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

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#### TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 6, 1944, 3 p.m. - The first 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 second 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

Excellent crop prospects are reported over the country generally with timely rains occurring in most of the areas where moisture supplies were inadequate. Dry weather prevailed over all three Maritime Provinces, Quebec and eastern Ontario during May, but rains late in the month and early in June have improved crop, hay and pasture conditions materially. Prince Edward Island experienced the driest May in 24 years but moisture conditions are now satisfactory and germination of grain crops is satisfactory. Dry weather also prevailed in Nova Scotia retarding germination and growth but recent rains have improved hay and pastures. Average to above average fruit crops are in prospect as the set is apparently good. Seeding is now nearly completed in New Brunswick. The hay crop is thin as a result of dry weather. Recent rains have improved crop conditions in Quebec and eastern Ontario and crop prospects are now promising. Other sections of Ontario report excellent growth and prospects are for above average crops.

Timely rains have occurred in the Prairie Provinces and conditions are generally good with only a relatively small area suffering from inadequate moisture. In Manitoba heavy rains were widespread and crops are making rapid growth. A few areas report excessive moisture. Seeding of wheat and coarse grains has been practically completed in Saskatchewan and, except for the south-west, crops are making good progress. Good rains occurred in many areas of Alberta but more is needed in the southern part of the province. Generally speaking, however, crop prospects are promising. Conditions in British Columbia are generally favourable and prospects are for one of the heaviest fruit crops on record. Strawberries and early vegetables are now moving to market.

#### Maritime Provinces

The weather in Prince Edward Island during the month of May was the driest in twenty-four years. Moisture conditions, however, are now satisfactory but warm weather is needed. Farm work is at present well advanced. While pastures are growing slowly, the hay crop is fair as alfalfa and clover have wintered well. Germination of the grain crops was satisfactory. In Nova Scotia the weather was



Maritime Provinces (concluded)

also extremely dry throughout May, but a good rain on June 3 relieved the situation considerably. More warm rains are needed badly, however. High temperatures during the month were followed by light frosts on June 3 and 4. Seeding of grains started earlier than usual and were 80 per cent completed by May 15. Germination has been good but growth is slow. Seeding of roots and potatoes were well advanced by the end of May. The germination of the vegetable and small seeds has been irregular due to the drought. Pastures were slow in starting but recent growth has been more rapid. A light hay crop, however, is expected. Clovers and grasses on the uplands wintered well but are now in need of rain. In the Nappan district, pastures are poor, especially those that were unfertilized; hay in this district is not very promising. The weather during May was very favourable for pollination of all tree fruits and average to above average crops are in prospect as the set is apparently good. Dry weather has controlled disease satisfactorily and insect damage is not serious. In New Brunswick dry weather prevailed during the month of May and growers were able to get on the land earlier than usual. Seeding is now nearly completed. The grain and hoed crops have germinated well, but the hay is thin as clover is badly winter-killed in some sections. Cultivation of potatoes began in Carleton County this week, where the increase in acreage over last year is substantial.

Quebec and Ontario

Recent rains in Quebec have improved conditions and prospects are much more promising. Meadows and pastures came through the winter without appreciable damage and live stock are in good condition. Milk production has improved over recent months. Lack of rain permitted rapid seeding in the Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere area and recent rains have improved crop prospects. Meadows and pastures came through the winter in good condition and although retarded by drought are coming along nicely now. Seeding has been completed around Normandin and crop prospects are fair to good although meadows and pastures need more rainfall. Heavy frosts on May 23 damaged tomato and cabbage plants. Recent rains in the Lennoxville area benefited crops greatly. Hay growth has been slow but pastures are good. Seeding has been completed in the Three Rivers area, but dry weather affected growth and germination. Heavy frosts did considerable damage to tree fruits, gardens and clover. Frost also damaged alfalfa in the L'Assomption area but pastures are good and small grains are coming along well. Most of the silage corn has been planted in this area.

Seeding of cereal crops in Ontario has been completed and early sown grain is making good progress. Fall wheat is in the shot blade and showing remarkable growth. An increased acreage is being planted to husking corn under ideal conditions. Soybean planting is proceeding rapidly. Crops in south-western Ontario never looked better and prospects are excellent, all corn has been planted and tobacco planting is well under way. Early potatoes have started to blossom and truck crops are near marketable stage. In the Niagara Peninsula a full peach crop is in prospect. The pear crop is light and plums only 30-40 per cent. The cherry crop is also light and strawberries about 60 per cent of normal. Prospects are excellent in the Waterloo area although some lodging of wheat is reported.



Quebec and Ontario (concluded)

Early potatoes are well advanced and thinning of turnips has commenced. Around Barrie conditions are above average and yields double those of last year are in prospect. Corn and roots are being planted and labour is the big problem of the area. Rains late in May and early June improved conditions materially in eastern Ontario after drought and a heavy frost on May 17th had retarded growth. Crop prospects are now about average. Seeding has been about completed in northern Ontario after a dry, cold May. Frost was severe on the nineteenth. Clover and grass came through the winter well, but more moisture is needed in this area to bring the crops along.

Manitoba

Exceptionally heavy rains have occurred in all agricultural areas of Manitoba for the second successive week. Total precipitation since April 1 is over 150 per cent of normal. All crops are making rapid growth although a few areas in the Red River Valley are suffering from excessive moisture.

Slight flooding in low areas is reported in the Portage la Prairie and Dauphin areas but hay and pasture conditions are excellent. In the south-central area of the province the corn crop is making rapid progress. Seeding is practically completed with the exception of feed crops and rape which have been held up by the rains.

Correspondents at Winnipeg and Morden report heavy weed growth with some reseeding being necessary. A narrow belt of light hail is reported running from Portage la Prairie to Winnipeg. However crops are not sufficiently far advanced to permit of much damage. No serious insect damage has been reported.

Saskatchewan

The seeding of wheat and coarse grains has practically been completed and over 80 per cent of the flax acreage has been sown. The wheat plants have made good progress except in the Maple Creek, Piapot and Fox Valley areas where rain is badly needed. About 90 per cent of the wheat and two-thirds of the coarse grain crop are now showing green.

Most areas of Saskatchewan have had heavy rainfall during the past week to supplement the good rains which occurred during the last week in May. However, the whole area along the Alberta boundary from Maple Creek north to Macklin is reported warm and dry and rains are needed.

On the heavy soils of the Regina Plains the recent heavy rains have delayed seeding and summerfallow work. Some crops in this area are exhibiting a yellow tinge, indicating excessive moisture.

Weed growth continues heavy in most areas while the prospects for hay and pasture crops are generally very favourable. In the north-west it is reported that wheat acreage has increased about 25 per cent while flax acreage has declined materially.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports conspicuous grasshopper hatching in the south-west with some damage in the Maple Creek-Piapot area. Heavy wireworm damage on early crops, chiefly wheat on summerfallow, is reported in the Kincaid area and also at Cabri, Rosetown and Harris. Cutworm damage to coarse grains is continuing in the Parkside district.



## Alberta

Crop conditions in Alberta remain variable but rains have been general and most of the dry areas report some improvement. Prospects in central Alberta are good but many areas in the south and south-eastern sections remain dry. Good rains have been received in the Peace River District. Ninety per cent of the coarse grain crop has been seeded and wheat is now from three to five inches high. Pastures are still suffering from lack of rainfall in the south. Germination of the pea crop has been satisfactory except in the south where irrigation has been necessary. Rains in the Manyberries area materially improved prospects but more moisture is necessary. Grass and grain crops are making good growth with sufficient moisture for 10 days or more. General rains up to one-half inch are reported from Lethbridge with a definite improvement in crops and range grass. Good growing weather is reported from Vulcan where seeding is completed with an even germination of all grains. Good rains have occurred north of Hanna but it is very dry south of town. Prospects around Calgary have been improved by good rains and all crops are making good progress. Edmonton reports crop conditions very good with sufficient moisture and wheat from three to six inches above the ground. Seeding has been completed in the Beaverlodge area and general rains have improved conditions. The weather is still unsettled and a good subsoil soaker is needed.

## British Columbia

In British Columbia fall seeded crops give excellent promise and spring seeded grains are for the most part in good condition. Rains in mid-May improved conditions materially and growing conditions have been favourable since that time. Pastures have improved and the hay crop gives fair to good promise. Some new potatoes are already on the market and the movement of strawberries from coast districts is increasing. The set of apples and pears is good and cherries are better than last year with a heavy crop of Morellos. Insect pests are numerous especially cutworm, cabbage root maggot, and flea beetle. Although the season was not as early as expected at Agassiz pastures and hay meadows are excellent. The siloing of clover has commenced. The oat crop is good but weedy. Strawberries are promising but bright warm weather is needed. Planting of late crop potatoes and field corn has been completed. A heavy set of apricots, peaches and pears is reported from Summerland with a variable set of cherries, prunes and apples. Prospects are for the heaviest fruit crop on record. Hay and vegetable crops are making good growth in this area although grasshoppers and cutworms are causing some damage. Seeding is completed in the Prince George area and germination has been good. Clover and hay came through the winter in good shape. Rainfall has been below normal but crops are not suffering as yet.

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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

| Crop District    | Station            | Precipitation          |                  |                  | Mean Temperatures         |        |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------|
|                  |                    | Week ending            | Total            | Normal           | Week ending 8 a.m. June 5 |        |
|                  |                    | 8 a.m.<br>June 5, 1944 | since<br>April 1 | since<br>April 1 | Mean                      | Normal |
| Manitoba         |                    |                        |                  |                  |                           |        |
| 1                | Pierson            | 2.22                   | 3.85             | 3.59             | 67                        | 56     |
|                  | Waskada            | 2.10                   | 3.88             | 2.98             | 65                        | 57     |
| 2                | Boissevain         | 3.16                   | 6.05             | 3.69             | N.R.                      | 57     |
|                  | Ninette            | 2.40                   | 6.55             | 3.97             | 62                        | 56     |
|                  | Pilot Mound        | 2.60                   | 6.86             | 3.83             | 64                        | 57     |
| 3                | Portage la Prairie | 1.80                   | 4.93             | 3.44             | 65                        | 57     |
|                  | Graysville         | 1.86                   | 4.91             | 3.59             | 65                        | 56     |
|                  | Morden             | 2.62                   | 4.80             | 3.59             | 66                        | 57     |
|                  | Morris             | 4.10                   | 5.75             | 3.32             | 66                        | 57     |
|                  | Emerson            | 2.94                   | 3.98             | 3.06             | 67                        | 57     |
| 4                | Winnipeg           | 2.45                   | 4.47             | 3.91             | 64                        | 58     |
| 6                | Sprague            | 1.90                   | 5.15             | 3.83             | 65                        | 55     |
|                  | Pinawa             | .96                    | 2.73             | 2.57             | 60                        | 55     |
| 7                | Virden             | 3.10                   | 5.06             | 2.78             | 64                        | 56     |
|                  | Souris             | 3.04                   | 6.04             | 3.23             | 63                        | 58     |
|                  | Rivers             | 2.54                   | 4.27             | 3.25             | 63                        | 56     |
| 8                | Brandon            | 2.18                   | 6.41             | 3.27             | 62                        | 56     |
|                  | Carberry           | 2.59                   | 5.83             | 3.36             | 63                        | 56     |
|                  | Cypress River      | 2.24                   | 5.52             | 3.42             | 64                        | 56     |
| 9                | Minnedosa          | 1.11                   | 4.88             | 3.30             | 61                        | 56     |
| 10               | Russell            | 2.92                   | 5.28             | 2.98             | 59                        | 54     |
|                  | Birtle             | 3.82                   | 6.31             | 3.00             | 59                        | 55     |
| 11               | Dauphin            | 4.94                   | 8.21             | 2.67             | 59                        | 55     |
| 13               | Swan River         | 1.18                   | 3.98             | 2.73             | 54                        | 55     |
|                  | The Pas            | .46                    | 3.40             | 2.31             | 53                        | 55     |
| Manitoba Average |                    | 2.45                   | 5.16             | 3.27             | 62                        | 56     |
| Saskatchewan     |                    |                        |                  |                  |                           |        |
| 1A               | Estevan            | 2.70                   | 5.04             | 3.31             | 61                        | 55     |
|                  | Carlyle            | N.R.                   | 1.72 2/          | 3.56             | N.R.                      | 54     |
| 1B               | Broadview          | 3.40                   | 6.18             | 3.09             | 58                        | 55     |
|                  | Moosomin           | 3.54                   | 5.88             | 2.88             | 62                        | 55     |
| 2A               | Yellow Grass       | 3.62                   | 7.39             | 3.16             | 60                        | 55     |
|                  | Weyburn            | 2.04                   | 5.52             | 3.41             | 59                        | 55     |
|                  | Midale             | 3.84                   | 6.20             | 3.65             | 61                        | 54     |
| 2B               | Moose Jaw          | 2.30                   | 6.21             | 3.11             | 60                        | 58     |
|                  | Regina             | 2.63                   | 6.62             | 2.88             | 59                        | 55     |
|                  | Francis            | 2.68                   | 6.34             | 2.19             | 55                        | 55     |
|                  | Qu'Appelle         | 3.42                   | 7.13             | 3.67             | 58                        | 55     |
|                  | Indian Head        | 3.32                   | 7.08             | 3.30             | 57                        | 55     |
| 3AN              | Chaplin            | 1.26                   | 5.06             | 3.52             | 58                        | 56     |
|                  | Gravelbourg        | 1.04                   | 4.36             | 2.46             | 59                        | 55     |
| 3AS              | Assiniboia         | 1.88                   | 4.73             | 2.48             | 59                        | 57     |
|                  | Ceylon             | .96                    | 4.13             | 4.04             | 61                        | 55     |
| 3BN              | Pennant            | 4.24                   | 8.35             | 3.31             | 59                        | 55     |
|                  | Swift Current      | 2.04                   | 5.72             | 3.10             | 58                        | 55     |
|                  | Hughton            | 1.04                   | 2.65             | 3.43             | 61                        | 55     |
| 3BS              | Instow             | 1.56                   | 3.23             | 2.65             | 59                        | 55     |
|                  | Shaunavon          | 1.28                   | 2.40             | 2.60             | 58                        | 54     |
|                  | Cadillac           | 3.28                   | 5.54             | 4.16             | 58                        | 53     |
|                  | Val Marie          | 1.20                   | 2.44             | 3.00             | 59                        | 54     |
|                  | Aneroid            | 1.84                   | 3.73             | 3.03             | 59                        | 54     |
| 4A               | Maple Creek        | 1.68                   | 2.24             | 3.01             | 60                        | 56     |
|                  | Consul             | .94                    | 2.47             | 2.93             | 56                        | 54     |
| 4B               | Roadene            | 1.16                   | 3.33             | 3.43             | 58                        | 55     |
| 5A               | Leross             | 1.48                   | 3.42             | 2.90             | 54                        | 53     |
|                  | Hubbard            | 1.04                   | 4.32             | 2.74             | 55                        | 53     |
|                  | Yorkton            | 1.72                   | 5.06             | 3.01             | 57                        | 54     |
| 5B               | Foam Lake          | 1.80                   | 3.87             | 2.90             | 53                        | 53     |
|                  | Lintlaw            | 1.04                   | 2.74             | 3.24             | 55                        | 52     |
|                  | Kamsack            | .92                    | 2.02             | 2.23             | 60                        | 53     |
| 6A               | Davidson           | 1.90                   | 5.70             | 2.72             | 59                        | 54     |
|                  | Dilke              | 1.84                   | 4.58             | 2.92             | N.R.                      | N.R.   |
|                  | Nokomis            | 2.16                   | 4.47 2/          | 2.18             | 57                        | 53     |
|                  | Semans             | 1.50                   | 3.56             | 2.11             | 57                        | 53     |
|                  | Strasbourg         | 3.42                   | 5.98             | 3.08             | 57                        | 54     |
| 6B               | Harris             | .64                    | 2.96             | 2.10             | 58                        | 54     |
|                  | Outlook            | 1.16                   | 4.63             | 2.22             | 60                        | 55     |
|                  | Saskatoon          | .69                    | 4.38             | 2.46             | 58                        | 55     |



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## Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

| Crop                     | Station          | Precipitation          |                  |                  | Mean Temperatures         |        |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------|
|                          |                  | Week ending            | Total            | Normal           | Week ending 8 a.m. June 5 |        |
|                          |                  | 8 a.m.<br>June 5, 1944 | since<br>April 1 | since<br>April 1 | Mean                      | Normal |
| Saskatchewan (concluded) |                  |                        |                  |                  |                           |        |
|                          | Elbow            | 1.64                   | 5.47             | 2.60             | 63                        | 55     |
|                          | Dundurn          | 1.74                   | 3.78 2/          | 2.80             | 59                        | 55     |
|                          | Tugaske          | 2.22                   | 6.64             | 2.60             | 59                        | 55     |
| 7A                       | Kindersley       | 1.02                   | 2.29             | 2.45             | N.R.                      | 52     |
| 7B                       | Macklin          | 1.06                   | 2.89             | 3.42             | 58                        | 52     |
|                          | Scott            | 1.14                   | 4.04             | 2.67             | 56                        | 55     |
|                          | Ruthilda         | .90                    | 2.43 2/          | 2.75             | N.R.                      | N.R.   |
|                          | Biggar           | .70                    | 2.96             | 2.64             | 57                        | 54     |
| 8A                       | Nipawin          | .88                    | 4.40             | 2.77             | 55                        | 53     |
| 8B                       | Humboldt         | .84                    | 2.85             | 2.47             | N.R.                      | 55     |
|                          | Melfort          | 1.26                   | 4.18             | 2.86             | 54                        | 55     |
| 9A                       | Rabbit Lake      | 1.28                   | 3.59             | 2.41             | 51                        | 54     |
|                          | Prince Albert    | .48                    | 3.54             | 2.68             | 54                        | 55     |
| 9B                       | Waseca           | .98                    | 5.91             | 2.63             | 55                        | 54     |
|                          | North Battleford | .73                    | 4.42             | 2.58             | 57                        | 58     |
|                          | Loon Lake        | 1.10                   | 5.66             | 2.91             | 55                        | 52     |
| Saskatchewan Average     |                  | 1.75                   | 4.46             | 2.90             | 58                        | 53     |
| Alberta                  |                  |                        |                  |                  |                           |        |
| 1                        | Foremost         | .90                    | 2.76             | 4.43             | 57                        | 58     |
|                          | Medicine Hat     | .92                    | 3.33             | 2.67             | 59                        | 58     |
|                          | Manyberries      | N.R.                   | 1.52 2/          | 3.17             | N.R.                      | 58     |
| 2                        | Cowley           | .75                    | 2.79             | 3.74             | 53                        | 53     |
|                          | Macleod          | .56                    | 2.54             | 2.98             | 53                        | 56     |
|                          | Cardston         | .42                    | 2.44             | 5.41             | 52                        | 53     |
|                          | Lethbridge       | 1.13                   | 2.72             | 3.30             | 57                        | 56     |
| 3                        | Vauxhall         | .92                    | 2.42             | 2.71             | 57                        | 56     |
|                          | Brooks           | 1.38                   | 2.07             | 2.82             | 58                        | 56     |
|                          | Empress          | .42                    | .68              | 2.83             | 61                        | 57     |
| 4                        | High River       | .72                    | 2.10 2/          | 4.18             | 52                        | 54     |
|                          | Vulcan           | .94                    | 4.26             | 3.03             | N.R.                      | 55     |
| 5                        | Drumheller       | .98                    | 1.94             | 3.06             | 59                        | 57     |
|                          | Hanna            | .48                    | 1.42             | 3.40             | 55                        | 54     |
| 6                        | Olds             | N.R.                   | 1.91 2/          | 3.67             | N.R.                      | 53     |
|                          | Calgary          | N.R.                   | 3.26 2/          | 3.51             | N.R.                      | 54     |
|                          | Three Hills      | N.R.                   | 1.28 2/          | 2.73             | N.R.                      | 52     |
|                          | Strathmore       | N.R.                   | 2.58 2/          | N.R.             | N.R.                      | N.R.   |
|                          | Gleichen         | N.R.                   | 2.31 2/          | 2.95             | N.R.                      | 54     |
| 7                        | Viking           | N.R.                   | 1.69 2/          | 3.09             | N.R.                      | 53     |
|                          | Sedgewick        | N.R.                   | .77 2/           | 2.27             | N.R.                      | 53     |
|                          | Hardisty         | N.R.                   | .81 2/           | 2.30             | N.R.                      | N.R.   |
|                          | Coronation       | .46                    | 1.84             | 2.72             | 59                        | 52     |
|                          | Hughenden        | .78                    | 2.72             | 2.86             | 57                        | 52     |
| 8                        | Red Deer         | 1.86                   | 4.04             | 4.03             | 55                        | 53     |
|                          | Lacombe          | 2.60                   | 6.02             | 3.19             | 57                        | 53     |
|                          | Wetaskiwin       | 2.52                   | 4.48             | 2.81             | 57                        | 53     |
|                          | Alix             | 1.44                   | 1.44 2/          | 3.11             | N.R.                      | 54     |
|                          | Camrose          | 1.98                   | 3.16             | 3.29             | 57                        | 52     |
|                          | Stettler         | .64                    | 1.48             | 4.02             | 55                        | 53     |
| 9                        | Jasper           | .93                    | 3.91             | 1.90             | 55                        | 54     |
|                          | Springdale       | 1.24                   | 3.67             | 3.84             | 56                        | 52     |
| 10                       | Vegreville       | 1.04                   | 3.78             | 3.44             | 56                        | 53     |
|                          | Lloydminster     | .82                    | 4.80             | 2.45             | 54                        | 52     |
| 11                       | Calmar           | 2.50                   | 5.58             | 3.76             | 55                        | 54     |
|                          | Edmonton         | 2.24                   | 4.91             | 2.96             | 56                        | 55     |
| 12                       | Edson            | 2.76                   | 8.81             | 2.70             | 53                        | 53     |
| 13                       | Glendon          | 1.38                   | 3.46 2/          | 2.65             | 56                        | 52     |
| 14                       | Campsie          | 1.96                   | 6.76             | 2.96             | 54                        | 53     |
|                          | Athabaska        | 1.48                   | 4.11             | 3.01             | 49                        | 53     |
| 15                       | High Prairie     | .98                    | 2.12             | 2.52             | 52                        | 55     |
|                          | Kinuso           | N.R.                   | N.R.             | 2.82             | N.R.                      | 55     |
| 16                       | Beaverlodge      | .91                    | 2.36             | 2.52             | 55                        | 53     |
|                          | Grande Prairie   | 2.88                   | 4.07             | 2.86             | 54                        | 53     |
|                          | Fairview         | 1.39                   | 2.97             | 1.97             | 53                        | 54     |
| 17                       | Keg River        | 1.00                   | 3.01             | 3.04             | 50                        | 53     |
|                          | Fort Vermilion   | .58                    | 1.10             | 1.96             | 52                        | 54     |
|                          | Fort McMurray    | 1.76                   | 3.37             | 2.35             | 50                        | 54     |
|                          | Fort Smith       | .62                    | 1.28 2/          | 1.42             | 53                        | 50     |
| Alberta Average          |                  | 1.26                   | 2.97             | 3.03             | 55                        | 54     |

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

2/ Incomplete.