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by Authority of the Hon. H. H. Stevens, M.P.
Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

Dominion Statistician:
Chief, Agricultural Branch:

R. H. Coats, B.A., F.S.S. (Hon.), F.R.S.C.
T. W. Grindley, Ph.D.

STOCKS OF GRAIN IN CANADA

Ottawa, August 13, 1931, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports the following as the total stocks of grain in Canada at the end of the crop year, July 31, 1931, as compared with stocks on the same date in 1929 and 1930:

	July 31, 1929	July 31, 1930	July 31, 1931
	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels
Wheat	104,383,221	111,094,912	133,381,633
Oats	45,165,498	21,582,780	63,369,892
Barley	11,020,857	22,875,432	29,440,428
Rye	4,219,756	9,190,705	14,417,223
Flaxseed	561,487	636,658	833,954

The following table gives in detail the stocks of grain in Canada at July 31, 1931. The quantities in farmers' hands are compiled from the reports of crop correspondents.

Stocks of Grain in Canada at the End of the Crop Year July 31, 1931.

	WHEAT Bushels	OATS Bushels	BARLEY Bushels	RYE Bushels	FLAXSEED Bushels
Public & Private Terminal Elevators Ft. William & Pt. Arthur	45,701,835	2,137,994	6,543,377	9,002,712	482,742
Mills & Mill Elevators (Western Division)	5,342,594	1,215,473	963,064	82,776	36,032
Interior Terminal Elevators (Western Division)	1,424,986	74,553	14,746	4,124	104
Vancouver Terminal & Private Elevators	9,576,450	114,491	24,448	18,792	-
Prince Rupert Private Elevator	6,861	-	-	-	-
Country & Private Terminal Elevs. (Western Division)	28,806,758	3,457,504	1,544,512	1,189,081	199,098
Eastern Elevators	14,344,612	1,786,218	1,070,315	1,849,404	16,620
In Transit Railways	4,888,570	750,768	281,023	151,418	63,558
In Flour Mills					
Eastern Division (Estimated)	1,441,000	699,000	64,000	-	-
Afloat for unloading at Canadian ports	2,388,567	530,391	1,316,543	715,316	-
On Farms	19,459,400	52,603,500	17,618,400	1,403,600	35,800
TOTALS	133,381,633	63,369,892	29,440,428	14,417,223	833,954

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Official Carryover of Wheat.

The total stocks of Canadian wheat in Canada at July 31, 1931 are placed at 133,381,633 bushels as compared with 111,094,912 bushels on July 31, 1930 and 104,383,221 bushels on July 31, 1929. Canadian wheat in elevators in the United States at July 31, 1931 amounted to 5,538,334 bushels - a much lower figure than the comparable holdings on July 31, 1930, 16,065,242 bushels. In addition, there were 1,259,978 bushels of Canadian wheat afloat for United States ports. The total amount of Canadian wheat in Canada and the United States at July 31, 1931 is thus 140,179,945 bushels.

Distribution of the 1930 Wheat Crop.

Since the compilations of the decennial census will make available later in the year certain definite data on wheat distribution, any necessary revision of the 1930 crop estimates will be made next January. However, a preliminary analysis would be timely at this date.

The carryover of wheat in Canada at July 31, 1930 was estimated at 111,094,812 bushels - to which must be added the estimated gross crop of 1930, 397,872,000 bushels. The sum of these items is 508,966,812 bushels but imports of 228,000 bushels bring the total for distribution to 509,194,812 bushels.

The disposition of wheat during the same period was as follows:

	<u>Bushels</u>
Loss in cleaning	6,200,000
Unmerchantable	4,302,000
Exports	258,637,785
Seed	36,000,000
Human consumption	42,500,000
Feed for live stock and poultry	40,690,000
Carryover	<u>133,381,633</u>
	<u>521,711,418</u>

The items for seed and human consumption are subject to later revision.

The accepted deduction for Canadian domestic consumption varies between 110 and 120 million bushels. This deduction includes disposition as seed, human consumption, unmerchantable and loss in cleaning - with a rather vague allowance for live-stock feeding. It has been appreciated that, especially in years of low prices and low grades, considerable quantities of wheat have been utilized on farms. The Bureau has made a detailed survey of wheat-feeding on farms in the past season, the results of which clearly show that this factor in disposition has been greatly under-estimated in the past. Thus the generally accepted figures of domestic consumption must be revised upwards if full account is to be taken of farm disappearance. The total estimated domestic consumption (including loss in cleaning and unmerchantable) for the past season is thus placed at 129,692,000 bushels. With such a domestic disappearance and using available data (in some cases subject to later revision), the January estimate of the 1930 wheat crop in Canada appears about 12½ million bushels too low.

The statistics available on the disposition of the Prairie wheat crop support this view. The 1930 wheat crop of the Prairie Provinces was estimated in January at 374,500,000 bushels. To this must be added the carryover on farms at July 31, 1930 of 4,969,000 bushels, making a total of 379,469,000 bushels for disposition. The unrevised total marketings in the period from August 1, 1930 to July 31, 1931 amounted to 307,146,626 bushels. In addition allowances must be made for 3,820,000 bushels of unmerchantable grain, 1,794,000 bushels (approximately) as custom millings, 34,767,000 bushels as seed, 30,705,000 bushels as feed, and 17,804,000 bushels as carryover on farms. The total of these items being 396,036,626 bushels indicates an under-estimate of about 16½ million bushels. From data now available, this figure seems to be almost equally divided between Saskatchewan and Alberta, with the Manitoba estimate only fractionally high. It may be noted, however, that the figure for deliveries is usually revised downward, thus bringing the estimate closer to actual disposition. In the crop year 1930-31, deliveries and platform loadings amounted to 82 per cent of the estimated western crop, while in the 1929-30 season the comparable percentage was 84.

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