

Wheat Flour.—After reaching a peak of 56,033,000 cwt. in 1946-47, Canadian wheat flour production dropped to a postwar low of 39,708,000 cwt. in 1949-50. Production in each of the following three crop years was only slightly below the five-year (1945-46—1949-50) average of 47,012,000 cwt. A relatively sharp drop occurred in 1953-54 and was followed by further slight declines in both 1954-55 and 1955-56. Another sharp drop brought production down to 37,623,000 cwt. in 1956-57. During that crop year only 69.3 p.c. of milling capacity was utilized compared with 73.7 p.c. in 1955-56.

Exports of wheat flour during recent years have followed approximately the same pattern as production, dropping from the 1946-47 peak of 33,117,000 cwt. to 14,582,000 cwt. in 1956-57. The 1956-57 exports of wheat flour amounted to approximately 38.8 p.c. of production, the smallest proportion exported since 38.1 p.c. was exported in the crop year 1939-40.

25.—Wheat Milled for Flour, and Production and Exports of Wheat Flour, Five-Year Averages 1936-50 and Crop Years Ended July 31, 1951-57

Crop Year (Aug. 1-July 31)	Wheat Milled for Flour	Wheat Flour Production	Wheat Flour Exports	
			Amount	P.C. of Production
	'000 bu.	cwt.	cwt.	
Av. 1935-36 — 1939-40.....	67,845	29,405,451	9,603,941	32.7
Av. 1940-41 — 1944-45.....	99,705	43,908,245	23,699,546	54.0
Av. 1945-46 — 1949-50.....	107,330	47,011,540	25,819,721	54.9
1950-51.....	106,748	46,315,153	24,356,912	52.6
1951-52.....	104,494	44,771,184	22,258,324	49.7
1952-53.....	106,727	46,776,625	24,609,199	52.6
1953-54.....	91,855	40,769,909	20,142,824	49.4
1954-55.....	92,407	40,606,599	17,692,945	43.6
1955-56.....	91,770	40,148,750	17,391,300	43.3
1956-57.....	85,149	37,623,446	14,582,431	38.8

Subsection 2.—Livestock Marketings*

Commercial marketings of cattle were 16.5 p.c. greater in 1957 than in 1956. Calf marketings increased 4.4 p.c. but the hog movement through recorded commercial channels was down by 9.4 p.c. and that of sheep and lambs decreased by 1.4 p.c. Slaughter classes of steers sold at stockyards and packing plants increased 6 p.c. over 1956 to a record high of 828,736 head. A 17.5-p.c. increase in sales of the heavier grades (over 1,000 lb.) was responsible for the rise; sales of steers up to 1,000 lb. dropped 6 p.c. As compared with 1956, heifer gradings increased 16 p.c., cows increased 11.5 p.c. and fed calves decreased 1.5 p.c. Steers constituted 34.1 p.c. of slaughter cattle in 1957 compared with 35.0 p.c. in 1956. Shipments of feeder cattle and calves from yards and packing plants or on through-billing to Canadian country points outside the province of origin totalled 487,775 head in 1957, an increase of nearly 12 p.c. over the previous year. There was little change in the proportion of hogs graded into each category; Grade A hogs made up 28.7 p.c. of 1957 gradings compared with 28.5 p.c. in 1956, Grade B hogs 50.8 p.c. compared with 50.7 p.c., and Grade C hogs made up 9.9 p.c. of total gradings compared with 9.7 p.c. Judged by the proportion of hog carcasses classified as Grade A, the western provinces as a whole indicated improved quality but in the central provinces the quality was not as good as in 1956. As

* More detailed information is available from DBS annual report *Live Stock and Animal Products Statistics*, and the Department of Agriculture publication *Livestock Market Review*. Statistics of livestock and poultry are given at pp. 426-430 of this edition of the Year Book.