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# THE WHEAT REVIEW



JANUARY, 1957

EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.  
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THE  
WHEAT REVIEW

JANUARY, 1957

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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.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
World Wheat Situation	
Current Supplies .....	1
Exports .....	1
Crop Conditions in Europe .....	1
I. W. A. Sales and Purchases, Crop Year 1956-57 .....	2
Canadian Situation	
Interim Payment on 1955-56 Wheat .....	3
Supply Position .....	3
December Exports of Wheat and Flour Total 20.8 Million Bushels .....	5
Delivery Policy .....	5
New Durum Wheat .....	7
Farmers' Marketings .....	8
Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat .....	9
Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-December, 1956 with Comparisons .....	9
Weekly Visible Supply and Farmers' Marketings (Charts) .....	10
Wheat Shipments to the United States by Destination .....	11
Rail Shipments of Wheat to Maritime Ports .....	11
Rail Shipments of Wheat from Fort William-Port Arthur .....	12
Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading .....	12
Freight Assistance Shipments .....	13
Monthly Export Clearances .....	14
Exports of Canadian Wheat and Wheat Flour by Destination .....	15
Canadian Wheat Board Weekly Average Cash Wheat Prices .....	17
Canadian Flour Milling Situation	
Production and Exports .....	19
United States Situation	
Supply Position .....	20
Stocks of Wheat in All Positions January 1, 1957 .....	21
Crop and Weather Conditions .....	22
Flour Production .....	22
Cash Wheat Prices on the Kansas City and Minneapolis Markets .....	23
Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing .....	23
Argentine Situation .....	24
Australian Situation .....	28
French Situation .....	33
Calendar of Wheat Events .....	36

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## WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about January 1, 1957 in the four major exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,274.9 million bushels, some three per cent below the 2,338.5 million available a year ago. Supplies at January 1, 1957 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: United States, 1,197.5 (1,247.8); Canada, 791.5 (755.6); Argentina, 163.9 (130.8); and Australia, 122.0 (204.3). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial channels.

The newly harvested 1956-57 crops in the Argentine and Australia are taken into consideration in the above estimates. It is noted that, in two of the countries, the United States and Australia, supplies available for export and carryover at January 1, 1957 are below last year's level, while in the other two countries, Canada and the Argentine, stocks exceed those of a year ago.

Exports Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat from the four major exporting countries for the first five months of the Canadian crop year, at 419.5 million bushels, were about 46 per cent greater than the shipments of 286.6 million during the comparable period of 1955-56. Shipments from each of the four countries during August-December, 1956 and of the six preceding years are shown in the table below.

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

August-December	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950 .....	93.0	87.1	25.2	51.5	256.8
1951 .....	189.6	135.5	21.8	44.2	391.1
1952 .....	134.2	168.1	0.2	33.4	335.9
1953 .....	82.8	121.1	53.8	26.5	284.2
1954 .....	101.8	116.9	53.2	37.5	309.4
1955 <u>1/</u> .....	94.4	94.1	52.7	45.4	286.6
1956 <u>2/</u> .....	193.1	126.9	36.9	62.6	419.5

1/ Revised      2/ Preliminary.

### Crop Conditions in Europe

A trade report, dated February 5, indicates that mild, rainy weather prevails over a large part of the continent and that conditions are mostly favourable for winter grains. Recent alternating frosts and thaws do not appear to have had any serious effects but these still pose a potential threat and observers in most countries stress the need for a good snow cover as protection against any severe cold wave. Winter crops in the United Kingdom are apparently in good condition and preparation of the land for spring planting is well advanced despite delays recently caused by wet weather.



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 1/	Argentina 2/	Australia 2/	France 2/	Sweden 2/	U.S.A. 2/		
- thousand bushels -									
Austria .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Belgium .....	16,535	1,038	-	4	-	-	4,831	5,873	10,662
Bolivia .....	4,042	-	-	-	-	-	499	499	3,543
Brazil .....	7,349	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,349
Costa Rica .....	1,470	320	-	-	-	-	696	1,016	454
Cuba .....	7,422	198	-	-	-	-	4,796	4,994	2,428
Denmark 4/ .....	1,837	120	-	-	-	169	1,576	1,865	-
Dominican Republic .	1,102	220	-	-	-	-	428	648	454
Ecuador .....	1,837	331	-	-	-	-	280	611	1,226
Egypt .....	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,023
El Salvador .....	919	128	-	-	-	-	451	579	340
Germany .....	55,116	15,006	-	4,642	-	3,487	20,764	43,899	11,217
Greece .....	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	6,124	6,124	4,899
Guatemala .....	1,470	132	-	-	-	-	622	754	716
Haiti .....	2,204	183	-	-	-	-	786	969	1,235
Honduras Republic ..	919	13	-	-	-	-	149	162	757
Iceland .....	73	3	-	-	-	-	18	21	52
India 4/ .....	7,349	-	-	7,177	-	-	173	7,350	-
Indonesia .....	5,144	-	-	3,088	-	-	388	3,476	1,668
Ireland .....	5,512	2,217	-	-	-	-	1,098	3,315	2,197
Israel .....	8,267	749	-	-	-	-	2,572	3,321	4,946
Italy .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Japan .....	36,744	8,158	-	-	-	-	8,093	16,251	20,493
Korea .....	2,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,205
Lebanon .....	2,756	-	-	-	-	-	243	243	2,513
Liberia .....	73	4	-	-	-	-	21	25	48
Mexico .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Netherlands .....	25,721	1,181	-	32	-	-	13,755	14,968	10,753
New Zealand .....	5,879	-	-	5,707	-	-	-	5,707	172
Nicaragua .....	367	105	-	-	-	-	220	325	42
Norway .....	6,614	3,438	-	-	-	59	1,144	4,641	1,973
Panama .....	1,102	91	-	-	-	-	311	402	700
Peru .....	7,349	1	-	-	-	-	28	29	7,320
Philippines 4/ .....	6,063	2,807	-	272	-	-	2,855	5,934	-
Portugal .....	5,879	181	-	324	-	-	1,128	1,633	4,246
Saudi Arabia .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	1,301	1,301	2,373
Spain .....	4,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,593
Switzerland .....	6,981	4,446	-	-	-	-	-	4,446	2,535
Union of S. Africa .	5,512	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,512
Vatican City 4/ .....	551	-	-	-	-	-	551	551	-
Venezuela .....	6,246	1,598	-	-	-	-	3,200	4,798	1,448
Yugoslavia .....	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Total .....	293,618	42,668	-	21,246	-	3,715	79,101	146,730	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		99,739	14,246	29,329	16,027	6,233	128,044	293,618	
Balance .....		57,071	14,246	8,083	16,027	2,518	48,943	146,888	

1/ Canadian Sales through January 29, 1957.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through January 25, 1957.

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

4/ Quota filled.

CANADIAN SITUATION

Interim Payment  
on 1955-56 Wheat

Speaking in the House of Commons on January 30, 1957, the Right Hon. C. D. Howe (Minister of Trade and Commerce) stated as follows: " I wish to advise the House that there will be an interim payment on the 1955-56 pool account for wheat. The payment decided upon will be 10 cents per bushel on all grades of wheat, except milling grades of Durum wheat. On milling grades of Durum wheat the interim payment will be 25 cents per bushel.

In reaching this decision in regard to an interim payment, the government has been guided by a statement of the position of the 1955-56 wheat account, as prepared by the Canadian Wheat Board. This statement indicates that the selling of wheat in the pool is well advanced and the account is in a surplus position on all grades of wheat delivered to the board by producers between August 1, 1955 and July 31, 1956. These deliveries amounted to 352.2 million bushels. The extent of the interim payment is based upon the recommendation of the wheat board.

The interim payment will provide for the distribution of approximately \$37,300,000 to producers who delivered wheat to the pool in the year ending July 31 last.

In its main features, the interim payment which I am announcing is similar to the interim payment on the 1954-55 pool which I announced in the house on February 2, 1956, except that it is larger. The main difference is that, in the case of the 1955-56 pool, the interim payment of 10 cents per bushel will apply to all grades of wheat with the exception of milling grades of Durums; whereas in the case of the 1954-55 pool an interim payment was not possible on No. 5, No. 6 and feed wheat and some other grades. On some grades the interim payment a year ago was 5 cents per bushel.

I expect that the wheat board will be able to commence issuing interim payment cheques from the 1955-56 pool on about the same date as a year ago; the actual mailing of cheques to producers will commence about the middle of February or shortly thereafter.

It is not possible, of course, at this time to state definitely when the final payment will be made on the 1955-56 crop but on the basis of the information now available it would appear that an announcement of a final payment should be possible at about the same date as last year, during next May."

Supply Position

Total estimated 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 crop of 537.8 million, amount to some 1,078.4 million bushels, about 9 per cent greater than the comparable 1955-56 total of 993.9 million. After making an allowance for anticipated domestic requirements of 160.0 million bushels, an estimated 918.4 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 compared with 849.7 million in 1955-56.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the first five months (August-December) of the current crop year amounted to 126.9 million bushels as against 94.1 million during the same period of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on January 1, 1957 for export and for carryover, at 791.5 million bushels was 5 per cent greater than the January 1, 1956 figure of 755.6 million.

# 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-October .....	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Total estimated supplies .....	993.9	1,078.4
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	144.2 <u>4/</u>	160.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	849.7 <u>4/</u>	918.4
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, August-December ..	75.5	108.9
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-December .....	2.0	2.3
Total exports of wheat .....	77.5	111.2
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-December .	16.6 <u>5/</u>	15.7
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	94.1	126.9
Balance on January 1 for export and for carryover .....	755.6	791.5
<u>1/</u> Subject to revision.	<u>2/</u> Preliminary.	<u>3/</u> Less than 50,000 bushels.
<u>4/</u> Revised.	<u>5/</u> Adjusted for time lag in returns made by Customs.	

Marketings of wheat by farmers in the Prairie Provinces up to January 16 of the current crop year have totalled some 144.9 million bushels, well above the comparable 1955-56 total of 100.9 million. During the current four-week period under review (December 20, 1956 to January 16, 1957) deliveries of wheat in the three Western provinces amounted to 22.5 million bushels while disappearance into export and domestic channels (overseas clearances, plus Canadian domestic use plus imports into the United States) totalled some 18.6 million bushels. The visible supply of Canadian wheat varied by only about 1 per cent over the period, rising from a level of 353.4 million bushels at December 19 to 357.2 million at January 16. Visible supplies at mid-January this year also showed relatively little change from the comparable 1956 and 1955 totals of 362.0 million and 358.7 million bushels, respectively.

The bulk of this year's visible supplies at January 16, was held in country elevators. The total of 222.4 million bushels in this position exceeded both the 1956 figure of 209.9 million and the 1955 total of 203.7 million. Some 11.1 million bushels were "In transit rail (Western Division)", compared with 9.8 million at approximately mid-January a year ago and 10.7 million two years ago. "In transit rail(Eastern Division)" accounted for some 1.9 million bushels as against 4.5 million and 4.4 million bushels in 1956 and 1955, respectively. Lakehead stocks of wheat at January 16, 1957 at 33.0 million bushels were slightly below both the 1956 total of 34.5 million and the 1955 figure of 35.2 million bushels. The 29.9 million bushels in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports were also down from the levels of 36.2 million bushels a year ago and 30.4 million bushels two years ago. Supplies in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports totalled 18.4 million bushels compared with 18.9 million



and 20.9 million bushels at mid-January in 1956 and 1955, respectively. The 4.3 million bushels in West Coast ports (Vancouver-New Westminster, Prince Rupert and Victoria) were sharply below both the 1956 total of 7.7 million and the 1955 total of 11.1 million bushels. "Storage Afloat" accounted for some 12.1 million bushels of this year's January 16 visible supplies as against 14.7 million a year ago and 18.5 million two years ago.

December Exports of  
Wheat and Flour Total  
20.8 Million Bushels

Total exports of Canadian wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during December 1956 amounted to 20.8 million bushels, representing a decrease of 16 per cent from the 24.6 million exported during the preceding month but exceeding by 53 per cent the December 1955 figure of 13.6 million and 13 per cent greater than the ten-year (1945 - 1954) December average of 18.4 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain totalled 17.9 million bushels as against 21.5 million during the preceding month and 10.8 million during December 1955. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 2.9 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during December 1956 compared with 3.2 million during November and the revised December 1955 figure of 2.8 million bushels.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first five months of the current crop year amounted to 111.2 million bushels, about 43 per cent greater than the comparable 1955 total of 77.5 million. The United Kingdom continued as Canada's leading market for Canadian wheat as grain, with shipments to that country at 40.1 million bushels, accounting for 36 per cent of the August-December total and surpassing by 12 per cent the comparable 1955 figure of 35.9 million bushels. Other major markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the August-December 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, 22.2 (8.4); Japan, 16.6 (11.0); Belgium, 5.9 (4.8); Switzerland, 5.4 (1.7); Netherlands, 5.3 (1.0); Norway, 2.6 (1.7); United States, 2.3 (2.0); Italy, 2.1 (1.5); Peru, 2.1 (nil); Ireland, 1.6 (1.4).

Cumulative exports of wheat flour during the first five months of the 1956-57 crop year based on preliminary Customs returns were the equivalent of 15.7 million bushels of wheat, representing a decrease of 5 per cent from the adjusted August-December 1955 total of 16.6 million bushels. As with wheat as grain, the United Kingdom was the principal market for Canadian wheat flour, accounting for shipments equivalent to 5.2 million bushels, or 33 per cent of the August-December export movement. Other leading markets for Canadian wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent, with revised data for the August-December period of the 1955-56 crop year in brackets, were as follows in thousands of bushels: Philippine Islands, 2,263 (2,595); Venezuela, 1,547 (1,592); Trinidad and Tobago, 691 (1,017); United States, 647 (320); Jamaica, 596 (469); Japan, 405 (319); Gold Coast, 388 (393); and Leeward and Windward Islands, 360 (418).

Delivery Policy

Export of Low Grade Wheat (Excluding Durum Wheat) to the United States by Truck

The Canadian Wheat Board, in its Instructions to the Trade, No. 38, under date of January 10, 1957 announced that "We have received enquiries regarding the sale of low grade wheat by producers to truckers for export to the United States.

In accordance with the Canadian Wheat Board Act and Regulations made thereunder, such wheat to be exported must first be delivered within the quota and must also be delivered and sold to the Canadian Wheat Board.

As the Board feels that the easing of delivery quota regulations in this respect might permit of delivery by producers for export of additional quantities, it is prepared to permit producers to deliver the equivalent of three (3) bushels per specified acre on the understanding that the quantity so delivered would apply as an advance quota to be charged against the individual quotas deliverable by them but only as and when the authorized delivery quota at their station is increased to five (5) bushels per specified acre, provided the following conditions are complied with:-

- (1) The wheat to be delivered under this policy must be weighed and graded by a Board agent (a country elevator agent).
- (2) The elevator agent shall issue a producers' certificate covering the net quantity to be exported and shall at the same time conclude a local sale covering the same quantity and grade at the Board's domestic selling price in effect on the date of the transaction.
- (3) The elevator agent will record the quantity in the producer's permit book as a delivery with a notation that such grain is for "Export to the U.S.A."

Upon receipt of advice from the elevator agent (by wire if possible) that he has completed the transaction as above and has collected the difference between the initial payment price and the Board's domestic selling price and indicating the port of exit to be used, the Board will issue the necessary export permit. If requested the permit can be wired to the port of exit in order to avoid delay in customs clearance."

Durum Wheat The Canadian Wheat Board in its Instructions to the Trade, re Quotas No. 61, under date of January 21, 1957 announced in part that "Effective Friday, January 25th, the delivery quota on Durum Wheat will be increased from eight (8) bushels to twelve (12) bushels per seeded acre of Durum Wheat, as shown on the individual producer's delivery permit book, subject to a minimum delivery quota of four hundred (400) bushels.

The above increase is authorized at all delivery points and all deliveries, whether for storage or for sale, must be entered in the producer's delivery permit book at the time of delivery.

Under the minimum delivery quota announced above, a producer, whose delivery permit indicates acreage seeded to Durum Wheat in 1956 of less than 34 acres, may now deliver additional Durum Wheat, which, when added to his previous deliveries of Durum Wheat, will bring his total deliveries up to, but not in excess of, four hundred (400) bushels of Durum Wheat."

General Quota Position By February 1, 1957 out of a total of 2,078 shipping points in the Western Division the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 278 on a quota of 4 bushels per specified acre, 685 on a 3-bushel quota and 1,008 on a 2-bushel quota. All points had passed the Initial Unit Quota and only 81 were on a 1-bushel quota. Twenty-six stations were reported as closed.



Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group  
as at February 1, 1957

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre				Closed Stations	Total
	One	Two	Three	Four		
Ontario .....	-	-	-	1	1	2
Manitoba .....	6	143	133	93	3	378
Saskatchewan .....	59	615	340	85	5	1,104
Alberta .....	15	249	212	97	17	590
British Columbia .....	1	1	-	2	-	4
All Provinces ...	81	1,008	685	278	26	2,078

New Durum Wheat

The following extract is taken from a press release issued by the Information Service, Canada Department of Agriculture, under date of January 7, 1957.

"A new variety of durum wheat named Ramsey has been licensed for sale in Canada. Ramsey was developed by the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture. It is the result of a cross between Carleton and a durum wheat introduced from Palestine. Ramsey is an Amber durum wheat and has been assessed as equal to Mindum in macaroni making quality. It matures about the same time as Mindum and Stewart but it is shorter and has slightly stronger straw. It has out-yielded Mindum and Stewart in the rust area of western Canada but in the absence of rust it is somewhat lower in yield. It has appreciable resistance to race 15B of stem rust, but is susceptible to a new bio-type of race 15B. Should this new bio-type become prevalent in the next few years Ramsey will no doubt be adversely affected. Ramsey must not be thought of as a highly rust resistant variety, but it does have better rust resistance than Mindum or Stewart and it will give farmers in the rust area, who are interested in durum, an opportunity to grow this crop again.

Seed Stocks:

Stocks of Ramsey durum are not pure. They contain off-types and some hard red spring wheat. The Canada Department of Agriculture has a supply of approximately 4,500 bushels. It is expected that further supplies will be available from the United States through normal commercial seed channels and directly from United States' growers. Farmers who purchase imported seed, or purchase seed directly from United States' growers should make sure that the seed is tagged and verified as to variety. There will likely be some Blue tag certified seed available from the United States and these stocks will be eligible for field inspection, with a view to certification, in 1957. Other imported stocks will not be eligible for field inspection in 1957.

Distribution:

The Department's supply of Ramsey will be distributed to farmers in southern Manitoba and southern Saskatchewan. The area for distribution is defined as "Manitoba, south of Township 12 and Saskatchewan, south of the Qu'Appelle Valley and its extension into the Buffalo Pound Water Course East of the Third Meridian". Farmers may purchase not less than two bushels and not more than four bushels of seed. The total supply will be distributed as commercial seed because it contains some hard red spring wheat."

Farmers' Marketings Total deliveries of wheat by farmers in the Prairie Provinces during the period August 1, 1956 to January 16 of the current crop year amounted to 144.9 million surpassing by 44 per cent the 1955-56 comparable figure of 100.9 million bushels. Marketings of the four other principal grains, oats, barley, rye and flaxseed, have also been substantially above levels of the preceding crop year. Deliveries of these grains up to January 16 of the current crop year with data for the corresponding period of 1955-56 in brackets were as follows, in millions of bushels: oats, 34.0 (19.7); barley, 66.7 (48.4); rye, 2.5 (1.7); and flaxseed, 18.0 (13.2).

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

Week ending		Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year
		- 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	7,078,649
	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 .....	1,567,401	5,400,834	1,789,234	8,757,469	3,846,628
	10 .....	701,543	4,546,551	1,909,027	7,157,121	3,198,866
	17 .....	918,095	5,422,458	2,288,436	8,628,989	3,963,996
	24 .....	808,607	4,382,256	1,654,890	6,845,753	4,019,785
	31 .....	1,159,223	5,805,260	2,920,981	9,885,464	4,057,732
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	5,657,437
	21 .....	1,432,780	4,609,244	2,410,512	8,452,536	5,597,423
	28 .....	1,167,345	4,625,076	2,352,640	8,145,061	4,959,243
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
Totals .....		17,922,365	88,739,056	38,282,135	144,943,556	100,872,977

Average similar period:

1945-46-1954-55 ..... 29,386,385 128,900,638 64,202,263 222,489,286



Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, January 16, 1957  
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
	- thousand bushels -		
Country elevators - Manitoba .....	23,961	23,170	23,313
Saskatchewan .....	116,160	115,336	126,317
Alberta .....	63,589	71,403	72,720
Totals .....	203,710	209,910	222,350
Interior private and mill .....	6,416	6,211	5,926
Interior terminals .....	14,783	15,090	12,972
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	10,613	7,158	4,209
Victoria .....	398	506	43
Prince Rupert .....	53	38	37
Churchill .....	2,400	4,206	4,801
Fort William-Port Arthur .....	35,191	34,510	32,990
Storage Afloat .....	-	177	374
In transit rail (Western Division) .....	10,743	9,804	11,080
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports .....	30,417	36,231	29,884
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports .....	20,870	18,869	18,351
Storage Afloat .....	18,512	14,674	12,110
In transit rail (Eastern Division) .....	4,366	4,519	1,853
United States ports .....	236	66	170
Totals .....	358,709	361,969	357,151

Grading of Wheat Inspected, August-December, 1956 with Comparisons

Grade	Crop Year		August - December			
	Average		1955		1956	
	1950-51- 1954-55	1955-56				
	per cent	per cent	cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard .....	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Manitoba Northern .....	4.9	3.3	2,267	3.7	1,406	1.6
2 Manitoba Northern .....	26.8	35.9	21,760	36.0	28,840	33.0
3 Manitoba Northern .....	19.1	22.4	16,955	28.0	21,171	24.2
4 Manitoba Northern .....	9.0	8.5	3,394	5.6	8,920	10.2
5 Wheat .....	8.7	9.8	2,623	4.3	11,252	12.9
6 Wheat .....	4.6	3.1	1,400	2.3	2,659	3.0
Feed Wheat .....	0.9	0.6	317	0.5	175	0.2
Garnet .....	0.6	0.4	324	0.5	146	0.2
Amber Durum .....	1.9	4.1	4,539	7.5	5,423	6.2
Alberta Winter .....	0.2	0.6	103	0.2	1,009	1.2
Toughs 2/ 3/ .....	18.2	6.5	4,143	6.9	2,631	3.0
Damps 2/ 4/ .....	3.6	1/	6	1/	10	1/
Rejected 2/ .....	1.0	4.2	2,364	3.9	3,135	3.6
All others .....	0.5	0.6	279	0.5	558	0.6
Totals .....	100.0	100.0	60,474	100.0	87,335	100.0

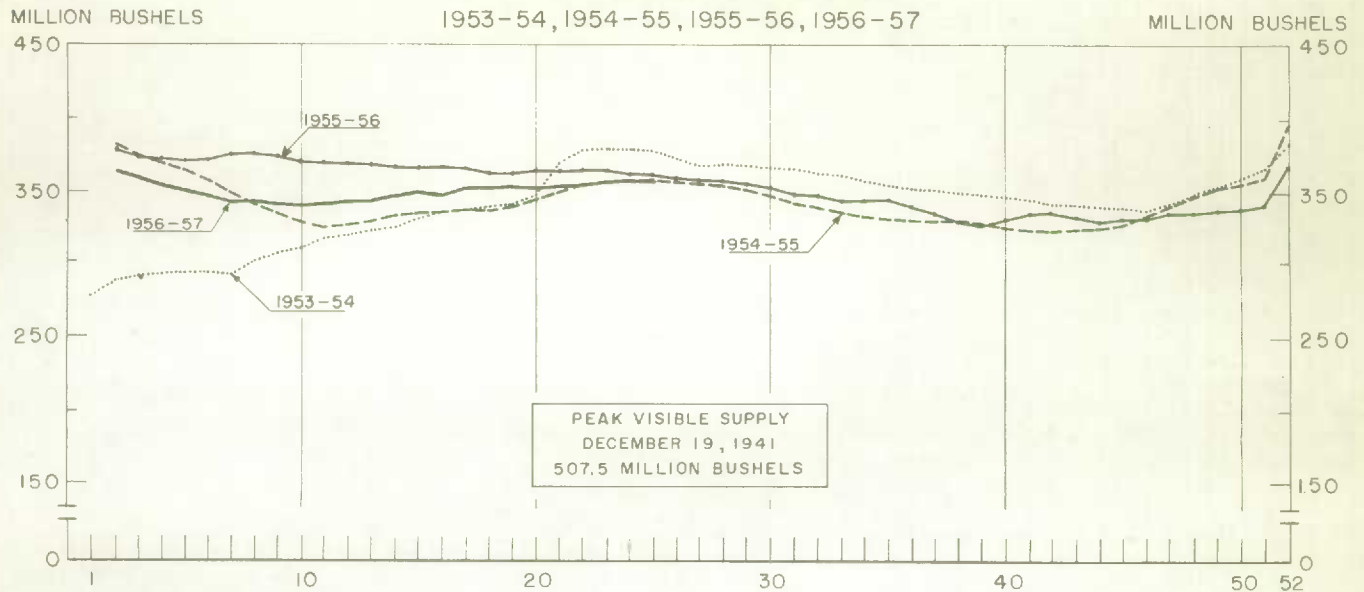
1/ Less than .05 per cent

2/ All varieties and grades.

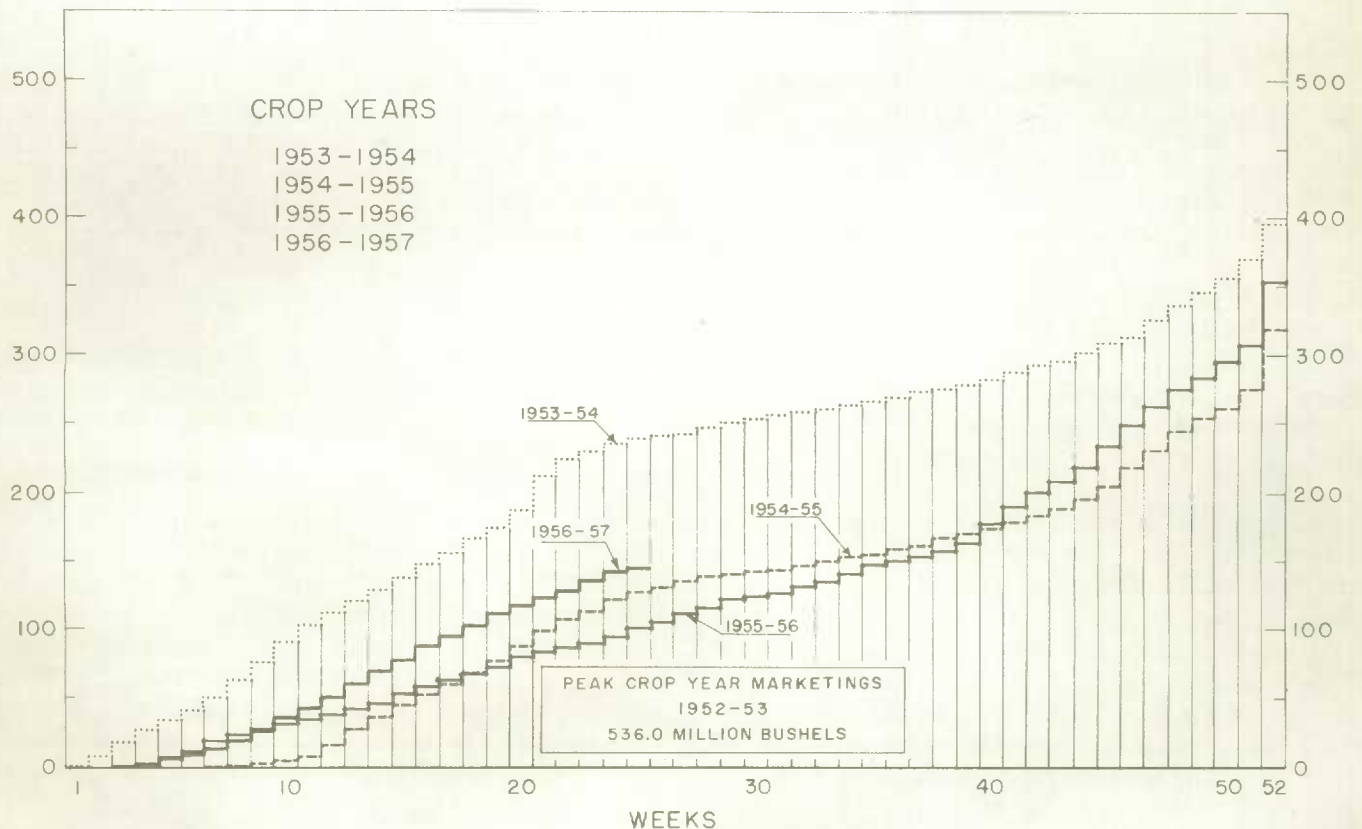
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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 - January 16, 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 .....	-	234,616	89,487
Duluth Superior .....	-	668,626	1,153,261
Milwaukee .....	-	52,923	27,745
Huron .....	40,000	-	-
Buffalo .....	1,683,591	613,571	834,702
Totals, Vessel .....	1,723,591	1,569,736	2,105,195
<u>By Rail</u>			
U. S. A. Seaboard Ports ....	-	1,333	-
Other U. S. A. Points .....	241,479	628,295	490,005
Totals, Rail .....	241,479	629,628	490,005
Totals, Shipments .....	1,965,070	2,199,364	2,595,200

\* 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 January 16, amounted to 2.6 million bushels. During the comparable periods of 1955-56 and 1954-55 shipments amounted to some 2.2 million and 2.0 million bushels, respectively. Of this season's total to date about 81 per cent has been shipped by vessel.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime Ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first five months of the current crop year totalled 8.4 million bushels, exceeding by 63 per cent the comparable August-December 1955 total of 5.1 million bushels.

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

Origin of Shipments	August 1 to December 31, 1955	August 1 to December 31, 1956
	- bushels -	
Port McNicoll .....	1,872,038	2,720,084
Midland, Tiffin .....	1,773,452	4,403,302
Collingwood .....	353,340	87,283
Owen Sound .....	319,088	518,384
Goderich .....	200,102	555,121
Sarnia .....	607,541	71,039
Prescott .....	-	1,112
Totals .....	5,125,561	8,356,325

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	
February .....	368,662	318,009	1,735,097	
March .....	555,518	245,958	1,599,503	
April .....	378,681	169,137	300,913	
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, December, 1956

Grade	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	U.S.A.
	- bushels				
1 Northern .....	-	-	-	4,000	-
2 Northern .....	-	-	37,500	5,017	-
3 Northern .....	-	-	47,888	3,008	-
4 Northern .....	-	-	18,000	-	-
5 Wheat .....	12,000	3,000	45,416	19,500	-
6 Wheat .....	1,500	12,000	6,000	49,333	186,594
Feed .....	-	-	-	19,500	-
Toughs .....	-	-	9,565	14,499	-
Rejected .....	-	-	6,286	5,121	-
Amber Durum .....	-	-	5,578	4,570	-
All Others .....	-	-	24,140	73,467	-
Totals .....	13,500	15,000	200,373	198,015	186,594

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1956-January 16, 1957, with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
	- bushels -				
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster .....	46,674,172	31,470	11,053,278	-	576,333
Victoria .....	798,336	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert .....	-	-	4,514,719	-	-
Churchill .....	16,250,320	-	-	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal .....	31,343,744	157,679	11,743,238	130,012	5,859,877
Sorel .....	3,565,708	-	3,718,200	-	165,076
Three Rivers .....	5,352,240	-	470,853	-	-
Quebec .....	5,138,602	-	-	-	-
<u>Maritime</u>					
Saint John .....	242,666	-	-	-	35,993
West Saint John .....	2,088,303	-	408,981	-	1,006,330
Halifax .....	2,765,717	-	-	-	888,055
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u> .....	480,137	-	-	-	138,314
Totals .....	114,699,945	189,149	31,909,269	130,012	8,669,978
August 1, 1955-January 18, 1956 ..	85,068,665	1,500,093	12,541,494	1,724,503	6,780,035



Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to December 31, 1956 represent the movement of some 6,955 thousand bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the August-November period of the current crop year. This preliminary total subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims is already 26 per cent above the revised August-November 1955 total of 5,539 thousand bushels. The bulk of the movement went to destinations in Ontario and Quebec with these provinces receiving shipments amounting to 3,184 thousand and 2,474 thousand bushels, respectively, or a combined 81 per cent of the four-month total.

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

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	257	2,168
September .....	8	26	92	58	742	782	184	1,893
October .....	11	13	103	54	688	735	151	1,755
November .....	6	7	65	55	444	558	4	1,140
Totals <u>1/</u> .....	32	91	359	219	2,474	3,184	595	6,955
Same period 1955:								
Preliminary <u>2/</u> .....	28	80	301	194	1,980	1,796	545	4,923
Revised <u>1/</u> .....	41	84	337	216	2,113	1,870	877	5,539

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 148,801 tons during the first four months of the current crop year, about 6 per cent below the comparable 1955 total of 158,925 tons. As with freight-assisted shipments of wheat, the current crop year total is based on claims submitted up to December 31, 1956 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. Shipments of 70,866 tons to Quebec and 48,126 tons to Ontario accounted for 80 per cent of the total August-November movement of freight-assisted millfeeds.

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

Province	1955		1956
	Preliminary <u>2/</u>	Revised <u>1/</u>	Preliminary <u>1/</u>
- tons -			
Newfoundland .....	1,027	1,476	1,314
Prince Edward Island ....	2,639	2,954	2,414
Nova Scotia .....	10,474	12,094	10,250
New Brunswick .....	9,902	11,014	8,905
Quebec .....	79,444	90,643	70,866
Ontario .....	45,771	50,514	48,126
British Columbia .....	9,668	14,644	6,926
Totals .....	158,925	183,339	148,801

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

2/ Based on claims filed up to December 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>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
Totals ....	108,873	2,299	15,678	126,850	129,790

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	September	December		August-December	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
			- bushels -		
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom .....	1,077,099	847,046	6,912,069	5,223,912	40,108,726
<u>Africa</u>					
British East Africa .....	-	-	-	1,030	-
Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland ....	-	1,288	-	2,834	78,400
Gambia .....	-	2,641	-	7,057	-
Gold Coast .....	90,374	83,619	-	388,433	-
Nigeria .....	16,558	21,970	-	113,643	-
Other British West Africa .....	6,440	-	-	6,440	-
Sierra Leone .....	9,614	18,699	-	76,806	-
Union of South Africa .....	-	-	-	-	473,872
<u>Asia</u>					
Cyprus .....	-	-	-	-	371,000
Hong Kong .....	32,016	63,089	35,569	257,790	164,369
India .....	-	173	-	173	-
Malaya and Singapore .....	16,560	19,435	-	148,614	-
Pakistan .....	-	-	-	46	975,533
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar .....	12,880	3,864	-	23,840	-
Malta .....	-	-	37,334	-	778,400
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas .....	15,164	26,323	-	102,566	-
Barbados .....	21,970	23,527	-	128,432	833
Bermuda .....	11,620	10,364	-	49,285	-
British Honduras .....	713	2,999	-	9,614	-
Jamaica .....	68,931	79,605	-	595,944	4,600
Leeward and Windward Islands .....	46,867	86,443	-	360,433	-
Trinidad and Tobago .....	128,887	111,791	-	690,752	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana .....	34,203	27,908	-	207,860	-
<hr/>					
Totals, Commonwealth Countries .....	1,589,896	1,430,784	6,984,972	8,395,504	42,955,733

FOREIGN COUNTRIES

<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira .....	-	-	-	15,106	-
Belgian Congo .....	42,297	47,824	-	234,772	-
Liberia .....	345	-	-	4,766	-
Morocco .....	-	2,530	-	10,120	-
Portuguese East Africa .....	-	2,286	-	11,141	142,800
Portuguese West Africa .....	3,921	3,739	-	16,447	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia .....	3,772	2,833	-	26,266	18,660
Israel .....	-	-	46,065	-	420,332
Japan .....	97,046	62,010	1,983,527	405,317	16,611,300
Lebanon .....	203,835	6,776	-	212,290	-
Okinawa .....	-	-	34,907	-	110,843
Philippine Islands .....	248,400	400,531	-	2,263,041	-
Portuguese Asia .....	8,029	11,684	-	37,777	-
Syria .....	-	255	-	683	-
Thailand .....	10,293	36,110	-	194,380	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Austria .....	-	-	-	-	377,067
Belgium .....	50,129	89,077	339,733	257,752	5,882,140
Denmark .....	8,200	-	-	9,120	176,512



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

Destination	September	December		August-December	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
- bushels -					
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Europe</u>					
France .....	-	-	-	-	736,740
Germany, Federal Republic .....	-	115	4,235,319	115	22,152,341
Greece .....	-	-	-	2,583	-
Iceland .....	-	3,220	-	3,220	-
Ireland .....	-	-	750,400	-	1,637,067
Italy .....	-	-	991,986	2,300	2,127,822
Netherlands .....	644	644	334,133	3,381	5,297,933
Norway .....	-	-	208,880	-	2,575,387
Portugal .....	8,096	3,404	-	19,596	-
Sweden .....	-	2,535	-	2,535	-
Switzerland .....	-	230	709,333	230	5,424,520
Yugoslavia .....	-	230	-	2,530	-
<u>North America</u>					
American Virgin Islands .....	2,254	805	-	6,474	-
Costa Rica .....	38,357	44,588	-	217,026	-
Cuba .....	47,380	13,800	-	160,595	1,000
Dominican Republic .....	28,865	39,905	-	167,307	-
El Salvador .....	17,595	32,265	-	116,721	-
French West Indies .....	425	92	-	2,369	-
Guatemala .....	6,465	25,988	18,372	80,367	66,520
Haiti .....	12,733	25,244	-	103,157	-
Honduras .....	3,910	5,635	-	24,072	-
Netherlands Antilles .....	9,653	11,650	-	57,284	-
Nicaragua .....	25,521	21,070	-	116,159	-
Panama .....	13,662	12,075	-	84,086	-
St. Pierre and Miquelon .....	2,070	-	-	10,660	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat .....	109,942	121,045	-	646,636	-
For Milling in bond 4/ .....	-	-	70,971	-	130,461
For Domestic use 4/ .....	-	-	763,141	-	2,168,553
<u>Oceania</u>					
French Oceania .....	15,210	7,604	-	23,159	-
Guam .....	2,415	-	-	8,970	-
<u>South America</u>					
Chile .....	-	-	-	115	-
Colombia .....	15,410	927	-	75,339	-
Ecuador .....	-	-	36,537	-	55,204
Peru .....	1,610	1,150	350,933	11,500	2,078,906
Surinam .....	15,433	7,072	-	88,230	-
Venezuela .....	500,487	429,564	3,310	1,547,127	24,026
Totals, Foreign Countries .....	1,554,404	1,476,512	10,877,547	7,282,821	68,216,134
Totals, All Countries .....	3,144,300	2,907,296	17,862,519	15,678,325	111,171,867

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				
	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25	February 1
- cents and eighths per bushel -					
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>					
1 Northern .....	140	140	140	140	140
2 Northern .....	136	136	136	136	136
3 Northern .....	132	132	132	132	132
4 Northern .....	125	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat .....	108	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat .....	102	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat .....	96	96	96	96	96
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
<u>International Wheat Agreement and Domestic Sales</u>					
1 Northern .....	169	169/4	169/1	169	168/6
2 Northern .....	166	166/4	166/1	166	165/6
3 Northern .....	161	161/4	161/1	161	160/6
4 Northern .....	155	155/4	155/1	155	154/6
5 Wheat .....	144/6	146/4	146/1	146	145
6 Wheat .....	141/6	143/4	143/1	143	142/5
Feed Wheat .....	137/6	139/4	139/1	139	138/5
1 C.W. Garnet .....	153	153/4	153/1	153/3	154/6
2 C.W. Garnet .....	149	149/4	149/1	149/3	150/6
3 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/4	146/1	146/3	147/6
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	158	158/4	158/1	158/1	157/6
2 Alberta Winter .....	155	155/4	155/1	155	154/6
3 Alberta Winter .....	153	153/4	153/1	153	152/6
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	198	198/4	198/1	198	197/6
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	197	197/4	197/1	197	196/6
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	195	195/4	195/1	195	194/6
<u>Export - Class II</u>					
1 Northern .....	169	169/4	169/1	169	168/6
2 Northern .....	166	166/4	166/1	166	165/6
3 Northern .....	161	161/4	161/1	161	160/6
4 Northern .....	155	155/4	155/1	155	154/6
5 Wheat .....	144/6	146/4	146/1	146	145
6 Wheat .....	141/6	143/4	143/1	143	142/5
Feed Wheat .....	137/6	139/4	139/1	139	138/5
1 C.W. Garnet .....	153	153/4	153/1	153/3	154/6
2 C.W. Garnet .....	149	149/4	149/1	149/3	150/6
3 C.W. Garnet .....	146	146/4	146/1	146/3	147/6
1 C.W. Amber Durum .....	242	242/4	242/1	242	241/6
2 C.W. Amber Durum .....	241	241/4	241/1	241	240/6
3 C.W. Amber Durum .....	239	239/4	239/1	239	238/6

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

Class and Grade	Week ending				
	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25	February 1
- cents and eighths per bushel -					
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>					
1 Northern .....	140	140	140	140	140
2 Northern .....	136	136	136	136	136
3 Northern .....	132	132	132	132	132
4 Northern .....	125	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat .....	108	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat .....	102	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat .....	96	96	96	96	96
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
<u>International Wheat Agreement and Domestic Sales</u>					
1 Northern .....	171	171/4	171/1	171	169/6
2 Northern .....	168	168/4	168/1	168	166/6
3 Northern .....	163	163/4	163/1	163	161/6
4 Northern .....	157	157/4	157/1	157	155/6
5 Wheat .....	146/6	148/4	148/1	148	145/1
6 Wheat .....	143/6	145/4	145/1	145	142/6
Feed Wheat .....	139/6	141/4	141/1	141	138/6
1 C.W. Garnet .....	155	155/4	155/1	155/3	155/6
2 C.W. Garnet .....	151	151/4	151/1	151/3	151/6
3 C.W. Garnet .....	148	148/4	148/1	148/3	148/6
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	160	160/4	160/1	160	158/6
2 Alberta Winter .....	157	157/4	157/1	157	155/6
3 Alberta Winter .....	155	155/4	155/1	155	153/6
<u>Export - Class II</u>					
1 Northern .....	171	171/4	171/1	171	169/6
2 Northern .....	168	168/4	168/1	168	166/6
3 Northern .....	163	163/4	163/1	163	161/6
4 Northern .....	157	157/4	157/1	157	155/6
5 Wheat .....	146/6	148/4	148/1	148	145/1
6 Wheat .....	143/6	145/4	145/1	145	142/6
Feed Wheat .....	139/6	141/4	141/1	141	138/6
1 C.W. Garnet .....	155	155/4	155/1	155/3	155/6
2 C.W. Garnet .....	151	151/4	151/1	151/3	151/6
3 C.W. Garnet .....	148	148/4	148/1	148/3	148/6
1 Alberta Red Winter .....	160	160/4	160/1	160	158/6
2 Alberta Winter .....	157	157/4	157/1	157	155/6
3 Alberta Winter .....	155	155/4	155/1	155	153/6

# CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

**Production** Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during December 1956 amounted to 3,144,000 hundredweight, representing decreases of 14 per cent from the November, 1956 output of 3,636,000 hundredweight and 2 per cent from the December 1955 total of 3,212,000 hundredweight. The ten-year (1946-1955) average production for the month of December was 3,543,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during December 1956 had a total rated capacity of 180,188 hundredweight per 24-hour day and on the basis of a 25-day working period 69.8 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during December amounted to 7.1 million bushels, compared with 8.3 million bushels milled during the preceding month and 7.3 million bushels milled during December, 1955. Of the wheat milled for flour during December, 1956 some 6.4 million bushels were Western Canadian spring wheat (other than Durum), with the remainder consisting of Ontario winter wheat, (382,000 bushels), Durum wheat (119,000 bushels) and all other (174,000 bushels).

**Exports** Based on preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during December 1956 amounted to 1,264,000 hundredweight (2,907,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) representing a decrease of 9 per cent from the November figure of 3,196,000 bushels but 3 per cent greater than the December 1955 revised total of 2,810,000 bushels. Flour shipments during the month went to 55 countries, with exports to the United Kingdom, amounting to the equivalent of 847,000 bushels or 19 per cent of the December total. Other principal markets for Canadian wheat flour during the month with shipments in thousands of bushels of wheat equivalent, were as follows: Venezuela, 430; Philippine Islands, 401; United States, 121; and Trinidad and Tobago, 112.

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

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour - bushels -	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports 1/
		- 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	28,361,546
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
Totals .....	38,556,201	16,961,930	6,816,663
Same period 1955-56 (revised) .....	39,195,604	17,118,899	7,200,307

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, consisting of the July 1, 1956 carryover of 1,033.9 million bushels and the 1956 crop of 997.2 million, amount to 2,031.1 million bushels, about 3 per cent greater than the comparable 1955-56 total of 1,970.9 million. Imports of wheat from Canada for all purposes during the first half of the current United States crop year amounted to 2.5 million bushels compared with 2.4 million during the July-December period of 1955-56. After deducting anticipated domestic requirements of 599.0 million bushels, some 1,434.6 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 1,369.3 million available during 1955-56.

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 - December .....	2.4	2.5
Total estimated supplies <u>2/</u> .....	1,973.3	2,033.6
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year <u>3/</u> ..	604.0	599.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	1,369.3	1,434.6
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July - December .....	97.3	209.2
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July - December .....	24.2	27.9
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products ..	121.5	237.1
Balance on January 1 for export and for carryover .....	1,247.8	1,197.5

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excluding imports for January - 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-December period of the current crop year amounted to 237.1 million bushels, almost double the 121.5 million exported during the same months of the preceding crop year. The balance remaining on January 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 1,197.5 million bushels, 4 per cent below the 1,247.8 million on hand at the same date a year ago.



Stocks of Wheat  
in All Positions  
January 1, 1957

On January 25 the United States Department of Agriculture reported that stocks of 1,487 million bushels of wheat stored in all positions on January 1 were the second largest for the date in the comparable series beginning in 1935. The total is 5 per cent smaller than the record holdings a year earlier but 54 per cent larger than the 1946-55 average. The stocks total was nearly 50 per cent larger than the 1956 production, reflecting the record large carryover of old wheat on July 1, a large part of which was Government-owned, but reflects the first decline in total stocks from the previous year for any quarter since 1952. Current stocks are less than October 1, 1956 stocks by 310 million bushels or nearly a fifth smaller and reflect the largest disappearance during the quarter (October-December) since 1948.

Off-farm wheat stocks of 1,195 million bushels are 4 per cent less than a year earlier, with holdings below the previous year for all positions except terminals. Terminal stocks are a record for the date with merchant mill stocks only slightly below the fairly high level of the previous year. Of the off-farm total, nearly two-thirds was either owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation or was warehouse-stored wheat under Government commodity loans.

U. S. Wheat Stocks by Positions, January 1, 1957 with Comparisons

Position	January 1, Average 1946-55	January 1, 1956	October 1, 1956	January 1, 1957
- thousand bushels -				
On Farms <u>1/</u> .....	368,345	318,734	417,276	292,804
Terminals <u>2/</u> .....	208,332	403,181	467,254	410,347
Commodity Credit Corp. <u>3/</u> .....	22,247	141,056	134,362	126,029
Merchant Mills <u>1/ 4/</u> .....	114,463	126,878	142,165	126,218
Int. Mills, Elev. & Whses. <u>1/ 5/</u> ..	253,744	577,101	636,280	532,081
Totals.....	967,131	1,566,950	1,797,337	1,487,479

1/ Estimates of the Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Commercial stocks reported by Grain Division, A.M.S., at 46 Terminal cities.

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

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

5/ All off-farm storages not otherwise designated.

Farm stocks of wheat are the lowest since 1941. The estimated 293 million bushels of wheat on farms January 1, 1957 is 8 per cent below a year earlier and 21 per cent less than the average January 1 stocks of 368 million bushels. The January 1 stocks are equivalent to 29.4 per cent of the 1956 production, compared with 34.1 per cent held a year earlier and the average of 32.2 per cent. About one-fourth of the total wheat on farms January 1 was wheat from the 1956 and earlier crops under Government loan, about the same percentage as the previous year.

Crop and  
Weather  
Conditions

The following extract has been taken from the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin published by the United States Department of Commerce, for the week ending January 28, 1957. "In the lower Mississippi Valley grains were further benefited from rains which replenished soil moisture. Soil moisture was also improved by rain and snow in the mid-Mississippi Valley and is now ample east of the Mississippi, except in southeastern Georgia, coastal South Carolina, and parts of Florida. Rain and snow further benefited grains in California, but dryland grains in the southwestern Great Plains continued to suffer from blowing soil and lack of moisture. Snowfall, preceding the subzero temperatures occurring in most of the northern half of the country during the latter part of the week, afforded generally an ample protective cover for grains, except in parts of the central Great Plains. Reports from the main winter wheat states in the Great Plains are as follows:

Nebraska. Severe cold weather. Very little moisture. Many wheat fields bare, and deterioration continues.

Colorado. Week cloudy, cold, and stormy. Lowest temperatures  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $-15^{\circ}$  in northeast, near zero or below elsewhere. Precipitation normal or above over most of State, greatest in southwest with amounts near 1-1/2 inches of moisture, least in central and southeastern plains where some places reported only trace or none. High wind on 23d in extreme southeast caused many unprotected fields to blow badly.

Kansas. Cold. Generally light precipitation of less than 0.10 inch from snow, sleet, and glaze. One to 3 inches of snow cover in northern area after the 23d. Thunderstorms on night of 21st-22d furnished 0.50 to near 1.00 inch of rain to extreme eastern counties south of the Kansas River. Low temperatures of  $-10^{\circ}$  to  $-12^{\circ}$  in northwest and near zero elsewhere, except extreme southeast on 25th. Wheat prospects continue to fade; plants small, poorly rooted, and had little snow cover during period of low temperatures. Top soils continue dry.

Oklahoma. Mild first of week, severe cold remainder with glaze, sleet, and snow. Precipitation favored east-central sections with over an inch early in period and over an inch again at end. A cover of snow and ice afforded some protection to grains. Damage to wheat not expected to be severe. Oats and barley damage considerable and heavy abandonment possible.

Texas. Plains received no effective moisture. Hopes fading for dryland small grains. Low temperatures held wheat dormant. In eastern half of State rains ranging from 1/2 to over 2 inches soaked ground. Moisture sufficient to carry grains until warm weather. Oats were making good root development. Light showers in parts of west and Edwards Plateau will enable grains to hang on, but more rain needed to make grazing."

Flour Production

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, estimated wheat flour production in the United States in November 1956 at 20,054,000 sacks, an average of 955,000 sacks per working day. This compared with an average output per working day of 952,000 sacks in October and 941,000 sacks in November 1955. Production of wheat flour in November was at 89.1 per cent of capacity compared with 88.9 per cent and 88.3 per cent, respectively, for the previous month and the same month a year ago. Flour mills in November ground 45,845,000 bushels of which compared with 50,182,000 bushels in October. Wheat offal output in November amounted to 377,713 tons.

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
January 1, 1957	.....	New Year's Day	January 1, 1957	.....	New Year's Day
2	.....	233 1/2 - 240	2	.....	233
3	.....	233 3/4 - 238 1/2	3	.....	232 5/8
4	.....	235 - 236 1/2	4	.....	231 1/2
7	.....	233 1/2 - 236 1/2	7	.....	232 1/4
8	.....	234 1/4 - 236 1/4	8	.....	232
9	.....	234 1/2 - 239	9	.....	232 7/8
10	.....	231 - 239 3/4	10	.....	233 1/2
11	.....	233 1/2 - 235 1/2	11	.....	233 1/2
14	.....	234 3/4 - 238	14	.....	233 5/8
15	.....	234 1/2 - 238	15	.....	233 1/2
16	.....	234 3/4 - 230 1/2	16	.....	234 1/2
17	.....	235 3/4	17	.....	235
18	.....	235	18	.....	235 3/8
21	.....	234 1/4 - 236 1/2	21	.....	235 1/8
22	.....	235 - 238	22	.....	235 3/8 - 236 3/8
23	.....	234 1/2	23	.....	235 3/8 - 236 3/8
24	.....	234 3/4 - 236 3/4	24	.....	235 7/8 - 236 7/8
25	.....	237	25	.....	236 - 237
28	.....	234 1/2 - 234 3/4	28	.....	235 1/8 - 236 1/8
29	.....	Not Available	29	.....	234 1/4 - 235 1/4
30	.....	231 1/2 - 240	30	.....	233 3/4 - 234 3/4
31	.....	234	31	.....	233 1/8 - 234 1/8

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	March	May	July	September	December
	- cents and eighths per bushel -				
January 1, 1957	.....	NEW YEAR'S DAY			
2	.....	238/1	230	231/6	234/5
3	.....	238	229/6	231/5	234/5
4	.....	237/4	228/3	230/2	233/1
7	.....	237/5	229	230/7	233/7
8	.....	236/5	228	229/7	232/6
9	.....	237/2	228/1	230	232/6
10	.....	237/2	228/1	229/6	232/6
11	.....	238/1	228/5	230/4	233/2
14	.....	238/4	229/6	231/4	234/2
15	.....	238/2	229/6	231/4	234/3
16	.....	239/5	231/3	233/1	236
17	.....	239	231/4	233/2	236
18	.....	239/4	232/2	233/7	236/6
21	.....	237/7	230/6	232/4	235/1
22	.....	237/7	230/3	232	234/2
23	.....	238/4	230/4	232/3	235
24	.....	237/4	228/6	230/4	233/3
25	.....	237/4	229/2	230/6	233/6
28	.....	235/4	226/6	228/4	231/3
29	.....	234/5	226/6	228/4	231/3
30	.....	234/1	226/2	228/2	231/2
31	.....	232/2	224/2	226	229/1



# ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the 1956-57 crop year amount to some 306.5 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1956 carryover of 44.5 million bushels and the new crop now estimated at 262.0 million bushels. Indicated supplies for the current Argentine crop year are about 11 per cent greater than the 1955-56 total of 276.1 million bushels. After making an allowance of some 136.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements an estimated 170.5 million bushels are available for export and for carryover as against 140.1 million in 1955-56. Exports of wheat during December 1956 amounted to 6.6 million bushels, somewhat below the December 1955 total of 9.3 million bushels of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent. The balance remaining on January 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 163.9 million bushels, representing an increase of 25 per cent over the January 1, 1956 figure of 130.8 million.

## Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <sup>1/</sup>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) <sup>2/</sup> .....	83.2	44.5
New crop <sup>3/</sup> .....	192.9	262.0
Total estimated domestic supplies .....	276.1	306.5
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	136.0	136.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	140.1	170.5
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December .....	9.1	6.6
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December ...	0.2	-
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	9.3	6.6
Balance on January 1 for export and for carryover .....	130.8	163.9

<sup>1/</sup> Preliminary. <sup>2/</sup> Includes allowances for farm stocks. <sup>3/</sup> 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 January 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 weather during the past month has been warm to very hot with drying winds and only scattered light to medium rains in the northern sectors of the grain zone. Under these conditions, harvesting has proceeded very rapidly under near perfect conditions and is almost finished in all but the latest sections. The growing summer crops on the other hand have suffered from the lack of moisture and the corn crop in particular is in danger of very severe damage. Land preparation in some areas has also been halted because of dryness and pastures have deteriorated.

Following is a summary of impressions gained on a tour just completed through the southern grain zone.

The zones visited generally produce all the durum type wheat, very high percentages of oats, barley and rye and more than one third of the bread wheat grown in Argentina. Flaxseed and sunflowerseed are also of some importance. The general impression gained was that this has been one of the very best harvests in recent years both as to yields and quality. All estimates given were of course provisional but in every case they were much above those of last year and in most cases better than those of two years ago. The strong campaign waged this year against grasshoppers has evidently been quite successful and losses in the grain crops were negligible this year on that account. A very high percentage of the area sown was being harvested thanks to the availability of natural pastures and the excellent harvesting weather. Transportation facilities while still creating difficulties appeared to have improved since last year due to the importation of new trucks. Producers, although heavily in debt were well supplied with credit facilities and were expected to continue to expand the area seeded to cereal grains. Harvesting equipment and supplies had evidently been adequate although shortage of satisfactory labour created some problems. Producers were reportedly selling their wheat immediately but speculating with their "freed" grains wherever storage space permitted them to do so.

Area Seeded to                      The Director General of Agricultural Economics of the Ministry  
Corn and Sunflower           of Agriculture reportedly told a press conference recently that  
the areas sown to corn and sunflower this year were 3,000,000  
and 1,500,000 hectares (7.4 million and 3.7 million acres), respectively. The  
official estimates for last year were: corn 2,887,900 hectares (7.1 million acres)  
and sunflower 1,396,900 hectares (3.5 million acres).

Wheat                      Harvesting weather improved greatly during the past month and even  
permitted some recuperation of the late sown wheat in the northern  
zone. Any such improvement, however, was probably offset by the ill effects of very  
hot weather in some areas of the south a couple of weeks before harvesting began.  
Harvesting has now been completed in the north and is in the final stages in the south.  
Early reports indicate that yields, quality and specific weights vary considerably in  
the northern zone reflecting the adverse conditions experienced in parts thereof.  
From the southern zone, however, reports are almost universally enthusiastic as to all  
characteristics. Actual results are in many cases exceeding pre-harvesting expectations.  
The harvest in the south has generally been moved under cover or to ports with a minimum  
of delay. Under the circumstances, it seems probable that any revision in the official  
estimate of production of 6,900,000 metric tons (253.5 million bushels) is more likely  
to be up than down. (Editor's Note: Subsequent to the receipt of Mr. Hillhouse's  
report, the Argentine Minister of Agriculture has revised the current wheat crop  
estimate upward to a level of 261,950 thousand bushels). There has been considerable  
concern expressed over the possible adverse effects on Argentine wheat exports of the  
Agreement recently signed by Brazil and the United States. A Brazilian government  
spokesman has reportedly given assurance, however, that Brazil will purchase all the  
wheat Argentina has to offer. The Argentine-Brazilian agreement calls for annual  
shipments of 1,200,000 tons (44,092,000 bushels). In 1956, however, shipments barely  
exceeded half that amount. Hence, theoretically, in 1957 Argentina might export almost  
1,800,000 tons (66,139,000 bushels) of wheat to Brazil although this seems highly  
improbable. At present the two countries are reviewing the existing agreement but no  
drastic change is expected in the quantity of wheat involved. Argentina has also  
offered to supply Chile with her complete requirements, generally about 300,000 tons  
(11,023,000 bushels) but there has been no indication that Chile will accept the offer  
in full. Although separate statistics are not available for durum type wheats in  
Argentina it is quite certain that production and export availabilities this year will  
be well above those of last season.



### Corn

Corn sales during the last month were limited to 2,000 tons (79,000 bushels) and shipments declined to slightly more than 100,000 tons (3,937,000 bushels) the lowest since May 1956. Exports during this crop season have now exceeded 1 million tons (39,368,000 bushels) and it is not considered that remaining stocks for export are very high. The weather during late December and early January has been hot with strong winds and only scattered light to medium rains have fallen. Hence, there is grave danger that large sectors especially of the early sown crop have been or will be very seriously damaged unless substantial rains are received immediately. The area sown to this crop has been set at 3,000,000 hectares (7.4 million acres) by an official of the Ministry of Agriculture. This compares with last year's 2,888,000 hectares (7.1 million acres), and until recently it was hoped that production would exceed last year's estimated 3,870,000 metric tons (152.4 million bushels). Unless useful rains are received immediately in the main corn belt, it seems more probable that this year's production will not even reach that figure.

### Oats, Barley and Rye

Excellent harvesting conditions have prevailed throughout most of the zones producing these grains during the past month and harvesting is now practically completed. Except for the rye production in the province of Córdoba initial reports indicate that yields and quality of these grains have in most areas been well above average. In its latest crop report the Ministry of Agriculture states that the production of malting barley is the "best registered in recent years" and that "yields of oats, rye and feed barley are considered good, better than normal". No official estimates of production have yet been announced but given the substantial increases in seeded area announced by the Department, the greater than normal availability of natural pastures, the excellent harvesting weather and the high yields already reported, it seems safe to predict that production this year will exceed by a considerable margin the outturns last year which were officially estimated at: oats, 723,000 tons (46.9 million bushels), barley, 951,000 tons (43.7 million bushels) of which 90 per cent was malting, and rye, 653,900 tons (25.7 million bushels). Calculating only on the percentage harvested areas and the yields being the same as the averages of the last four years, production of these grains this year would reach: oats, 1,225,000 tons (79.4 million bushels), barley 1,250,000 tons (57.4 million bushels) and rye, 950,000 (37.4 million bushels). Calculating on the average domestic disappearance also of the last four years would leave surpluses for export and carryover of approximately: oats, 575,000 (37.2 million) barley, 900,000 (41 million) and rye, 500,000 (19.7 million bushels). Domestic disappearance may be expected to rise in a year of high production but possibly by no more than the old crop carryovers which are thought to total at least 400,000 tons for the three grains. Total exports of these grains in 1956 were just over one million tons.

### Policy

Definite "Aforos" Set for Oats, Barley and Rye The tentative "Aforos" (Minimum export prices) of 690 pesos per ton were made definite on December 21 and a number of sales of oats and particularly barley were authorized. The 10% export retention tax was retained, however, and the initial reaction of the trade was one of disappointment. However, in subsequent weeks trading in barley became very active and prices to producers rose momentarily to 72 pesos per 100 kilograms (87 cents per bushel), then receded.

### Grain Futures Market Authorized

A decree was issued on December 26 authorizing sales of oats, barley, rye and flaxseed from the 1956-57 crop to be quoted on the futures markets of Buenos Aires and Rosario. The National Grain Board will supervise the market operations. It is expected that the markets will be opened as soon as the Board has drawn up new regulations. Since the markets have been closed for ten years and the value of the peso has changed drastically during that period, most of the commercial and financial sections of the regulations will have to



be completely rewritten. It is anticipated, however, that the markets will actually open in January.

Export Retention At the established aforo of 690 pesos per ton (59 cents per bushel)  
Removed from Oats it was evidently impossible or at least unattractive for exporters to purchase oats on any scale and the price to producers remained at or a few centavos above the guaranteed price. On January 14 the Grain Board announced that the 10% export retention tax no longer applied to oats and some activity was noted in the market with prices rising to 62 pesos per 100 kilograms (53 cents per bushel) at Buenos Aires.

Credits for Grain A number of steps have been taken in the last month to aid in the  
Merchandizing financing both by the Grain Board and private traders of this year's grain crops.

The government has decreed that adequate credit facilities will be made available to the Grain Board for the financing of this year's grain purchases. The Bank of the Nation has announced that special credits will be available for grain merchants and farmers' co-operative associations to assist in the speedy marketing of the "freed" crops. The Central Bank has also authorized the Bank of the Nation and private banks to provide credit to exporters up to 20% of the value of the grains exported. The Bank also authorizes financial swaps at low interest rates whereby exporters may use foreign currencies to finance their operations in Argentina without running risks of loss through fluctuations in the rates of exchange. In addition, the Bank of the Province of Buenos Aires opened a special credit of 10,000,000 pesos (\$556,000) to finance expenditures of disposing of this year's grain crop.

Grain Sales Grain sales reported by the Grain Board reached the impressive total of more than 750,000 tons during the past month. Wheat accounted for less than 30,000 tons (1,102,000 bushels), 9,900 (364,000 bushels) of which were durum type at 1,660.50 pesos per ton (\$2.51 per bushel) the remainder "river" and "southern" at 1,044 and 1,062 pesos (\$1.58 and \$1.61 per bushel), respectively, for multilateral currencies. Barley sales highlighted the market. These totalled almost 566,000 tons (25,996,000 bushels) entirely for multilateral and Western German currencies, and were reported at the fixed aforos of 690 and 696.90 pesos per ton (83 and 84 cents per bushel), respectively. Rye sales reached more than 100,000 tons (3,937,000 bushels) also for multilateral and Western German currencies at the same aforos and sales of oats for the same currencies and at the same prices plus a few small lots to Brazil totalled approximately 50,000 tons (1,968,000 bushels). These "sales" reported by the Grain Board do not necessarily represent sales made abroad already but do reflect the exporters intentions or expectations.

Grain Shipments Shipments of the major grains totalled approximately 380,000 tons in December to bring the total for the calendar year to approximately 4.6 million tons. Wheat exports fell off from the previous month to a total of 179,168 tons (6,583,000 bushels) going mainly to Brazil, 64,780 (2,380,000 bushels), Italy 49,430 (1,816,000 bushels), and Chile 19,956 (733,000 bushels). Corn shipments at 100,471 tons (3,955,000 bushels) were also down from the previous month and went chiefly to Holland 37,126 (1,462,000 bushels), Germany 29,824, (1,174,000 bushels), Italy 17,347 (683,000 bushels) and Belgium 11,250 (443,000 bushels). Barley shipments at 38,037 tons (1,747,000 bushels) were down sharply from November's 65,000 tons (2,985,000 bushels) and went almost exclusively to Germany. Oats exports at 28,893 (1,873,000 bushels) went mainly to Germany 11,424 (741,000 bushels), Netherlands 7,530 (488,000 bushels), and Italy 5,225 (339,000 bushels). Rye shipments increased again to 32,040 tons (1,261,000 bushels) mostly for Netherlands 19,970 (786,000 bushels), Italy 5,896 (232,000 bushels), and Germany 3,080 (121,000 bushels).

During 1956 Western Germany, with 1,033,035 tons (44.1 million bushels) was Argentina's best grain customer according to the unofficial statistics available. This total comprised 477,016 barley (21,909,000 bushels), 348,802 wheat (12,816,000 bushels), 143,861 corn (5,664,000 bushels), 49,409 oats (3,204,000 bushels) and the remaining 13,947 rye (549,000 bushels). Brazil was second with 636,367 tons practically all wheat. Italy was a close third with 382,580 wheat (14,057,000 bushels), 132,369 corn (5,211,000 bushels), 85,968 oats (5,574,000 bushels) and small quantities of rye and barley for a total of 635,461. The other important markets were: United Kingdom 477,076, Netherlands 474,466, France 361,425, Belgium 325,506, Peru 132,924, Chile 111,527 and Japan 100,481 tons.

#### Argentine Wheat Exports, December, 1956 with Comparisons

Destination	December	Destination.	December
	- thousand bushels -		- thousand bushels -
Belgium .....	261	Paraguay .....	169
Brazil .....	2,380	Peru .....	248
Chile .....	733	United Kingdom ...	348
Germany .....	344		
Italy .....	1,816		
Netherlands .....	283	Totals .....	6,583

#### Same Month:

1955 .....	9,098
1954 .....	7,880
1953 .....	10,584
1952 .....	219
1951 .....	1,521

#### AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position Estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1956-57 crop year amount to some 210.7 million bushels, consisting of the December 1, 1956 carryover of 84.1 million bushels and the current crop estimated at 126.6 million bushels. Supplies of the size indicated would represent a decrease of 27 per cent from the 1955-56 total of 287.2 million bushels. After deducting 73.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, an estimated 137.7 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 214.4 million available in 1955-56.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the period December 1, 1956 to January 12, 1957 amounted to 15.7 million bushels, exceeding by 55 per cent the 10.1 million bushels exported during the corresponding period of 1955-56. The balance remaining on January 13, 1957 for export and for carryover, at 122.0 million bushels, was some 40 per cent smaller than the comparable 1956 figure of 204.3 million.



# 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	84.1
New crop .....	195.6	126.6
Total estimated supplies .....	287.2	210.7
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year .....	72.8	73.0
Available for export and for carryover .....	214.4	137.7
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 -January 12 .....	5.7	11.5
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1-January 12 .....	4.4	4.2
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour .....	10.1	15.7
Balance on January 13 for export and for carryover .....	204.3	122.0
<u>1/</u> Preliminary.	<u>2/</u> Revised.	

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 January 10, 1957 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 \$2.1455 (Canadian), the quotation in effect on January 4, 1957.

Sales and Exports The Minister for Primary Industry, commenting on the results of the 1955-56 wheat marketing year, which ended November 30, 1956, said that they must be regarded as very satisfactory from the point of view of the large quantities of wheat and flour sold overseas during the year.

The total exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent exceeded 130 million bushels made up of 95 million bushels sold as grain and 660,000 tons of flour (35 million bushels of wheat equivalent). These sales compare with 63 million bushels of wheat and 657,000 tons of flour (34 million bushels of wheat equivalent) sold for export in the preceding crop year. The carryover on December 1, 1956 was 84 million bushels, compared with 92 million bushels a year ago.

The Australian Wheat Board estimates that the incoming crop will be very light, and expects that the quantity of wheat delivered to the Board may not exceed 116 million bushels, compared with 180 million bushels last year. The Minister said that if wheat export sales in the coming crop year continue at the same rate as in the past twelve months, then by December 1, 1957, wheat stocks should be down to about the level of what was regarded as a normal carryover in the years before the great world wheat surpluses developed. This situation relieves any anxiety as to possible wheat storage problems in the near future.



Wheat prices overseas have been at reasonable levels in recent months, but severe increases in charter freight rates have deprived the growers of the benefit of price increases in overseas markets. The managing trustee of the Wheat Pool of Western Australia, in his fortnightly letter dated December 11, stated that it was 23 years since Australia had shipped such a large amount of wheat abroad in one season. He said that present indications are for continuing heavy exports, at least until the middle of the year.

The chairman of the Australian Wheat Board said that wheat prospects were reasonably good. The carryover of 84 million bushels, and anticipated marketing of about 115 million bushels would give Australia a commercial total of 199 million bushels, for the new cereal year. Allowing a safe working carryover of 20 million bushels for 1957-58, the Board had allocated 57 million bushels for local flour and wheat sales and 122 million bushels available for sales overseas as wheat and flour. Of this amount Australia had an International Wheat Agreement quota for about 30 million bushels, and 28 million bushels was covered by the new trade agreement with the United Kingdom, leaving 64 million bushels for further sale.

Wheat Trade with Japan A news report states that the Japanese Government's Food Board has announced that Australia had made a new proposal for the sale of Australian soft wheat to Japan. Officials said the new Australian proposal called for a five-year contract whereby Japan would import Australian soft wheat amounting to one-sixth of the total Japanese wheat imports annually. Japanese wheat imports from all countries last year totalled about 2.2 million tons (82.1 million bushels).

The board said that the new Australian proposal added that in view of a bumper rice crop in Japan this year, Japanese imports of Australian wheat in the initial year could be reduced to half the stipulated amount. The amount of the reduction, however, should be imported spaced over the remaining four years, in addition to the annual stipulated amount. The board said it would be difficult for Japan to accept the new Australian proposal because the United States had informally expressed opposition to a Japanese proposal for reducing imports of American wheat under the surplus disposal program.

Wheat Growing Costs The home consumption price of wheat was increased by 4d. (4 cents) per bushel to 13/8d. (\$1.47) as a result of an increase in the cost of production. This is more than double the figure for 1948-49. The "official" costs of production of wheat as determined for preceding seasons were as follows:-

Cost of Production, Australian Wheat, 1948-49—1955-56

Crop Year	Dollars per Bushel
1948-49 .....	.71
1949-50 .....	.76
1950-51 .....	.84
1951-52 .....	1.07
1952-53 .....	1.28
1953-54 .....	1.35
1954-55 .....	1.35
1955-56 .....	1.43

Freight Rates An increase of 14 per cent in overseas shipping rates is scheduled from February 1, 1957, to the United Kingdom and Europe. The chairman of the Australian Wheat Board stated that he did not think that Australian wheat exports would be affected by the increase because the increases would not cover the charter of tramp steamers which transported Australian wheat cargoes.

International Wheat Agreement The Minister for Trade, commenting on Australia's export quota under the International Wheat Agreement, said that Australia would probably finish up with a quota of about 29.3 million bushels when all the importing countries likely to ratify the agreement had signed.

Earlier in the year (1956) Australia had been allocated a quota of 30.25 million bushels. This was reduced to 25.6 million bushels at the December 1956 meeting of the International Wheat Agreement Council, because only 38 importing countries out of 44 applicants had ratified the agreement. It is expected that four additional importing countries will ratify the agreement when the necessary legislation has been put through their respective parliaments. The export quotas will then be adjusted upwards.

Crop Estimate The official forecast for the 1956-57 Australian Wheat yield, based on conditions existing at mid-December, is 126.6 million bushels. This is 68 million bushels or 35 per cent less than in the previous season, and will be the smallest crop since 1946-47 when severe drought severely reduced the yield in New South Wales and Queensland. The damage this season was caused by excessive wet weather which reduced the area sown to wheat for grain to about 7.8 million acres, compared with about 10.1 million acres last year. This acreage is considerably below the area sown in recent years and is about 44 per cent less than the postwar maximum area of 13.88 million acres sown in 1947-48.

Compared with the 1955-56 season, present estimates show that less wheat was sown for grain in 1956-57 in all States, with New South Wales having the greatest decline, where the area fell by about 1.2 million acres or 42 per cent. The forecast average yield per acre of 16.3 bushels in 1956-57 was 2.9 bushels below the record yield of 19.2 bushels in 1955-56.

Expansion of Bulk Handling in South Australia A State-wide bulk handling project to cope with South Australia's wheat harvest was announced recently. It is planned to build 50 grain silos within 8 years, at a probable cost of £A3 million (\$6.4 million). Conventional concrete vertical silos are being planned because of their increased advantages over the horizontal type.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1, 1956-January 12, 1957 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Aden and Aden I/T .....	1	-	136	274
British North Borneo .....	-	-	12	30
British West Indies .....	-	-	13	73
Brunei .....	-	-	3	4
Burma .....	20	-	15	9
Ceylon .....	-	-	1,143	639
Cocos Islands .....	-	-	1/	-
Czechoslovakia .....	-	315	-	-

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1, 1956-  
January 12, 1957 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Dutch New Guinea .....	-	-	6	10
Egypt (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	5	-
Germany, West .....	480	1,554	-	-
Hong Kong .....	79	264	-	-
Hong Kong (General) .....	-	-	35	40
Hong Kong (a/c War Office) ....	-	-	11	7
India .....	-	3,193	-	-
Indonesia .....	-	-	1,463	983
Iraq .....	614	-	-	-
Italy .....	-	-	4	-
Japan .....	1,636	37	-	-
Kure (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	7	-
Macao .....	-	-	-	3
Malaya .....	28	100	-	-
Malaya (General) .....	-	-	696	717
Malaya (a/c War Office) .....	-	-	11	27
Malta .....	193	-	-	-
Mauritius .....	-	-	103	40
New Zealand .....	1,089	871	-	1
Nigeria .....	-	-	-	1/
Nyasaland .....	-	-	4	16
Pacific Islands .....	5	3	268	160
Pakistan .....	-	1,130	-	-
Persian Gulf .....	44	4	14	69
Philippine Islands .....	-	-	9	77
Port Said (a/c S/S) .....	-	-	15	-
Portuguese East Africa .....	-	175	-	-
Portuguese India (Goa) .....	-	79	-	24
Rhodesia .....	111	503	-	-
Sarawak .....	-	-	14	20
Saudi Arabia .....	-	1	-	-
Seychelles Islands .....	-	-	3	-
Somaliland, British .....	-	-	1	-
Somaliland, French .....	-	-	11	-
Sudan .....	-	-	55	508
Tahiti .....	-	-	36	-
Thailand (Siam) .....	1	-	76	61
Timor .....	-	-	-	4
United Kingdom .....	1,337	3,293	235	360
Zanzibar .....	40	2	-	64
Royal Navy .....	-	9	3	2
Ships' Stores .....	-	-	15	10
Totals .....	5,678	11,533	4,424	4,230

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. J. Wightman, Commercial Secretariat, Canadian Embassy, Paris, under date of January 21, 1957, and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce. Where possible, conversions from French to Canadian measures have been made and rounded for the convenience of our readers. Currency conversions have been made at the rate of one franc equals .002857 Canadian dollars.

The mild, dry weather prevailing throughout December and into early January allowed continuation of fall sowings and, in part, made up for the late start. However, neither total grain sowings nor those to wheat are up to the level reached last year at this time.

Sowings of winter wheat at 4.2 million hectares (10.4 million acres) are 3.6 per cent below the level at the beginning of 1956. The region showing the greatest reduction is, as might be expected, in the North of the country, which suffered most from the frost damage in February 1956. Other departments in the center of the country register small increases. It is, however, not expected that total sowings for 1957 will finally prove any lower than in previous years since farmers were on the whole satisfied with the results of last year's spring sowings.

The fall sown fields have developed rather slowly due in part to lack of rainfall, but also to the reported poor germination of seed from the 1956 crop.

It is not yet possible to draw any conclusions on the area seeded to coarse grains since much of the sowing takes place in the spring. It is expected that there will be a reduction in rye and oats, and an increase in barley sowings. The official January 1, estimate of grain sowings is as follows:

Area Seeded to Grains, January 1

Grain	Average 1952-1956	1956	1957
- thousand acres -			
Wheat .....	10,188	10,920	10,527
Wheat and Rye .....	58	54	55
Rye .....	1,032	965	911
Barley .....	889	1,005	905
Oats .....	1,428	1,364	1,163
Mixed Grains .....	81	86	74
Totals .....	13,675	14,394	13,634

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Paris.

French Supplies of Soft Wheat

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Commercial carryover, August 1 .....	51.7	31.4
Anticipated Deliveries to Grain Board .....	259.9	147.0
Imports, August-November .....	<u>2/</u>	23.8
Total Commercial Supplies .....	311.6	202.2
Less domestic requirements for crop year .....	183.7	183.7
Available for export and carryover .....	127.9	18.4
Deduct exports of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent August - November .....	28.2 <u>3/</u>	3.2 <u>4/</u>
Balance December 1 for export and for carryover .....	99.7	15.2

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 50,000 bushels. All Seed Wheat. 3/ Comprising 25.4 million bushels exported to Foreign countries and 2.8 million bushels to French Union. 4/ Comprising 1.0 million bushels exported to Foreign countries and 2.3 million bushels to French Union. (Flour only, in terms of wheat equivalent)

Monthly Wheat and Flour Exports, August - November, 1956  
and the Corresponding Months in 1955

Month	Foreign Countries		French Union		Total	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	- thousand bushels -					
August .....	5,277	439	610	497	5,887	936
September .....	3,104	162	667	642	3,771	804
October .....	7,750	119	884	545	8,635	664
November .....	9,281	235	588	604	9,869	839
Totals .....	25,412	955	2,749	2,288	28,161	3,243

Value of Wheat to Agriculture      The French Statistical Institute recently published its annual study of French farm income for the 1955-56 crop year. Gross income is estimated at 2,450 billion francs (\$7 billion), which is 150 billion (\$429 million) above the previous season.

The place of wheat in gross income is estimated at 250 billion francs (\$714 million), or 10 per cent, broken down as follows:

Deliveries to the Grain Board .....	\$614 million
Outside sales .....	43 million
Exchange of wheat against bread .....	57 million
	<u>714 million</u>

During the 1955-56 season (July to June) approximately 7 million tons (257.2 million bushels) were delivered to the Grain Board. Of this, 260,000 tons (9,554,000 bushels) were sold back to farmers for feed. Furthermore, the Board sold 170,000 tons (6,246,000 bushels) of wheat to farmers for seeding after the frosts last February, plus 160,000 tons (5,879,000 bushels) of imported wheat. Thus 6.6 million tons (242.5 million bushels) of domestic wheat were retained for milling or export. The total value may be broken down between 6.5 million tons (238.8 million bushels) at the guaranteed price which worked out at an average of 3,290 francs per quintal (\$2.56 per bushel)-after allowing for the levy to offset export losses, the weight of the wheat, carrying charges, etc.- and 130,000 tons (4,777,000 bushels) outside the guaranteed price paid at 1,673 francs per quintal (\$1.30 per bushel), - for a total of 216 billion francs (\$617 million).

The Institute continues to carry the figure of 400,000 - 500,000 tons (14,697,000 - 18,372,000 bushels) of wheat sold by farmers direct to mills and manufacturers of composite feeds, for a value of 15 billion francs (\$43 million). Similarly, the estimate of wheat exchanged against flour or bread is retained from last year: 600,000 tons (22,046,000 bushels) valued at 20 billion francs (\$57 million).

The total value of 250 billion francs (\$714 million) may be compared with last year's estimate of 280 billion (\$800 million). The lower value is due in part to reduced deliveries to the Board and to the larger quantities sold back to farmers for feed and seed.

Indication of  
1957 Grain Prices

Press reports indicate that the government is anxious to establish the practice of setting grain prices before sowings rather than at harvest as of recent years. It is reported that the Ministry of Agriculture has recommended the following grain prices for the 1957 crop, with the previous year's base price as follows: wheat 3,200 francs per quintal (\$2.49 per bushel) compared with 3,450 francs (\$2.68 per bushel) last year; barley 2,500 (\$1.56 per bushel) for both years; corn, 3,400 francs (\$2.47 per bushel) same actual price but suppression of the bonus of 200 francs (14 cents per bushel) making the total former price of 3,600 francs per quintal (\$2.61 per bushel); and rice 5,600 francs (\$3.27 per bushel) as against 5,700 (\$3.32 per bushel) last year. There is obviously the tendency to encourage barley production by retaining the price at the 1956 level and changing the ratio between it and wheat. The above price for wheat would, however, be essentially a target price since the final level is legally tied to such factors as the cost of agricultural requisites and a modification of up to 6 per cent depending on the size of the crop. Furthermore, as previously announced, the guarantee price would apply only to 6.8 million tons.

German Market  
for French Wheat

In the recently signed Franco-German trade agreement covering the year ending September 30, 1957, the quantities of 500,000 tons (18,372,000 bushels) of wheat and 200,000 tons (9,186,000 bushels) of barley are carried forward even though France did not have an export surplus from the 1956 wheat crop. Subsequent negotiations arranged for the substitution in the wheat quota of 200,000 tons (9,186,000 bushels) of barley; 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) each of feed wheat and 1957 crop milling wheat for next fall, and the balance of 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) to be settled later. On the last mentioned, there has been speculation in the press as to whether this will take the form of barley or whether this will be bought abroad for Germany.

French purchases of foreign wheat continue, at a reduced pace, for delivery in the spring. The last import tender for 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) in early January was divided equally between Italian soft wheat and U.S. wheat, mainly Pacific wheat or mixed wheat.



Barley is moving to Germany under the terms of the agreement, and in mid January an export quota was opened for 75,000 tons (2,756,000 bushels) of feed wheat. There no longer appears to be any problem in the placing of barley, a result largely of the large barley commitments to Germany. It is reported that up to 50,000 tons (2,296,000 bushels) of barley has been sold recently to Hungary, of which 10,000 tons (459,000 bushels) came from Morocco; it was sold on a nine-months credit.

#### CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- January 18 According to a report received from Dr. C. F. Wilson, Commercial Counsellor, Canadian Embassy, Copenhagen, preliminary figures on the 1956 harvest in Denmark indicate that the wheat crop amounted to some 9.7 million bushels compared with 9.3 million in 1955.
- 25 The Crop Reporting Board, United States Department of Agriculture reported that wheat stocks in all positions in the United States at January 1, 1957 were estimated at 1,487 million bushels, the second largest for that date in the comparable series beginning in 1935. This total is 5 per cent smaller than the record holdings of January 1, 1956. Current stocks are some 17 per cent below those of October 1, 1956.
- 30 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced an interim payment (on the 1955-56 pool account for wheat) of 10 cents per bushel on all grades except milling grades of Durum, for which the interim payment will be 25 cents per bushel. The full amount to be distributed to producers in this interim payment will be approximately \$37.3 million.
- 31 According to press reports, it was announced at the annual meeting of the Montreal Corn Exchange Association that storage space at Montreal harbour will be at least one-third greater by 1958. The increase will boost the port's capacity to more than 20 million bushels.
- February 1 A report received from the Canadian Commercial Counsellor, Copenhagen, indicates that the area sown to wheat and rye in Denmark in the Autumn of 1956, for harvest in 1957, with the 1956 harvested acreage in brackets, were as follows in thousands of acres: wheat, 148 (163); rye, 264 (272).
- 4 According to Foreign Crops and Markets, the average support price for all grades of wheat in Ireland for the crop year 1957-58 (August-July) has been fixed at the 1956-57 level of about \$2.13 per bushel.
- 5 According to Broomhall northern areas of Italy have been complaining of inadequate moisture but conditions elsewhere have been good. The acreage to winter wheat is believed about equal to last year.

Very optimistic comment is still being received regarding the outlook for the growing wheat crop in India and a record outturn is held probable. Similar conditions also are reported in neighboring Pakistan.









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