

During 1944-45 the Board's Class II price applied to countries not receiving Mutual Aid and to the United Nations organizations operating on a cash basis. The Class II price ranged between \$1.34 to \$1.38 per bushel, basis in store Fort William for the first two months of the crop year; it ranged between \$1.38 to \$1.48 until February, 1946. In March and April a small increase to \$1.53-\$1.54 occurred and from May to the end of July \$1.55 per bushel was the ruling price.

Eastern Division.—As prices for Canada Eastern winter wheat remained at ceiling levels during 1944-45, it was not necessary for the Board to take delivery of wheat pursuant to maintaining the floor price.

The Ontario Wheat Flour Equalization Fund for 1944-45 was closed out as at June 30, 1945, resulting in a surplus payable to producers of \$198,318 before making provision for the costs of final payment.

Crown Account.—The Crown Account showed a deficit of \$25,861,867 as at July 31, 1945, of which \$10,125,327 was funded by the Federal Government on Apr. 30, 1945.

The position of Crop Account (Wheat) as at July 31, 1945, was as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Receipts from Producers</i>	<i>Inventory¹ July 31, 1945</i>	<i>Surplus as at July 31, 1945</i>
	bu.	bu.	\$
1943.....	293,400,000	—	36,436,170
1944.....	352,400,000	161,400,000	28,653,391

¹ Inventories valued at the Board's fixed initial price as at July 31, 1945.

Wheat Products.—Pursuant to its duty of administering drawback payments on wheat products sold and delivered for human consumption in Canada (see p. 798), the Board, out of funds provided by the Dominion Treasury, paid out \$18,296,293 to July 31, 1945, in respect to the 1944 Drawback Account.

Oats.—During the crop year 1944-45 price-supporting action involved purchases of oats futures totalling 896,000 bushels, which were re-sold during the crop year at a small profit.

During the crop year 85,800,000 bushels of oats (including processed oats) were exported as compared with 74,700,000 bushels for 1943-44. Of these totals, 69,700,000 bushels in 1944-45 and 71,900,000 bushels in 1943-44 went to the United States. During the crop year shipments under the Freight Assistance policy amounted to 42,600,000 bushels—a reduction of about 9,000,000 bushels from the level of 1943-44.

Barley.—As barley prices remained at ceiling levels throughout the crop year, it was not necessary for the Board to support the price of barley.

During the crop year 39,400,000 bushels of barley were exported as compared with 36,100,000 bushels in 1943-44. Of these amounts, 35,800,000 bushels in 1944-45 and 35,800,000 bushels in 1943-44 went to the United States. As in previous years, barley exports to the United States were largely of types suitable for malting in that country. Shipments under the Freight Assistance policy were 30,500,000 bushels, approximately 7,500,000 bushels less than in the preceding crop year.

Oats and Barley Equalization Funds.—Increased eastern production of feed grains, relative to demand, reduced the volume of shipments under the Freight Assistance program and released greater quantities of Western oats and barley for export. The export market absorbed almost 60 p.c. of total oats deliveries during the crop year, and slightly more than 50 p.c. of barley deliveries.