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22-002
no. 10
1945
Aug. 21
c. 2C. R. No. 17
1945Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,
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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 21, 1945, 3 p.m. - The eighth of a series of 9 telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the twelfth of a series of 14 telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Dominion and Provincial Departments of Agriculture, private crop observers and grain men, supply the information on which these reports are based.

SUMMARY

Harvesting is general in all provinces of Canada this week. Wide variation is reported in crop yields, but with the exception of western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta prospects are fair to good. The supply of feed grain is causing concern in southern Alberta and south-eastern Saskatchewan. Rains are needed throughout the Maritime Provinces to assure continued satisfactory development of all late field crops. The apple crop in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick showed no improvement during the past two weeks but potato prospects continue to be satisfactory, although blight is general and is expected to reduce yields in some areas. A hay crop of excellent quality is now all under cover and harvesting of early grains has commenced.

In Quebec the weather has continued to be favourable although some sections now need rain. Hay making is completed throughout the province and the quality and quantity were excellent. Harvesting of early grains is now in full swing in most areas and yields are very good. There has been some lodging of late grains, however. Yields of potatoes are especially promising.

The weather has been generally hot and dry throughout Ontario although some sections report good rains. Harvesting of grains is general and threshing has commenced in some localities. Yields appear to be very satisfactory. Corn and root crops are making excellent growth but a heavy infestation of potato blight was reported in some sections. Harvesting of the earliest peach varieties is now under way and a heavy movement of tomatoes has commenced. Sugar beet fields now look generally good except in areas affected by excessive rain early in the season.

Excessively hot weather hastened ripening of the crop in Manitoba and harvesting is now general in most districts. Yields look promising over most of the province and a few fields threshed in the southern part of the province have run twenty-five bushels to the acre. Early seeded wheat will be a good sample, although leaf rust has caused some damage. Rain is now needed for the late sown grains, gardens and root crops. An excellent hay crop has been gathered and pastures are still in good condition. Corn is late and will require freedom from frost most of September for maturity. A heavy flax crop is beginning to mature although in some areas it is badly lodged.

The Saskatchewan crops have ripened rapidly during the past week of hot weather. Harvesting is now general over large areas of the province, although in parts of the east-central, north-western and north-eastern districts operations will not commence until around September 1. Considerable cutting and swathing has taken place in the southern areas and early outturns in the south-eastern districts and in the Regina, Weyburn and east-central districts have been satisfactory. In other areas yields are only fair. Hail occurred during the week at scattered points causing light to heavy damage. Grasshoppers are active and heavy sawfly damage is reported in the south-central district. Crops in the north-western district have benefitted by recent rains. Live stock are reported fair to good, but pastures have deteriorated, particularly in the drier areas.

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The weather has been hot and dry over most of southern and central Alberta but the first frosts have been reported from the more northerly districts. Harvesting is general in the south and cutting has started in the central and northern areas, but will not be general until the last week of August. Very low yields are reported from the south-east where the feed outlook is critical. The hot weather was welcome in the irrigated areas where sugar beets are making rapid growth. Early reports of grain yields show wide variation ranging from two to five bushels in the drier areas up to twenty-five bushels west of Lethbridge. Late rains have improved the crop in the Edmonton area where cutting will be general next week.

Harvesting of all grains is now in full swing in British Columbia. Wheat and oat yields are generally good but barley is inclined to be light. The alfalfa crop has been harvested in good condition. Indications are now that the tomato crop will not be as heavy as indicated earlier in the season and the drought has adversely affected the potato crop.

Maritime Provinces

In Prince Edward Island local showers greatly benefitted all crops. Early potatoes are making rapid growth but blight injury has reduced the yields in some sections. Early sown grains are now being cut and although well filled are short in the straw. Corn is growing rapidly but the drought has been detrimental to all other late grains and root crops. Apples are promising and average vegetable yields are looked for. In Nova Scotia the dry weather continued since the last report and all crops generally are in need of rain. There has been no improvement in the apple crop but the potato and other vegetables are developing very well on the heavier soils. The hay crop was of excellent quality and yields were high. Very light rains fell in New Brunswick during the past two weeks. Potato fields are thriving but need rain badly. Late blight is general but not serious. All other root and vegetable crops are growing slowly. The hay crop is now under cover and the quality was good and the yields were heavy. Pastures, however, are very dry and the aftermath is short. The apple crop will be light.

Quebec and Ontario

The weather in Quebec during the past two weeks has favoured all farm operations and haying is practically completed in most sections of the province. In eastern Quebec a light rain hastened the maturity of the cereals and harvesting has commenced with yields of wheat and barley good. Oats, however, will be only average. Potato yields also are good. In northern Quebec the weather has been generally dry, although some light rains fell last week in the Lake St. John area. Yields of cereals are expected to be good in this area but only medium in the Charlevoix and Saguenay sections. Early-sown grains are now ready to harvest and digging of early potatoes has commenced. In the Eastern Townships haying is now completed and harvesting of early sown grains has begun. Yields are fair to good. Late sown grain has begun to change colour but considerable leaf rust is reported. Although pastures are drying up the aftermath is good. The corn crop has developed well but late blight is affecting potatoes. In the area north of Montreal silage corn is spotty ranging from uneven to good. Yields of early sown oats are good but late sown fields are affected by rust. The hay crop in this section was very heavy. Tobacco fields are very uneven in appearance.

In eastern Ontario the weather has been generally dry but heavy rains fell in some sections. Harvesting of grains is in full swing and threshing has commenced. Yields of early sown grains are good but late fields are not as promising. A good deal of hay is still standing in some sections. Corn fields show a general improvement during the past two weeks. Blight and leaf hoppers are causing considerable damage to potato fields. In central Ontario grain harvesting is past the peak and threshing of some spring and fall grains is under way. Corn and root crops have made rapid growth and sugar beets are generally doing well except in areas affected by excessive rain early in the season. In south-western Ontario practically all crops have improved during the past two weeks but much corn, tobacco and soybeans will mature late. Harvesting of early peaches, melon, peppers and flue-cured tobacco is now under way. Tomatoes will begin to move to canneries in the next few days. Fair progress in the harvesting has been made during the week in the Lake Simcoe-Georgian Bay areas, although there has been some delay due to local showers. Yields of grain are about normal but there is a wide variation between fields. Considerable rust is reported in oats and in some sections potatoes and other root crops are in need of rain.

Manitoba

The weather was hot and dry over most of Manitoba during the past week and crops matured rapidly. Harvesting is general over a wide area and good headway has been made in the earlier districts. A few fields have been threshed in the Morden district with yields averaging twenty-five bushels. Leaf rust will reduce the grade somewhat in this area. The corn crop in this area is late and will require freedom from frost for most of September to reach maturity. Flax is beginning to mature. The rape crop is heavy and well advanced. Pastures remain good. At Melita in the south-west the harvest is in full swing with 30 per cent of the cutting done. Combining will be general this week. Twenty-five per cent of the wheat and barley is cut in the Portage la Prairie area. Rain is now needed for sugar beets and late crops. Early peas are being cut. Blight is bad on the potatoes and tomatoes in this district. Cutting is general at Brandon. Late sown crops show a lack of filling in this area and crown rust is causing damage to the oat crop. At Woodnorth excessive heat has hastened ripening and cutting of oats and barley is now general. Most fields are heavy and give promise of a heavy yield. Wheat cutting will be general next week in the north-west where all crops are maturing rapidly. Excessive heat and leaf rust will reduce yields somewhat. The flax crop is good in this area. Harvesting has started at Dauphin after a few days of very hot weather. The quality of grain is rather poor and some flax is badly lodged and rotting. For the province as a whole, an excellent hay crop has been harvested and pastures remain good.

Saskatchewan

Crops have matured rapidly in Saskatchewan during a week of excessively hot, dry weather. Cutting and swathing has commenced in most districts, and will be general this week except in the east-central, north-western and north-eastern districts where operations will not commence until about September 1. Crop prospects have been maintained in the south-eastern, east-central and north-eastern districts, while in other districts conditions vary from poor to good. High temperatures, coupled with dry weather, ripened crops prematurely in the Indian Head area where harvesting is well under way. Crop yields were reduced up to 15 per cent by temperatures of 96 to 98. Most of the barley and oats is cut in the Swift Current area and combining of wheat has started. Yields on good fallow running ten bushels to the acre. Barley will give the best returns as oats are light and flax is poor. Considerable damage from sawfly is reported from this area. In the east-central area crops are ripening too fast and yields will be lower than indicated earlier. Rain is needed to fill the coarse grains. Further deterioration is reported from the west-central area as a result of extremely hot weather. Grain is shrunken and will be a poor sample. Pastures are poor. Crops have matured rapidly in the north-east and cutting will commence this week. Grain is filling fairly well although leaf rust is prevalent in wheat. In the north-west harvesting of wheat and barley has begun and will be general in a week to ten days. Wheat will average about 13 bushels, barley 25 and oats about 30 bushels per acre. Flax acreage is down from last year and may yield about 8 bushels per acre. Live stock are reported in fair to good condition but pastures have deteriorated seriously in the drier areas.

Alberta

Harvesting is now general in the southern part of Alberta but has just started in the central and northern areas where it will not be general for another week or ten days. Cutting is general in the Peace River district. Yields will be generally poor in the eastern part of the province and fair in the west. In the south-east combining is well advanced after a week of hot winds and no rain. Yields are from 2 to 5 bushels per acre and the feed outlook is critical in this area. Hot, dry weather has further deteriorated crops in the unirrigated districts around Lethbridge, but growth has been rapid on the irrigated fields. East of Lethbridge yields range from 2 to 20 bushels with grades ranging from 2 to 5 Northern. West of

the city yields average 25 to 30 bushels of 2 Northern grade. Yields in the Vulcan district will be further reduced by the hot, dry weather and early combined wheat is very light. Combining is in full swing around Claresholm. Yields of only about 4 bushels of wheat per acre are being harvested at Hanna and coarse grains are being cut for feed. Wheat cutting will be general next week at Stettler. Rains in this area have improved crop prospects somewhat. Frost has been reported from a number of points around Calgary where some early oats and barley is cut but harvesting will not be general for another ten days. At Lacombe dry, warm weather hastened ripening and cutting of cereals will be general this week. Pastures are short and need rain. All crops require bright warm weather for filling and ripening. Frost has also been reported in low areas of this district. Late rains improved crops in the Edmonton area and the weather has been favourable for filling. Cutting will be general next week. Harvesting is expected to be general about August 22 at Beaverlodge. Yields of 15 bushels of wheat and 25 of oats and barley are in prospect. Hail was reported last week at Smoky Lake, Fort Saskatchewan, Vegreville and Nanton. Sawfly is causing some damage in the south of the province and grasshoppers are active on late seeded fields and cover crops.

British Columbia

In British Columbia, apart from a few light showers, the weather during the past two weeks has been generally very warm and dry. The apple crop is sizing well and early peaches and Bartlett pears of excellent quality are now moving to market in volume. Harvesting and threshing of the grain crop is now in full swing in most sections. Generally speaking, wheat and oats are yielding well but barley is on the light side. Ranges and pastures are becoming very dry. The second crop of alfalfa has been harvested in good condition. Indications are that the tomato crop will not be as heavy as was expected earlier in the season and the drought has adversely affected the potato crop. Harvesting of other vegetable and seed crops is now under way.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. Aug.20	
		8 a.m. Aug.20,1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	nil	6.24	9.41	N.R.	61
	Waskada	trace	7.89	10.00	68	62
2	Boissevain	nil	9.55	9.38	67	63
	Ninette	nil	9.14	9.89	67	63
	Pilot Mound	nil	9.98	10.60	68	62
3	Portage la Prairie	nil	11.24	9.66	69	62
	Graysville	nil	8.57 2/	10.00	68	62
	Morden	nil	9.00	9.89	72	63
	Morris	N.R.	8.07 2/	9.80	N.R.	63
	Emerson	.06	7.66	9.34	69	63
4	Winnipeg	nil	8.18	11.13	70	63
6	Sprague	3.58	14.23	10.35	68	62
	Pinawa	.04	4.74 2/	8.34	68	59
7	Virden	nil	8.52	8.47	66	61
	Souris	nil	12.15	9.89	68	63
	Rivers	nil	12.02	9.86	66	61
8	Brandon	nil	8.98	10.02	66	61
	Cypress River	nil	9.89	9.88	68	62
9	Minnedosa	nil	9.58	9.75	64	60
10	Russell	nil	10.49	9.30	64	59
	Birtle	N.R.	7.43 2/	9.93	N.R.	59
11	Paulson	.26	12.30	8.63	65	60
12	Gimli	trace	8.18	10.29	68	61
13	Swan River	.06	7.62	9.96	65	58
	The Pas	.10	10.50	7.94	65	60
Manitoba Average		.18	9.68	9.67	67	61
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	nil	9.89	9.19	70	62
	Carlyle	nil	8.74	9.86	63	59
1B	Broadview	nil	10.47	8.94	67	60
	Moosomin	nil	10.47	8.74	66	59
2A	Yellow Grass	nil	8.13	8.63	67	62
	Midale	nil	11.29	9.46	66	62
2B	Moose Jaw	nil	5.92	8.96	N.R.	62
	Regina	nil	10.04	9.07	67	61
	Francis	nil	11.70	7.58	64	61
	Qu'Appelle	nil	7.24	10.67	68	61
	Indian Head	nil	7.15	10.21	67	60
3AN	Chaplin	nil	4.27	9.44	66	61
	Gravelbourg	nil	2.98	7.67	68	60
3AS	Assinibcica	nil	4.96	7.30	N.R.	62
	Ceylon	nil	5.94	10.80	69	61
3EN	Pennant	nil	5.01	8.79	66	62
	Swift Current	nil	5.02	9.23	68	60
	Hughton	nil	4.59	8.12	68	60
3BS	Instow	N.R.	9.96 2/	7.95	N.R.	62
	Shaunavon	nil	6.36	7.57	68	60
	Cadillac	nil	6.94	9.34	65	60
	Val Marie	N.R.	5.88 2/	8.22	N.R.	61
	Aneroid	nil	5.46	9.02	66	60
4A	Maple Creek	nil	5.08	8.43	68	63
	Consul	nil	3.71	7.06	62	60
4B	Roadene	nil	6.25	8.12	68	60
5A	Leross	nil	7.37	9.05	66	59
	Hubbard	nil	7.96	9.10	64	58
	Yorkton	trace	9.12	9.35	66	59
5B	Dafoc	nil	9.51 2/	8.12	68	58
	Foam Lake	N.R.	12.04 2/	8.95	N.R.	57
	Lintlaw	nil	9.56	8.95	64	57
	Kamsack	.14	12.52	8.62	66	59
6A	Davidson	nil	7.85	7.40	N.R.	59
	Dilke	N.R.	5.41 2/	7.70	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	N.R.	7.12 2/	6.45	N.R.	58
	Semans	nil	7.55	3.86	70	58
	Strasbourg	nil	10.00	8.28	66	59
6B	Harris	nil	5.06	7.95	66	60
	Outlook	nil	6.69	6.68	67	59
	Saskatoon	nil	9.42	8.58	65	59
	Elbow	nil	5.00	7.35	67	61
	Dundurn	nil	6.88	8.73	67	60
	Tugaske	nil	5.22	7.36	66	60



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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. 20	
	8 a.m. Aug. 20, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)					
7A Kindersley	nil	4.21	7.75	N.R.	59
7B Macklin	trace	6.07	8.79	65	58
Scott	nil	5.57	8.19	64	57
Ruthilda	N.R.	4.48 2/	8.85	N.R.	N.R.
Biggar	nil	6.24	8.91	N.R.	60
8A Nipawin	.20	11.32	8.47	64	59
8B Humboldt	nil	9.38	7.46	65	59
Melfort	.02	11.63	8.98	64	59
9A North Battleford	nil	6.25	8.53	67	62
Rabbit Lake	nil	8.50	8.93	58	58
Prince Albert	nil	8.76	8.79	65	59
9B Waseca	N.R.	6.15 2/	8.36	N.R.	57
Loon Lake	.26	7.68	9.97	62	57
Saskatchewan Average	.01	7.38	8.51	66	59
Alberta					
1 Foremost	nil	6.25	10.12	67	62
Medicine Hat	nil	5.31	7.54	69	64
Manyberries	nil	3.25	7.61	67	63
2 Cowley	.02	11.22	9.35	62	57
Macleod	nil	12.75	8.44	67	61
Cardston	nil	13.56	12.21	63	59
Lethbridge	nil	10.38	8.37	67	59
3 Vauxhall	nil	5.46	7.31	66	59
Brooks	nil	7.41	7.28	68	59
Empress	nil	2.25	7.74	67	61
4 High River	N.R.	11.47 2/	10.42	N.R.	57
Vulcan	nil	8.49 2/	8.52	N.R.	58
5 Drumheller	nil	6.87	9.23	68	61
Hanna	N.R.	6.25 2/	9.94	N.R.	58
6 Olds	nil	6.00	10.16	62	55
Calgary	.03	10.07	10.37	63	59
Three Hills	nil	9.25	8.74	61	57
Strathmore	nil	9.69 2/	9.10	62	56
Gleichen	.02	9.03	8.49	63	59
7 Viking	N.R.	5.54 2/	8.41	N.R.	57
Sedgewick	nil	5.92 2/	9.04	65	57
Hardisty	N.R.	6.60 2/	9.00	N.R.	N.R.
Coronation	nil	7.89	7.44	65	56
Hughenden	nil	8.43	8.39	64	56
8 Red Deer	.03	7.63	12.09	60	56
Lacombe	nil	9.28	10.34	60	56
Wetaskiwin	.10	10.05	9.83	62	57
Camrose	.10	8.26	9.20	62	58
Stettler	nil	6.30	10.39	63	57
9 Jasper	.65	5.50	5.15	61	58
Rocky Mountain House	.05	13.35	10.86	61	55
Springdale	.18	7.23	12.33	58	55
10 Vegreville	.12	6.52	11.05	59	56
Lloydminster	trace	9.76	7.98	53	57
11 Calmar	.12	6.99	11.11	62	57
Edmonton	.65	7.83	10.59	63	58
12 Edson	.67	7.82 2/	10.45	57	54
13 Glendon	.74	8.69	8.74	61	54
14 Campsie	.10	9.24	10.62	59	56
Athabaska	.16	8.96	9.64	58	55
Lac La Biche	.33	6.31	9.64	62	55
15 High Prairie	.18	6.50	8.82	60	57
Kinuso	.12	4.77 2/	8.53	59	57
16 Beaverlodge	.29	6.35	7.35	61	57
Grande Prairie	.30	5.41	8.85	62	57
Fairview	.29	5.16	6.60	61	58
17 Keg River	nil	4.76	8.79	59	56
Fort Vermilion	.02	3.83	6.81	58	57
Fort McMurray	1.14	7.85	8.51	61	58
Fort Smith	.22	6.32	5.67	60	56
Fort St. John	.18	3.89	8.50	63	58
Alberta Average	.14	7.55	9.05	62	56

N.R. No Report. 1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada. 2/ Incomplete. Figures not included in average.