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

Ottawa, July 25, 1944, 3 p.m.- The ninth 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

Grain crops continued to make good progress in the Prairie Provinces during the past week except in the dry areas of south-western Saskatchewan, south-eastern Alberta and parts of the Peace River country where lack of rainfall and a combination of high temperatures and drying winds caused further deterioration. The cutting of barley and wheat will commence in Manitoba this week and wheat cutting will start in southern Saskatchewan about August 10. No date has been mentioned by correspondents in Alberta.

The moisture situation over the greater part of western Canada is satisfactory and sufficient to fill crops, but around Morden in southern Manitoba and Swift Current in Saskatchewan, there is need of further rain if the present good crop prospects are to be maintained. Crops south of Calgary, particularly east of Lethbridge, have gone back the past week and a critical moisture situation prevails also in the Beaverlodge area of the Peace River Block. Good rains now would probably bring about some recovery although in the Lethbridge section many fields are reported now to be a complete failure.

Hail damage occurred at a number of points in Manitoba and in sections of Alberta during the past week but insect damage appears to have been light except in southern Alberta where grasshoppers have stripped the leaves off wheat over a wide area. The sawfly infestation in this area is reported to be as severe as last year.

Flaxseed crops are doing well except in the Swift Current area while rapeseed where grown appears to be promising. Corn and other oil-bearing seeds are progressing favourably in the Red River Valley of Manitoba. Good progress has been made with haying and summerfallowing in all three provinces. The condition of live stock is good generally and pastures are excellent except in the dry sections.

Manitoba

Grain crops are ripening rapidly in Manitoba and both wheat and barley will be cut this week. Moisture conditions are satisfactory in most parts of the province but around Morden the ground is becoming very dry and more rain will be needed to complete filling. The situation in the Minnedosa district is the reverse and a period of dry weather is urgently needed to avoid damage from rootrot and rust.

Manitoba (concluded)

Mixed conditions are reported from the Dauphin section where drought in the extreme western part of this district contrasts with flood conditions in the east and south but both barley and wheat are beginning to ripen in this north-western area of the province. Early barley is well filled in the Brandon area and will be ready for harvesting about July 29.

Hail damage occurred at a number of points in Manitoba during the past seven days but damage from insects does not appear to be important at any point. Haying operations are making better progress and farmers have been able to work summer-fallows with more success. Corn and oil-seed crops, produced largely in the Red River Valley, are well advanced.

Saskatchewan

Wheat and coarse grain crops made good growth in Saskatchewan during the past week. It is expected that wheat cutting in the south will commence August 10, and in the north about August 17. Some early barley will be cut before the end of July in the Scott district.

The moisture situation shows some variation. High temperatures and hot winds during the past seven days have created a need for more rain in the Swift Current area where the crop prospects are still excellent but where more moisture is needed to carry the heavy growth to maturity. The moisture situation in the northern areas is generally good. Melfort reports sufficient moisture to fill most crops while around Prince in the north-west section of the province, all crops are reported to be 175 per cent of normal with the moisture situation good.

Flaxseed crops are doing well in the Indian Head area but are poor on the other side of the province around Swift Current. Flaxseed is also a promising crop around Scott in Crop District 7B and rapeseed is doing well in that section.

Summerfallowing is nearing completion. Live stock are in good condition and pastures very satisfactory in the north but going back rapidly in the south on light lands. Hail damage during the week was negligible and no insect damage is reported.

Alberta

Practically all of the wheat crop and 60 to 90 per cent of the coarse grain crop is headed in Alberta. Crops generally made good progress during the past week but prospects are for reduced yields in the south-east and in sections of the Peace River country where dry conditions still prevail. Rains now would still be beneficial to late crops in those areas.

South of Calgary the recent hot dry weather has caused definite deterioration of crops in most districts, particularly in the area east of Lethbridge where many fields are a complete failure. Crops are steadily going back in the Cardston district also where there has been no important rain for two weeks and high temperatures have been accompanied by drying winds. The weather has been hot and dry also in the Claresholm area and crops there are ripening fast. Wheat promises about 12 bushels to the acre in that district.

Around Calgary itself general conditions are good while reports from Stettler say that a fair crop is in prospect. The growth is very heavy at Lacombe and the long straw is lodging. This may interfere with heading and filling and make difficult the harvesting process. Northward in the Edmonton area the crop prospects are still good and around Vermilion they are rated 115 per cent of normal. Reports from Beaverlodge are pessimistic and good soaking rains are badly needed in that section of the Peace River country.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 24	
		8 a.m. July 24, 1944	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.26	10.69	7.47	64	66
	Waskada	.06	11.60	8.47	66	67
2	Boissevain	.08	13.08	7.47	65	67
	Ninette	.10	14.05	8.06	65	67
	Pilot Mound	N.R.	13.86 2/	8.77	N.R.	67
3	Portage la Prairie	.07	15.04	7.91	N.R.	65
	Graysville	nil	9.68 2/	8.52	65	67
	Morden	trace	8.88	8.24	69	67
	Morris	nil	12.61	7.90	65	67
	Emerson	.12	9.44	7.50	65	67
4	Winnipeg	.07	10.36	8.95	66	67
6	Sprague	.01	9.50	8.73	62	66
	Pinawa	.32	5.23	6.47	65	65
7	Virden	trace	11.31	6.88	N.R.	64
	Souris	.91	17.73	7.91	67	68
	Rivers	.45	10.62	7.89	67	65
8	Brandon	1.26	14.00	7.94	65	65
	Carberry	.37	10.44	7.91	67	66
	Cypress River	.44	12.14	7.83	67	66
9	Minnedosa	1.22	11.83	7.82	66	64
10	Russell	.76	12.96	7.49	65	64
	Birtle	.40	11.87	7.87	63	63
11	Dauphin	.08	15.05	6.78	68	65
13	Swan River	.48	8.38	7.87	65	64
	The Pas	.34	7.27	6.03	65	65
Manitoba Average		.32	11.50	7.78	66	65
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	trace	11.36	7.45	66	65
	Carlyle	N.R.	12.43 2/	8.06	N.R.	63
1B	Broadview	.14	11.96	7.20	64	64
	Moosomin	.04	12.38	6.73	65	66
2A	Yellow Grass	nil	12.01	7.31	65	65
	Weyburn	N.R.	8.02 2/	7.74	N.R.	66
	Midale	.06	12.08	8.14	64	66
2B	Moose Jaw	nil	9.31	7.42	68	67
	Regina	.15	8.93	7.47	66	65
	Francis	N.R.	7.88 2/	6.25	N.R.	65
	Qu'Appelle	.24	9.49 2/	8.78	67	65
	Indian Head	.42	9.39	8.53	66	63
3AN	Chaplin	.08	9.17	7.76	67	65
	Gravelbourg	trace	6.78	6.29	66	66
3AS	Assiniboia	.12	7.86	6.34	67	65
	Ceylon	.12	9.71	9.11	68	66
3BN	Pennant	nil	11.61	7.66	67	65
	Swift Current	nil	8.94	7.51	67	65
	Hughton	.18	2.97	6.73	70	64
3BS	Instow	N.R.	6.12 2/	6.51	N.R.	66
	Shaunavon	nil	6.24	6.44	70	64
	Cadillac	nil	5.94	8.45	67	64
	Val Marie	N.R.	3.72 2/	7.03	N.R.	66
	Aneroid	nil	5.09	7.44	67	64
4A	Maple Creek	nil	4.04	7.23	70	65
	Consul	nil	6.36	6.04	65	62
4B	Roadene	trace	6.68	6.75	70	64
5A	Leross	.06	6.85	7.53	65	63
	Hubbard	.12	9.33	7.26	65	62
	Yorkton	.38	7.16	7.40	67	63
5B	Foam Lake	.06	7.26	7.21	67	62
	Lintlaw	.08	5.45	7.42	64	62
	Kamsack	nil	4.73	6.73	67	65
6A	Davidson	nil	10.24	6.10	67	65
	Dilke	N.R.	5.45 2/	6.57	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	nil	7.17 2/	5.57	67	64
	Semans	nil	5.86	4.90	68	64
	Strasbourg	.50	9.54	6.92	66	63
6B	Harris	.04	5.03	6.71	67	64
	Outlook	.02	7.31	4.92	68	63
	Saskatoon	trace	7.94	6.63	67	64
	Elbow	.12	7.88	6.16	68	64
	Dundurn	trace	7.94	7.38	68	64
	Tugaske	nil	9.48	6.14	67	65



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Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 24, 1944	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Week ending 8 a.m. July 24	
					Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	.24	5.04	5.99	69	63
7B	Macklin	1.12	11.13	7.11	66	61
	Scott	.76	9.64	6.53	65	63
	Ruthilda	.26	5.11	7.08	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.02	6.10	7.17	69	63
8A	Nipawin	.14	8.65	7.25	68	63
8B	Humboldt	.06	5.44	6.05	64	63
	Melfort	.86	7.35	6.95	63	63
9A	Rabbit Lake	.26	7.93	7.05	61	62
	Prince Albert	.13	8.56	6.87	64	64
9B	Waseca	.04	11.47	6.78	66	62
	North Battleford	.18	10.32	6.80	69	65
	Loon Lake	trace	11.36	7.97	65	62
Saskatchewan Average		.14	8.06	7.00	67	64
Alberta						
1	Foremost	nil	4.04	8.29	73	67
	Medicine Hat	trace	6.76	6.25	65	68
	Manyberries	.08	5.96	6.31	72	68
2	Cowley	trace	6.09	7.73	68	60
	Macleod	.02	6.00	7.01	74	65
	Cardston	.10	5.60	10.39	69	63
	Lethbridge	.01	6.64	7.16	71	65
3	Vauxhall	.08	4.68	5.84	71	63
	Brooks	.88	6.01	5.98	72	63
	Empress	.12	2.90	6.67	69	66
4	High River	.14	7.00	8.49	65	62
	Vulcan	1.36	8.32	7.44	N.R.	63
5	Drumheller	.10	5.00	7.53	71	66
	Hanna	.08	4.98	8.31	69	63
6	Olds	.04	6.64	7.73	66	61
	Calgary	.61	9.00	8.29	67	62
	Three Mills	nil	3.74 2/	6.96	67	61
	Strathmore	.62	7.36	N.R.	66	N.R.
	Gleichen	.38	7.65	6.75	69	65
7	Viking	trace	6.83	6.38	65	60
	Sedgewick	nil	7.23	6.98	71	61
	Hardisty	.10	6.84	7.23	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.13	6.53	6.10	69	60
	Hughenden	.20	9.18	6.80	N.R.	60
8	Red Deer	trace	9.95	9.58	66	59
	Lacombe	nil	13.14	8.23	66	60
	Wetaskiwin	nil	12.18	7.70	65	61
	Alix	.68	7.24 2/	7.52	64	61
	Camrose	.01	9.29	7.49	66	61
	Stettler	nil	10.04	8.50	66	61
9	Jasper	.82	10.27	3.98	66	61
	Springdale	.02	13.14	9.57	64	59
10	Vegreville	.16	8.71	8.65	66	61
	Lloydminster	.06	10.20	6.39	67	61
11	Calmar	.50	16.14	8.60	66	61
	Edmonton	.54	14.02	8.17	67	63
12	Edson	.10	14.85 2/	7.73	65	58
13	Glendon	.14	10.40	6.95	64	61
14	Campsie	.06	12.04 2/	8.14	65	61
	Athabaska	.14	10.13	7.25	62	60
15	High Prairie	.04	5.26	7.18	68	61
	Xinuso	nil	2.27 2/	6.93	65	61
16	Beaverlodge	nil	5.09	5.85	68	61
	Grande Prairie	trace	7.64	6.94	69	61
	Fairview	nil	6.16	5.06	69	61
17	Keg River	.16	4.92	6.90	67	61
	Fort Vermilion	.04	1.85	5.11	66	61
	Fort McMurray	.18	6.35	6.37	66	63
	Fort Smith	.07	4.45	4.22	65	60
Alberta Average		.18	7.69	7.20	67	62

N.R. No Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete.