

case the percentages would be 15, 70 and 15.

The figures in bushels would be:-

On the 55% basis, wheat only, Empire countries	128,050,000 bus.
Foreign countries	69,846,000 "

On the 70% basis, wheat only, Empire countries	162,973,000 bus.
Foreign countries	34,923,000 "

This would leave the import flour market of the U.K. open to unrestricted competition.

If the quota was applied to combined wheat and flour imports the quantities would be:-

On 55% basis, (wheat & flour)	Empire Countries	145,374,000 bus.
" "	Foreign Countries	79,295,000 "

On 70% basis, (wheat & flour)	Empire countries	185,021,000 "
" "	Foreign countries	39,648,000 "

How would the Empire Countries share?

Would the British millers be left free to buy in any proportion they chose from Empire countries so long as the aggregate was the required percentage, or would a definite share be allotted to each surplus-producing Empire country?

If the latter, on what basis would the share be determined?

The Hon. Mr. Thomas has intimated that a definite quid pro quo might reasonably be asked. If the division is to be by bargaining, there is, of course, no way of estimating beforehand what the shares might be.

It may be of interest, however, to examine the relative capacities of Empire countries to supply the aggregate quota.

Three British countries must be taken into the account - Canada, Australia and India. Exportable surpluses are the simplest measures of capacity.

CANADA. For the 5 years, 1926-27 to 1930-31 inclusive Canada's exports of wheat and flour averaged 295,662,000

Making allowance for the excess carry-over accumulated under the special conditions of the past two or three years, Canada's average exportable surplus for the period may be figured at about 305,000,000

AUSTRALIA has not accumulated an excessive carry-over and has had average exports of wheat and flour of 101,254,000

INDIA, although occasionally a net importing country, cannot be left out of the account, because every year, and even in deficiency years, it exports some wheat, if not flour, to the United Kingdom. In the last five years its crops have been below average but taking a 20 year period India's net exports have averaged 20,845,000

On the basis of actual exports, as above, and not taking account of Canada's excess carry-over, the relative capacities of these three . . .