

Subsection 1.—Licensed Grain Storage

Total grain storage capacity in Canada, licensed under the provisions of the Canada Grain Act by the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada, amounted to 648,200,000 bu. at Dec. 1, 1959, an increase of 9,000,000 bu. over the level of Dec. 1, 1958. Some 4,639,000 bu. of this increase occurred in western country elevators, 3,540,000 bu. in eastern elevators and 1,000,000 bu. in semi-public terminal elevators. Licensed grain storage capacity in Canada had reached a peak of 603,000,000 bu. at Dec. 1, 1943 but, following the disposal of heavy wartime stocks, declined to 482,400,000 bu. at Dec. 1, 1947. Since that date capacity has increased each year.

Reflecting the cumulative effects of five bumper crops in the six-year period 1951-56, which was only partially offset by reduced production in the three years 1957-59, the pressure on Canada's grain handling and storage facilities remained great. In addition, considerable difficulty was experienced in harvesting the 1959 grain crops in the Prairie Provinces and large amounts of wheat, oats and barley were threshed tough and damp. This situation placed additional strain on the grain handling facilities as farm marketing quotas had to be adjusted to bring forward tough and damp grain for terminal drying. Farmers' marketings of western grain are governed to a considerable extent by space made available in country elevators as grain moves forward into domestic and export channels. As indicated in Table 29, there was a decline in the proportion of occupied elevator space from 69.1 p.c. at Dec. 2 to 65.2 p.c. at Mar. 30 in the 1959-60 crop year but by July 31, the proportion had increased to 78.3 p.c.

29.—Licensed Grain Storage Capacity and Grain in Store, Crop Years
1958-59 and 1959-60

Crop Year and Storage Position	Licensed Storage Capacity	Canadian Grain in Licensed Storage			Proportion of Licensed Storage Capacity Occupied		
		Dec. 1, 1958	Dec. 3, 1958	Apr. 1, 1959	July 31, 1959	Dec. 3, 1958	Apr. 1, 1959
	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1958-59							
Western country.....	386,588	274,733	290,256	331,886	71.1	75.1	85.8
Interior, private and mill.....	20,742	10,371	11,013	10,271	50.0	53.1	49.5
Interior, terminals.....	18,100	14,522	14,623	13,767	80.2	80.8	76.1
Churchill.....	5,000	4,957	4,957	4,634	99.1	99.1	92.7
Pacific coast.....	23,906	17,077	17,781	12,728	71.4	74.4	53.2
Fort William-Port Arthur.....	90,517	50,492	82,523	64,285	55.8	91.2	71.0
Georgian Bay and upper Lake ports..	36,566	32,849	8,430	29,267	89.8	23.1	80.0
Lower Lake and upper St. Lawrence ports.....	20,720	13,957	8,783	11,187	67.4	42.4	54.0
Lower St. Lawrence ports.....	29,712	25,088	13,836	20,188	84.4	46.6	67.9
Maritime ports (excl. Newfoundland).	7,229	6,291	2,305	1,600	87.0	31.9	22.1
Totals, 1958-59.....	639,032	450,338	454,507	499,812	70.5	71.1	78.2
	Dec. 1, 1959	Dec. 2, 1959	Mar. 30, 1960	July 31, 1960	Dec. 2, 1959	Mar. 30, 1960	July 31, 1960
	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	'000 bu.	p.c.	p.c.	p.c.
1959-60							
Western country.....	391,228	271,578	264,387	322,038	69.4	67.6	82.3
Interior, private and mill.....	20,707	9,735	10,336	9,902	47.0	49.9	47.8
Interior, terminals.....	18,100	13,975	12,812	12,509	77.2	70.8	69.1
Churchill.....	5,000	4,905	4,905	4,757	98.1	98.1	95.1
Pacific coast.....	24,906	15,563	13,887	11,802	62.5	55.8	47.4
Fort William-Port Arthur.....	90,517	57,062	73,807	67,189	63.0	81.5	74.2
Georgian Bay and upper Lake ports..	36,566	28,661	13,898	31,065	78.4	38.0	85.0
Lower Lake and upper St. Lawrence ports.....	20,660	13,253	9,095	14,819	64.1	44.0	71.7
Lower St. Lawrence ports.....	33,312	28,017	14,987	28,502	84.1	45.0	85.6
Maritime ports (excl. Newfoundland).	7,229	5,456	4,460	4,718	75.5	61.7	65.3
Totals, 1959-60.....	648,226	448,206	422,574	507,301	69.1	65.2	78.3