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

Ottawa, July 11, 1944, 3 p.m. The seventh 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.

SUMMARY

Apart from hail damage which occurred at a number of points in all three Prairie Provinces during the past week, there was general improvement in the outlook for grain crops. Good showers fell in the dry areas of southern Alberta and while that section of the country as well as south-western Saskatchewan will need a lot more rain, some improvement has taken place in the area which has been plagued with drought most of the season.

A period of rainless weather with bright sunshine would appear to be the general need of crops over the greater part of the western grain belt, although compared with a year ago the development of wheat and coarse grain crops is more advanced. Most of the cereal crops are fully headed in Manitoba and early-sown grain is in blossom, while in Saskatchewan the early-sown crops are headed or heading out. Wheat is fully headed in southern Alberta and 15 to 60 per cent headed in other parts of the province.

Infestation of sawfly is again severe in some areas of southern Alberta and southern Saskatchewan, while a flight over south-western Manitoba early in July is expected to be a source of damage to crops there. Other damage, apart from flooding and hail, is light on the whole.

Haying operations are being delayed by frequent rains while the wet condition of fields is making difficult the working of summerfallows. Weed growth is heavy in many parts of the country and is reducing crop prospects. Gardens are in good shape in most areas and pastures are excellent except where rainfall has been deficient. The condition of live stock is good on the whole.

Manitoba

Except for late seedings, all crops in Manitoba are headed and the early-sown grain is in blossom. Growth was quite rapid during the past week but a period of bright, rainless weather is the general requirement throughout the province. Stands of wheat and coarse grain are heavy in most areas while corn for grain and the oil-seed crops in the Morden area are promising with the season in that part of the province running about 15 days ahead of last year.

Damage to date appears to have been confined largely to flooding, although hail losses were severe in spots and weeds are reducing crop prospects in some sections. There was a flight of wheat-stem sawfly in south-western Manitoba early in July and some damage is expected from this source. Sugar beets are infected with leaf miner but there has been no serious damage to date.

Manitoba (concluded)

Heavy rains and showers have hindered haying operations during the past seven days, while the wet condition of fields has hindered the cultivation of summerfallow which is weedy. Gardens are in good shape and pastures are excellent.

Saskatchewan

Growth of grain crops in Saskatchewan was excellent during the past week except in the dry areas of the south-west corner where prospects are now estimated to be no better than 50 per cent of an average crop. There is plenty of moisture elsewhere and warm weather is now required to bring crops along. Early crops are headed or heading out.

Hailstorms did local damage at a number of points between July 1 and July 6 but no insect damage of a serious character is reported. Sawfly infestation is expected to be quite serious in southern isolated districts but damage from this source is not yet very apparent.

Flaxseed in the Scott district of Saskatchewan is a promising crop. The fields are comparatively free of weeds, in contrast with the dirty condition of fields in this area in 1943. A light flaxseed crop is expected, however, in the Rosetown area where the seeded acreage was much smaller than a year ago.

Pastures and live stock are in good condition in most sections of the province but there has been some deterioration of pastures in the east-central and west-central districts. The hay crop is good but the harvest is being delayed by wet weather. The working of summerfallows has also been held up by the wet condition of fields.

At this time in 1943 the grain crops in Saskatchewan were suffering from excessive heat and insufficient rainfall, but except for the dry south-west corner and some other isolated areas, the moisture situation is at present generally satisfactory and the need is for dry, sunny weather.

Alberta

Further good rains fell in Alberta during the past seven days but with some of the benefit accruing to the dry areas in the south. The late-sown crops in those areas will benefit most but the early grain, although a thin stand, can fill well if sufficient moisture is received.

Taking the province as a whole, crops progressed satisfactorily during the week. Wheat in the south is fully headed and over the remainder of the province is 15 to 60 per cent headed. Coarse grain crops are 12 to 24 inches high. All crops are reported to be equal to 110 per cent of normal in the Athabasca area where moisture is plentiful, while in the Beaverlodge area of the Peace River country rains are carrying crops along nicely although reserves are light.

The sawfly flight is about over but infestations are generally severe throughout southern Alberta and as far north as Consort in Crop District 7. Local hailstorms did damage at a number of places both north and south, the losses being placed as high as 25 per cent at some points.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 10	
		8 a.m. July 10, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	1.00	10.43	6.51	62	66
	Waskada	.56	11.54	7.32	64	66
2	Boissevain	1.49	12.98	6.54	60	66
	Ninette	.80	13.91	7.16	62	66
	Pilot Mound	1.84	13.82	7.61	62	66
3	Portage la Prairie	1.20	14.47	6.75	67	65
	Graysville	N.R.	7.43 2/	7.42	N.R.	66
	Morden	.72	8.84	7.15	65	66
	Morris	1.10	11.35	6.77	64	66
	Emerson	1.00	8.42	6.31	63	66
4	Winnipeg	.58	9.55	7.54	64	67
6	Sprague	N.R.	8.19 2/	7.46	N.R.	65
	Pinawa	.22	4.49	5.38	65	64
7	Virden	.74	11.23	6.02	63	63
	Souris	.53	13.91	6.78	65	67
	Rivers	2.05	9.81	6.79	63	65
8	Brandon	2.08	13.43	6.81	64	65
	Carberry	1.75	9.32	6.77	64	65
	Cypress River	.64	11.30	6.66	64	66
9	Minnedosa	1.13	9.75	6.71	62	64
10	Russell	2.34	11.80	6.43	59	63
	Birtle	.50	10.37	6.56	61	63
11	Dauphin	1.50	14.06	5.62	63	63
13	Swan River	.66	6.42	6.62	59	62
	The Pas	.97	6.70	4.97	57	64
Manitoba Average		1.10	10.54	6.67	63	65
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.24	11.22	6.62	61	65
	Carlyle	1.44	12.27	6.95	62	63
1B	Broadview	1.09	11.55	5.96	59	63
	Moosomin	1.24	11.90	5.93	61	64
2A	Yellow Grass	.70	11.63	6.45	59	65
	Weyburn	N.R.	8.02 2/	6.74	N.R.	65
	Midale	.34	11.74	6.98	61	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.14	8.66	6.51	60	66
	Regina	.30	8.32	6.44	61	64
	Francis	.60	7.64	5.53	54	64
	Qu'Appelle	.40	9.25	7.61	61	63
	Indian Head	.33	8.74	7.43	61	63
3AN	Chaplin	1.38	8.87	6.83	62	65
	Gravelbourg	.44	6.46	5.92	59	65
3AS	Assiniboia	.62	7.54	5.62	59	65
	Ceylon	.38	9.51	8.00	64	65
3BN	Pennant	1.50	11.27	7.03	59	64
	Swift Current	1.06	8.47	6.48	58	64
	Hughton	N.R.	2.79 2/	5.94	N.R.	63
3BS	Instow	N.R.	3.77 2/	5.73	N.R.	65
	Shaunavon	.90	5.88	5.50	59	63
	Cadillac	.56	5.68	7.91	59	64
	Val Marie	.18	3.62	6.11	58	65
	Aneroid	.50	4.73	6.69	59	63
4A	Maple Creek	.60	3.70	6.26	61	64
	Consul	1.38	6.32	5.40	54	62
4B	Roadene	1.01	5.82	5.95	59	63
5A	Leross	.64	6.19	6.57	59	62
	Hubbard	.50	8.71	6.03	59	62
	Yorkton	.14	5.94	6.16	61	62
5B	Foam Lake	1.54	7.66	6.17	59	61
	Lintlaw	1.06	4.94	6.17	58	61
	Kamsack	1.10	4.19	5.43	62	63
6A	Davidson	.38	10.20	5.31	58	64
	Dilke	N.R.	5.44 2/	5.79	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	.58	7.17	4.80	58	62
	Semans	.32	4.88 2/	4.19	61	63
	Strasbourg	.56	8.72	6.09	58	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.94 2/	5.82	58	63
	Outlook	.72	7.21	4.13	60	63
	Saskatoon	1.72	8.03	5.45	60	63
	Elbow	.51	7.59	5.42	58	64
	Dundurn	1.46	7.94	6.54	60	64
	Tugaske	.67	9.38	5.39	59	64

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 10	
		8 a.m. July 10, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	.20	4.79	4.94	59	62
7B	Macklin	1.94	9.91	6.08	58	60
	Scott	2.02	8.74	5.43	59	62
	Ruthilda	N.R.	3.92 2/	5.95	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.78	6.04	5.97	60	63
8A	Nipawin	1.50	8.03	6.44	58	62
8B	Humboldt	.68	5.38	5.09	57	62
	Melfort	.75	6.13	5.58	56	62
9A	Rabbit Lake	1.88	7.01 2/	5.81	58	62
	Prince Albert	3.49	8.31	5.86	57	63
9B	Waseca	1.72	10.45 2/	5.82	57	61
	North Battleford	3.15	11.34	5.84	59	65
	Loon Lake	1.12	10.86	6.76	56	60
Saskatchewan Average		.95	7.62	5.95	59	63
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.56	4.04	7.47	60	65
	Medicine Hat	1.12	6.60	5.45	62	67
	Manyberries	.78	5.88	5.60	62	66
2	Cowley	.80	6.06	7.17	56	59
	Macleod	.88	5.68	6.13	63	64
	Cardston	.68	5.46	9.48	57	64
	Lethbridge	2.51	6.55	6.40	60	63
3	Vauxhall	.74	4.36	5.02	60	63
	Brooks	1.01	4.83	5.14	62	63
	Empress	.20	2.71	5.86	60	66
4	High River	.44	6.80	7.75	55	60
	Vulcan	.68	7.02 2/	6.60	N.R.	62
5	Drumheller	.68	4.90	6.60	59	65
	Hanna	.72	4.82	7.11	57	61
6	Olds	.50	6.36	6.72	55	60
	Calgary	.83	8.36	7.14	56	61
	Three Hills	.56	3.74 2/	6.13	56	60
	Strathmore	.90	6.20	N.R.	56	N.R.
	Gleichen	.94	6.55	5.75	57	62
7	Viking	1.52	6.45	5.53	56	60
	Sedgewick	1.22	6.69	5.84	58	60
	Hardisty	1.06	6.20	5.86	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.95	5.75	5.25	58	60
	Hughenden	1.42	8.54	5.71	57	60
8	Red Deer	1.55	9.45	8.29	56	59
	Lacombe	N.R.	10.28 2/	7.13	N.R.	59
	Wetaskiwin	2.38	11.76	6.56	57	61
	Alix	1.38	6.56	6.35	57	60
	Camrose	1.68	8.92	6.33	55	61
	Stettler	1.62	9.50	7.24	56	59
9	Jasper	1.63	8.75	3.38	53	59
	Springdale	3.28	11.26 2/	8.11	56	59
10	Vegreville	1.06	7.68	7.21	58	60
	Lloydminster	1.78	9.36	5.29	56	60
11	Calmar	2.24	15.20	7.21	57	61
	Edmonton	.78	11.04	6.67	57	61
12	Edson	N.R.	14.17 2/	6.29	N.R.	58
13	Glendon	1.18	9.50	5.84	56	60
14	Campsie	N.R.	11.38 2/	6.66	N.R.	60
	Athabaska	.94	8.87 2/	5.89	58	60
15	High Prairie	.64	5.16 2/	5.86	57	60
	Kinuso	N.R.	2.03 2/	5.79	N.R.	60
16	Beaverlodge	.71	4.98	4.89	58	59
	Grande Prairie	.23	7.40	5.84	59	59
	Fairview	.65	5.80	4.41	57	60
17	Keg River	.25	4.26	5.46	57	60
	Fort Vermilion	.12	1.39	4.20	56	61
	Fort McMurray	.37	5.76	4.97	57	62
	Fort Smith	.17	4.08	3.47	56	60
Alberta Average		1.03	7.04	6.14	58	61

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