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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 8, 1944, 3 p.m.- The eleventh of a series of 16 weekly telegraphic reports dealing with crop conditions in the three Prairie Provinces is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. 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.

S U M M A R Y

A considerable amount of grain was cut in the Prairie Provinces during the past week, the greatest progress being made in southern Manitoba, the dry sections of southern Alberta and in the Peace River country. Heavy rains halted work in Manitoba but the general outlook for grain crops in that province continues promising. Good showers in Saskatchewan were beneficial but the area of deterioration appears to have spread a little and crop prospects in the Rosetown district have declined perceptibly. Sawfly damage in the dry section of south-western Saskatchewan was noticeable while hail took further toll at a number of points. The Alberta picture showed little change, rains coming too late to help crops in the very dry sections.

Much of the grain in Manitoba is ready for harvesting and operations will be widespread as soon as weather permits, while crops are ripening rapidly in the southern half of Saskatchewan and cutting of barley is well underway. Grain on summer-fallow is in good to excellent condition but on stubble it ranges from fair to poor. The harvesting of grain in Alberta is largely confined to the dry sections of the south and the Peace River country where premature ripening resulting from heat and drought advanced the harvest date. Headers and combines are busy south of Calgary and east of the foothills and wheat is mostly yielding less than five bushels to the acre in this area.

Crop prospects continue excellent in most northern districts, the Peace River excepted, and heavy yields of wheat and other grains are indicated by correspondents at Melfort and Prince in Saskatchewan, and through the central and northern sections of Alberta. Losses from hail occurred in all three provinces and some damage from flooding may occur in southern Manitoba, while sawfly may take a toll in both Saskatchewan and Alberta. Losses from other sources except drought are light.

Labour is scarce at a large number of points and presents one of the biggest problems. There is also a shortage of experienced power equipment operators in the Portage district of Manitoba.

Manitoba

Wet weather interfered with harvesting operations in Manitoba during the past week. Cutting had become quite general in the southern half of the province but rains were **extremely** heavy in south section of the Red River Valley and field work was halted. Part of this area was badly flooded in the early part of the season and the latest rains may cause considerable loss. Barley has lodged badly in the Portage district but harvesting operations have made good progress in that section of the province, approximately 25 per cent of the grain crops having been cut, chiefly barley and oats.

Manitoba (concluded)

Late crops and potatoes will benefit from the latest rains and it now appears that Manitoba has sufficient moisture in most areas to complete crops. Prospective yields of wheat on the Portage plains are placed at 36 bushels, barley at 50 bushels and oats at 60 bushels per acre. Flaxseed and dry peas in this area are also promising though the crops are weedy. A heavy growth of oil-bearing seed crops is reported in the Morden area.

Further hail damage was suffered at a number of points during the past week but other sources of damage were not important. The entomologists report that adult sweet clover weevils have been emerging in large numbers at scattered points in the province, and in a few instances important damage is being done to both seedling and second year stands of sweet clover.

Saskatchewan

Crops are ripening rapidly in the southern half of Saskatchewan and barley cutting is fairly general. Grains on summerfallow are in good to excellent condition, while on stubble the outlook ranges from fair to poor. Heavy showers during the past seven days have improved moisture conditions in some areas and in the Swift Current district they assure sufficient moisture to mature all crops.

Prospects for wheat have receded in the Rosetown area where extremely hot and dry weather has hastened maturity and cut the yield. Average yield of wheat in this district is now estimated at 15 bushels per acre compared with 20 bushels estimated at mid-July. The flaxseed crop in this section is expected to yield seven bushels to the acre.

In the north-eastern parts of the province around Melfort, the outlook for all crops continues promising with wheat likely to yield an average of 30 bushels, oats 60 bushels and barley 30 bushels per acre. Cutting will commence in that area this week. South-east of Melfort City, in the Carragana district, some heavy hail damage occurred but crops there are generally well filled and barley almost ripe.

Wheat-stem sawfly is beginning to cut ripening wheat in the south-western districts of the province where drought has also been a source of heavy loss most of the season. Hail losses were also heavy at several points following a storm on August 2, while army worm is destroying flax and rapeseed crops in the Imperial and Bredenbury districts.

Alberta

Harvesting by header and combine is well underway on the poorer wheat fields south of Calgary and east of the foothills area. Yields are running less than 5 bushels per acre in this section and grading No. 2 to No. 4 northern. Prospects around Vulcan suggest an average of 15 bushels for wheat while flaxseed is very promising in this section. Wheat yields in the Manyberries area are expected to be slightly higher than in 1943.

Rains the past week in the Hanna district came too late for grain crops but will help the feed situation. Wheat in this area looks like a 7-bushel crop and oats about 15 bushels to the acre. Conditions around Calgary are good but a spell of dry warm weather is needed to mature crops. The outlook at Sedgewick is still good.

Lacombe in the west-central area of the province has had its wettest July in 37 years and while the crops are very heavy in that area, much grain is lodged and harvesting operations will be both difficult and expensive. Dry, warm weather is now needed to hasten the ripening of all crops in this district.

The Peace River country continues to suffer from dry weather and premature ripening of crops. Cutting has commenced but the yield of grain is expected to be small and the sample lean.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. Aug. 7,	
		8 a.m. Aug. 7, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	1.40	12.09	8.47	64	64
2	Waskada	3.30	14.92	9.37	60	65
	Boissevain	2.12	15.30	8.43	65	65
	Ninette	.82	14.97	8.97	65	65
3	Pilot Mound	1.46	16.18	9.76	60	65
	Portage la Prairie	.51	15.73	8.89	70	64
	Graysville	.80	10.76	9.35	69	65
	Morden	1.80	12.02	9.14	68	65
	Morris	.90	13.73	8.93	69	66
4	Emerson	3.30	13.84	8.53	N.R.	65
	Winnipeg	.34	10.76	10.15	69	65
6	Sprague	1.00	9.70	9.69	70	64
7	Pinawa	.66	6.03	7.47	68	63
	Virden	1.12	12.51	7.70	67	63
	Souris	.88	18.61	8.97	68	66
8	Rivers	.49	11.20	8.93	68	63
	Brandon	.98	15.16	9.04	67	63
	Carberry	.51	10.96	9.01	68	64
9	Cypress River	1.70	14.04	8.94	67	64
	Minnedosa	1.11	12.96	8.84	66	63
10	Russell	.66	13.72	8.46	65	62
11	Birtle	.66	12.69	9.02	65	62
	Dauphin	.01	15.77	7.84	67	63
13	Swan River	.64	10.12	8.99	65	61
	The Pas	.17	7.88	7.03	66	63
Manitoba Average		1.10	12.87	8.79	66	64
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	1.38	12.74	8.33	65	64
	Carlyle	N.R.	12.522/	9.03	N.R.	62
1B	Broadview	.89	13.14	8.26	64	62
	Moosomin	.46	13.08	7.69	66	63
2A	Yellow Grass	.98	13.13	8.02	67	64
	Weyburn	N.R.	8.022/	8.50	N.R.	64
	Midale	2.50	14.58	8.95	68	64
2B	Moose Jaw	.34	9.72	8.25	67	65
	Regina	.54	9.60	8.36	68	63
	Francis	.84	8.76	6.93	65	63
	Qu'Appelle	.90	10.49	9.83	66	63
	Indian Head	.90	10.45	9.45	67	62
3AN	Chaplin	.04	9.33	8.63	68	63
	Gravelbourg	1.32	8.15	6.76	68	64
3AS	Assiniboia	2.62	10.50	6.87	67	64
	Ceylon	1.44	11.28	10.11	68	65
3BN	Pennant	.28	12.45	8.23	68	64
	Swift Current	.58	9.63	8.44	67	63
	Hughton	.28	3.73	7.46	70	63
3BS	Instow	.32	6.792/	7.26	69	64
	Shaunavon	.18	6.48	7.10	67	63
	Cadillac	1.80	7.84	9.09	68	62
	Val Marie	.16	4.16	7.70	68	64
	Aneroid	1.34	6.57	8.24	68	62
4A	Maple Creek	.56	5.46	7.94	69	64
	Consul	.22	7.36	6.58	63	61
4B	Roadene	.50	7.58	7.48	68	63
5A	Leross	.06	7.43	8.40	65	62
	Hubbard	.30	10.07	8.32	65	61
	Yorkton	.18	7.66	8.50	68	61
5B	Foam Lake	nil	7.70	8.27	69	60
	Lintlaw	.08	6.43	8.40	66	60
	Kamsack	nil	5.19	7.88	66	62
6A	Davidson	.24	11.50	6.81	68	63
	Dilke	N.R.	5.442/	7.11	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	N.R.	8.172/	6.15	N.R.	60
	Semans	.14	7.00	5.44	69	60
	Strasbourg	.30	10.14	7.65	66	61
6B	Harris	trace	6.07	7.48	69	61
	Outlook	.06	8.33	5.80	N.R.	61
	Saskatoon	.36	9.24	7.72	69	61
	Elbow	.10	8.76	6.79	68	62
	Dundurn	.20	9.34	8.09	69	61
	Tugaska	.36	10.34	6.80	65	62



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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. Aug. 7, 1944	Normal
		8 a.m. Aug. 7, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	
SASKATCHEWAN (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	.73	5.77	6.96	68	61
7B	Macklin	1.04	12.77	8.10	N.R.	60
	Scott	.10	10.36	7.51	65	60
	Ruthilda	N.R.	5.11 2/	8.08	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.58	7.30	8.16	68	62
8A	Nipawin	1.18	10.97	7.90	61	61
8B	Humboldt	.62	6.88	6.88	66	61
	Melfort	1.10	10.05	8.15	66	62
9A	Rabbit Lake	.96	9.19	8.13	62	60
	Prince Albert	.12	8.95	7.83	66	62
9B	Waseca	1.22	13.47	7.62	64	60
	North Battleford	.04	10.62	7.71	68	64
	Loon Lake	.30	12.30	9.05	63	60
Saskatchewan Average		.61	9.05	7.84	67	62
ALBERTA						
1	Foremost	nil	5.02	9.20	67	65
	Medicine Hat	trace	8.08	6.93	68	66
	Mannyberries	.86	6.88	6.97	67	65
2	Cowley	.19	6.65	8.51	62	59
	Macleod	.04	6.52	7.74	68	63
	Cardston	.12	6.28	11.31	63	61
	Lethbridge	.04	6.93	7.81	66	63
3	Vauxhall	.14	5.12	6.62	66	62
	Brooks	nil	6.19	6.71	69	62
	Empress	.18	3.26	7.26	68	64
4	High River	.14	8.48	9.39	58	60
	Vulcan	.12	9.94	8.06	N.R.	61
5	Drumheller	.14	6.48	8.40	65	64
	Hanna	.46	7.70	9.26	64	61
6	Olds	.64	9.62	8.89	59	58
	Calgary	.33	11.82	9.38	61	61
	Three Hills	.58	6.14 2/	7.86	62	59
	Strathmore	.16	8.60	N.R.	62	N.R.
	Gleichen	.20	10.19	7.68	66	61
7	Viking	1.68	9.29	7.35	62	59
	Sedgewick	.86	9.45	8.05	64	59
	Hardisty	.28	8.30	8.31	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.43	7.12	6.84	65	58
	Hughenden	1.04	11.34	7.72	64	58
8	Red Deer	.25	12.51	10.84	60	58
	Lacombe	.10	15.71	9.30	62	58
	Wetaskiwin	.56	14.42	8.80	63	59
	Alix	.64	8.82 2/	8.60	59	60
	Camrose	.64	11.83	8.43	62	60
	Stettler	.88	13.06	9.60	62	59
9	Jasper	.09	10.44	4.57	59	60
	Springdale	N.R.	15.42 2/	10.98	N.R.	57
10	Vegreville	.62	10.02	9.96	63	59
	Lloydminster	.35	11.51 2/	7.32	64	59
11	Calmar	.40	16.54	9.97	61	59
	Edmonton	1.16	16.02	9.55	63	61
12	Edson	.10	15.99	9.17	60	57
13	Glendon	.54	11.34	7.94	61	58
14	Campsie	.08	12.38 2/	9.55	61	59
	Athabaska	.14	10.41	8.55	56	58
15	High Prairie	.50	5.78	8.13	64	60
	Kinuso	N.R.	2.27 2/	7.84	N.R.	60
16	Beaverlodge	.11	5.61	6.70	61	59
	Grande Prairie	.04	8.34	8.00	62	59
	Fairview	.27	6.40	5.82	63	60
17	Keg River	.10	5.69	8.06	62	59
	Fort Vermilion	.26	3.61	6.00	64	59
	Fort McMurray	.03	6.74	7.62	62	60
	Fort Smith	trace	5.57	4.98	61	58
Alberta Average		.35	9.02	8.18	63	60

N.R. N Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete.