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STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN ON MARCH 31, 1944

Ottawa, April 14, 1944 (3 p.m.) - Stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions on March 31, 1944 totalled 545,000,000 bushels or some 217,000,000 bushels less than the total at the end of March 1943. The amount held in bond in the United States was 14,000,000 bushels compared with just over 8,000,000 bushels on March 31, 1943. It is noteworthy also that almost 75 per cent of this year's total is held on farms or is in store in country elevators in the three Prairie Provinces. The terminal elevators at Fort William and Port Arthur, with a total storage capacity of more than 145,000,000 bushels, show slightly more than 49,000,000 bushels in store at March 31, or about 9 per cent of the total stocks of wheat at that date. These figures are revealed in the annual March-end survey made by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Wheat held on Canadian farms at the end of March this year totalled 210,000,000 bushels, a reduction of approximately 118,000,000 bushels or 36 per cent from the revised figure of 328,000,000 bushels reported for March 31, 1943. This is the second largest farm stock of wheat on record at the end of March. It is nearly three and one-half times the average of the ten-year period 1930-1939, which was slightly less than 61,000,000 bushels, and is more than five times the 39,000,000 bushels on farms at the end of March 1938.

Of this year's total of 210,000,000 bushels on farms throughout Canada, the three Prairie Provinces account for 207,000,000 bushels, made up of 22,000,000 bushels in Manitoba, 117,000,000 in Saskatchewan, and approximately 68,000,000 bushels in Alberta. Out of these totals, seed for the 1944 wheat crop will be taken, while wheat fed to live stock and poultry between April 1 and July 31 this year, will reduce still further the quantities available for marketing as grain in each of the provinces.

Tentative estimates of the amount of wheat retained on farms for the feeding of live stock and poultry, shown by provinces in another section of this report, indicate a total of 75,000,000 bushels for the crop year 1943-44, compared with the revised figure of 81,000,000 bushels for the crop year 1942-43. The reduction this year is all accounted for in Ontario, where the crop was short in 1943. A moderate increase is indicated for the Prairie Provinces. These figures are exclusive of western wheat moved under the Federal Freight Assistance Policy to the five eastern provinces and British Columbia to be fed to live stock.

Coarse Grain and Flaxseed

Total stocks of Canadian oats on March 31, 1944, all of which were located in Canada, amounted to 256,000,000 bushels. Of this total 217,000,000 bushels were still in farmers' hands. A year earlier the total on farms and in commercial storage was 137,000,000 bushels greater. Barley stocks in all positions, including a minor quantity in the United States, amounted to almost 116,000,000 bushels of which farmers were holding 85,000,000 bushels. On March 31, 1943 the total stocks of barley stood at 167,000,000 bushels, so that there has been a reduction of 51,000,000 bushels during the year.

Stocks of rye, totalling some 13,000,000 bushels at the end of March this year, were mostly in commercial storage, less than 3,000,000 bushels remaining on farms. The total is 8,000,000 bushels smaller than it was on March 31, 1943. Flaxseed stocks, aggregating almost 11,000,000 bushels, compare with 9,000,000 bushels at the end of March last year. This year's total includes about 3,000,000 bushels on farms, which is more than sufficient to seed the acreage objective of 2,800,000 acres set for 1944.

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FINAL ESTIMATE OF 1942 WHEAT CROP

The 1942 wheat crop in Canada is now finally estimated at 556,684,000 bushels, of which 529,000,000 bushels were produced in the three Prairie Provinces. This downward revision topples the 1942 crop from its previous high position as the largest crop of wheat ever produced in Canada, to that of second largest. The crop of 566,726,000 bushels produced in 1928 is still Canada's number one wheat crop.

Most of the writing down was done in Saskatchewan where the crop failed to measure up to indications at harvest time in 1942. It will be recalled that large tracts of farm land carried stoked and swathed wheat over the winter of 1942-43 and that for lack of storage space much threshed grain was piled up on the ground or in roughly conceived field storage. Losses attributable to mice, rabbits and other causes made inroads on this wheat and accounted for an undetermined proportion of the western wheat crop.

The revised and final production figures by provinces for the prairie region in 1942 are shown below. No change has been made in the production estimates for other provinces. These appeared in the crop report dated January 21, 1944.

	<u>Bushels</u>
Manitoba	53,000,000
Saskatchewan	305,000,000
Alberta	171,000,000
 T o t a l	 <u>529,000,000</u>

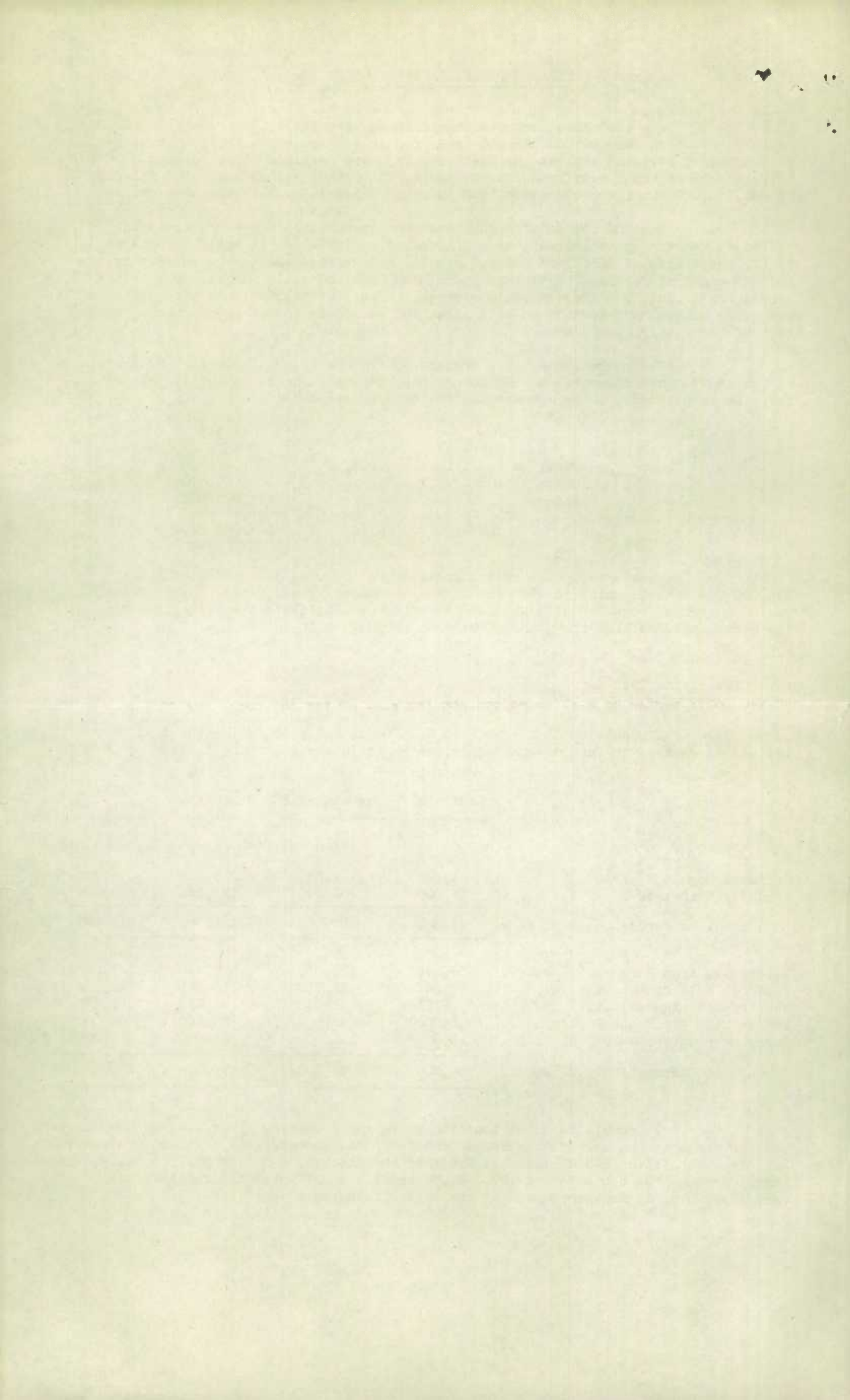
Wheat production in the Prairie Provinces in 1928 totalled almost 545,000,000 bushels while in 1940 the harvest amounted to about 514,000,000 bushels. These two crops, together with the 1942 wheat crop, constitute the "Big Three" for the west, and were also the years of highest production in Canada.

Farm Disposition 1942-43

Disposition of the western Canadian wheat crop during the crop year 1942-43 as related to farm movement only, is shown in the following table:

	<u>Manitoba</u>	<u>Saskatchewan</u>	<u>Alberta</u>	<u>Prairie Provinces</u>
	(thousand bushels)			
On Farms August 1, 1942	1,200	2,500	5,500	9,200
Production in 1942	53,000	305,000	171,000	529,000
 Total on Farms	 54,200	 307,500	 176,500	 538,200
 Deliveries from Farms	 30,272	 158,226	 78,775	 267,273
Seed for 1943 Crop	2,547	11,719	6,388	20,654
Country Millings	381	555	337	1,273
Fed to Live Stock and Poultry	6,000	27,000	29,000	62,000
Carry-over on Farms July 31, 1943.	15,000	110,000	62,000	187,000
 Total Disposition	 54,200	 307,500	 176,500	 538,200

It should be noted that the above table carries a revision of the carry-over on farms at the end of July 1943. The total has been revised downward by 7,000,000 bushels, one million bushels each in Manitoba and Alberta, and five million bushels in Saskatchewan. The new total of 187,000,000 bushels constitutes the final figure on farm carry-over in western Canada at the close of the crop year 1942-43.



Total Stocks of Grain in Canada at March 31, 1944

Total stocks of wheat in Canada at March 31, 1944, amounted to 531,398,157 bushels as compared with 754,153,158 bushels at the same date in 1943. Stocks in various positions at March 31, 1944, with corresponding figures for 1943 within brackets, are as follows: In elevators and flour mills and afloat 304,994,183 bushels (420,068,899 bushels); in transit by rail 16,244,974 bushels (6,359,259 bushels); on farms 210,159,000 bushels (327,725,000 bushels).

The total quantity of oats in Canada at March 31, 1944, is estimated at 255,913,232 bushels, as compared with 392,954,903 bushels at the end of March 1943, this year's total comprising 32,824,434 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 6,052,798 bushels in transit by rail and 217,036,000 bushels on farms.

Barley stocks in Canada amounted to 115,709,179 bushels, as compared with 166,872,006 bushels at the same date last year, the figures for 1944 including 28,081,187 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 2,624,992 bushels in transit by rail and 85,003,000 bushels on farms.

Stocks of rye in Canada at March 31, 1944, are estimated at 10,550,664 bushels, as against 20,554,809 bushels in 1943, this year's total including 7,556,431 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 307,233 bushels in transit by rail and 2,687,000 bushels on farms.

Flaxseed stocks in Canada amounted to 10,555,472 bushels, as compared with 8,676,172 bushels at the end of March 1943, the total in 1944 being made up of 7,085,868 bushels in elevators, 321,584 bushels in transit by rail and 3,148,000 bushels on farms.

Stocks on Farms at March 31, 1944

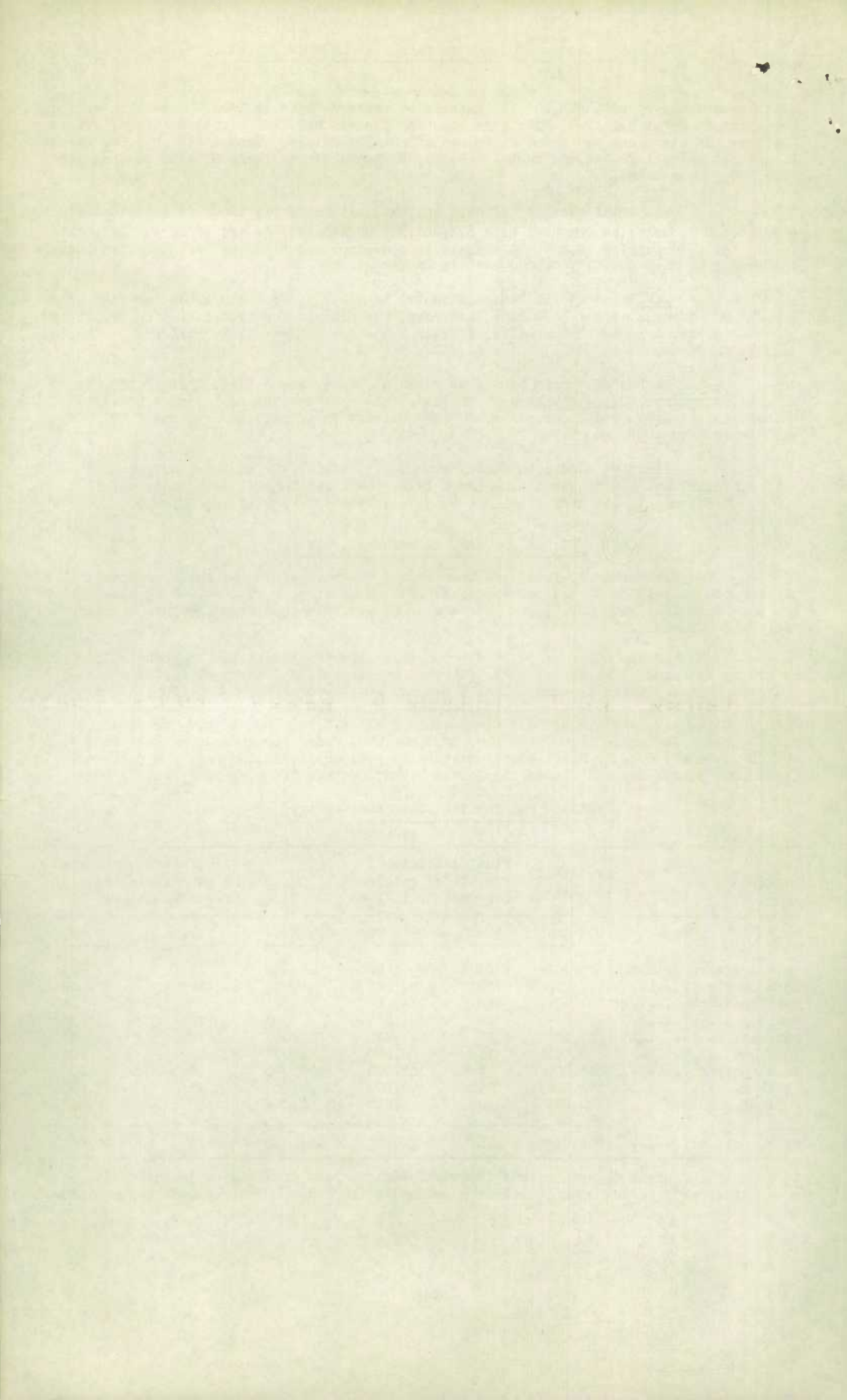
At March 31, 1944, the quantity of wheat remaining on farms amounted to 210,159,000 bushels or 72 p.c. of the total 1943 wheat crop of 293,660,000 bushels. At the same date last year 327,725,000 bushels or 59 p.c. remained from the 1942 crop of 556,684,000 bushels.

Of the other crops, the proportions and the quantities in bushels remaining on farms at March 31, 1944, with the corresponding figures at the same date last year within brackets, were as follows: Oats 45 p.c. or 217,036,000 (56 p.c. or 362,140,000); barley 39 p.c. or 85,003,000 (52 p.c. or 135,032,000); rye 38 p.c. or 2,687,000 (60 p.c. or 14,989,000); flaxseed 18 p.c. or 3,148,000 (22 p.c. or 3,235,000); buckwheat 21 p.c. or 1,311,000 (21 p.c. or 1,090,000); corn for grain (shelled) 24 p.c. or 1,872,000 (24 p.c. or 3,481,000); potatoes 27 p.c. or 11,789,000 cwt. (28 p.c. or 11,998,000 cwt.); hay and clover 23 p.c. or 3,938,000 tons (24 p.c. or 3,778,000 tons).

Wheat Fed to Live Stock and Poultry

Province	Production in 1942		Final Estimate of Quantities retained for Feed in 1942-43		Production in 1943		Preliminary Estimate of Quantities retained for Feed in 1943-44	
	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.	
Prince Edward Island	162	55	89		148	65	96	
Nova Scotia	53	52	28		32	60	19	
New Brunswick	84	68	57		61	70	43	
Quebec	554	68	377		503	78	392	
Ontario	24,252	70	16,976		13,857	70	9,700	
Manitoba	53,000	11	6,000		41,000	16	6,500	
Saskatchewan	305,000	9	27,000		156,000	20	31,000	
Alberta	171,000	17	29,000		80,000	33	26,000	
British Columbia ...	2,579	63	1,625		2,059	65	1,338	
CANADA	556,684	15	81,152		293,660	26	75,038	

Note: Above figures do not include wheat shipped from one province to another and used for feed, as for example, wheat moved under the Federal Freight Assistance Policy.



STOCKS OF GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1944

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in cooperation with the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada has collected and compiled data showing complete stocks of Canadian grain as of March 31, 1944. The quantities on farms are estimated from the reports of Crop Correspondents. The quantities in eastern flour mills are estimated on the basis of holdings at the end of February.

	WHEAT	OATS	BARLEY	RYE	FLAXSEED
	bushels				
<u>In Canada</u>					
On Farms	210,159,000	217,036,000	85,003,000	2,687,000	3,148,000
Country & Private Terminal Elevators ...	195,156,277	20,531,427	11,511,261	1,026,465	667,630
Western Mills & Mill Elevators	5,490,557	688,735	269,547	37,547	97,388
Interior Terminal Elevators	10,837,148	142,878	479,225	63	1,664,993
Vancouver-New Westminster Elevators	11,515,649	185,269	38,537	643	-
Victoria & Prince Rupert Elevators	1,460,654	-	-	-	-
Churchill Elevator	1,877,812	-	-	-	-
Fort William-Port Arthur Elevators	49,355,054	8,120,153	9,581,386	6,359,949	4,518,265
In Transit - Lakes	-	-	-	-	-
In Transit - Rail	16,244,974	6,052,798	2,624,992	307,233	321,584
Eastern Elevators	26,542,432	2,499,772	5,834,231	92,964	137,612
Eastern Mills	2,758,600	656,200	367,000	38,800	-
Total in Canada, March 31, 1944	531,398,157	255,913,232	115,709,179	10,550,664	10,555,472
Total Canadian Grain in United States					
March 31, 1944	14,001,109	-	13,800	2,606,000	201,000
Total Canadian Grain in Canada and					
United States, March 31, 1944	545,399,266	255,913,232	115,722,979	13,156,664	10,756,472
<u>Comparative Stocks, March 31, 1943 ^{1/}</u>					
In Canada	754,153,158	392,954,903	166,872,006	20,554,809	8,676,172
In United States	9,235,814	510,544	183,650	953,718	295,600
Total in Canada & United States	762,388,972	393,465,447	167,055,656	21,508,527	8,971,772

^{1/} Revised.

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