

Congestion developed in Canadian elevators during the crop year despite the Board's efforts to use all the available space. Ocean shipping was scarce and expensive, and had to be concentrated at St. Lawrence and Atlantic ports. About 10,400,000 bushels of wheat were shipped from Pacific ports compared with 39,500,000 bushels in 1938-39. Further shipments of 1,800,000 bushels were made from Churchill.

### Acreage and Production

In 1939, 26,756,500 acres were seeded to wheat in Canada. This was the highest acreage since 1932, all of the increase having taken place in the Prairie Provinces. Total production of wheat was estimated at 520,623,000 bushels or approximately 160,000,000 bushels more than in the previous year.

### Operations of the Board

**Wheat.—Western Division.**—During the crop year 342,400,000 bushels were delivered to the Board and 160,300,000 bushels of 1939 wheat were sold, leaving a balance of 182,100,000 bushels held by the Board at July 31, 1940.

The balance of the 1938 crop that had amounted to 86,500,000 on July 31, 1939, was sold during the crop year, the last sales of significance taking place in June and being part of the 50,000,000 bushel sale to the United Kingdom. Altogether, during the crop year, net Board sales amounted to 246,800,000 bushels.

**Eastern Division.**—The Board opened an office in Toronto and accepted deliveries of Ontario winter wheat at 70 cents per bushel for No. 1 grades, basis Montreal export rail freights. Deliveries amounted to about 4,125,000 bushels, all of which was sold within the crop year. A surplus of about \$80,000 resulted and this was paid out to producers on their participation certificates.

### Changes in Personnel

On Oct. 26, 1939, C. Gordon Smith of Winnipeg was appointed Assistant Chief Commissioner of the Board and R. C. Findlay assumed the position of Comptroller.

## THE CROP YEAR, 1940-41

### Summary

The only real similarities between the 1939-40 and 1940-41 seasons were the initial price of 70 cents and the large wheat crops harvested in both years, with the preponderance of deliveries to the Board. Contrasts were far more in evidence:

(1) The futures market was used very little in 1940-41. Minimum prices remained in effect throughout the crop year and bulk sales were the main method of wheat disposal, covering 220,000,000 bushels.

(2) Delivery controls were made necessary by the addition of a large 1940 crop to the large remaining surplus from the previous harvest..

(3) There was a considerable improvement in exports of both wheat and wheat flour.

### Changes in the Canadian Wheat Board Act

Rather extensive revisions of the Canadian Wheat Board Act, given Royal Assent on Aug 7, 1940, included:—

- (1) The maximum membership of the Advisory Committee was increased in number from seven to eleven.
- (2) The 5,000 bushel limitation on deliveries to the Board was removed.
- (3) Provision was made for the making of an interim payment under certain conditions, and when such can be made without any possibility of loss or cost to the Government.