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Ottawa, May 29, 1945, 3 p.m. - The second 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 second of a series of 14 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.

SUMMARY

Since the release of our last crop report two weeks ago weather conditions in the agricultural areas of Canada have continued cool and backward. Some areas are still suffering from excessive rainfall, while others, particularly in central Alberta, are looking for rain. Farmers everywhere continue to hope for higher temperatures.

Cool, wet weather has prevailed throughout the Maritime Provinces during the first three weeks in May. Spring planting has been further delayed, but winter wheat, hay and pastures are in good condition. Growth generally, however, has been slow.

Field operations generally in Quebec have been further retarded by continued cool, wet weather. In many areas seeding of spring grains is only about half completed and in certain districts reseeding will be necessary. Hay and pasture meadows generally have made good growth and prospects are for a good hay crop. Potatoes, vegetables and late sown crops are now being planted but will be considerably later than normal. In Ontario warmer weather has resulted in a substantial improvement in crop prospects in the south-western and central parts of the province. Continued wet weather has delayed seeding operations in the eastern counties and in northern Ontario. Fall wheat has recovered substantially from earlier setbacks and prospects are now generally good. Planting of corn, soybeans, sugar beets and tobacco is now under way and given a spell of warm, dry weather should come ahead rapidly. The peach crop looks promising but other small fruits are only fair to poor. Pasture conditions are fair to good.

Wheat seeding is nearing completion in Manitoba and good progress is now being made in getting coarse grains into the ground. The growth of pastures continues backward, however, but early seeded grain is showing above ground. Moisture conditions throughout the province are favourable and warm weather would now permit of rapid growth. The condition of live stock is reported to be only fair owing to the lateness of the season and the retarded growth of grass.

Wheat seeding has made good progress in Saskatchewan during the past week and it is now about 85 per cent complete. Germination and growth are slow with moisture conditions only fair and rain needed in the southern and south-western areas. Some damage from soil drifting has been experienced and farmers are reseeding those fields which have suffered most.

Good rains were received in southern Alberta during the past two weeks and the improvement in this area has been very great. About 90 per cent of the wheat has been seeded in the province as a whole. The central areas report need for further rains and moisture conditions are only fair in the south-east despite recent rains.

In British Columbia crops are now growing rapidly and with abundant moisture supplies in all areas the outlook for field crops is bright. Another excellent tree-fruit crop is in prospect.

Maritime Provinces

In Prince Edward Island heavy rains during the first two weeks in May delayed planting. Seeding was general last week but very little has been completed. Early-sown grains and vegetables have germinated well and are at present promising. The meadows have wintered well but warm weather is required to promote normal growth. In Nova Scotia frequent rains and low temperatures during May have delayed most seeding. With a few warm days, however, seeding will be general. Winter wheat, hay and pastures are very promising. Plums and cherries were seriously damaged by frost and apples were affected to a lesser extent. The apple orchards are now in full bloom and the current weather is favourable for pollination. With wet, cool weather during the first three weeks of May in New Brunswick very little seeding has been done. Hay and pastures in this province also wintered well and are in good condition although growth is slow.

Quebec and Ontario

Cool, wet weather over almost all Quebec has further delayed field operations and with the season already late the situation may be serious. Much seeding has yet to be done and in some cases land already sown will have to be reworked and reseeded. Growth has been excellent in meadows and pastures but the soil is so wet that it has been impossible to turn live stock out to pasture. An exception to the general weather conditions is reported from Abitibi and Temiscaming, where dryness prevailed throughout April but recent rains have improved conditions. Some seeding of spring grains is reported from the Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere region but the weather has been generally cool and wet. An excellent hay crop is expected from this area. Seeding is about half completed around Normandin but little work is possible at present. Little progress is reported from the Lennoxville area but hay prospects are good. Similarly, excessive moisture has kept operations at a standstill in the St. John's area and around Hemmingford. No serious insect damage is reported but damage from frost and excessive moisture has been extensive.

Crop prospects in most of Ontario improved materially with more favourable weather over the past two weeks. In the eastern and northern districts, however, continued wet, cold weather has delayed seeding operations. Seeding is generally completed throughout south-western and central Ontario and although later than usual the grain crops are making progress. A heavy crop of fall wheat is indicated in this area. Planting of corn, soybeans, sugar beets and tobacco is now in full swing although about two weeks later than normal. Conditions in the London area are improved with warmer weather and spring grains are fair to good. Hay and pasture meadows are recovering from early frosts. East of Toronto the wet weather has delayed seeding, particularly on low land, and a warm, dry spell is necessary to permit completion of seeding and to give crops in the ground a good start. Wheat, clover and pasture are making excellent growth in the Renfrew area but there is still about 20 per cent of the seeding to be completed. Cold, wet weather has seriously delayed operations in the northern part of the province. The peach crop in the Niagara area is promising, but the sweet cherries crop may be only about 25 per cent of normal. A failure is reported for sour cherries, prunes and pears and the plum crop will be light. Strawberries and grapes look good.

Manitoba

The weather throughout Manitoba continues generally cool with scattered showers. Boissevain and Graysville each report an inch of rainfall during the past week. Wheat seeding is nearing completion and a considerable proportion of the oats and barley crops has also been seeded, with some farmers in Districts 1, 7 and 8 almost finished. About two-thirds of the prospective sugar beet acreage has been planted under favourable soil conditions. Growth of grain and pastures is backward and the grain which was seeded earlier is now just above ground.

On the light textured soils of the south-west corner seeding has been completed except for flax. The acreage of wheat, oats and barley is reported about the same as last year and, although flax has not yet been seeded, little change in the acreage of this crop is anticipated. Stock wintered well and sub-soil moisture is adequate. Seeding is well advanced in the Brandon area with the exception of that on low lying land. Early crops made good progress during three warm days last week and pastures are beginning to show improvement. The wheat acreage in the Portage la Prairie area is reported to be down by about 20 per cent with barley acreage up by about one-fifth, and a slight increase in flax. Small acreages of rape and sunflowers have also been seeded. Although there are ample supplies of grain available for live-stock feeding a shortage of hay is becoming evident in this district.

Our correspondent at Woodnorth reports that wheat seeding is practically completed and that about 80 per cent of the coarse grains is also in the ground. Weather continues cold but moisture conditions are very favourable. In the Minnedosa-Neepawa area seeding is about 70 per cent complete although the low land will not be seeded for another two weeks. Uniform stands of grain are now showing on those fields which were seeded early. Little weed growth has occurred so far and pastures are slow in starting. Live stock are only in fair condition.

On the grey black soils around Swan River in the extreme north-west of the Manitoba farming area wheat seeding has been completed with about 25 per cent of the barley seeded and 40 per cent of the oats. Growth here also has been slow owing to cool weather. Some farmers are reported to be specializing in garden peas.

Saskatchewan

Wheat seeding has made substantial progress in Saskatchewan during the past week and is practically completed in the south-eastern and Regina-Weyburn areas. In other districts from 80 to 90 per cent has been completed except in the north-east where only 60 per cent has been seeded. For the province as a whole it is thought that about 85 per cent of wheat is now sown, from 60 to 65 per cent of the oats and barley and 30 per cent of the flax. Germination and growth have been slow for the province at large and about 30 per cent of the seeded wheat is now showing green. Moisture conditions are only fair and rain is required in the southern part of the south-eastern region, in the Regina-Weyburn area, and along the Alberta boundary. Some damage from soil drifting has occurred in the south and south-west necessitating reseeding of a part of the crop. The weather continues to be generally cool and higher temperatures are required to hasten the growth. Pastures are also backward and the condition of live stock only fair.

A few farmers in the Indian Head area are seeding Argentine rape. Here rainfall is about normal and pasture crops are making good progress, although some frost has been received. Swift Current reports 90 per cent of the intended wheat acreage to have been drilled and that little flax will be seeded. Germination is slow and only 5 per cent of the grain is showing green. Although sub-soil moisture conditions are satisfactory, surface soil is dry leading to drifting on the lighter lands. Rain and warm weather are needed.

In the Rosetown district everything but some flax has been seeded and early wheat is showing above ground. Seeding is also completed in the Scott district and good progress is being made in getting other grains into the ground. Weather here, too, remains dry and unusually cold with frost practically every night. The late pastures are making fair growth and further north our correspondent at Prince also reports the seeding of wheat to be completed and 90 per cent of the coarse grains to have also been seeded. Although the season is late here, too, conditions are generally satisfactory. In the north-east around Melfort rainfall has been above normal and seeding is well advanced, although growth is slow as a result of continued cool weather. Almost none of the spring seeded grain is showing above ground.

Alberta

Recent rains in southern Alberta have greatly improved crop prospects. Between Calgary and Edmonton moisture conditions are only fair and east-central Alberta reports an urgent need for rain. In the province as a whole about 90 per cent of the wheat seeding has been completed and growth varies from zero to 4 inches. About 55

per cent of the coarse grains has been seeded. Pastures are generally in fair condition, but rains are needed in the central and northern districts to promote further growth. Live stock are reported to be in from fair to good condition.

Early grain in south-eastern Alberta is up from 2 to 4 inches and seeding in this area will be completed this week. Rains during the past fortnight have been spotty and the total precipitation received since the first of April is still well below normal for the area. Cool weather prevails with the result that grass conditions are only fair and the outlook for the hay crop is very poor. Although the lamb and calf crops have been good, it has been necessary to move some cattle because of a lack of grass.

The Lethbridge area has received excellent rains during the past two weeks which have delayed seeding but have, nevertheless, been extremely welcome as sub-soil moisture was scanty. There has been a minor increase in the damage caused by the pale western cutworm and grasshoppers have begun to hatch.

Cardston has received 3.7 inches of rain during the month of May and about 60 per cent of the seeding has been completed. The first spring wheat to be seeded is now showing green and winter wheat is about 8 inches high with good stands in most places. Pastures in this area are also late on account of cold weather, but a good hay crop is in prospect.

Around Claresholm all coarse grains have been seeded and about 80 per cent of the wheat is in the ground. Very little flax will be sown. Soaking rains during the past two weeks have greatly improved crop prospects for this year, although the sub-soil moisture supply is still deficient. Warm weather is now required throughout south-western Alberta to promote the growth of grain and pasture.

In the area between Calgary and Edmonton rainfall has been only about normal or less and Stettler reports need for a general rain. Only light showers have fallen north of Lacombe and wheat seeding is some two weeks late. About 80 per cent of the wheat has been seeded in the Edmonton area and 65 per cent of the oats and barley. Germination has been poor owing to a dry top soil and cold weather; rain is urgently needed. Our Vermilion correspondent reports that wheat seeding has been completed but only about 20 per cent of oats has been put in and no other grain. Rain is also needed here for good germination and to encourage pasture growth which is poor so far. In the Peace River area wheat seeding has been completed, with about 75 per cent of the oats, 50 per cent of the barley and 50 per cent of the flax also seeded. Moisture reserves are from fair to good and the crops are now emerging from the ground.

British Columbia

In British Columbia a week of cool, showery weather was followed by fine, warm days resulting in rapid growth of all crops. There is abundant soil moisture in all districts and in irrigation sections snow in the hills promise adequate moisture supplies for the summer. Winter wheat is making excellent growth and although spring grains are late they are now gaining rapidly. Early sown oats are good but warm weather is required for corn. Growth of hay and pastures is excellent. In the Okanagan Valley prospects for the cherry, peach, prune and pear crops are bright with the outlook for apples, apricots and all vegetables good.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
	Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. May 28, 1945	
	8 a.m. May 28, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
<u>Manitoba</u>					
1 Pierson	.16	2.24	2.99	50	54
Waskada	.64	2.18	2.39	51	55
2 Boissevain	1.08	2.70	3.09	48	54
Ninette	N.R.	2.73 2/	3.28	N.R.	54
Pilot Mound	.38	2.84	3.06	49	54
3 Portage la Prairie	.27	3.27	2.80	52	55
Graysville	1.00	3.23	2.79	54	54
Morden	.50	3.12	2.94	51	54
Morris	.32	2.31	2.63	50	55
Emerson	.18	2.52	2.32	50	55
4 Winnipeg	.28	3.24	3.17	52	56
6 Sprague	.42	3.81	3.12	52	53
Pinawa	nil	2.42	2.03	51	53
7 Virden	.14	1.69	2.11	52	54
Souris	.14	2.48	2.70	52	56
Rivers	.35	2.95	2.66	52	56
8 Brandon	.32	2.88	2.63	52	54
Cypress River	.44	3.06	2.75	51	54
9 Minnedosa	.37	2.93	2.66	50	54
10 Russell	nil	1.98	2.30	49	52
Birtle	.20	2.24	2.34	51	53
11 Paulson	.32	3.22	2.08	52	52
12 Gimli	.16	2.51	3.25	50	52
13 Swan River	.20	2.12	2.01	49	51
The Pas	nil	2.30	1.82	44	53
Manitoba Average	.33	2.68	2.68	51	52
<u>Saskatchewan</u>					
1A Estevan	.08	1.09	2.61	55	53
Carlyle	nil	2.10	2.90	50	52
1B Broadview	trace	2.06	2.53	50	53
Moosomin	nil	3.39	2.21	52	53
2A Yellow Grass	.10	1.10	2.48	51	53
Midale	.04	1.10	2.96	54	52
2B Moose Jaw	.06	1.75	2.38	54	56
Regina	nil	2.22	2.19	53	53
Francis	nil	2.70	1.65	51	53
Qu'Appelle	nil	2.80	2.92	52	53
Indian Head	.01	2.24	2.50	52	53
3AN Chaplin	.08	1.28	2.78	52	54
Gravelbourg	.01	.87	1.92	53	53
3AS Assiniboia	trace	.88	2.18	53	54
Ceylon	nil	.66	3.38	54	53
3BN Pennant	.02	1.68	2.60	51	54
Swift Current	.01	2.21	2.39	52	53
Hughton	nil	1.36	2.83	50	53
3BS Instow	.08	3.27	2.08	53	53
Shaunavon	.16	1.76	2.05	53	51
Cadillac	N.R.	1.98 2/	3.31	N.R.	51
Val Marie	.12	1.51	2.32	48	52
Aneroid	.04	2.16	2.29	52	52
4A Maple Creek	nil	1.14	2.28	50	54
Consul	nil	.53	2.41	50	52
4B Roadene	nil	1.96	2.85	52	53
5A Leross	N.R.	2.57 2/	2.27	N.R.	51
Hubbard	.06	2.02	2.14	48	52
Yorkton	.16	2.89	2.35	52	52
Dafoe	.04	1.77	1.90	49	52
5B Foam Lake	.06	3.50	2.27	50	51
Lintlaw	.04	2.46	2.63	48	49
Kamsack	.06	3.21	1.72	N.R.	51
6A Davidson	.22	2.86	2.14	51	52
Dilke	.06	1.26 2/	2.34	N.R.	N.R.
Nokomis	nil	2.12	1.73	48	51
Semans	.04	3.76	1.71	51	51
Strasbourg	.12	2.74	2.41	50	52
6B Harris	.04	2.06	1.63	50	52
Outlook	.14	2.10	1.78	53	53
Saskatoon	.15	1.48	1.92	51	53
Elbow	nil	1.54	2.00	54	54
Dundurn	.02	2.48	2.09	52	53
Tugaske	.04	1.74	1.87	52	53

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending	8 a.m. May 28, 1945
		8 a.m. May 28, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	nil	1.32	1.95	51	50
7B	Macklin	trace	1.28	2.93	51	50
	Scott	.06	1.70 2/	2.12	48	53
	Biggar	.04	2.42	1.95	53	52
8A	Nipawin	.34	2.16	2.25	51	51
8B	Humboldt	.14	2.10	1.94	48	53
	Melfort	.58	3.78	2.33	49	53
9A	Rabbit Lake	.28	2.14	1.83	47	52
	Prince Albert	.59	2.90	2.11	49	53
9B	Waseca	N.R.	1.38 2/	2.09	N.R.	52
	North Battleford	trace	1.84	1.93	52	56
	Loon Lake	.10	1.52	2.30	50	50
Saskatchewan Average		.08	2.02	2.28	51	52
Alberta						
1	Foremost	.04	1.74	3.76	52	56
	Medicine Hat	.15	1.85	2.09	53	56
	Manyberries	.04	.92	2.63	54	56
2	Cowley	.42	5.23	3.14	49	51
	Macleod	.12	4.99	2.32	57	54
	Cardston	.20	4.96	4.40	49	51
	Lethbridge	.38	4.93	2.64	53	54
3	Vauxhall	.66	2.51	2.21	50	55
	Brooks	.04	2.64	2.33	55	55
	Empress	nil	.89	2.18	50	55
4	High River	.40	5.95	3.39	49	52
	Vulcan Airport	.32	3.31	2.51	N.R.	53
5	Drumheller	.22	1.90	2.38	55	55
	Hanna	.46	2.23	2.73	54	53
6	Olds	.26	2.12	3.02	51	51
	Calgary	.01	4.85	2.76	51	52
	Three Hills	.36	2.22	2.02	52	51
	Strathmore	.42	3.52	2.48	49	50
	Gleichen	.58	3.74	2.37	53	52
7	Viking	.32	1.65	2.60	50	51
	Sedgewick	.52	2.46	1.80	53	52
	Hardisty	.24	1.68 2/	1.83	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.20	1.87	2.27	52	50
	Hughenden	.16	1.94	2.33	49	50
8	Red Deer	.76	2.06	3.16	52	51
	Lacombe	.98	2.80	2.46	53	51
	Wetaskiwin	.44	2.38	2.10	51	52
	Camrose	.42	1.06 2/	2.77	52	50
	Stettler	.04	.94	3.38	52	51
9	Jasper	.02	1.11	1.59	51	52
	Rocky Mountain House	.38	2.77	3.16	52	49
	Springdale	N.R.	1.40 2/	3.10	N.R.	50
10	Vegreville	.02	1.36	2.73	52	51
	Lloydminster	.20	1.67	1.89	51	50
11	Calmar	N.R.	.98 2/	3.02	51	52
	Edmonton	.17	1.14	2.34	52	54
12	Edson	.38	1.50	2.08	49	52
13	Glendon	.04	1.33	2.04	51	50
14	Campsie	.80	1.82	2.25	50	52
	Athabaska	.06	.74	2.39	51	52
	Lac la Biche	.04	1.04	2.39	51	52
15	High Prairie	trace	.76	1.90	52	54
	Kinuso	nil	.45	2.22	50	53
16	Beaver Lodge	.79	2.00	2.08	53	51
	Grande Prairie	.68	1.73 2/	2.20	53	51
	Fairview	nil	.94	1.46	52	53
17	Keg River	.13	1.03	2.40	54	51
	Fort Vermilion	.32	.86	1.57	49	52
	Fort McMurray	.28	1.55	1.89	46	52
	Fort Smith	1.17	1.98	1.04	45	48
	Fort St. John	.03	.24	2.08	56	53
Alberta Average		.30	2.10	2.43	51	52

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