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

Ottawa, August 1, 1944, 3 p.m.- The fifth of a series of 7 telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the tenth of a series of 16 weekly telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, private crop observers and grain men, supply the information on which these reports are based. All weather data are furnished by the Dominion Meteorological Service of Canada.

SUMMARY

Harvesting of grain crops is now under way in many parts of Canada. General conditions for promising crops were well maintained during the past week and some improvement took place in dry sections as the result of timely rains. The outlook in Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick was enhanced by excellent rains the past seven days, and the drought in Nova Scotia was partially relieved. All grain crops are progressing toward maturity and promise good yields on the whole. Conditions are somewhat mixed in the province of Quebec but the frequent rains on recent days have brought about general improvement, although they have delayed haying operations. The situation in Ontario is still quite promising and the winter wheat harvest is in full swing with big yields reported from a number of areas. Corn and soybean in Essex need more rain and this applies also to the soybean crop on Pelee Island. The outlook for white beans is still good and the dry pea crop in Renfrew county is above average.

The cutting of wheat, oats and barley will be fairly general in Manitoba this week, at least in the southern half of the province, but the harvest is still about three weeks away in the northern sections. Some cutting will be done in Saskatchewan this week and the general situation there is good although the dry areas show further deterioration and yields in the extreme west-central and south-western parts of the province will be disappointing. Combining of wheat has commenced east of Lethbridge in southern Alberta and some early coarse grain crops have also been cut in this area, but crops are still green in the northern sections except in the Peace River country where dry weather is forcing maturity and reducing crop prospects. Timely rains fell in Alberta the past week and while these were too late for cereal crops in some cases, they will improve the feed situation.

Maritime Provinces

Good rains in Prince Edward Island have improved the condition of the cereal and root crops. Haying which is about half done has been delayed during the past two weeks because of wet weather. Harvesting of grains will commence next week. The continued drought in Nova Scotia was only partly relieved by a good rain on July 29. Weather has been good for hay making but the crop is below average in yield and quality. All grain crops are very promising and the early seeded acreage

Maritime Provinces (concluded)

is ripening rapidly. Pastures were badly burned during July and the milk flow has been affected. Potatoes and roots promise average yields but show the effect of the drought. The prospects for the apple crop continue to be good. Good rains during the past four days materially benefited grain and root crops in New Brunswick. Some lodging of the grain which is heavily strawed is reported. Early seeded grains are ripening rapidly. Three-quarters of the hay crop is now under cover in excellent condition. Potatoes and other roots look promising and while the apple crop is light, the quality is good.

Quebec and Ontario

Frequent rains have occurred in southern Quebec during the past two weeks improving crop conditions but delaying haying. A normal crop of wheat, oats, barley, peas, vegetables and potatoes together with a very good fruit crop is reported around Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere. Pastures are in good condition but the wet weather has encouraged a heavy growth of weeds. The prospects for the corn and root crops at Lennoxville are good although the straw is short on early-sown grain crops which are now ripening. Less favourable crop conditions prevail at L'Assomption where the oat crop is only fair. The sugar beet and potato crop are, however, good and silage corn fair to good. Good hay crops have been harvested although pastures are now in poor condition. The Normandin area has also received heavy rains since July 20. Pastures, cereal root and vegetable crops have all benefited and are now in excellent condition. Hay crops, too, have improved but cutting has been delayed. No insect damage has been reported.

The grain harvest is in full swing in Ontario. In the southwestern part of the province spring grain cutting is largely completed and threshing is general. A heavy crop of hay was taken off in the Galt area and spring grains give promise of an average yield. Excellent yields of winter wheat were recorded in Essex county but corn and soybeans have been adversely affected by dry weather. The condition of the bean crop around London ranges from fair to excellent while both white and soy beans are above average in the Clinton area. Harrow reports good wheat yields but a light oat and potato crop. Corn, soybean and late tomato prospects are bright, however, and the flue-cured tobacco harvest is just beginning. Harvest labour is in short supply. Recent rains broke the dry spell in northern Ontario but severe frost damage at Kapuskasing has resulted in a light hay crop. Cutting of a good crop of oats and barley is under way at Renfrew and the condition of the pea crop is still fifty per cent above average. Recent showers have freshened pastures.

Manitoba

The cutting of wheat, oats and barley will be fairly general in the southern half of the province of Manitoba this week, while in the Red River Valley section, a considerable area of barley and some oats have already been cut. The grain crops throughout the province are fast reaching maturity, the recent hot days having speeded development. An exception is the area around Dauphin where weather has been cooler and although the grain there is filling well, the ripening process is slower than elsewhere.

Late and special crops could do with more rain, but generally speaking, the moisture situation is still satisfactory. Good rains fell in the Morden and Altona areas during the week end. These rains were most timely as complaints of dryness were beginning to come from that part of the province. The corn and rapeseed crops look promising in the Morden area while flaxseed is doing well in the Melita district.

Manitoba (concluded)

Wheat cutting will not be general in the Minnedosa district until August 20 but the correspondent there indicates an average yield of 30 bushels for wheat, 35 bushels for barley, and 45 bushels for oats per acre. Stem rust is moderate on barley and susceptible oats, while crown rust on oats and leaf rust on wheat are moderately heavy. Flax rust is moderately light, according to reports from the Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg.

Saskatchewan

Despite scattered showers and heavy rains at some points in Saskatchewan during the past week, there was further deterioration of crops in the extreme west-central and south-western parts of the province. Drought damage showed up also in the Leader-Burstall area in Crop District 4B and some crop there has been cut for feed. More moisture is required for the filling of grain in the south-central section of the province and in the area of Assiniboia.

Grain crops are ripening rapidly in the Indian Head area and early-sown wheat and coarse grain crops will be ready to harvest towards the end of this week. Timely rains in the neighbourhood of Swift Current will assure filling of kernels. The early-sown wheat in that area is in the soft dough stage while early-sown oats and barley are nearing maturity. Conditions are mixed in the central part of the province, with early oats quite poor in the Willowbrook area and prospects for wheat about 16-18 bushels per acre.

In the west-central area, grain crops are good to excellent, particularly oats and barley, north of a line from Macklin to Kerrobert in Crop District 7B and east of Rosetown in Crop District 7A. South and west to the South Saskatchewan River, conditions are fair to very poor. There are some heavy crops of rapeseed in this vicinity. Crop conditions are still very favourable in the northern sections of the province both east and west, and cutting should start in the Melfort area about August 12, and around Prince some barley will be cut about August 7.

Hail loss was light the past week and grasshopper damage of little consequence, but sawfly in the dry areas in western part of the province are expected to do damage. Some rust in flax is in evidence in the west-central areas of the province.

Alberta

Combining of wheat has commenced east of Lethbridge in southern Alberta and the harvesting of early coarse grain crops is under way. Heavy rains fell at a number of points during the past week but in some cases these rains were too late for cereal crops although they will materially benefit the feed situation. The rains caused serious lodging in districts where crop stands are heavy and the straw is long. This was notably the case in the Lacombe district in the central part of the province.

Alberta (concluded)

General conditions are good in the Calgary district and recent rains will carry crops to maturity and excellent prospects continue in the Edmonton area although the crops there are still very green. Warmer weather is needed in the Vermilion section of the province where the moisture situation is satisfactory and crops are filling well. Grain crops are ripening prematurely in the Peace River country where the weather has been too dry during most of the season. A few fields of wheat and barley have been cut in this region and cutting is expected to be general August 10-12.

Further hail damage was done at a number of points during the past week and grasshoppers are migrating in numbers in southern Alberta. Pea aphid is causing some loss to the canning pea crop in the Taber area.

British Columbia

In British Columbia the weather during the past two weeks has been generally warm and dry with a few light showers. Most of the hay crop has now been harvested and is, on the whole, of good quality. Cutting of the second alfalfa crop is under way and harvesting of the fall wheats has commenced. Spring varieties are well headed and oats are beginning to turn colour. Yields of these crops are very promising. All tree fruits are sizing rapidly. Grasshoppers show an increase over 1943 and the whole southern interior of the province is affected. The damage to range grasses, grains, hay, fruit and vegetable crops is already severe.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending	8 a.m. July 31, 1944
		8 a.m. July 31, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	nil	10.69	7.96	65	65
	Waskada	.02	11.62	8.95	65	66
2	Boissevain	.10	13.18	7.93	66	66
	Ninette	.10	14.15	8.50	66	66
	Pilot Mound	.86	14.72 <u>2/</u>	9.28	67	66
3	Portage la Prairie	.18	15.22	8.44	66	65
	Graysville	.28	9.96	8.97	69	66
	Morden	1.54	10.42	8.72	68	66
	Morris	.22	12.83	8.43	66	66
	Emerson	.80	10.24	8.04	67	66
4	Winnipeg	.06	10.42	9.59	68	66
6	Sprague	.10	9.60	9.26	66	65
	Pinawa	.14	5.37	6.99	68	64
7	Virden	.08	11.39	7.29	67	63
	Souris	trace	17.73	8.43	67	67
	Rivers	.09	10.71	8.41	66	64
8	Brandon	.03	14.07	8.48	65	64
	Carberry	.01	10.45	8.46	67	65
	Cypress River	.20	12.34	8.40	66	65
9	Minnedosa	.02	11.85	8.34	64	63
10	Russell	.14	13.10	7.98	62	63
	Birtle	.16	12.03	8.48	63	62
11	Dauphin	.71	15.76	7.34	65	64
13	Swan River	1.10	9.48	8.44	63	63
	The Pas	.44	7.71	6.54	63	64
Manitoba Average		.30	11.80	8.30	66	65
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	trace	11.36	7.88	68	64
	Carlyle	.04	12.47 <u>2/</u>	8.57	64	63
1B	Broadview	.13	12.09	7.78	64	63
	Moosomin	.24	12.62	7.18	66	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.14	12.15	7.68	66	65
	Weyburn	N.R.	8.02 <u>2/</u>	8.16	N.R.	65
	Midale	trace	12.08	8.62	68	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.02	9.33	7.84	68	66
	Regina	.13	9.06	7.93	66	64
	Francis	.04	7.92 <u>2/</u>	6.58	65	64
	Qu'Appelle	.10	9.59	9.32	66	64
	Indian Head	.16	10.05	9.00	66	63
3AN	Chaplin	.12	9.29	8.20	66	64
	Gravelbourg	N.R.	6.83 <u>2/</u>	6.47	N.R.	65
3AS	Assiniboia	.02	7.88	6.62	68	65
	Ceylon	.08	9.84	9.64	69	66
3BN	Pennant	.56	12.17	7.93	66	65
	Swift Current	1.11	9.05	7.98	66	64
	Hughton	.48	3.45	7.10	62	63
3BS	Instow	nil	6.47 <u>2/</u>	6.88	65	65
	Shaunavon	.06	6.30	6.81	67	63
	Cadillac	.10	6.04	8.73	66	63
	Val Marie	N.R.	3.72 <u>2/</u>	7.39	N.R.	65
	Aneroid	.14	5.23	7.82	69	63
4A	Maple Creek	.86	4.90	7.63	71	65
	Consul	.78	7.14	6.31	63	62
4B	Roadene	.40	7.08	7.11	68	63
5A	Leross	.52	7.37	7.98	65	62
	Hubbard	.44	9.77	7.83	64	62
	Yorkton	.32	7.48	7.98	66	62
5B	Foam Lake	N.R.	7.26 <u>2/</u>	7.75	N.R.	61
	Lintlaw	.90	6.35	8.02	64	61
	Kamsack	.46	5.19	7.36	64	63
6A	Davidson	1.02	11.26	6.45	65	64
	Dilke	N.R.	5.44 <u>2/</u>	6.85	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	1.00	8.17 <u>2/</u>	5.91	64	63
	Semans	1.00	6.86	5.17	66	62
	Strasbourg	.30	9.84	7.29	62	62
6B	Harris	1.04	6.07	7.08	66	64
	Outlook	.96	8.27	5.35	65	63
	Saskatoon	.94	8.88	7.20	63	63
	Elbow	.78	8.66	6.48	65	63
	Dundurn	1.20	9.14	7.72	65	63



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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 31, 1944	
		8 a.m. July 31, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
	Tugaske	.50	9.98	6.47	67	64
7A	Kindersley	trace	5.04	6.49	64	62
7B	Macklin	.60	11.73	7.62	62	60
	Scott	.62	10.26	7.03	62	62
	Ruthilda	N.R.	9.11 <u>2/</u>	7.59	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.62	6.70	7.70	60	62
8A	Nipawin	1.14	9.79	7.58	65	62
8B	Humboldt	.82	6.26	6.48	61	62
	Melfort	1.60	8.95	7.59	61	63
9A	Rabbit Lake	.30	8.23	7.62	58	61
	Prince Albert	.27	8.83	7.32	61	63
9B	Waseca	.78	12.25	7.20	61	61
	North Battleford	.26	10.58	7.26	64	64
	Loon Lake	.64	12.00	8.52	62	61
Saskatchewan Average		.48	8.56	7.44	65	64
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.98	5.02	8.73	70	66
	Medicine Hat	1.32	8.08	6.59	71	67
	Manyberries	.06	6.02	6.63	71	67
2	Cowley	.37	6.46	8.08	65	60
	Macleod	.48	6.48	7.36	67	64
	Cardston	.56	6.16	10.84	66	62
	Lethbridge	.25	6.89	7.46	68	64
3	Vauxhall	.30	7.98	6.24	68	62
	Brooks	1.18	6.19	6.37	70	62
	Empress	.18	3.08	6.98	69	65
4	High River	1.34	8.34	8.89	60	61
	Vulcan	1.50	9.82	7.75	N.R.	62
5	Drumheller	1.34	6.34	7.95	65	65
	Hanna	2.26	7.24	8.82	63	62
6	Olds	2.34	8.98	8.26	61	60
	Calgary	2.49	11.49	8.83	61	62
	Three Hills	1.82	5.56 <u>2/</u>	7.41	62	60
	Strathmore	1.08	8.44	N.R.	62	N.R.
	Gleichen	2.34	9.99	7.23	63	62
7	Viking	.78	7.61	6.84	60	59
	Sedgewick	1.36	8.59	7.52	62	60
	Hardisty	1.18	8.02	7.81	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	1.16	7.69	6.48	63	59
	Hughenden	1.20	10.30	7.30	62	59
8	Red Deer	2.31	12.26	10.19	60	59
	Lacombe	2.42	15.56	8.75	60	59
	Wetaskiwin	1.68	13.86	8.25	60	60
	Alix	N.R.	7.68 <u>2/</u>	8.08	N.R.	61
	Camrose	1.90	11.19	7.97	62	61
	Stettler	2.14	12.18	9.09	58	60
9	Jasper	.08	10.35	4.26	61	60
	Springdale	2.28	15.42	10.22	58	58
10	Vegreville	.90	9.40	9.33	61	60
	Lloydminster	.96	11.16	6.89	62	60
11	Calmar	N.R.	16.14 <u>2/</u>	9.29	N.R.	60
	Edmonton	.84	14.86	8.90	62	62
12	Edson	1.04	15.89 <u>2/</u>	8.45	60	57
13	Glendon	.40	10.80	7.46	63	60
14	Campsie	.34	12.30 <u>2/</u>	8.88	62	60
	Athabaska	.14	10.27	7.91	60	59
15	High Prairie	.62	5.28	7.73	62	60
	Kinuso	N.R.	2.27 <u>2/</u>	7.43	N.R.	60
16	Beaverlodge	.41	5.50	6.30	61	60
	Grande Prairie	.66	8.30	7.50	63	60
	Fairview	.05	6.13	5.42	62	60
17	Keg River	.67	5.59	7.53	60	60
	Fort Vermilion	1.50	3.35	5.56	60	60
	Fort McMurray	N.R.	6.35 <u>2/</u>	7.04	N.R.	62
	Fort Smith	1.12	5.57	4.60	59	59
Alberta Average		1.12	8.74	7.69	63	61

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