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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, September 8, 1943, 3 p.m.- The last 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 sixteenth 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

Wet weather has delayed harvesting in most parts of Canada during the past week and has further aggravated the unfavourable crop situation in the eastern provinces. Frost has been experienced in the Prairie Provinces and while damage has been found difficult to estimate at this time it is expected that grade rather than yield will suffer except in parts of Alberta where the crop is still green. Harvesting of cereals is making good progress in the Maritime Provinces but some hay still remains to be cut. Potato blight is widespread in this part of the Dominion and reduced yields are expected. Grain crops in Quebec are still late and the harvest has been further delayed by wet weather. Yields are running about 20 per cent below last year. Rains have also hindered field work in Ontario where much grain is in stook in some areas. The yields of cereals are also disappointing in Ontario and in many sections the outturn will only be 50 per cent of normal. Soybean and sugar beet crops have shown improvement and corn prospects are good if frost holds off during the next three weeks.

The harvest is well advanced in most parts of the three Prairie Provinces and a good percentage of threshing has been done in Manitoba. Rains were fairly widespread the past week but a resumption of field work is now reported from many parts of the west. Frost was experienced at a number of points and was heaviest in Alberta, but most correspondents believe that grade rather than yield will suffer most from the low temperatures except in those areas of Alberta, chiefly between Calgary and Edmonton, where much of the crop was still very green last week. Wheat-stem sawfly and hail damage of importance occurred in Saskatchewan, chiefly in the western and central districts. Cutting and combining is well advanced in Manitoba and about 60 per cent of wheat and oats have been cut or combined in Saskatchewan, but except for the southern areas of Alberta and north and north-western districts including the Peace River block in British Columbia, the harvest in Alberta is late.

In British Columbia, the cutting of grain crops is now general with threshing well underway in southern areas. The hop and tobacco yields are satisfactory and prospects for potatoes are good, although blight is general in some districts. Apples of the McIntosh variety are larger than last year but the onion and tomato yields are below expectation.

Maritime Provinces

The hay crop in Prince Edward Island is about average in size and has been harvested in fair condition. Early cereals are now being cut and threshing yields are above average. Pastures and root crops are also better than normal.

Maritime Provinces (concluded)

Potatoes, generally, show some blight with as much as 10 per cent of the plants now dead. The tubers, however, are not as yet affected and an average crop is in prospect. The weather in New Brunswick during August has been extremely unsatisfactory for the completion of hay making. Probably 20 per cent of the crop is still in the fields in Westmoreland County and the lower Saint John Valley. Harvesting of grain in the Upper Saint John Valley is well advanced. The potato crop in Carleton and Victoria Counties is above average in size but late blight will reduce the yields in many unsprayed fields in the balance of the province.

Quebec

Weather conditions have unfortunately shown no improvement during the past two weeks, and from all parts of the province come reports that the too frequent rains are preventing the farmers from completing the most pressing farm work. In several districts, particularly the Lake St. John area, haying could not be completed at the proper time and appreciable areas not yet cut are deteriorating rapidly. Cereal crops are maturing late and unevenly and work on them is intermittent. The decreased yields forecast throughout the season still persist and the reductions are now estimated at about 20 per cent. Grain rusts are very prevalent. On the other hand, pastures have been well maintained and the situation as regards the dairy industry is most encouraging, with no more than the usual seasonal decline in milk production in evidence so far. Vegetable crops, although late, are fairly well developed. Potatoes and tomatoes have been seriously affected by mildew and the yields of potatoes will be reduced by late blight. Fire blight has been more serious than usual and two-thirds of the apple crop has been affected by scab.

Ontario

The grain harvest is well advanced in most areas of Ontario although recent rains have further delayed field work. Yields per acre are very disappointing and in many sections the crop will be no more than 50 per cent of normal. Late crop prospects have improved generally in south-western Ontario and a fair to good crop will be harvested if frost does not occur within the next three weeks. Soybean and sugar beet crops have improved and a fair tobacco crop is now being harvested. In central Ontario the corn crop looks exceptionally good and root crops show promise although potatoes have been affected by late blight. Heavy rains in the eastern counties further delayed the harvesting of a generally poor crop. Pasture conditions, however, continue to be excellent. In northern Ontario scattered showers delayed haying and harvesting operations. Some threshing has been completed in this area with generally satisfactory yields reported.

Manitoba

Threshing operations were halted in many parts of Manitoba during the past week as a result of fairly general rains, but in the Red River Valley area more than half the crop has been threshed, and in the south-western portion of the province between one-quarter and one-third of the threshing has been completed. No serious interruption of field operations is reported in the Brandon area or west to Woodnorth where harvesting and threshing are progressing satisfactorily. It is reported from the Woodnorth district that the yield of all grains will be above average and that wheat is grading Nos. 1 and 2 northern. Oats, barley and flax are also grading well in this section of the province.

Manitoba (concluded)

Recent rains have been beneficial to sugar beet crops, late potatoes, corn and pastures. Some rape seed has been harvested and the sunflower crops are reported to be making good progress with prospective yields better than average. No frost is reported but recent temperatures have been quite low.

Saskatchewan

Wheat-stem sawfly and hail damage occurred in southern, central and western areas of Saskatchewan during the past week but crop prospects were maintained in other sections of the province. Taking the province as a whole, almost 60 per cent of wheat and oats have been cut or combined, about 75 per cent of the barley crop, and possibly 16 per cent of the flaxseed crop.

The north-western part of the province has made the least progress in harvesting operations and in some districts only 20 to 30 per cent of the wheat has been cut, but in the south-eastern and Regina-Weyburn areas very rapid progress has been made and wheat is 80 to almost 100 per cent cut or combined, and oats 70 to 80 per cent completed.

Hail storms struck an area west of Moose Jaw causing damage up to 30 per cent. This area suffered severe hail damage earlier in the season. The sawfly hazard appears to have been considerably increased as the result of recent rains especially in the severely infested areas of west and central Saskatchewan where crops have not yet been combined.

Some flaxseed crops have been swathed or combined around the Rosetown district where the flaxseed acreage is heavy, but yields are somewhat disappointing and the crop is generally weedy. Heavy stands of sunflower seed are making good progress in the Wilkie district and on the Regina plains.

Alberta

The Alberta harvest is making good progress in the southern areas of the province and in the Peace River district, but elsewhere the crops are not ripening as rapidly as expected although some cutting will be done in most districts by September 10. A heavy frost on the night of September 1 is expected to lower the grade of late wheat in the Vulcan area where yields are running all the way from 5 to 20 bushels per acre. Some frost or near frost was experienced at other points but grade rather than yield is expected to suffer from the low temperatures at these points.

On the line between Calgary and Edmonton where crops are quite late some freezing temperatures have been recorded but correspondents find it difficult to estimate damage at this time. Gardens were hit hard around Lacombe where the frost registered up to 12 degress but injury to grain is reported from only a few places in that area. Slight frost damage has occurred in the Athabasca district but in the north-western sections of the province including the British Columbia block of the Peace River no serious loss from frost is reported.

British Columbia

The weather in British Columbia during the past two weeks has been somewhat unsettled in parts of the province. On Vancouver Island, the days have been warm and clear, and harvesting is completed with threshing well under way. The yields, so far, have been satisfactory. In the southern districts of the province most of the grain has been cut and threshing is now general, while in the northern areas cutting has just begun. Hop picking is now in full swing and the yields are medium to heavy. Tobacco is being handled rapidly and while the acreage is reduced the yields are above average. Prospects for potatoes continue to be good, although late blight is becoming more general in some sections. Bartlett pears and Vee peaches of excellent quality are now moving to market in volume. The apples are sizing well with McIntosh larger than last year. The tomato and onion crops are of good quality, but yields are below expectation.

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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6	Precipitation: Total since April 1	Precipitation: Normal since April 1	Mean Temperatures: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6 Mean	Mean Temperatures: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6 Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.78	10.18	10.52	N.R.	58
	Waskada	N.R.	12.08 2/	10.80	N.R.	58
2	Boissevain	1.64	14.06	10.48	N.R.	59
	Ninette	.96	13.92	10.35	60	59
	Pilot Mound	1.62	15.33	11.71	60	59
3	Portage la Prairie	.95	11.58	10.80	63	58
	Graysville	1.34	12.32	10.99	61	58
	Morden	1.52	15.52	10.89	N.R.	59
	Morris	N.R.	9.75 2/	11.06	N.R.	58
	Emerson	.84	10.95	10.42	N.R.	59
4	Winnipeg	2.00	14.15	12.41	64	59
6	Sprague	N.R.	12.11 2/	11.42	N.R.	57
	Pinawa	.66	7.42	9.54	62	55
7	Virden	.27	9.71	9.42	N.R.	56
	Rivers	.37	9.78	11.00	61	57
8	Brandon	.64	10.11	11.17	N.R.	57
	Carberry	.81	12.80	10.92	61	57
	Cypress River	1.52	12.45	11.04	N.R.	57
9	Minnedosa	.45	11.40	10.84	59	57
10	Russell	1.56	11.86	10.32	N.R.	54
	Birtle	N.R.	10.36 2/	10.88	N.R.	55
11	Dauphin	1.13	16.40	9.62	63	56
13	Swan River	.76	9.60	11.12	N.R.	53
	The Pas	1.59	15.37	8.99	57	55
Manitoba Average		1.07	12.25	10.72	61	57
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.06	9.07	10.22	59	57
	Carlyle	1.22	6.92 2/	10.89	56	54
1B	Broadview	1.86	12.58	9.84	57	56
	Moosomin	.89	10.40	10.02	N.R.	57
2A	Yellow Grass	.32	6.70	9.48	59	58
	Weyburn	.32	7.39	9.83	60	58
	Midale	.06	6.83	10.31	59	57
2B	Moose Jaw	1.20	8.09	9.81	59	60
	Regina	1.14	7.09	9.88	57	57
	Francis	.16	6.45	8.58	56	58
	Qu'Appelle	2.14	11.76	11.64	56	58
	Indian Head	2.36	9.24	11.23	57	55
3AN	Chaplin	.18	9.16	10.31	52	55
	Gravelbourg	.48	6.43	8.67	53	57
3AS	Assiniboia	.32	8.58	7.90	55	59
	Ceylon	.30	7.74 2/	11.74	56	57
3BN	Pennant	.96	5.66	9.58	55	58
	Swift Current	.87	7.81	10.13	55	59
	Hughton	.46	7.07	8.86	54	56
3BS	Instow	N.R.	6.12 2/	8.83	N.R.	56
	Shaunavon	.60	6.04	8.23	55	55
	Cadillac	.62	7.90	10.82	55	56
	Val Marie	.16	5.21	8.94	54	56
	Aneroid	.60	7.67	9.91	53	55
4A	Maple Creek	N.R.	4.19 2/	9.11	N.R.	58
	Consul	.10	6.60	7.72	52	56
4B	Roadene	.48	4.65	8.87	56	56
5A	Leross	N.R.	7.46 2/	9.93	N.R.	54
	Hubbard	1.34	8.18	10.01	54	54
	Yorkton	.78	9.57	10.38	58	54
5B	Foam Lake	.42	8.24	9.83	55	54
	Lintlaw	.32	5.36	9.92	54	51
	Kamsack	.88	6.87	9.42	56	54
6A	Davidson	.18	9.23	8.11	55	55
	Dilke	N.R.	5.72 2/	8.53	N.R.	-
	Nokomis	N.R.	7.18 2/	6.93	N.R.	54
	Semans	.30	6.58	6.42	54	54
	Strasbourg	1.02	9.63	9.04	54	54
6B	Harris	.62	7.10	8.58	52	56
	Outlook	.44	6.85	7.65	55	55
	Saskatoon	.33	7.07	9.56	55	54
	Elbow	.30	7.40	8.00	55	55
	Dundurn	.12	5.03	9.57	55	55
	Tugaske	.18	8.53	8.00	54	56
7A	Kindersley	.58	7.11	8.61	N.R.	54

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6	Precipitation: Total since April 1	Precipitation: Normal since April 1	Mean Temperatures: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6: Mean	Mean Temperatures: Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 6: Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7B	Macklin	.32	8.76	9.62	N.R.	52
	Scott	.78	9.50	9.08	53	54
	Ruthilda	.56	8.33 2/	9.66	N.R.	-
	Biggar	.48	8.76	9.75	54	55
8A	Nipawin	1.02	7.35	9.54	55	54
8B	Humboldt	.18	4.46	8.03	N.R.	54
	Melfort	.66	7.79	10.00	N.R.	55
9A	Rabbit Lake	.90	11.71	9.86	48	54
	Prince Albert	.88	7.73	9.94	54	55
9B	Waseca	.52	8.81	9.22	52	55
	North Battleford	.26	9.86	9.48	56	57
	Loon Lake	.92	11.95	10.94	54	50
Saskatchewan Average		.64	7.91	9.39	55	55
Alberta						
1	Foremost	nil	4.80	11.24	N.R.	57
	Medicine Hat	.63	3.47	8.26	56	60
	Manyberries	.14	4.84 2/	8.51	55	58
2	Cowley	.24	6.41	10.48	55	53
	Macleod	.38	3.71	9.31	N.R.	57
	Cardston	.58	7.20	13.44	N.R.	54
	Lethbridge	.21	6.01	9.23	59	55
3	Vauxhall	.06	4.27 2/	8.17	N.R.	56
	Brooks	.10	5.04	7.94	N.R.	55
	Empress	.44	4.27	8.45	N.R.	57
4	High River	.30	7.19	11.68	54	55
	Vulcan	.56	5.49	9.23	N.R.	-
5	Drumheller	.42	4.96	10.19	N.R.	57
	Hanna	.66	6.84	10.61	52	54
6	Olds	.28	10.96	11.68	55	52
	Calgary	.36	8.81	11.56	55	53
	Three Hills	.48	10.42	9.76	52	54
	Strathmore	.14	7.23	10.27	54	51
	Gleichen	.26	6.66	9.40	54	55
7	Viking	.36	12.26 2/	9.61	57	52
	Sedgewick	.50	10.30	10.30	52	52
	Hardisty	N.R.	9.18 2/	9.71	N.R.	-
	Coronation	.42	8.68	8.28	51	52
	Hughenden	.54	9.43	9.22	53	53
8	Red Deer	.18	7.42	13.62	52	52
	Lacombe	N.R.	10.26 2/	11.52	N.R.	53
	Wetaskiwin	.34	11.41	11.01	52	53
	Alix	.10	12.21	10.48	52	55
	Camrose	.30	12.02	10.09	52	55
	Stettler	.62	12.48	11.25	52	53
9	Jasper	.11	5.43	5.92	53	51
	Springdale	N.R.	11.12 2/	13.74	N.R.	51
10	Vegreville	.44	11.50	12.19	55	52
	Lloydminster	.60	11.31	8.64	53	52
11	Calmar	.18	11.12	12.39	52	54
	Edmonton	.23	14.09	11.65	53	54
12	Edson	N.R.	16.10	11.87	N.R.	51
13	Glendon	.54	13.03	9.65	53	50
14	Campsie	.18	11.21	11.74	52	52
	Athabaska	.30	8.76 2/	10.82	52	52
15	High Prairie	.08	9.65	9.78	52	52
	Kinuso	.30	9.67	9.45	50	52
16	Beaverlodge	.46	12.20	8.24	52	52
	Fairview	.43	8.80	7.51	53	54
17	Keg River	.17	8.06	9.57	48	53
	Fort Vermilion	.76	8.45	7.77	50	52
	Fort McMurray	.32	7.28	9.60	55	54
	Fort Smith	.05	9.24	6.60	47	50
Alberta Average		.34	8.79	10.34	53	53

N.R. No Report. 1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada. 2/ Incomplete.