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Dominion Statistician: S. A. Cudmore, M.A. (Oxon.), LL.D. (Tor.), F.S.S., F.R.S.C.
Acting Chief, Agricultural Branch: Ian McArthur, M.Sc.
Grain Statistician: G. L. Burton.

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 26, 1945, 3 p.m. - The fourth 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 fourth 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

Continued rain has retarded farm operations in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. Prospects in New Brunswick are improved. Seeding is almost finished and germination is good in early sown grain. The Nova Scotia apple crop is lowest in many years.

Good growing weather during the past two weeks has greatly improved crop prospects in Quebec. All grain is now in the ground and growth is vigorous, particularly on the well drained soils. Meadows and pastures are good and milk production is at a high level. Cutting of alfalfa has started in some areas. The vegetable crop, although late, is now giving promise of satisfactory yields. Conditions in Ontario are variable but on the whole prospects are much improved over earlier indications. Fall wheat has recovered to a remarkable extent and much of the crop is now heavy and headed out. Late sown grains are making rapid growth with the warmer weather. The hay crop is being cut in many districts with an average yield in prospect. Pastures are good and the milk flow is high in the main dairy areas. The corn crop, while late, is now coming up well.

The province of Manitoba has received scattered rains during the week and higher temperatures have promoted rapid growth. Rain would again be welcome at most points especially around Winnipeg and the north-western section of the province. The crop is from fifteen to eighteen days behind schedule. Pastures are generally good and corn and rapeseed are making excellent progress. Early sown grain in the south-west has reached the shot-blade stage and is now about fifteen inches high. The cool spring encouraged the growth of weeds and these are now a serious factor in those fields which were not properly cultivated. Wireworm damage is more extensive than has been the case for several years, varying from 10 to 50 per cent.

For the province of Saskatchewan as a whole rainfall is about an inch and a quarter below the normal although some areas have fared much better than others. North and east of a line between Estevan, Saskatoon and Lloydminster, moisture conditions are favourable and crops are making good headway. South and west of this line conditions are less favourable with the south-central areas urgently requiring rain. The south-west corner has received scattered showers and top soil moisture supplies are greatly improved. The temperatures during the week have been higher and this factor has greatly improved crop prospects. Wheat has stood out well and now averages about 6 inches in height. About 90 per cent of the coarse grains is now showing green with an average height of approximately 5 inches. Wireworm damage is reported in some points, especially in the drier areas and, unless rain is received soon in the west-central area, crops may be very poor.

Widely scattered showers have occurred in Alberta during the past week although the central area around Edmonton still urgently requires rains. Crop and pasture conditions are excellent along the foothills south of Calgary but moisture is needed in the south-east to replenish depleted subsoil moisture supplies. Taking the province as a whole the height of the wheat plant varies from 3 to 12 inches with coarse grains ranging from 2 to 8 inches. Winter wheat is making good progress and the sugar beet crop, although late, is quite promising. Crops are growing rapidly through the Peace River area and although moisture supplies so far have been adequate, some areas are beginning to complain of drought.

Although generally cool throughout the province there has been warm weather in some parts of British Columbia. Fall grains are in head and spring grains are fair to good. Prospects are that a heavy hay crop will be harvested. Vegetable crops are good, but in some places warm weather is needed for tomatoes, cucumbers and such warm weather plants. Small fruits are doing well and strawberry picking is almost over.

Maritime Provinces

In Prince Edward Island farm operations have been delayed by continued rain and slight frost damage has occurred to early sown grain. Germination is good but growth is slow. Seeding is almost completed. Root crops are still being planted. Pastures are good, and tall and small fruit promising. In Nova Scotia rain has also retarded seeding and planting, there being only 75 per cent of normal seeding done. Pastures are good as are early planted potatoes and vegetables, but considerable planting is yet to be done. The apple crop is stated to be the lowest in many years, with scab severe. New Brunswick crop prospects have improved somewhat although fields have dried slowly. Seeding is practically completed except on poorly drained land and germination is good, but the oats acreage is below earlier seeding intentions. Hay and pastures are good on well drained land. Most potatoes were planted late.

Quebec and Ontario

Crop prospects in Quebec are still influenced by the cold, wet spring but good growing weather during the past two weeks has resulted in substantial improvement. All grain is now in the ground and growth is vigorous, particularly on well drained soils. Meadows and pastures are growing luxuriously and milk production is at a high level. In some areas the first cut of alfalfa is being made. Gardens, although later than usual are now indicating satisfactory yields. The recovery of yellow tobacco is good but acreage will be below intentions because of difficulty in securing plants. In the Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere district rains have continued at frequent intervals but grains, vegetables, potatoes, hay and pastures are making good growth. Fair weather is now needed for haying and weeding. All crops are making excellent growth in the Normandin, Saint Felicien and Roberval areas. Pastures are good and milk production is up. Vegetable crops are late but a heavy blueberry crop is in prospect. Conditions in the Lennoxville district are variable with some fields just being sown while early sown grain is starting to head. The hay crop is improving with clover starting to bloom. The strawberry crop will be light in this area. In the Hemmingford area continued showers have greatly interfered with farm work. Grain is now being seeded for green feed. On the high land the early seeded grain is good. The hay crop is average and pastures are now in good shape. Potatoes look good but the apple prospects are poor with severe scab. In western Quebec seeding is now completed and grain is making rapid growth under more favourable weather conditions. The hay crop is good but short and alfalfa was retarded by cold and frost. Pastures are doing well. The acreage planted to fibre flax and sugar beets will be below last year.

In Ontario crop conditions are still variable as a result of the late start and frequent rains, but growth generally has been good during the past two weeks. Fall wheat has done much better than was expected earlier and much of the crop is now very heavy and headed out. Late sown oats are making rapid growth and looking very good. The hay crop has also made a good recovery and will be heavier than expected.

Pastures are good and the milk flow is high in the main dairy areas. Corn was seriously delayed in planting but is now coming up well. Strawberry picking is in full swing and early peas are also being picked this week. Warmer weather in the Essex and Kent area has improved crop prospects greatly and all crops are now progressing favourably. On the heavy soils, however, a considerable acreage of corn, soybeans, canning tomatoes and burley tobacco is not yet planted. Insect damage has not yet been serious. Around Walkerton ninety per cent of the grain crop shows prospects of a good yield. Pastures and hay crops are satisfactory and a large acreage of soup peas looks promising. In Middlesex crops are doing very well and cutting has commenced on an average hay crop. Early seeded grain looks good and corn, while late, is doing well. Sugar beets are being blocked and bean fields are spotty from maggot injury. In Waterloo county crops have continued to improve. Fall wheat is very rank and lodging is possible in many fields. On the whole, the outlook for a good crop is bright. Conditions are variable in Simcoe County as a result of frequent rains. On the lighter soils prospects are good but the crop on the heavy soil is suffering from too much moisture. Winter wheat, hay and pastures are generally promising. The apple crop will be light. Prospects have improved in central Ontario with hay cutting now under way. Wheat is coming into head and is very promising. Intermittent showers have further delayed operations in the eastern counties and a considerable acreage of buckwheat and millet is being seeded to replace spring grains. Warmer weather has improved the hay and pasture prospects but more warm, dry weather is needed. Seeding is now about completed in northern Ontario and warmer weather has improved prospects but all crops are much later than usual.

Manitoba

Nearly all points in the province received some rain during the week, and temperatures were higher, averaging four degrees above normal. Although the first part of the week was cool, Thursday and Friday were extremely hot. These higher temperatures promoted rapid growth, but rain would again be welcome at most points, especially in the Winnipeg area and in the north-western section of the province. Seeding has only now been completed in the latter areas, and the crop is generally fifteen to eighteen days behind schedule. At Morden crops are showing rapid growth although warm winds have browned some of the leaves. Pastures are good in this area and the corn and rapeseed crops are making rapid progress. The high winds and warm weather of the past week have caused heavy evaporation and all crops would now benefit from rain, although none is suffering as yet.

Crops are also making satisfactory progress in the Portage la Prairie area with a good acreage of peas and sugar beets having been seeded. The thinning of the beet crop is about one-half completed. Weed growth is heavier than usual but ample moisture supplies are available and all crops are doing well, although some pastures are beginning to turn yellow. Brandon also reports a need for more rain, although cereal and hay crops are growing vigorously. Live stock are thriving on good pastures but the potato and corn crops are backward. In the south-west corner of the province, around Melita, early grain is reported to be in the shot-blade stage and fifteen inches high. Those fields which were not properly cultivated are extremely weedy. Severe hail damage occurred over a small part of this district during the past week.

Crops are reported to be developing well in the Interlake area and early sown grain is in much better condition than that which was put in later, as root rot damage is occurring in the latter fields. Tame hay and sweet clover are in good condition. Crops are making satisfactory progress in the Swan River area of the extreme north-west but rain is now needed and weeds are growing very rapidly. Wireworm damage is more extensive than any that has occurred for several years. In sections of southern and western Manitoba some fields are reported to be suffering from wireworm damage to the extent of 50 per cent, while others vary from 10 to 15 per cent.

Saskatchewan

The average rainfall in the province since the first of April is about an inch and a quarter below the normal for the period, although scattered showers fell over most of the agricultural areas during the past week. Temperatures have been ranging higher with Indian Head reporting a high temperature of 100 degrees.

This warm weather has promoted the growth of wheat and coarse grains throughout the province but soaking rains are urgently required in many districts. Lack of moisture is most acute in the south-central area, while the south-west corner has received scattered showers and top soil moisture supplies are now fair to good. The whole of the west-central area from Maple Creek to Saskatoon to Lloydminster is badly in need of rain. Moisture supplies are generally adequate north and east of a line ranging from Estevan through Saskatoon to Lloydminster. Wheat has generally stood out well and averages about 6 inches in height. Taking the province as a whole about 90 per cent of the coarse grains is now showing green with their average height approximately five inches.

Wireworm damage is reported at many points, especially in the drier areas and considerable damage has occurred in the Springwater area of Crop District 7B. The damage from the wireworms in the dry area of the west centre is estimated at about 10 per cent and at about 20 per cent in the south-west with re-seeding being necessary in some cases. Some damage is also reported in south-eastern Saskatchewan. No significant damage by cutworms or grasshoppers has as yet been reported. The condition of live stock is reported fair to good although in those districts which need rain the prospects for hay crops are not favourable and pasture growth is slow.

In the south-east good growing weather has prevailed during the past week and the early wheat is about fourteen inches high, although much of the crop was seeded late. Fields are dirty with weeds, as the cool weather gave them an excellent start. Indian Head reports a need for immediate rain and work on summerfallow is going ahead rapidly. At Willowbrook in the east-centre crops are coming along rapidly with rye heading out and wheat from six to ten inches high. Soil moisture here is adequate. Swift Current reports slow crop growth and conditions about two weeks late. The early sown crops are weedy and the germination of late sown crops is spotty. Plenty of grass is available for grazing but the hay crop will be poor. Rain is needed.

Rosetown in the west-central drought area reports that crops are only 50 per cent of normal and that if immediate rains are not received a complete crop failure is in prospect. Scott in the north-west also needs rain or the grain and pasture crops will be very short. Our correspondent at Prince reports that grains have held their own to date but unless the area receives rain the crop will also be poor.

Alberta

Widely scattered showers have occurred in this province during the past week with the central part of the province, which has been suffering from extremely dry weather during the spring, receiving some relief. Although crops are late they are now making satisfactory progress especially in the area along the foothills south of Calgary, where conditions are excellent. More rain is needed, however, in a wide area of central Alberta and in the south-east corner. In these latter sections crops are only fair and pastures are poor. Crops are in a fair to good condition in the Peace River district, although moisture reserves are being rapidly reduced and rain is required there also. The height of the wheat plant varies from three to twelve inches with coarse grains ranging from two to eight inches.

West of the Calgary-Lethbridge line moisture reserves are adequate and range conditions are very good in the foothill valleys. East of this line, however, subsoil moisture reserves are lacking and if hot, dry weather is received during the next two weeks a rapid deterioration of the crops may be expected. Winter wheat is in good condition and winter rye is now being cut for hay. The sugar beet crop is quite promising although ten to fourteen days late and thinning is now well advanced. Conditions are fairly satisfactory around Olds but the Lacombe district reports that, although crop growth is uniform, plants are short and weeds are getting ahead of the grain. The hay crop will be about fifty per cent of average and pastures are now only fair. Wheat around Hanna needs rain badly as it is now in the shot-blade stage and beginning to deteriorate. Stettler also reports that unless rain is received the harvest will be poor. Edmonton received over a third of an inch of rain during the week, but the total precipitation since April 1 is still less than half of normal and crops are only fair and two weeks late. Although coarse grain crops are still in a satisfactory condition around Athabasca the wheat crop is beginning to fall off, and farmers in the area are hoping for rain. Crops are growing rapidly throughout the Peace River area and the stands are reported to be about eight inches high. Generous rains have fallen in some districts, but others are becoming dry, especially in the western part of the Grande Prairie area. Some cutworm damage is apparent.

The grasshopper hatch has been uneven, but damage is slight to date. The sawfly flight is now in progress and the damage caused by the pale western cutworm is increasing in the drier areas. Wireworms are also thinning out the crops over an extensive area in the south. Potato beetles are also said to be abundant.

British Columbia

Cool weather with rains in British Columbia has been general, except in lower Vancouver Island where it has been warm. Fall wheat and rye are in full head and spring grains are fair to good with growth slow in northern parts. Heavy hay crops are expected but warm sunny weather is needed for curing good quality hay. Cool weather vegetable crops are excellent but crops such as tomatoes, cucumbers, etc., require more warm weather. Small fruits are doing well. Strawberry picking on Vancouver Island will soon be over. Loganberries and raspberries are good.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 25, 1945	
		8 a.m. June 25, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.28	3.24	4.99	66	62
	Waskada	.12	3.72	5.74	66	63
2	Boissevain	.44	4.66	5.39	64	63
	Ninette	N.R.	4.31	2/ 5.92	N.R.	63
	Pilot Mound	.08	4.66	6.09	65	64
3	Portage la Prairie	.22	5.09	5.35	67	63
	Graysville	Nil	4.13	5.93	68	63
	Morden	.02	4.04	5.73	68	63
	Morris	.12	3.37	5.39	67	64
	Emerson	.26	4.00	4.95	67	64
4	Winnipeg	.03	4.58	6.01	68	64
6	Sprague	.42	5.42	5.95	64	62
	Pinawa	trace	2.74	4.21	60	62
7	Virden	.78	3.45	4.75	66	62
	Souris	.51	3.91	5.46	67	63
	Rivers	1.91	5.76	5.39	66	62
8	Brandon	.20	4.58	5.41	65	62
	Cypress River	.18	4.72	5.33	66	63
9	Minnedosa	.75	4.05	5.35	64	61
10	Russell	1.23	4.28	5.09	63	60
	Birtle	.60	4.16	5.10	66	60
11	Paulson	.61	4.92	4.37	68	61
12	Gimli	.40	3.52	6.05	66	62
13	Swan River	.26	3.81	5.07	64	60
	The Pas	.06	4.61	3.81	62	61
Manitoba Average		.40	4.23	5.31	66	62
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.70	3.30	5.39	67	62
	Carlyle	1.24	4.76	5.58	64	59
1B	Broadview	1.60	5.59	4.68	63	60
	Moosomin	.72	4.49	4.73	64	61
2A	Yellow Grass	.34	2.74	5.19	65	62
	Midale	1.52	4.22	2/ 5.62	64	61
2B	Moose Jaw	.24	2.79	5.19	67	64
	Regina	.42	4.02	5.03	65	61
	Francis	.56	4.52	4.29	62	60
	Qu'Appelle	.34	4.62	6.05	64	61
	Indian Head	.60	4.20	5.86	65	60
3AN	Chaplin	.10	2.57	5.58	67	62
	Gravelbourg	.24	1.63	4.80	66	62
3AS	Assiniboia	.36	1.88	4.45	65	63
	Ceylon	.34	1.68	6.58	67	62
3BN	Pennant	.12	3.30	5.72	64	61
	Swift Current	.01	3.19	5.13	65	61
	Hughton	.02	1.80	4.92	66	60
3BS	Instow	Nil	5.09	4.56	62	61
	Shaunavon	trace	2.98	4.30	64	61
	Cadillac	.02	4.54	6.72	64	61
	Val Marie	.16	4.33	4.85	62	62
	Aneroid	.20	3.66	5.40	65	60
4A	Maple Creek	trace	2.39	4.88	64	61
	Consul	.30	1.96	4.46	60	59
4B	Roadene	.04	1.38	2/ 4.94	64	60
5A	Leross	.02	4.85	5.24	64	59
	Hubbard	.66	5.84	4.67	62	58
	Yorkton	.57	5.11	4.83	65	60
	Dafoe	.06	3.78	4.60	64	59
5B	Foam Lake	.24	4.93	4.86	64	58
	Lintlaw	.28	4.44	4.84	62	58
	Kamsack	.92	5.09	4.04	N.R.	59
6A	Davidson	.48	4.82	4.29	66	61
	Dilke	.32	1.60	2/ 4.74	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	Nil	3.46	2/ 3.75	64	59
	Semans	Nil	5.08	3.32	66	59
	Strasbourg	.08	4.52	4.89	64	60
6B	Harris	.14	2.90	4.31	62	60
	Outlook	.18	2.66	3.30	67	61
	Saskatoon	trace	3.37	4.15	66	60
	Elbow	.08	2.62	4.32	66	61
	Dundurn	trace	2.92	4.10	66	60
	Tugaska	.08	3.11	4.23	64	61

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
	Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 25, 1945	
	8 a.m. June 25, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)					
7A Kindersley	.04	1.66	3.82	63	58
7B Macklin	.02	1.98	4.94	N.R.	58
Scott	.14	2.48	4.14	62	60
Ruthilda	.06	1.77 2/	4.68	N.R.	N.R.
Biggar	.04	3.10	4.59	55	60
8A Nipawin	.58	6.06	5.00	65	58
8B Humboldt	.18	4.22	4.01	63	60
Melfort	.26	6.82	4.27	63	60
9A North Battleford	.02	2.44	4.55	64	63
Rabbit Lake	.06	3.30	4.40	57	60
Prince Albert	.37	5.99	4.58	64	61
9B Waseca	N.R.	1.38 2/	4.57	N.R.	58
Loon Lake	.38	2.55 2/	5.24	58	57
Saskatchewan Average	.29	3.55	4.75	64	60
Alberta					
1 Foremost	.06	3.56	6.34	64	63
Medicine Hat	nil	2.84	4.36	N.R.	63
Lamyberries	trace	1.98	4.63	66	63
2 Cowley	trace	8.22	6.04	61	57
Macleod	nil	9.05	4.91	N.R.	62
Cardston	.16	10.82	8.00	63	60
Lethbridge	.02	6.90	5.23	65	62
3 Vauxhall	.12	3.47	4.07	64	60
Brooks	.08	3.75	4.18	65	61
Empress	trace	1.25	4.66	N.R.	63
4 High River	.18	8.15	6.52	57	59
Vulcan Airport	trace	4.65 2/	5.21	N.R.	60
5 Drumheller	.04	2.28	5.25	65	63
Hanna	nil	2.23 2/	5.62	64	59
6 Olds	.08	2.82	5.52	58	57
Calgary	.15	5.70	5.69	60	59
Three Hills	.06	3.56	4.96	57	56
Strathmore	.20	4.96	5.31	58	56
Gleichen	.28	5.46	4.59	61	58
7 Viking	N.R.	2.86 2/	4.57	N.R.	58
Sedgewick	N.R.	3.30 2/	4.42	N.R.	58
Hardisty	nil	2.76 2/	4.21	N.R.	N.R.
Coronation	.06	2.87	4.22	62	57
Hughenden	.04	3.18	4.51	64	57
8 Red Deer	.53	3.93	6.63	57	57
Lacombe	.28	4.14 2/	5.58	58	57
Wetaskiwin	.40	3.64	5.07	60	58
Camrose	.34	1.92 2/	4.97	59	58
Stettler	.02	1.76	5.89	N.R.	57
9 Jasper	.08	2.81	2.73	57	57
Rocky Mountain House	.92	5.08	6.05	57	56
Springdale	N.R.	2.33 2/	6.29	N.R.	56
10 Vegreville	.46	2.66	5.62	58	58
Lloydminster	trace	3.00	4.09	60	58
11 Calmar	.42	1.48 2/	5.72	58	59
Edmonton	.37	2.11	5.05	61	59
12 Edson	N.R.	2.14 2/	4.72	N.R.	56
13 Glendon	.12	3.20	4.52	59	57
14 Campsie	.34	3.94	5.07	60	58
Athabaska	nil	2.92 2/	4.58	57	58
Lac la Biche	.23	2.85	4.58	60	58
15 High Prairie	nil	2.87	4.42	59	58
Kinuso	trace	1.98 2/	4.56	57	58
16 Beaverlodge	.17	2.76	3.88	57	57
Grande Prairie	.17	2.45 2/	4.57	59	57
Fairview	.38	3.37	3.48	56	58
17 Keg River	.61	3.50	4.46	55	58
Fort Vermilion	.56	2.14	3.21	59	58
Fort McMurray	.05	3.26	3.65	58	59
Fort Smith	.72	2.73	2.65	55	57
Fort St. John	.25	1.82	4.52	59	59
Alberta Average	.19	3.59	4.88	60	58

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