Section 2.—The Grain Trade

Subsection 1.—Governmental Agencies Regulating or Co-operating with the Grain Trade

The agencies exercising control of the grain trade in Canada are: the Board of Grain Commissioners, which administers the provisions of the Canada Grain Act, 1930; and the Canadian Wheat Board, which operates under the Canadian Wheat Board Act, 1935. An article on the Canadian Wheat Board and its operations down to February, 1939, was specially prepared for the 1939 Year Book by T. W. Grindley, Ph.D., then Secretary of the Board, and appears at pp. 569-580 of that edition. An account of the organization and functions of the Board of Grain Commissioners, prepared by J. Rayner, Secretary of the Board, appears at pp. 481-482 of the 1941 Year Book.

Subsection 2.—Movement of Canadian Wheat, Crop Year 1940-41*

A résumé of the movement begins with a description of the crop in the Western Inspection Division. The 1940 wheat production in the four western provinces amounted to 515,799,000 bushels. A carryover of 200,574,761 bushels from the previous crop year and an import of 122,036† bushels brought the supplies of the Western Division to a total of 716,495,797 bushels for the crop year ended July 31. As for distribution, 287,600,000 bushels were commercially disposed of, the chief items of which were 67,100,000 exported to the United States and 170,600,000 shipped to the Eastern Division. Direct exports overseas from Pacific ports amounted to 4,100,000 bushels. No export shipments overseas moved from Churchill or the Head of the Lakes. The total shipments from the Western Division were thus 241,800,000 bushels. Wheat used by the milling companies for the manufacture of flour amounted to 43,865,000 bushels, of which 39,593,000 were ground into flour for domestic consumption. The rail movement eastward from the Western Division amounted to 2,500,000 bushels. Lake shipments from Fort William-Port Arthur were 217,439,000 bushels, with 168,092,000 going to Canadian ports and 49,347,000 to United States ports. The principal Canadian lake ports. were those of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, to which 109,940,000 bushels were consigned, and Port Colborne and Kingston received consignments of 17,978,000 and 17,418,000 bushels, respectively, while smaller amounts totalling 22,756,000 bushels moved to other lower lake and St. Lawrence ports. Among the United States ports, Buffalo was of principal importance with 43,138,000 bushels consigned to that port. Seed requirements for the Western Division were 26,750,000 bushels; wheat fed to live stock and poultry totalled 33,179,000 bushels and the carryover at the end of the crop year amounted to 370,330,000 bushels.

The Eastern Division received during the crop year not only the eastern crop, estimated at 24,391,000 bushels, but also shipments from the West to Eastern Canadian and United States ports, aggregating 237,771,000. The quantity on hand in Eastern Canadian and United States positions at the beginning of the crop year was 99,899,000 bushels, making, with an importation of 762† bushels, a total supply for the Eastern Division of 362,061,000 bushels. The distribution during the 1940-41 crop year included 63,235,000 bushels exported from St. Lawrence ports, 50,673,000 exported from Saint John and Halifax and 11,347,000 bushels

Revised in the Agricultural Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

[†] Including wheat flour.