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STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN, MARCH 31, 1949

Ottawa, April 21, 1949 (3 p.m.) - The Dominion Bureau of Statistics today issues its report on stocks of Canadian grain in all positions at March 31, 1949. The data are obtained from the Bureau's annual March-end survey of grain held on farms, from mill returns and from data supplied by the Board of Grain Commissioners relative to stocks of grain in commercial positions. The statistics on total stocks as presented below differ from the weekly visible supply figures by the inclusion of farm stocks and certain mill stocks. Farm stocks include seed held for the 1949 crop and grain required for live stock and poultry feed until new-crop grain becomes available.

Wheat - Total stocks of Canadian wheat in all North American positions at March 31, 1949 were 262.4 million bushels, an increase of 55.4 million or nearly 27 per cent over the level at March 31, 1948. All Canadian wheat stocks at March 31 of this year were held in Canadian positions. Last year on the same date 2.4 million bushels out of the total stocks of 207.0 million were held in the United States.

At March 31 over 70 per cent of Canada's total wheat stocks were held on farms and in country, interior private and mill elevators—129.3 million bushels or some 49 per cent of total stocks being accounted for by farm-held wheat, while 57.5 million or about 22 per cent were located in the latter positions. A year ago there were an estimated 116.0 million bushels on farms and 42.7 million in country, interior private and mill elevators. Lakehead stocks at 39.6 million bushels on March 31 this year were sharply above last year's level of 16.9 million bushels. Stocks in transit by rail and in store in Eastern Elevators were also well above the March 1948 level but west coast terminal stocks at 5 million bushels were two million below the 1948 figure.

Farm stocks of wheat in the Prairie Provinces accounted for 122 million bushels of the total Canadian farm stocks of 129.3 million bushels. The quantity of wheat on farms in Manitoba is estimated at 17 million bushels, in Saskatchewan at 68 million and in Alberta at 37 million bushels. From these stocks will be taken seed for the 1949 crops and such amounts as may be required for live stock and poultry feed during the remaining third of the crop year, leaving the balance to be divided between deliveries and July 31 carry-over stocks of sufficient magnitude to meet farm requirements until new grain is available.

The estimated quantities of wheat used for feed in the provinces in which it was produced during 1948-49 are somewhat higher than the comparable estimates for the previous crop year. Increased utilization of locally grown

wheat for feed in the five eastern provinces, and particularly in Ontario is responsible for the over-all increase, as declines in the use of locally grown wheat for feed are indicated in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia. It is estimated (see table on page 3) that 36.2 million bushels of wheat will have been fed by the end of the current crop year as compared with 33.6 million for the last crop year. It is emphasized that these estimates of wheat used for feed exclude western feed wheat which has moved under the freight assistance policy to the eastern provinces and to British Columbia. Freight assisted shipments on which claims have been filed for the seven-month period ending February 1949, amounted to 6.5 million bushels or approximately 52 per cent less than the subsidized movement of wheat during the same period of the 1947-48 crop year.

Coarse Grain and Flaxseed - The total stocks of Canadian oats on March 31 were 168.5 million bushels of which 156.7 million were in farmers' hands. Of the total Canadian stocks some 0.7 million bushels were held in United States positions. On March 31, 1948, stocks of Canadian oats amounted to 135.5 million bushels with 112.2 million of this being held on farms. Barley stocks in all positions this year totalled 79.2 million bushels. Of this quantity 63.1 million bushels were on farms. Last year at March 31 barley stocks were 72.9 million bushels with 46.8 million held on farms.

Stocks of rye at March 31 were estimated at 16.6 million bushels, of which 7.7 million bushels were still on farms. Total stocks of rye last year were only 2.2 million with 1.7 million held on farms. March 31 stocks of flaxseed at 14.3 million bushels are also sharply above last year's stock level of 8.5 million bushels. Farm stocks of flaxseed at March 31 this year were 3.4 million bushels as compared with 2.6 million last year—the greater part of the increased stocks of flaxseed being held in off-farm positions.

Total Stocks of Grain in Canada at March 31, 1949

Total stocks of wheat in Canada at March 31, 1949, amounted to 262,370,323 bushels as compared with 204,619,886 bushels at the same date in 1948. Stocks in various positions at March 31, 1949 with corresponding figures for 1948 within brackets, are as follows: In elevators and flour mills 118,894,086 bushels (82,531,588 bushels); in transit by rail 14,216,237 bushels (6,110,298 bushels); on farms 129,260,000 bushels (115,978,000 bushels).

The total quantity of oats in Canada at March 31, 1949 is estimated at 167,838,663 bushels, as compared with 135,504,034 bushels at the end of March 1948, this year's total comprising 9,407,041 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 1,775,622 bushels in transit by rail and 156,656,000 bushels on farms.

Barley stocks in Canada amounted to 78,830,864 bushels as compared with 73,102,102 bushels at the same date last year, the figures for 1949 including 14,112,143 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 1,657,721 bushels in transit by rail and 63,061,000 bushels on farms.

Stocks of rye in Canada at March 31, 1949, are estimated at 15,529,559 bushels, as against 2,217,027 bushels in 1948, this year's total including 7,304,985 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 492,574 bushels in transit by rail and 7,732,000 bushels on farms.

Flaxseed stocks in Canada amounted to 14,333,886 bushels, as compared with 8,536,164 bushels at the end of March 1948, the total in 1949 being made up of 10,497,453 bushels in elevators, 402,433 bushels in transit by rail and 3,434,000 bushels on farms.

Stocks on Farms at March 31, 1949

At March 31, 1949, the quantity of wheat remaining on farms amounted to 129,260,000 bushels or 33 per cent of the total 1948 wheat crop of 393,345,000 bushels. At the same date last year 115,978,000 bushels or 34 per cent remained from the 1947 crop of 341,758,000 bushels.

Of the other crops, the proportions and the quantities in bushels remaining on farms at March 31, 1949, with corresponding figures at the same date last year within brackets, were as follows: Oats 44 per cent or 156,656,000 (40 per cent or 112,161,000); barley 41 per cent or 63,061,000 (33 per cent or 46,789,000); rye 31 per cent or 7,732,000 (13 per cent or 1,715,000); flaxseed 20 per cent or 3,434,000 (21 per cent or 2,555,000); buckwheat 27 per cent or 1,093,000 (18 per cent or 930,500); corn for grain 36 per cent or 4,484,000 (15 per cent or 977,000); potatoes 35 per cent or 19,072,000 hundredweight (24 per cent or 10,950,000 hundredweight); hay and clover 26 per cent or 4,115,000 tons (19 per cent or 3,079,000 tons).

Estimate of Wheat Fed ^{1/} to Live Stock and Poultry

Province	Production 1947	Fed Crop Year 1947-48		Production 1948	Fed and to be Fed Crop Year 1948-49 ^{2/}	
		p.c. of 1947 crop	Quantity		p.c. of 1948 crop	Quantity
	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.	000 bu.	p.c.	000 bu.
Prince Edward Is.	97	86	83	129	78	101
Nova Scotia	25	82	21	32	82	26
New Brunswick ...	46	80	37	73	74	54
Quebec	325	89	289	478	82	392
Ontario	18,299	63	11,528	27,174	60	16,304
Manitoba	42,000	9	3,700	57,000	61 6	3,500
Saskatchewan	173,000	47 5	8,200	191,000	42 7	8,000
Alberta	105,000	76 8	8,000	115,000	56 6	6,400
British Columbia.	2,966	60	1,780	2,459	59	1,451
C A N A D A	341,758	10	33,638	393,345	9	36,228

^{1/} These 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.

^{2/} Preliminary estimate, subject to revision.

STOCKS OF CANADIAN GRAIN AT MARCH 31, 1949

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, 1949. The quantities on farms are estimated from the reports of crop correspondents. The quantities in flour mills are estimated on the basis of holdings at the end of March.

	Wheat	Oats	Barley	Rye	Flaxseed
<u>In Canada</u>					
	- bushels -				
On Farms	129,260,000	156,656,000	63,061,000	7,732,000	3,434,000
Country Elevators	52,886,087	4,791,660	4,774,593	2,808,449	1,479,663
Interior Private and Mill Elevators ..	4,577,344	807,001	2,613,155	28,389	188,813
Interior Terminal Elevators	161,163	66,061	948,242	-	30,522
Vancouver-New Westminster Elevators ..	5,017,579	240,789	135,011	-	203
Victoria and Prince Rupert Elevators .	-	-	-	-	-
Churchill Elevator	100,431	-	-	-	-
Fort William-Port Arthur Elevators ...	39,569,524	1,373,213	4,493,258	4,190,803	7,499,497
In Transit - Rail	14,216,237	1,775,622	1,657,721	492,574	402,433
Eastern Elevators and Storage Afloat .	14,241,958	993,317	802,884	274,144	1,298,755
Eastern Mills	2,100,000	850,000	210,000	-	-
Western Mills	240,000	285,000	135,000	3,200	-
Total in Canada, March 31, 1949	262,370,323	167,838,663	78,830,864	15,529,559	14,333,886
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Total Canadian Grain in United States,					
March 31, 1949	-	686,066	416,948	1,064,389	-
Total Canadian Grain in Canada and					
United States, March 31, 1949	262,370,323	168,524,729	79,247,812	16,593,948	14,333,886
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<u>Comparative Stocks, March 31, 1948 ^{1/}</u>					
In Canada	204,619,886	135,504,034	73,102,102	2,217,027	8,536,164
In United States	2,413,840	6,445	-	7,182	-
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Total in Canada and United States	207,033,726	135,510,479	73,102,102	2,224,209	8,536,164

^{1/}Revised.