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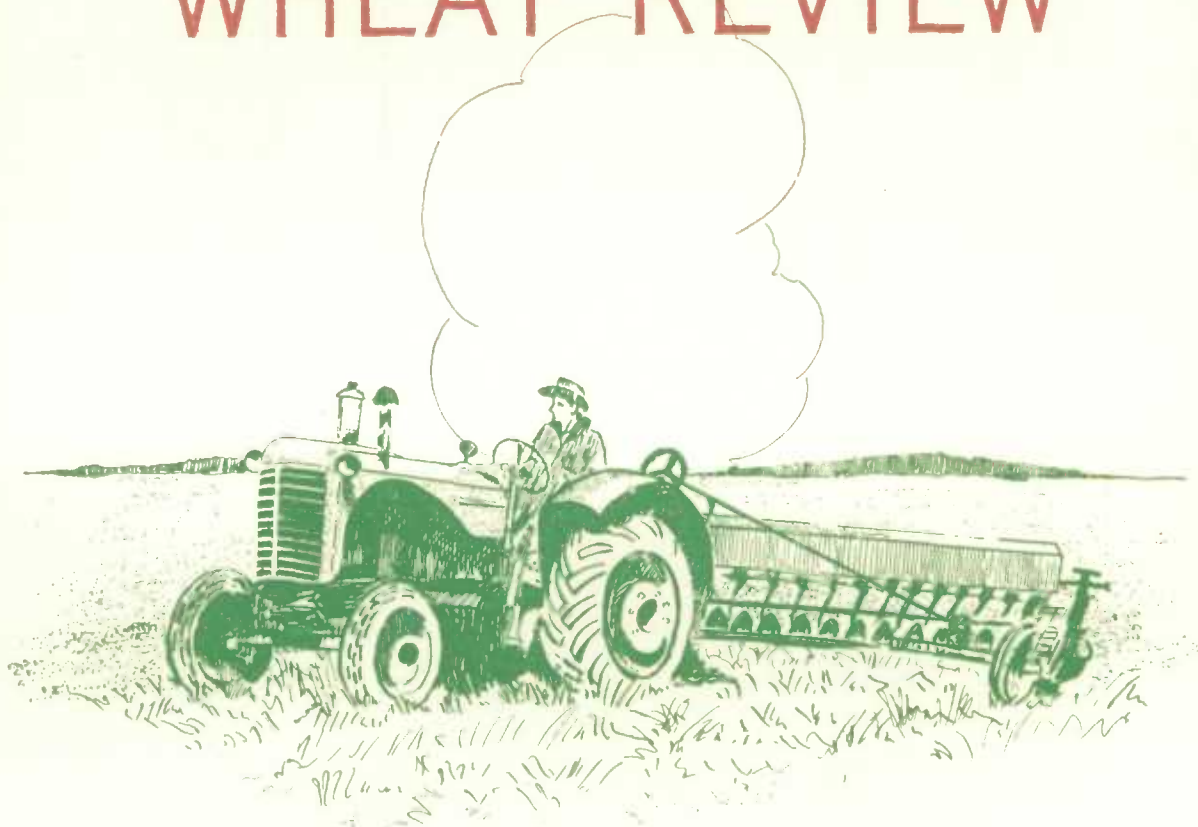


CANADA

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
AGRICULTURE DIVISION



THE WHEAT REVIEW



APRIL, 1957

EDMOND CLOUTIER, C.M.G., O.A., D.S.P.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1957

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Department of Trade and Commerce

THE WHEAT REVIEW

APRIL, 1957

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

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

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WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

Current Supplies Latest available estimates indicate that supplies of wheat remaining on or about April 1, 1957 in the four major exporting countries amounted to some 2,031.0 million bushels, about 5 per cent less than the 2,136.6 million available at the same time a year ago. Supplies at April 1, 1957 (in millions of bushels) were held as follows, with comparable 1956 figures in brackets: United States, 1,050.5 (1,160.3); Canada, 741.7 (691.7); the Argentine, 138.3 (103.1); and Australia, 100.5 (181.5). Estimates for both years include on-farm stocks as well as those in commercial positions.

Exports Total exports of wheat and flour in terms of wheat equivalent from the four major exporting countries during the first eight months (August-March) of the current Canadian crop year amounted to 687.0 million bushels, 41 per cent greater than the 487.5 million exported during the corresponding period of 1955-56. Shipments from each of the four countries during the period August, 1956-March, 1957 and during the same eight months of the preceding six crop years are shown in the table below.

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

August-March	United States	Canada	Argentina	Australia	Total
- million bushels -					
1950-51	160.2	119.6	42.6	70.0	392.4
1951-52	280.4	177.6	23.8	56.2	538.0
1952-53	197.7	207.8	3.2	45.9	454.6
1953-54	111.0	152.7	69.2	34.7	367.6
1954-55	154.8	152.3	78.2	53.9	439.2
1955-56 <u>1/</u>	185.5	158.1	80.4	63.5	487.5
1956-57 <u>2/</u>	341.9	176.6	60.9	107.6	687.0

1/ Revised 2/ Preliminary.

World 1956-57 Breadgrain Production The April issue of "The Wheat Situation" reports that a near record world breadgrain production is still estimated for 1956-57. Increasing world wheat production is offset by the downward trend in rye, resulting in the combined total of 267 million short tons for the current season. This is below the record total of 274 million tons for the 2 grains in 1952.

An increase of about 50 million bushels over the previous estimate for world wheat brings the present wheat total to 7,595 million bushels, a new record and 35 million above the previous high in 1952. Revised estimates for the United States, parts of Western Europe and Argentina account for most of the increase from the earlier estimates. An increase of about 25 million bushels in the estimated world total for rye brings that total to 1,385 million. Although larger than the earlier estimate, this is about 100 million bushels less than in 1955 and about 350 million bushels less than the prewar average. The increases over the earlier estimates are mainly in Eastern Europe, an important rye producing area, and in Argentina.

The wheat harvest in North America is now estimated at 1,576 million bushels. This is at the 1945-49 level and is well above the crops of the past 2 years. Somewhat larger harvests than in 1955 are reported for each of the three principal reporting countries. Increases in Canada and Mexico are attributed to

higher yields while in the United States some increase over the very small acreage harvested in 1955 was also a factor.

Wheat production in 1956 in Western Europe has been estimated at 1,211 million bushels. The reduction to this low level, the smallest since 1951, is mainly due to a sharp cut in the harvested acreage. Winter-kill in early 1956 in a number of countries, especially marked in France, necessitated shifting sizable acreages to spring planted crops. A large part of the shifted acreage went into feed grains. Growing conditions during the spring and summer were favorable in most areas, and yields were generally well above average though not up to the high 1955 yields in some countries.

Grain production in Eastern Europe was somewhat smaller than the high 1955 outturn. Wheat production is estimated at 382 million bushels, 10 per cent less than last year's crop. Smaller yields were the principal factor in the reduction, though a slight reduction in acreage is also indicated. The 1956 harvest is estimated to be 18 per cent below the prewar average.

Sharply expanded wheat acreage in the Soviet Union, together with somewhat higher yields of spring wheat, resulted in a sharp increase in the total wheat outturn. Weather conditions were highly variable. Most favorable conditions for spring wheat were reported east of the Volga, including the "New Lands" where a good part of the further expansion this year took place. Heavy losses during and after the harvest were attributed to unfavorable weather and inadequate transportation and drying and storage facilities.

Wheat production in Asia is placed at 1,845 million bushels, about 40 million bushels below the all time record crop last year. Increases in a number of countries partly offset a sharp reduction reported for Turkey. In Africa wheat production is still estimated at 210 million bushels, which is sharply above average and also above the 1955 total. Larger outturns than last year were reported for all major producers.

Wheat production in South America is expected to be about 360 million bushels compared with 302 million last year and the 1935-1939 average of 281 million. A large outturn in Argentina is the principal factor in the increase, offsetting reduced crops in most other countries of the area. Wheat production in Australia was sharply below average. A 25 per cent reduction in acreage as a result of unfavorable weather at seeding time was the principal factor in the reduction. Yields, though not up to the high level of a year ago, were considerably above average.

Wheat Crop Prospects in Western Europe

According to "Foreign Crops and Markets" plantings of winter wheat in Western Europe (for harvest in 1957) are about equal to those of a year ago, and total acreage for harvest is expected to exceed the low level of 47,070 thousand acres of last year by approximately 10 per cent if present indications of spring plantings materialize. This would place total acreage near the high level of 1955 and, assuming normal growing conditions, above-average production prospects are indicated.

Last season's outturn of 1,211 million bushels for the area, which was the smallest crop since 1951, resulted mainly from the extensive winter-kill in February of 1956. This compares to the 1955 production of 1,389 thousand bushels and the past 5-year average of 1,294 thousand bushels. In addition to reduced quantity, the quality of the 1956 crop was poor. Winter-kill has not been an important factor this season and recent weather conditions have been reported as generally favorable. Crop prospects thus far are very promising for most sections of Europe.

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

Importing Countries	Guaranteed Quantities	S O U R C E						Total Purchases	Remainder
		Canada	Argentina	Australia	France	Sweden	U.S.A.		
		1/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/		
- thousand bushels -									
Austria	3,674	90	-	-	-	-	-	90	3,584
Belgium	16,535	1,397	-	4	-	-	4,754	6,155	10,380
Bolivia	4,042	-	-	-	-	-	892	892	3,150
Brazil	7,349	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,349
Costa Rica	1,470	335	-	-	-	-	903	1,238	232
Cuba	7,422	223	-	-	-	-	6,653	6,876	546
Denmark 4/	1,837	120	-	-	-	169	1,580	1,869	-
Dominican Republic .	1,102	305	-	-	-	-	584	889	213
Ecuador	1,837	488	-	-	-	-	440	928	909
Egypt	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,023
El Salvador	919	164	-	-	-	-	580	744	175
Germany	55,116	15,484	-	6,312	-	5,019	23,745	50,560	4,556
Greece	11,023	-	-	-	-	-	8,801	8,801	2,222
Guatemala	1,470	181	-	-	-	-	1,119	1,300	170
Haiti	2,204	215	-	-	-	-	1,085	1,300	904
Honduras Republic ..	919	21	-	-	-	-	245	266	653
Iceland	73	3	-	-	-	-	25	28	45
India 4/	7,349	-	-	7,177	-	-	173	7,350	-
Indonesia	5,144	-	-	3,946	-	-	534	4,480	664
Ireland	5,512	2,221	-	336	-	-	1,098	3,655	1,857
Israel	8,267	1,669	-	-	-	-	3,312	4,981	3,286
Italy	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	363	363	3,311
Japan	36,744	14,362	-	-	-	-	20,207	34,569	2,175
Korea	2,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,205
Lebanon	2,756	-	-	-	-	-	254	254	2,502
Liberia	73	6	-	-	-	-	36	42	31
Mexico	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Netherlands	25,721	1,324	-	44	-	68	14,742	16,178	9,543
New Zealand 5/	5,879	-	-	5,878	-	-	-	5,878	-
Nicaragua	367	108	-	-	-	-	250	358	9
Norway	6,614	3,592	919	-	-	114	1,787	6,412	202
Panama	1,102	128	-	-	-	-	435	563	539
Peru	7,349	1	-	-	-	-	605	606	6,743
Philippines 4/	6,063	2,805	-	282	-	-	3,090	6,177	-
Portugal	5,879	230	-	502	-	-	3,181	3,913	1,966
Saudi Arabia	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	1,326	1,326	2,348
Spain	4,593	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,593
Switzerland	6,981	4,633	-	-	-	-	-	4,633	2,348
Union of S. Africa .	5,512	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,512
Vatican City 4/	551	-	-	-	-	-	551	551	-
Venezuela	6,246	2,015	-	-	-	-	4,201	6,216	30
Yugoslavia	3,674	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,674
Total	293,618	52,120	919	24,481	-	5,370	107,551	190,441	
Guaranteed Quantities (Exporting Countries)		99,739	14,246	29,329	16,027	6,233	128,044	293,618	
Balance		47,619	13,327	4,848	16,027	863	20,493	103,177	

1/ Canadian Sales through April 23rd, 1957.

2/ Sales recorded by International Wheat Council through April 18th, 1957.

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

4/ Quota filled.

5/ Quota filled April 26th, 1957.

CANADIAN SITUATION

1955-56 Wheat Pool Closed May 3, 1957 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced on April 29 that the 1955-56 wheat pool would be closed on May 3, and that the Canadian Wheat Board would mail final payment cheques to producers on or about May 22.

The date of closing of the 1955-56 pool account coincides with that for the 1954-55 pool last year. The 1954-55 pool account was closed on May 4, 1956, and the final payment cheques were mailed during the latter part of May and beginning of June.

Mr. Howe said the amount of the surplus available for distribution to producers and the amount of the final payment per bushel would not be known until the Canadian Wheat Board had completed its accounting.

Initial Prices for 1957-58 Crop Year The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced on May 3 that the Government had approved initial prices to be paid by the Canadian Wheat Board on the basic grades of wheat, oats and barley for the crop year beginning August 1, 1957. These initial prices are as follows:

<u>Wheat</u>	\$1.40 per bushel No. 1 Manitoba Northern, in store Fort William/Port Arthur or Vancouver.
<u>Oats</u>	60 cents per bushel basis No. 2 Canada Western, in store Fort William/Port Arthur.
<u>Barley</u>	96 cents per bushel basis No. 3 Canadian Western Six-Row, in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

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

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the August-March period of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 176.6 million bushels, exceeding by 12 per cent the total of 158.1 million exported during the same months of 1955-56. The balance remaining on April 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 741.7 million bushels, about 7 per cent greater than the 691.7 million available at April 1, 1956.

Marketings of wheat by farmers in the three Prairie Provinces up to April 17 of the current crop year amounted to 221.3 million bushels, an increase of 40 per cent over the 1955-56 comparable level of 158.0 million. During the four-week period under review (March 21-April 17) primary deliveries of wheat in the Prairie Provinces amounted to some 20.0 million bushels. During the same period the volume of wheat entering Canadian and export channels (overseas clearances, plus imports into the United States, plus Canadian domestic use) amounted to 16.1 million bushels. As a result the visible supply of Canadian wheat showed a relatively small increase from 365.6 million bushels at March 20, to 369.6 million at April 17. The comparable 1956 and 1955 totals were somewhat smaller, at 329.9 million and 331.2 million bushels, respectively.

Canadian Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56 <u>1/</u>	1956-57 <u>2/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover in North America at beginning of crop year (August 1)	499.7	540.6
New crop	494.1	537.8
Imports of wheat, August-February	<u>3/</u>	<u>3/</u>
Total estimated supplies	993.9	1,078.3
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	<u>144.2</u>	<u>160.0</u>
Available for export and for carryover	849.7	918.3
Deduct:		
Overseas clearances of wheat as grain, August-March ...	129.2	149.0
Exports of Canadian wheat to U.S., August-March	<u>3.2</u>	<u>3.1</u>
Total exports of wheat	132.4	152.0
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, August-March ..	<u>25.7 <u>4/</u></u>	<u>24.6</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	<u>158.1</u>	<u>176.6</u>
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover	691.7	741.7

1/ Subject to revision.

2/ Preliminary.

3/ Less than 50,000 bushels.

4/ Adjusted for time lag in returns made by Customs.

Some 226.3 million bushels of the current total was in country elevator position compared with 192.5 million a year ago and 196.5 million two years ago. "In transit rail" in the Western Division accounted for 17.9 million bushels, above both the 1956 figure of 9.6 million and the 1955 total of 14.3 million bushels. In the Eastern Division "In transit rail" accounted for 2.5 million bushels compared with 3.0 million last year and 2.9 million two years ago. Some 7.0 million bushels were "In transit lake" at April 17 this year, below the 1956 comparable figure of 10.2 million but above the 1955 total of 3.8 million. Lakehead stocks, at 42.8 million bushels, were above both the 1956 total of 37.5 million (including 177,000 bushels in "Storage Afloat") and the 1955 figure of 41.8 million. Some 15.5 million bushels were in Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports at April 17 this year, considerably below the 27.8 million bushels in this position a year ago and slightly below the 16.3 million two years ago. Supplies in Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports at 18.5 million bushels were well above the 12.5 million in this position at the comparable date in 1956 but very slightly below the 19.0 million bushels in 1955. In West-Coast Ports (Vancouver-New Westminster, Victoria, Prince Rupert) supplies amounted to 13.6 million bushels compared with 11.8 million last year and 10.3 million two years ago.

March Exports of
Wheat and Flour Total
16.7 Million Bushels

Combined exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during March 1957 amounted to 16.7 million bushels, representing an increase of 12 per cent over the 14.9 million exported during the preceding month, but 21 per cent below the March 1956 total of 21.1 million bushels and 10 per cent lower than the ten-year (1946-1955) March average of 18.6 million bushels. Exports of wheat as grain totalled 13.9 million bushels as against 12.1 million during the preceding month and 17.8 million exported during March 1956. Preliminary Customs returns indicate that the equivalent of 2.8 million bushels of wheat was exported in the form of flour during March 1957, the same as in the preceding month, but 17 per cent lower than the revised March 1956 figure of 3.4 million bushels.

Cumulative exports of wheat as grain during the first eight months of the current crop year amounted to 152.0 million bushels, exceeding by 15 per cent the comparable 1955-56 total of 132.4 million bushels. The United Kingdom continued as Canada's leading market for wheat as grain with shipments to that country amounting to 57.3 million bushels, or 38 per cent of the August-March total and only slightly below the comparable 1955-56 figure of 58.3 million bushels. Other principal markets for Canadian wheat as grain during the August-March 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, 28.7 (15.9); Japan, 20.7 (15.8); Belgium, 10.6 (8.2); Switzerland, 7.7 (3.3); Netherlands, 6.2 (3.9); Norway, 3.3 (2.3); United States, 3.1 (3.2); Peru, 2.4 (nil); Italy, 2.3 (3.2); Ireland, 2.2 (1.8); Israel, 1.7 (0.7); and Austria, 1.2 (2.2).

Cumulative exports of wheat flour during the first eight months of the 1956-57 crop year, based on preliminary Customs returns were the equivalent of 24.6 million bushels of wheat, representing a decrease of 4 per cent from the adjusted August-March 1955-56 total of 25.7 million bushels. As with wheat as grain, the United Kingdom remained in its position as the leading market for Canadian wheat flour. Shipments to that country amounted to the equivalent of 8.0 million bushels of wheat, accounting for 33 per cent of the eight-month total and exceeding by 2 per cent the August-March 1955-56 figure of 7.8 million. Other major markets for Canadian wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent, with revised data for the August-March period of the preceding crop year in brackets, were as follows, in thousands of bushels: Philippine Islands, 3,962 (4,113); Venezuela, 2,241 (2,479); Trinidad and Tobago, 1,136 (1,459); United States, 1,068 (559); Jamaica, 964 (1,026); Leeward and Windward Islands, 653 (665); Gold Coast, 631 (479); and Japan, 587 (486).

General Quota Position By April 26, 1957 out of a total of 2,078 shipping points in the Western Division, the Canadian Wheat Board had been able to place 576 on a quota of 5 bushels per specified acre and 522 on a 4-bushel quota. of the remaining points, 767 were on a 3-bushel quota, 181 were on a 2-bushel quota and 32 stations were reported as closed.

Summary of Elevator Shipping Points in Each Quota Group as at April 26, 1957

Province	General Quota in Bushels per Specified Acre				Closed Stations	Total
	Two	Three	Four	Five		
Ontario	-	-	1	-	1	2
Manitoba	12	172	111	79	4	378
Saskatchewan	169	569	232	125	9	1,104
Alberta	-	26	178	368	18	590
British Columbia	-	-	-	4	-	4
All Provinces	181	767	522	576	32	2,078

Canadian Wheat
Stocks at
March 31, 1957

Total stocks of Canadian wheat at March 31, 1957 were estimated by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at a record 831.3 million bushels, compared with 751.5 million on the same date in 1956 and the previous record of 762.4 million in 1943. The ten-year (1947-1956) average was 453.7 million bushels. Data for these estimates were obtained from the Bureau's annual March 31 survey of grain held on farms, from returns from mill operators, and from information supplied by the Statistics Branch of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, relative to stocks of grain in commercial positions. An estimated 459.0 million bushels, representing 55 per cent of the total were held on farms, exceeding by a considerable margin the previous record holdings of 403.8 million in 1956. All but 9.0 million bushels of the total farm stocks of wheat were held on farms in the Prairie Provinces. Farm-held stocks in Saskatchewan were placed at 300.0 million while those in Alberta and Manitoba were estimated at 120.0 million and 30.0 million bushels, respectively. Of the 372.3 million bushels held in off-farm positions, 223.9 million were in country elevators. Stocks in Lakehead positions amounted to 46.3 million bushels, compared with 52.4 million a year ago and 41.6 million two years ago. Supplies in Eastern elevators totalled 36.5 million bushels, exceeding both the 1956 and 1955 March-end figures of 33.1 million and 32.6 million bushels, respectively.

Stocks of Canadian Wheat at March 31, 1955--1957 1/

Position	1955 <u>2/</u>	1956 <u>2/</u>	1957
- thousand bushels -			
<u>In Canada</u>			
On farms	286,050	403,760	459,000
Country elevators	199,585	200,541	223,884
Interior private and mill elevators	7,286	6,346	8,464
Interior terminal elevators	15,252	13,790	12,258
Vancouver-New Westminster elevators	8,243	10,217	12,828
Victoria elevator	622	745	305
Prince Rupert elevator	53	37	-
Churchill elevator	2,400	4,206	4,801
Fort William-Port Arthur elevators	41,582	52,406	46,290
Storage afloat (Lakehead)	-	177	804
In transit-rail (Western Division)	8,364	9,843	17,528
Eastern elevators	32,632	33,078	36,481
Storage afloat (Eastern Division)	12,796	8,328	2,289
In transit-rail (Eastern Division)	3,206	4,934	3,234
Eastern mills (mill bins only)	2,907	2,687	2,875
Western mills (mill bins only)	235	206	165
Totals, in Canada	621,214	751,417	831,207
<u>In United States</u>	36	117	99
Totals, in Canada and United States ..	621,249	751,534	831,306

1/ Stocks other than on farms and in mills compiled by the Statistics Branch, Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, as at the close of business on March 30, 1955, March 28, 1956, and March 30, 1957.

2/ Revised.

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

Week ending		Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	Total	Last Year <u>1/</u>
		- bushels -				
August	8, 1956 ..	826	70,774	14,549	86,149	-
	15	18,055	742,851	66,158	827,064	184,387
	22	142,030	1,413,145	329,074	1,884,249	2,360,263
	29	459,983	2,813,251	676,293	3,949,527	3,506,512
September	5	279,055	2,240,920	662,721	3,182,696	6,666,139
	12	312,017	2,681,903	745,801	3,739,721	7,118,649
	19	753,369	3,796,364	1,210,781	5,760,514	5,500,102
	26	1,772,551	4,293,970	1,522,428	7,588,949	3,018,220
October	3	1,510,041	4,790,015	2,457,413	8,757,469	3,866,628
	10	701,543	4,546,551	1,909,027	7,157,121	3,219,087
	17	918,095	5,422,458	2,288,436	8,628,989	3,973,996
	24	808,607	4,382,256	1,654,890	6,845,753	4,059,785
	31	1,159,223	5,850,260	2,920,981	9,885,464	4,097,732
November	7	936,430	5,894,263	2,542,238	9,372,931	4,782,434
	14	1,183,105	4,771,580	1,946,311	7,900,996	5,677,437
	21	1,432,780	4,609,244	2,410,512	8,452,536	5,617,423
	28	1,167,345	4,625,076	2,352,640	8,145,061	4,989,243
December	5	1,056,185	5,519,720	1,920,911	8,496,816	5,108,611
	12	485,589	3,904,761	1,102,641	5,492,991	6,497,442
	19	567,595	3,459,072	2,283,976	6,310,643	3,593,376
	26	596,199	3,320,846	1,588,953	5,505,998	2,915,047
January	2, 1957 ..	687,364	4,183,037	2,683,372	7,553,773	3,869,362
	9	535,604	3,198,329	2,266,357	6,000,290	4,770,429
	16	381,414	1,642,591	1,393,851	3,417,856	5,720,894
	23	490,515	3,196,076	2,126,468	5,813,059	4,478,362
	30	336,162	3,341,732	1,043,217	4,721,111	5,621,608
February	6	411,892	4,471,145	2,682,972	7,566,009	4,688,793
	13	585,632	3,078,350	3,066,024	6,730,006	6,197,106
	20	454,761	3,698,074	2,823,268	6,976,103	2,522,791
	27	278,892	1,890,272	1,718,236	3,887,400	2,205,904
March	6	522,505	3,351,221	3,053,176	6,926,902	4,787,779
	13	396,488	2,487,210	3,723,007	6,606,705	3,136,556
	20	432,056	3,231,897	3,426,382	7,090,335	5,580,466
	27	450,331	3,507,781	2,697,603	6,655,715	6,383,786
April	3	417,685	2,495,677	1,487,871	4,401,233	3,103,210
	10	404,545	2,574,481	1,297,037	4,276,063	3,774,280
	17	475,886	2,967,102	1,263,883	4,706,871	4,384,065
Totals		23,522,355	128,419,255	69,359,458	221,301,068	157,977,904
Average similar period						
1945-46--1954-55		31,728,778	146,639,136	77,698,212	256,066,127	

1/ Revised.

Visible Supply of Canadian Wheat, April 17, 1957
Compared with Approximately the Same Date, 1955 and 1956

Position	1955	1956	1957
	- thousand bushels -		
Country elevators - Manitoba	23,629	20,390	24,984
Saskatchewan	109,355	102,551	128,452
Alberta	63,510	69,543	72,862
Totals	196,494	192,484	226,297
Interior private and mill	7,064	6,278	8,268
Interior terminals	15,294	13,910	12,126
Vancouver-New Westminster	9,411	11,254	13,186
Victoria	789	498	416
Prince Rupert	53	37	-
Churchill	2,400	4,206	4,801
Fort William-Port Arthur	41,845	37,366	42,840
Storage Afloat	-	177	-
In transit rail (Western Division)	14,331	9,595	17,923
Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports ...	16,295	27,806	15,534
Lower St. Lawrence and Maritime Ports	18,951	12,537	18,543
Storage Afloat	1,586	-	-
In transit lake	3,789	10,223	7,025
In transit rail (Eastern Division)	2,858	3,016	2,531
United States ports	-	470	99
Totals	331,161	329,857	369,591

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

Grade	Crop Year		August-March			
	Average	1955-56	1955-56		1956-57	
	1950-51- 1954-55		cars	per cent	cars	per cent
1 Hard	1/	-	-	-	-	-
1 Manitoba Northern ..	4.9	3.3	3,482	3.4	1,809	1.4
2 Manitoba Northern ..	26.8	35.9	34,502	34.1	38,001	30.3
3 Manitoba Northern ..	19.1	22.4	24,000	23.7	32,167	25.6
4 Manitoba Northern ..	9.0	8.5	5,207	5.1	13,734	10.9
5 Wheat	8.7	9.8	9,902	9.8	17,010	13.5
6 Wheat	4.6	3.1	3,508	3.5	4,005	3.2
Feed Wheat	0.9	0.6	620	0.6	222	0.2
Garnet	0.6	0.4	456	0.5	187	0.1
Amber Durum	1.9	4.1	5,896	5.8	7,801	6.2
Alberta Winter	0.2	0.6	680	0.7	1,206	1.0
Toughs 2/ 3/	18.2	6.5	8,649	8.5	4,708	3.7
Dumps 2/ 4/	3.6	1/	9	1/	25	1/
Rejected 2/	1.0	4.2	3,805	3.8	3,971	3.2
All others	0.5	0.6	541	0.5	726	0.6
Totals	100.0	100.0	101,257	100.0	125,572	100.0

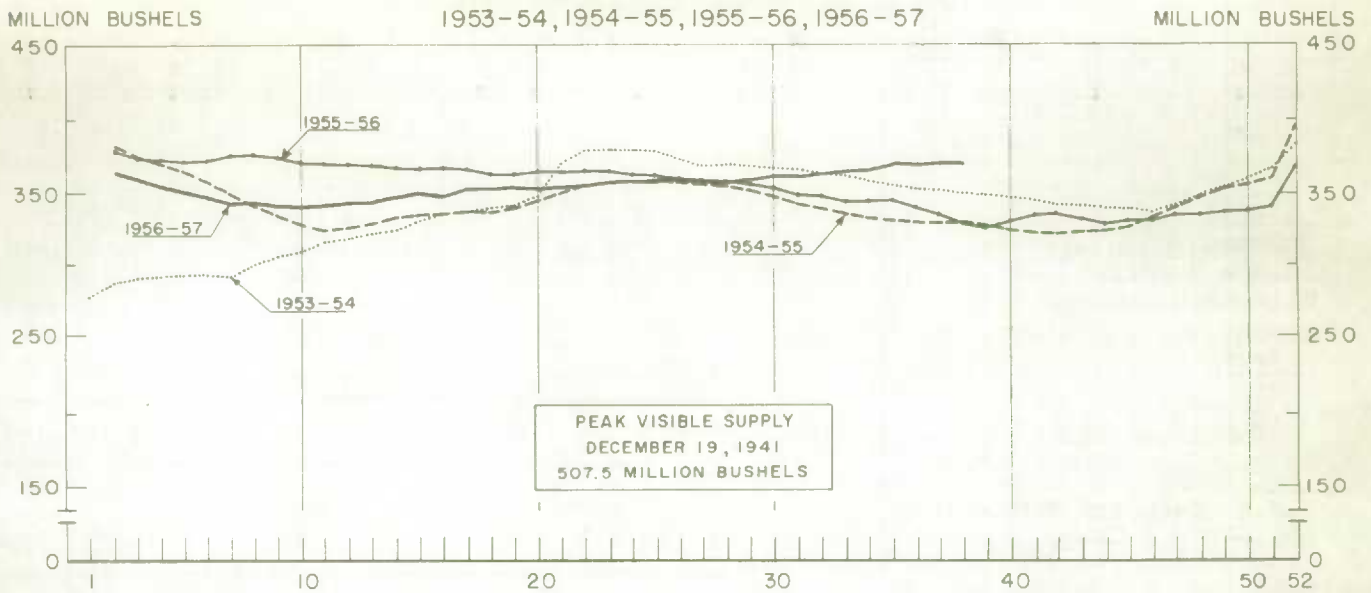
1/ Less than .05 per cent.

2/ All varieties and grades.

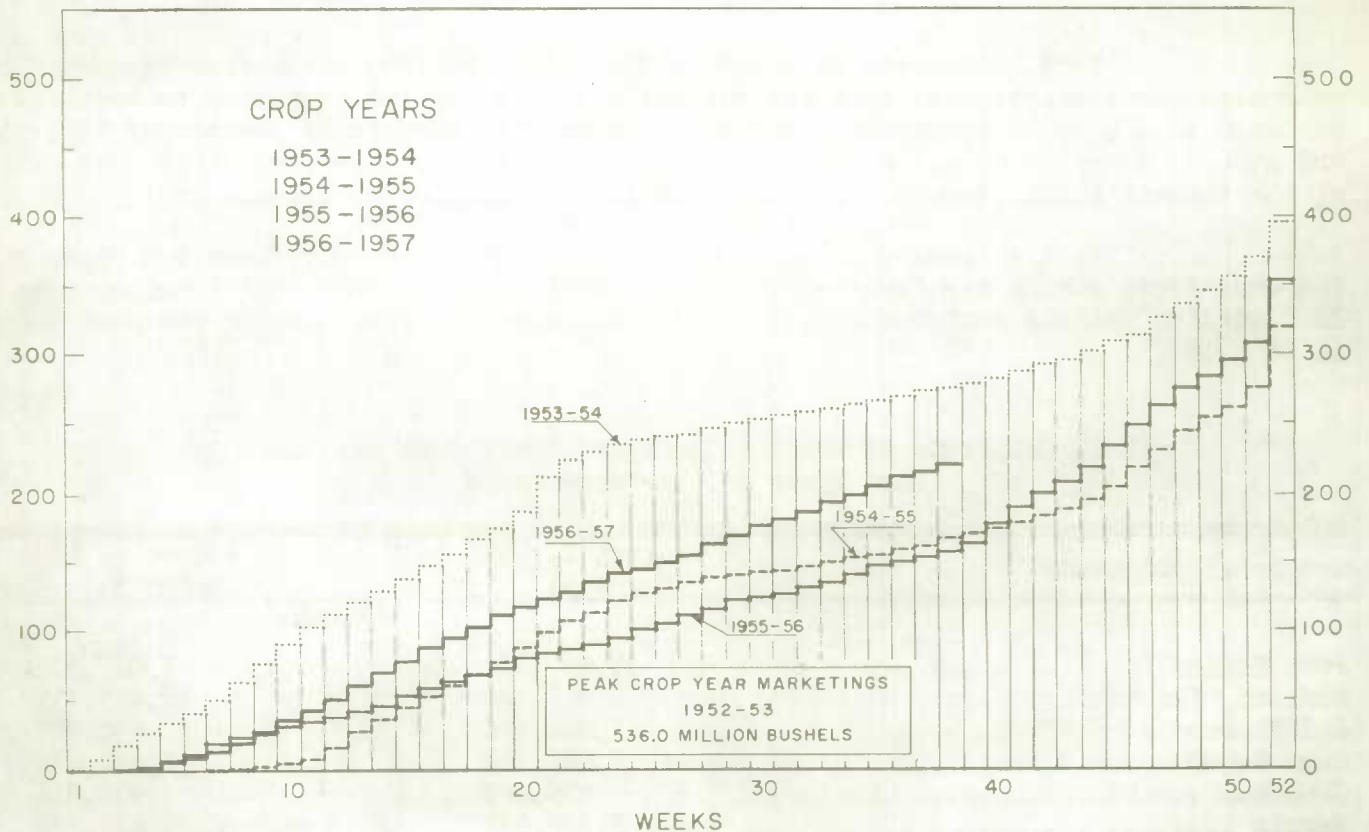
3/ Moisture content 14.9 to 17 per cent for Durum, 14.6 to 17 per cent for all other varieties.

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 - April 17, 1957
Compared with Approximately the Same Period 1954-55 and 1955-56

Destination	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
		- bushels -	
<u>By Vessel</u>			
Chicago	-	341,044	89,487
Duluth Superior	-	742,411	1,153,261
Milwaukee	-	52,923	27,745
Huron	40,000	40,000	-
Buffalo	1,683,591	1,494,997	834,702
Totals, Vessel	1,723,591	2,671,375	2,105,195
<u>By Rail</u>			
U.S.A. Seaboard Ports	35,822	1,335	-
Other U.S.A. Points	648,337	1,575,046	827,108
Totals, Rail	684,159	1,576,381	827,108
Totals, Shipments	2,407,750	4,247,756	2,932,303

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

Total shipments of wheat to the United States, either for re-export or retention for domestic use, from the beginning of the current crop year to April 17 amounted to 2.9 million bushels. Shipments during the comparable periods of 1955-56 and 1954-55 amounted to 4.2 million and 2.4 million bushels, respectively. The bulk of the current total, some 2.1 million bushels, was shipped by vessel.

Rail shipments of wheat to Maritime Ports from Bay, Lake and Upper St. Lawrence Ports during the first eight months of the current crop year totalled some 22.5 million bushels compared with 29.5 million bushels shipped during the same months in 1955-56.

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

Origin of Shipments	August 1, 1955 to March 31, 1956	August 1, 1956 to March 31, 1957
		- bushels -
Port McNicoll	8,697,950	7,077,607
Midland, Tiffin	11,951,671	10,405,874
Collingwood	1,426,896	650,987
Owen Sound	3,486,965	1,984,784
Goderich	575,289	922,614
Sarnia	3,223,539	831,376
Lakefield	99,282	579,649
Prescott	-	1,112
Totals	29,461,592	22,454,003

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

Month	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57
- bushels -				
August	191,336	61,070	56,951	100,667
September	236,030	50,633	64,033	70,324
October	173,043	46,053	63,975	120,535
November	138,440	81,253	148,576	240,628
December	347,824	179,272	477,622	613,482
January	510,486	352,109	2,340,921	792,000
February	368,662	318,009	1,735,097	490,778
March	555,518	245,958	1,599,503	338,534
April	378,681	169,137	300,913	
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, March, 1957

Grade	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	U.S.A.
- bushels -						
5 Wheat	833	3,917	12,000	113,583	26,000	-
6 Wheat	-	1,500	6,000	3,000	40,000	85,333
Toughs	-	-	1,992	1,500	2,869	-
Rejected	-	-	3,492	20,287	3,430	-
Amber Durum	-	-	-	5,500	-	-
All Others	1,398	-	-	5,900	-	-
Totals	2,231	5,417	23,484	149,770	72,299	85,333

Overseas Exports of Canadian Grain by Ports of Loading, August 1, 1956-April 17, 1957,
with Comparisons

Ports	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
- bushels -					
<u>Pacific Seaboard</u>					
Vancouver-New Westminster .	71,334,420	42,646	17,892,211	-	1,303,139
Victoria	798,336	-	-	-	503,110
Prince Rupert	37,417	-	7,714,419	-	-
<u>Churchill</u>	16,250,320	-	-	-	-
<u>St. Lawrence</u>					
Montreal	32,137,993	157,679	11,743,238	130,012	5,913,824
Sorel	3,565,708	-	3,718,200	-	165,076
Three Rivers	5,728,560	-	470,853	-	-
Quebec	5,250,602	-	-	-	-
<u>Maritime</u>					
Saint John	1,077,066	-	-	-	35,993
West Saint John	8,768,674	-	784,512	5,946	4,668,356
Halifax	8,867,673	-	-	818,496	2,566,100
<u>U.S. Atlantic Seaboard</u>	480,137	-	-	-	195,983
Totals	154,296,906	200,325	42,323,433	954,454	15,351,581
August 1, 1955-April 18, 1956	147,642,734	1,569,319	18,576,005	2,357,090	9,580,855

Freight Assistance Shipments Claims filed for payment up to March 31, 1957 represent the movement of some 11.9 million bushels of wheat from the Prairie Provinces to Eastern Canada and British Columbia under the freight assistance policy during the August-February period of the current crop year. This preliminary total, subject to upward revision with the filing of additional claims, already exceeds by 20 per cent the revised total of 9.9 million bushels moved during the same period of the 1955-56 crop year. Shipments amounting to 5.3 million bushels to Ontario and 4.0 million to Quebec accounted for 44 per cent and 34 per cent, respectively, of the seven-month total.

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

Month	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Que.	Ont.	B.C.	Total
- thousand bushels -								
August, 1956	7	44	99	52	600	1,109	303	2,214
September	8	26	92	58	742	782	226	1,934
October	14	15	116	60	741	796	283	2,024
November	14	9	90	63	605	787	252	1,821
December	9	31	97	37	529	734	183	1,619
January, 1957	8	16	96	43	496	633	142	1,433
February	2	11	81	29	321	450	6	898
Totals 1/	61	152	670	341	4,034	5,290	1,394	11,943
Same period 1955-56:								
Preliminary 2/	52	136	530	340	3,714	3,361	1,182	9,316
Revised 1/	58	144	564	357	3,786	3,518	1,490	9,918

Preliminary data on millfeed shipments under the freight assistance policy indicate the movement of 294,313 tons during the first seven months of the 1956-57 crop year, below both the 1955-56 and 1954-55 comparable totals of 322,748 tons and 297,642 tons respectively. As with freight-assisted shipments of wheat, the current crop year total is based on claims submitted up to March 31, 1957 and may be subject to considerable upward revision with the filing of additional claims. Shipments to destinations in Quebec and Ontario amounted to 144,225 tons and 89,735 tons, respectively and accounted for a combined 79 per cent of the August-February total.

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

Province	1955-56		1956-57
	Preliminary 2/	Revised 1/	Preliminary 1/
- tons -			
Newfoundland	2,154	2,365	2,545
Prince Edward Island ...	4,225	4,618	3,936
Nova Scotia	19,582	21,233	20,681
New Brunswick	17,881	18,703	16,100
Quebec	150,710	159,137	144,225
Ontario	83,242	91,244	89,735
British Columbia	19,848	25,448	17,091
Totals	297,642	322,748	294,313

1/ Based on claims filed up to March 31, 1957.

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

Monthly Export Clearances, etc., in Comparison with the Customs Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour

Year and Month	Overseas Clearances of Canadian Wheat 1/	Exports of Canadian Wheat to U.S.A. for Domestic Use and Milling in Bond 2/	Customs 3/ Exports of Canadian Wheat Flour	Total	Customs 3/ Exports of Wheat and Wheat Flour
- thousand bushels -					
<u>1954-55</u>					
August	15,666	185	3,326	19,177	18,481
September	25,744	209	3,699	29,653	28,460
October	20,046	882	4,063	24,990	28,269
November	20,160	331	3,145	23,636	21,526
December	16,201	131	3,132	19,465	22,001
January	14,792	335	2,850	17,976	17,184
February	14,102	96	3,181	17,379	17,706
March	16,719	173	3,564	20,456	17,603
April	12,705	152	4,844	17,701	20,080
May	15,041	531	3,649	19,221	20,175
June	18,510	1,048	2,710	22,268	21,992
July	17,143	386	2,458	19,987	19,491
Totals	206,829	4,458	40,622	251,909	252,968
<u>1955-56</u>					
August	19,777	469	3,003	23,250	22,228
September	14,877	292	3,816	18,985	16,718
October	14,075	416	3,091	17,582	19,776
November	16,447	440	3,839	20,726	21,362
December	10,323	429	2,810	13,562	15,953
January	19,053	476	2,742	22,270	20,969
February	16,985	537	3,069	20,592	22,066
March	17,631	130	3,353	21,115	23,027
April	28,974	1,333	3,207	33,514	32,360
May	37,350	1,768	3,846	42,964	39,712
June	42,219	1,246	3,656	47,121	49,735
July	24,233	322	3,565	28,120	29,724
Totals	261,943	7,858	40,000	309,801	313,630
<u>1956-57 4/</u>					
August	26,107	223	3,434	29,764	27,147
September	24,477	146	2,781	27,403	26,467
October	20,683	222	3,359	24,265	27,449
November	20,577	875	3,196	24,648	25,790
December	17,028	834	2,907	20,770	22,936
January	14,431	487	3,343	18,261	22,624
February	11,938	115	2,797	14,850	17,348
March	13,735	168	2,776	16,680	15,924
Totals	148,978	3,069	24,595	176,641	185,686

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	December	March		August - March	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
- bushels -					
<u>COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</u>					
United Kingdom	854,128	898,888	5,674,129	7,994,519	57,342,543
<u>Africa</u>					
British East Africa	-	-	-	1,080	-
Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland ..	-	1,150	14,187	5,014	142,240
Gambia	2,640	-	-	9,248	-
Gold Coast	103,261	75,976	-	631,304	-
Mauritius and Seychelles	-	773	-	773	-
Nigeria	29,656	36,315	-	193,354	-
Other British West Africa	-	-	-	12,880	-
Sierra Leone	20,654	41,952	-	144,840	-
Union of South Africa	-	-	-	-	473,872
<u>Asia</u>					
Cyprus	-	-	-	-	371,000
Hong Kong	82,874	36,807	18,667	384,466	239,036
India	172	-	-	173	-
Malaya and Singapore	35,528	9,568	-	269,146	-
Pakistan	-	-	-	46	975,533
<u>Europe</u>					
Gibraltar	7,986	5,152	-	62,480	-
Malta	-	-	-	-	778,400
<u>North America</u>					
Bahamas	35,954	28,467	-	184,527	-
Barbados	33,145	18,892	-	198,122	833
Bermuda	9,322	12,652	-	80,488	-
British Honduras	4,147	791	-	12,565	-
Jamaica	127,526	101,255	-	963,806	4,600
Leeward and Windward Islands	129,761	86,071	-	653,186	-
Trinidad and Tobago	210,864	115,225	-	1,136,379	-
<u>South America</u>					
British Guiana	40,639	773	-	239,713	-
Totals, Commonwealth Countries ...	1,728,257	1,470,707	5,706,983	13,178,059	60,328,057
<u>FOREIGN COUNTRIES</u>					
<u>Africa</u>					
Azores and Madeira	-	-	-	17,917	-
Belgian Congo	44,344	13,317	-	278,065	-
Liberia	-	2,024	-	7,652	-
Morocco	-	-	-	10,373	-
Portuguese East Africa	-	1,771	-	14,458	142,800
Portuguese West Africa	3,105	3,910	-	27,706	-
<u>Asia</u>					
Arabia	3,091	1,030	-	30,937	18,660
Iran	-	-	-	202	-
Israel	-	-	920,266	-	1,668,800
Japan	97,713	51,345	1,507,333	586,560	20,667,280
Lebanon	-	22,324	-	248,253	-
Okinawa	-	-	-	-	110,843
Philippine Islands	568,924	530,990	-	3,961,610	-
Portuguese Asia	47,902	35,291	-	123,547	-
Syria	-	92	-	775	-
Thailand	48,645	40,623	-	312,368	-
<u>Europe</u>					
Austria	-	-	410,667	-	1,156,027
Belgium	42,865	15,456	2,113,682	357,908	10,563,132
Denmark	-	-	-	9,120	326,517

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

Destination	December	March		August - March	
	Wheat Flour 1/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/	Wheat Flour 2/	Wheat 3/
			- bushels -		
FOREIGN COUNTRIES					
Europe					
France	-	-	-	-	736,740
Germany, Federal Republic	115	-	772,090	115	28,748,069
Greece	-	-	-	2,583	-
Iceland	3,220	1,380	-	6,123	-
Ireland	-	-	-	-	2,223,014
Italy	-	-	18,667	2,300	2,323,822
Netherlands	-	-	484,587	4,347	6,196,571
Norway	-	-	269,580	-	3,345,794
Portugal	3,404	3,668	-	39,433	-
Sweden	-	101	-	5,421	-
Switzerland	230	-	1,136,800	230	7,713,613
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	2,703	-
North America					
American Virgin Islands	805	-	-	8,199	-
Costa Rica	43,840	27,738	-	301,953	-
Cuba	23,138	19,205	-	238,726	1,000
Dominican Republic	44,562	38,180	-	280,050	-
El Salvador	20,534	20,355	-	168,643	11,023
French West Indies	1,311	115	-	4,428	-
Guatemala	23,662	15,037	19,841	102,879	86,361
Haiti	59,025	16,905	-	186,946	-
Honduras	5,635	6,900	-	44,772	-
Netherlands Antilles	13,839	11,753	-	98,051	-
Nicaragua	18,310	20,771	-	172,284	-
Panama	16,779	14,361	-	138,205	-
St. Pierre and Miquelon	-	2,529	-	15,143	-
United States					
Flour in terms of wheat	129,532	120,359	-	1,067,524	-
For Milling in bond 4/	-	-	-	-	130,461
For Domestic use 4/	-	-	168,321	-	2,938,443
Oceania					
French Oceania	7,604	-	-	28,228	-
Guam	-	-	-	13,570	-
South America					
Chile	-	-	-	115	-
Colombia	7	2,070	-	93,624	-
Ecuador	-	-	16,535	-	144,817
Peru	-	230	358,027	16,100	2,436,933
Surinam	15,100	22,310	-	145,739	-
Venezuela	387,884	243,506	-	2,240,835	27,759
Totals, Foreign Countries ...	1,675,125	1,305,646	8,196,396	11,416,720	91,718,479
Totals, All Countries	3,403,382	2,776,353	13,903,379	24,594,779	152,046,536

- 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			
	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26

- cents and eighths per bushel -

Initial Payment to Producers

1 Northern	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	132	132	132	132
4 Northern	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat	96	96	96	96
1 C.W. Garnet	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140

International Wheat Agreement

and Domestic Sales

1 Northern	168/1	168	168	165/6
2 Northern	165/1	165	165	162
3 Northern	156/1	156	156	156
4 Northern	148/4	148	148	148
5 Wheat	135/1	135/5	136	136
6 Wheat	133/1	132	132	132
Feed Wheat	130/5	130	130	130
1 C.W. Garnet	154/1	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150/1	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147/1	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157/1	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154/1	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152/1	152	152	152
1 C.W. Amber Durum	197/7	198/1	198	198/7
2 C.W. Amber Durum	196/7	197/1	197	196/7
3 C.W. Amber Durum	194/7	195/1	195	194/7

Exports - Class II

1 Northern	168/1	168	168	165/6
2 Northern	165/1	165	165	162
3 Northern	156/1	156	156	156
4 Northern	148/4	148	148	148
5 Wheat	135/1	135/5	136	136
6 Wheat	133/1	132	132	132
Feed Wheat	130/5	130	130	130
1 C.W. Garnet	154/1	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150/1	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147/1	147	147	147
1 C.W. Amber Durum	237/7	238/1	238	237/7
2 C.W. Amber Durum	236/7	237/1	237	236/7
3 C.W. Amber Durum	234/7	235/1	235	234/7

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

Class and Grade	Week ending			
	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
- cents and eighths per bushel -				
<u>Initial Payment to Producers</u>				
1 Northern	140	140	140	140
2 Northern	136	136	136	136
3 Northern	132	132	132	132
4 Northern	125	125	125	125
5 Wheat	108	108	108	108
6 Wheat	102	102	102	102
Feed Wheat	96	96	96	96
1 C.W. Garnet	122	122	122	122
2 C.W. Garnet	117	117	117	117
1 Alberta Red Winter	124	124	124	124
2 Alberta Winter	119	119	119	119
1 C.W. Amber Durum	150	150	150	150
2 C.W. Amber Durum	147	147	147	147
3 C.W. Amber Durum	140	140	140	140
<u>International Wheat Agreement and Domestic Sales</u>				
1 Northern	168/1	168	168	167/6
2 Northern	165/1	165	165	164
3 Northern	157/2	157	157	157/6
4 Northern	150/4	150	150	150
5 Wheat	140/1	140	140	140
6 Wheat	138/1	138	138	136
Feed Wheat	134/1	134	134	134
1 C.W. Garnet	154/1	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150/1	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147/1	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157/1	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154/1	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152/1	152	152	152
<u>Export - Class II</u>				
1 Northern	168/1	168	168	167/6
2 Northern	165/1	165	165	164
3 Northern	157/2	157	157	157/6
4 Northern	150/4	150	150	150
5 Wheat	140/1	140	140	140
6 Wheat	138/1	138	138	136
Feed Wheat	134/1	134	134	134
1 C.W. Garnet	154/1	154	154	154
2 C.W. Garnet	150/1	150	150	150
3 C.W. Garnet	147/1	147	147	147
1 Alberta Red Winter	157/1	157	157	157
2 Alberta Winter	154/1	154	154	154
3 Alberta Winter	152/1	152	152	152

Licensed Storage Capacity of Canadian Grain Elevators
as at March 31, 1957

Province	Kind of Licence	Elevators, including Permanent and Temporary Annexes	Public Country Supplementary Storage 1/	Total
- bushels -				
<u>WESTERN DIVISION</u>				
Manitoba	Public Country	46,847,800	495,000	47,342,800
	Private Country	75,000	-	75,000
	Mill	2,095,000	-	2,095,000
	Private Terminal	3,145,500	-	3,145,500
	Semi-Public Terminal.	6,000,000	-	6,000,000
	Totals	58,163,300	495,000	58,658,300
Saskatchewan	Public Country	187,919,700	7,725,090	195,644,790
	Private Country	29,000	-	29,000
	Mill	4,915,500	-	4,915,500
	Public Terminal	11,000,000	-	11,000,000
	Totals	203,864,200	7,725,090	211,589,290
Alberta	Public Country	123,021,450	5,566,850	128,588,300
	Private Country	232,500	-	232,500
	Mill	4,159,000	-	4,159,000
	Private Terminal	1,490,000	-	1,490,000
	Public Terminal	6,100,000	-	6,100,000
	Totals	135,002,950	5,566,850	140,569,800
British Columbia	Public Country	1,788,000	-	1,788,000
	Mill	927,300	-	927,300
	Public Terminal	-	-	-
	Semi-Public Terminal.	23,906,500	-	23,906,500
	Totals	26,621,800	-	26,621,800
Ontario	Public Country	65,000	1,400,000	1,465,000
	Mill	1,480,000	-	1,480,000
	Private Terminal	2,435,000	-	2,435,000
	Semi-Public Terminal.	90,517,210	-	90,517,210
	Totals	94,497,210	1,400,000	95,897,210
Totals Western Division		518,149,460	15,186,940	533,336,400
<u>EASTERN DIVISION</u>				
Ontario		57,161,000	-	57,161,000
Quebec		29,712,000	-	29,712,000
Maritimes		7,229,300	-	7,229,300
Totals Eastern Division		94,102,300	-	94,102,300
Totals, Licensed Storage		612,251,760	15,186,940	627,438,700

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

1/ Formerly designated as "Special Annexes".

Summary of Grain Storage Capacity as at March 31, 1957

Type of Storage	Location	Capacity
		- bushels -
Licensed Storage*	Western Division	518,149,460
	Eastern Division	94,102,300
		612,251,760
Public Country	Western Division	15,186,940
		15,186,940
Unlicensed Storage*	Manitoba	80,000
	Saskatchewan	245,000
	Alberta	299,000
	British Columbia	170,000
	Ontario	70,000
		864,000
Total Storage Capacity, Licensed and Unlicensed, Permanent, Temporary and Special Annexes		628,302,700

* Including permanent and temporary annexes.

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

Total licensed grain storage capacity at March 31, 1957, according to records of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, amounted to 627.4 million bushels. Some 612.3 million bushels of this total consisted of storage space in elevators including permanent and temporary annexes, with the balance of 15.2 million bushels being located in public country supplementary storage. The latter are buildings located either on or off railway sites and suitable for the emergency storing of grain. Although they cannot qualify for licensing as country elevators under the Canada Grain Act, order in council P.C. 5122, dated September 26, 1951, provides for the licensing of such buildings on a temporary basis for emergency grain storage.

Unlicensed off-farm storage capacity at March 31, 1956 amounted to 0.9 million bushels, making a combined total of 628.3 million bushels of licensed and unlicensed storage, as against a combined total of 611.7 million bushels at March 31, 1956.

On a regional basis, licensed storage capacity for some 533.3 million bushels representing 85 per cent of the licensed total, was located in the Western Division. Total licensed storage capacity of elevators in the Prairie Provinces at March 31, 1957, in millions of bushels, were as follows, (comparable data for March 31, 1956, in brackets); Saskatchewan, 211.6 (203.8); Alberta, 140.6 (136.8); and Manitoba, 58.7 (57.3). On the basis of type of license, public country elevators accounted for a storage capacity of 374.8 million bushels or 70 per cent of the total licensed storage capacity in the Western Division at March 31, 1957.

CANADIAN FLOUR MILLING SITUATION

Production Wheat flour production by Canadian mills during March 1957 amounted to 2,983,000 hundredweight, virtually the same as the February 1957 output of 2,992,000 hundredweight but 11 per cent below the March 1956 total of 3,340,000 hundredweight. The ten-year (1947-1956) average production for the month of March was 3,803,000 hundredweight. Mills reporting operations during March 1957 had a total rated capacity of 179,503 hundredweight per 24-hour day and on the basis of a 26-day working period 63.9 per cent of this rated capacity was effective.

Wheat milled for flour during March amounted to some 6.7 million bushels compared with 6.7 million bushels milled during the previous month and 7.6 million bushels milled during March 1956. Of the wheat milled for flour during March some 6,047,000 bushels were Western Canadian spring wheat (other than Durum), while the remainder consisted of Ontario winter wheat (393,000 bushels), Durum wheat (122,000 bushels) and all other (122,000 bushels).

Exports Based on preliminary Customs returns, exports of Canadian wheat flour during March 1957 amounted to 1,207,000 hundredweight (2,776,000 bushels of wheat equivalent) relatively unchanged from the February figure of 2,797,000 bushels but 17 per cent below the revised March 1956 total of 3,353,000 bushels. Flour shipments during the month went to forty-nine countries with exports to the United Kingdom amounting to 899,000 bushels of wheat equivalent and accounting for 32 per cent of the March total. Other principal markets for Canadian wheat flour during the month with shipments in thousands of bushels of wheat equivalent were as follows: Philippine Islands, 531; Venezuela, 244; United States, 120; Trinidad and Tobago, 115; and Jamaica, 101.

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

Crop Year	Wheat Milled for Flour - bushels -	Wheat Flour	
		Production	Exports 1/
		- hundredweight -	
1935-36--1939-40 average	67,845,114	29,405,451	9,603,941
1940-41--1944-45 average	99,704,638	43,908,245	23,699,546
1945-46	118,074,774	52,018,498	28,361,546
1946-47	127,775,176	56,033,374	33,116,617
1947-48	109,822,011	47,353,004	26,776,683
1948-49	90,896,984	39,944,794	20,947,620
1949-50	90,082,917	39,708,032	19,896,137
1950-51	106,748,343	46,315,153	24,356,912
1951-52	104,494,021	44,771,184	22,258,324
1952-53	106,727,237	46,776,625	24,609,199
1953-54	91,855,269	40,769,909	20,142,824
1954-55	92,406,768	40,606,599	17,692,945
1955-56	91,755,469	40,142,498	17,391,300
1956-57 2/			
August	7,872,881	3,448,590	1,493,103
September	7,229,802	3,192,582	1,209,186
October	8,038,284	3,540,745	1,460,602
November	8,296,852	3,635,956	1,389,730
December	7,118,382	3,144,057	1,264,042
January	6,952,052	3,074,467	1,453,559
February	6,735,550	2,992,154	1,216,050
March	6,684,160	2,982,776	1,207,110
Totals	58,927,963	26,011,327	10,693,382
same period 1955-56 (revised) ...	61,070,321	26,690,281	11,184,897

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 supplies of wheat for the 1956-57 crop year (July-June), amount to 2,031.1 million bushels, consisting of the July 1, 1956 carryover of 1,033.9 million and the 1956 production of 997.2 million. Imports of wheat from Canada for all purposes during the first three quarters of the current United States crop year amounted to 3.3 million bushels compared with 3.5 million during the July-March period of 1955-56. Total estimated supplies, at 2,034.4 million bushels exceeded by about 3 per cent the comparable 1955-56 figure of 1,974.4 million. After deducting some 598.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, an estimated 1,436.4 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 compared with 1,372.9 million in the preceding crop year.

United States Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million	bushels -
Carryover at beginning of crop year (July 1)	1,036.2	1,033.9
New crop	934.7	997.2
Total estimated domestic supplies	1,970.9	2,031.1
Imports of wheat for domestic use, July - March	3.5	3.3
Total estimated supplies <u>2/</u>	1,974.4	2,034.4
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year <u>3/</u> ..	601.5 <u>4/</u>	598.0
Available for export and for carryover	1,372.9	1,436.4
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, July - March	176.4	338.0
Exports of wheat flour and products in terms of wheat, July - March	36.2	47.9
Total exports of wheat, wheat flour and products ..	212.6	385.9
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover	1,160.3	1,050.5

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Excluding imports for April-June period. 3/ Includes allowances for shipments of United States wheat and wheat products to Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Guam, Samoa, Virgin Islands and Wake Island. These shipments are not included in exports as set out in the table. 4/ Revised.

Exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour and products in terms of grain equivalent during the July-March period of the current crop year amounted to 385.9 million bushels, as against 212.6 million exported during the same months of 1955-56. The balance remaining on April 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 1,050.5 million bushels, representing a decline of about 9 per cent from the 1,160.3 million at April 1, 1956.

According to the April 26 issue of the "Wheat Situation" published by the United States Department of Agriculture, it is anticipated that exports during the current marketing year may reach 475 million bushels. With domestic requirements estimated at about 600 million bushels a total disappearance of some 1,075 million bushels is in prospect and a carryover of approximately 960 million bushels would be on hand at July 1, 1957.

Winter Wheat Crop
Estimated at
669 Million Bushels

In a report released on April 10, the Crop Reporting Board of the United States Department of Agriculture stated that winter wheat conditions on April 1 indicated a crop of 669 million bushels. This would be 9 per cent smaller than the 1956 crop of 735 million bushels, 22 per cent less than average but 44 million bushels above the December 1 forecast. Increases from prospects as of December 1 have been general throughout the country except in central and northern Plains States. Improved prospects in Washington, Colorado, Montana, Texas, Oklahoma, Indiana and Illinois account for most of the increase in indicated production.

The indicated yield at 18.2 bushels per seeded acre is the same as 1947 which is the second highest of record and compares with 16.5 in 1956 and the average of 15.9 bushels. The current estimate is based on an appraisal of the April 1 condition of wheat as reported by individual growers and on soil moisture reserves and other factors affecting production. The current estimate of production assumes normal weather and effects of insects and disease for the remainder of the crop season.

Total abandonment and diversion to uses other than grain is indicated at 6.3 million acres, 17.1 per cent of the total acreage seeded for all purposes last fall and winter. This is slightly less than the per cent indicated last December. Of the 6.3 million-acre total, 4.5 million acres are in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and New Mexico. For the United States last year, 8.9 million acres or 19.9 per cent of the total acreage seeded was lost or diverted.

Stocks of Wheat
in All Positions
April 1, 1957

On April 24 the United States Department of Agriculture reported that stocks of 1,188 million bushels of wheat stored in all positions on April 1 are the third largest of record for that date but are below the level of the two previous years. Total stocks are 10 per cent smaller than the record holdings a year earlier but 74 per cent larger than the 1946-1955 April 1 average. Total stocks were nearly a fifth larger than the 1956 production, reflecting the large carryover of old wheat on July 1, 1956 a large part of which was Government-owned. Current stocks are less than January 1, 1957 stocks by 300 million bushels or 20 per cent.

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

Position	April 1 Average 1946-55	April 1 1956	January 1 1957	April 1 1957
- thousand bushels -				
On Farms <u>1/</u>	222,782	216,741	292,804	165,959
Terminals <u>2/</u>	162,928	366,412	393,211	360,702
Commodity Credit Corp. <u>3/</u>	20,217	132,022	126,029	102,380
Merchant Mills <u>1/ 4/</u>	84,298	102,455	127,877	108,918
Int. Mills, Elev. & Whses. <u>1/5/</u> ...	191,407	503,572	547,345	449,709
Totals	681,632	1,321,202	1,487,266	1,187,668

1/ Estimates of the Crop Reporting Board.

2/ Commercial stocks reported by Grain Division, AMS, at 45 Terminal cities.

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

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

5/ All off-farm storages not otherwise designated.

Off-farm wheat stocks of 1,022 million bushels were 7.5 per cent less than the record holdings a year earlier with only the merchant mills reporting larger stocks. Of this total, more than four-fifths was either owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation or was warehouse-stored under Government commodity loans. Stocks of wheat on farms at 166 million bushels were nearly a fourth less than a year earlier with less than half the total under Government loan.

The off-farm total includes 109 million bushels at merchant mills, 450 million at interior mills, elevators and warehouses, and 361 million bushels commercial stocks at terminals. The Commodity Credit Corporation had a total of 102 million bushels stored in bins under CCC control and aboard ships in the "mothball fleet". Other Government-owned wheat is included in the estimate for the position where stored.

Acreage, Quota and Price-
Support Programs Announced
on 1958-Crop Wheat

On April 19 Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced the following actions on 1958-crop wheat:

1. Proclaimed marketing quotas on the 1958 crop of wheat. This fifth successive proclamation of wheat marketing quotas is required by a wheat supply that is 56 per cent above the marketing quota level.
2. Proclaimed a national acreage allotment of 55,000,000 acres, the minimum permitted by law.
3. Announced State shares of the national allotment.
4. Set June 20, 1957 as the date for a referendum to determine producer approval or disapproval of quotas.
5. Set the minimum national average support price for 1958-crop wheat in the 36-State commercial area at \$1.78 per bushel, if quotas are approved. This price reflects 75 per cent of estimated transitional parity. For price-support computations, the wheat supply is estimated at 141.8 per cent of the normal supply and indicates a support level at the minimum of the variable range or 75 per cent of parity.
6. Announced 36-State commercial and 12-State noncommercial wheat producing areas for 1958.

If marketing quotas are approved by growers, the national average support available to eligible producers in the commercial area will be not less than \$1.78 per bushel. Individual farm marketing quotas will be the actual production from the farm acreage allotment. Growers in the commercial area who stay within their allotments will be eligible for price support on their entire production. Growers who exceed their farm acreage allotments will be subject to marketing quota penalties if they have more than 15 acres of wheat for harvest. Growers who knowingly exceed their allotments will not be eligible for support. Marketing quota penalties will be at 45 percent-of-parity rate per bushel (parity as of May 1, 1958) on "excess" wheat production.

If marketing quotas are disapproved, there will be no restrictions on wheat marketings. Acreage allotments will remain in effect as a condition of eligibility for price support at the 50 per cent of parity (as of July 1, 1958) rate required by law when quotas are disapproved.

Cash Wheat Prices on the Kansas City and Minneapolis Markets

No. 2 Hard Winter, Kansas City		No. 1 Northern Spring, Minneapolis	
Date	Price	Date	Price
	cents per bushel		cents per bushel
April 1, 1957 ..	229 1/2 - 232 3/4	April 1, 1957 ..	229 3/8 - 230 3/8
2	228 1/4 - 233 3/4	2	231 1/2 - 232 1/2
3	228 1/2 - 228 1/2	3	232 - 233
4	228 1/2 - 238	4	231 3/4 - 232 3/4
5	228 1/2 - 238 1/4	5	231 1/2 - 232 1/2
8	229 - 238 3/4	8	231 1/4 - 232 1/4
9	230 - 240 1/2	9	231 3/8 - 232 3/8
10	229 3/4 - 241	10	231 1/8 - 232 1/8
11	230 - 240 3/4	11	231 - 232
12	236 3/4	12	230 3/4 - 231 3/4
15	237 1/2	15	228 3/8 - 229 3/8
16	232 3/4 - 234 1/4	16	228 7/8 - 229 7/8
17	236	17	228 3/4 - 229 3/4
18	231 - 241 3/4	18	228 1/2 - 229 1/2
19	Good Friday	19	Good Friday
22	233 - 235 1/2	22	227 1/4 - 228 1/4
23	232 1/2	23	225 3/8 - 226 3/8
24	229 1/2 - 240	24	225 5/8 - 226 5/8
25	228 1/2 - 240 1/4	25	228 1/2 - 229 1/2
26	225 3/4	26	228 3/4 - 229 3/4
29	225 - 238 1/2	29	230 1/8 - 231 1/8
30	221 1/2 - 226 1/2	30	228 5/8 - 229 5/8

Chicago Wheat Futures, High Points of Closing

Date	May	July	September	December
	- cents and eighths per bushel -			
April 1, 1957 ..	224/3	216/2	218/2	221/7
2	223/4	214/7	217/1	221/3
3	224/3	214/6	217/2	221/4
4	224/1	213/7	216/2	220/5
5	224	214/5	217	221/2
8	224/5	214/4	217	221/1
9	226/2	216/2	218/6	222/4
10	224/2	215/2	217/4	221/3
11	225/1	215/7	218/2	222/2
12	225/2	216/2	218/4	222/3
15	222/2	214/1	216/2	220/3
16	222/5	214/1	216/2	220/3
17	224/5	214/4	216/6	220/7
18	224/7	214	216/2	220/2
19		Good Friday		
22	224/4	211/4	213/7	218
23	223/7	210	212/2	216/6
24	225/2	210/5	213	217/3
25	224	210/7	213/2	217/4
26	223/6	211/1	213/4	217/4
29	223/5	210	212/4	216/2
30	220/4	209/4	211/6	215/6

ARGENTINE SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated supplies of wheat in the Argentine for the crop year 1956-57, consisting of the revised December 1, 1956 carry-over of 42.9 million bushels and the new crop estimated at 262.0 million amount to an estimated 304.9 million bushels. Supplies of this size are about 10 per cent greater than the 1955-56 comparable total of 276.1 million bushels. After deducting 136.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, some 168.9 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 140.1 million in the preceding crop year. Exports of wheat during the December-March period of the current Argentine crop year have amounted to 30.6 million bushels, 17 per cent below the total of 37.0 million bushels of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent exported during the same months of 1955-56. The balance remaining on April 1, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 138.3 million bushels compared with 103.1 million at the same date in 1956.

Argentine Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million	bushels -
Carryover at beginning of crop year (December 1) <u>2/</u>	83.2	42.9 <u>3/</u>
New crop <u>4/</u>	192.9	262.0
Total estimated domestic supplies	276.1	304.9
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	136.0	136.0
Available for export and for carryover	140.1	168.9
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December-March	35.9	30.6
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, Dec.-March ..	1.1	- <u>5/</u>
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	37.0	30.6
Balance on April 1 for export and for carryover	103.1	138.3

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes allowances for farm stocks. 3/ Revised 4/ Official estimate. 5/ The export of 0.2 million bushels of wheat flour in terms of wheat (see Wheat Reviews for February and March, 1957) was reported in error.

The following account of the Argentine situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. W. F. Hillhouse, Agricultural Secretary, Canadian Embassy, Buenos Aires, under date of April 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 Climatic conditions in the cereal zone during the past month have been extremely variable. Except in La Pampa and scattered parts of other provinces the almost complete lack of rainfall during most of the period caused a serious deterioration of pastures and preparation of land for winter grains was halted in some areas. However, an excellent widespread soaking rain during the past few days has brightened the picture very considerably and should permit the

completion of seeding dual purpose winter grains. Although the temperatures have been below normal the corn crop has developed reasonably well during the past month except in those zones where the earlier drought made improvement almost impossible. Harvesting of early sown corn is well advanced and yields have been no higher than anticipated.

Wheat Wheat sales totalled 285,000 tons (10,472,000 bushels) during the past month mostly during the third week in March. Since then prices have risen fractionally for both Rosafé and southern types. The sales included almost 29,000 tons (1,066,000 bushels) of Durum types. Negotiations are proceeding with Chile and Brazil. It is anticipated that Chile will purchase at least 200,000 tons (7,349,000 bushels) from Argentina this year and Brazil reportedly intends to take the full 1,200,000 tons (44,092,000 bushels) stipulated in the old agreement. Wheat shipments during March at almost 315,000 tons (11,574,000 bushels) more than doubled those of the previous month and were 50% above March 1956. For the first time since March 1956 United Kingdom was the most important destination, taking almost 76,000 tons (2,793,000 bushels). Effective April 10 the long-standing milling subsidy was removed but this is not expected to have any appreciable effect on domestic demand for wheat.

Corn The first official estimate of corn production for 1956-57 has been set at 2,700,000 metric tons (106,293,000 bushels) from an estimated seeded area of 2,700,000 hectares, (6,669,000 acres). This figure is 30 per cent below last year and 11 per cent and 21 per cent respectively below the averages for the past five and ten years. Extreme heat and drought in the important zones during December and January were the major factors contributing to the reduced sowings and the low yields. In recent years domestic disappearance of corn has been between about 2.2 million and 2.5 million tons (86.6 million and 98.4 million bushels) per annum. Hence prospects this year were for an exportable surplus of no more than 500,000 tons (19.7 million bushels) plus the small carryover which is thought to have existed on March 31. By means of the most recent government decision it is anticipated that exports may rise above that figure. However, few people are optimistic that it will reach last year's 1,057,000 tons (41,612,000 bushels).

Oats, Barley and Rye Oat sales almost tripled during the past month to bring total sales of these three grains to just about 43,000 tons. Shipments on the other hand declined by one third to just over 100,000 tons, almost one half of which was barley. Disposable stocks of these grains held by the Grain Board on April 3 were reportedly approximately - oats, 196,000 tons (12,709,000 bushels), barley 33,000 tons (1,516,000 bushels) and rye 38,000 tons (1,496,000 bushels). To the extent that the Grain Board is successful in attracting corn from domestic consumption internal demand for these grains should strengthen. In fact their prices have already risen slightly.

Seeding of these dual purpose grains had been proceeding in most areas despite lack of moisture. However, the soaking rains of the past weekend should ensure that this work is completed under good conditions. La Pampa, important in rye production, has been especially favoured during the past month when other zones have been suffering from drought.

Policy

Milling Subsidy Eliminated Effective April 10, 1957 Argentine millers have been paying 80 pesos per 100 kilograms (about \$1.21 per bushel) for their wheat in place of the 50 pesos (about 76 cents per bushel) paid previously. 75 pesos (about \$1.13 per bushel) go to the producer and the remaining 5 pesos (about 8 cents) cover handling costs of the National Grain Board. Thus was eliminated a subsidy which

was costing the country 800 million pesos (about \$44.4 million) per year and was one of the major stumbling blocks to the freeing of trade in wheat.

Grain Sales Sales of the major grains during the past month at 409,258 tons were substantially the same as the previous month. Wheat sales totalling 285,750 tons (10,500,000 bushels) for multilateral and West German currencies featured the market. Prices edged upwards during the month for bread wheats rising from 972 pesos per ton (about \$1.47 per bushel) Rosafé type for multilateral on March 18 to 997.56 (about \$1.51 per bushel) on April 11. Similar increases occurred for southern type. Sales of Durum types totalled 28,950 tons (1,064,000 bushels) and prices eased slightly to 1,440 pesos per ton (about \$2.18 per bushel) for multilateral. In spite of the unattractive levels of international corn prices corn sales exceeded 80,000 tons (3,149,000 bushels) during the past month all at the Aforo of 920 pesos per ton (about \$1.30 per bushel) for multilateral currencies and 930 pesos per ton (about \$1.31 per bushel) for West German marks. Oat sales totalled 34,282 tons, (2,223,000 bushels) 3,246 tons (210,000 bushels) of which were sold to Uruguay and Brazil for seed at 879 pesos per ton (75 cents per bushel). Barley sales amounted to only 5,201 tons (239,000 bushels) and rye sales to only 3,570 tons (141,000 bushels).

Grain Shipments Sparked by a revival of wheat exports, shipments of major Argentine grains in March rose to 443,297 tons, 35 per cent above February shipments and the highest since November 1956.

Argentine Wheat Exports, December, 1956-March 1957 with Comparisons

Destination	Wheat	Destination	Wheat
	- thousand bushels -		- thousand bushels -
Austria	57	Norway	81
Belgium	1,541	Paraguay	246
Brazil	8,812	Peru	1,860
Chile	1,085	South Africa	284
Denmark	637	Switzerland	312
Finland	162	United Kingdom	5,073
France	2,058	Yugoslavia	17
Germany	2,220		
Italy	4,028		
Netherlands	2,121	Total	30,593

Same Period:

1955-56	35,898
1954-55	46,591
1953-54	34,308
1952-53	5,955
1951-52	3,584

Wheat exports, at almost 315,000 tons (11,574,000 bushels) were outstanding. The major destinations were the United Kingdom, 75,997 tons (2,792,000 bushels); Brazil, 63,106 tons (2,319,000 bushels); France, 43,260 tons (1,590,000 bushels); Germany, 32,772 tons (1,204,000 bushels); Holland, 25,187 tons (925,000 bushels); and Peru, 23,674 tons (870,000 bushels). Barley shipments at 46,841 tons (2,151,000 bushels) were about half those of February 1957 and of March 1956. Once again Germany was the major receiver with other shipments going to Holland, Belgium, Italy, the

United Kingdom and France in that order. Oats exports rose slightly to 32,898 tons (2,133,000 bushels), more than half of which went to Germany. Holland was the only other sizeable customer. Corn shipments at 27,081 tons (1,066,000 bushels) were down 20 per cent from the February level. Holland took more than half of the corn and Italy much of the remainder. Rye shipments at 21,534 tons (848,000 bushels) were also below last month and went to a number of countries, chief of which were Holland and Italy.

AUSTRALIAN SITUATION

Supply Position

Estimated supplies of wheat in Australia for the 1956-57 crop year, consisting of the December 1 carryover of 83.9 million bushels and the new crop placed at 134.7 million bushels amount to some 218.6 million bushels, about 24 per cent below the 1955-56 total of 287.0 million. After making an allowance of some 73.0 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, an estimated 145.6 million are available for export and for carryover during 1956-57 as against 215.3 million in the preceding crop year.

Combined exports of wheat as grain and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent amounted to 45.1 million bushels, exceeding by about 33 per cent the 33.8 million exported during the corresponding period of the 1955-56 crop year. The balance remaining on April 7, 1957 for export and for carryover was estimated at 100.5 million bushels, representing a decline of 45 per cent from the 181.5 million available at the same date a year ago.

Australian Wheat Supplies

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Carryover, including flour as wheat, at beginning of crop year (December 1)	91.6	83.9
New crop	195.4	134.7 <u>2/</u>
Total estimated supplies	287.0	218.6
Less estimated domestic requirements for crop year	71.7	73.0 <u>2/</u>
Available for export and for carryover	215.3	145.6
Deduct:		
Exports of wheat as grain, December 1 - April 6	23.9	32.4
Exports of wheat flour in terms of wheat, December 1 - April 6	9.9	12.7
Total exports of wheat and wheat flour	33.8	45.1
Balance on April 7 for export and for carryover	181.5	100.5

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Revised.

The following information relative to the Australian situation has been extracted from a report from Mr. T. G. Major, Commercial Counsellor for Canada, Melbourne, under date of April 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 \$2.1328 (Canadian), the quotation in effect on March 29, 1957.

Australian Wheat Harvest 1956-57

Under date of April 3rd., the Acting Commonwealth Statistician issued a revised estimate of 134.7 million bushels of wheat from 7,794,000 acres sown for grain for the crop year 1956-57. This is higher by 8.1 million bushels and 5,000 acres than the previous official estimate released on December 19th last. It is 60.7 million bushels (31 per cent) less than the production of 1955-56, and is the smallest crop since 1946-47, when output in New South Wales and Queensland was severely cut by drought. The average yield is estimated at 17.3 bushels per acre, slightly below the average for the five years ended 1955-56.

The following table shows the area sown, production and yield per acre, by States, for the years 1956-57 and 1955-56:-

State	1956-57			1955-56		
	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated Production	Area Sown	Yield per Acre Sown	Production
	Area Sown	Yield per Acre Sown				
	'000 Acres	Bushels	Mill. Bus.	'000 Acres	Bushels	Mill. Bus.
New South Wales ...	1,713 1/	16.3	28.0	2,937	19.4	57.1
Victoria	1,530	23.2	35.5	2,141	19.2	41.1
Queensland	390	20.5	8.0	582	25.7	14.9
South Australia ...	1,455	21.6	31.5	1,609	18.0	28.9
West Australia	2,700	11.7	31.6	2,890	18.4	53.3
Tasmania & A.C.T. .	6	16.7	0.1	7	14.3	0.1
Australia	7,794	17.3	134.7	10,166	19.2	195.4

1/ It is estimated that 1,494,000 acres would be stripped for grain and that an additional 219,000 acres which were sown for grain were fed off or failed entirely.

Crop and Weather Conditions

Most of Australia's southern and western wheat areas would welcome heavy rains. These would permit a start to be made with tillage and weed killing operations, preparatory to the seeding of the new grain crops.

Victoria Substantial rainfall of two to three inches in the Mallee and Wimmera wheat growing areas, and lighter precipitation in the northern and north-eastern provided an opportunity for cultivation of fallows, preparatory to seeding. Although in most parts of the State, the summer has been drier than in recent years, conditions in general have been normal, and no substantial break in the weather is anticipated as yet.

Western Australia Coastal areas from Derby to Carnarvon and the East Gascoyne and southeastern district have experienced above-normal rains, some isolated totals reaching over six inches. In the south west, however, rainfall was negligible.

Queensland Above normal rains of over ten inches occurred in a coastal area from the Kimberleys to Darwin and in parts of Northern Queensland. In the central and southeastern areas, rainfall has been below normal, and the land requires a good soaking if the winter cereals are to be planted on time.

South Australia In general, the weather had continued to be very dry, throughout the agricultural districts.

New South Wales The month of March has proved to be another dry period in most portions of the N.S.W. wheat belt. The drier wheat belt conditions during the latter portion of last year and for the first three months of 1957 are somewhat similar to the drier conditions which obtained before the recent run of good seasons set in. In a recent statement, the Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics estimated that approximately 2.6 million acres of wheat for grain would be sown in New South Wales in 1957. It is thought that realisation of such an acreage, however, will be unlikely unless general rains soon fall, followed by good sowing conditions for the remainder of the planting season. The fact is stressed that general rains are now badly required over the whole of the State wheat belt. Reports from the main wheat belt districts concerning areas likely to be sown vary.

Prepared fallows are more noticeable in the north central and north western wheat districts where conditions overall have been more suitable for cultivation and where there is still some sub-soil moisture. In the rest of the State, initial fallowing operations and cultivation of existing fallows was possible for only a short period following the early March rains, and is now at a standstill awaiting further good falls. Practically the only wheat sowings made to date have been early sowings of winter wheats mainly for grazing purposes, and conditions in April to date are mostly too dry to enable general wheat sowings to be commenced.

Tasmania Rainfall totals have been mainly in the one to two inches range.

Wheat
Segregation

At a meeting of the Australian Wheatgrowers' Federation in Melbourne, a South Australian grower expressed the view that sales to overseas markets would be threatened if Australian wheat were divided into different grades. Such a system would ruin the present orderly marketing system, and take away the right of growers to govern their own affairs. The conference adopted a motion opposing wholesale wheat segregation on the basis of protein content, and sought the co-operation of growers in the improvement of the overall standard of f.a.q. wheat by growing only high quality sample.

Low Protein
Standard

The Wheatgrowers' Federation adopted a resolution urging government seed farms and plant breeders to discontinue the distribution of any wheat for seed which was below a certain inherent protein quality standard. It was claimed that agricultural departments lacked sufficient courage to withdraw their recommendations from any particular variety, despite its lack of quality. The relatively small number of varieties in Canada was pointed to as a factor in the production of high quality in the Canadian wheat crop.

Wheat Stabilisation
Plan

The Central Council of the South Australian Wheat and Wool Growers Association at its annual conference in Adelaide urged that all possible steps be taken through the Australian Wheatgrowers' Federation to see that the necessary legislation is adopted in all States under which the Australian Wheat Board would continue as the central marketing and administrative authority. Also included in the plan should be the guaranteed cost of production price formula and the home consumption price.

Premium Wheat

For the first time, the Australian Wheat Board has accepted and sold premium wheat delivered in bulk at North Star, Milguy and Bellata. Subject to later adjustment, the average premiums per bushel realized were North Star 1/2d. to 1/3d. (12 to 13 cents) Milguy 1ld. to 1/- (10 to 11 cents) and Bellata about 4d. (4 cents). Delivery in bulk had saved the growers about 1/- (11 cents) a bushel on the cost of bags, in addition to the premium. Queensland State

Wheat Board members have warned the State government that unless a premium policy is announced, large acreages will be reverted to grass or planted to canary seed, barley, safflower and linseed.

A plan put forward by Barnes Milling Ltd. envisages a flour price increase in Queensland of £A2.16s.2d. (about \$5.99) a ton, and a system of premiums for certain types of wheat averaging about 1/- (11 cents) a bushel on wheat used for local consumption.

Swift Action Sought
on Wheat Research

The N.S.W. Minister for Agriculture and for Food Production (Hon. E. H. Graham) has urged the Commonwealth Government to expedite legislation for the levy on wheatgrowers to be used for research and extension work within the industry. A levy of a farthing (0.2 cents) per bushel had been proposed by the Australian Wheatgrowers' Federation, representing all Australian wheatgrowers' organizations, and the Australian Agricultural Council had requested the Commonwealth Government to introduce appropriate legislation to implement the Federation's plan. It was most desirable that the Federal legislation be passed during the current session of the Commonwealth Parliament so that the levy could operate from the next harvest. The Minister said he had strongly urged the Commonwealth Government to legislate also for the Australian Wheat Board to release for wheat research undistributed fractional amounts accumulated by the Board. These were estimated to be about £365,000 (approximately \$778,000) of which the New South Wales share was in the vicinity of £90,000 (approximately \$192,000).

Australian
Shipping Fleet

The Wheatgrowers' Federation is to ask the Federal government to assist Australian private enterprise in the establishment of a shipping fleet to compete against overseas shipping combines. Strong opposition was expressed against the construction and operation of any government owned fleet. A protest also was registered against the recent 14 per cent increase in overseas shipping freights.

Victorian Grain Elevators
Board to erect Grain Elevators
in New South Wales

Under the 1922 Border Railways Agreement, the Victorian railways serve certain border areas in New South Wales. Wheat growers in these areas hitherto have not had the benefit of a bulk handling system, and the Victorian Grain Elevators Board now proposes to erect and operate seven elevators at Sanger, Rennie, Warragoon, Sloane, Deniliquin, Mathoura and Bunnaloo. A bill authorizing this development has been introduced in the New South Wales legislature.

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1
to April 6, 1956-57 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Aden and Aden I/T	6	4	201	301
Belgian Congo	-	-	-	1
British North Borneo	-	-	56	102
British West Indies	-	1	50	207
Brunei	-	-	10	12
Burma	20	-	27	230
Ceylon	2	4	1,687	3,146
Cocos Islands	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-
Cyprus	-	-	<u>1/</u>	-

Exports of Australian Wheat and Wheat Flour in Terms of Wheat, December 1
to April 6, 1956-57 and Corresponding Period 1955-56

Destination	Wheat		Wheat Flour	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
	- thousand bushels -			
Czechoslovakia	-	315	-	-
Dutch New Guinea	-	-	24	28
Egypt (a/c War Office)	-	-	5	-
Germany, West	1,540	3,367	-	-
Ghana	-	-	-	1/
Hong Kong	285	654	-	-
Hong Kong (General)	-	-	129	135
Hong Kong (a/c War Office) ...	-	-	16	12
India	2,376	6,288	-	-
Indonesia	-	2	3,713	2,290
Iran	-	554	-	-
Iraq	1,095	1,044	-	-
Italy	-	-	9	-
Japan	5,093	119	-	-
Kure (a/c War Office)	-	-	18	-
Macao	-	-	1	6
Malaya	111	347	-	-
Malaya (General)	-	-	1,912	2,149
Malaya (a/c War Office)	-	-	46	46
Malta	193	-	-	-
Mauritius	-	-	105	512
New Zealand	2,983	3,774	1/	2
Nigeria	-	-	-	1/
Nyasaland	-	-	4	43
Pacific Islands	8	8	638	732
Pakistan	-	1,976	-	-
Persian Gulf	55	37	49	371
Philippine Islands	-	-	68	161
Poland	1,862	-	-	-
Port Said (a/c S/S)	-	-	16	-
Portuguese East Africa	56	193	-	-
Portuguese India (Goa)	-	79	-	24
Rhodesia	659	864	-	-
Sarawak	-	-	60	60
Saudi Arabia	37	2	-	-
Seychelles Islands	-	-	12	14
Somaliland, British	-	-	3	-
Somaliland, French	-	-	22	-
Sudan	-	-	92	515
Syria	338	-	-	-
Tahiti	-	-	62	-
Thailand (Siam)	2	2	241	296
Timor	-	-	3	7
United Kingdom	7,096	12,726	557	1,119
Zanzibar	40	2	-	123
Royal Navy	8	20	7	5
Ships' Stores	-	-	57	51
Totals	23,800	32,300	9,900	12,700

1/ Less than 500 bushels.

FRENCH SITUATION

Supply Position Total estimated commercial domestic supplies of wheat in France for the crop year (August-July) 1956-57, consisting of the August 1 carryover of 31.4 million bushels and anticipated marketings of some 147.0 million amount to 178.4 million bushels, about 43 per cent below the comparable 1955-56 figure of 311.6 million bushels. Imports during the August-February period of the current crop year have amounted to 32.4 million bushels, bringing total commercial supplies for 1956-57 to 210.7 million bushels. After deducting 183.7 million bushels for anticipated domestic requirements, a total of 27.0 million bushels are available for export and for carryover as against 128.0 million in 1955-56.

French Supplies of Soft Wheat

Item	1955-56	1956-57 <u>1/</u>
	- million bushels -	
Commercial Carryover, August 1	51.7	31.4
Farmers' Deliveries to Grain Board	259.9	147.0 <u>2/</u>
Total Estimated Commercial Domestic Supplies	311.6	178.4
Imports of wheat for Domestic use, August-February	0.1	32.4
Total Commercial Supplies <u>3/</u>	311.7	210.7
Less domestic requirements for crop year	183.7	183.7
Available for export and carryover	128.0	27.0
Deduct exports of wheat and flour in wheat equivalent August-February	66.8 <u>4/</u>	6.5 <u>5/</u>
Balance March 1 for export and for carryover	61.1	20.5

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Estimated.

3/ Excluding imports March-July period.

4/ Comprising 61.1 million bushels exported to Foreign Countries and 5.7 million bushels to French Union.

5/ Comprising 2.2 million bushels exported to Foreign Countries and 4.3 million bushels to French Union.

Combined exports of wheat and wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent during the first seven months of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 6.5 million bushels in contrast to 66.8 million exported during the August-February period of 1955-56. The balance of commercial supplies remaining on March 1, 1957, at 20.5 million bushels, represented only 34 per cent of the March 1, 1956 total of 61.1 million.

Monthly Wheat and Flour Exports, August, 1956 - February, 1957
and the Corresponding Months in 1955 - 56

Month	Foreign Countries		French Union		Total	
	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57	1955-56	1956-57
- thousand bushels -						
August 1956	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
December	8,409	226	1,209	745	9,618	971
January 1957	16,086	721	943	737	17,029	1,458
February	11,229	264	803	534	12,032	798
Totals	61,136	2,166	5,704	4,304	66,840	6,470

The following account of the current crop situation in France has been extracted from a report provided by Miss V. F. Wightman, Commercial Secretariat, Canadian Embassy, Paris, under date of April 17, 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.

Weather and Crops The month of March with its warm, dry weather was very favorable to field work and to the development of grainfields. Vegetation is well ahead of normal, as are spring sowings. A mild frost in early April was generally limited to the southwest of the country and affected mainly vineyards and market gardens whereas there is no report of damage in the grain districts.

As will be seen in the accompanying table, the total area sown to grains at April 1 is 1 million hectares (2,470,000 acres) ahead of the last normal year, 1955. However, in releasing these figures, the Ministry of Agriculture urges caution in their interpretation due to the advanced state of field work as compared with conditions in the spring of 1955.

The April 1 estimate of grain sowings is as follows:

Grain	1955	1957	Difference
			March 1 1957 and 1955
- thousand acres -			- per cent -
Wheat	10,954	11,182	+ 2.1
Wheat and Rye ...	57	50	- 12.3
Rye	998	909	- 8.9
Barley	1,599	2,882	+ 80.2
Oats	2,661	3,634	+ 36.6
Mixed Grains	155	150	- 3.2
Totals	16,424	18,807	+ 14.5

Despite the government's advice to sow barley rather than wheat, the area to wheat increased 150,000 hectares (370,000 acres) during March, and is 100,000 hectares (247,000 acres) above the level on April 1, 1955. Since fall and winter sowings were approximately the same as in 1955, it is the spring-sown grain which registers the chief gain due, no doubt, to the good yields obtained from spring varieties last year.

Sowings of spring wheat at April 1, 1957, are estimated at 141,000 hectares (348,000 acres) compared with only 65,900 (163,000 acres) in 1955. Barley sowings have risen more spectacularly, with 804,100 hectares (1,986,000 acres) of spring-sown barley on April 1st of this year as compared with 238,000 (588,000 acres) at the same period in 1955. Even spring seeding of oats at 992,400 hectares (2,451,000 acres) is almost twice the level of 1955 despite declining demand for this grain.

The condition of grain fields is extremely good and the Ministry's indices are well ahead of 1955 which (on a lower acreage at April 1st) provided a wheat crop of 10 million tons (367.4 million bushels) and permitted exports of 2 million tons (73.5 million bushels).

Wheat Crops Prospects With the current excellent growing conditions and the prospect of an early and abundant crop, farmers have stepped up their wheat deliveries to the Grain Board and by early March, 3.7 million tons (136.0 million bushels) had been received. It is thus quite possible that total deliveries will exceed earlier forecasts, particularly since farmers are anxious to take advantage of the special enhanced price for the 1956 crop.

For this reason, the Grain Board has ceased its purchases of soft wheat from abroad, at the level of 1.2 million tons (44.1 million bushels); it will be recalled that earlier forecasts indicated requirements of 1.5 million (55.1 million bushels) and possibly higher. Furthermore, it is probable that recent purchases will be directed to North Africa where this winter's drought has cut into production. In Algeria, while there is a reported carryover of 50,000 tons (1,837,000 bushels) of soft wheat from the 1956 crop year, forecasts are for a deficit of around 100,000 tons (3,674,000 bushels) for the new season, and reports from Morocco and Tunisia are even more pessimistic.

The trade press has begun to speculate on the size of the 1957 wheat crop. A minimum of 10 million tons (367.4 million bushels) is expected, assuming no serious change in growing conditions, and there is speculation that a higher figure may be reached. The carryover into the new crop year will no doubt be lower than the level of 800,000 tons (29.4 million bushels) in recent years, and after the experience of crop failure in 1956, there may be an effort to build up and hold larger stocks within the country. However, there should still be some 2 million tons (73.5 million bushels) available for export.

Barley Outlook Farmers' deliveries of barley have likewise been higher than expected, due in part to the mild winter and the placing of animals on pasture earlier than normal. By early March, 2.5 million tons (114.8 million bushels) of barley had been delivered to the Grain Board, and there is the possibility of total deliveries reaching 3 million (137.8 million bushels). Barley exports have been pushed in recent weeks, with the export goal raised from 1.2 million to 1.5 million tons, (55.1 million to 68.9 million bushels), in order to clear storage space for the new crop. A recent statement by the Secretary for Agriculture indicated that the export subsidy required to move this barley has averaged 850 francs per quintal (53 cents per bushel) whereas that for wheat exports in the past two years has cost up to 2,000 francs per quintal (\$1.56 per bushel).

The outlook this year is for a crop considerably ahead of the 2.7 million tons (124.0 million bushels) in the last normal year of 1955 but still below the record crop of 6.5 million tons (298.5 million bushels) last year when much of the regular wheat land was used for barley.

Possible Security
Stock of Grain

A recent statement by the Secretary for Agriculture indicates that the French government is considering the establishment of a security stock for wheat, barley and oats. He stated in part:

"at the time of the frost damage last year, we had just about exported all our stocks and we have thus had to import 1.2 million tons (44.1 million bushels) of wheat during this crop year. Farmers' deliveries were originally estimated at 3.5 million tons (128.6 million bushels) whereas now they should exceed 4 million (147.0 million bushels) and we can thus limit our imports to the above figure." "we must avoid mistakes of the past when practically all the crop surplus was exported. We should constitute a security stock which in case of a poor crop will both cover food requirements and also permit us to maintain our export markets. In the case of barley, for example, it would be a shame to export all our surplus this year with the risk of not being able to take advantage of export opportunities next year."

Present Marketing
Policy

In a recent address to the Central Council of the Grain Board, the Secretary of Agriculture, defined present grain marketing policy as follows: (1) limit of 1.2 million tons (44.1 million bushels)

of wheat imports, which along with good prospects for the new crop, should allow exports of 400,000 tons (14,697,000 bushels) during the 1956-57 crop year, mainly as flour; (2) continuation of barley exports with due allowance of sufficient carryover into the new crop year; (3) introduction of legislation to continue state control of barley marketing; (4) stocking of oats in anticipation of a lower crop in 1957 and (5) additional inland and port elevator facilities to increase storage space and aid exports.

French Purchase of
Canadian Wheat

In early April, France purchased four cargoes of Canadian grade 4 C.W. durum, three for Marseille and the fourth for Le Havre-Rouen. The purchase was made by private importers against the export of three times the quantity of barley. In this way, the quotation accepted is that combining the best terms for the import of wheat and also for the export of barley. The subsidies required to move the barley are reported to have averaged around 1,300 francs per quintal (81 cents per bushel).

Apart from such purchases of durum, and the corresponding export of barley, the local grain market is quiet in anticipation of the new crops.

DENMARK'S WHEAT PRODUCTION AND TRADE

The following report relative to production, exports and imports of wheat in Denmark was received from Dr. C. F. Wilson, Commercial Counsellor at Copenhagen and is reproduced with the permission of the Trade Commissioner Service, Department of Trade and Commerce.

On March 28, 1957, the Danish Statistical Department issued a survey on world grain production and trade, in which a description of interest appears on the trend of wheat production and trade in Denmark.

Following is a summary translation of their report on Denmark.

Production

In the period 1934-1938, the annual average wheat production in Denmark amounted to 383,000 tons (14,073,000 bushels), fluctuating from 310,000 tons (11,391,000 bushels) to 470,000 tons (17,270,000 bushels). Since the war the production has amounted to 250,000 to 300,000 tons (9,186,000 to 11,023,000 bushels), falling below that range only in 1947 because of frost damage. Production

in that year fell to 55,000 tons (2,021,000 bushels). Since the war, wheat production in Denmark has been somewhat more constant than before. The following table indicates that the area sown to wheat has declined in recent years.

On the other hand, the average yield has shown a rather considerable increase, from 3.03 tons per hectare (45.1 bushels per acre) in 1934-1938, to 3.43 tons (51.0 bushels per acre) in 1946-1950, and 3.7 tons (55.1 bushels per acre) in 1951-55, while the present average for Europe, 1.56 tons (23.2 bushels per acre) is equivalent to the Danish yield in the year 1865.

Wheat Area, Yield and Production

Year	Area Sown to Wheat '000 acres	Average Yield Per Acre bushels	Production '000 bushels
Average 1934-1938	311	45.1	14,073
Average 1946-1950	173	51.0	8,818
1951	200	50.3	10,031
1952	183	60.4	11,060
1953	175	59.2	10,435
1954	210	50.9	10,729
1955	163	57.3	9,333
Average 1951-1955	188	55.1	10,325
1956 <u>1</u> /	163	59.5	9,700

1/ Preliminary figures.

Exports and Imports Denmark's exports of wheat and wheat flour (the latter converted to wheat on the basis of 72 per cent extraction) have been rather insignificant, both before and after the war. In only a couple of years, e.g. in 1937 and 1953, have exports been significant with the quantities exported in these years amounting to 25,000 tons (919,000 bushels) and 77,000 tons (2,829,000 bushels), respectively.

Denmark's Trade in Wheat and Wheat Flour 1/

Year	Exports	Imports
	- thousand bushels -	
Average 1934-1938	294	10,141
Average 1946-1950	257	1,654
1951	184	2,131
1952	147	3,491
1953	2,829	1,654
1954	110	10,729
1955	257	13,154
Average 1951-1955	698	6,246
1956	441	10,031

1/ Total exports and imports include relatively small quantities of wheat flour in terms of grain equivalent.

Under normal market conditions before the war, imports were of importance. This was especially the case when imports not only included wheat for human consumption but also, to a rather large extent, wheat for feeding purposes. At that time, the average import per year amounted to nearly 400,000 tons (14,697,000 bushels), but dropped to less than 200,000 tons (7,349,000 bushels), after the introduction of special import controls.

After the war, the Danish wheat market returned to normal conditions around 1953, and since then imports have shown a considerable increase. In 1954 and 1955 imports amounted to 292,000 tons (10,729,000 bushels), and 358,000 tons (13,154,000 bushels) respectively, a volume nearly equivalent to that in the middle thirties.

While flour exports nearly always have been insignificant, average imports per year amounted to some 15,000 tons before the war, a quantity which since the war has been reduced to 3,000 to 5,000 tons, except in 1952 when imports amounted to about 12,000 tons.

In 1955-56 imports of wheat and wheat flour amounted to 232,000 tons (8,525,000 bushels), of which 110,000 tons (4,042,000 bushels) were imported from France, 70,000 tons (2,572,000 bushels), from the Argentine, 27,000 tons (992,000 bushels) from U.S.A., 16,000 tons (588,000 bushels) from Uruguay, and 9,000 tons (331,000 bushels) delivered from West Germany.

Continued from Page 2

Spain is the only major producing country of the area where the prospects for the wheat crop are less favorable than last year. This is attributed to the prolonged drought during the fall and early winter. Rains during January and February, however, have greatly improved prospects for winter wheat and a fair crop may still be harvested if favorable weather conditions continue. Current official estimates, however, place this year's Spanish wheat crop considerably below normal.

Plantings of spring wheat in France are again expected to be high in spite of urging by the Government that farmers plant larger acreages to barley. France's total wheat acreage for harvest will thus materially exceed last year's and a surplus of wheat is expected if normal weather conditions continue. In anticipation of a large wheat harvest, France may well taper off her imports towards the end of this year to conserve foreign currency and enter the new year with minimum carry-over stocks. Reduced imports may also be expected in some of the other importing countries, though not to as great an extent as in the case of France.

World Wheat Trade in
1956-57 Expected to
Exceed Previous Record

The April 22 issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets" states that world trade in wheat may reach an unprecedented 1,150 million bushels in 1956-57, (July-June crop year), more than 80 million above the previous record of 1,066 million bushels exported in 1951-52. Exports at the level of 1,150 million would represent an increase of 11 per cent over 1955-56 and 8 per cent over exports in 1951-52.

The principal factor bringing about the expected record world wheat trade in 1956-57 was the poor 1956 winter wheat crop in Europe. This has resulted in very large increases in wheat exports to that area. Other important factors in the increased exports this year are the United States special export programs, an apparent general increase in the consumption of wheat in most areas of the world and the return of the Soviet Union as a significant exporter supplying in part markets such as Eastern Europe. Reports indicate that the Soviet Union has export commitments totaling 150 million bushels and is expected to fulfil most of them.

CALENDAR OF WHEAT EVENTS

- April 9 According to a report from the Bureau of the Census, United States Department of Commerce, wheat flour production in the United States in February, 1957 amounted to 19,156,000 sacks, an average of 958,000 sacks per working day.
- 10 Based on conditions at April 1 the United States Department of Agriculture estimated the winter wheat crop for harvest in 1957, at 669 million bushels.
- 17 Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions as at March 31, were estimated at a record 831.3 million bushels compared with 751.5 million on the same date in 1956 and the previous record of 762.4 million in 1943.
- 19 United States Secretary of Agriculture, Ezra Taft Benson announced that the minimum national average support price for 1958-crop wheat in the 36-state commercial area would be \$1.78 per bushel, if acreage quotas were approved in the June 20 referendum.
- 23 Navigation on the Great Lakes was declared officially open.
- 24 Wheat stocks in all positions in the United States at April 1 this year amounted to 1,188 million bushels, the third largest of record for that date but below the level of the two preceding years.
- 29 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the 1955-56 wheat pool would be closed on May 3 and that the Canadian Wheat Board would mail final payment cheques to producers on or about May 22.
- May 3 The Right Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced that the initial price to be paid on wheat for the crop year beginning August 1, 1957 would remain at \$1.40 per bushel, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver.
- 8 According to a Telegraphic Crop Report published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces were summarized as follows: "Field work is general in nearly all parts of the Prairie Provinces. Seeding is making rapid progress particularly in southern districts and is under way in most other areas. Weather conditions have been nearly ideal. Moisture supplies are generally adequate in most areas but rains will shortly be required to ensure even germination in some districts. Pastures are good and fall crops have wintered well."

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