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WEEKLY SUMMARY OF THE WHEAT SITUATION

APRIL 27, 1939

International Trade

World shipments for the week ending April 22, 1939 amounted to 11,333,000 bushels compared with 10,963,000 bushels in the previous week and 9,808,000 bushels in the corresponding week last year.

Cumulative world shipments from August 1, 1938 to April 22, 1939 were 418,804,000 bushels compared with 375,616,000 bushels for the same period in 1937-38.

Primary Movement

Receipts at country elevators for the week ending April 21, 1939 were 1,290,295 bushels as compared with the revised figures of 1,442,613 bushels for the previous week and 1,108,043 bushels for the corresponding week a year ago.

Revised cumulative receipts at country elevators from August 1, 1938 to April 21, 1939 were 271,019,101 bushels compared with 114,608,494 bushels in the same period in 1937-38.

Visible Supply

The visible supply of Canadian wheat on April 21, 1939 was 135,893,649 bushels compared with 137,881,813 bushels in the previous week and 43,480,654 bushels a year ago.

Export Clearances

Overseas export clearances of Canadian wheat for the week ending April 21, 1939 were 1,071,120 bushels, compared with 971,389 bushels for the previous week and 347,093 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 April 21, 1939 were 339,000 bushels as compared with 158,000 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 April 21, 1939 were 100,627,076 bushels, compared with 59,695,582 bushels for the same period in 1937-38.

Prices

The Winnipeg cash closing price of No. 1 Northern on Tuesday, April 25, 1939 was 61 3/8 cents, showing an increase of 1 1/8 cents over the previous Tuesday's close of 60 1/4 cents.

## WORLD EVENTS

India.- According to a cablegram from India dated April 20, 1939 the wheat crop of that country is estimated at 344,400,000 bushels as compared with the revised figure of 380,315,000 bushels last year.

Australia.- The Trade Commissioner in Australia reports, under date of March 16, 1939, that the Australian wheat estimate has now been raised to 151,000,000 bushels. The total production for the season of 1937-38 is now placed at 187,255,000 bushels. The deferred cablegram of same date reports, among other items, that the shipments of wheat and flour from December 1 to March 6 totalled 30,178,008 bushels compared with 38,532,070 bushels for the same period a year ago. It also reported that the export market continues dull with no interest from the United Kingdom. The United States' pressure to sell wheat to Eastern Asia is prejudicing the sale of Australian wheat there. Price of wheat to growers at country siding is shown as 44 cents per bushel, and price f.o.b. steamer 48 cents per bushel. The heavy demand from North China will keep Australian millers busy until the end of April, when 100,000 tons of flour will have been shipped.

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From Broomhall's daily reports, the following information has been summarized:

Recently the Belgium Government reduced the grinding of domestic grown wheat from 40 per cent previously to 30 per cent now and to 25 per cent on April 24, this should stimulate the demand for American and Argentine sorts.

Canada - Four full cargoes were booked for loading at Montreal besides a number of parcels. Canada is now getting the bulk of the business but English merchants are still buying from hand to mouth and booking wheat for shipment only on named steamers, clearances by May 5th, 11th or 19th. There is very little forward booking as used to be the method some years back, millers buying only to fill flour sales and can depend upon receiving wheat from Canada at specified times, with the uncertainty of political developments preventing buying ahead. When the Lakes are open for navigation 8,000,000 bushels of Manitobas and 4,000,000 bushels of Durum will be released.

A little soft French wheat was sold in London at 57 cents for May shipment.

The Commercial Attache for the United States Department of Commerce at Berlin, Germany, after a survey of the railroad situation there reported to Washington that rolling stock is lacking and therefore there may be some delay in fulfilling the barter arrangement within the six months' period for exchanging railroad supplies for 100,000 tons of Plate wheat.

France - Crops are progressing normally following springlike weather. The Government Wheat Board sold 1,480,000 bushels of wheat for export recently.

Russia - Weather in Ukraine is hot while in south eastern sections of the country blizzards are being experienced. It is officially announced that spring seedings by April 15 amounted to 44,213,000 acres compared to 35,321,000 acres at this time last year.

United Kingdom - Weather is springlike and favourable for crops. The Government plan to have bakers in the United Kingdom carry larger reserves of flour is expected to increase the demand for wheat and possibly imported flour.

Shanghai purchased a cargo of American Pacific hard winter wheat over the week-end of April 22 to 24. The continued demand by China helps to support grain prices generally. A cargo of New South Wales wheat was taken by China on April 23 at a price which figures much higher than American Pacific hard winter, due to the fact, no doubt, that the F.S.C.C. is not able to offer just now. It is believed that China will continue buying wheat and flour for some time longer and that much of the Australian surplus of 54,000,000 bushels will be absorbed as a consequence.

United States- Crop conditions are favourable and excellent east of the Mississippi. South-west Kansas has had favourable rainfall, but there are many sections in the west, where subsoil moisture is deficient and the crop will be susceptible to any hot spell that might develop this summer. A sudden turn to hot weather in the winter wheat belt over the week-end brought forth threats of dust storms with high winds reported at some districts of central Kansas where soil is somewhat dry. In the main, however, conditions are favourable for an early harvest with the wheat in the southern part of the belt only five weeks away from heading.

Many farmers are relinquishing their wheat held by the Government on loans and will be ready to take in the new crop when harvesting commences in June. Early indications point to a crop equal to the ten-year average of slightly over 500,000,000 bushels, leaving the Northwest to produce 200,000,000 bushels of spring wheat, to provide an amount sufficient to feed the country without drawing on the surplus.



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