

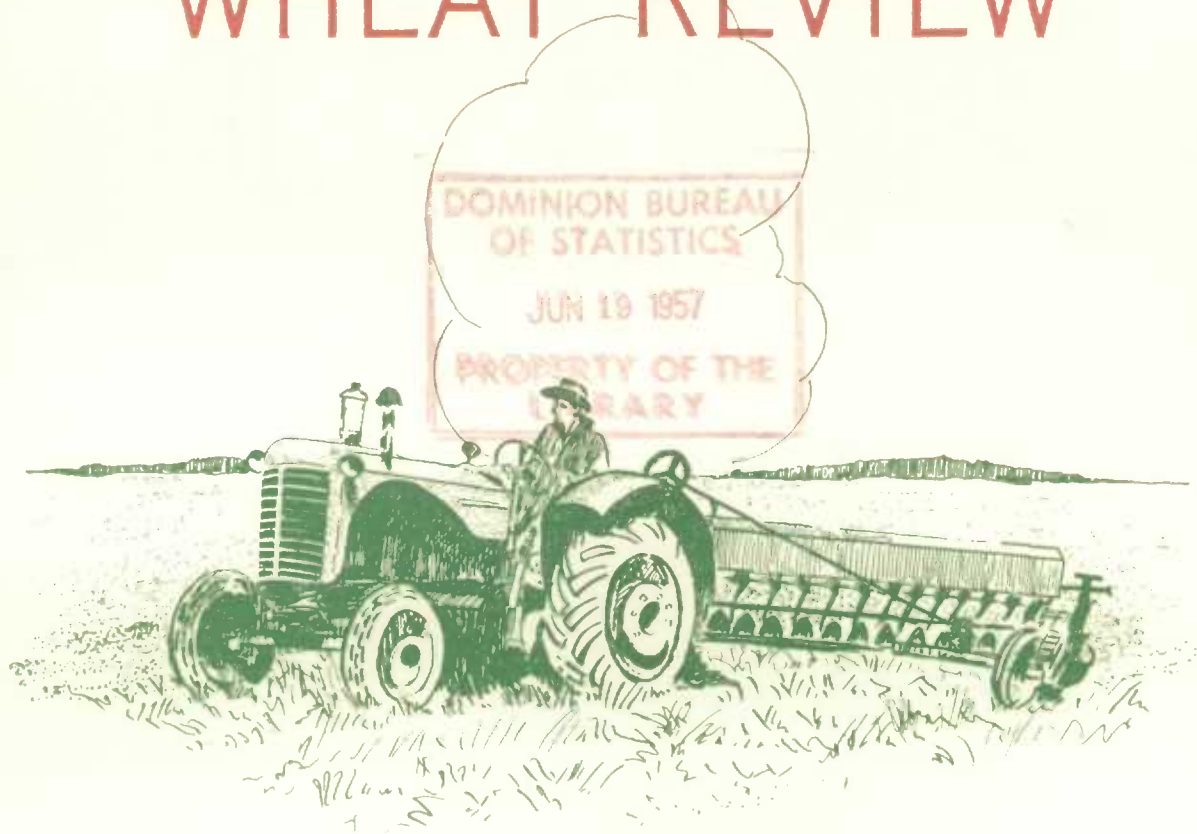
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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURE DIVISION

THE WHEAT REVIEW



MAY, 1957

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THE
WHEAT REVIEW

MAY, 1957

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about May 1, 1957 in the four major exporting countries amounted to some, 1,944.0 million bushels, about 5 per cent less than the 2,052.2 million available a year ago. Supplies at May 1, 1957 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with comparable 1956 figures in brackets: United States, 995.0 (1,128.2); Canada, 725.9 (658.1); the Argentine, 128.5 (93.3); and Australia, 94.6 (172.6). 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 equivalent from the four major exporting countries during the first nine months (August-April) of the current Canadian crop year amounted to 766.0 million bushels, some 34 per cent greater than the 573.6 million exported during the corresponding period of 1955-56. Shipments from each of the four countries during the period August 1956-April 1957 and during the same nine months of the preceding six crop years are shown in the table below.

Exports of Wheat and Flour in Terms of Wheat, August 1956 - April 1957
with Comparisons

August-March	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950-51	257.3	154.4	67.5	89.7	568.9
1951-52	372.5	224.5	24.0	69.8	690.8
1952-53	260.8	249.6	10.6	68.0	589.0
1953-54	146.4	187.0	86.8	43.0	463.2
1954-55	207.4	190.4	102.6	74.6	575.0
1955-56 <u>1/</u>	219.4	191.6	90.2	72.4	573.6
1956-57 <u>2/</u>	399.0	192.4	70.7	103.9	766.0

1/ Revised.

2/ Preliminary.

Notes on New Crops On the basis of conditions at May 1, the United States winter wheat crop has been estimated at 703 million bushels, 5 per cent smaller than in 1956 and nearly a fifth less than average. Spring wheat seedings in the United States are also down from last year and assuming average yields, a smaller crop may be anticipated. Seeding of Canada's spring wheat crop was practically completed by May 31. Precipitation since April 1 has been below normal in many parts of the Prairies. During the first week of June reports indicated the need for early rains over fairly wide areas of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

A trade report, dated June 4, indicates a growing need for rain over parts of continental Europe and in the United Kingdom. Effects of the dryness are not yet considered serious but some local deterioration has been noted. If relief is not received within the near future, concern over the situation may be expected to become more general.

International Wheat Agreement Sales and Purchases for Crop Year 1956-57

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	S O U R C E						Total Purchases	Remainder
		Canada	Argentina	Australia	France	Sweden	U.S.A.		
		1/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/		3/
- thousand bushels -									
Austria	3,674	90	-	-	-	-	373	463	3,211
Belgium	16,535	1,472	-	4	-	-	4,966	6,442	10,093
Bolivia	4,042	-	-	-	-	-	3,356	3,356	686
Brazil	7,349	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,349
Costa Rica	1,470	340	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,340	130
Cuba	7,422	231	-	-	-	-	7,050	7,281	141
Denmark 4/	1,837	120	-	-	-	169	1,583	1,872	-
Dominican Republic .	1,102	339	-	-	-	-	646	985	117
Ecuador	1,837	487	-	-	-	-	464	951	886
Egypt	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,023
El Salvador	919	179	-	-	-	-	600	779	140
Germany	55,116	16,900	-	6,652	-	5,539	25,692	54,783	333
Greece	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	8,936	8,936	2,087
Guatemala 5/	1,470	190	-	-	-	-	1,255	1,445	-
Haiti	2,204	224	-	-	-	-	1,227	1,451	753
Honduras Republic ..	919	23	-	-	-	-	293	316	603
Iceland	73	3	-	-	-	-	28	31	42
India 4/	7,349	-	-	7,177	-	-	173	7,350	-
Indonesia 4/	5,144	-	-	4,653	-	-	534	5,187	-
Ireland	5,512	2,445	-	653	-	-	1,096	4,194	1,318
Israel	8,267	1,669	-	-	-	-	4,653	6,322	1,945
Italy	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	363	363	3,311
Japan 4/	36,744	15,933	-	-	-	-	21,243	37,176	-
Korea	2,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,205
Lebanon	2,756	-	-	-	-	-	254	254	2,502
Liberia	73	8	-	-	-	-	41	49	24
Mexico	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Netherlands	25,721	1,374	-	50	-	68	15,071	16,563	9,158
New Zealand 4/	5,879	-	-	5,879	-	-	-	5,879	-
Nicaragua	367	109	-	-	-	-	251	360	7
Norway	6,614	3,603	919	-	-	114	1,816	6,452	162
Panama	1,102	152	-	-	-	-	505	657	445
Peru	7,349	1	-	-	-	-	605	606	6,743
Philippines 4/	6,063	2,805	-	282	-	-	3,089	6,176	-
Portugal	5,879	246	-	636	-	-	3,161	4,043	1,836
Saudi Arabia	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	1,321	1,321	2,353
Spain	4,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,593
Switzerland	6,981	4,626	-	-	-	-	-	4,626	2,355
Union of S. Africa .	5,512	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,512
Vatican City 4/	551	-	-	-	-	-	551	551	-
Venezuela	6,246	2,042	-	-	-	-	4,178	6,220	26
Yugoslavia	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	3,442	3,442	232
Totals	293,618	55,611	919	25,986	-	5,890	119,816	208,222	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		99,739	14,246	29,329	16,027	6,233	128,044	293,618	
Balance		44,128	13,327	3,343	16,027	343	8,228	85,396	

1/ Canadian Sales through May 28th, 1957.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through May 24th, 1957.

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

4/ Quota filled.

5/ Quota filled May 24th, 1957.

CANADIAN SITUATION

Final Payment on 1955-56 Wheat Account

On May 15, 1957 the Canadian Wheat Board announced the final payment on wheat delivered to the Board during the Crop Year 1955-56. In 1955-56 producers delivered 352,213,380.4 bushels of wheat to the Board, and the amount of the final payment to be distributed to producers is \$41,953,923.81. The Board commenced issuing final payment cheques to producers Tuesday, May 21st, 1957.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56 <u>1/</u>	1956-57 <u>2/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover in North America at beginning of crop year (August 1)	499.7	540.6
New crop	494.1	537.8
Imports of wheat, August-February	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Total estimated supplies	993.9	1,078.3
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	<u>144.2</u>	<u>160.0</u>
Available for export and for carryover	849.7	918.3
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, August-April ..	158.1	161.4
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-April	<u>4.5</u>	<u>3.4</u>
Total exports of wheat	162.7	164.7
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-April .	<u>28.9 <u>4/</u></u>	<u>27.7</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	191.6	192.4
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	<u>658.1</u>	<u>725.9</u>

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

Supply Position

Total supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1956-57 crop year, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 540.6 million bushels and the 1956 production of 537.8 million, amount to some 1,078.3 million bushels, exceeding by about 8 per cent the comparable 1955-56 total of 993.9 million. After deducting 160.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements some 918.3 million are available for export and for carryover compared with 849.7 million in 1955-56.

Total exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the first three quarters (August-April) of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 192.4 million bushels, relatively unchanged from the 191.6 million exported during the same period of 1955-56. The balance remaining on May 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 725.9 million bushels, 3 per cent above the 658.1 million available at May 1, 1956.

Primary deliveries of wheat by farmers in the Prairie Provinces, up to May 15 of the current crop year totalled 240.7 million bushels, exceeding by 20 per cent the comparable 1955-56 figure of 200.8 million. During the four weeks, April 18

to May 15, marketings amounted to 19.4 million bushels while over the same period some 24.8 million entered export and domestic channels, (Overseas clearances, imports into United States and Canadian domestic use). Reflecting this situation the visible supply of Canadian wheat declined from 369.6 million bushels at the week ending April 17 to 364.2 million at the week ending May 15. The 1956 and 1955 comparable totals were both somewhat smaller, amounting to 336.4 million and 322.7 million bushels, respectively.

Wheat supplies in country elevator positions at mid-May of the current crop year accounted for 221.4 million bushels compared with 189.2 million a year ago and 183.5 million two years ago. "In transit rail" in the Western Division accounted for 11.1 million bushels, below both the 1956 total of 13.4 million and the 1955 figure of 11.5 million. Some 2.5 million bushels were "in transit rail" in the Eastern Division at mid-May this year, below the 3.4 million in this position a year ago but above the 1.6 million of two years ago. "In transit lake" accounted for 5.1 million bushels compared with 5.1 million at approximately mid-May in 1956 and 5.8 million in 1955. Lakehead stocks, at 34.4 million bushels showed a considerable decline from last year's mid-May total of 43.5 million bushels but was some 3.8 million larger than the 1955 total of 30.5 million. The 32.9 million bushels in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports exceeded both the 1956 and 1955 totals of 27.9 million and 31.2 million bushels, respectively. Supplies in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports, amounted to 22.1 million bushels compared with 16.6 million a year ago and 23.9 million two years ago. Supplies in West-Coast, at 10.5 million bushels were below the 11.5 million in this position at mid-May in 1956 but above the 9.6 million in 1955.

April exports of
Wheat and Flour Total
15.7 Million Bushels

Combined exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent amounted to 15.7 million bushels during April 1957, about 6 per cent below the 16.7 million exported during the preceding month, 53 per cent below the relatively high April 1956 total of 33.5 million and 17 per cent below the ten-year (1946-1955) April average of 18.8 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain totalled 12.7 million bushels as against 13.9 million during the preceding month and 30.3 million during April 1956. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 3.1 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during April 1957, 10 per cent above the 2.8 million exported during March, 1957 but 5 per cent lower than the adjusted April 1956 figure of 3.2 million bushels.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first nine months of the current crop year amounted to 164.7 million bushels, 1 per cent above the comparable 1955-56 total of 162.7 million. The United Kingdom, Canada's leading purchaser of wheat as grain received shipments totalling 60.7 million bushels, or 42 per cent of the August-April total. During the same months of 1955-56 shipments to the United Kingdom were somewhat higher, amounting to 67.9 million bushels. Other major markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the August-April period of the current crop year with figures for the corresponding period of the preceding crop year in brackets, were as follows, in millions of bushels: Federal Republic of Germany, 29.8 (18.8); Japan, 23.6 (17.3); Belgium, 11.1 (9.9); Switzerland, 8.7 (4.1); Netherlands, 7.1 (4.9) Norway, 3.5 (2.9); United States, 3.3 (4.5); Peru, 2.8 (nil); Italy, 2.3 (5.6); Ireland 2.2 (2.0); Austria, 1.7 (2.3); and Israel, 1.7 (0.7).

Cumulative exports of wheat flour during the first nine months of the 1956-57 crop year, based on preliminary Customs returns were the equivalent of 27.7 million bushels of wheat, 4 per cent below the adjusted August-April 1955-56 total of 28.9 million. As with wheat as grain the United Kingdom continued as the principal market for Canadian wheat flour. Shipments to that country during the period under review amounted to the equivalent of 8.9 million bushels of wheat, accounting for 32 per cent of the nine month total but 1.5 per cent below the August-April 1955-56 figure

of 9.0 million. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent, with revised data for the August-April period of the preceding crop year in brackets, were as follows, in thousands of bushels: Philippine Islands, 4,519 (4,587); Venezuela, 2,456 (2,621); Trinidad and Tobago, 1,216 (1,633); United States, 1,189 (644); Jamaica, 1,079 (1,166); Leeward and Windward Islands, 735 (759); Gold Coast, 688 (526); and Japan, 590 (539).

General Quota Position By June 4, 1957 out of a total of 2,076 shipping points in the Western Division, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 164 on a quota of 6 bushels per specified acre, 646 on a 5-bushel quota and 1,198 on a 4-bushel quota. There were only 42 stations on a 3-bushel quota while 26 stations were reported as "closed".

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group as at June 4, 1957

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre				Closed Stations	Total
	Three	Four	Five	Six		
Ontario	-	1	-	-	1	2
Manitoba	12	260	83	20	3	378
Saskatchewan	30	871	174	23	4	1,102
Alberta	-	66	388	118	18	590
British Columbia ...	-	-	1	3	-	4
All Provinces .	42	1,198	646	164	26	2,076

Crop and Weather Conditions The telegraphic crop report published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics on May 29, summarized crop conditions in each of the Prairie Provinces as follows:

Wet weather held up seeding in Manitoba for a day or two last week. Most of the wheat and a large proportion of the coarse grains have been seeded but much of the flaxseed and rapeseed remains to be done. In a number of instances farmers are awaiting wild oat growth before completing seeding. Moisture conditions are generally satisfactory and germination of early-sown grains has been good. Pastures and meadows are also showing good growth. Rain would be welcome soon, however, in some areas as stubble lands are dry. Grasshoppers are starting to hatch in significant numbers in the Carberry area.

Wheat seeding is nearing completion in most districts of Saskatchewan and farmers are making favourable progress in the remaining areas. About 90 per cent of the wheat and 75 per cent of the oats and barley are seeded. Less than 5 per cent of the wheat seeding remains to be done in southern, central, and west-central districts while in the Yorkton, Prince Albert and Lloydminster districts 15 to 20 per cent remains. Some 65 per cent of the intended flax acreage has been planted. Growth in early-seeded fields is reported as good but germination in late-seeded fields is slow due to cold weather and lack of adequate surface moisture. Moisture conditions are sufficient to start seeded fields but early rains are needed to promote proper development. Frost killed some early-seeded fields of flax and rapeseed and some re-seeding is necessary but damage to other grains was not extensive. Farmers had some success in the control of wild oats this year as early growth enabled many to obtain a kill before seeding grains. Seeding trends continued to indicate a reduction in wheat acreage and a significant increase in barley, flax, and rapeseed acreage. Grasshopper activity is reported in some southern areas, with control measures under way.

Farmers' Marketings of Wheat in the Prairie Provinces, 1956-57

Week ending		Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year 1/
- bushels -						
August	8, 1956 ...	826	70,774	14,549	86,149	-
	15	18,055	742,851	66,158	827,064	184,387
	22	142,030	1,413,145	329,074	1,884,249	2,360,263
	29	459,983	2,813,251	676,293	3,949,527	3,506,512
September	5	279,055	2,240,920	662,721	3,182,696	6,666,139
	12	312,017	2,681,903	745,801	3,739,721	7,118,649
	19	753,369	3,796,364	1,210,781	5,760,514	5,500,102
	26	1,772,551	4,293,970	1,522,428	7,588,949	3,018,220
October	3	1,510,041	4,790,015	2,457,413	8,757,469	3,866,628
	10	701,543	4,546,551	1,909,027	7,157,121	3,219,087
	17	918,095	5,422,458	2,288,436	8,628,989	3,973,996
	24	808,607	4,382,256	1,654,890	6,845,753	4,059,785
	31	1,159,223	5,805,206	2,920,981	9,885,464	4,097,732
November	7	936,430	5,894,263	2,542,238	9,372,931	4,782,434
	14	1,183,105	4,771,580	1,946,311	7,900,996	5,677,437
	21	1,432,780	4,609,244	2,410,512	8,452,536	5,617,423
	28	1,167,345	4,625,076	2,352,640	8,145,061	4,989,243
December	5	1,056,185	5,519,720	1,920,911	8,496,816	5,108,611
	12	485,589	3,904,761	1,102,641	5,492,991	6,497,442
	19	567,595	3,459,072	2,283,976	6,310,643	3,593,376
	26	596,199	3,320,846	1,588,953	5,505,998	2,915,047
January	2, 1957 ...	687,364	4,183,037	2,683,372	7,553,773	3,869,362
	9	535,604	3,198,329	2,266,357	6,000,290	4,770,429
	16	381,414	1,642,591	1,393,851	3,417,856	5,720,894
	23	490,515	3,196,076	2,126,468	5,813,059	4,478,362
	30	336,162	3,341,732	1,043,217	4,721,111	5,621,608
February	6	411,892	4,471,145	2,682,972	7,566,009	4,688,793
	13	585,632	3,078,350	3,066,024	6,730,006	6,197,106
	20	454,761	3,698,074	2,823,268	6,976,103	2,522,791
	27	278,892	1,890,272	1,718,236	3,887,400	2,205,904
March	6	522,505	3,351,221	3,053,176	6,926,902	4,787,779
	13	396,488	2,487,210	3,723,007	6,606,705	3,136,556
	20	432,056	3,231,897	3,426,382	7,090,335	5,580,466
	27	450,331	3,507,781	2,697,603	6,655,715	6,383,786
April	3	417,685	2,495,677	1,487,871	4,401,233	3,103,210
	10	404,545	2,574,481	1,297,037	4,276,063	3,774,280
	17	475,886	2,967,102	1,263,883	4,706,871	4,384,065
	24	218,207	1,629,774	1,073,992	2,921,973	6,628,976
May	1	550,962	2,398,325	951,650	3,900,937	12,606,713
	8	749,231	5,627,130	1,134,343	7,510,704	13,015,095
	15	596,345	3,414,103	1,006,920	5,017,368	10,537,042
Totals		25,637,100	141,488,587	73,526,363	240,652,050	200,765,730
Average similar period						
1945-46-1954-55		33,241,941	158,308,333	83,249,072	274,799,346	

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, May 15, 1957
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
	- thousand bushels -		
Country elevators - Manitoba	21,420	19,248	24,244
Saskatchewan	99,794	99,603	123,975
Alberta	62,266	70,314	73,145
Totals	183,480	189,164	221,364
Interior private and mill	6,564	6,662	7,213
Interior terminals	15,295	13,759	12,021
Vancouver-New Westminster	8,708	10,921	10,093
Victoria	842	509	438
Prince Rupert	53	37	-
Churchill	2,400	4,206	4,801
Fort William-Port Arthur	30,548	43,476	34,376
In transit rail (Western Division)	11,462	13,391	11,143
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports	31,184	27,884	32,888
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports	23,904	16,600	22,069
In transit lake	5,825	5,128	5,065
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	1,604	3,359	2,483
United States ports	873	1,313	291
Totals	322,742	336,408	364,245

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-April, 1956-57 with Comparisons

Grade	Crop Year		August-April			
	Average	1955-56	1955-56		1956-57	
	1950-51- 1954-55					
	per cent	per cent	cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Manitoba Northern ...	4.9	3.3	3,844	3.2	1,898	1.4
2 Manitoba Northern ...	26.8	35.9	38,819	32.2	39,798	29.3
3 Manitoba Northern ...	19.1	22.4	27,610	22.9	34,825	25.6
4 Manitoba Northern ...	9.0	8.5	8,414	7.0	15,304	11.3
5 Wheat	8.7	9.8	13,413	11.1	19,113	14.1
6 Wheat	4.6	3.1	4,189	3.5	4,472	3.3
Feed Wheat	0.9	0.6	790	0.7	231	0.2
Garnet	0.6	0.4	502	0.4	189	0.1
Amber Durum	1.9	4.1	6,416	5.3	8,884	6.5
Alberta Winter	0.2	0.6	816	0.7	1,215	0.9
Toughs 2/ 3/	18.2	6.5	10,660	8.8	5,097	3.8
Damps 2/ 4/	3.6	1/	10	1/	31	1/
Rejected 2/	1.0	4.2	4,570	3.8	4,225	3.1
All others	0.5	0.6	639	0.5	762	0.6
Totals	100.0	100.0	120,692	100.0	135,844	100.0

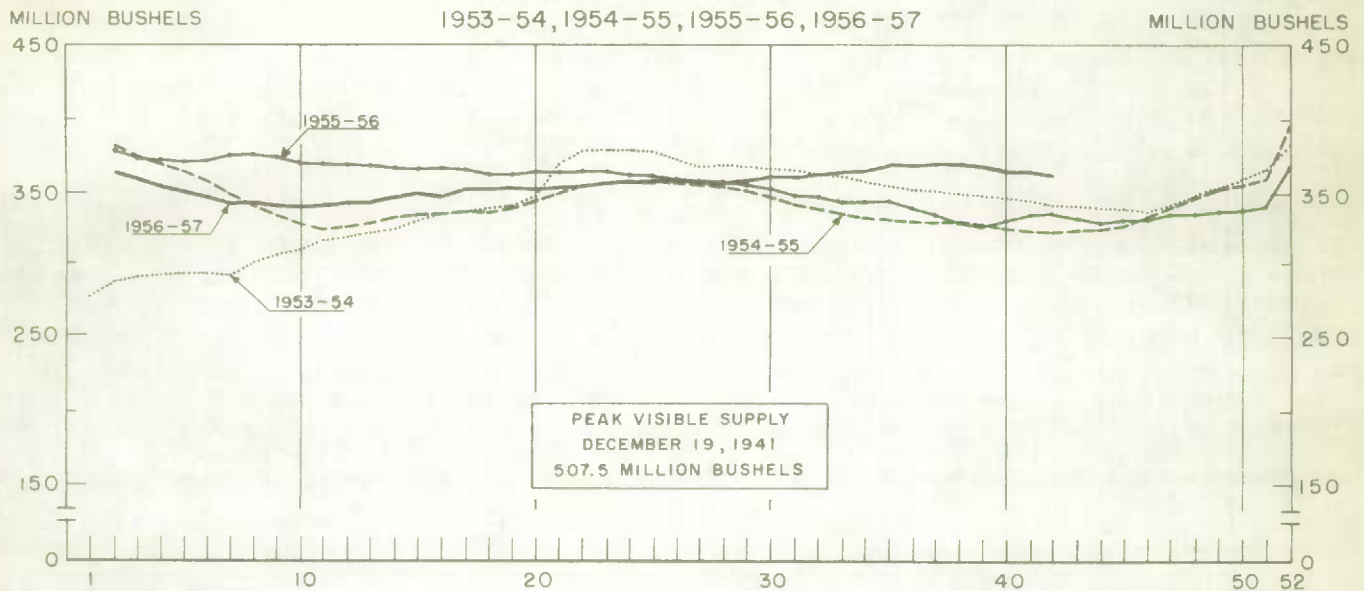
1/ Less than .05 per cent.

2/ All varieties and grades.

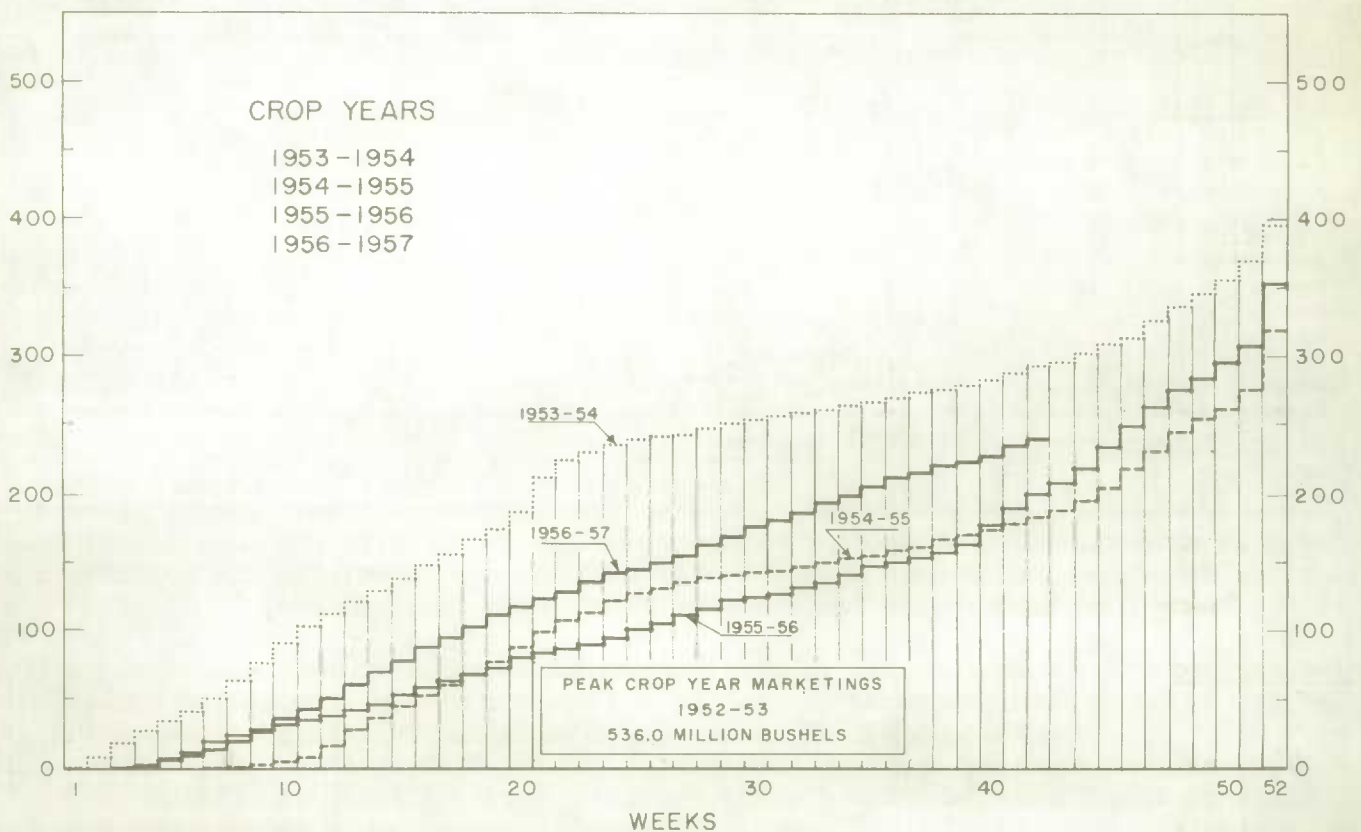
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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, 1956 - May 15, 1957
Compared with Approximately the Same Period 1954-55 and 1955-56

Destination	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
		- bushels -	
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Chicago	-	341,044	89,487
Duluth Superior	26,619	1,099,406	1,341,619
Milwaukee	71,923	170,524	27,745
Huron	80,000	40,000	-
Buffalo	2,750,168	3,218,266	1,496,541
Totals, Vessel	2,928,710	4,869,240	2,955,392
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	35,822	1,335	-
Other U.S.A. Points	867,357	1,711,902	882,291
Totals, Rail	903,179	1,713,237	882,291
Totals, Shipments	3,831,889	6,582,477	3,837,683

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

Total shipments of wheat to the United States, either for re-export or retention for domestic use, from the beginning of the current crop year to May 15 amounted to 3.8 million bushels. Shipments during the comparable periods of 1955-56 and 1954-55 amounted to 6.6 million and 3.8 million bushels, respectively. Almost 3.0 million bushels of the current total was shipped by vessel.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime Ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first nine months of the current crop year totalled some 23.0 million bushels compared with 32.3 million shipped during the same months in 1955-56.

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

Origin of Shipments	August 1, 1955 to April 30, 1956	August 1, 1956 to April 30, 1957
	- bushels -	
Port McNicoll	9,549,111	7,077,607
Midland, Tiffin	13,696,052	10,755,574
Collingwood	1,466,896	650,987
Owen Sound	3,505,705	2,143,234
Goderich	575,289	924,114
Sarnia	3,223,540	831,376
Lakefield	245,063	579,649
Prescott	-	3,112
Totals	32,261,656	22,965,653

Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, 1953-54--1956-57

Month	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
- bushels -				
August	191,336	61,070	56,951	100,667
September	236,030	50,633	64,033	70,324
October	173,043	46,053	63,975	120,535
November	138,440	81,253	148,576	240,628
December	347,824	179,272	477,622	613,482
January	510,486	352,109	2,340,921	792,000
February	368,662	318,009	1,735,097	490,778
March	555,518	245,958	1,599,503	338,534
April	378,681	169,137	300,913	161,104
May	253,606	68,878	91,534	-
June	37,349	43,600	91,162	-
July	74,020	57,619	102,560	-
Totals	3,264,995	1,673,591	7,072,847	-

Distribution of Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur, April, 1957

Grade	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	U.S.A.
- bushels -						
5 Wheat	-	3,167	3,000	32,583	17,000	-
6 Wheat	-	-	25,500	1,500	-	38,500
Toughs	-	-	-	-	1,000	-
Rejected	-	-	-	-	7,500	-
Amber Durum	-	-	-	2,000	24,199	-
All Others	1,500	-	-	1,500	2,155	-
Totals	1,500	3,167	28,500	37,583	51,854	38,500

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1956-May 15, 1957,
with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels -					
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster ..	79,784,932	308,199	17,951,103	-	1,645,947
Victoria	798,336	-	-	-	602,110
Prince Rupert	37,417	-	7,714,419	-	-
<u>Churchill</u>	16,250,320	-	-	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal	37,062,072	161,350	12,759,213	189,937	7,153,029
Sorel	4,339,493	-	3,916,533	-	165,076
Three Rivers	7,125,200	-	470,853	-	-
Quebec	6,675,522	-	-	-	-
<u>Maritime</u>					
Saint John	1,077,066	-	-	-	35,993
West Saint John	8,862,007	-	784,512	5,946	4,719,318
Halifax	8,867,673	-	-	818,496	2,647,550
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u>	480,137	-	-	-	195,983
Totals	171,360,175	469,549	43,596,633	1,014,379	17,165,006
August 1, 1955-May 16, 1956 ..	172,405,822	1,625,263	22,280,583	3,109,490	9,835,529

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to April 30, 1957 represent the movement of some 13.2 million bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the August-March period of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims, already exceeds by 16 per cent the revised total of 11.4 million bushels moved during the same period of the 1955-56 crop year. Shipments amounting to 5.8 million bushels to Ontario and 4.5 million to Quebec accounted for 44 per cent and 34 per cent, respectively, of the eight-month total.

Provincial Distribution of Wheat Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August-March, 1956-57 and 1955-56

Month	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	B.C.	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August, 1956	7	44	99	52	600	1,109	303	2,214
September	8	26	92	58	742	782	226	1,934
October	14	15	116	60	741	796	283	2,024
November	14	9	90	63	605	787	268	1,837
December	10	31	97	37	534	734	247	1,689
January, 1957	8	16	96	43	496	633	222	1,514
February	3	12	86	33	360	557	68	1,120
March	3	8	67	30	410	395	4	917
Totals 1/	67	162	742	375	4,489	5,793	1,621	13,249
Same period 1955-56:								
Preliminary 2/	60	160	620	386	4,266	3,992	1,420	10,905
Revised 1/	64	163	644	397	4,347	4,114	1,722	11,450

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 329,703 tons during the first eight months of the 1956-57, about 4 per cent below the comparable 1955-56 figure of 344,511 tons. As with freight-assisted shipments of wheat, the current crop year total is based on claims submitted up to April 30, 1957 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. Shipments to destinations in Quebec and Ontario amounted to 160,010 tons and 101,360 tons, respectively and accounted for a combined 79 per cent of the August-March total.

Provincial Distribution of Millfeed Shipments under the Freight Assistance Policy
August-March, 1956-57 and 1955-56

Province	1955-56		1956-57
	Preliminary 2/	Revised 1/	Preliminary 1/
- tons -			
Newfoundland	2,451	2,665	2,803
Prince Edward Island	5,180	5,392	4,369
Nova Scotia	22,934	25,089	22,570
New Brunswick	20,625	21,568	17,718
Quebec	171,243	181,422	160,010
Ontario	97,653	103,510	101,360
British Columbia	24,425	28,950	20,873
Totals	344,511	368,596	329,703

1/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1957.

2/ Based on claims filed up to April 30, 1956.

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>1954-55</u>					
August	15,666	185	3,326	19,177	18,481
September	25,744	209	3,699	29,653	28,460
October	20,046	882	4,063	24,990	28,269
November	20,160	331	3,145	23,636	21,526
December	16,201	131	3,132	19,465	22,001
January	14,792	335	2,850	17,976	17,184
February	14,102	96	3,181	17,379	17,706
March	16,719	173	3,564	20,456	17,603
April	12,705	152	4,844	17,701	20,080
May	15,041	531	3,649	19,221	20,175
June	18,510	1,048	2,710	22,268	21,992
July	17,143	386	2,458	19,987	19,491
Totals ..	206,829	4,458	40,622	251,909	252,968
<u>1955-56</u>					
August	19,777	469	3,003	23,250	22,228
September	14,877	292	3,816	18,985	16,718
October	14,075	416	3,091	17,582	19,776
November	16,447	440	3,839	20,726	21,362
December	10,323	429	2,810	13,562	15,953
January	19,053	476	2,742	22,270	20,969
February	16,985	537	3,069	20,592	22,066
March	17,631	130	3,353	21,115	23,027
April	28,974	1,333	3,207	33,514	32,360
May	37,350	1,768	3,846	42,964	39,712
June	42,219	1,246	3,656	47,121	49,735
July	24,233	322	3,565	28,120	29,724
Totals ..	261,943	7,858	40,000	309,801	313,630
<u>1956-57 4/</u>					
August	26,107	223	3,434	29,764	27,147
September	24,477	146	2,781	27,403	26,467
October	20,683	222	3,359	24,265	27,449
November	20,577	875	3,196	24,648	25,790
December	17,028	834	2,907	20,770	22,936
January	14,431	487	3,343	18,261	22,624
February	11,938	115	2,797	14,850	17,348
March	13,735	168	2,776	16,680	15,924
April	12,380	296	3,055	15,731	16,737
Totals ..	161,358	3,365	27,650	192,373	202,423

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/ In terms of wheat equivalent. Exports for crop years 1954-55 and 1955-56 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 for 1954-55 and 2.3 bushels per cwt. for 1955-56.

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

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination, 1956-57

Destination	January	April		August-April	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 2/
			- bushels -		
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom	686,939	882,722	3,403,124	8,877,241	60,745,667
<u>Africa</u>					
British East Africa	-	-	-	1,030	-
Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland ..	-	-	-	5,014	142,240
Gambia	1,490	-	-	9,248	-
Gold Coast	65,609	56,571	-	687,875	-
Mauritius and Seychelles	-	-	-	773	-
Nigeria	13,612	7,063	-	200,417	-
Other British West Africa	6,440	-	-	12,880	-
Sierra Leone	17,618	28,676	-	173,517	-
Union of South Africa	-	-	-	-	473,872
<u>Asia</u>					
Ceylon	-	388,976	-	388,976	-
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	371,000
Hong Kong	42,573	45,333	39,200	429,799	278,236
India	-	-	-	173	-
Malaya and Singapore	37,371	52,422	-	321,568	-
Pakistan	-	3,041	-	3,087	975,533
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar	2,576	10,304	-	72,784	-
Malta	-	-	360,187	-	1,138,587
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas	17,643	5,352	-	189,879	-
Barbados	18,485	12,314	-	210,436	833
Bermuda	5,635	8,356	-	88,844	-
British Honduras	503	-	-	12,565	-
Jamaica	113,613	115,184	-	1,078,990	4,600
Leeward and Windward Islands	73,950	81,526	-	734,712	-
Trinidad and Tobago	92,166	79,274	-	1,215,654	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana	3,742	3,735	-	243,448	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries ...	1,199,965	1,780,849	3,802,511	14,958,908	64,130,568
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira	1,967	1,966	-	19,884	-
Belgian Congo	23,849	9,890	-	287,955	-
Liberia	632	1,290	-	8,942	-
Morocco	-	5,060	-	15,433	-
Portuguese East Africa	-	515	-	14,973	142,800
Portuguese West Africa	2,277	-	-	27,706	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia	-	1,168	-	32,106	18,660
Iran	-	-	-	202	-
Israel	-	-	-	-	1,668,800
Japan	54,209	3,685	2,938,921	590,244	23,606,201
Lebanon	-	5,221	-	253,474	-
Okinawa	-	-	78,400	-	189,243
Philippine Islands	523,627	557,538	-	4,519,148	-
Portuguese Asia	9,660	6,095	-	129,642	-
Syria	-	-	-	775	-
Thailand	56,205	47,150	-	359,518	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Austria	-	-	522,667	-	1,678,694
Belgium	84,700	91,899	510,992	449,806	11,074,124
Denmark	-	-	-	9,120	326,517

Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination, 1956-57

Destination	January	April		August-April	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 2/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 2/
	- bushels -				
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Europe</u>					
France	-	-	372,400	-	1,109,140
Germany, Federal Republic	-	-	1,010,371	115	29,758,440
Greece	-	-	-	2,583	-
Iceland	1,523	1,610	-	7,733	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-	2,223,014
Italy	-	-	22,773	2,300	2,346,595
Netherlands	322	-	930,634	4,347	7,127,205
Norway	-	-	164,267	-	3,510,061
Poland	-	-	527,520	-	527,520
Portugal	7,705	-	-	39,433	-
Sweden	1,267	101	-	5,522	-
Switzerland	-	-	1,011,701	230	8,725,314
Yugoslavia	172	-	-	2,703	-
<u>North America</u>					
American Virgin Islands	920	-	-	8,200	-
Costa Rica	25,139	34,121	-	336,074	-
Cuba	34,500	10,028	916	248,754	1,916
Dominican Republic	36,743	24,196	-	304,246	-
El Salvador	20,183	28,113	-	196,756	11,023
French West Indies	403	1,035	-	5,463	-
Guatemala	-	7,707	14,697	110,586	101,058
Haiti	8,625	14,950	-	201,896	-
Honduras	8,510	3,910	-	48,682	-
Netherlands Antilles	13,393	7,383	-	105,434	-
Nicaragua	10,148	22,181	-	194,465	-
Panama	13,549	30,486	-	168,691	-
St. Pierre and Miquelon	1,955	343	-	15,486	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat	121,267	121,491	-	1,189,015	-
For Milling in bond 4/	-	-	-	-	130,461
For Domestic use 4/	-	-	295,718	-	3,234,161
<u>Oceania</u>					
French Oceania	5,069	-	-	28,228	-
Guam	2,760	1,840	-	15,410	-
<u>South America</u>					
Chile	-	-	-	115	-
Colombia	12,880	10,953	-	104,576	-
Ecuador	-	-	102,963	-	247,780
Peru	3,220	-	368,667	16,100	2,805,600
Surinam	17,132	7,657	-	153,396	-
Venezuela	210,279	214,827	-	2,455,662	27,759
Totals, Foreign Countries	1,314,790	1,274,409	8,873,607	12,691,129	100,592,086
Totals, All Countries	2,514,755	3,055,258	12,676,118	27,650,037	164,722,654

1/ In terms of wheat equivalent. Adjusted to remove effect of time lag in the returns made by Customs. Conversion rate: 2.3 bushels per cwt.

2/ In terms of wheat equivalent. Unadjusted 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			
	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>				
1 Northern	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	132	132	132	132
4 Northern	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat	96	96	96	96
1 C.W. Garnet	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140
<u>International Wheat Agreement</u>				
<u>and Domestic Sales</u>				
1 Northern	164/2	164	164	164
2 Northern	160/2	160	160	160
3 Northern	156	156	156	155
4 Northern	148	148	148	147
5 Wheat	136	136	136	136
6 Wheat	130/3	130	130	130
Feed Wheat	129/2	129	129	129
1 C.W. Garnet	154	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152	152	152	152
1 C.W. Amber Durum	197/4	197/2	197/1	197
2 C.W. Amber Durum	196/4	196/2	196/1	196
3 C.W. Amber Durum	194/4	194/2	194/1	194
<u>Exports - Class II</u>				
1 Northern	164/2	164	164	164
2 Northern	160/2	160	160	160
3 Northern	156	156	156	155
4 Northern	148	148	148	147
5 Wheat	136	136	136	136
6 Wheat	130/3	130	130	130
Feed Wheat	129/2	129	129	129
1 C.W. Garnet	154	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147	147	147	147
1 C.W. Amber Durum	237/4	237/2	237/1	237
2 C.W. Amber Durum	236/4	236/2	236/1	236
3 C.W. Amber Durum	234/4	234/2	234/1	234

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

Class and Grade	Week ending			
	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>				
1 Northern 1.....	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	132	132	132	132
4 Northern	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat	96	96	96	96
1 C.W. Garnet	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140
<u>International Wheat Agreement</u>				
<u>and Domestic Sales</u>				
1 Northern	167/6	168	168	168
2 Northern	163/6	164	164	164
3 Northern	158/6	159	158/5	158
4 Northern	150/6	150/3	150	150
5 Wheat	140	140	140	140
6 Wheat	133	133	133	133
Feed Wheat	132/2	132	132	132
1 C.W. Garnet	154	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152	152	152	152
<u>Export - Class II</u>				
1 Northern	167/6	168	168	158
2 Northern	163/6	164	164	164
3 Northern	158/6	159	158/5	158
4 Northern	150/6	150/3	150	150
5 Wheat	140	140	140	140
6 Wheat	133	133	133	133
Feed Wheat	132/2	132	132	132
1 C.W. Garnet	154	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152	152	152	152

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during April 1957 amounted to 2,858,000 hundredweight, 4 per cent below the March output of 2,983,000 hundredweight, 13 per cent below the April 1956 total of 3,268,000 hundredweight and 22 per cent lower than the ten-year (1947-1956) average production for the month of April of 3,651,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during April 1957 had a total rated capacity of 179,326 hundredweight per 24-hour day and on the basis of a 25-day working period 63.7 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during April 1957 amounted to some 6.4 million bushels compared with 6.7 million bushels milled during the previous month and 7.5 million bushels milled during April 1956. Of the wheat milled for flour during April some 5,832,000 bushels were Western Canadian spring wheat (other than Durum), while the remainder consisted of Ontario winter wheat (362,000 bushels), Durum (114,000 bushels) and all other (121,000 bushels).

Exports Based on preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during April 1957 amounted to 1,328,000 hundredweight (3,055,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) representing an increase of 10 per cent over the March figure of 2,776,000 bushels but 5 per cent below the adjusted April 1956 total of 3,207,000 bushels. Flour shipments during the month went to forty-seven countries with exports to the United Kingdom amounting to 883,000 bushels of wheat equivalent and accounting for 29 per cent of the April total. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat flour during the month with shipments in thousands of bushels of wheat equivalent were as follows: Philippine Islands, 558; Ceylon, 389; Venezuela, 215; United States, 121; and Jamaica, 115.

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

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour - bushels -	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports 1/
		- hundredweight -	
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	28,361,546
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	19,896,137
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	91,755,469	40,142,498	17,391,300
1956-57 2/			
August	7,872,881	3,448,590	1,493,103
September	7,229,802	3,192,582	1,209,186
October	8,038,284	3,540,745	1,460,602
November	8,296,852	3,635,956	1,389,730
December	7,118,382	3,144,057	1,264,042
January	6,952,052	3,074,467	1,453,559
February	6,735,550	2,992,154	1,216,050
March	6,684,160	2,982,776	1,207,110
April	6,428,757	2,857,550	1,328,373
Totals	65,356,720	28,868,877	12,021,755
Same period 1955-56 (revised)	68,522,287	29,957,890	12,579,447

1/ Based on Customs returns. Exports for the crop years 1945-46-1955-56 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 1956-57 crop year (July-June), amount to 2,031.1 million bushels, consisting of the July 1, 1956 carryover of 1,033.9 million and the 1956 production of 997.2 million. Imports of wheat, including wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent, from Canada for all purposes during the first ten months of the current United States crop year amounted to 4.9 million bushels compared with 5.4 million during the July-April period of 1955-56. Total estimated supplies, at 2,036.0 million bushels exceeded by about 3 per cent the comparable 1955-56 figure of 1,976.3 million. After making an allowance of some 598.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, an estimated 1,438.0 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 compared with 1,374.8 million in the preceding crop year.

United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (July 1)	1,036.2	1,033.9
New crop	934.7	997.2
Total estimated domestic supplies	1,970.9	2,031.1
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July-April	5.4	4.9
Total estimated supplies <u>2/</u>	1,976.3	2,036.0
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year <u>3/</u> ..	601.5	598.0
Available for export and for carryover	1,374.8	1,438.0
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July-April	205.5	387.7
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July-April	41.0	55.2
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products ..	246.6	443.0
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	1,128.2	995.0

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excluding imports for May-June period. 3/ Includes allowances for shipments of United States wheat and wheat products to Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, Samoa, Virgin Islands and Wake Island. These shipments are not included in exports as set out in the table.

Exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-April period of the current crop year amounted to 443.0 million bushels, as against 246.6 million exported during the same months of 1955-56. The balance remaining on May 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 995.0 million bushels, representing a decline of 12 per cent from the 1,128.2 million at May 1, 1956.

Winter Wheat Crop
Estimated at
703 Million Bushels

In a report released on May 10, the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture stated that in part as follows "A winter wheat crop of 703 million bushels is indicated by conditions to May 1. This would be about 5 per cent smaller than the 1956 crop of 735 million bushels, nearly a fifth less than average but 5 per cent above a month ago. Increases from April 1 prospects were rather general throughout the country with significant increases in Texas, Colorado, Kansas and Nebraska.

The indicated yield at 22.5 bushels per acre for harvest is the highest of record and compares with 20.6 bushels in 1956 and the average of 18.6 bushels. The indicated record yield may be reached with only New York, New Jersey, Indiana, Maryland and West Virginia exceeding their current record yield. This indicates a quite uniform satisfactory development of the crop over a majority of the producing areas.

The estimated 31.2 million acres of winter wheat remaining for harvest on May 1 represents a decrease of 12 per cent from the 1956 harvested acreage, is a third less than average and is the smallest acreage since 1933. The portion of the seeded acreage that will be harvested for grain is estimated at 84.9 per cent. This compares with 80.1 per cent for the 1956 crop and the average of 85.2 per cent. Of the 5.5 million acres seeded but not expected to be harvested as grain, 3.9 million acres are in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico. Moisture during April over much of the dry Southern Plains replenished soil moisture. Wheat that survived the rigors of a dry fall and winter took on a "new look" and gives promise of favourable outturns. In the "dust bowl" some fields "dusted-in" last fall but greened up but it is still problematical as to what can be expected."

U.S.D.A. Outlines Revised
Barter Programme

On May 28 the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that the Commodity Credit Corporation barter programme, suspended since the end of April, is being resumed immediately on a revised basis.

The revamped programme, under which CCC will continue to exchange surplus farm products for strategic and other materials from foreign countries, is intended to insure that each barter contract results in a net increase in exports of the agricultural commodity involved. One of the principal factors leading to suspension at the end of April of new barter transactions was the possibility that some of the barter contracts were simply replacing dollar sales with no net gain in the total volume of agricultural exports.

U.S.D.A. Extends Farm
Storage Facility and Equipment
Loan Programmes

On April 19, 1957 the U.S. Department of Agriculture extended the farm storage facility and farm storage equipment loan programmes for another year through June 30, 1958. These loans are designed to help farmers throughout the country obtain needed farm storage. Under these programmes, farmers can borrow a large part of the cost of additional farm storage space and drying equipment for grains and seeds.

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

Cash Wheat Prices on the Kansas City and Minneapolis Markets

No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City		No. 1 Northern Spring, Minneapolis	
Date	Price	Date	Price
	- cents per bushel -		- cents per bushel -
May 1, 1957 ..	228 3/4	May 1, 1957 ..	225 1/2 - 226 1/2
2	223 1/2 - 224 3/4	2	227 1/4 - 229 1/4
3	220 1/2	3	228 1/2 - 230 1/2
6	219 1/4 - 233 3/4	6	229 1/2 - 231 1/2
7	222 - 226	7	227 1/2 - 229 1/2
8	217 1/2 - 225	8	226 5/8 - 228 5/8
9	220 - 224 1/2	9	225 5/8 - 227 5/8
10	216 1/4 - 229 3/4	10	224 5/8 - 226 5/8
13	222 1/2 - 223 1/2	13	223 1/2 - 225 1/2
14	221 1/4	14	223 - 225
15	218 1/4 - 229 3/4	15	221 3/8 - 223 3/8
16	220 1/2 - 226 1/2	16	223 1/2 - 225 1/2
17	227 - 228	17	221 - 223
20	228 3/4	20	219 3/4 - 221 3/4
21	222 1/2 - 224 1/2	21	219 3/8 - 221 3/8
22	224	22	220 7/8 - 221 7/8
23	221 - 233 1/4	23	221 1/2 - 222 1/2
24	218	24	220 1/4 - 221 1/4
27	218 1/4	27	220 - 221
28	216 1/2 - 230 1/2	28	220 1/4 - 221 1/4
29	224 1/2	29	219 3/4 - 220 3/4
30	Memorial Day	30	Memorial Day
31	219 1/2 - 231	31	220 1/8 - 221 1/8

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	May	July	September	December	March
	- cents and eighths per bushel -				
May 1, 1957 ...	217/1	207/4	209/6	213/6	
2	217/6	207/7	210/2	214/3	
3	218	208/4	210/7	214/6	
6	217/3	207/6	210	214	
7	215/7	207	209/2	213/1	
8	218/2	207/4	209/6	213/5	
9	216/7	208/5	210/4	214/4	
10	217/6	208/1	210/2	214/1	
13	217	208/6	211/2	215/1	
14	215/6	209/4	211/4	215/3	
15	216	207/7	210/2	214	
16	218/4	209/2	211/6	215/5	
17	218/6	209	211/4	215/3	
20	219	209/3	211/5	215/5	
21		208/5	211/4	215/6	216/5
22		209/5	212	216/4	217/2
23		206/3	208/4	211/3	212/4
24		203/5	206/2	211/3	212/4
27		203/6	206/6	211/3	212/3
28		203/7	206/5	211/3	212/2
29		204/1	206/6	211/3	212/3
30			Memorial Day		
31		204/4	206/5	211/2	211/6

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the crop year 1956-57, consisting of the December 1, 1956 carryover of 42.9 million bushels and the new crop of 262.0 million, amount to some 304.9 million bushels. Supplies of this size exceed by about 10 per cent the 1955-56 total of 276.1 million bushels. After making an allowance of 136.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, some 168.9 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 140.1 million in the preceding crop year. Exports of wheat during the December-April period of the current Argentine crop year have amounted to 40.4 million bushels, 14 per cent below the figure of 46.8 million bushels of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent exported during the same months of 1955-56. The balance remaining on May 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 128.5 million bushels compared with 93.3 million at the same date in 1956.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) <u>2/</u>	83.2	42.9
New crop <u>3/</u>	192.9	262.0
Total estimated domestic supplies	276.1	304.9
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	136.0	136.0
Available for export and for carryover	140.1	168.9
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December-April	45.6	40.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec.-April ..	1.2	<u>4/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	46.8	40.4
Balance on May 1 for export and for carryover	93.3	128.5

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

4/ Less than 50,000 bushels.

The following account of the Argentine situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. W. F. Hillhouse, Agricultural Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Buenos Aires, under date of May 17, 1957, 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 pesos to the United States dollar.

Weather and Crops The general substantial rains of mid-April were followed in most parts of the grain zone by lighter, intermittent precipitation. During May the weather has been unusually bright and warm. This combination has benefitted pastures tremendously including the early-sown dual purpose grains. Land preparation and seeding operations for wheat, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed continue under very good conditions. The rather persistent wet weather in late April slowed down harvesting of early corn and sunflower but also aided the late-sown fields of these crops.

Wheat

After many weeks of negotiation Argentina has reportedly signed a contract with Brazil and reached general agreement with Chile concerning their purchases of Argentine wheat this year. Brazil is to take 1,200,000 tons (44,092,000 bushels) including the 150,000 tons (5,512,000 bushels) purchased in January and Chile is to take at least 200,000 tons (7,349,000 bushels). As of April 30 the Grain Board reported that it had purchased 6,072,032 tons (223,109,000 bushels) of wheat from this crop. As the crop has been estimated at 7,130,000 tons (261,983,000 bushels) one might expect them to purchase possibly an additional 200,000 tons, (7,349,000 bushels) the remainder being accounted for by seed, other farm disappearance and possibly inaccuracy in the production estimate. At the same date (i.e. before agreement with Chile and Brazil was reached) the Grain Board reported that they had 1,775,483 tons (65,238,000 bushels) of new crop wheat and 114,764 tons (4,217,000 bushels) of old crop wheat available for sale. Thus, their total availability at that date plus wheat they might expect to purchase during the remainder of the crop year totalled 2,090,247 tons (76,803,000 bushels). If one deducts the Chilean quota, the net Brazilian quota and the small sales this month it would appear that Argentina still may be expected to offer no more than 800,000 tons (29,395,000 bushels) of wheat for export to other destinations during the remainder of the year, unless she reduces her carryover this year.

Corn

The first published official estimate of corn production for this year has been set at 2,650,000 metric tons (104,325,000 bushels), down 50,000 tons (1,968,000 bushels) from the verbal estimate given by the Minister of Agriculture and 31.5 per cent below last year's outturn. Although the rains of April have been of some benefit to the late sown fields there are many people in the trade who consider the official estimate too high. Purchases of corn by the Grain Board by April 30 had amounted to only 42,712 tons (1,681,000 bushels) and sales for export during the past month barely exceeded 32,000 tons (1,260,000 bushels), compared with over 200,000 tons (7,874,000 bushels) during the same period last year.

Oats, Barley and Rye

Foreign demand for these grains has been slow and export sales declined during the past month to less than 37,000 tons, half of which was oats. Shipments were also lower at 82,753 tons. Adequate stocks of all three grains exist in the country although much of the barley has already been sold to exporters. The weather during the past month has been particularly favourable for the seeding, germination and early growth of these grains which have been sown for pasture and grain. Some early fields are already able to carry stock and most areas now have sufficient moisture to ensure seeding and germination of these grains.

Policy

Minimum Producer Prices Announced for Crop Year 1957-58 The government guaranteed minimum producer prices for the coming crop were announced on May 10. The corn price is set at 100 pesos per 100 kilograms, (\$1.41 per bushel) i.e. equal to this year's minimum price plus the 20 pesos (28 cents per bushel) bonus now in effect. The only other increases over this year are 5 pesos (about 7 cents per bushel) each for bread type and durum type wheats. The new prices are shown in the accompanying table and compared with those in effect in recent years.

Minimum Producer Prices for Grain
Argentina,
Crop Years 1955-56—1957-58

Grain	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58
- dollars per bushel -			
<u>Wheat</u>			
Semi-hard, Grade 2 (basis 63 lbs. per bu.)	1.06	1.13	1.21
Candeal and/or Taganrock	1.13	1.29	1.36
<u>Barley</u>			
Brewers type, Grade 2, (basis 52 lbs. per bu.)67	.73	.73
Forage type, Grade 2, (basis 47 lbs. per bu.)61	.67	.67
<u>Oats</u>			
Yellow Grade 2, (basis 38 lbs. per bu.)47	.51	.51
White, Grade 2, (basis 39 lbs. per bu.)48	.53	.53
<u>Rye</u>			
Grade 2, (basis 59 lbs. per bu.)71	.85	.85
<u>Flaxseed</u>			
Grade 2, (basis 4% foreign matter)	1.98	2.33	2.33
<u>Corn</u>			
Yellow and/or red99	1.13	1.41

Grain Board to Sell
Feed Grain to
Producers at Cost

In order to assist its corn export policy the government has resolved that the Grain Board will sell to poultry and hog producers at cost, wheat of previous crop years and other grains of any harvest held by the Grain Board. By offering such grain at prices well below the price producers can now receive for corn, the government hopes to increase their purchases and hence exports of corn from this year's small crop. As of April 30 the Grain Board reported the following quantities of such grains as being disposable: old crop wheat 114,764 tons, (4,217,000 bushels) oats 223,825 tons (14,513,000 bushels), barley 34,616 tons (1,590,000 bushels) and rye 67,248 tons (2,647,000 bushels), a total of 440,453 tons.

Grain Sales

The sales highlights of the past month have been the announcements that agreement has been reached with both Brazil and Chile concerning their purchases of Argentine wheat this year. Brazil has reportedly agreed to buy 1,200,000 tons (44,092,000 bushels) of Argentine wheat, prices to be governed by Argentine sales for each preceding two month period. The 150,000 tons (5,512,000 bushels) sold in January is to be considered a part of the quota. Chile will reportedly purchase at

least 200,000 tons (7,349,000 bushels) and possibly more also at prices prevailing to other destinations. Actual sales of wheat and other grains during the past month dropped to only 90,468 tons comprising 32,235 tons (1,269,000 bushels) of corn in small lots at from 1,033.74 pesos per ton (\$1.46 per bushel) to 1,049.04 pesos per ton (\$1.48 per bushel) for multilateral currencies, 21,640 tons (795,000 bushels) of wheat including 20,000 tons (735,000 bushels) of durum type at 1,422.90 pesos (\$2.15 per bushel) for multilateral and 1,458.15 (\$2.20 per bushel) for German marks, and 18,223 tons (1,182,000 bushels) of oats, 10,800 tons (496,000 bushels) of barley and 7,570 tons (298,000 bushels) of rye all at the aforo of 690 pesos (\$38.33) per ton for multilateral or its equivalent in other currencies.

Grain Shipments Reduced shipments of wheat, barley, oats and rye lowered shipments of the major grains in April to 380,598 tons from the high figure of 443,297 tons reached in March. Wheat shipments, at 267,848 tons (9,842,000 bushels) were down almost 50,000 tons (1,837,000 bushels) from the previous month but compared very favourably with all other recent months. Brazil was the major customer, receiving 61,304 tons (2,253,000 bushels) followed by France, 49,822 tons (1,831,000 bushels); Holland, 38,048 tons (1,398,000 bushels); United Kingdom, 28,375 tons (1,043,000 bushels); Peru, 19,893 tons (731,000 bushels); and Germany, 19,684 tons (723,000 bushels). Barley exports at 36,556 tons (1,679,000 bushels) were down 10,000 tons (459,000 bushels) and went mainly to Germany, 18,115 tons (832,000 bushels) and Holland, 13,556 tons (623,000 bushels). Corn shipments at 29,997 tons (1,181,000 bushels) were up fractionally and went mainly to Holland, 14,309 tons (563,000 bushels) and Italy, 7,127 tons (281,000 bushels). Oats exports totalled 28,635 tons (1,857,000 bushels) down from 32,898 tons (2,133,000 bushels). Holland, with 10,740 tons (696,000 bushels) and Belgium, 7,277 tons (472,000 bushels) were the major destinations. Small shipments of rye went to Finland, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Denmark and Norway in that order for a total of 17,562 tons (691,000 bushels) compared with 21,534 tons (848,000 bushels) in March.

Argentine Wheat Exports, December. 1956-April 1957 with Comparisons

Destination	Wheat	Destination	Wheat
	- thousand bushels -		- thousand bushels -
Austria	57	North Africa	168
Belgium	2,001	Norway	676
Brazil	11,064	Paraguay	282
Chile	1,085	Peru	2,591
Denmark	914	South Africa	408
Finland	162	Switzerland	312
France	3,889	United Kingdom	6,116
Germany	2,943	Yugoslavia	17
Italy	4,230		
Netherlands	3,519	Total	40,435
Same Period:			
1955-56			45,587
1954-55			56,943
1953-54			42,636
1952-53			10,635
1951-52			3,668

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1956-57 crop year, consisting of the December 1 carryover of 83.9 million bushels and the new crop placed at 134.7 million, amount to some 218.6 million bushels, about 24 per cent below the 1955-56 total of 287.0 million. After making an allowance of some 72.6 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, an estimated 146.0 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 215.3 million in the preceding crop year.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent up to May 4 of the current Australian crop year, at 51.4 million bushels, exceeded by about 20 per cent the 42.7 million exported during the corresponding period of the 1955-56 crop year. The balance remaining on May 5, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 94.6 million bushels, a decline of 45 per cent from the 172.6 million available at the same date a year ago.

Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million	bushels -
Carryover, including flour as wheat, at beginning of crop year (December 1)	91.6	83.9
New crop	195.4	134.7
Total estimated supplies	287.0	218.6
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	71.7	72.6 <u>2/</u>
Available for export and for carryover	215.3	146.0
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 - May 4	29.1	36.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1 - May 4	13.6	15.0
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	42.7	51.4
Balance on May 5 for export and for carryover	172.6	94.6

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Revised.

The following information relative to the Australian situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. T. G. Major, Commercial Counsellor for Canada, Melbourne, under date of May 9, 1957 and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce.

Weather and Crops

In general, weather conditions continue to be unsatisfactory with dry weather general in the eastern States. On Easter Sunday, Western Australia had its first widespread rain of the season, but in most parts of the State the falls were of less than half an inch, which is considered to be inadequate for opening rains. There was light rainfall in parts of Victoria at the end of April, but it was quickly soaked up by the parched soil.

New crop
Sowings - Wheat

Earlier rains in New South Wales point to an increase in wheat sowings from the very low level obtained last year, and a somewhat larger acreage is indicated in Victoria. The Commonwealth

Bureau of Agricultural Economics has forecast a sowing of 9.5 million acres, as compared with 7,792,000 in 1956-57 and 10,160,000 acres in 1955-56. However, wheat authorities in Western Australia feel that 9.1 millions will be closer to the mark. Their report issued under date of April 30th gives the following breakdown by States:-

State	1955-56	1956-57	Forecast 1957-58
	- acres -		
Queensland	582,000	390,000	400,000
New South Wales	2,938,000	1,717,000	2,600,000
Victoria	2,141,000	1,530,000	2,000,000
South Australia	1,609,000	1,455,000	1,500,000
Western Australia	2,890,000	2,700,000	2,600,000
Totals	10,160,000	7,792,000	9,100,000

The report goes on to estimate an ultimate crop of 152 million bushels, based on the Australian 10-year average of 16.7 bushels per acre. Of this, some 12 millions would be required for seed, and 55 millions for internal consumption, leaving 85 millions for export, which, on the basis of the following statistics, could be sold during the December, 1957 to November, 1958 period:

United Kingdom under the Agreement	- 28 millions
New Zealand	- 9
India	- 11
Japan	- 11
Other countries	- 12
Flour for export	- 14

This seems to fit in with the recent statement of the Chairman of the Australian Wheat Board that Australia's marketable wheat production should not exceed 150 million bushels or a total harvest of some 162 millions.

A less optimistic view of export marketing prospects was taken by Dr. T. H. Strong of the Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics, in his semi-annual review of the wheat situation. Despite the improved rate of shipments, he doubted whether this could be maintained with quietened demand ruling in world markets after the rush of buying which followed the Suez crisis. He believes that both supply and demand now are operating against Australia's interests, particularly the effects of the American surplus disposal programme. However, he considered that the United Kingdom agreement recently concluded would serve as a preventive against further deterioration in the unsatisfactory Australian position in that market. On the longer view, he considered that prospects for a general improvement in the world surplus were better than they had been for some time.

The problem of subsidy programmes by other countries was the subject of a conference in Melbourne in mid-April between representatives of the flour millers, the Wheat Board and the Departments of Primary Industry and of Trade. The report on the results of these discussions has disappeared into Canberra without any public statement, but one can hazard a guess that proposals were put forward to the Government

covering measures to protect the Australian wheat and flour position in overseas markets, especially in the South-east Asia region.

Sir John Teasdale (Chairman of the Australian Wheat Board) favours reduction in wheat acreage and a switch to other grain crops, in view of what he believes to be the worst marketing trouble since the 1930's. His views are not shared by the Secretary of the Victorian Wheat and Woolgrowers' Association nor the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science, nor the Queensland Minister of Agriculture and Stock, nor the Western Australian Farmers' Union.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to May 4, 1956-57 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Aden and Aden I/T	7	4	384	301
Belgian Congo	-	-	-	1
British North Borneo	-	-	108	118
British West Indies	-	1	54	233
Brunei	-	-	15	16
Burma	36	-	218	372
Ceylon	2	4	2,146	3,550
Cocos Islands	-	-	1/	1/
Cyprus	-	-	1/	-
Czechoslovakia	-	315	-	-
Dutch New Guinea	-	-	33	32
Egypt (a/c War Office)	-	-	5	-
Eire	312	362	-	-
Germany, West	2,249	4,342	-	-
Ghana	-	-	-	1/
Hong Kong	450	698	-	-
Hong Kong (General)	-	-	162	144
Hong Kong (a/c War Office)	-	-	17	31
India	3,597	6,288	-	-
Indonesia	-	4	4,715	2,620
Iran	359	554	-	-
Iraq	1,203	1,395	-	-
Italy	-	-	12	-
Japan	5,786	133	-	-
Kure (a/c War Office)	-	-	18	-
Macao	-	-	4	7
Malaya	206	394	-	-
Malaya (General)	-	-	2,854	2,719
Malaya (a/c War Office)	-	-	56	60
Malta	193	-	-	-
Mauritius	-	-	105	671
New Zealand	3,650	4,265	1/	2
Nigeria	-	-	-	1/
Nyasaland	-	-	4	43
Pacific Islands	11	9	815	940
Pakistan	-	1,976	-	-
Persian Gulf	60	38	62	371
Philippine Islands	-	-	111	226
Poland	1,862	-	-	-
Port Said (a/c S/S)	-	-	25	-

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1 to May 4, 1956-57 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Portuguese East Africa	56	336	-	-
Portuguese India (Goa)	10	79	30	28
Rhodesia	659	1,036	-	-
Sarawak	-	-	99	70
Saudi Arabia	37	2	-	-
Seychelles Islands	-	-	12	18
Somaliland, British	-	-	3	-
Somaliland, French	-	-	22	-
Sudan	-	-	92	514
Syria	338	-	-	-
Tahiti	-	-	88	-
Thailand (Siam)	3	3	304	308
Timor	-	-	5	8
United Kingdom	7,980	14,105	945	1,407
Zanzibar	40	2	-	123
Royal Navy	8	20	7	9
Ships' Stores	-	-	72	60
Totals	29,114	36,365	13,602	15,002

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

FRENCH SITUATION

The following account of the current crop situation in France has been extracted from a report provided by Miss V. F. Wightman, Commercial Secretariat, Canadian Embassy, Paris, under date of May 21, 1957, and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. The data regarding the supply position of wheat in France for the crop years 1955-56 and 1956-57 is not shown this month due to a delay in the release of the French Grain Board statement on which it is based.

Weather and Crops The month of April, with its cool, dry weather, retarded development of grainfields, which however were already well advanced for the season. Frosts occurred in mid-April and early May but affected mainly the fruit and vineyard regions and had only a very marginal effect on grain. Lack of rain has caused some yellowing but on the whole, fields are in good condition. Subsequently, rain has fallen and improved the outlook, particularly for the spring sown barley.

Spring sowing has now just about ended and the figures given below are therefore indicative of what may be expected of the current crop year. The area sown to wheat at 4,592,000 hectares (11,342,000 acres) is 2 per cent above the level at the first of May, 1955. Fall and winter sowings were just about the same level as in 1955, but spring sowings were 47,500 hectares (117,000 acres), 37 per cent higher, despite the government's effort to persuade farmers to plant alternative crops.

Fields of wheat show thick vegetation and although there has been widespread yellowing of the leaf tips due to lack of rain, the outlook is for high yields. The trade is talking of a crop of 11 to 12 million tons (404 to 441 million bushels) which would constitute a new record, and would probably bring deliveries to the Grain Board of 7 to 8 million tons (257 to 294 million bushels), as against domestic requirements of slightly over 5 million (184 million bushels).

Sowings to barley at 1,575,600 hectares (3,892,000 acres) are 29 per cent ahead of the same period in 1955. Fall and winter sown barley was on a lower level, but spring sowings were 49 per cent higher, due to the excellent results obtained from spring-sown barley last year. It is obviously too early to estimate barley production this year, but yields have recently averaged 18 to 20 quintals per hectare (33 to 37 bushels per acre) and rose to 28.4 quintals (53 bushels per acre) last year. Even at the more moderate figure of 20 (37 bushels per acre), this would give a crop of 3 million tons (138 million bushels) which, however, would be only half the record crop produced in 1956.

The May 1 official estimate of grain sowings, as compared with 1955 (the last "normal" year) is as follows:

Area Seeded to Grain, May 1

Grain	May 1	May 1	Difference
	1955	1957	May 1 1955 and 1957
	- thousand acres -		- per cent -
Wheat	11,121.4	11,342.2	+ 2.0
Wheat and Rye	61.0	50.6	- 17.0
Rye	992.2	908.7	- 8.4
Barley	3,001.1	3,891.7	+ 29.7
Oats	5,238.1	4,352.4	- 16.9
Mixed Grain	202.8	189.4	- 6.6
Totals	20,616.6	20,735.0	+ 0.6

Source: French Ministry of Agriculture.

Reduced Use of Imported Wheat In view of current prospects for a heavy wheat crop and the subsequent cancellation of further imports, the maximum mixing of foreign wheat at the mills has been reduced from 30 to 20 per cent. This measure is taken to help reduce stocks in country elevators which are reportedly heavy, and thus provide space for the new crop. An effort is to be made to move wheat from surplus to deficit regions and thus free elevators throughout the grain areas.

Barley Exports France is in the international barley market this year for the first time in substantial proportions. The 1956 barley crop at 6.5 million tons (298.5 million bushels) was a record for the country and over twice the level of the previous year; two-thirds was originally estimated in surplus position. Actually, more has been consumed on farms than was anticipated; deliveries to the Grain Board have totalled 2.9 million tons (133.2 million bushels) so far and may reach 3 million (137.8 million bushels) for the current crop year.

Export availabilities have been gradually revised upwards as barley was received by the Board from 1.2 million tons (55.1 million bushels) at the beginning of the year to 1.7 million tons (78.1 million bushels) to date. The remainder of deliveries to the Board has been absorbed by domestic industry of mixed feeds or by breweries; no separate record is made for brewers barley, but some has been exported, to Germany, Belgium and Denmark. Very small barley stocks are anticipated for the end of the crop year.

The main export markets for French barley have been as follows: Belgium 400,000 tons (18,372,000 bushels), Germany 300,000 tons (13,779,000 bushels), United Kingdom 215,000 tons (9,875,000 bushels), Netherlands 170,000 tons (7,808,000 bushels), Hungary 130,000 tons (5,971,000 bushels), Switzerland 100,000 tons (4,593,000 bushels), Denmark 30,000 tons (1,378,000 bushels), etc.

Recently, barley exports have been tied in with imports of durum wheat, on the basis of 3 tons (138 bushels) of barley to 1 ton (37 bushels) of wheat.

In view of the French surplus position, no barley has been brought in from North Africa, but quantities of Moroccan barley have moved to Germany under the terms of the Franco-German trade agreement.

North African Situation

Reports from North Africa on crop conditions often conflict, but, on the whole, it has been clear that production would be considerably lower this year due to lack of rainfall during the winter and early spring. Rains fell in late April and early May and are understood to have come in time to save crops in Tunisia; however, the situation is less promising in Algeria and Morocco.

The supply position of durum wheat from North Africa is important to France since it usually covers 80-90 per cent of French requirements of around 400,000 tons (14,697,000 bushels). The following figures, valid as of mid-May, are tentative in that North African crop conditions may change sharply and suddenly.

Algeria is expected to have a deficit this year of 58,000 tons (2,131,000 bushels) of durum; their wheat crop estimated at 715,000 tons (26,272,000 bushels) is only half the level of 1956. Within the next few weeks some 20,000 tons (735,000 bushels) of wheat will be landed in Algeria, of which 13,000 tons (478,000 bushels) will be from Cyprus and 6,000 (220,000 bushels) from Argentina. In normal years, Algeria is able to export some 150,000 tons (5,512,000 bushels) of durum wheat to France.

In Tunisia, rainfall arrived in time to save the grain crops, and it is expected that they will have an export surplus of 50,000 tons (1,837,000 bushels) of durum wheat.

Following the winter drought, Morocco is expected to have only half a crop of soft wheat: 330,000 tons (12,125,000 bushels) this year in place of 660,000 tons (24,251,000 bushels) in 1956. Any deficit would presumably be made up from France once the 1957 crop is harvested.

French Foreign Trade in Wheat in 1956

Statistics have recently been released covering French foreign trade during the year 1956, and those covering trade by country in wheat and flour are given below. The contrast with the previous year is noteworthy and reflects the bad crop in 1956: in 1956 total exports of wheat stood at only 882,742 (32,435,000 bushels) as compared with 2.2 million tons (80,836,000 bushels) in 1955 and this reflects largely export commitments early in the

year before damage from the February frosts was fully assessed. At the same time, imports rose to 1.5 million tons (55,116,000 bushels) during 1956 as against only 231,552 tons (8,508,000 bushels) in 1955.

Foreign trade in flour shows less variation since an effort was made to continue flour exports in order to retain markets.

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Wheat seeding is all but completed in Alberta and sowing of coarse grains should be practically finished by June 1. Conditions have been generally ideal this spring for destroying weeds and for early seeding. Fair rains have fallen in western areas but only showers have been received in other regions. Early crops have germinated well, but will soon need rain, especially on stubble. Late crops will need rain to ensure even germination. Dry soil may reduce forage crop seedings to below earlier intentions. Recent cool weather is retarding growth but frosts last week did little apparent damage. Some slight crop injury by cutworms is reported in southern localities. The earliest hatch of grasshoppers in at least seven years is now occurring in southern Alberta. However, no serious general damage is expected. The pea aphid infestation on alfalfa is still severe in localized areas.

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- April 27 According to a Foreign Trade Service report from Karachi, the Pakistan wheat crop is now estimated at some 134.4 million to 141.9 million bushels.
- 29 The United States Department of Agriculture announced extension of the farm storage facility and farm storage equipment loan programmes to June 30, 1958.
- May 7 The Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, estimated wheat flour production in the United States in March 1957 at 19,679,000 sacks, an average of 937,000 sacks per working day.
- 9 According to a report from the Canadian Commercial Counsellor in Melbourne, the Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics has forecast Australian wheat seedings of 9.5 million acres.
- 10 The Argentine government announced guaranteed minimum producer prices for the 1957-58 grain crops.
- According to a report published by the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture, the winter wheat crop for harvest in 1957, based on conditions as at May 1, is forecast at 703 million bushels.
- 15 The Canadian Wheat Board announced final payment on the 1955-56 wheat pool. The average payment on producers' deliveries of some 352.2 million bushels was 11.912 cents per bushel.
- 20 According to a report issued by the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, total commercial production of wheat flour in 1956 amounted to 229.8 million sacks, about 4 million sacks above the previous year's production. Production in 1956 was at 83.7 per cent of total annual capacity. Wheat flour mills in 1956 ground 527.2 million bushels of wheat.
- June 3 According to Foreign Crops and Markets published by the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S.D.A., near-record outturns are reported from India's recently completed harvest of wheat and barley. The wheat crop, tentatively estimated at 321 million bushels has been exceeded only in 1954 when a crop of 328 million was reported.

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