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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, September 26, 1944, 3 p.m.- The last 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 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

Continued rainfall during the past two weeks has delayed harvesting in most areas of the Prairies. In the brown soil zone along the International Line most of the threshing has been completed but in central and northern areas of all three provinces only a small quantity of grain has been threshed, although cutting is fairly well advanced in most areas. The grade of grain has suffered in these unthreshed areas from the continued wet weather and scattered but light frost damage has occurred.

Harvesting is under way again in south-central Manitoba but the grain is still too damp in the north-centre and north-west. Grades have probably been lowered more in these areas than elsewhere in the Prairies as extensive sprouting in the stook has occurred with wheat grading No. 3 Northern or lower. Sunflower, rapeseed, corn and peas are reported in good condition although some peas are also beginning to sprout.

In southern Saskatchewan, with the exception of the south-east corner, practically all of the cutting and the greater part of the threshing has been completed. In the south-east only some 20 per cent of the grain has been threshed with continued wet weather interrupting. In central and northern Saskatchewan cutting is far advanced but threshing is still only about 50 per cent completed with much of the grain frozen around Melfort in the north-east. Sawfly damage for the province is reported about the same as last year when it was estimated that about 17 million bushels were lost.

Conditions in Alberta vary greatly with most of the threshing completed in the area south of Calgary and in the Peace River. Both of these sections experienced an abnormally dry season and the grains matured early. In central Alberta about 70 per cent of the cutting has been completed with anywhere from 5 to 30 per cent of the grain threshed. So far, grades have been mostly No. 2 but with continued wet weather the grain will deteriorate rapidly. The outlook for rapeseed and dry peas is favourable.

Manitoba

Some improvement in the weather has permitted the resumption of harvesting operations in most areas of Manitoba although wet weather continues in north-centre and north-west districts. Practically all wheat and coarse grains have been cut in the southern and central part of the province, but substantial acreages remain to be threshed. The grade of grain has suffered from the continued wet weather

Manitoba (concluded)

with much grain reported No. 3 Northern or lower and No. 3 Northern Tough. In the south-central district harvesting is again underway after three weeks of wet weather. Ninety per cent of the wheat and 60 per cent of the coarse grains has been threshed. Since the wet weather wheat has been grading No. 3 Northern or lower. Sunflower, rapeseed, corn and peas are good but some peas have started to sprout. In the south-west only 15 per cent of the wheat and 40 per cent of the coarse grains has been threshed and three weeks of dry weather will be required to finish the job. In the Portage area 90 per cent of the wheat and 70 per cent of the coarse grains has been threshed. Wheat is grading 2, 3 and 4 Northern with some rejected for sprouting. The pea crop stood up well with only 10 to 15 per cent loss. The sugar beet crop is good and lifting has commenced. At Brandon about 60 per cent of the wheat and coarse grains has been threshed. Small acreages of corn in this area will yield a fair crop and the pea crop is promising and now ready for combining. In the north-central area wet weather continues and threshing is only about 50 per cent completed. Grain harvested before the rain graded No. 2 Northern but since the rain much of it has been reduced to 3 Tough Rejected. Harvesting is going ahead slowly in the north-west as a result of continued wet weather. The wheat left for combining remains uncut and only from 20 to 35 per cent of the crop has been threshed. Grades will be No. 2 Northern or lower.

Saskatchewan

Harvesting operations were interrupted over the province by unfavourable weather from the 15th to the 19th of the month. Wheat cutting is now nearing completion in the south-west, the Regina-Keyburn area and the east-central part of Saskatchewan with the estimated percentages finished varying from 93 to 98 per cent. Our correspondent reports that in the vicinity of Manor in the south-east 15 per cent of the wheat and 20 per cent of the coarse grains have been threshed with most of the wheat grading Tough No. 2 Northern. Around Indian Head about 80 per cent of the wheat and coarse grains has been threshed or combined with most of the wheat grading No. 2. No frost damage is reported from these areas. Rosetown reports wheat grading both No. 1 and No. 2 Northern, with threshing nearly completed.

Cutting is virtually completed in the Scott district as well but north of Township 35 in western Saskatchewan some 60 per cent of the wheat and 50 per cent of the coarse grains are still unthreshed. No frost damage has occurred and the wheat is grading No. 3 Northern or better, but more favourable harvest weather is needed. Some sprouting in the stooks is reported from Sunnyglen.

In the north-eastern section of the Province grain cutting is reported completed with the exception of wheat left for the combine. Some 20 per cent of the wheat has been threshed with the grades running from two to four and later wheat expected to grade even lower, with approximately 50 per cent frozen. Threshing weather continues poor with most of the machines idle during the past two weeks.

Insect damage for the season has not been excessive as compared with the average. Sawfly damage has proven the most serious menace with the loss estimated at about the same as last year when it was placed at 17 million bushels. Grasshopper damage has occurred, but has been comparatively light while the flax caterpillars are thought to have reduced flax yields by some 5 to 10 per cent in west-central Saskatchewan, with lesser damage reported in other areas.

Alberta

Harvesting during the past week has been delayed by wet weather with about 85 to 90 per cent of the wheat cut and about 80-85 per cent of the coarse grains cut. Threshing is nearly completed for the south and for the Peace River area, but for the province as a whole the percentage cut would probably not be over 40 per cent for wheat and 30 per cent for the coarse grain. Wheat has been grading No. 1 and 2 in the south with the remainder going mostly No. 2. Recent rains will, however, lower grades to No. 3 or 4. Although local frosts have been reported during September the damage has apparently been small. The outlook for the rapeseed and dry pea crop continues good.

Alberta (concluded)

Wheat yields were abnormally low in south-eastern Alberta and feed crops correspondingly poor. Although live stock are now in good condition feed reserves are low and stockmen will have difficulties should a hard winter occur this year. The high quality of the wheat harvested south of Calgary will be a factor tending to discourage its use as feed. As a result of the low yields elevator space will also be more readily available.

In central Alberta practically all crops have been cut east of Stettler with about 30 per cent combined or threshed. Between Stettler and the Calgary-Edmonton line about 70 per cent has been cut and 10 per cent threshed. West of this line rain has delayed cutting so that only about 60 per cent of the grain has been cut with little or no threshing done. Much of the cut grain in the central Alberta area is still too damp and tough to thresh and if a severe frost occurs the grades will suffer. Around Edmonton cutting is further along with most of the wheat and barley cut and about 85 per cent of the oats. Threshing of the wheat crop is just beginning with the coarse grains still untouched.

Beaverlodge reports general rains in most areas of the Peace River from September 13 to 21st. Some sprouting of unthreshed grain is occurring. Most of the threshing has 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. Sept. 25, 1944	
	8 a.m. Sept. 25, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba					
1 Pierson	nil	16.37	11.34	47	52
Waskada	nil	13.38	11.73	51	51
2 Boissevain	nil	17.73	11.41	50	52
Ninette	trace	18.27	11.82	47	52
Pilot Mound	.08	20.94	12.97	50	51
3 Portage la Prairie	.05	23.51	12.33	52	51
Graysville	.01	21.122/	12.60	52	52
Morden	.02	19.50	12.09	52	52
Morris	.01	20.22	12.60	53	52
Emerson	.06	19.40	11.64	53	52
4 Winnipeg	.11	17.42	13.86	52	51
6 Sprague	.01	17.50	12.88	53	50
Pinawa	.20	9.21	11.00	51	49
7 Virden	trace	15.75	10.56	51	50
Souris	nil	21.99	11.95	51	51
Rivers	.09	14.33	12.03	51	50
8 Brandon	.02	19.18	12.22	50	51
Carberry	.02	15.17	12.28	51	51
Cypress River	nil	17.80	12.31	50	51
9 Minnedosa	.14	16.20	11.88	50	50
10 Russell	nil	17.30	11.35	49	48
Birtle	.02	16.07	11.79	49	49
11 Dauphin	.27	15.16	10.86	51	49
13 Swan River	.14	12.34	12.27	48	47
The Pas	.07	18.81	10.16	48	47
Manitoba Average	.05	17.59	11.10	50	50
Saskatchewan					
1A Estevan	trace	15.67	11.08	44	50
Carlyle	.04	16.91	12.02	50	49
1B Broadview	.01	17.48	10.91	48	50
Moosomin	.20	17.25	11.24	48	48
2A Yellow Grass	.04	14.41	10.57	52	50
Weyburn	N.R.	8.022/	11.02	N.R.	50
Midale	nil	16.32	11.48	52	50
2B Moose Jaw	nil	11.79	10.63	54	51
Regina	.03	11.72	10.71	52	49
Francis	.08	12.56	10.00	49	50
Qu'Appelle	.04	12.88	12.68	51	50
Indian Head	.01	12.71	12.39	51	49
3AN Chaplin	nil	11.33	11.00	51	49
Gravelbourg	nil	10.01	9.14	50	50
3AS Assiniboia	.01	12.02	8.70	52	53
Ceylon	nil	14.39	13.20	N.R.	50
3BN Pennant	nil	15.05	10.57	50	50
Swift Current	.01	11.37	10.95	52	49
Hughton	trace	5.01	9.51	52	48
3BS Instow	N.R.	7.982/	9.78	N.R.	49
Shaunavon	.12	8.80	8.97	52	47
Cadillac	.04	9.66	11.81	51	49
Val Marie	nil	5.87	9.78	50	49
Aneroid	nil	7.77	10.68	51	49
4A Maple Creek	trace	7.14	10.04	52	52
Consul	.06	11.36	8.48	46	48
4B Roadene	.02	10.24	9.52	54	48
5A Leross	.12	10.65	11.09	50	48
Hubbard	.10	11.99	11.00	50	48
Yorkton	.04	12.72	11.52	50	48
5B Foam Lake	.08	11.27	11.08	47	46
Lintlaw	.14	9.79	11.47	49	45
Kamsack	.08	10.34	10.32	49	47
6A Davidson	.08	12.82	8.92	51	48
Dilke	N.R.	6.222/	9.32	N.R.	N.R.
Nokomis	N.R.	8.832/	7.64	N.R.	47
Semans	.10	9.00	7.34	52	46
Strasbourg	.08	12.82	9.79	52	48
6B Harris	.12	7.11	9.39	52	48
Outlook	.01	9.04	8.19	53	48
Saskatoon	.03	11.01	10.53	54	49
Elbow	.01	9.47	8.59	53	49
Dundurn	trace	10.02	10.53	54	47
Tugaske	.02	11.56	8.59	53	48



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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. Sept. 25	
		8 a.m. Sept. 25, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	.04	9.16	9.41	51	48
7B	Macklin	.16	17.89	10.61	N.R.	46
	Scott	.16	15.97	10.10	50	49
	Ruthilda	N.R.	6.53 ^{2/}	10.45	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.04	8.33	10.53	52	48
8A	Nipawin	nil	13.97	11.25	47	46
8B	Humboldt	.04	8.62	8.65	50	48
	Melfort	.02	14.27	11.22	49	47
9A	Rabbit Lake	.04	10.39	10.77	47	47
	Prince Albert	trace	10.82	10.93	50	49
9B	Waseca	.04	18.37	10.00	48	46
	North Battleford	.11	16.78	10.34	52	50
	Loon Lake	.64	15.86	11.93	49	44
Saskatchewan Average		.06	11.53	10.32	51	47
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.04	7.56	12.28	55	51
	Medicine Hat	nil	10.04	9.02	56	51
	Manyberries	.22	7.76	9.55	55	50
2	Cowley	trace	9.11	11.51	51	47
	Macleod	trace	8.71	10.25	57	50
	Cardston	.04	8.02	15.05	51	48
	Lethbridge	trace	8.70	10.50	57	48
3	Vauxhall	.02	6.80	9.11	55	47
	Brooks	.06	9.43	8.72	54	47
	Empress	trace	4.74	9.23	52	49
4	High River	.02	10.46	12.86	47	46
	Vulcan	trace	11.12	10.38	N.R.	47
5	Drumheller	.10	7.66	11.02	50	51
	Hanna	.20	8.76 ^{2/}	11.15	48	47
6	Olds	.10	13.02	12.93	46	47
	Calgary	.13	13.58	12.55	51	50
	Three Hills	N.R.	7.22 ^{2/}	10.77	N.R.	47
	Strathmore	nil	10.56	N.R.	51	N.R.
	Gleichen	.04	11.97	10.07	53	47
7	Viking	N.R.	10.19 ^{2/}	10.41	N.R.	46
	Sedgewick	.26	11.64	11.10	50	46
	Hardisty	.16	11.02	10.72	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.24	11.38	9.22	50	45
	Hughenden	N.R.	12.84 ^{2/}	10.21	N.R.	45
8	Red Deer	.29	15.08	15.01	48	47
	Lacombe	.30	18.71	12.48	49	46
	Wetaskiwin	.20	16.28	11.90	46	48
	Alix	.40	12.42	11.34	48	47
	Camrose	.38	13.81	11.09	48	48
	Stettler	.24	15.96	12.16	47	46
9	Jasper	.40	13.68	6.76	48	48
	Springdale	N.R.	17.21 ^{2/}	15.04	N.R.	45
10	Vegreville	.42	12.44	13.06	50	45
	Lloydminster	.07	14.60	9.20	49	45
11	Calmar	N.R.	19.40 ^{2/}	13.53	N.R.	48
	Edmonton	.51	17.27 ^{2/}	12.52	50	48
12	Edson	N.R.	17.94 ^{2/}	13.01	N.R.	47
13	Glendon	.14	14.00	10.45	49	45
14	Campsie	.78	14.29	12.74	49	46
	Athabaska	.14	12.30 ^{2/}	11.57	49	46
15	High Prairie	.48	8.70	10.85	49	47
	Kinuso	N.R.	2.27 ^{2/}	10.49	N.R.	47
16	Peaverville	.73	8.12	9.26	49	48
	Grande Prairie	.77	11.59	11.13	49	48
	Fairview	.24	9.21 ^{2/}	8.14	49	47
17	Keg River	.70	8.59 ^{2/}	10.45	47	46
	Fort Vermilion	.02	5.17	8.67	46	45
	Fort McMurray	trace	11.29	10.87	47	48
	Fort Smith	.43	6.91 ^{2/}	7.58	44	42
Alberta Average		.22	11.22	10.99	50	47

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