

Exports of linseed oil were equivalent to about 1.2 million bu of flaxseed, the bulk of which was shipped to Britain. In the 1972-73 crop year, trade in rapeseed amounted to 54.1 million bu, reflecting an 11.5 million bu increase over last year's 42.6 million.

#### **11.7.1.2 The International Wheat Agreement, 1971**

The International Wheat Agreement (IWA) 1971 came into effect on July 1, 1971 to cover the period through June 30, 1974. It consists of two legal instruments: a Wheat Trade Convention and a Food Aid Convention. The International Wheat Council, established in London, England by the International Wheat Agreement, 1949, continued in being to administer the Wheat Trade Convention and provide service to the Food Aid Convention.

**The Wheat Trade Convention.** The Wheat Trade Convention, 1971 has three main features. The International Wheat Council continues as a forum for international consultation and co-operation and as an agency for the collection and dissemination of information on the world wheat situation. Second, it provides for continuous review of the world wheat market situation through the medium of the Advisory Sub-committee on Market Conditions. Finally, it does not contain any price revisions or related rights and obligations.

However, under Article 21 there is a requirement that the Council examine at an appropriate time the questions of prices and related rights and obligations, and, when it judges these matters capable of successful negotiation with the object of bringing them into effect within the life of this Convention to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to convene a negotiating conference.

In the past the Council has considered the possibility of action under Article 21 but has not judged the issues capable of negotiation. In February 1974 the Council agreed to extend the International Wheat Agreement, 1971 by Protocols for one year to June 30, 1975. In February 1975 a further extension, to June 30, 1976, was approved.

Despite the absence of price provisions and related rights and obligations, the International Wheat Council continued operating within the framework of the IWA. During the 1974-75 crop year (July-June) 39 importing countries and nine exporting countries plus the European Economic Community (EEC) participated in the Agreement. The EEC, which both imports and exports wheat, is listed simultaneously in the Convention as an exporting country and as an importing country.

IWA member countries are involved, either as importers or exporters, in over 90% of the total world trade, commercial and non-commercial, of wheat and flour. Commercial sales by member exporting countries to member importing countries in 1973-74 amounted to 1,032 million bu. This was 45% of total world trade in wheat and flour, an increase of seven percentage points over the 1972-73 figures of 946 million bu sold and 38% of world trade.

**The Food Aid Convention.** Eight countries plus the enlarged EEC were members of the Food Aid Convention. Over-all commitments (including in some cases cash contributions or ocean freight contributions) represented the equivalent of approximately 4.1 million tons of wheat in 1972-73, and 4.2 million tons in 1973-74. Canada's 1972-73 contribution was 216,802 tons (8.0 million bu) in excess of her obligation of 495,000 metric tons (18.2 million bu), and 4,419 tons (162,372 bu) in excess of its obligation in 1972-73.

Commodities shipped under the Food Aid Convention were wheat, wheat flour, bulgur, corn, cornmeal, sorghum, rolled oats, rolled wheat, oats, barley and rice, as well as agricultural materials.

During the 1972-73 crop year the Secretariat of the International Wheat Council, in co-operation with all members of the Council, prepared a forecast of the supply and demand for wheat for the up-coming year, 1973-74. This service will be continued.

In view of the widespread support for an improved International Wheat Agreement in 1975 the Council appointed a Preparatory Group whose terms of reference were to examine the possible bases for a new international arrangement to replace the International Wheat Agreement, 1971, and report to the Council.

#### **11.7.1.3 Miscellaneous grain trade statistics**

**Lake shipments of grain.** The 1973 navigation season opened at the Canadian Lakehead on April 4 and closed on January 20. Details of lake shipments for 1972 and 1973 are given in Table 11.37.