

Advisory Committee

Acting under one of the 1940 amendments to the Canadian Wheat Board Act, the Government appointed an Advisory Committee of eleven members under the chairmanship of D. G. McKenzie to assist the Board. Six of the appointees represented the producers.

During the latter half of the 1940-41 crop year the Board and the Advisory Committee gave close study to the wheat position and made a series of recommendations to the Cabinet Wheat Committee, including limitation of wheat deliveries to the amount that could be sold at home and abroad, establishment of basic wheat acreages for delivery purposes for each western farm, and the use of delivery quotas.

THE CROP YEAR, 1941-42

Summary

In 1941-42, the activities of the Canadian Wheat Board reflected the trend toward diversification of western grain production. The restrictive effect of the third year of war upon the international movement of wheat resulted in enlarged accumulations of surplus wheat in the four exporting countries—a surplus which increased from 635,000,000 bushels on July 31, 1939, to 1,430,000,000 bushels on July 31, 1942.

Exporting countries generally were concerned with problems of surplus wheat, problems of storage, and problems of financing wheat in all its aspects. Although Canada had supplied the bulk of the United Kingdom wheat requirements since the outbreak of war, exports of wheat had not been sufficient to take care of the large crops harvested in 1939 and 1940, with the result that the Canadian carryover had increased to record proportions on July 31, 1941, when year-end stocks in all positions amounted to 480,000,000 bushels.

Confronted with temporary abundance of wheat and a great need for expansion in production of live stock and live-stock products based upon increased feed grain production, the grain program for 1941-42 was the subject of intensive study on the part of the Federal Government, the Canadian Wheat Board and the Advisory Committee to the Canadian Wheat Board. There developed a common agreement that wheat deliveries must be restricted to the amount of wheat that could be sold at home and abroad during the crop year 1941-42 and that the accumulated reserve of wheat as at July 31, 1941, would be carried as a wartime reserve. At the same time, the need for increased production of feed grains was stressed in the grain program for 1941-42.

The 1941-42 Grain Program

Wheat.—The statutory fixed initial price of 70 cents per bushel basis in store Fort William—Port Arthur or Vancouver remained in effect.

The 1941-42 wheat delivery program was provided for in Order in Council P.C. 3849 of May 30, 1941. This program called for the limitation of wheat deliveries for the crop year 1941-42 to approximately 230,000,000 bushels for the whole of Canada. In the administration of the limitation on total marketings in the West, the Board established an "authorized acreage" for delivery purposes for each producer on the basis of 65 p.c. of his declared wheat acreage in 1940. At the same time, facilities were provided for the upward adjustment of authorized wheat acreages in the case of producers who had seeded an unusually low wheat