The harvesting and marketing of crops of record or near-record proportions in Western Canada in 1951, 1952 and 1953 have imposed an unusually heavy strain on all grain storage and handling facilities. The problem was further complicated at the beginning of this three-year period by the large proportion of out-of-condition grain harvested in the autumn of 1951, requiring special binning and thereby reducing effective storage capacity, and the abnormally large amount of grain harvested in the spring of 1952. As a result, a much higher proportion than usual of elevator space was occupied at the beginning of the 1952-53 crop year. Despite extremely heavy domestic and export movement of grains in both 1952-53 and 1953-54, an unusually high proportion of elevator space, as indicated in Table 38, remained occupied throughout this period. Although information is given in the following table for only three dates in the crop year, weekly data on stocks of grain in various commercial positions may be obtained from the DBS Grain Statistics Weekly.

38,-Licensed Grain Storage Capacity and Grain in Store, 1952-53 and 1953-54

Note.—Because these figures are exclusive of stocks in transit or in eastern mills, they are lower than those shown in Table 15, p. 412.

Crop Year and Storage Position	Licensed Storage Capacity	Canadian Grain in Licensed Storage			Proportion of Licensed Storage Capacity Occupied		
	Dec. 1, 1952	Nov. 27, 1952	Apr. 1, 1953	July 31, 1953	Nov. 27, 1952	Apr. 1, 1953	July 31, 1953
	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1952-53		1					
Western country. Interior, private and mill Interior, terminals Pacific cosst. Fort William-Port Arthur	306, 834 20, 721 20, 600 21, 756 84, 449	204,673 8,480 9,403 10,047 43,998	218, 203 9, 192 16, 894 7, 609 66, 884	245,335 9,046 16,456 7,881 50,829	66·7 40·9 45·6 46·2 52·1	$71 \cdot 1$ $44 \cdot 4$ $82 \cdot 0$ $35 \cdot 0$ $79 \cdot 2$	80.0 43.7 79.9 36.2 60.2
Georgian Bay and Upper Lake ports	35,641	16,102	13,302	24,010	45.2	37.3	67 - 4
Lower Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports Lower St. Lawrence ports Maritime ports ¹	19,100 24,912 5,277	6,843 11,152 1,526	6,111 11,800 3,169	12,207 17,588 4,179	35·8 44·8 28·9	32·0 47·4 60·1	63·9 70·6 79·2
Totals, 1952-53	539,290	312,224	353,166	387,530	57.9	65 · 5	71.9
	Dec. 1, 1953	Dec. 2,	Mar. 31, 1954	July 31, 1954	Dec. 2, 1953	Mar. 31, 1954	July 31, 1954
	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1953-54							
Western country Interior, private and mill. Interior, terminals. Pacific coast. Fort William-Port Arthur. Georgian Bay and Upper Lake	322,986 20,716 20,600 21,756 90,517	238,827 8,577 16,805 13,915 39,104	254,977 9,640 18,162 13,787 81,744	267,133 8,626 15,996 8,054 62,976	$73 \cdot 9$ $41 \cdot 4$ $81 \cdot 6$ $64 \cdot 0$ $43 \cdot 2$	78-9 46-5 88-2 63-4 90-3	82·7 41·6 77·7 37·0 69·6
ports	35,641	32,549	25,224	31,283	91 · 3	70-8	87.8
Lower Lake and Upper St. Lawrence ports Lower St. Lawrence ports Maritime ports ¹	19,100 24,912 5,277	16,036 19,718 4,890	11,414 16,750 3,368	13,352 21,396 5,564	84·0 79·2 92·7	59·8 67·2 63·8	69·9 85·9 105·4
Totals, 1953-54	561,505	390,420	435,066	434,380	69 - 5	77.5	77 - 4

¹ Excludes Newfoundland.