

Wheat.—Supply and Disposition.—Stocks of wheat on hand at the beginning of the 1956-57 crop year, at 579,600,000 bu., were about 8 p.c. above those of the preceding year. Total crop-year supplies, consisting of carryover stocks plus the 1956 production of 573,000,000 bu. and imports of 100,000 bu., reached the record level of 1,152,800,000 bu. Carryover stocks at the end of the 1956-57 crop year amounted to 729,500,000 bu. and exceeded by 18 p.c. the previous record carryover of 618,700,000 bu. at July 31, 1954.

21.—Production, Imports, Exports and Domestic Use of Wheat, Crop Years Ended July 31, 1951-57

(Millions of bushels)

Item	1950-51	1951-52 ^r	1952-53 ^r	1953-54 ^r	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57 ^p
Carryover, Aug. 1.....	112.2	189.2	217.2	383.2	618.7	536.7	579.6
Production.....	466.5	553.7	702.0	634.0	332.0	519.2	573.0
Imports ¹	2	2	2	0.5	0.2	2	0.1
Totals, Supply.....	578.7	742.9	919.2	1,017.7	950.8	1,055.9	1,152.8
Exports ¹	241.0	355.8	385.5	255.1	251.9	309.2	261.8
Domestic use.....	148.5	169.9	150.5	143.9	162.2	167.2	161.4
Totals, Disposition.....	389.5	525.7	536.0	399.0	414.1	476.4	423.2
Carryover, July 31.....	189.2	217.2	383.2	618.7	536.7	579.6	729.5

¹ Includes wheat flour in terms of wheat.

² Less than 50,000 bu.

Price and Marketing Arrangements.—The marketing of Western Canadian wheat during the 1956-57 crop year was again conducted by the Canadian Wheat Board on a one-year pool basis, with the initial payment set at \$1.40 per bu. The initial payment for No. 1 C.W. Amber Durum was continued at \$1.50 per bu. No adjustment payments on the 1956-57 deliveries were made during the crop year but on Feb. 1, 1958, an interim payment on the 1956-57 pool account for wheat was announced, amounting to 10 cents per bu. for all grades except milling grades of Durum for which the interim payment was 25 cents. The full amount of this payment was about \$39,200,000. The final payment on the 1956-57 pool was announced on June 9, 1958, and averaged 6.941 cents per bu. on farmers' deliveries of 361,400,000 bu. Prior to deduction of the Prairie Farm Assistance Act levy the net price realized by producers in the 1956-57 pool for No. 1 Northern wheat, basis in store Fort William-Port Arthur or Vancouver, was \$1.58838 per bu.

The crop year 1956-57 coincided with the first year of the third three-year International Wheat Agreement. Under its provisions, Canada had a guaranteed export quota of 99,700,000 bu. for 1956-57 and, according to the final report on the year's transactions, Canadian sales under the Agreement totalled 58,000,000 bu. These sales continued to be quite widely distributed; 26 of the 42 importing countries included in the pact purchased wheat and/or flour from Canada. The larger purchasers were the Federal Republic of Germany, 17,300,000 bu.; Japan, 16,000,000 bu.; Switzerland, 4,800,000 bu.; Norway, 3,600,000 bu.; Ireland, 2,800,000 bu.; the Philippines, 2,800,000 bu.; the Netherlands, 2,200,000 bu.; and Venezuela, 2,000,000 bu. The greater part of Canada's wheat trade in 1956-57 was carried on in Class II wheat (i.e., wheat exported outside the provisions of the International Wheat Agreement). The United Kingdom continued as the leading importer of Class II wheat, shipments to that country accounting for 79,600,000 bu. of wheat as grain and the equivalent of an additional 10,800,000 bu. in the form of wheat flour.