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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 31, 1945, 3 p.m. - The ninth of a series of fourteen 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

The favourable crop prospects prevailing in Manitoba were maintained during the past week by good rains and warm weather. All but the late seeded grain crops are now headed, while early grain is filling. Cereal stands are heavy and frequently weedy with some lodging reported. Late crops are improving, although corn is an important exception, and the prospects for this crop remain poor. The sunflower and rapeseed crops are also backward. Hail damage has been light but more serious losses from leaf rust are feared. Pastures are in good condition and farmers still have about half of a heavy crop of hay to put up.

Saskatchewan received scattered showers during the past week but these were very light in the dry areas of the south-west. High temperatures caused further deterioration to crops in the drought areas while winds have added to the damage. Very light yields are expected over most of the south-western half of the province. Crops in the north-eastern half of Saskatchewan are still making good progress. They are now beginning to head and continued warm weather will do much to bring them to maturity in time to avoid frost damage. A hail storm on July 25 caused damage in the Bengough area of south-central Saskatchewan, although some damage was reported as far east as Saltcoats. Grasshoppers have appeared in the south-west and damage from leaf rust has been reported on wheat in the south-eastern section of the province.

Northern and central Alberta received a belated and much needed rain during the past week. Although this rain has come too late to save the earlier seeded grains it may help late sown wheat and coarse grains. Many fields in south-eastern Alberta will not be worth cutting and live stock has already been turned into some of these. The winter feed supply in this area promises to be critical. Conditions in the south-western section of the province and extending as far north as Olds continue good, although more rain would still be appreciated. The hot weather and high winds received in the Peace River country has further aggravated the critical moisture situation there with many fields beginning to burn.

Manitoba

Most points in Manitoba received good rains during the past week with the average for those points reporting being .68 of an inch and the highest receipt being at Morden with 2.18 inches. Temperatures averaged 66 degrees or one degree above normal. This combination of rain and warm weather has advanced crops very satisfactorily and now all but the late seeded crops are headed. Early crops are filling. Most stands of grain are heavy and often weedy. Thatcher wheat is carrying a good deal of leaf rust. Hail damage so far has been limited although some lodging has occurred. Field peas are in excellent condition although rape is not doing as well. Sunflowers tend to be on the late side while the corn crop is very late and its outlook, therefore, poor. Pastures, however, are good although the recent rains have hampered haying.

Plant growth is heavy in the southern end of the Red River Valley as a result of ample moisture and warm weather. Corn, rape and flax are doing better in this area and some wheat and barley fields are beginning to turn colour. More moisture is required for later sown barley and oats, although all crops give promise of an average yield. A few fields of barley are now beginning to change colour in the Brandon area and the recent hot weather has favoured growth of late sown crops. Pastures and gardens have benefitted greatly from the recent rains.

Crops in the northern section of the province are very promising. In the vicinity of Teulon, particularly, all crops are in head and some are beginning to turn colour. A good crop appears fairly certain in this area. Haying is 50 per cent completed and another week of fine weather will see it finished. An excellent stand of wheat is making satisfactory progress in the Minnedosa area and is nearly all headed. Most of the coarse grains were sown late and are now somewhat patchy although the outlook for them is still fair. Traces of leaf rust are evident and some damage to sweet clover has been caused by the sweet clover weevil. Moisture conditions are good.

At Dauphin most crops are late although wheat is well out in head. Some coarse grains and flax are reported to be suffering from too much moisture and the occasional field is under water. Peas in this area are doing well. There has been no damage from rust so far and haying has been delayed by wet weather. In the Swan River Valley wheat is fully headed and most of the barley is heading. Oats are beginning to head and the rye crop is starting to turn colour. All grains are making satisfactory progress while flax, alfalfa and clover are much above average. A good crop of hay is being cut and moisture supplies are adequate.

Saskatchewan

Scattered showers were received throughout Saskatchewan during the past week but, except in the north, were quite light. Those points reporting received an average of a fifth of an inch. Temperatures were high and averaged six degrees above normal. In the western and central districts continued drought has caused further deterioration while in the eastern districts crops have made rapid progress. Hot weather in the dry areas of the south and west has been relieved by only a few scattered thunder showers. Some winds have occurred and these, too, have hastened evaporation. Very light yields are expected over most of the south-western half of Saskatchewan.

In the eastern districts of the province moisture conditions remain considerably more favourable and crops are heading out with good yields anticipated. Taking the province as a whole, about 85 per cent of the wheat is in head. Rain is urgently required in most districts of central and western Saskatchewan if further damage is to be stopped. Although pastures are burning up in much of the drought area, live stock are reported to be in reasonably good condition. Some hail damage has been reported at scattered points throughout the province. The storm on July 25 caused damage at Hart, Fife Lake, Bengough, Talmage, Stonehenge, Worcester, Yellow Grass, Vibank, Estlin, Rouleau and Saltcoats.

Grasshoppers have appeared in the Piapot area. Severe leaf rust damage has been reported to the wheat crop south of the Qu'Appelle River in the eastern section of the province. Indian head is close to the boundary line between the better crop conditions of the north-eastern half of the province and the drought area of the south-west. Here, early sown wheat is advancing rapidly and cool weather would greatly help in the filling of all grain crops. Later sown grain are holding up well; hay yields are fair but immediate rains are required to carry all crops through to maturity. The water supply is limited in many districts.

At Melfort, in the north-east, wheat and early seeded barley are practically all headed out, while the earliest oats are just now beginning to head. Although growth is very thick, the grain stems are not extremely high. Good rain is still required to fill the crops well. Moisture conditions are good in the Melfort-Prince Albert section and crops are heavy, although late. Early wheat is heading out, barley is headed, while oats are in the shot-blade stage. Hay yields vary from fair to good, although haying has been delayed on account of wet weather. At Prince, in the north-west, the weather has been hot and sultry with nearly an inch of rain received during the past week. Wheat is expected to yield from 10 to 14 bushels in this area, while coarse grains will need more rain. The hay crop is from fair to good and about 65 per cent of it has been put up.

Swift Current in the dry area of the south-west reports that rain will be needed immediately to insure a yield of 10 bushels on summerfallow. Much of the wheat seeded on stubble may not be harvested. Early sown barley and fall rye on fallow promises the best yields and these may average from 12 to 15 bushels to the acre. Hay on dry land is yielding less than half a ton to the acre, while irrigated alfalfa is running about two tons to the acre. Potatoes need rain to insure a fair crop. Native

pastures are brown and, although live stock are still in satisfactory condition, many will be sold in the fall for lack of feed.

At Rosetown the extremely hot and dry spell has caused marked deterioration during the past week and the yield for wheat will likely be less than 10 bushels. Crops have also suffered badly in the Scott area and most grains on light land will be a near failure, while crops on the heavier soils will do better if rains are received soon. This district missed the good rains which fell north of Battleford.

Alberta

Northern and central Alberta received rain during the past week and, although very late, this rain was extremely welcome. Temperatures for the week were high, averaging 67 degrees or 6 degrees above normal. Further deterioration has occurred to crops in the dry areas of the south-east. This section received intense heat and no rain during the week. Live stock have been turned into many fields which were not considered worth cutting. While little more than feed will be realized from grain crops in a wide area across southern Alberta, live stock in the short grass region are doing fairly well. The supply of winter feeds promises to be critical. In the south-west and west-central section of the province prospects are still good, although little or no rain was received during the week. Hot weather has forced crops in this area and all grains are heading rapidly. Both wheat and coarse grains in the Vulcan area need good rain to fill properly although flax is doing fine.

Crops are advancing rapidly in the Claresholm area and the heads are now filling well. Late sown grain is not doing as well as that seeded earlier and it does not appear that the area will produce any surplus coarse grains. West of Lethbridge grain crops are showing the effects of the heat but will still make a fairly good yield. Irrigated crops are satisfactory and the rotation of water has been started in some districts in order to conserve short supplies.

Over the week-end fair to good rains fell north of a line through Calgary, Drumheller and Provost. Late crops and pastures will benefit greatly by this moisture. Warm weather and rain has helped crops in the Olds district, where prospects are good. Stettler received a half an inch of rain which will help fill the wheat, but it came too late to improve the coarse grain crop very much. The hay crop here has been light, gardens are poor and some damage from hail has been reported.

It is not clear as to the extent to which crops may recover as a result of the good rain around Edmonton. It would seem to be too late to expect any substantial improvement in yields, although pastures will benefit considerably. Some reports of hail have been received from the area south-east of the city. The inch and a half of rain which was received at Vermilion during the week will revive pastures and late grain but is too late to benefit the early wheat. Late grain in the Athabasca area has the best chance but wheat is not expected to average better than 10 bushels to the acre. Nevertheless, the 1.4 inches of rain which this district received have helped greatly. Hot weather and high winds have further aggravated the critical moisture situation in the Peace River district and many fields are beginning to burn.

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 30	
		8 a.m. July 30, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.44	5.68	7.52	67	65
	Waskada	.62	6.37	8.88	68	66
2	Boissevain	.88	7.47	7.86	66	66
	Ninette	N.R.	6.53 2/	8.44	N.R.	66
	Pilot Mound	1.32	8.90	9.21	67	66
3	Portage la Prairie	.45	10.51	8.36	67	65
	Graysville	N.R.	7.13 2/	8.91	N.R.	66
	Morden	2.18	8.28	8.65	68	66
	Morris	1.00	7.73	8.35	67	66
	Emerson	.52	7.18	7.96	67	66
4	Winnipeg	.29	7.87	9.50	67	66
6	Sprague	.18	10.15	9.19	64	65
	Pinawa	nil	4.62	6.92	67	64
7	Virden	.27	6.85	7.23	69	63
	Souris	1.05	11.02	8.34	59	67
	Rivers	1.51	10.85	8.34	68	64
8	Brandon	.57	8.41	8.40	67	64
	Cypress River	trace	7.52	8.32	N.R.	65
9	Minnedosa	1.00	8.92	8.27	66	63
10	Russell	.74	9.25	7.91	66	63
	Birtle	.32	6.49	8.40	64	62
11	Paulson	1.13	11.50	7.26	67	64
12	Gimli	.21	7.62	8.89	66	65
13	Swan River	.98	7.61	8.36	64	63
	The Pas	.05	7.76	6.46	67	64
Manitoba Average		.68	8.20	8.24	66	65
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.04	7.90	7.82	70	64
	Carlyle	N.R.	7.79 2/	8.50	N.R.	63
1B	Broadview	.18	9.66	7.70	66	63
	Moosomin	1.02	9.62	7.12	67	65
2A	Yellow Grass	trace	7.41	7.63	67	65
	Midale	.38	9.65	8.55	68	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.01	5.40	7.78	73	66
	Regina	.04	9.83	7.87	68	64
	Francis	.04	9.20	6.53	66	64
	Qu'Appelle	.10	6.76	9.24	67	64
	Indian Head	.16	6.57	8.94	67	63
3AN	Chaplin	.06	3.99	8.14	73	64
	Gravelbourg	.02	2.62	6.44	68	65
3AS	Assiniboia	trace	4.05	6.59	72	65
	Ceylon	.40	4.50	9.56	73	66
3BN	Pennant	nil	4.71	7.89	74	65
	Swift Current	.26	4.35	7.92	73	64
	Hughton	.06	3.77	7.05	73	63
3BS	Instow	.60	7.12	6.83	72	65
	Shaunavon	nil	4.56	6.76	74	63
	Cadillac	nil	5.92	8.68	69	63
	Val Marie	nil	5.42	7.34	74	65
	Aneroid	trace	4.92	7.76	73	63
4A	Maple Creek	.02	4.32	7.57	76	65
	Consul	nil	3.23	6.28	70	62
4B	Roadene	.06	5.71	7.06	72	63
5A	Leross	.04	7.01	7.92	64	62
	Hubbard	.08	7.46	7.74	66	62
	Yorkton	.61	8.35	7.90	67	62
5B	Dafoe	.05	8.25	6.91	68	61
	Foam Lake	.40	11.94	7.67	66	61
	Lintlaw	1.06	8.45	7.94	65	61
	Kamsack	.22	10.17	7.26	66	63
6A	Davidson	.10	6.93	6.40	71	64
	Dilke	N.R.	5.41 2/	6.81	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	trace	6.86	5.87	69	63
	Semans	trace	7.47	5.13	70	62
	Strasbourg	.06	9.59	7.24	65	62
6B	Harris	nil	4.14	7.03	74	64
	Outlook	trace	6.23	5.29	74	63
	Saskatoon	.02	5.60	7.12	72	63
	Elbow	.10	4.70	6.44	72	63
	Dundurn	N.R.	4.85 2/	7.67	N.R.	63
	Tugaske	.06	5.14	6.42	67	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 30	
		8 a.m. July 30, 1945	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
7A	Kindersley	nil	4.03	6.42	69	62
7B	Macklin	trace	3.81	7.54	67	60
	Scott	nil	4.37	6.86	69	62
	Ruthilda	.02	3.96	7.52	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.02	4.89	7.63	72	62
8A	Nipawin	1.24	9.94	7.53	63	62
8B	Humboldt	.28	7.75	6.42	66	62
	Welfort	.14	10.72	7.50	65	63
9A	North Battleford	.80	4.63	7.20	71	64
	Rabbit Lake	N.R.	4.38 2/	7.54	N.R.	61
	Prince Albert	.35	7.93	7.26	69	63
9B	Waseca	1.28	5.93	7.15	67	61
	Loon Lake	.36	6.68	8.44	65	61
Saskatchewan Average		.19	6.36	7.35	69	63
Alberta						
1	Foremost	nil	6.13	8.66	73	66
	Medicine Hat	nil	4.47	6.54	77	67
	Manyberries	trace	2.93	6.58	74	67
2	Cowley	nil	10.38	8.03	67	60
	Macleod	nil	12.41	7.31	71	64
	Cardston	nil	13.38	10.77	67	62
	Lethbridge	nil	9.41	7.42	71	64
3	Vauxhall	nil	4.82	6.18	72	62
	Brooks	.06	6.91	6.31	74	62
	Empress	.22	2.13	6.94	72	65
4	High River	N.R.	11.41 2/	8.82	N.R.	61
	Vulcan	.12	8.33	7.71	N.R.	62
5	Drumheller	.02	4.39	7.89	71	65
	Hanna	.10	5.65	8.75	71	62
6	Olds	.48	5.36	8.18	63	60
	Calgary	.22	9.12	8.76	66	62
	Three Hills	1.82	8.07	7.44	65	60
	Strathmore	N.R.	8.47 2/	7.64	N.R.	61
	Gleichen	.26	8.99	7.16	62	62
7	Viking	.92	5.54	6.79	67	59
	Sedgewick	.60	5.92	7.44	70	60
	Hardisty	1.58	6.12	7.74	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.06	6.89	6.43	68	59
	Hughenden	.90	6.29	7.23	68	59
8	Red Deer	.33	6.88	10.10	62	59
	Lacombe	1.18	8.02	8.67	64	59
	Wetaskiwin	1.08	6.45	8.17	65	60
	Camrose	2.10	6.16	7.90	64	61
	Stettler	.44	4.64	9.01	65	60
9	Jasper	1.10	4.41	4.27	61	60
	Rocky Mountain House	.39	9.12	8.84	61	59
	Springdale	N.R.	3.45 2/	10.13	N.R.	58
10	Vegreville	.54	4.36	9.23	65	60
	Lloydminster	1.98	5.96	6.82	67	60
11	Calmar	N.R.	3.68 2/	9.19	N.R.	60
	Edmonton	.47	4.39	8.80	66	62
12	Edson	1.46	6.75	8.34	60	57
13	Glendon	.90	5.27	7.38	65	60
14	Campsie	1.40	6.34	8.78	63	60
	Athabaska	1.44	6.44	7.82	82	59
	Lac La Biche	.08	4.63	7.82	66	59
15	High Prairie	N.R.	4.53 2/	7.65	N.R.	60
	Kinuso	N.R.	4.37 2/	7.36	N.R.	60
16	Beaverlodge	.32	5.88	6.24	61	60
	Grande Prairie	.19	4.81	7.42	63	60
	Fairview	.04	4.43	5.37	62	60
17	Keg River	.02	4.73	7.44	61	60
	Fort Vermilion	.02	3.67	5.49	62	60
	Fort McMurray	.39	4.24	6.95	65	62
	Fort Smith	.61	5.88	4.54	64	59
	Fort St. John	.07	3.38	7.35	62	61
Alberta Average		.53	6.23	7.64	67	61

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