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

Minister of Trade and Commerce

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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

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Ottawa, June 15, 1943, 3 p.m.- The second 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 fourth 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

Crop conditions in Canada generally remain backward. Heavy rains have delayed field work and low temperatures are retarding growth. Seeding and planting in the Maritime Provinces is now fifty to eighty per cent completed. In some sections, however, many farmers will not be able to finish their work in time for the crops to ripen. Pastures and hay field are generally making good growth but in some areas stands of grass are thin and clover has been winter-killed. Heavy loads of bloom are reported in the orchards in all three provinces. In Annapolis Valley apple scab is serious in all but the best sprayed orchards and insects are generally fairly abundant.

Heavy rains in Quebec have further delayed field operations and nearly 30 per cent of the grain still remains to be sown. In other districts seeding is now about completed. A heavy hay crop is indicated for most of the province. Pastures generally are good. Some reduction in the total area of vegetables has resulted from the backward spring and scarcity of labour but growth has been good. In Ontario seeding operations are still incomplete in many districts although progress has been rapid during the past two weeks. Fall wheat and early sown grains are making good progress. The hay and alfalfa crops are doing exceptionally well and haying is expected to be general in about two weeks. Pasture conditions are excellent.

Summer weather is coming very slowly to the Prairie Provinces and the general complaint continues to be the absence of sunshine and warmth. Some seeding of coarse grains remains to be done but wheat is mostly in and the bulk of it showing above ground. Height of grains indicates very backward growth and whereas early wheat in Manitoba at this time last year was 15 inches high the best crops this year appear to be only about half that height. Heavy rains in Saskatchewan and parts of Alberta improved the moisture situation in these provinces but there is still a very dry area in south-eastern Alberta. In Manitoba, on the other hand, too much rain has fallen in parts and the Red River Valley is suffering from excessive moisture. Crops are all well rooted and with warmer weather and lots of sunshine would make rapid progress. Insect damage is light on the whole and pastures have improved except in the dry areas mostly in Alberta.

Cool weather during the past two weeks in British Columbia has delayed plant growth and higher temperatures are needed to offset the effects of the backward spring. Moisture conditions generally are fairly satisfactory although rains are badly needed in the Okanagan Valley. First cutting of the hay and alfalfa crop is under way and yields will be below average.

Maritime Provinces

In Prince Edward Island frequent rains delayed planting and only sixty per cent is now completed. Early sown grain and root crops are germinating well and hay fields and pastures are improving. Orchard trees are making good growth and carrying

Maritime Provinces (concluded)

heavy loads of bloom. Fine weather during the past week in Nova Scotia permitted planting and seeding throughout the province. In the Annapolis Valley many farmers, however, will be unable to complete seeding operations in time for the crops to ripen. Unfertilized pastures are just now beginning to supply herbage for live stock while fertilized pastures are exceptionally good. It is still too early to determine the set of fruit but scab and insects are troublesome in all but the best sprayed orchards. In Cumberland County conditions are backward and only fifty per cent of the seeding and planting is now completed. In this area clover has been winter-killed and growth is slow. Pastures are generally poor and warm weather is badly needed. Progress with seeding and planting in New Brunswick during the past two weeks has improved and from seventy to eighty per cent is now completed. The pasture lands generally have a green vigorous appearance while in some areas the stands of grass are thin and cattle were turned out to pasture two weeks later than last year. The bloom on the apple trees has been heavy and the crop prospects are promising.

Quebec and Ontario

Heavy rains in many districts of Quebec have continued to delay field operations and nearly 30 per cent of the grain still remains to be sown. In some areas, however, weather conditions have been more favourable and seeding is now virtually completed. Vegetation is luxurious and a heavy hay crop is indicated for most of the province. Pastures generally are good. The vegetable crop is showing good growth although the lateness of the season and the scarcity of labour may result in some reduction in total area. In the Hemmingford section although the seeding is two to three weeks late, most of it is completed and potatoes are in the ground. Hay and clover crops and pastures are good and a good set is indicated for the apple crop. Around Lennoxville about 90 per cent of the seeding has been completed but the weather has been cold with frost in many localities. Pasture and hay crops are about average. An excellent hay crop is indicated in the L'Assomption area although lodging has occurred on the rich soils. Some grain and potatoes are still to be planted and tobacco plants are being set out this week. Around Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere seeding is about 75 per cent completed and early sown grain is showing nicely. Old meadows are promising but new meadows are poor in many cases due to the drought of the past season. Pastures are fairly good. Although the season is about 15 days late there is an abundant blossoming of fruit trees. In the Lake St. John area seeding has been delayed by heavy rains and is now from 75 per cent to 100 per cent completed. There was considerable winter-killing in meadows and pastures and growth has been slow. Light frost on June 7 damaged some garden plants. Considerable damage has been done in orchards and bushes from tent caterpillars and wire worms are evident in gardens and tobacco plantations. Span worms have been causing important damage to maple trees in some areas.

Seeding operations are still incomplete in many districts of Ontario although much progress has been made during the past two weeks. Fall wheat and early sown spring grains are reported to be making good growth. The hay and alfalfa crops are doing exceptionally well and haying is expected to be general in about two weeks. Pasture conditions are excellent. In the Essex and Kent area farm work is going ahead rapidly although seeding is still 40 per cent incomplete. Corn, soybeans and white beans are now being planted. Wheat appears to be doing well although spring grains are spotty in some areas. Tobacco planting is under way but a smaller crop is anticipated for this year. Prospects for early potatoes are fair. In the Bruce Peninsula seeding operations are practically completed although the lateness of the season resulted in a reduction of acreage. Corn and roots are now being sown and haying operations are expected to start this week. Seeding operations in central Ontario are practically completed on a smaller than average total acreage. Planting of potatoes, roots and corn is now under way but much later than usual. Hay prospects are excellent. Production is promising in Northumberland County although only two-thirds of the planned cereal area has been seeded. Buckwheat, millet and corn will be used on the remaining acreage. Good progress

Ontario and Quebec (concluded)

has been made in transplanting of tomatoes and cabbages and other canning crops appear to be about 75 per cent of normal. Continued heavy rains have further delayed seeding operations in eastern Ontario and a substantial reduction in acreage is indicated. Hay and pasture conditions are excellent but drier weather is urgently needed. Farm work was delayed in northern Ontario by heavy rains during the first week of June. However, much of the seeding was already completed. Pasture conditions are fair and beef cattle and dairy cows are now on pasture. More sunshine is badly needed.

Manitoba

Cool and showery weather continues to retard the growth of crops in Manitoba. Only two warm dry days were experienced in the past week and quite considerable areas of the Red River Valley are suffering from excessive moisture. Grains are well rooted and the early sown crops are covering the ground but all cereals are reported to be quite backward in growth for this time of year.

Conditions on the Portage Plains, a very important crop area in the province, appear to be quite unsatisfactory. The correspondent at this point indicates that only 80 per cent of seeding is done and 40 per cent of coarse grain acreage remains to be sown. The Brandon area further west reports some barley and flax yet to be sown and expects an increase in summer fallow as the result of an unfavourable spring.

The lack of sunshine and an over-supply of moisture has given some grain showing above ground a marked tinge of brown and while most correspondents agree that germination has been generally satisfactory they all stress the urgent need of dry warm weather to bring about proper development of crops.

Row crops, especially sugar beets on heavy soils show an unsatisfactory condition but pastures and hay are promising. No grasshopper damage is reported, but sweet clover weevil continues to do damage. Insect damage on the whole is not important.

Saskatchewan

Fairly general rains in Saskatchewan during the past week improved the moisture situation and only a few isolated areas are now calling for rain. Seeding of all crops is practically completed and only three per cent of coarse grain and six per cent of flaxseed remained to be done at mid-June. Temperatures varied from cool to quite warm during the week and growth on the whole showed some improvement, although there is a general need of warm sunny weather.

Practically all of the wheat and two-thirds of the coarse grain crops are showing above ground and early sown grains are reported to be about six inches high. Weed growth is heavy in places, especially among flax. Development of crops is estimated to be ten days to two weeks behind last year in the central part of the province, while in the north-east, in the Melfort district, grains are reported to be growing well but forage crops are backward due to cool weather and lack of moisture.

Grasshopper hatching is in evidence in some parts of the province and wireworms are active in places, but the damage from insects and other crop pests is not yet serious taking the province as a whole. Hay and pasture fields are making good progress and live stock appear to be in a satisfactory condition except for mortality among pigs.

Rainfall in Saskatchewan since April 1 has averaged 2.94 inches at the 57 points reporting meteorological data while the normal is 3.73 inches, but there is good sub-soil reserve from the rains of last fall and the moisture situation combining fall and spring precipitation is actually better than it was at this time a year ago.

Alberta

Alberta reports the condition of crops good, except in the drier areas which lie chiefly in Crop Districts 1, 3 and 5, but like Manitoba and Saskatchewan, the chief complaint is cool weather and lack of sunshine. Seeding is practically over in wheat but about 10 per cent of coarse grain crops remain to be planted. In the Foothills country, where crops are anywhere from one to three weeks late, there is urgent need of warmer weather.

East and north-east of the Lethbridge area there has not been a good rain all spring and although crops are reported to be making good progress in this section of the province, good rains will be needed before the weather turns hot. Grass on ranges in this area is rather scanty and alfalfa growth is one to two weeks later than normal.

The past week was very favourable in the central part of the province especially around Stettler, and early sown wheat is 6 to 8 inches high, while in the northern sections of the province from Edmonton into the Peace River district growth showed improvement with warmer weather. The Athabasca area received no rain and shows well below normal rainfall since April 1 but crops have been carried along satisfactorily by the reserve of last fall. Good rains will be needed soon, however, to ensure further progress of crops. Rains were general in the Peace River according to the correspondent at Beaverlodge but crops there are described as only fair to good.

Insect activity is negligible although wireworms have caused losses in some districts of southern Alberta. Pasture conditions are spotty and not at all satisfactory in the dry areas of south-east, but live stock appear to be doing quite well.

British Columbia

Cool weather during the past two weeks has delayed plant growth and higher temperatures are needed to offset the effects of the backward spring. Moisture conditions generally are fairly satisfactory although rains are badly needed in the Okanagan Valley. First cutting of the hay and alfalfa crop is now under way and yields will be below average. Harvesting of the strawberry crop has commenced and early potatoes are now on the market. On Vancouver Island the weather has been cold and backward, and a below-average strawberry crop is now being harvested. The set of apples and pears is medium to light and cherries fair. Field crops are looking well and hay meadows are reasonably good. Haying and ensiling of grass and clover has commenced and the potato and vegetable crops show promise. In the Kamloops section the season is about two weeks late. The range coverage is about normal, but more rain is needed. Growth has been slow in the vegetable producing areas. Around Summerland forage and vegetable crops are making slow growth as a result of continued cool weather. Many orchards are showing winter injury and a smaller set of fruit. Growing conditions have improved in the Prince George region and pasture and hay fields are showing better growth where winter-killing was not severe. Early-seeded grain is making good progress but some seeding of late feed crops has not yet been completed.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 14	
		8 a.m. June 14	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.39	4.08	4.38	55	59
	Waskada	.72	5.46	3.99	56	59
2	Boissevain	.48	4.95	4.45	55	59
	Ninette	.62	5.53	4.85	58	59
	Pilot Mound	.68	4.81	4.79	58	60
3	Portage la Prairie	.62	5.21	4.26	59	60
	Graysville	.26	5.09	4.64	58	59
	Morden	.64	6.38	4.55	59	60
	Morris	.50	5.05	4.26	58	60
	Emerson	.64	4.00	3.90	59	61
4	Winnipeg	.56	4.80	4.85	58	61
6	Sprague	1.46	6.21	4.78	56	58
	Pinawa	.18	2.37	3.31	56	59
7	Virden	.94	5.09	3.66	57	59
	Rivers	.98	4.71	4.11	58	59
8	Brandon	.68	5.16	4.21	57	59
	Carberry	.42	5.89	4.20	58	59
	Cypress River	.82	5.29	4.27	58	60
9	Minnedosa	.89	4.90	4.21	58	59
10	Russell	1.00	3.84	3.92	55	57
	Birtle	1.14	4.83	3.94	54	57
11	Dauphin	.77	6.85	3.43	58	58
13	Swan River	.82	3.62	3.79	56	57
	The Pas	.20	2.91	2.95	54	58
Manitoba Average		.68	4.88	4.15	57	59
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.98	4.24	4.24	54	58
	Carlyle	.72	2.23	4.46	52	57
1B	Broadview	1.11	3.86	3.78	53	57
	Moosomin	.90	4.61	3.74	55	58
2A	Yellow Grass	.52	2.08	4.06	53	58
	Weyburn	.78	1.87	4.29	54	58
	Midale	1.10	2.90	4.54	54	58
2B	Moose Jaw	.60	3.17	4.04	55	59
	Regina	.70	1.88	3.84	54	58
	Francis	.76	1.61	3.04	52	58
	Qu'Appelle	2.14	3.87	4.73	52	59
	Indian Head	1.04	2.66	4.44	53	58
3AN	Chaplin	.26	3.20	4.43	55	59
	Gravelbourg	.60	3.09	3.37	54	57
3AS	Assiniboia	1.16	3.49	3.36	54	60
	Ceylon	.38	2.30	5.08	57	59
3BN	Pennant	.60	4.54	4.38	54	58
	Swift Current	.70	3.86	4.01	56	60
	Hughton	.80	3.35	4.09	54	57
3BS	Instow	1.20	3.44	3.49	53	58
	Shaunavon	.96	2.48	3.37	54	57
	Cadillac	.96	3.18	5.32	54	57
	Val Marie	.88	2.52	3.83	52	58
	Aneroid	1.12	3.49	4.09	53	57
4A	Maple Creek	.66	2.19	3.90	54	58
	Consul	.42	2.82	3.62	55	57
4B	Roadene	1.28	2.03	4.10	54	57
5A	Leross	.52	2.15	3.87	52	55
	Hubbard	1.40	2.40	3.59	52	55
	Yorkton	.60	2.38	3.83	54	57
5B	Foam Lake	.50	2.48	3.71	53	55
	Lintlaw	.18	1.63	3.94	53	55
	Ramsack	.46	2.17	3.01	54	56
6A	Davidson	.20	2.95 2/	3.41	54	58
	Dilke	.22	1.20 2/	3.72	N.R.	-
	Nokomis	.24	1.95 2/	2.79	54	55
	Semans	.20	2.48	2.60	56	56
	Strasbourg	.36	2.87	3.89	53	57
6B	Harris	.32	3.76	2.89	53	57
	Outlook	.18	3.60	2.70	56	58
	Saskatoon	.27	2.93	3.20	54	57
	Elbow	.30	4.54	3.37	56	58
	Dundurn	.12	2.63	3.83	56	57
	Tugaske	.26	4.07	3.36	56	58



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- 6 -

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
	Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 14	
	8 a.m. June 14	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)					
7A Kindersley	.83	2.71	3.04	52	54
7B Macklin	.60	3.25	4.08	53	55
Scott	.64	4.14 ^{2/}	3.26	52	57
Ruthilda	.52	4.09	3.61	N.R.	-
Biggar	1.48	5.17	3.51	54	57
8A Nipawin	.54	2.33	3.64	57	55
8B Humboldt	.02	1.95	3.15	54	57
Melfort	.26	1.12	3.47	56	58
9A Rabbit Lake	.74	3.36	3.30	52	58
Prince Albert	.72	2.99	3.53	55	58
9B Waseca	.94	2.75	3.49	54	56
North Battleford	.44	3.47	3.45	56	59
Loon Lake	.14	3.06	3.92	53	54
Saskatchewan Average	.66	2.94	3.73	54	57
Alberta					
1 Foremost	.09	2.69	5.28	56	61
Medicine Hat	.13	1.10	3.43	58	60
Manyberries	.58	2.78	3.82	58	60
2 Cowley	.05	4.04	4.85	50	55
Macleod	.02	1.23	3.84	54	58
Cardston	.36	5.00	6.56	54	55
Lethbridge	.16	2.36	4.16	54	58
3 Vauxhall	.16	1.89	3.31	51	60
Brooks	.16	1.93	3.42	54	58
Empress	.64	1.15	3.64	54	59
4 High River	.14	2.69	5.23	49	55
Vulcan	.28	2.47	3.91	N.R.	-
5 Drumheller	.24	2.32	4.03	54	59
Hanna	.16	2.10	4.39	52	56
6 Olds	1.16	4.16	4.50	50	54
Calgary	.26	3.23	4.48	52	55
Three Hills	.44	3.26	3.71	52	54
Strathmore	.32	2.19	4.12	52	54
Gleichen	.28	2.46	3.68	54	57
7 Viking	1.04	4.26	3.76	53	56
Sedgewick	1.46	4.60 ^{2/}	3.24	54	56
Hardisty	N.R.	2.94 ^{2/}	3.03	N.R.	-
Coronation	.78	3.80	3.39	52	55
Hughenden	.42	3.80	3.60	53	56
8 Red Deer	.43	2.07	5.19	53	55
Lacombe	.46	3.40	4.24	52	55
Wetaskiwan	.74	3.80	3.81	52	56
Alix	N.R.	3.26 ^{2/}	3.94	N.R.	56
Camrose	1.02	4.41	3.97	52	54
Stettler	1.50	5.16	4.86	53	55
9 Jasper	.50	2.02	2.26	52	54
Springdale	N.R.	2.53 ^{2/}	4.79	N.R.	53
10 Vegreville	.98	3.84	4.41	54	55
Lloydminster	1.40	4.68	3.18	53	55
11 Calmar	.56	3.46	4.63	54	56
Edmonton	1.06	3.59	3.86	56	56
12 Edson	.72	3.73 ^{2/}	3.55	51	54
13 Glendon	.04	2.83	3.49	50	55
14 Campsie	.52	3.13	3.90	53	55
Athabaska	.08	.82	3.69	47	55
15 High Prairie	.60	2.26	3.36	54	54
Kinuso	1.04	2.24	3.60	56	53
16 Beaverlodge	1.03	4.29	3.13	56	55
Fairview	.54	3.61	2.64	58	55
17 Keg River	.03	2.06	3.70	54	55
Fort Vermilion	nil	1.17	2.49	55	56
Fort McMurray	nil	2.80	2.91	55	57
Fort Smith	trace	2.55	1.96	54	54
Alberta Average	.50	2.96	3.85	53	56

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