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INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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World Wheat Situation: Nothing of significance has happened during recent weeks to change the prospects of a general world need for more wheat. In the September 1947 report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations it was estimated that requirements for grain imports for deficit countries in 1947-48 will total approximately 38 million metric tons. Last year the stated require-ments were $37\frac{1}{2}$ million tons and approximately $28\frac{1}{2}$ million tons were received by importing countries. It was estimated by FAO at the end of September that 29 million tons might be available for export in 1947-48 from grain exporting countries.

The report of the FAO conference emphasized that unless special efforts are made in both exporting and importing countries to mobilize more food and reduce this wide gap the calorie intake in deficit countries must inevitably fall to still more unsatisfactory levels and stressed the necessity of using every available device to save grain for human consumption.

The United States this year harvested the largest wheat crop on record and it is expected that the major part of world wheat shipments will come from this country during the present crop year. One deterrent to high wheat exports from the United States this year is the very unsatisfactory corn harvest which may result in a greater quantity of wheat being utilized for domestic feeding purposes. Another factor which may adversely affect American exports this year is the prevailing dry weather in the western states which may lead to a larger than normal carry-over to safeguard supplies for next year.

A slight improvement in crop conditions has occurred in the Argentine during the last month, but this country will not have a very large surplus for export during 1948, Prospects for the wheat crop in Australia improved greatly during the past month and the latest forecast is for a total yield of not less than 215 million bushels which will ensure an exportable surplus considerably in excess of that of last year.

No change in the Canadian situation occurred during the last month. It is still estimated that around 200 million bushels of wheat and wheat in terms of flour will be available for export during the present crop year. This figure, however, may have to be revised in the light of conditions which have prevailed since the last crop estimate was issued early in September. (D.B.S. Bulletin)

Approve Admission of 15,021 D.P.'s: In response to requests for workers submitted to the Immigration-Labour Interdepartmental Committee by Canadian industry, approval has been granted for the admission to Canada of 15,021 Displaced Persons in group movements, it is announced by the Immigration Branch of the Department of Mines and Resources. Up to the present time 3,533 people have come to Canada from European refugee camps under this group plan; 3,007 to work for lumber companies; 100 for textiles, and 426 as domestics.

Requests dealt with by the Committee have been for the following classes of workers: