

Wheat Products.—During 1943-44, the Board paid to millers and processors of wheat a total of \$19,475,181 in drawbacks on wheat products pursuant to Order in Council P.C. 6602, Aug. 19, 1943.

Oats and Barley.—As prices for these grains remained at ceiling levels throughout the crop year, the Board was not required to take price-supporting action.

Oats and Barley Equalization Funds.—Equalization fees levied on oats exports exceeded advance equalization payments made to producers, and the Oats Equalization Fund showed a surplus of \$8,806,339 as at July 31, 1944, which was subsequently made available to those producers who received advance payments from the Oats Equalization Fund. In the case of barley, advance equalization payments made to producers exceeded the proceeds of equalization fees assessed on exports. Consequently, the Barley Equalization Fund showed a deficit of \$2,063,257 as at July 31, 1944, and there was no further payment from the Barley Equalization Fund on 1943-44 marketings.

Delivery Quotas.—In 1943-44 the delivery quota system was highly important. The crop year commenced with general congestion in country elevators. It was inevitable, therefore, that very low delivery quotas would have to be established in the initial stages of the marketing season. On Aug. 16, 1943, the Board established the first delivery quotas at 3 bushels per authorized acre for wheat, 5 bushels per seeded acre for oats and barley, 3 bushels per seeded acre in the case of rye. By the end of October about one-half of the delivery points in the West were still on a 3-bushel quota.

The emergency shipping program in November drew heavily upon stocks in Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan, and permitted a general adjustment in wheat delivery quotas.

Owing to the necessity of large shipments of feed grains to eastern Canada and the United States during the winter months, the general quota on oats and barley was increased to 10 bushels per seeded acre on Dec. 8, 1943.

On Mar. 23, 1944, the general quota on oats, barley and rye was increased to 15 bushels per seeded acre. On Apr. 16, 1944, the general quota on oats was increased to 20 bushels per seeded acre, and quota restrictions on the marketing of barley and rye were removed. Three days later restrictions on oats deliveries were removed entirely.

On Mar. 31, 1944, over 1,700 delivery points had wheat delivery quotas of 18 bushels per acre while at the end of April all delivery points were on that basis. In accordance with Order in Council P.C. 4130, dated June 1, 1944, open delivery quotas were established, effective on the same date.

Under delivery quotas established in 1943-44 about 570,000,000 bushels of grain passed from farms to country elevators, and in addition, country elevator space available for deliveries was increased by about 100,000,000 bushels between Aug. 1, 1943, and Aug. 1, 1944, thereby easing the country storage problem for 1944-45.

Transportation.—Early in 1943-44 it was apparent that the transportation problem consisted of two main elements:—(1) The urgency of securing a substantial increase in transportation available for the movement of grain in order to keep pace with the increased demand for Western grains, especially in view of the fact that the bulk of 1943-44 grain supplies was in country elevators or on farms; and (2) The