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by Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, September 14, 1943, 3 p.m.- The seventeenth of a series of 18 weekly telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces is issued to-day by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Fifty-eight 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

Unsettled weather delayed harvesting operations in Manitoba and certain areas of Saskatchewan during the past week but field work is in full swing again in all three Prairie Provinces. Most of the grain is cut in Manitoba but a large percentage of threshing remains to be done even in the southern areas where the harvest was comparatively early. About 77 per cent of the wheat and coarse grain crop have been cut in Saskatchewan as a whole, but only 28 per cent of wheat and about 27 per cent of coarse grain have been threshed. Progress has been slower in Alberta except in the drought areas where the harvest is nearly over, but weather conditions during the past week have been favourable not only for harvesting operations in all parts of Alberta but have brought along the late grains.

Frost was fairly general in all three Prairie Provinces and some late grain in Saskatchewan and Alberta has probably suffered loss in yield as a result, but the general impression of correspondents is that grade more than yield will be affected by the low temperatures. Further damage to wheat from sawfly is also reported from Alberta and Saskatchewan and the rains and high winds this month have added to the difficulty of recovering sawfly infested wheat.

Pastures are reported to be in good condition in most parts of the west and live stock appear to be healthy. Labour scarcity is apparent in a number of areas but farmers appear to be getting along fairly well although the shortage of help is causing many of them to leave their crops for straight combining.

Corn and sunflower crops are generally satisfactory in southern Manitoba and do not appear to have been injured by frost, while the flaxseed harvest is progressing slowly in all three provinces. The abundance of green weeds in the flaxseed crop is prolonging harvesting operation.

Manitoba

Harvesting operations are in full swing again in Manitoba after ten days of rainy weather. Cutting of wheat and coarse grain is practically completed in all but the northern areas where wheat cutting is now estimated to be 90 per cent completed and coarse grain about 60 per cent. Threshing operations have been delayed in most sections of the province and even in the south-west corner around Melita not more than 30 per cent of the grain crop has been threshed, while in the Dauphin section only about 25 per cent of the total cereal crop has been threshed.

About ten days of favourable weather will see threshing fairly well completed in southern areas of the province, although reports from the Morden area indicate that labour shortage is a factor in the slow progress of threshing. The

Manitoba (concluded)

northern districts report an improved labour situation but they will need at least two weeks of dry weather to complete cutting and get threshing operations well underway.

Frost was fairly general during the past week and hurt gardens especially, but is expected also to result in lower yields of late crops particularly in the Brandon area where seven degrees of frost were registered on September 10. Corn and sunflower crops around Morden are doing fairly well and do not appear to have suffered any frost damage. Pastures are good and fall ploughing has commenced in the earlier districts.

Saskatchewan

Unsettled weather has hindered harvesting operations in Saskatchewan also since the beginning of September but fairly good progress has been made. It is now estimated that over the province as a whole, about 77 per cent of both wheat and coarse grain crops have been cut, while about 23 per cent of wheat and 27 per cent of coarse grains have been threshed.

In south-eastern and east-central areas of the province, wheat cutting is practically completed, while in south-western and central districts and along the Regina-Weyburn line, 78 to 88 per cent of wheat has been cut and from 76 to 87 per cent of coarse grains. Progress has been a little slower in the west-central and northern areas but in those areas approximately 70 per cent of the wheat crop is cut. The south-central districts show less than half the wheat crop cut but nearly 80 per cent of coarse grain cutting has been completed.

Threshing operations are farthest advanced in the poorer crop areas of south-western and west-central Saskatchewan, but good progress has been made also in the Regina-Weyburn area where more than 50 per cent of the wheat has been threshed, including a percentage straight combined. The south-eastern, east-central and north-western areas have been held up by adverse weather and lateness of crops.

Frost was registered at a considerable number of points but it is difficult to measure the damage to cereal crops. The early run of wheat indicates that the crop will grade fairly high. The combining of flax has started in the Rosetown area where the acreage is substantial but operations are expected to be prolonged on account of green weeds in the crop. The average yield of flax in this area is estimated at 6 bushels to the acre.

Alberta

Weather conditions in Alberta have favoured the ripening of late grains and the cutting and threshing of cereal crops during the past week. Threshing operations are almost completed in the drought areas of crop districts 1 and 3 while harvesting is fairly general over the rest of the province. About 25 per cent of wheat and 50 per cent of coarse grain have been cut in the Stettler area but very little threshing has been done here, while around Edmonton it is estimated that 50 per cent of wheat, 65 per cent of barley, and 25 per cent of oats have been cut. Good average yields are expected in this area. Harvesting is in full swing in the Athabasca district with 60 per cent of the crops cut, while the harvest is making rapid progress in the north-west area centering on Beaverlodge.

Frost was quite severe at a number of points and damaged crops both as to grade and yield. Crop districts 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 appear to have suffered most from the low temperatures but in the Peace River district, including the British Columbia block, yields of late grain and the grades of other grain have been lowered. Extensive damage to wheat has also been done by sawfly and many of the reports of damage are coming from areas where only light infestation was experienced in previous years. This indicates a serious spread and increase in infestation in southern and south-western Alberta.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 13	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 13	
					Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.18	10.36	10.87	48	56
	Waskada	.48	12.56 2/	11.14	49	56
2	Boissevain	.24	14.30	10.85	47	56
	Winette	N.R.	15.58 2/	11.30	N.R.	57
	Pilot Mound	.50	15.83	12.17	48	56
3	Portage la Prairie	.53	12.11	11.36	50	56
	Graysville	.14	12.46	11.57	49	56
	Morden	.30	15.82	11.33	49	56
	Morris	.24	9.99 2/	11.61	48	56
	Emerson	.18	11.13	10.87	48	56
4	Winnipeg	.89	15.04	12.95	50	57
6	Sprague	.40	12.51 2/	11.93	48	54
	Pinawa	.34	7.76	10.07	49	53
7	Virden	.14	9.85	9.78	47	54
	Rivers	.57	10.35	11.39	48	54
8	Brandon	.32	10.43	11.59	48	55
	Carberry	.78	13.51	11.41	48	55
	Cypress River	.52	12.95	11.53	49	55
9	Minnedosa	.14	11.54	11.27	46	54
10	Russell	.56	12.42	10.71	48	52
	Birtle	.30	10.66 2/	11.23	52	53
11	Dauphin	.64	17.04	10.06	51	53
13	Swan River	.24	9.84	11.57	49	51
	The Pas	.62	15.99	9.44	50	52
Manitoba Average		.40	12.56	11.16	49	55
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.14	9.21	10.59	48	55
	Carlyle	.14	7.06 2/	11.31	48	52
1B	Broadview	.29	12.87	10.23	N.R.	53
	Moosomin	.30	10.70	10.50	46	53
2A	Yellow Grass	.20	6.90	9.88	49	54
	Weyburn	.22	7.61	10.24	48	55
	Mildale	.04	6.87	10.74	48	55
2B	Moose Jaw	.30	8.39	10.14	52	56
	Regina	.29	7.38	10.19	50	54
	Francis	nil	6.45	9.12	47	56
	Qu'Appelle	.10	11.86	12.05	49	55
	Indian Head	.09	9.33	11.66	49	53
3AN	Chaplin	nil	9.16	10.60	50	53
	Gravelbourg	N.R.	6.43 2/	8.90	N.R.	54
3AS	Assiniboia	.24	8.82	8.19	51	57
	Ceylon	.12	7.86 2/	12.32	56	54
3NW	Pennant	.28	5.94	9.94	54	55
	Swift Current	.13	7.94	10.46	52	57
	Hughton	.28	7.35	9.12	54	53
3NS	Instow	N.R.	6.12 2/	9.21	N.R.	53
	Shaunavon	nil	6.04	8.50	53	52
	Cadillac	.04	7.94	11.18	52	53
	Val Marie	nil	5.21	9.24	50	53
	Aneroid	nil	7.67	10.22	50	53
4A	Maple Creek	.01	4.20 2/	9.45	54	55
	Consul	nil	6.60	8.00	51	52
4B	Roadene	.02	4.67	9.13	54	53
5A	Leross	.18	7.64	10.34	46	51
	Hubbard	.16	8.34	10.38	46	52
	Yorkton	.30	9.87	10.81	49	52
5B	Foam Lake	N.R.	8.24 2/	10.27	N.R.	51
	Lintlaw	.08	5.44	10.50	N.R.	49
	Kamsack	.34	7.21	9.77	47	51
5A	Davidson	.08	9.31	8.41	52	52
	Dilke	.20	5.92 2/	8.83	N.R.	-
	Nokomis	N.R.	7.18 2/	7.18	N.R.	52
	Semans	.10	6.68	6.73	50	52
	Strasbourg	.22	9.85	9.32	48	52
5B	Harris	.12	7.22	8.90	54	53
	Outlook	.14	6.99	7.91	52	53
	Saskatoon	.20	7.27	9.94	52	52
	Elbow	.13	7.53	8.23	53	53
	Dundurn	.30	5.33	9.93	54	53
	Tugaske	.30	8.33	8.24	51	53
7A	Kindersley	trace	7.11	8.93	53	52



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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
	Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 13	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 13 Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)					
7B Macklin	.14	8.90	9.98	52	51
Scott	.34	9.84	9.43	52	52
Ruthilda	.38	8.71 2/	9.97	N.R.	-
Biggar	.26	9.02	10.06	54	53
8A Nipawin	nil	7.35	10.10	51	52
8B Humboldt	.26	4.82	8.26	49	52
Melfort	.18	7.97	10.46	N.R.	52
9A Rabbit Lake	.38	11.93	10.21	48	52
Prince Albert	.20	8.11	10.35	51	53
9B Waseca	.12	9.01	9.53	53	50
North Battleford	.22	9.98	9.82	54	54
Loon Lake	.38	12.33	11.32	50	47
Saskatchewan Average	.17	8.09	9.74	51	53
Alberta					
1 Foremost	nil	4.80	11.66	57	54
Medicine Hat	trace	3.47	8.57	57	57
Manyberries	nil	6.01 2/	8.89	55	55
2 Cowley	nil	6.41	10.87	54	50
Macleod	nil	3.71	9.67	57	55
Cardston	nil	7.20	14.03	55	52
Lethbridge	trace	6.01	9.67	57	53
3 Vauxhall	N.R.	4.27 2/	8.52	N.R.	54
Brooks	nil	5.04	8.23	57	53
Empress	nil	4.27	8.76	55	54
4 High River	nil	7.19	12.15	52	51
Vulcan	N.R.	5.49 2/	9.65	N.R.	-
5 Drumheller	nil	4.96	10.53	55	55
Hanna	N.R.	6.84 2/	10.83	N.R.	51
6 Olds	nil	10.06	12.18	54	50
Calgary	trace	8.86	11.97	54	51
Three Hills	.02	10.44	10.21	51	52
Strathmore	nil	7.23	10.66	53	48
Gleichen	nil	6.66	9.68	55	53
7 Viking	.10	12.36 2/	9.98	53	51
Sedgewick	N.R.	10.30 2/	10.70	N.R.	49
Hardisty	nil	9.08 2/	10.12	N.R.	-
Coronation	nil	8.68	8.64	51	50
Hughenden	.06	9.49	9.60	54	50
8 Red Deer	trace	7.42	14.17	53	51
Lacombe	.01	10.27 2/	11.90	54	50
Wetaskiwin	.08	11.49	11.39	54	51
Alix	N.R.	12.21 2/	10.82	51	52
Camrose	nil	12.02	10.50	52	53
Stettler	nil	12.48	11.60	53	50
9 Jasper	nil	5.43	6.23	55	50
Springdale	nil	11.12 2/	14.33	49	49
10 Vegreville	.14	11.64	12.56	52	50
Lloydminster	.08	11.39	8.87	51	50
11 Calmar	N.R.	11.12 2/	12.84	N.R.	52
Edmonton	nil	14.09	11.98	54	52
12 Edson	.01	16.02	12.35	51	50
13 Glendon	.08	13.11	9.97	50	48
14 Campsie	nil	11.21	12.13	52	50
Athabaska	nil	8.76 2/	11.15	52	50
15 High Prairie	.08	9.73	10.17	56	50
Kinuso	N.R.	9.67 2/	9.84	N.R.	50
16 Beaverlodge	nil	12.20	8.61	57	49
Fairview	nil	8.80	7.78	56	51
17 Keg River	.07	8.13	9.89	58	50
Fort Vermilion	N.R.	6.45 2/	8.12	N.R.	50
Fort McMurray	.28	7.56	10.08	55	52
Fort Smith	.43	9.67	6.98	51	47
Alberta Average	.04	8.73	10.42	54	51

N.R. No report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete.