

demands uncovered by the final liberation of Europe and the defeat of Japan. The requirements of India and liberated areas in the Far East were large and urgent.

The full impact of this food position confronted the cereals committee of the Combined Food Board early in the crop year. It was evident that Canada and the United States would have to fill the major part of world import requirements. The severity of the crisis and the threat of mass starvation on a large scale called for a major, co-ordinated effort on the part of Canada and the United States. The effectiveness of this effort is indicated by the fact that in the year ending June 30th, 1946, Canada and the United States together exported about 750 million bushels of wheat (including flour) which constituted the largest wheat exports in any twelve-month period in the history of the North American continent. In addition to these supplies of wheat, both countries supplied quantities of other grains for human consumption.

Canada commenced the new crop year with a favourable position for a large export movement of wheat during the first half of the crop year, due to the carryover of 258 million bushels of wheat on July 31st, 1945. Within this carryover were substantial quantities of wheat in export positions and a "bank" of wheat amounting to over 62 million bushels in country elevators. These stocks were supplemented, of course, by deliveries from the 1945 wheat crop.

Under the circumstances it was logical that Canada should export as much wheat as possible during the first half of the crop year and before the European winter set in. The United States and southern hemisphere countries were in a better position to assume a larger responsibility in the last half of the crop year.

The following table shows exports of Canadian wheat (including flour), by months, for the crop year 1945-46:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| August, 1945 | 41.4 |
| September | 32.1 |
| October | 43.6 |
| November | 36.3 |
| December | 26.1 |
| January, 1946 | 27.1 |
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| Total — August-January | 206.6 |
| February | 25.1 |
| March | 28.1 |
| April | 23.4 |
| May | 23.1 |
| June | 21.7 |
| July | 12.7 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total — February-July | 133.5 |
| Total — August to July | 340.1 |

It will be noted from the foregoing table that in the August-January period Canadian exports of wheat (including flour) amounted to 206.6 million bushels as compared with 133.5 million bushels in the February-July period; 61 per cent of total exports of wheat (including flour) were made in the first half of the crop year and 39 per cent in the last half of the crop year.

DISTRIBUTION OF WHEAT EXPORTS—1945-46

The part which Canada played in supplying wheat under the circumstances which existed in 1945-46 is illustrated in the following table showing exports of wheat (not including flour) during the August-January period and the February-July period, and total exports for the crop year, by countries of destination.