# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - Bureau of Agricultural Economics Washington

WS-24

October 22, 1938

## THE WHEAT SITUATION

#### Summary

Changes in wheat prices during the next few months are expected to depend largely upon changes in crop prospects in Argentina and Australia, reports on the area sown and progress of the United States winter wheat crop, and general business conditions. Rainfall is needed in the wheat areas of Australia and moisture supplies are below average in Argentina. In the United States rain is needed in nearly the entire wheat belt, and urgently so over most of the western portion. Some further improvement in the general business situation is expected during the next few months.

World wheat production for 1938-39 is now estimated at 4,365 million bushels, the largest on record. This is about 20 million bushels more than the estimate made a month ago, and about 525 million bushels greater than the 1937-38 harvest. Production in the Northern Hemisphere countries is estimated at about 510 million bushels more than last year, and prospects in Argentina and Australia are for an increase of about 15 million bushels.

With world stocks on July 1 estimated at 595 million bushels, which is about 75 million more than a year earlier, total supplies are approximately 4,960 million bushels, or about 600 million greater than a year ago. Net exports from Soviet Russia may possibly approximate 35 million bushels. With low prices and abundant supplies, disappearance during the present marketing season may approximate 3,830 million bushels. On the basis of these figures, \*All references to world and Northern Hemisphere supplies, production and disappearance exclude Soviet Russia and China, but include net exports from Soviet Russia.

the carry-over in July 1939 would be expected to amount to about 1,165 million bushels. The record carry-over, which occurred in 1933, was about 1,195 million bushels.

Total United States supplies are now indicated to be 1,094 million bushels, consisting of a July 1 carry-over of 154 million bushels and the crop, estimated at 940 million bushels. If disappearance approximates the 700 million bushels last season and exports total 100 million, the carry-over on July 1, 1939, will be close to 300 million bushels. This compares with the record carry-over in 1933 of about 378 million bushels and the 5-year, 1930-34, high level of about 325 million bushels.

#### THE WORLD WHEAT SITUATION

BACKGROUND.— Total world supplies increased sharply from 1924 to 1933, largely as a result of the increase in acreage. From 1933 to 1936 world supplies declined following successive years of small production and increased world demand. In 1937 world supplies were only moderately larger than in 1936.

During the 1924-33 period, when world supplies were increasing, world prices were declining, reaching the low point as supplies reached the high point. From the spring of 1933 to the summer of 1937, world prices moved steadily upward, reflecting higher world commodity price levels, four successive below-average harvests in North America, and the 1935-36 short Southern Hemisphere crop. In 1936-37 wheat prices advanced sharply as a result of increased demand and the smallest supplies in recent years. Then, during the 1937-38 selling season, wheat prices declined generally, with somewhat larger supplies, uncertain prospects for world business activity, and weakness in the general price level.

### World carry-over July 1, 1939, expected to be large

On the basis of present supply estimates and a moderate increase in world disappearance, the world wheat carry-over\* on July 1, 1939, is expected to be about 1,165 million bushels. A carry-over of this size would be second

<sup>\*</sup>All references in this report to world and Northern Hemisphere supplies, production and disappearance exclude Soviet Russia and China but include net exports from Soviet Russia.

only to the 1,193 million bushels in 1933. Table 1 shows the estimated world carry-over, production, exports from Soviet Russia, and prospective year-end stocks and disappearance based on present indications compared with figures for 1937-38.

Table 1.— Estimated wheat supply and prospective distribution, world, year beginning July 1, 1938, compared with 1937

T.L	Year beginning July 1
I tem	1937 estimates :1938 indications 1/
	Million bushels Million bushels
Carry-over July 1	
Total supply	
Total of above	3,802 3,830
Carry-over June 30	

<sup>1/</sup> Based on current estimates of production in the Northern Hemisphere, and prospects in the Southern Hemisphere, together with prospective utilization and Government policy.

#### World wheat production the largest on record

The world production of wheat during the 1938-39 season is now estimated at 4,365 million bushels. This is the largest on record and about 525 million bushels, or 14 percent, more than the 1937-38 crop, and is about 20 million bushels above the estimate carried in the September Wheat Situation. The Northern Hemisphere crop is now placed at 3,905 million bushels. Upward revisions in the official estimates for Germany, Sweden, Bulgaria and Turkey account for most of the increase since last month.

The Southern Hemisphere total is now estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at 20 million bushels less than the September figure. On the basis of weather and yield studies, the crop in Argentina is now placed at 250 million bushels. Deficiency of rainfall has caused the crop to deteriorate over much of Australia and the crop is now forecast at about 140 million bushels.

Weather favorable for ploughing and seeding has prevailed over most of the European winter wheat areas. Parts of the Balkan countries are also reported to be in need of additional rains, to enable seeding to progress satisfactorily. Too much moisture in the United Kingdom has delayed ploughing recently, and dry weather is now wanted to enable field work to progress normally.

Table 2.- Production of wheat in specified countries, 1935-36 to 1938-39

Country   1935-36   1936-37   1937-38   1938-39		*		•	
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE   bushels   bushels   bushels   bushels   corth America:	Country	:		4	
Orth America: United States	MODURDM HAMISDRAM	•	•	•	·
United States	•			•	
Canada       281,935       219,218       182,410       358,433         Mexico       10,712       13,606       10,586       1/12,000         Total (3)       918,991       859,590       1,066,989       1,310,662         urope:       1       1       1       1,100       66,453         Scotland       1,480       3,547       1,181       3,957         Northern Ireland       362       273       164       2/190         Ireland       6,686       7,839       6,990       2/7,700         Norway       1,869       2,094       2,497       3/2,600         Neden       23,610       21,635       25,720       30,166         Denmark       14,672       11,266       13,522       3/14,000         Netherlands       16,693       15,128       12,555       15,432         France       284,950       254,618       257,838       319,300         Spain       157,986       121,492       132,000       4/102,900         Spain       157,986       124,492       132,000       4/102,900         Italy       282,760       294,570       296,294       5/296,953         Switzerland       5,974 <td>· · · ·</td> <td>६२६ उपम</td> <td>626, 766</td> <td>877 QQ7</td> <td>om ssa</td>	· · · ·	६२६ उपम	626, 766	877 QQ7	om ssa
Mexico         10,712         13,606         10,586         1/12,006           Total (3)         918,991         859,590         1,066,989         1,310,662           urope:         1         1         1,400         359,590         1,066,989         1,310,662           Bralland and Wales         60,592         51,445         52,005         66,453         58,005         66,453         58,005         66,453         58,005         1,418         3,957         1,818         3,957         1,818         3,957         1,818         2,977         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000         1,000 <td>*</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>182,410</td> <td></td>	*			182,410	
Total (3) 918,991 859,590 1,066,989 1,310,662  urope:  England and Wales 60,592 51,445 52,005 66,453  Scotland 4,480 3,547 4,181 3,957  Northern Ireland 362 273 164 2/190  Ireland 6,686 7,839 6,990 2/7,700  Norway 1,869 2,094 2,497 3/2,609  Sweden 22,610 21,635 25,720 30,166  Denmark 14,672 11,266 13,522 3/14,000  Netherlands 16,653 15,428 12,555 15,432  Englam 16,093 16,153 15,550 18,482  France 284,950 254,618 257,838 319,300  Spain 17,986 121,492 132,000 4/102,900  Luxemburg 1,022 1,071 1,206 1,233  Portugal 22,092 8,651 14,403 4/15,800  Italy 282,760 224,570 296,294 5/296,953  Switzerland 5,974 4,470 6,221 6,096  Germany 171,488 162,660 164,120 198,524  Austria 15,509 14,039 14,470 3/16,200  Czechoslovakia 62,095 55,583 51,266 65,697  Greece 27,180 19,537 32,373 35,494  Foland 73,884 78,357 70,774 3/80,800  Lithuania 10,038 8,027 8,109 9,076  Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,664  Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 3,028  Finland 4,233 5,259 7,665 7,643  Sstonia 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176  Eulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933  Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902  Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182	Mexico				
England and Wales 60,592 51,445 52,005 66,453 Scotland 4,480 3,547 4,181 3,957 Northern Ireland 362 273 164 2/190 Ireland 6,686 7,839 6,990 2/7,700 Norway 1,869 2,094 2,497 3/2,669 Sweden 23,610 21,655 25,720 30,166 Denmark 14,672 11,266 13,522 3/14,000 Netherlands 16,653 15,428 12,555 15,432 Belgium 16,093 16,153 15,550 18,482 France 284,950 254,618 257,838 319,300 Spain 157,986 121,492 132,000 4/102,900 Luxemburg 1,022 1,071 1,206 1,233 Portugal 220,92 8,651 24,470 6,221 6,096 Germany 171,488 162,660 164,120 198,524 Austria 15,509 14,039 14,470 6,221 6,096 Germany 171,488 162,660 164,120 198,524 Austria 16,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,645 Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 30,800 Lithuania 10,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,645 Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 30,808 No Lithuania 10,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,645 Estonia 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500 Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176 Eulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933 Hungary 84,224 87,789 76,158 183,933 74goslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902 Total (44) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182	Total (3)				
England and Wales : 60,592 51,445 52,005 66,453 Scotland 4,480 3,547 4,181 3,957 Northern Ireland 362 273 164 2/190 Ireland 6,686 7,839 6,990 2/7,700 Norway 1,869 2,094 2,497 3/2,609 Sweden : 23,610 21,635 25,720 30,166 Denmark 14,672 11,266 13,522 3/14,000 Netherlands 16,653 15,428 12,555 15,432 Belgium 16,093 16,153 15,550 18,482 Trance 284,950 254,618 257,838 319,300 Spain 167,986 121,492 132,000 4/102,900 Luxemburg 1,022 1,071 1,206 1,233 Portugal 220,92 8,651 14,403 4/15,800 Italy 222,766 224,570 296,294 5/296,953 Switzerland 5,974 4,470 6,221 6,096 Germany 171,488 162,660 164,120 198,524 Austria 15,509 14,039 14,470 3/16,200 Czechoslovakia 62,095 55,583 51,266 65,697 Greece 27,180 19,537 32,373 35,494 Poland 173,884 78,357 70,774 3/80,800 Italvia 10,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 16,504 17,925 60,550 64,910 63,933 Fundad 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500 Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176 Bulgaria 47,925 60,550 64,910 63,933 Fungary 84,224 87,789 76,158 183,933 Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902 Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182					
Scotland         4,480         3,547         4,181         3,957           Northern Ireland         362         273         164         2/190           Ireland         6,686         7,839         6,990         2/7,700           Norway         1,869         2,094         2,497         3/2,609           Sweden         23,610         21,635         25,720         30,166           Denmark         14,672         11,266         13,522         3/14,000           Netherlands         16,653         15,428         12,555         15,432           Belgium         16,093         16,153         15,550         18,482           France         284,950         254,618         257,838         319,300           Spain         157,986         121,492         132,000         4/102,900           Luxemburg         1,022         1,071         1,206         1,233           Portugal         22,092         8,651         14,403         4/15,800           Italy         282,760         224,570         296,294         5/266,955           Switzerland         5,974         4,470         6,221         6,096           Germeny         17,488         162,600	-	60.592	51,445	52,005	66,453
Northern Ireland					
Norway	Northern Ireland	362		164	
Sweden					2/7,700
Denmark					3/ 2,609
Netherlands       16,653       15,428       12,555       15,432         Belgium       16,093       16,153       15,550       18,482         France       284,950       254,618       257,838       319,300         Spain       157,986       121,492       132,000       4/102,900         Luxemburg       1,022       1,071       1,206       1,233         Portugal       22,092       8,651       14,403       4/15,800         Italy       282,760       224,570       296,294       5/296,953         Switzerland       5,974       4,470       6,221       6,096         Germany       171,488       162,660       164,120       198,524         Austria       15,509       14,039       14,470       3/16,200         Czechoslovakia       62,095       55,583       51,266       65,697         Greece       27,180       19,537       32,373       35,494         Poland       73,384       78,357       70,774       3/80,800         Lithuania       10,093       8,027       8,109       9,076         Latvia       6,520       5,272       6,302       7,643         Malta       179       236		23,610			
Belgium       16,093       16,153       15,550       18,482         France       284,950       254,618       257,838       319,300         Spain       157,986       121,492       132,000       4/102,900         Luxemburg       1,022       1,071       1,206       1,233         Portugal       22,092       8,651       14,403       4/15,800         Italy       282,760       224,570       296,294       5/296,953         Switzerland       5,974       4,470       6,221       6,096         Germany       171,488       162,660       164,120       198,524         Austria       15,509       14,039       14,470       3/16,200         Czechoslovakia       62,095       55,583       51,266       65,597         Greece       27,180       19,537       32,373       35,494         Poland       73,384       78,357       70,774       3/80,800         Lithuania       10,093       8,027       8,109       9,076         Latvia       6,520       5,272       6,302       7,643         Estonia       2,267       2,433       2,786       3,028         Finland       4,233       5,259 </td <td></td> <td></td> <td>11,266</td> <td></td> <td>3/14,000</td>			11,266		3/14,000
France					15,432
Spain	_				
Luxemburg			191 492	132.000	
Portugal 22,092 8,651 14,403 4/15,800 Italy 282,760 224,570 296,294 5/296,953 Switzerland 5,974 4,470 6,221 6,096 Germany 171,488 162,660 164,120 198,524 Austria 15,509 14,039 14,470 3/16,200 Czechoslovakia 62,095 55,583 51,266 65,697 Greece 27,180 19,537 32,373 35,494 Poland 73,884 78,357 70,774 3/80,800 Lithuania 10,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,643 Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 3,028 Finland 4,233 5,259 7,665 7,643 Malta 1,79 236 326 1/300 Albania 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500 Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176 Bulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933 Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902 Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182	. <del>-</del>				
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Czechoslovakia       62,095       55,583       51,266       65,697         Greece       27,180       19,537       32,373       35,494         Poland       73,884       78,357       70,774       3/80,800         Lithuania       10,093       8,027       8,109       9,076         Latvia       6,520       5,272       6,302       7,643         Estonia       2,267       2,433       2,786       3,028         Finland       4,233       5,259       7,665       7,643         Malta       179       236       326       1/300         Albania       1,554       1,106       1,466       1/1,500         Total (26)       1,274,803       1,097,061       1,200,803       1,327,176         Bulgaria       47,925       60,350       64,910       63,933         Hungary       84,224       87,789       72,158       96,414         Rumania       96,439       128,717       138,158       183,933         Yugoslavia       73,100       107,422       86,238       100,902         Total (4)       301,688       384,278       361,464       445,182	Germany		162,660		
Greece 27,180 19,537 32,373 35,494 Poland 73,884 78,357 70,774 3/80,800 Lithuania 10,093 8,027 8,109 9,076 Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,643 Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 3,028 Finland 4,233 5,259 7,665 7,643 Malta 179 236 326 1/300 Albania 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500 Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176 Bulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933 Hungary 84,224 87,789 72,158 96,414 Rumania 96,439 128,717 138,158 183,933 Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902 Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182	·	,,,,,	14,039		
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Latvia 6,520 5,272 6,302 7,643  Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 3,028  Finland 4,233 5,259 7,665 7,643  Malta 179 236 326 1/300  Albania 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500  Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176  Bulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933  Hungary 84,224 87,789 72,158 96,414  Rumania 96,439 128,717 138,158 183,933  Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902  Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182		• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Estonia 2,267 2,433 2,786 3,028 Finland 4,233 5,259 7,665 7,643 Malta 179 236 326 1/300 Albania 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500 Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176 Bulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933 Hungary 84,224 87,789 72,158 96,414 Rumania 96,439 128,717 138,158 183,933 Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902 Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182		4 3 3 3			
Finland       4,233       5,259       7,665       7,643         Malta       179       236       326       1/       300         Albania       1,554       1,106       1,466       1/       1,500         Total (26)       1,274,803       1,097,061       1,200,803       1,327,176         Bulgaria       47,925       60,350       64,910       63,933         Hungary       84,224       87,789       72,158       96,414         Rumania       96,439       128,717       138,158       183,933         Yugoslavia       73,100       107,422       86,238       100,902         Total (4)       301,688       384,278       361,464       445,182	•				
Malta       179       236       326       1/ 300         Albania       1,554       1,106       1,466       1/ 1,500         Total (26)       1,274,803       1,097,061       1,200,803       1,327,176         Bulgaria       47,925       60,350       64,910       63,933         Hungary       84,224       87,789       72,158       96,414         Rumania       96,439       128,717       138,158       183,933         Yugoslavia       73,100       107,422       86,238       100,902         Total (4)       301,688       384,278       361,464       445,182					7.643
Albania : 1,554 1,106 1,466 1/1,500  Total (26) : 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176  Bulgaria : 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933  Hungary : 84,224 87,789 72,158 96,414  Rumania : 96,439 128,717 138,158 183,933  Yugoslavia : 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902  Total (4) : 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182			236		
Total (26) 1,274,803 1,097,061 1,200,803 1,327,176  Bulgaria 47,925 60,350 64,910 63,933  Hungary 84,224 87,789 72,158 96,414  Rumania 96,439 128,717 138,158 183,933  Yugoslavia 73,100 107,422 86,238 100,902  Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182			1,106		1/ 1,500
Bulgaria	Total (26)				
Hungary					
Rumania			87, 789		
Yugoslavia       73,100       107,422       86,238       100,902         Total (4)       301,688       384,278       361,464       445,182					- ;
Total (4) 301,688 384,278 361,464 445,182				86,238	
Total Europe (30) 1,576,491 1,481,339 1,562,267 1,772,358					445,182
	Total Europe (30):	1,576,491	1,481,339	1,562,267	1,772,358

Table 2.-Production of wheat in specified countries, 1935-36 to 1938-39 Cont'd

			·	
Country	1935-36	1936-37	1937–38	1938-39
NORTHERN HEMISPHERE Cont'd	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Africa: Algeria Morocco Tunisia Egypt	33,532	29,774	33,106	32,433
	20,036	12,234	20,895	21,476
	16,902	8,083	17,637	13,962
	43,222	45,700	45,376	45,929
Total (4):	113,692	95,791	117,014	113,800
Asia: Palestine Syria and Lebanon India Japan Chosen Turkey Total (6) Total 43 countries Estimated Northern Hemisphere total, excluding Russia and China:	3,834	2,795	4,682	1/ 4,000
	18,520	15,704	17,210	1/ 18,000
	363,216	351,680	364,075	402,453
	48,718	45,192	50,410	6/ 45,000
	9,747	8,095	10,242	10,333
	92,641	141,582	136,483	160,421
	536,676	565,048	583,102	640,207
	3,145,850	3,001,768	3,329,372	3,837,027
SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE  Argentina	141,462	249,193	184,801	7/ 250,000
	144,218	151,390	188,018	1/ 140,000
	23,709	16,077	10,157	1/ 11,000
Estimated world total : excluding Russia and : China:	3,601,000	3,540,000	3,839,000	4,364,000

Compiled from official data except as otherwise noted.

<sup>1/</sup> Approximation.
2/ Estimate of the London office of the Bureau.
3/ Estimate of the Berlin office of the Bureau.
4/ Estimate of the Paris office of the Bureau.

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{5}$ / The Paris office of the Bureau regards this official estimate as being too

<sup>6/</sup> Estimate of the Shanghai office of the Bureau.
7/ Based on weather conditions to date.

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#### Total world shipments expected to be larger

World shipments for the year beginning  $J_{\rm u}$ ly 1, 1938, are still estimated at about 550 million bushels, including about 440 million to European importing countries (table 12) and about 110 million bushels to non-European countries. This is an increase in total shipments of about 50 million bushels over shipments in 1937-38.

After allowing for domestic requirements and carry-over there appears to be about 900 million bushels of wheat available for export in exporting countries, which, if import takings should amount to only about 550 million bushels, would leave a sizeable increase in carry-over stocks at the end of the current season.

Even though the general export situation is not favorable, the United States is expected to export about 100 million bushels through Government aid. This is about the same as in 1937-38 when Canada and Argentina had small crops, and constitutes about the same proportion of the total world trade as it did before the beginning of the decline in both world and United States exports in 1929 and 1930. Exports of wheat, including flour made wholly of United States wheat, for July-September are estimated at about 28 million bushels, which compare with 13 million bushels for the same 3 months in 1937.

World shipments of wheat, including flour in terms of wheat, from July 1 to October 15 totaled 158 million bushels compared with 115 million bushels for the same period last year. Weekly shipments by important exporting countries, with comparisons, are shown in table 9. Tables 10 to 12 also contain data on the current movement, and table 8 shows the surplus for export or carry-over in Canada, Argentina, and Australia, together with port stocks and stocks afloat.

#### Foreign prices about same as before European political tension

With the easing of the political situation in Europe wheat prices declined in foreign markets, where not fixed to about the level which existed in early September, before the European situation became tense. Apprehension over continued drought conditions in Australia, however, have tended to give support to prices. Cash prices of imported wheat at Liverpool are shown in table 3 and futures prices at Liverpool, Winnipeg, and Buenos Aires, in table 6.

Changes in world wheat prices during the next few months are expected to depend largely upon changes in crop prospects in Argentina and Australia (where the harvest takes place in December and January), and upon reports on the progress of the winter wheat crop.

ż

	Table	3Prices	of	imported	wheat	at	Liverpool
--	-------	---------	----	----------	-------	----	-----------

	:		Hard v	vheats		: 5	oft wheats	3
	:	U.S.	:	: Canada	;	: U.S.	: Austra-	: India
Date	:	(Gulf)	: Argen-	: No. 3	:	:(Pacific)	: lian	: choice
(Friday)	:	No. 2	: tine	:Manitoba	:Russian	: White	: <u>1</u> /	: Karachi
	:H	Id.Winte	r:Barusso	: 1/	<b>:</b>	:	:	: 1/
	:	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1938	:					<del></del>		
July 8	:	. 88.8	100.7	108.4	92.6	87.2	98.0	91.1
15	:	90.2	99.4	110.2	87.9	86.3	97.1	94.0
22	:	91.1	96.8	113.0	83.8	84.5	96.8	93.8
29	:	89.0	92.1	102.9	79.8	82.9	93.6	91.3
lug. 5	:	87.2	91.7	96.7	77.2	81.0	92.5	91.7
12	:	82.2	84.1	87.6	75.4	76.9	87.6	86,8
19	:	83.8	83.1	84.2	71.6	77.7	82.3	83.1
26	:		~~ m	84.6			<del></del>	
Sept.2	:		***					
9	:		73.8	71.6	60.0	70.1	72.3	71.6
16	:			79.5	59.7	75.0	78.8	
23	:		78.0	78.4	60.0	72.7	80.2	
30	:	73.8		80.6	72.3		90.4	
Oct. 7	:2	68.9		73.8	<b>59.</b> 9	71.9	79.4	
14	:2	69.6		74.7	61.4	71.0	74.7	
	•	-						

1/ Empire wheat qualifying for Imperial Preference is exempt from duty (approximating 6 cents per bushel) under Ottawa Agreements of November 1932).
2/ No. 2 Yellow Hard Winter.

#### THE DOMESTIC WHEAT SITUATION

BACKGROUND. - The carry-over of wheat in the United States for the 5 years 1924-28 averaged about 115 million bushels. Stocks which began to accumulate in 1929 reached the record peak of about 375 million bushels in 1933. Four small wheat crops, however, reduced stocks on a comparable basis to about 100 million bushels by July 1, 1937. Domestic disappearance during the 10 years 1928-37 averaged 680 million bushels.

Domestic wheat prices from the spring of 1933 to that of 1937 were unusually high in relation to world market prices, because of four small domestic crops caused largely by abnormally low yields per acre. During 1936-37 both world and domestic prices advanced sharply as a result of increased demand and the smallest supplies in recent years.

Early in the 1937-38 season, domestic and foreign wheat prices rose sharply following reports of serious

damage to the Canadian crop and the threat of rust damage in the United States. It was thought possible at that time that world prices might remain sufficiently above the 1936-37 level to offset the decline in United States prices to an export basis. However, with an increase in the estimates of the world crop, prospects of large shipments from Soviet Russia, a slow European demand, disturbed business conditions, and a falling general commodity price level, wheat prices in world markets declined.

#### Carry-over July 1, 1939, expected to be close to 300 million bushels

On the basis of estimated July 1 carry-over stocks, the latest production estimates, and the assumption that increased feeding of wheat will about offset reduced seed requirements, the carry-over of wheat in the United States on July 1, 1939, is expected to be close to 300 million bushels (table 4).

Table 4.-Estimated wheat supply and prospective distribution, continental United States, years beginning July 1, 1938, compared with 1937

Item =		nning July l
Trem	:1937 estimates:	1938 indications
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu,
Carry-over, July 1		154
Production	.: 874	940
Imports	.:	0 ,
Total supply		1,094
Disappearance	.: 700	700
Net exports and shipments 1/ .		100
Carry-over June 30		294

## 1/ Includes flour in terms of wheat.

#### July-September farm wheat disappearance large

Stocks of wheat remaining on farms October 1 were about 407 million bushels, or 43 percent of this year's production. The disappearance of wheat from farms during the July-September quarter was the largest for the 13 years for which reports have been prepared. Stocks of wheat on farms, together with commercial stocks for recent years together with the 10-year average are shown in table 5. Figures on stocks in country mills and elevators and in merchant mills and elevators will not be available until later this month.

Table 5.-Wheat stocks on farms and in cities (commercial) on October 1, 10-year average, 1936-38

17.60	Average : 1927-36 :	1936	1937	1938
•	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.	1,000 bu.
Farm stocks	344,589	225,172	333,746	406,989
Commercial stocks:	•	82,849	141,496	139,273
Total in 2 portions:	494,945	308,021	475,242	546,262

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#### United States wheat production fourth largest on record

The preliminary estimate of 1938 production of all wheat at 940 million bushels, exceeded only in 1915, 1919 and 1931, is unchanged from a month ago. This consists of 386 million bushels of hard red winter, 240 million soft red winter, 168 million hard red spring, 43 million durum and 103 million bushels of white wheat. This year's total production is about 8 percent above the 1938 production of 874 million bushels, and about 25 percent above the 10-year (1927-36) average of 753 million bushels.

The durum wheat estimate is slightly below the September indicated production due to a slight decrease in the average acre yield in South Dakota. The production is, however, about 2 percent above the 10-year (1927-36) average. The average yield per acre of 11.9 bushels is 1.8 bushels above the 1937 yield of 10.1 and 2.1 bushels, above the 10-year average of 9.8 bushels.

The preliminary production estimate for spring wheat other than durum is 210 million bushels, which is unchanged from last month. The 1938 crop is 30 percent larger than the crop of 161/bushels in 1937 and is 26 percent above the 10-year average of 166 million bushels. The average yield per acre as of October 1 was 11.9 bushels, compared with 10.9 for 1937 and the 10-year average of 11.3 bushels.

The preliminary estimate of winter wheat production, of 688 million bushels, made in August will remain unchanged until the final estimate in December.

#### Spread narrow between domestic and foreign prices

Compared with early September, before the political situation in Europe became tense, recent wheat prices in many United States markets are evidencing independent strength (tables 6 and 7) as the result of governmental purchases, dry weather in the United States winter wheat areas, and strength in security markets. As a result, the spread between prices in domestic markets and in importing countries has become relatively narrow.

During the next few months changes in domestic prices (together with changes in wheat prices in foreign countries) are expected to continue to depend largely upon changes in crop prospects in Argentina and Australia, reports on the area sown and progress of the United States winter wheat crop, and general business conditions. As already indicated, Australia is in need of rain, and conditions are below average in Argentina. According to present prospects, the improvement in business conditions is expected to continue.

In the United States, rain is needed in nearly the entire Wheat Belt, urgently so over most western portions. In the Ohio Valley much wheat has been sown and the early crop has come up generally to good stands, but germination of that recently seeded is being retarded by dry soil; a good

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rain is needed throughout the area. West of the Mississippi River, except in limited areas, there is urgent need for moisture. In the upper Mississipp Valley early wheat is mostly up with fair to good stands, but late seeded fields need rain.

In parts of the Southwest, especially the northwestern fourth of Texas and eastern New Mexico, beneficial rains have occurred, but otherwise, throughout the Plains, there is an urgent need for moisture. In Kansas much wheat, especially the late seeded, is deteriorating and the volunteer crop is dying, while late-sown fields are not germinating properly. This unfavorable condition is general from Texas to North Dakota, but showers in central Montana have improved conditions there. In the more western States, recent rains have been helpful.

Table 6.-Average closing prices of December wheat futures, specified markets and dates, 1937 and 1938

Date	: Winn		:Liver	-,	Buer Aire		Chi	cago	: Kan		Minne	apolis
	:1937	:1938	:1937	:1938	1937	1938	1937	:1938	:1937	:1938	:1937	:1938
	:Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Month-	;											
July	:134.1	76.0	140.3	82.6			124.6	72.9	120.3	67.6	134.1	76.9
Aug.	:122.3	68.1	127.5	75.5			111.0	65.8	104.8	61.5	119.2	68.8
Sept.	:123.9	61.8	130.2	71.4			106.6	64.6	101.4	60.9	114.7	66.5
Week .	:				,		•					
ended-	:				2/	3/		*				
Sept. 3	:120.3	61.0	125.4	72.2	<b>1</b> 15.2	61.9	106.8	64.7	101.2	61.2	114.7	66.6
10	:124.9	59.0	130.0	67.6	419.2	2/57.4	108.6	62.5	102.8	59 <b>.3</b>	117.1	64.4
17	:123.1	63.6	129.5	71.43	2122.6	2/61.2	104.0	65.7	98.5	61.6	112.5	67.6
24	:123.6	62.2	130.7	72.6	2123.4	2/60.6	106.0	64.6	101.2	60.5	114.2	66.3
Oct. 1	:127.0	62.5	135.0	73.5	2128.3	2/62.0	108.3	65.6	104.0	61.7	115.7	67.4
8	:121.9	58.8	130.4	68.2	Ž137.7°	<del>2</del> /58.8	103.4	64.2	99.3	60.0	110.9	65.5
15	:118.2	59.7	126.5	67.4	<b>21</b> 45.9	$\frac{7}{2}/57.2$	98.5	65.0	95.5	61.0	106.9	66.0
	:			-	_, . _,					•		
High 4/	:138.9	77.6	143.4	83.0	5/145.9	5/65.1	128.0	74.7	123.8	68.9	138.4	78.5
Low 47	:118.2	58.8	125.0		5/15.2		98.5		95.5	59.3	106.9	64.4
<del></del>	•			•								

<sup>1/</sup> Conversions at noon buying rate of exchange.

<sup>2/</sup> November futures.

<sup>3/</sup> October futures.

 $<sup>\</sup>overline{4}$ / July 9 to October 15, 1938, and corresponding dates 1937.

<sup>5/</sup> October futures for weeks ended August 20 to November 3; November futures September 10 to October 15, 1938. November futures for corresponding dates 1937.

Table 7.- Weighted average cash price of wheat, specified markets and dates, 1937 and 1938

St. 7- 2-	All cl	asses: No.	2 : I	o. 1 : No.	2 Hard: N	o. 2 : Western
Date	:and gr	ades : Hard W	inter:Dk.N.	Spring: Amber	Durum : Red	Winter: White
	:six ma	rkets:Kansas	: City:Minne	apolis:Minne	apolis :St. 1	Louis : Seattle 1/
	:1937:	1938:1937:	1938:1937	: 1938: 1937	: 1938 :1937	: 1938:1937: 1938
	:Cents	Cents Cents	Cents Cents	Cents Cents	Cents Cents	Cents Cents Cents
Month-	•					
July	:118.7	68.4 122.5	70.0 151.2	87.6 133.0	79.8 122.0	68.9 110.0 67.8
Aug.	:107.5	68.8 111.8	65.5 132.8	77.5 116.3	73.1 112.0	<b>6</b> 5.6 98.3 61.2
Sept.	:108.7	68.3 109.5	65.7 133.5	76.2 110.1	68.9 109.2	67.1 93.9 62.7
Week	:	•		•	-	
ended-	•		•			•
Sept. 3	:108.9	69.5 107.9	66.7 130.2	76.2 113.0	69.5 107.4	66.6 94.6 62.1
10	:110.8	66.8 112.2	62.8 138.1	75.3 112.8	67.6 111.1	64.1 95.5 61.0
17.	:106.3	69.4 106.6	64.6 132.0	78.8 106.5	70.1 106.8	67.4 91.1 63.6
24	:107.9	68.7 109.3	65.9 131.8	75.8 105.4	69.1 109.1	67.9 94.3 62.0
Oct. 1	:109.7	68.3 111.3	66.8 133.1	76.7 109.5	69.0 111.9	68.6 94.6 64.2
8	:106.0	64.9 107.4	63.8 128.9		65.1 107.4	67.6 91.8 62.2
15	:101.4	65.7 102.7	65.9 120.6		66.2 100.3	68.9 88.5
_	:			, ,,		
High 2/	:123.0	71.0 125.3	71.1 156.2	97.6 142.0	83.4 124.5	69.1 113.8 69.4
Low Z/	:101.4			72.9 105.4		
	•			1	J• J	3,2 -3,00,1

<sup>1/</sup> Weekly average of daily cash quotations, basis No. 1 sacked.
2/ July 9 to Oct. 15, 1938, and corresponding dates for 1937.

Table 8.- Wheat surplus for export or carry-over in three exporting countries, United Kingdom port stocks and stocks afloat,
Oct. 1, 1935-38 1/

Position	1935	÷ 1936	1937	1938
	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.
Canada:				
In Canada	<b>32</b> 9	184	100	258
In United States	21	19	1	2
Argentina	<b>3</b> 6	. 21	9	21
Australia	34	21	17	20
Total		245	127	301
United Kingdom port stocks	6	· 6	9	17
Stocks afloat to:			-	•
United Kingdom	12	17	10	8
Continent		ġ	9	12
Orders:		3	3	g,
Total:		35	31	46
Grand total:	459	280	158	347

<sup>1/</sup> Carry-over at the beginning of the year (Canada, July 31; Argentina, January 1; Australia, December 1 of the previous year) plus production, minus domestic utiliation for the year, minus monthly exports to date.

Table 9.- Shipments of wheat, including flour from principal experting countries, specified dates, 1937 and 1938

Period	: Argen	tiņa	: Austra	alia :	Dan	ipe	North	America
	: 1937	: 1938	: 1937	1938 :	1937	1938	: 1937 :	1938
	: 1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	: 1,000
	:bushels	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	bushels	bushels	bushels	<u>bushels</u>
July-Aug Week ended-	7,752	12,308	12,164	19,636	5,536	1,872	24,192	37,384
Sept. 10 17 24 Oct. 1 8 15	892 560 412 1,144 1,220 368	1,116 880 1,524 836	944 380 1,184 704 904 2,016	1,456 1,380 1,704 1,254 972 1,707	1,144 1,616 1,456 1,288 1,680 1,560	456 624 384 552 400 920	2,128 2,904 3,024 3,312 4,048 4,400	3,400 4,152 4,336 5,536 5,469 4,774

Compiled from Broomhall's Corn Trade News.

Table 10.- Exports of wheat and wheat flour from the United States,
1937 and 1938
(Includes flour milled in bond from foreign wheat)

•					•		
Period:	Wh	eat :	Wheat	flour	: Wheat	incl. flour	
161100	1937:	1938 :	1937	1938	: 1937	: 1938	
;	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	(
:	bushels	bushels	barrels	barrels	<u>bushels</u>	bushels	
July-Aug. : Week ended 1/:	7,598	20,467	643	807	10,618	24,262	
Sept. 10 :	784	558	68	142	1,104	755	
17 :	724	508	18	68	8 <b>0</b> 9	828	
5,4	636	999	99	37	1,101	1,173	
Oct. 1 :	. 655	836	43	28	857	967	
8 :	1,363	572	59	254	1,640	. 826	
15 :	1,792	<u>2</u> / 567	348	<u>2</u> / 512	2,140	<u>2</u> / 1,079	
:						•	•

<sup>1/</sup> Data for total exports from the United States by weeks are not available. These data are the total of exports through 16 of the principal ports.
2/ Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Department of Commerce.

Table 11.- Movement of wheat, including flour, from principal exporting countries, 1935-36 to 1938-39

		Carrier Carrier								
		Exports	as given		cial source					
Country		Total			to date		Date			
	1935-36	:1936-37 ::	1937–38	:1936-37	:1937-38	:1938-39 :				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	.1,000	1,000	<del></del>			
•	bushels	bushels 1	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels				
•		4								
United States 1/			107,204	3,055	5 , 10,618	24,262	Aug. 31			
Canada			94,546	73,239	25,237	17,515	Sept. 30			
Argentina:		162,977	69,670	12,817			Sept. 30			
Australia		98,730	123,343		:					
Russia			43,354	246	391	4,794	July 31			
Hungary		27,428	9,368	•		•				
Yugoslavia:	: 728	17,948	5,012		•	•				
Rumania	6,392	36,264	32,962		•	•				
Bulgaria:	988	7.273	8,484		2					
British India .:	2,556		2/19,621				-			
Total:	490, 293		513,564	<u>,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,</u>	1					
:	Shipments as given by trade sources									
	To			c ended 1			Oct. 15			
3	1936-37	: 1937-38 :				1937 :	1938			
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000			
•	bushels	bushels	•	•	bushels b	•	ushels			
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>	:	,				
North America 3/	231,832	184,720	5,536	5,469	4,774	39,608	65,011			
Canada, 4	; J.		2,75	, , , ,	7, 1 1	, ,	<b>,</b>			
markets 4/	194,531	86,595	9,773	9,301	9,812	28,779	63,796			
United States 5/	10,395		967	826	1,079	16,554	26, 334			
Argentina			1,524	_	411	12,348	17,839			
Australia:			1,256		1,707	18,296	28,111			
Russia			1,512	2,568	1,264	12,040	30,920			
Danube and :	•			<del></del>			J ; J –			
Bulgaria 6/ :	65,544	37,320	552	400	920	14,280	5,208			
British India 7/	16,571	2/ 19,621	112		0	7,480	6,136			
Total 8/		478,357		***************************************		104,052	153,225			
Total European :		to the state of th	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
shipments 3/ :	484,670	397,656	8,640	,		9/72,728 9	1/109.592			
Total ex-Europea	n	- Augustina - Augu								
shipments 3/ :		99,400	2,240			9/20,976 9	/ 28,280			
							· ·			

<sup>1/</sup> Includes flour milled in bond from foreign wheat. 2/Preliminary estimate.
3/ Broomhall's Corn Trade News. 4/ Fort William, Port Arthur, Vancouver,
Prince Rupert, and New Westminster. 5/ Official reports received from 16
principal ports only. 5/ Black Sea shipments only. 7/ Official.
8/ Total of trade figures includes North America as reported by Broomhall's
but does not include items 2 and 3. 9/ To October 1 only.

Table 12.- Net imports of wheat, including flour, into European countries, year beginning July 1, 1937-38 and 1938-39

	: Net imports report						ted
Country	: 1937-38 :	:1938-39 : :forecast :	July to	1	19	37-38	1938-39
	: Mil. bu.	Mil. bu.:	: .		: Mil	Bu.	Mil.bu.
Belgium	: 36	39:		•	:	•	
Czechoslovakia	: 1/ - 1	. 4:	Aug.	31	: 1/	- 1:	1
Denmark	: 6	7:	Aug.	31	:	1.	1.
Finland	: 3	3:	July		:	<u>2</u> /	<u>2</u> /
France	: 16	16 ':	July		:	1	2
Germany	: 47	33 <b>:</b>	July	-	:	9	1
Austria	7	_9:	Aug.	·31 ·	:	1	1
Greece	: 16	,13 :			;		_
Ireland	: 14		Aug.		:	2	2
Italy	: 5	17:	Aug.	-31	:	5·	7†
Latvia	1	.O :	4	,	:		-
Netherlands	: 24	, 24 :	Aug.	31	:	4	. 5
Norway	: (	41 /	Aug.		:	1. 7/	1
Poland	: , 0	1/- 6:	Aug.	31	:	<u>.9</u> /	3/
Portugal	· 7/ 7	۷:	A	71	. 7/		. 7/
Sweden	: 1/ - 1: 14	上 i	Aug.		: 1/	— ;	3/ 3
Switzerland			Aug.		•	34	<i>3</i> 38
United Kingdom	193.	217	. Aug.	<u>) 1</u>	•	<del></del>	- 30
Total imports of above	: <u> </u>			·	:		
Spain	: 3	15:	L		:		
Total imports	: 393	437				60	 59
Total exports	: ~ 2	-6				5	ó
Total net imports		431				58	59
	:					· · · ·	

<sup>1/</sup> Net exports.

Compiled from official sources except as otherwise stated.

<sup>2/</sup> Less than 500,000 bushels.

<sup>3/</sup> Net exports of less than 500,000 bushels.