956.

April Winter      In a report released on April 10, the Crop Reporting Board of the  
Wheat Crop      United States Department of Agriculture stated that winter wheat  
Estimate      conditions on April 1 indicated a crop of 716 million bushels. This  
would be 2 per cent larger than the 1955 crop of 705 million bushels  
but 18 per cent less than average. Declines from the prospective production as of  
December 1 in Oklahoma and Colorado and in several of the important wheat producing  
States of the Corn Belt, and the Pacific Northwest more than offset improved  
production prospects in Texas, South Dakota, Idaho, Wyoming, and several minor  
producing States.

This has resulted in a decline of 19 million bushels from the December 1 forecast. The indicated yield at 15.9 bushels per seeded acre is the same as the 1955 and 10-year average yields. The current estimate is based on an appraisal of the April 1 condition of wheat as reported by individual growers and on soil moisture reserves and other factors affecting crop production. The current estimate of production assumes normal weather, insect and disease conditions for the remainder of the crop season. Damage due to dry soil conditions and high winds or beneficial effects of moisture received after April 1 are not reflected in the estimate of production or acreage remaining for harvest.

Total abandonment and diversion to uses other than grain is indicated at 8 million acres, 17.7 per cent of the total acreage seeded for all purposes last fall and winter. This is slightly less than the per cent indicated last December. Of the 8 million-acre total, 5.6 million acres are in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Colorado. For the United States last year, 10.7 million acres or 24.1 per cent of the total acreage seeded were lost or diverted.

April 1, 1956      According to a report published by the Crop Reporting Board, United  
Wheat Stocks      States Department of Agriculture wheat stocks of 1,288 million  
Set Record      bushels stored in all positions on April 1 are the largest for that  
date in the comparable series beginning in 1935. This total is 4  
per cent larger than a year earlier, the previous record holdings, and more than  
double the 1945-54 April 1 average. The stocks total was more than a third larger  
than the 1955 production, reflecting the record large carryover of old wheat on  
July 1, a large part of which was Government owned. Current stocks are less than  
January 1, 1956 stocks by 254 million bushels or 16 per cent.

Off-farm stocks of 1,069 million bushels, 4 per cent larger than a year earlier, were a record total for the date with holdings at record levels for all off-farm positions except merchant mills. Of this total, more than nine-tenths was either owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation or was warehouse-stored wheat under Government commodity loans. Stocks of wheat on farms at 219 million bushels were slightly above a year ago with nearly two-thirds of the total under Government loan.

The off-farm total includes 103 million bushels at merchant mills, 468 million at interior mills, elevators and warehouses and 366 million bushels commercial stocks at terminals. The Commodity Credit Corporation had a record total

for the date of 132 million bushels stored in bins under CCC control, aboard ships in the "mothball fleet" and in transit to ports. Other Government-owned wheat is included in the estimate for the position where stored.

U. S. Wheat Stocks by Positions, April 1, 1956 with Comparisons

Position	April 1 1954	April 1 1955	Jan. 1 1956	April 1 1956
- thousand bushels -				
On Farms <u>1/</u> .....	296,598	211,592	320,800	218,850
Terminals <u>2/</u> .....	298,934	351,913	403,181	366,412
Commodity Credit Cor. <u>3/</u> .....	47,483	122,509	141,056	132,022
Merchant Mills <u>1/ 4/</u> .....	104,778	101,475	126,878	102,515
Int. Mills, Elev. & Whses. <u>1/ 5/</u> .	380,137	447,579	550,101	467,785
Totals .....	1,127,930	1,235,068	1,542,016	1,287,584

1/ Estimates of the Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Commercial stocks reported by Grain Division, AMS, at 44 Terminal cities.

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

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

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

Minimum Average Support Price      On April 23 Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Raft Benson announced an increase in the minimum national average support price for \$2.00 per Bushel      1956-crop wheat to \$2.00 per bushel.

This is in line with the President's farm message of April 16 announcing prompt administrative action to increase farm income, with a minimum wheat price support of \$2.00 per bushel but not less than 82 1/2 per cent of the wheat parity price. In the event that 82 1/2 per cent of parity as of the beginning of the marketing year (July 1, 1956) is more than \$2.00 per bushel, the support price will be increased. At present, \$2.00 is 83.7 per cent of parity.

Specific support rates by classes and grades for county and terminal locations will be made available soon. Wheat price support will be carried out, as in the past, through non-recourse loans and purchase agreements, and will be available from the beginning of harvest through January 31, 1957. Both wheat marketing quotas (approved by producers in a referendum June 25, 1955) and acreage allotments are in effect for the 1956 crop of wheat.

Wheat price support will be available at the full rate in the commercial area (36 major wheat-producing States) to producers who plant within their acreage allotments and marketing quotas. In the 12 non-commercial wheat-producing States, price-support rates will be at 75 per cent of the level available in the commercial area, as provided by law.

The April 23 announcement, following the President's farm message, raises the minimum support price for 1956-crop wheat from the \$1.81 per bushel level



(76 per cent of parity) previously announced. For 1955-crop wheat, the national average support price was \$2.08 per bushel or 82 1/2 per cent of parity.

Approximately 318 million bushels of 1955-crop wheat have been put under price support by producers. Of this total, 274.6 million bushels were put under loan and 43.5 million bushels under purchase agreements. As of April 11, the Commodity Credit Corporation had uncommitted inventory stocks of wheat amounting to an estimated 871,036,000 bushels.

Grain Storage      The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced on April 30, the  
Bins Purchased      purchase of 30,765 circular steel bins with a total capacity of  
                         approximately 100 million bushels for the storage of Commodity  
Credit Corporation-owned grain in storage-short areas, primarily in the midwest.

The total cost to CCC for the storage structures is estimated to be about \$30.2 million, including cost of structures, transportation, and erection at storage sites. This is an average erected cost of about 30 cents per bushel of capacity. Bin purchase prices include all costs. In making awards USDA, in addition to appraising the bid prices, also took into consideration the ability of the bidder to deliver erected bins to USDA by July 31 and whether or not he was an established manufacturer of storage bins.

The USDA continued the purchase only of circular-type 3250-bushel capacity steel bins. This size provides greater flexibility in moving and disposing of CCC's emergency storage facilities. The circular bins can be taken down for removal to new sites in the event storage shortages become more acute in other areas. This feature permits more satisfactory lease negotiations when bin site leases expire. Because of their smaller size, the bins are more suitable for disposal to farmers when no longer needed by CCC, thus adding to the total of on-farm storage.

When delivery of the bins purchased today is completed late in July, the CCC will have a total capacity of approximately 984 million bushels in bin-type storage. In addition, 79.9 million bushels of wheat are stored in 348 ships of the U.S. Maritime Administration Reserve Fleet at east and west coast anchorages. This emergency type storage, either in ships or bins, is used only for storage of government-owned grains. It is used only in areas where commercial facilities are not able to provide ample storage for both producer-and-CCC-owned grains.

The extremely heavy movement of 1955-crop grains under price support indicates a major storage problem for CCC this summer and fall. By moving early to acquire additional storage, the USDA hopes to prevent any tie-up of commercial facilities that might otherwise be caused by movement of CCC-owned grains, thus interfering with the orderly marketing of 1956 crops. USDA officials pointed out that the large quantities of grains in farmer, commercial, and government inventories indicate a continuing tight storage situation as new crops are harvested and moved to storage. They urged producers to take the needed steps to assure adequate storage for their own production. Government storage facility loans and technical assistance are available to assist farmers in building grain storage structures.



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
April 2, 1956	.....	233 - 251 3/4	April 2, 1956	.....	232 3/8 - 234 3/8
3	.....	236 3/4 - 239	3	.....	233 5/8 - 235 5/8
4	.....	234 1/2 - 256	4	.....	235 1/2 - 237 1/2
5	.....	236 - 240	5	.....	237 1/2 - 239 1/2
6	.....	233 3/4 - 256 1/4	6	.....	238 - 241
9	.....	237 - 239	9	.....	237 3/8 - 240 3/8
10	.....	234 1/4 - 237 3/4	10	.....	236 7/8 - 239 7/8
11	.....	239	11	.....	237 1/8 - 240 1/8
12	.....	235 1/2	12	.....	235 5/8 - 238 5/8
13	.....	232 1/2	13	.....	235 1/8 - 238 1/8
16	.....	231 3/4	16	.....	234 1/8 - 237 1/8
17	.....	231 1/2 - 253	17	.....	234 - 237
18	.....	231 1/2 - 253	18	.....	234 1/2 - 237 1/2
19	.....	232 - 233	19	.....	236 1/8 - 239 1/8
20	.....	232 1/2	20	.....	236 5/8 - 239 5/8
23	.....	227 1/4 - 232	23	.....	235 1/4 - 238 1/4
24	.....	228	24	.....	235 - 236
25	.....	229 3/4	25	.....	234 5/8 - 237 5/8
26	.....	228 1/2 - 231	26	.....	234 5/8 - 237 5/8
27	.....	226 - 247	27	.....	234 3/8 - 237 3/8
30	.....	223 1/2 - 245 1/2	30	.....	234 3/8 - 237 3/8

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date		May	July	September	December	March
				- cents and eighths per bushel -		
April	2, 1956 .....	227/5	209/4	211/3	215/3	218
	3 .....	230/6	209/5	211/5	215/5	218/4
	4 .....	235/2	212	214/1	217/4	219/7
	5 .....	234/6	214/7	216/7	220/2	222/6
	6 .....	236/4	216/1	218	221/4	223/6
	9 .....	234	212/7	215/2	219	221/2
	10 .....	235/4	212/3	214/1	217/6	220
	11 .....	236/4	212/1	213/7	217/6	220
	12 .....	235/5	209/6	211/6	215/6	217/6
	13 .....	235/1	207/4	208/4	212/4	214/6
	16 .....	238	208/7	210/6	214/3	216/4
	17 .....	236/4	207/7	209/5	213/2	215/2
	18 .....	237/4	209/1	211/1	214/6	217
	19 .....	238/4	211/2	213/2	217	219/1
	20 .....	240/1	213/6	215/5	219	221/2
	23 .....	238/3	211/2	212/7	216/2	218/2
	24 .....	239/1	212/7	214/6	218/1	219/6
	25 .....	239/3	214/2	216/2	219/4	221/6
	26 .....	238	214	215/4	218/7	221
	27 .....	236/1	213/2	214/6	217/6	219/6
	30 .....	236/4	212/4	214/4	217/5	219/2

# ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the crop year 1955-56 now amount to some 260.3 million bushels, consisting of the revised December 1, 1955 carryover of 83.2 million bushels and the new crop of 177.1 million. Supplies of the size indicated are approximately one quarter below the comparable 1953-54 total of 342.9 million bushels. Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the four months December, 1955 to March, 1956 amounted to some 37.1 million bushels as against 47.0 million exported during the corresponding period of the preceeding crop year. The balance remaining on April 1, 1956 for export and for carryover totalled 87.2 million bushels, slightly more than half the 163.6 million remaining on April 1, 1955.

## Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) <u>2/</u> .....	60.3	83.2 <u>3/</u>
New crop .....	282.6 <u>4/</u>	177.1 <u>4/</u>
Total estimated domestic supplies .....	342.9	260.3 <u>3/</u>
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	132.3	136.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	210.6	124.3 <u>3/</u>
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December—March .....	46.6	35.9
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec.—Mar. ....	0.4	1.2
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	47.0	37.1
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover .....	163.6	87.2

1/ Preliminary.      2/ Includes allowances for farm stocks.  
3/ Revised.      4/ 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 April 18, 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 18.00 pesos to the United States dollar.

Weather and Crops The temperature during much of the past month has been several degrees cooler than normal and a few light early frosts have been experienced in some areas. This weather has hindered the development of the late-sown sunflower crop and government officials are recommending that cattle be turned in on some of the more retarded fields which they feel have no hope of



reaching maturity. Excellent heavy rains have fallen in much of the cereal zone providing moisture for newly-sown dual purpose winter grains and permitting the land to be prepared for further sowings. These rains have benefitted the late-sown corn but have retarded harvesting of the early fields. Pasture conditions have responded to these rains and there is optimism that pastures will go into the winter in good condition thus reducing the drain on grain stocks and reducing the probability of too extensive grazing of dual purpose crops such as barley, rye, oats and even wheat.

Corn - 1955-56 Crop In spite of some heavy rainfall corn harvesting has been favoured generally by the cool weather of the past couple of weeks. The crop has started to come into the river ports in some volume. Individual yields have been varying widely but quality is generally very good. Trade estimates of production still range between 4 1/2 and 5 1/2 million tons (177.2 and 216.5 million bushels) with the majority in the lower end of the bracket. Average yields would have to be truly exceptional for total outturn to even reach 5 million (196.8 million).

I.N.G.E. came into the market late in March and sold 80,000 tons (3,149,000 bushels) for June-July shipment at prices between 1,162.26 pesos per ton (\$1.64 per bushel) for payment in sterling, etc. to 1,287 pesos (\$1.82 per bushel) for payment in Italian agreement dollars. There is speculation in the trade that given continuing good weather additional sales may be made for earlier delivery. Reflecting the excellent prices received for their corn I.N.G.E. increased the price to producers by 5 pesos (7 cents per bushel) to a total of 70 pesos per 100 kilos (99 cents per bushel) basis on wagons in port, which of course still leaves them a very substantial profit to swell the National Recovery Fund.

Oats, Barley and Rye Except for about 27,000 tons (1,751,000 bushels) of oats, there was practically no sales activity in these grains during the past month. Strong domestic prices are probably keeping sales to I.N.G.E. at a low level and possibly result from producers holding their stocks of these grains in the expectation of seeing the market freed entirely or at least higher producer prices being set by I.N.G.E. Shipments in March were almost 125,000 tons however, mostly barley to Germany.

Weather conditions during the past month were particularly favourable in most zones dedicated to these crops and farmers should be able to get these crops into the ground and off to a good start unless conditions change drastically. This same favourable weather is benefitting pasture growth so that both natural and alfalfa pastures are expected to enter the winter in better than average condition. Barring abnormal winter weather this should mean that the winter grain crops will not have to be grazed as heavily as they were last year.

Sales Grain sales during the past month totalled only about 150,000 tons of which 80,000 tons (3,149,000 bushels) were corn, 27,000 (1,751,000 bushels) were oats and most of the remainder off-grade wheat. Wheat sales amounted to only a little over 40,000 tons (1,470,000 bushels) almost all of which was inferior, smutty or off-grade in some manner. Approximately half of the estimated April 1 balance of 87.2 million bushels is committed to Brazil under the existing trade agreement, and it is generally expected that most, if not all, of the commitment will be met either during this calendar year or very early in 1957. Corn sales were at rather high prices which reached more than the equivalent of 71 dollars per ton (\$1.82 per bushel) f.o.b. for payment in Italian agreement dollars. The oats sales were to



several destinations for prices up to 70 dollars per ton (\$1.08 per bushel) to Brazil but less than 49 dollars (76 cents per bushel) for sterling.

Shipments Total grain shipments for March at 333,000 tons were down slightly from the previous two months. Exports of wheat at only 208,000 tons (7,644,000 bushels) were down from previous months and reflected the lack of shipments to Brazil and the very light shipment to Italy. It is expected that exports to both these destinations will quicken later in the year. Of the March wheat shipments some 55,000 tons (2,027,000 bushels) went to the United Kingdom, 34,000 (1,246,000 bushels) to Germany and 30,000 (1,088,000 bushels) to the Netherlands. All of the 95,926 tons (4,406,000 bushels) of barley went to Germany, and Poland took all of the 10,000 tons (394,000 bushels) of rye. A total of almost 16,000 tons (1,037,000 bushels) of oats went to the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Italy. Wheat shipments for March and for the first four months of the crop year are given in the following table:

Argentine Wheat Exports, March, 1956 and December, 1955—March, 1956  
with Comparisons

Destination	March 1956	Dec., 1955— March, 1956	Destination	March 1956	Dec., 1955— March, 1956
- thousand bushels -			- thousand bushels -		
Austria .....	386	940	Netherlands ....	1,088	3,248
Belgium .....	37	970	Norway .....	412	795
Brazil .....	-	4,687	Paraguay .....	56	227
Chile .....	-	1,116	Peru .....	458	1,611
Czechoslovakia .	237	1,273	Poland .....	13	13
Denmark .....	540	1,161	Switzerland ....	-	23
Finland .....	220	390	United Kingdom .	2,027	7,740
Germany .....	1,246	8,136			
Italy .....	250	2,892			
Japan .....	674	674			
			Totals ....	7,644	35,898
Same period:					
1954-55 .....					46,591
1953-54 .....					34,308
1952-53 .....					5,955
1951-52 .....					3,584
1950-51 .....					34,214

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1955-56 crop year, consisting of the December 1, 1955 carryover of 91.6 million bushels and the new crop placed at 195.6 million bushels, amount to some 287.2 million, 10 per cent greater than the 1954-55 total of 260.2 million. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 73.2 million bushels, a total of 214.0 million remain available for export and for carryover during 1955-56. Comparable supplies in 1954-55 were estimated at 188.8 million bushels.

# Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1954-55	1955-56 <u>1/</u>
- 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 ....	71.4 <u>2/</u>	73.2 <u>2/</u>
Available for export and for carryover .....	188.8	214.0
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1—March 24 .....	23.2	21.8
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1—March 24 .....	12.8	8.8
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	36.0	30.6
Balance on March 25 for export and for carryover .....	152.8	183.4

1/ Preliminary.      2/ Adjusted figure.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent up to March 24 of the current Australian crop year amounted to 30.6 million bushels, about 15 per cent below the 36.0 million exported during the corresponding period of the preceding year. The balance on March 25, 1956 for export and for carryover was estimated at 183.4 million bushels, some 20 per cent greater than at approximately the same date a year ago.

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 April 10, 1956 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of £1 equals \$2.2415 (Canadian), the quotation in effect on March 28, 1956.

Sales and Exports      According to figures issued by the Commonwealth Statistician, Australia exported 856,402 tons (31,972,000 bushels) of wheat valued at £A22 million (\$49.3 million) in the seven months ended January, 1956. This was a fall in both quantity and value compared with the corresponding months of the previous year, when exports totalled 915,459 tons (34,177,000 bushels) valued at £A24.1 million (\$54 million).

Several notable changes occurred in the pattern of wheat exports during July—January, 1955-56. Japan's purchases rose from 20,570 tons (768,000 bushels) valued at £A503,000 (\$1,127,000) to 182,142 tons (6,800,000 bushels) valued



at £A4.5 million (\$10.1 million). Exports to India dropped to practically nothing, compared with 222,899 tons (8,322,000 bushels) valued at £A5.8 million (\$13.0 million) exported during the same period a year earlier. Exports to Australia's main market, Britain, increased slightly to 222,729 tons (8,315,000 bushels) valued at £A5.5 million (\$12.3 million). New Zealand was Australia's third biggest market, with 153,350 tons (5,725,000 bushels), valued at £A3.9 million (\$8.7 million). Countries which increased their imports of Australian wheat included Cyprus, Malaya, Iraq and Syria. Much reduced trade occurred with Germany, Ireland, Malta and the Netherlands.

Total flour exports, compared with the corresponding seven months of the previous year, rose from 645,757 tons (33,210,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) valued at £A10.2 million (\$22.9 million) to 776,907 tons (39,955,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) valued at £A11.5 million (\$25.8 million).

Sales A member of the Australian Wheat Board announced that sales of wheat totalling more than 9 million bushels were made during the early part of March. Included in the sales were 1.4 million bushels for the local flour trade, 628,000 bushels for the produce trade, approximately 1.2 million bushels of export flour and nearly 6.4 million bushels of export wheat. Included in the exports were 375,000 bushels of off-grade 19B Pool wheat sold to Japan. Export prospects are considered to be better than last year, and the Board is hopeful of selling more wheat on the overseas markets. The scarcity of shipping and the extremely high overseas freight rates were the biggest problems facing the Board. So far, the Wheat Board has sold 39,640,000 bushels out of Australia's quota of 45 million bushels under the I.W.A. and has until July to sell its full quota.

Stabilization Fund The President of the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association, at the opening of the Association's annual conference held in March, said that faced with a declining export price and a production cost which has jumped from 6/3d. to 13/1d. (70 cents to \$1.47) a bushel in eight years, wheat growers may soon have to draw on the Wheat Stabilization Fund. In the past two seasons, the industry had been faced with a carryover of 90 million bushels, with the possibility of an even bigger carryover next season.

Australian Wheat Standard A New South Wales Graziers' Conference decided to seek the abolition of the Australian f.a.q. wheat marketing system. The Conference sought to replace it with a:-

No. 1 Standard wheat having a minimum 11 per cent protein, a maximum 12 1/2 per cent water absorption, and a minimum bushel weight of 59 pounds.

No. 2 Standard wheat for all wheats below No. 1 Standard.

Although only two standards had been suggested, more could be added if it was considered necessary.

Levy on Wheat for Research A conference of the Victorian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association decided to support a proposal by the Australian Wheat Growers' Federation to impose a Commonwealth wheat research levy. The levy will be a maximum of a farthing a bushel on all wheat delivered to the Australian Wheat Board and will include the 1955-56 season's crop. Recommendations submitted by the wheat committee and adopted by the Conference include that the amount of the



levy be determined annually between the Commonwealth and the Federation, and that the contributions by each State to the fund be credited to that State except when a State may have a bad year. The fund would be administered by a Commonwealth committee which would make recommendations to the Minister for Primary Industry on approval of programmes submitted by State committees.

Pastoral Conditions Reports from practically all over Australia indicate that pastoral conditions have never been better, and prospects are for a still further increase in production of livestock. Floods are causing trouble in parts of northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, and more rain over a wide area would cause a deterioration in pasture quality. Nevertheless, the general outlook is very good, especially in the more extensive northern pastoral areas where drought is most common.

Coarse Grains Barley Sales - Valuable orders for barley were lost during the prolonged waterfront strike in Australia in January and February this year. It is reported that Japan had cancelled an order for 50,000 tons (2,334,000 bushels) worth £A1.5 million (\$3.4 million) because of the uncertain delivery, and Continental buyers did not show any interest while the strike was on.

Since the end of the strike on February 15, buyers have been active and several thousand tons of milling and feed barley have been sold to the Continent. Japan has also placed an order for 21,000 tons (980,000 bushels), bringing sales to that country, for the current season, to 125,000 tons (5,834,000 bushels), about half of what the Board expected to sell to Japan.

Record Crops in Western Australia The President of the West Australian Farmers' Union stated at the annual conference that Western Australian farmers had produced record crops of barley and oats this season. Final crop figures are expected to be about 4.21 million bushels of six-row barley and 10.12 million bushels of oats. The President said that farmers could plan their barley and oats seeding programs in the knowledge that there would be storage space for these grains this season.

Sales in Western Australia Of the 4.5 million bushels of oats already delivered to the pool, more than 2.5 million bushels have been sold at a price that will average 6/6d. (73 cents) a bushel, less only individual growers' rail freights. Germany has bought nearly all the oats exported from Western Australia this season. The remainder went to England, Ireland and the Netherlands. Negotiations for the sale of a further 750,000 bushels of oats and 250,000 bushels of barley are proceeding. It was stated that Germany was willing to pay 1/- (11 cents) a bushel more for oats from Western Australia than from elsewhere.

Sorghum It is expected that total production of sorghum from the 1956 crop in Queensland will be at least 4.5 million bushels from about 165,000 acres. Approximately 180,000 acres were sown, but flooding reduced the acreage that could be harvested. This compares with the 1955 crop of 4.5 million bushels from 180,000 acres harvested.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1—  
March 24, 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 .....	3	6	630	195
Belgian Congo .....	-	-	1	-
Borneo .....	-	-	2	-
British North Borneo .....	-	-	56	47
British Somaliland .....	-	-	-	3
British West Indies .....	2	-	38	49
Brunei .....	-	-	9	6
Burma .....	-	20	262	16
Ceylon .....	8	2	2,782	1,694
Cocos Islands .....	-	-	-	1/
Cyprus .....	-	-	-	1/
Dutch New Guinea .....	-	-	14	23
Egypt .....	-	-	-	5
Egypt (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	16	5
Eire .....	1,001	-	-	-
French Somaliland .....	-	-	4	22
Germany .....	806	1,540	-	-
Hadhramaut .....	-	-	5	-
Hong Kong .....	119	285	-	-
Hong Kong (General) .....	-	-	109	118
Hong Kong (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	30	17
India .....	8,881	2,026	-	-
Indonesia .....	-	-	1,734	3,026
Iraq .....	-	1,095	-	-
Italy .....	-	-	7	5
Japan .....	283	4,358	-	-
Jordan .....	346	-	-	-
Kure (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	3	18
Lebanon .....	359	-	293	-
Libya .....	-	-	33	-
Macao .....	-	-	-	1
Malaya .....	250	110	-	-
Malaya (General) .....	-	-	2,883	1,774
Malaya (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	52	36
Malta .....	281	193	-	-
Netherlands .....	388	-	-	-
Mauritius .....	1	-	413	105
New Zealand .....	2,693	2,796	-	1/
Nyasaland .....	-	-	21	4
Pacific Islands .....	11	8	818	600
Palestine .....	-	-	6	-
Persian Gulf .....	41	55	123	50
Philippine Islands .....	-	-	25	48
Poland .....	-	1,694	-	-
Pondicherry .....	-	-	2	-



Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1—  
March 24, 1955-56 and Corresponding Period 1954-55 (concluded)

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1954-55	1955-56	1954-55	1955-56
- thousand bushels -				
Port Said (a/c S/S) .....	-	-	18	16
Portuguese East Africa .....	137	56	1/	-
Portuguese India (Goa) .....	27	-	39	-
Rhodesia .....	1,025	659	-	-
Roumania .....	283	-	-	-
Sarawak .....	-	-	74	45
Saudi Arabia .....	59	37	73	-
Seychelles Islands .....	-	-	16	9
Sudan .....	-	-	298	92
Syria .....	-	338	-	-
Tahiti .....	-	-	61	62
Thailand (Siam) .....	2	2	249	203
Timor .....	-	-	7	2
United Kingdom .....	6,198	6,478	1,393	447
Yemen .....	-	-	3	-
Yugoslavia .....	-	-	1/	-
Zanzibar .....	2	40	151	-
Royal Navy .....	4	-	6	7
Ships' Stores .....	-	-	41	51
Totals .....	23,210	21,798	12,800	8,800

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 April 20, 1956, and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Where possible, conversions from French to Canadian measures have been made and rounded for the convenience of our readers. Currency conversions have been made at the rates of one franc equals .00285 and one £ equals 2.8019 Canadian dollars, the rates in effect on March 28, 1956.

The French Ministry of Agriculture has released statistics on the extent of grain sowings as at April 1. The area sown to wheat is only half that at the same time last year, and reflects the extent of destruction from the February frosts. On the other hand, barley which is replacing wheat on many of the resown fields, shows almost double last year's acreage. The Ministry's estimates are as follows:



- wheat - 2,460,000 hectares (6.1 million acres) (including 990,000 hectares (2.4 million acres) in rather poor condition as a result of frost damage), compared with 4,435,000 hectares (11.0 million acres) last April 1;
- barley - 1,095,000 hectares (2.7 million acres) (including 95,000 hectares (235,000 acres) in poor condition) against 647,000 hectares (1.6 million acres) in April, 1955;
- rye - 360,000 hectares (889,000 acres) (including 110,000 hectares (272,000 acres) in poor condition) against 404,000 hectares (998,000 acres) last April;
- oats - 1,390,000 hectares (3.4 million acres) (including 77,000 hectares (190,000 acres) in poor condition), against 1,610,000 hectares (4.0 million acres) last April.

The Ministry of Agriculture recently published a map showing the principal areas of damage to wheat from the February frosts. There are three regions where they estimate destruction at 90 per cent and over; (1) the important grain district surrounding Paris; (2) departments of the Lorraine in the Northeast of the country; and (3) districts surrounding the city of Orleans on the Loire River in the central western part of the country. Areas suffering 80 to 90 per cent frost destruction lie in contiguous zones in the main wheat regions of Northern France. The main damage was therefore caused to the prosperous wheatlands in the North half of the country where yields are the highest and where a large portion of the crop is produced each year.

This is confirmed in a recent statement by the Wheat Producers Association who claim that frost damage was severe in all but the extreme West of the country. They state that damage ranges from 80 to 100 per cent in the wheat zone surrounding Paris, the South-West and the Center; damage of 50 to 60 per cent is reported from the Center West and the Southwest.

Brief by Producers Association

As a consequence of the extent of damage, the Wheat Producers Association has presented a brief to the Prime Minister.

Pointing out that farm income has not increased by the 8 per cent per year promised by the previous government and that, consequently, agriculture is not in a position to bear the losses resulting from the frosts, the Association asks for a higher level of price for 1956 wheat. They suggest this be implemented by:

(1) basing the price calculations on the year 1951 instead of as at present on 1953, thus taking into account the higher costs which occurred in the interval; this would result in an increase of 10 per cent in the price;

(2) by suspension for the 1956 crop of the levy on farmers' marketings to offset export losses;

(3) by the full application of clauses in the Grain Plan which would increase the price by another 9 per cent.

They request further that since barley replaces wheat on a considerable number of

the destroyed fields, it should be supported at a guaranteed price 70 to 75 per cent that of wheat, by vesting the Grain Board with its monopoly. They ask also that sums be set aside to cover subsidies on the barley export surplus which they estimate at slightly over 1 million tons (45.9 million bushels) and which would probably cost from 6 to 8 billion francs (up to \$23 million) to move.

They also suggest that the 8 billion francs (\$23 million) at present devoted to the subsidy on bread be withdrawn and turned over to the Mutual Guarantee Fund towards the support not only of the grain market but also of other products which may increase this season due to destruction of the wheatfields, i.e. potatoes. Furthermore, they ask that the 17 billion francs (\$48 million) of government funds which would have been used to subsidize wheat exports from the 1956 crop be devoted to build up the Fund for future use.

Recent Measures  
by the Government

Certain measures have been taken by the government, resulting from the frost damage to grain fields. On February 22 the government prohibited further use of wheat for feed except types which could not be milled and the limited quantities (8 per cent of individual deliveries) which small-scale farmers might take back from the Board in place of their export at world prices. On March 26 this prohibition was lifted, as it became evident that stocks in the country were adequate.

The government has announced that it will shortly bring in new legislation designating the Grain Board as the sole marketing agency for barley, as requested by producers; this measure is to guarantee an assured price and prevent any break in the market which might result from a heavy barley crop grown on the destroyed wheat fields. At the same time, the government confirmed that the official price for 1956 barley would be 2,500 francs per quintal (\$1.55 per bushel), as against 2,350 (\$1.46) last season.

In order to aid the seeding of corn, which is expected to be more extensive this Spring because of the Winter frost damage, the government has announced a subsidy of 3,000 francs per quintal (\$2.17 per bushel) on seed. At the same time, the Minister of Agriculture has stated that the official price at which the Grain Board will buy corn of the 1956 crop will be retained at last season's level of 3,600 francs per quintal (\$2.61 per bushel).

The decree authorizing the subsidy of 1,200 francs per quintal (93 cents per bushel) on seed wheat has now appeared, and also confirmation of the exoneration from the marketing quota of all deliveries under 200 quintals (735 bushels) - see last month's report. The cost of this latter measure is stated by the Ministry to amount to 3.5 billion francs (\$10 million).

In order to prevent any speculation on imported seed wheat, the government fixed the margin allowed to importers at 272 francs per quintal (21 cents per bushel) for Manitoba wheat and 242.5 francs (19 cents per bushel) for the Florence Aurore from Morocco for discharging from ship placing on railcars etc., plus 124 francs and 132 francs (9.6 and 10.2 cents), respectively, on internal distribution.

Grain Council Review

A recent meeting of the Central Council of the Grain Board reviewed the present market situation and measures taken following the frost damage. A total of 151,300 tons (5,559,000 bushels) of wheat



had been imported to cover seed requirements for Spring sowings, divided as follows: 78,600 tons (2,888,000 bushels) from the Scandinavian countries, 37,000 tons (1,360,000 bushels) from Morocco and 35,700 (1,312,000 bushels) from Canada and the United States. The Council estimated that total seed in the country could permit sowings of around 850,000 hectares (2.1 million acres).

Regarding durum wheat, they reported as follows: "Domestic requirements (of Durum) in France are normally estimated at 380,000 tons (13,963,000 bushels), to which should be added another 35,000 tons (1,286,000 bushels) due to greater consumption of alimentary pastes during the unusually cold Winter. Availabilities in France amount to only 16,300 tons (599,000 bushels) and there are only 327,000 tons (12,019,000 bushels) available in North Africa. The apparent deficit thus amounts to around 70,000 tons (2,572,000 bushels). Arrangements are being considered for the purchase of 31,000 tons (1,139,000 bushels) of durum wheat from Canada and Argentina. In addition, Tunisia will buy 10,000 tons (367,000 bushels) from Spain, and Algeria 25,000 tons (919,000 bushels) from Canada."

The Council also reviewed the grain situation in North Africa:

(a) export surpluses:

soft wheat .....	4,600,000 bushels from Morocco
durum wheat ....	6,496,000 " " Algeria
" " ....	1,642,000 " " Tunisia
" " ....	3,880,000 " " Morocco
barley .....	14,697,000 " " Morocco

(b) import requirements:

soft wheat .....	2,815,000 bushels for Tunisia
barley .....	919,000 " " Algeria
barley .....	2,935,000 " " Tunisia

Purchase of United States Wheat

The press reports that the International Cooperation Administration (I.C.A.), Washington has allocated France \$9 million for the purchase of wheat. This is understood to be mainly Red Winter wheat, which the trade values at around \$60 (\$1.63 per bushel) Atlantic port, and would result in a quantity of about 150,000 tons (5,512,000 bushels). The wheat is payable in francs with the counterpart funds to be used as U.S. aid to a third country.

On April 13, the French Grain Board received tenders on the first 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) and bids on 75,000 tons (2,756,000 bushels) were accepted at undisclosed prices. The wheat specified was Red Winter No. 1 or 2 or Soft White No. 1 or 2, for embarkation April 15 to May 15.

The Grain Board has also been authorizing purchase of small quantities of Winter wheat seed for next Fall's sowings; several thousand tons are reported purchased from Great Britain at a price of £47/10 (\$133) cif Channel port.

The press reports that a cargo of 6,200 tons (228,000 bushels) of Manitoba No. 2 which arrived at Le Havre in mid April is being offered to millers. It had been bought originally for seed but arrived too late for this use.

French Supplies of Soft Wheat

Item	1954-55	1955-56 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Commercial carryover, August 1 .....	30.4	51.7
Anticipated Deliveries to Grain Board .....	259.1	275.6 <u>2/</u>
Total Commercial Supplies .....	289.4	327.3
Less domestic requirements for crop year .....	183.7	183.7
Available for export and carryover .....	105.7	143.6
Deduct exports of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent August—February .....	57.9	66.8 <u>3/</u>
Balance March 1 for export and carryover .....	47.9	76.7

1/ Preliminary.

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

3/ Comprising 61.1 million bushels for Foreign countries and 5.7 million bushels for French Union - including exports of flour in wheat equivalent of 12.1 million bushels.

Source: private estimate based on French Grain Board figures.

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—February 29, 1956

Countries	1954-55	1955-56	Countries	1954-55	1955-56
	- thousand bushels -			- thousand bushels -	
Ceylon .....	1,160	1,343	Poland .....	7,699	10,971
Denmark .....	5,781	2,815	Portugal .....	-	1,443
Germany .....	5,540	11,044	Sweden .....	-	1,592
Hungary .....	9,593	1,312	Switzerland ....	1,694	2,867
Netherlands ....	265	4,874	United Kingdom .	8,481	15,290



Monthly Wheat and Flour Exports, August 1—February 29, 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
February .....	12,603	11,229	701	803	13,304	12,032
Totals .....	51,216	61,136	6,636	5,705	57,852	66,841

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- April 10 The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the winter wheat crop for harvest in 1956 at 716 million bushels.
- 11 Navigation on the Great Lakes was declared officially open for the 1956 season.
- 16 President Eisenhower vetoed the farm bill which called for price supports at 90 per cent of parity.
- 18 Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions as at March 31, 1956 were estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at 751.6 million bushels.
- 23 United States wheat stocks in all positions on April 1, 1956 were estimated at 1,288 million bushels.
- The United States Secretary of Agriculture announced an increase in the minimum national average support price for 1956-crop wheat to \$2.00 per bushel.
- 25 Agreement was reached at the United Nations Wheat Conference to open for signature a new International Wheat Agreement to come into force on August 1, 1956.
- May 3 Speaking in the House of Commons the Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the initial price to be paid on wheat for the crop year beginning August 1, 1956 would remain at \$1.40 per bushel, basis No. 1 Manitoba Northern in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver.

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There is little information, now, on the wheat stem rust races present but varietal reaction indicates that races 15B and 29 are both prevalent. The significance for areas farther north of the above information appears to be that there is enough rust in the Texas area to cause widespread infection on oats and winter wheat. The number of spores in the air over Texas in March was relatively high and the recent turbulence of the atmosphere in that region probably ensures wide distribution of the spores."













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