

Further interim or final payments depend upon the price realized by the Canadian Wheat Board on the sale of the wheat to domestic or foreign buyers. The initial payment to producers of wheat delivered during the 1954-55 crop year is \$1.40 per bushel basis No. 1 Northern, in store Forth William/Port Arthur or Vancouver. The \$1.40 initial payment has been in effect for the past five crop years.

The country elevators, where the farmer delivers his wheat, are owned either by private companies or by co-operative organizations and act as agents of the Canadian Wheat Board. They are responsible to the Board for accepting delivery of wheat from producers, paying the producers the initial payment and forwarding the grain to terminal elevator points.

The Canadian Wheat Board sells wheat to domestic and foreign buyers. The Board may negotiate export sales on a government to government basis, if the buyer so desires. On the other hand, subject to the wishes of the buyer, the Board will make export sales through appointed agents. Generally speaking these agents are all the more prominent Canadian grain companies, co-operatives and mills. Subject to the Board's approval, these agents may make ordinary export sales of wheat whenever they find an opportunity. By these two methods, the Canadian Wheat Board adapts itself to the wishes of the purchasing countries.

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT

A new International Wheat Agreement, succeeding the 1949 agreement, was negotiated in Washington early in 1953. The agreement covers a three year period commencing Aug. 1st, 1953 with a minimum price of \$1.55 and \$2.05 maximum, basis Canadian currency at the parity of the Canadian dollar, determined for the purpose of the International Monetary Fund as at March 1, 1949.

The International Wheat Agreement provides a basis upon which a substantial quantity of wheat moves in international trade. The objectives of the Agreement are to assure supplies of wheat to importing countries and markets for wheat to exporting countries at equitable and stable prices.

The United Kingdom, which had been the largest purchaser of wheat under the 1949 agreement, did not sign the new agreement. Exporters' guaranteed annual quantities for the new agreement are as follows:

	<u>Metric tons</u>
Australia	1,207,170
Canada	4,105,247
France	9,215
United States	<u>5,270,368</u>
Total	<u>10,592,000</u>

Wheat Selling Prices

Wheat selling prices, domestic, I.W.A., and Non-IWA (Class II) are announced daily by the Canadian Wheat Board.