WEEKLY SUMMARY OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

February 13, 1939

International Trade

World shipments for the week ending February 11, 1939 amounted to 13,046,000 bushels compared with 13,741,000 bushels in the previous week and 10,904,000 bushels in the corresponding week last year.

Cumulative world shipments from August 1, 1938 to February 11, 1939 were 308,603,000 bushels compared with 267,528,000 bushels for the same period in 1937-38.

Primary Movement

Receipts at country elevators for the week ending February 10, 1939 were 656,698 bushels as compared with the revised figures of 1,062,065 bushels for the previous week and 628,280 bushels for the corresponding week a year ago.

Revised cumulative receipts at country elevators from August 1, 1938 to February 10, 1939 were 259,651,965 bushels compared with 105,062,497 bushels in the same period in 1937-38.

Visible Supply

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on February 10, 1939 was 154,173,230 bushels compared with 156,621,798 bushels in the previous week and 50,682,546 bushels a year ago.

Export Clearances

Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat for the week ending February 10, 1939 were 1,298,078 bushels, compared with 2,690,034 bushels for the previous week and 1,760,624 bushels for the corresponding week a year ago.

Imports of Canadian wheat into the United States for consumption and milling in bond for the week ending February 10, 1939 were 212,000 bushels as compared with 228,000 bushels for the previous week and nil for the corresponding week in 1938.

Cumulative overseas clearances plus United States imports of wheat from August 1, 1938 to February 10, 1939 were 85,113,139 bushels, compared with 52,273,558 bushels for the same period in 1937-38.

Prices

The Winnipeg cash closing price of No. 1 Northern on Tuesday, February 14, 1939 was 60 cents, showing an increase of 1/2 of a cent over the previous Tuesday's close of 59 1/2 cents.

WORLD EVENTS

1. Market Conditions

Winnipeg prices registered only fractional gains over the week, with the May future at 62 1/2 cents on February 14. Until the latter date, new export business appeared to be quite slow. Liverpool sentiment during the past week has been to hold off new purchases during the present period of heavy stocks afloat to Europe and arrivals. Weekly world shipments have exceeded 13 million bushels for a second consecutive week. On the other hand some market attention has been given to the better than anticipated Australian sales to Vladivistock and Shanghai, increasing the non-European purchases of wheat and easing the pressure of supplies upon the European markets. Shanghai has continued buying, although not so heavily as in the previous week. Spain was reported to have bought two wheat cargoes on Tuesday. The United Kingdom government was reported to be buying Argentine and Roumanian wheat for replacement of security stocks.

A cold wave over the United States southwest on February 8-10 was reported to have caused undetermined damage to the winter wheat crop wherever there was lack of snow cover.

Two rumoured large sales of United States wheat have circulated within the past week. A direct purchase by Belgium of 2 million bushels of No. 1 U.S. Hard Winter wheat under subsidy has not been confirmed. On February 13 it was reported that some United States mid-western co-operatives were negotiating with German officials a barter transaction involving a United States trade of $28,000,000 worth of lard and 5 million bushels of wheat to be exchanged for an equivalent amount of German manufactured farm machinery, poultry netting and barbed wire. The deal has not been completed.

2. Bulgarian Winter Wheat Acreage

The area sown to winter wheat in Bulgaria is officially estimated at 3,025,000 acres, an increase of 5.3 per cent over the sown area of 2,874,000 acres sown a year earlier.