

it and proceeded page by page to ask questions. Is that procedure agreeable to the committee for this year?

Carried.

The WITNESS: All the foregoing exports were programmed through the cereals committee of the then existing Combined Food Board and were related to export programs undertaken by other countries, principally the United States and Australia. In addition to wheat exports, Canada exported 62.0 million bushels of wheat in the form of flour, of which about 28 million bushels went to the United Kingdom and the balance was distributed among a wide range of importing countries. A very substantial volume of Canadian flour was purchased by UNRRA for distribution to countries in receipt of UNRRA assistance.

Effect on Year-End Stocks

The implementation of the foregoing export program in 1945-1946, plus meeting the full requirements of Canadian mills for the production of domestic and export flour, reduced reserve stocks of wheat in Canada to the lowest point since 1937. The carryover on July 31, 1946 was 69.9 million bushels, of which 27.2 million bushels were on farms. Commercial stocks as at July 31, 1946 amounted to 42.7 million bushels. Stocks of wheat in export positions were practically exhausted by the end of the crop year, and a substantial part of remaining commercial stocks was required to meet the requirements of Canadian mills until new crop wheat became available in September. This exhaustion of wheat stocks in all positions in Canada as at July 31, 1946, and especially in wheat stocks in export positions, had an important effect upon the Canadian export position during the first four months of the ensuing crop year.

The year-end position on July 31, 1946, along with the corresponding position on July 31, 1945 is shown in the following table:

	July 31, 1946	July 31, 1945
	Bushels	
On farms.....	27,203,000	28,650,000
Country and private terminal elevators.....	11,200,198	61,625,591
Western mills and mill elevators.....	3,974,865	6,154,868
Interior terminal elevators.....	44,159	10,088,988
Vancouver — New Westminster.....	1,628,845	13,989,221
Victoria and Prince Rupert.....	—	1,673,157
Churchill.....	1,877,737	1,877,737
Fort William — Port Arthur.....	3,035,317	51,343,939
In transit — lakes.....	1,672,784	5,197,322
In transit — rail.....	6,437,303	24,371,296
Eastern elevators.....	9,853,173	30,032,841
Eastern mills.....	2,796,800	3,216,769
Total in Canada.....	69,724,181	238,201,729
Canadian grain in United States.....	134,000	20,192,789
Total Canadian grain in Canada and United States.....	69,858,181	258,394,518

Meeting the World Food Situation

The co-ordinated distribution of exports of wheat from the chief supplying countries went a long way in meeting the most urgent import requirements. During the crop year there was a deficit in world wheat supplies which could not under any circumstances be overcome. The problem was to make the available supplies in all wheat exporting countries go as far as possible in meeting urgent requirements in both Europe and Asia. An element of flexibility was maintained in the movement of supplies from exporting countries and in this way recurring crises were minimized. There is no doubt that a potential disaster of great magnitude was overcome by exporting countries making available every bushel of wheat and substitute grains which could be made available, and by the