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TOTAL STOCKS, QUANTITIES IN FARMERS' HANDS AND UNMERCHANTABLE
QUANTITY OF WHEAT FED, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE 1931 WHEAT CROP.

Ottawa, April 12, 1932, 4 p.m. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issued to-day a bulletin giving in summary form (1) the total quantities of wheat, oats, barley, rye, and flaxseed in Canada at the end of March, 1932; (2) the stocks of agricultural products of 1931 remaining in farmers' hands at March 31, 1932; (3) the proportion of the crops of 1931 estimated by crop correspondents to be of unmerchantable quality; (4) the quantity of the 1931 wheat crop fed or to be fed to live stock and poultry in the crop season as estimated by crop correspondents; (5) the distribution of the wheat crop of 1931; and (6) general conditions at the end of March.

Total Stocks of Grain in Canada

The volume of stocks of grain in all positions in Canada on March 31, 1932, showed substantial reductions compared with the volume of stocks in corresponding positions on March 31, 1931. Extensive reduction in stocks as compared with a year ago are shown in the case of wheat, oats, barley, flax and rye, the total reduction in all grains amounting to 179 million bushels.

Returns received from elevators, flour mills, railway companies, and crop correspondents show that on March 31, 1932, stocks of wheat in Canada amounted to 243,300,165 bushels, compared with 280,095,391 bushels on the same date in 1931, or a reduction of 36,795,226 bushels. Total stocks in various positions on March 31, 1932, are shown as follows, with corresponding figures for 1931 in brackets. In elevators, afloat and in flour mills, 176,271,266 bushels (178,892,679 bushels); in transit, 8,377,899 bushels (7,280,712 bushels); in farmers' hands, 58,651,000 bushels (93,922,000 bushels). Stocks of wheat in farmers' hands on March 31, 1932 showed a reduction of 35 million bushels compared with March 31, 1931.

The total quantity of oats in Canada on March 31, 1932, is estimated at 133,908,166 bushels, as compared with 210,220,102 bushels at the same date in 1931, the total for 1932 comprising 15,529,348 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 116,421,000 bushels in farmers' hands and 1,957,818 bushels in transit by rail.

The total quantity of barley in Canada on March 31, 1932, is estimated at 28,702,836 bushels, as compared with 84,595,357 bushels in 1931. This year's total includes 9,658,820 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 18,656,000 bushels in farmers' hands and 388,016 bushels in transit by rail.

Of flaxseed, the total quantity in store on March 31, 1932 was 1,754,129 bushels, as compared with 2,797,116 bushels in 1931. The total for 1932 comprises 1,382,424 bushels in elevators, 324,500 bushels in farmers' hands and 47,205 bushels in transit by rail.

The quantity of rye in Canada on March 31, 1932 is estimated at 12,109,633 bushels, as against 20,763,266 bushels in 1931, the total for this year including 10,915,336 bushels in elevators and flour mills, 961,500 bushels in farmers' hands and 232,797 bushels in transit by rail.

A detailed statement of stocks is given on the last page of this report.

Stocks in Farmers' Hands

According to the reports of crop correspondents, 19 per cent of the 1931 wheat crop, or 58,651,000 bushels out of a total crop of 304,144,000 bushels remained in farmers' hands at March 31, 1932. This includes seed for the 1932 crop. At March 31, 1931, 22 per cent or 93,922,000 bushels remained on farms, while in 1930 at the same date, 15 per cent or 46,304,000 bushels remained.

Of the other field crops, the proportions and quantities estimated as remaining in farmers' hands on March 31, 1932, were, in bushels, as follows; with the corresponding figures for last year in brackets: Oats 35 p.c. or 116,421,000 (45 p.c. or 192,104,000); barley 28 p.c. or 18,656,000 (42 p.c. or 57,042,000); rye 18 p.c. or 961,500 (33 p.c. or 7,309,300); flaxseed 13 p.c. or 324,500 (14 p.c. or 612,000); buckwheat 28 p.c. or 1,871,000 (23 p.c. or 2,551,000); corn for husking 41 p.c. or 2,223,000 (19 p.c. or 1,111,000); potatoes 42 p.c. or 21,935,000 cwt. (38 p.c. or 18,280,000 cwt.); turnips, etc. 14 p.c. or 4,201,000 cwt. (10 p.c. or 4,306,000 cwt.); hay and clover 29 p.c. or 4,091,000 tons (25 p.c. or 4,095,000 tons).

Proportions of the 1931 Crops Unmerchantable

Of the total estimated wheat crop of 1931, viz. 304,144,000 bushels, 0.9 p.c. or 2,826,100 bushels is reported by crop correspondents as having proved of unmerchantable quality, as compared with 1.1 p.c. or 4,510,000 bushels last year. Of the remaining crops, the quantities in bushels and the proportions not merchantable are as follows, with last year's figures in brackets: Oats 2.5 p.c. or 8,044,000 (1.6 p.c. or 6,898,000); barley 1.0 p.c. or 699,200 (1.5 p.c. or 1,997,000); rye 0.9 p.c. or 49,500 (0.4 p.c. or 87,000); flaxseed 2.5 p.c. or 65,300 (1.3 p.c. or 58,000); buckwheat 5.9 p.c. or 392,900 (3.6 p.c. or 393,000); corn for husking 1.1 p.c. or 62,000 (2.0 p.c. or 118,000); potatoes 10.8 p.c. or 5,634,000 cwt. (6.7 p.c. or 3,210,000 cwt.); turnips, etc., 7.2 p.c. or 2,112,400 cwt. (7.6 p.c. or 3,131,000 cwt.); hay and clover 3.1 p.c. or 432,100 tons (1.5 p.c. or 242,000 tons). The proportion of potatoes estimated as lost through frost, rot, etc. during the winter is 9 p.c. or 4,709,000 cwt., as compared with 7 p.c. or 3,216,000 cwt. in the winter of 1930-31.

Preliminary Estimate of the Extent of Feeding of Wheat to Live Stock and Poultry, Crop Season 1931-32.

As in 1931, the Bureau conducted a preliminary investigation into the extent of wheat-feeding on farms. The compilation showed a close relation to the survey of the previous year in that the highest percentages of the crop were fed in the Maritime and Eastern Provinces and in British Columbia, while the highest actual amounts were used on farms in the Prairie Provinces. The extended drought area and the bonus on deliveries reduced the percentage fed in the West and the smaller crop resulted in smaller absolute amounts being fed. For the whole of Canada, the percentage of the crop fed to live stock and poultry is estimated at 11.1 compared with 9.7 last year, while the total amount is placed at 33,710,000 bushels compared with 40,690,000 bushels in 1930-31. The final estimate of 1931 was slightly over 5 per cent below the preliminary estimate. A detailed tabulation of wheat-feeding by provinces is attached.

Preliminary Estimate of the Proportion of the 1931 Wheat Crop Retained on Farms as Feed for Live Stock and Poultry during the Crop Year ending July 31, 1932, as compared with the previous Crop Year

Province	Production in 1930	Quantities Fed in 1930-31		Production in 1931	Quantities Fed or to be Fed, in 1931-32.	
	Bushels	P.C.	Bushels	Bushels	P.C.	Bushels
P.E. Island	485,000	20.0	97,000	328,000	21.0	69,000
Nova Scotia	104,000	31.0	32,000	50,000	28.0	14,000
New Brunswick	186,000	32.0	60,000	142,000	30.0	43,000
Quebec	1,050,000	55.0	578,000	798,000	36.4	290,000
Ontario	20,226,000	41.0	8,293,000	17,246,000	44.7	7,709,000
Manitoba	43,600,000	10.5	4,573,000	27,000,000	12.0	3,240,000
Saskatchewan	206,700,000	5.7	11,779,000	121,000,000	6.3	7,623,000
Alberta	147,000,000	9.8	14,353,000	136,000,000	10.0	13,600,000
British Columbia	1,321,000	70.0	925,000	1,580,000	71.0	1,122,000
CANADA	420,672,000	9.7	40,690,000	304,144,000	11.1	33,710,000

Distribution of the Wheat Crop of 1931.

The 1931 wheat crop of Canada was estimated in January at 304,144,000 bushels. An allowance of 0.9 per cent for grain not merchantable involves a reduction of 2,826,100 bushels, while estimating dockage at 2 per cent on deliveries of 252 million bushels justifies a further deduction of 5,040,000 bushels. These subtractions leave a net crop of 296,277,900 bushels. Adding the carry-over of Canadian wheat in Canada on July 31, 1931, (133,381,623 bushels) the total available for distribution amounts to 429,659,523 bushels. Of this total, 128,903,226 bushels of wheat (and wheat flour) were exported in the period from August 1, 1931, to February 28, 1932. The exports in the remaining five months of the crop year are estimated at 85 million bushels. Further requirements for domestic consumption during the present crop year are 38 million bushels for seed, 41 million bushels for human consumption and 33 million bushels for feeding live stock and poultry. Such calculations indicate that the carry-over of Canadian wheat in Canada at July 31, 1932, will be in the neighborhood of 103 million bushels, which will be the smallest carry-over since July 31, 1928.

Our total stocks of wheat in Canada (carry-over at July 31, 1931 plus the new crop) have fallen approximately 194 million bushels since the beginning of the present crop season, of which total exports account for about 140 million bushels. Proceeding from the total stocks on hand at March 31, 1932 (viz. 243,300,165 bushels) and with allowances proportionate to those stated above for domestic consumption, further proof-of reduced carry-over is obtained.

General Conditions at the End of March

In general Canada approaches the new growing season with improved prospects as compared with a year ago. Eastern Canada and British Columbia report adequate current and reserve moisture and live stock in good condition. The outlook in the Prairie Provinces is encouraging with ample winter precipitation and reserve moisture in northern areas. Those districts which were afflicted with drought in 1931 have received substantial moisture but ample spring and early summer rains will be required to make up for depleted moisture reserves. Reports from Western Canada indicate a better outlook than at the same time last year.

Maritime Provinces.- Late winter precipitation has insured sufficient moisture for early spring growth throughout the Maritime Provinces. The condition of live stock is reported as satisfactory, with adequate feed supplies available.

Quebec.- The mildness of the winter and the abundance of good quality feed have contributed to keeping animals in good condition throughout the province. The frequent thawing and abundant rainfalls of January and February covered the ground with ice and resulted in deep freezing of the soil, giving rise to serious fears for forage plants. However, if the heavy snowfall of March remains for some time, the lateness of the thawing will be favourable for the next harvest.

Ontario.- Live stock are reported to have wintered well and are in good condition in all parts of the province. Feed has been plentiful and will be sufficient until pasture is ready. The supply of moisture is above normal owing to the more than usual amount of rainfall during the mild weather and is a favourable factor for good crops this year. Despite the lightest snowfall in years, it is felt that fall wheat will come through very well, due largely to the heavy top developed last fall and favourable weather since March 21, when a heavy blanket of snow fell over the entire province. New seedings of alfalfa and clover have been subject to considerable heaving and some concern is felt for the 1932 hay and clover prospects.

Manitoba.- The production outlook in Manitoba has greatly improved by heavy snowfall late in March. The south western sections of the province will approach seeding with a deficiency in sub-soil moisture. With the exception of some localized areas, live stock have wintered well and are in good condition.

Saskatchewan.- Moisture conditions on the whole are generally better than they were last spring, due to more generous precipitation during the fall and winter months. Nevertheless, in the southern part of the province the reserve moisture in the soil is low, and generous rains will be required during the growing season to carry the crop and prevent soil drifting. Live stock are generally reported in fair condition.

Alberta.- Moisture conditions are exceptionally good in the central and northern areas of Alberta, the heavy rainfall of last year providing ample sub-soil moisture. In southern Alberta moisture conditions are improved as compared with a year ago but spring rains will be required owing to a lack of reserve moisture. Live stock are reported in good condition, with feed supplies adequate, especially in central and northern portions of the province.

British Columbia.- All live stock are in very fair condition. The unusually heavy snowfall of the winter, with little frost in the ground and a slow run-off, leaves a greater supply of soil moisture than for years.

STOCKS OF GRAIN IN CANADA AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR MARCH 31, 1932.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has collected and compiled data showing complete stocks of grain in Canada at the close of the Fiscal Year March 31, 1932. The quantities in farmers' hands are estimated from reports of the Crop Correspondents to the Agricultural Branch of the Bureau. The quantities in flour mills are estimated on the basis of holdings at the end of February.

	WHEAT Bushels	OATS Bushels	BARLEY Bushels	FLAXSEED Bushels	RYE Bushels
Public, Semi-Public Terminals and Private Elevators, Port William and Port Arthur and Afloat	55,595,087	2,802,810	3,103,092	427,414	7,606,418
Mill and Mill Elevators	6,256,450	1,218,347	1,314,663	28,560	35,108
Interior Terminal Elevators, Western Division	387,635	957,022	320,516	1,030	2,066
Vancouver and New Westminster Elevators	12,085,346	1,518,335	431,667	1,116	30,379
Victoria Elevators	855,535	-	-	-	-
Prince Rupert Private Elevator	1,110,389	104	-	-	-
Country Elevators, Western Division	83,509,854	6,285,199	2,845,928	924,304	1,946,109
Eastern Elevators and Afloat	12,470,970	2,147,531	1,602,954	-	1,284,256
In Transit - Railways	8,377,899	1,957,818	388,016	47,205	232,797
In Flour Mills Eastern Division (Estimated)	4,000,000	600,000	40,000	-	11,000
In Farmers' Hands	58,651,000	116,421,000	18,656,000	324,500	961,500
T O T A L --- 1932	243,300,165	133,908,166	28,702,836	1,754,129	12,109,633
1931	280,095,391	210,220,102	84,595,357	2,797,116	20,763,266

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