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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 24, 1943, 3 p.m.- The seventh of a series of 8 telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the fourteenth of a series of 18 weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. One hundred and four correspondents, most of them agriculturists of the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, but including selected private observers and grain men, supply the information on which these reports are based. The Meteorological Service of Canada, Toronto, supplies official weather data.

SUMMARY

Harvesting is general in the western provinces, and in Manitoba and southern Alberta rapid progress is being made under ideal weather conditions. Threshing is fairly general in Ontario, but haying and harvesting of grains has been seriously retarded in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces by the continued rains of the past fortnight. Much hay remains to be harvested in the Maritime Provinces. Some early sown grains have been cut but the bulk of the crop is ripening slowly. Potato yields are expected to be average. However, blight in some sections is severe. Excessive and continuous rains have delayed harvesting operations in Quebec where much of the hay crop is still in the fields and a further reduction in grain yields is reported. In Ontario, early grains are for the most part cut and yields are generally disappointing. Much of the late grains will be cut for feed. Roots and potatoes are promising although late blight is prevalent in some areas.

There has been little significant change in the general crop outlook in the Prairie Provinces, but some improvement has occurred in the better areas of Saskatchewan while in the south-western, central and west-central sections of that province further declines are recorded. In Manitoba the harvest is in full swing under ideal weather conditions. Cutting of the crop has been completed over wide areas and threshing is under way at many points. Yields are for the most part average or above. Fairly substantial progress in harvesting is being made in Saskatchewan except in the extreme north-west. Sawfly damage is severe over wide areas and hail damage is reported from a number of points in the west-central section. In southern Alberta the harvesting of a light crop is in full swing. Warm, dry weather is needed to mature the crop in the central and northern areas where cutting will be general within the next week or ten days.

Fine, warm weather from August 10 to 18 was followed by showers in most sections of British Columbia. Harvesting of the second cut of alfalfa has been completed. Cutting of grain is general in all the southern districts and threshing operations have begun in some sections. In the northern area harvesting will not be general until September.

Maritime Provinces

Ten per cent of the better-than-average hay crop in Prince Edward Island still remains to be harvested. Early grains are now ripening and yields are expected to be above normal. Late grains and root crops are also promising. The yields

Maritime Provinces (concluded)

of potatoes will be about average but blight is present in approximately twenty per cent of the fields. In Nova Scotia only forty per cent of the hay crop is, as yet, in the barns due to the cool wet weather. The grain crops have materially improved since the last report. Some early sown grains have been harvested but much of the grain is fully two weeks later than normally. Some improvement in the weather during the past week has favoured the fruit crops which are sizing well. Haying in New Brunswick has also been delayed by continued rains and the grains are ripening slowly. Although growth of potatoes is generally good, the crop is late and blight is severe in the south-eastern sections of the provinces.

Quebec

Heavy rainfall during the past fortnight has made work in the fields practically impossible. A considerable portion of the hay crop is not yet under cover owing to the excessive moisture and lack of heat. Harvesting of grains is under way and as anticipated earlier, yields are seriously reduced especially in the flood-damaged fields in the Montreal area and surrounding districts. Pastures are still in excellent condition although there is a slight falling-off in milk production which is to be expected this time of year.

Root crops, corn and potatoes are promising although the potato crop is suffering from the rapid spread of mildew in the western part of the province. Some damage from lodging, especially in the flax crop, is reported in Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere area where precipitation during the past fortnight totalled 2.48 inches. Four inches of rain in the Normandin area during the same period has completely checked haying operations and much of the hay is spoiling in the coils.

Ontario

Threshing is fairly general and yields of spring grain are even poorer than were anticipated earlier in the season. Early sown grain crops give fair promise but much of the late sown grain will be cut for feed. Grains are rusting badly, especially the late oat crop, and in eastern Ontario even the rust-resistant varieties are showing some damage. Early oats and barley are mostly cut and yields are generally very light, in some sections only 40 per cent of normal and the quality is poor. On the other hand, potatoes, corn and roots give promise of above average crops. The potato crop is generally promising although some areas have suffered from late blight. Corn in south-western Ontario is doing well but many fields are late maturing and will be cut for green feed. Crop development has been seriously retarded in Essex County by low temperatures and continued drought during the past two weeks. The flue-cured tobacco crop is maturing very slowly and harvesting and curing will be delayed. Pastures in this area are becoming dry although in general, pastures are being well maintained and live stock are in good condition. Considerable land is now being prepared for fall wheat.

Manitoba

Harvesting is progressing rapidly in Manitoba under ideal weather conditions. Except for isolated fields the cutting of wheat and coarse grains has been completed in the area from Winnipeg south to the United States border west through Morden, Killarney, Deloraine to Melita. Cutting is about 80 per cent complete in the Woodnorth area and some threshing has been done with a fairly satisfactory out-turn. Cutting was general in the north-west on August 16 with better than average yields anticipated.

Manitoba (concluded)

Threshing is well under way in the Red River Valley and is started at most points from Morden west to Melita. Excellent weather conditions have permitted considerable threshing without stooking and some straight combining has partially offset the labour scarcity. Wheat yields are ranging from 20 to 30 bushels per acre and although barley yields are disappointing in the eastern section a better outturn is being secured in other districts with average yields ranging from 20 to 40 bushels. Oats are threshing out around 40 bushels but rust is affecting the latter fields.

An occasional field of flax has been harvested with fairly satisfactory yields although much of the crop is very weedy. Sunflowers and rape look good with average yields anticipated. The corn crop is improving but dry weather has adversely affected pastures and potatoes. Wheat-stem sawfly injury has been heavier than for some years in south-western Manitoba but much of the damaged grain can be salvaged. No hail damage was reported in Manitoba last week.

Saskatchewan

Crop prospects have been well maintained in the better areas of Saskatchewan but in the south-western, central and west-central sections further declines are recorded. Some additional hail storms have occurred in west-central districts and grasshoppers are causing serious damage to late crops at some points in the south-west. Except in the extreme north-west, wheat cutting has commenced and in some areas is now general with fairly substantial progress made at a few points. Weather conditions have been variable but mostly warm and dry.

In the Indian Head district harvesting is general with considerable acreage of oats and barley in the stook. Combining of early wheat is in progress with rather light yields reported. The sunflower crop has been improved by late rains. Harvesting and combining of oats and barley is now general in the Swift Current area with oats averaging around 25 bushels per acre. The wheat crop is still green but some acreage is being swathed due to heavy sawfly infestation. Wheat yields of around 10 bushels per acre are anticipated. Flax yields will average around 5 bushels but a good sample.

Swathing is general in the Rosetown area and threshing will commence about August 20. Warm weather has ripened grain quickly in the Melfort district and some farmers are combining or swathing wheat. Good yields of wheat are anticipated with coarse grains light to fair. Heavy hail storms causing substantial damage occurred at many points in the west-central area on August 18.

Alberta

Harvesting is in full swing in southern Alberta under ideal weather conditions but crops are poor with considerable sawfly damage. The conditions are better in the central area with barley cutting under way and expected to be general about the end of August. In the north-central districts conditions are good and harvesting is expected to be in full swing the latter part of August and

Alberta (concluded)

early September. Crop prospects are fair in the Peace River with harvesting expected to start in late August and early September.

There has been no relief from the drought in the south-east although the weather has been slightly cooler. In the Vulcan area swathings of grain is now general and with favourable weather, picking up and straight combining should be in full swing by the end of this week. Heavy hail damage occurred at several points in the Hanna district where wheat cutting is now general. Crop prospects are for very low yields of grain although flax looks a little better. Warm, dry weather is needed in the Stettler district to mature the crop. Some barley has been cut and with better weather the wheat harvest will commence this week. The crop has shown remarkable improvement since July and yields may be as high as last year.

A good average crop is anticipated in the Sedgewick district provided the frost holds off. Harvesting has been delayed by rains in the Calgary area where sawfly damage has been severe. Around Lacombe rains have delayed ripening but have improved the filling of the crop. Cutting will not start before September 1. Hail and frost caused some damage in isolated areas. Some barley has been harvested in the Edmonton district but clear, warm weather is needed to hasten ripening. In the north and north-west harvesting has been delayed by heavy rains and hail damage occurred in some areas. The wheat harvest is expected to be general towards the end of August or early September. Crops all look fairly promising in this area.

British Columbia

Fine, warm weather from August 10 to 18 was followed by showers in most sections of the province. Harvesting of the second cut of alfalfa has been completed. Cutting of grain is general in all of southern districts and threshing operations have begun in some sections. In the northern area harvesting will not be general until September.

On Vancouver Island except for light showers the dry weather has continued and harvesting has proceeded rapidly. Early apples are now being picked but the crop is light. In the lower mainland the harvesting of the oat crop is one-half completed but little threshing has been done. While ensilage corn and pastures are good, hay yields have been below average and some of the second crop is still to be cut.

In the Okanagan Valley the warm days and cool nights have favoured the development of all fruit and vegetable crops. Sun ripe tomatoes, Rochester peaches and Bartlett pears of good quality are now moving to the market in volume. Early apples have been harvested and Transcendent crab apples are now being picked. Grasshopper damage in the Interior has been the worst experienced in the past twenty years.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. Aug. 23	
		8 a.m. Aug. 23	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	trace	9.16	9.62	61	61
	Waskada	.02	11.88	10.14	62	62
2	Boissevain	trace	12.34	9.59	63	63
	Ninette	nil	12.86	10.09	62	63
	Pilot Mound	nil	13.71	10.80	64	62
3	Portage la Prairie	trace	10.61	9.84	63	61
	Graysville	nil	10.84	10.15	63	62
	Morden	trace	13.38	10.06	65	63
	Morris	trace	9.35	10.00	64	62
	Emerson	trace	9.31	9.53	65	63
4	Winnipeg	.02	12.04	11.35	64	63
6	Sprague	.08	11.75	10.51	60	61
	Pinawa	.02	6.89	8.53	64	59
7	Virden	.04	9.44	8.65	62	60
	Rivers	.16	9.41	10.07	64	61
8	Brandon	.10	9.47	10.23	64	61
	Carberry	.03	11.66	9.97	64	61
	Cypress River	.02	10.67	10.09	62	61
9	Minnedosa	trace	12.93	9.95	61	61
10	Russell	trace	10.16	9.48	61	59
	Birtle	.12	10.34	10.11	60	59
11	Dauphin	.05	15.18	8.80	64	60
13	Swan River	.12	8.88	10.17	60	57
	The Pas	.09	12.01	8.14	62	59
Manitoba Average		.04	11.01	9.83	63	61
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.22	8.97	9.39	63	61
	Carlyle	.01	5.70 2/	10.05	60	59
1B	Broadview	.44	10.71	9.09	61	60
	Moosomin	.50	9.51	8.99	63	62
2A	Yellow Grass	trace	6.34	8.77	62	62
	Weyburn	.15	6.99	9.12	65	62
	Midale	.10	6.63	9.59	64	62
2B	Moose Jaw	.38	7.13	9.12	65	62
	Regina	.02	5.86	9.22	64	61
	Francis	nil	6.29	7.74	61	62
	Qu'Appelle	.10	9.62	10.84	63	62
	Indian Head	.06	6.88	10.39	64	60
3AN	Chaplin	1.30	8.98	9.61	64	59
	Gravelbourg	nil	5.95	7.85	64	61
3AS	Assiniboia	.01	8.26	7.40	N.R.	61
	Ceylon	.18	7.44	10.95	64	61
3BN	Pennant	.18	4.44	8.92	64	62
	Swift Current	.20	6.94	9.41	67	63
	Hughton	.22	6.59	8.26	66	60
3BS	Instow	.04	6.12 2/	8.10	65	61
	Shaunavon	N.R.	5.14 2/	7.68	N.R.	59
	Cadillac	nil	7.28	10.02	66	60
	Val Marie	nil	4.79	8.33	62	61
	Aneroid	.02	7.07	9.19	68	60
4A	Maple Creek	.04	4.17	8.54	68	62
	Consul	nil	6.21	7.18	62	60
4B	Roadene	.34	4.13	8.26	66	60
5A	Leross	.10	7.22	9.20	61	59
	Hubbard	.06	6.80	9.27	58	58
	Yorkton	.10	8.79	9.54	62	59
5B	Foam Lake	.02	7.82	9.08	62	58
	Lintlaw	.08	4.92	9.09	60	56
	Kamsack	trace	5.91	8.75	59	58
6A	Davidson	.28	9.01	7.52	60	59
	Dilke	N.R.	5.10 2/	7.85	62	-
	Nokomis	nil	7.18	6.54	64	58
	Semans	nil	6.28	5.94	62	59
	Strasbourg	.44	8.61	8.41	61	59
6B	Harris	.26	6.34	8.05	66	60
	Outlook	.09	6.39	6.88	64	59
	Saskatoon	.36	6.74	8.76	64	59
	Elbow	.20	7.08	7.47	N.R.	61
	Dundurn	.04	4.91	8.88	66	60
	Tugaske	.70	7.97	7.48	66	60

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. Aug. 23	
		8 a.m. Aug. 23	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	.30	6.49	7.91	64	59
7B	Macklin	.52	8.40	8.94	61	58
	Scott	.80	8.71	8.35	60	58
	Ruthilda	.50	7.77 <u>2/</u>	9.00	N.R.	-
	Biggar	.52	8.26	9.06	64	60
8A	Nipawin	nil	5.59	8.63	60	59
8B	Humboldt	.01	4.28	7.57	62	58
	Melfort	.32	6.53	9.15	62	59
9A	Rabbit Lake	.84	10.21 <u>2/</u>	9.10	56	58
	Prince Albert	.07	6.63	9.00	62	59
9B	Waseca	.24	8.23	8.52	58	56
	North Battleford	.72	9.31	8.70	62	61
	Loon Lake	.02	9.94	10.15	58	55
Saskatchewan Average		.22	.04	8.68	63	60
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.02	4.80	10.33	66	62
	Medicine Hat	.02	2.83	7.68	67	64
	Manyberries	nil	4.70 <u>2/</u>	7.76	70	63
2	Cowley	.38	6.15	9.56	58	57
	Macleod	.18	3.33	8.60	67	61
	Cardston	.38	6.62	12.41	61	59
	Lethbridge	.32	5.80	8.51	66	59
3	Vauxhall	.40	4.07 <u>2/</u>	7.46	66	61
	Brooks	.40	4.94	7.40	64	59
	Empress	.20	3.83	7.87	66	61
4	High River	.34	6.89	10.66	58	57
	Vulcan	.34	4.93	8.61	N.R.	-
5	Drumheller	.14	4.54	9.41	63	61
	Hanna	1.34	6.18	10.08	60	58
6	Olds	.36	9.78	10.46	56	55
	Calgary	.98	8.69	10.59	61	56
	Three Hills	N.R.	9.24 <u>2/</u>	8.95	N.R.	57
	Strathmore	.42	7.07	9.31	60	57
	Gleichen	.32	6.40	8.68	64	58
7	Viking	.54	11.52 <u>2/</u>	8.65	60	57
	Sedgewick	.52	9.34 <u>2/</u>	9.27	60	57
	Hardisty	.22	9.04	9.11	N.R.	-
	Coronation	.58	8.26	7.59	60	57
	Hughenden	.42	8.85	8.53	62	58
8	Red Deer	1.34	7.19	12.37	59	55
	Lacombe	1.46	10.24 <u>2/</u>	10.56	59	56
	Wetaskiwin	.84	10.95	10.06	58	57
	Alix	.64	12.05	9.68	60	58
	Camrose	.40	11.10	9.34	58	58
	Stettler	.34	11.86	10.55	60	57
9	Jasper	.30	5.30	5.29	55	52
	Springdale	1.40	11.12 <u>2/</u>	12.57	55	55
10	Vegreville	.58	10.10	11.27	59	56
	Lloydminster	.78	10.71	8.11	59	56
11	Calmar	.54	10.56	11.35	58	57
	Edmonton	1.95	13.38	10.79	58	58
12	Edson	2.78	15.96	10.72	53	55
13	Glendon	.78	12.49	8.91	56	55
14	Campsie	1.60	10.73	10.84	56	57
	Athabaska	N.R.	8.22 <u>2/</u>	9.87	N.R.	56
15	High Prairie	.84	9.19	8.99	56	56
	Kinuso	1.52	9.35	8.68	58	56
16	Beaverlodge	.52	11.19	7.50	56	56
	Fairview	.41	8.30	6.78	55	58
17	Keg River	1.03	7.89	8.94	54	57
	Fort Vermilion	.48	5.65	6.99	57	56
	Fort McMurray	.41	6.90	8.70	59	57
	Fort Smith	1.56	8.18	5.86	56	55
Alberta Average		.68	8.26	9.21	60	57

N.R. No Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.2/ Incomplete.