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AGRICULTURAL BRANCH

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#### TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, June 11, 1946, 3 p.m. - The fourth of a series of fifteen telegraphic reports covering 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. The weather data included in this release are furnished by the Meteorological Service of Canada.

#### SUMMARY

Good rains during the past week have improved crop conditions in most parts of Alberta and Saskatchewan. Rains have been less general in Manitoba with crops and pastures deteriorating in some areas through lack of moisture. Infestations of wireworms have caused considerable damage to wheat on summerfallow in parts of the Prairie area of Saskatchewan, while rather severe losses have been caused locally by pale western cutworms in certain west-central and south-western districts of that province. Heavy infestations of wild oats are reported from central and west-central Alberta.

Portions of the western crop districts of Manitoba received moderate rains in the last few days and the outlook in these areas is more promising. From Portage la Prairie and Morden eastward rain is urgently required to arrest deterioration with the exception of some local areas where showers have occurred. To the west of these two points conditions have generally been improved by the recent rains. The outlook in the north-western section of the province is very good with grain crops, field peas and pastures reported to be in excellent condition.

Moderate to heavy rains in Saskatchewan have led to a general improvement in that province including the south-western area where conditions were deteriorating rapidly. Hay and pasture crops are now making good recovery in those areas where soil moisture had been particularly deficient. Considerable local wireworm and cutworm damage has been reported in the prairie region of the province, particularly in the west-central and south-western districts. Crop conditions throughout the province are now generally fair to good, but average rainfall since April 1 has been well below normal. Ample precipitation will be required during the course of the next few weeks to ensure a satisfactory crop.

The most marked improvement in the crops of the Prairie Provinces has taken place in Alberta where average rainfall since April 1 has now risen to within four points of normal. Reports from our correspondents in this province are generally optimistic, although warmer weather appears to be required in some areas. Insect damage has been very moderate to date, but heavy infestations of wild oats are reported in central Alberta. Conditions may now be deemed fair to good in nearly all sections of the province, but as in Saskatchewan, considerable precipitation will still be needed to ensure an adequate harvest.

Manitoba - The crop outlook has improved in the portion of the province west of Portage la Prairie and Morden. East of these points rain is badly needed, with the exception of some districts where local showers have occurred. Late-seeded crops, sugar beets, gardens, hay and pastures are suffering from dry weather. Growth is still slow, being generally a week or more behind average.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Morden reports that the weather in this area continued dry and cool, with all crops and grasses in urgent need of rain. Growth of all seeded crops is slow with corn and sunflowers just now showing up. Grass growth is meagre with a poor hay crop in view. Cutworm infestation in this area has been moderate. At Melita, in Crop District 1, half an inch of rain fell on the 6th of June, resulting in considerable improvement in pasture and crop conditions.

Portage la Prairie reports wheat and coarse grains doing well. The late crops, flax and sugar beets are patchy, with no rain of any value so far this spring. Reserve moisture, fortunately, was good. Losses from cutworms have amounted to as much as 15 per cent. Gardens, pastures and hay crops require rain soon or loss will be heavy. Conditions at Brandon have been improved temporarily by .41 of an inch of rain on June 6. Germination of late-sown grain and gardens is now ensured. Pasture and hay fields are showing improvement but considerably more rain is needed to restore them to normal. Grain crops, however, are still looking well.



In the Woodnorth area, in Crop District 7, a good rain on June 6 greatly improved crop prospects with late-sown crops benefitting particularly. Crop Districts 11 and 13, in the north-west, report excellent growing weather following scattered showers. Wheat stands are good, averaging 5 inches in height. Field peas are reported good and pastures are in excellent condition. Grain crops here are reported well ahead of last year with rye, in the area around Swan River, reported 3 feet high and in head. Mustard growth is heavy around Dauphin and cutworm damage has been severe in gardens. Cooler weather with showers in some areas of the province is keeping insect damage to a minimum. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 47 per cent below normal as compared with 49 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 10 was 2 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan - Moderate to heavy rains during the past week resulted in a general improvement in crop conditions throughout the province. Higher temperatures along with rains of the past week have resulted in more suitable growing conditions. Wheat, generally, is stooling out well but stands in some areas are uneven, due to poor germination, particularly in those districts where moisture was badly needed. About 75 per cent of the coarse grain acreage is now showing green. Condition of live stock is reported fair to good with pastures generally showing improvement. Reports from Crop Districts 1A, 2A and 2B, covering the south-east to central portions of the province, reveal generous rains throughout the week, resulting in greatly improved crop conditions. Hay and pasture fields are expected to make substantial recovery. Summerfallow work is well under way and live stock on grass will now improve in condition. Fruit crops, however, will be light, due to early frosts.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Swift Current reports that rains totalling one inch or more over the entire south-west during the past week have caused a great improvement in the situation. Rye has headed short, but should fill well with a little more moisture. Spring grains are making rapid recovery after being set back by frost and drought. More rain, however, will be needed soon in many parts of the south-west. Kincaid reports early-sown peas and barley damaged by frost with most of the grain patchy, due to the dry spring. Growth has been slow to date with some damage from soil drifting. Pastures are still poor here.

Pastures and crops show good prospects at the present time throughout the central portion of the province, from Crop District 5A through to Crop District 7A. Wheat at Rosetown is 3 inches above ground, with coarse grains showing and flax germinating evenly. Correspondents in the north-eastern section of the province, around Melfort, report that moisture has been sufficient to germinate crops, while the rain of the past week has assisted in the recovery of some crops which had been progressing slowly due to dry weather. Hay and pasture growth has been retarded, but the recent rains have helped materially.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports that damage by wireworms to wheat on summerfallow continued during the past week, with many fields in the prairie area severely damaged or completely destroyed. In Laporte, Leader and Fox Valley districts severe loss of crop has been caused, chiefly by pale western cutworms, but wireworms, wind, frost and dry soil have also been contributory factors. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 23 per cent below normal as compared with 37 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 10 was 3 degrees above normal.

Alberta - Good general rains fell over wide areas of the province during the past week and provincial officials report that crop conditions may now be deemed fair to good throughout Alberta. Pastures are improving with field crops advancing satisfactorily. Coarse grain seeding is all but completed. Soil moisture conditions in the Manyberries area in the south-east are now reported good, with soil drifting having been checked. Height of wheat averages 4 inches here, while coarse grains are up 3 inches. Pastures are fair with live stock in good condition. 2.54 inches of rainfall have fallen in this area since June 1, resulting in a great improvement in the crop outlook.

Heavy rains from Calgary through Lethbridge in the south-west part of the province have resulted in a marked improvement in prospects. Claresholm reports crop conditions excellent, although warm weather is needed for rapid growth. All seeding is completed in this area with the exception of flax. Vulcan reports conditions favourable with good top and sub-soil moisture. Crops are now making rapid growth in the Hanna area, although some fields are patchy, due to earlier wind damage. Correspondents at

Stettler and Donalda report that rainfall in excess of 3 inches has occurred all through this section of the province. Seeding here is complete with the exception of a small percentage of barley and green feed. Soil drifting in May caused up to 10 per cent damage and necessitated some reseeding of wheat. Heavy infestations of wild oats are reported and may cut the yield of wheat from 5 to 20 per cent. Sub-soil moisture has been ample so far for all grain crops and while pastures were deteriorating, substantial improvement is now anticipated. Growing conditions are now considered excellent.

Correspondents along the Calgary-Edmonton line report greatly improved conditions, with wheat up from 4 to 7 inches. The Dominion Experimental Station at Lacombe reports heavy infestations of wild oats. The Edmonton area which had been quite dry up until the last 10 days now reports germination good and growing conditions excellent. Our Sedgewick correspondent reports moisture conditions to be excellent in Crop District 7, although sunshine is needed to promote growth.

The Vermilion area has received exceptionally good rains over the past two weeks and crops and pastures are all now reported as very good. North of Edmonton, at Athabasca, crops are making good progress with wheat averaging 4 inches high. No damage is reported in this area. The Dominion Experimental Station at Beaverlodge, in the Peace River country, reports prospects unchanged, with scattered rains occurring in most districts. Substantial moisture reserves, however, are lacking in this area.

Recent rains have reduced the probability of grasshopper losses. Pale western cutworm damage has been moderate in some areas, but is mostly over for the year. The wheat stem sawfly is now ready to emerge. The average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 4 per cent below normal as compared with 28 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending June 10 was equivalent to normal.



# Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces 1/

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. June 10	
		8 a.m. June 10, 1946	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Manitoba						
1	Pierson	.50	2.13	4.03	60	58
	Waskada	.38	1.60	3.50	60	59
2	Boissevain	.46	1.80	4.10	60	58
	Ninette	N.R.	2.22 2/	4.46	N.R.	58
	Pilot Mound	N.R.	2.08 2/	4.36	N.R.	59
3	Portage la Prairie	.26	.91	3.89	62	59
	Graysville	.24	1.56	4.17	60	58
	Morden	.26	1.21	4.12	61	59
	Morris	.28	1.29	3.84	62	59
	Emerson	.32	2.10	3.53	62	59
4	Winnipeg	.09	1.31	4.42	60	60
6	Sprague	.26	3.32	4.36	58	57
	Pinawa	Trace	.64	2.98	59	57
7	Virden	.98	1.80	3.26	62	57
	Rivers	.51	2.11	3.70	60	58
8	Brandon	N.R.	1.38 2/	3.77	N.R.	58
	Cypress River	.42	1.41	3.88	60	58
9	Minnedosa	.64	2.88	3.80	58	58
	Neepawa	.38	2.45	3.80	62	58
10	Russell	.15	1.60	3.49	58	56
	Birtle	.28	3.30	3.52	58	56
11	Dauphin	.24	3.03	3.09	59	57
12	Gimli	Trace	1.61	4.57	59	56
13	Swan River	1.18	3.51	3.30	59	55
	The Pas	.44	2.11	2.65	57	56
Manitoba Average		.38	1.99	3.76	60	58
Saskatchewan						
1A	Estevan	.90	2.82	3.82	61	57
	Carlyle	N.R.	1.04 2/	4.06	N.R.	56
1B	Broadview	.62	2.42	3.47	59	57
	Moosomin	.78	2.62	3.36	60	57
2A	Yellow Grass	N.R.	1.13 2/	3.65	N.R.	57
	Midale	.52	1.92	4.13	60	56
2B	Moose Jaw	1.00	2.42	3.62	60	58
	Regina	1.46	3.35	3.41	58	57
	Francis	.76	2.25	2.63	58	57
	Qu'Appelle	.86	2.50	4.25	58	57
	Indian Head	.86	2.30	3.92	58	56
3AN	Chaplin	.76	1.67	4.02	60	58
	Gravelbourg	1.30	3.46	2.91	61	57
3AS	Assiniboia	1.78	3.22	2.96	61	59
	Ceylon	1.76	4.27	4.57	64	58
3BN	Pennant	1.20	1.86	3.89	61	57
	Swift Current	1.02	2.37	3.60	61	58
	Hughton	.88	2.28 2/	3.80	60	56
3BS	Instow	1.34	1.79 2/	3.07	61	58
	Shaunavon	1.48	2.86	3.02	60	55
	Cadillac	1.14	1.66 2/	4.77	60	55
	Val Marie	1.46	2.42	3.46	61	56
	Aneroid	1.01	1.49	3.61	62	56
4A	Maple Creek	.26	2.02	3.50	62	57
	Consul	N.R.	.97 2/	3.31	N.R.	55
4B	Roadene	1.00	2.04	3.80	62	56
5A	Leross	N.R.	3.10 2/	3.39	N.R.	54
	Hubbard	1.56	2.98	3.21	56	54
	Yorkton	.66	1.95	3.46	59	56
5B	Dafoe	1.59	2.83	2.94	58	54
	Foam Lake	N.R.	2.11 2/	3.31	N.R.	54
	Lintlaw	.68	2.14	3.62	56	54
	Kamsack	N.R.	1.60 2/	2.65	N.R.	55
6A	Davidson	.62	1.90	3.10	58	56
	Dilke	N.R.	1.34 2/	3.34	N.R.	N.R.
	Nokomis	.68	1.56	2.50	57	55
	Semans	.74	3.02	2.37	58	55
	Strasbourg	1.16	3.52	3.53	56	56
6B	Harris	.64	1.54	2.51	55	56
	Outlook	1.04	2.28	2.49	61	56
	Saskatoon	.31	1.63	2.86	59	56
	Elbow	N.R.	1.03 2/	3.02	N.R.	57
	Dundurn	.60	1.26	3.36	60	56
	Tugaske	.18	1.44	3.01	58	57
7A	Kindersley	1.02	2.27	2.76	58	54
7B	Macklin	1.58	3.12	3.79	56	54

Precipitation and Temperatures in the Prairie Provinces (concluded)

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Mean Temperatures	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending	8 a.m. June 10
		8 a.m. June 10,1946	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
Saskatchewan (concluded)						
	Scott	N.R.	2.10 <u>2/</u>	2.95	N.R.	56
	Ruthilda	.64	2.96	3.19	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.22	1.64	3.13	58	56
8A	Nipawin	.52	2.72	3.22	59	55
	Hudson Bay Junction	1.07	3.01	3.10	57	56
8B	Humboldt	.81	2.62	2.84	56	56
	Melfort	.51	1.67	3.20	59	56
9A	North Battleford	1.06	4.15	3.05	58	58
	Rabbit Lake	1.60	4.30	2.89	52	56
	Prince Albert	.09	2.78	3.15	57	56
9B	Waseca	N.R.	2.28 <u>2/</u>	3.09	N.R.	55
	Loon Lake	.84	5.12	3.42	54	54
	Island Falls	.35	1.77 <u>2/</u>	3.04	62	55
Saskatchewan Average		.92	2.55	3.32	59	56
Alberta						
1	Foremost	1.74	3.65	4.89	60	62
	Medicine Hat	.55	2.39	3.08	63	60
	Manyberries	2.42	3.91	3.53	60	60
2	Cowley	2.23	6.06	4.21	53	54
	Macleod	4.60	7.75	3.45	57	59
	Cardston	.94	3.22	6.04	55	58
	Lethbridge	2.77	5.44	3.77	57	57
3	Vauxhall	1.68	3.02	3.04	55	58
	Brooks	1.18	3.02	3.16	63	59
	Empress	1.04	1.76	3.27	63	60
4	High River	3.92	7.72	4.75	52	55
	Vulcan	2.58	4.21	3.48	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.82	1.64	3.59	59	58
	Hanna	1.46	3.36	3.94	55	58
6	Olds	2.34	3.59	4.12	54	54
	Calgary	1.37	3.67	4.04	54	55
	Three Hills	1.42	2.50	3.26	54	53
	Strathmore	1.20	2.29	3.69	54	53
	Gleichen	1.12	1.90	3.35	57	55
7	Viking	N.R.	1.42 <u>2/</u>	3.47	N.R.	54
	Sedgewick	1.78	3.70	2.79	56	54
	Hardisty	N.R.	2.39 <u>2/</u>	2.67	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	1.52	4.13	3.08	54	55
	Hughenden	N.R.	1.72 <u>2/</u>	3.27	N.R.	58
8	Red Deer	2.11	4.39	4.66	55	54
	Lacombe	N.R.	1.84 <u>2/</u>	3.76	N.R.	54
	Wetaskiwin	2.06	2.96 <u>2/</u>	3.35	56	54
	Camrose	N.R.	1.90 <u>2/</u>	3.65	N.R.	54
	Stettler	3.16	4.48	4.47	52	54
9	Jasper	.23	1.94	2.10	52	53
	Rocky Mountain House	1.92	5.48	4.21	53	52
	Springdale	N.R.	1.48 <u>2/</u>	4.37	N.R.	53
10	Vegreville	1.98	4.94	3.97	58	54
	Vermilion	1.52	4.67	3.42	54	54
	Lloydminster	.92	3.47	2.85	55	54
11	Calmar	N.R.	2.64 <u>2/</u>	4.24	N.R.	55
	Edmonton	1.04	2.58	3.44	56	56
	Whitecourt	1.06	3.18	3.76	52	55
12	Edson	N.R.	2.66 <u>2/</u>	3.16	N.R.	54
13	Glendon	1.48	4.26	3.11	54	54
14	Campsie	N.R.	1.83 <u>2/</u>	3.48	N.R.	54
	Athabaska	N.R.	1.71 <u>2/</u>	3.38	N.R.	54
	Lac la Biche	.10	3.19	3.18	53	54
15	High Prairie	.04	1.06	2.88	54	56
	Kinuso	N.R.	.34 <u>2/</u>	3.25	N.R.	55
	Wagner	.08	1.87	3.36	52	56
16	Beaverlodge	N.R.	1.45 <u>2/</u>	2.85	N.R.	54
	Grand Prairie	.14	1.73	3.28	56	54
	Fairview	.23	1.13	2.33	53	55
17	Keg River	Nil	1.90	3.40	52	54
	Fort Vermilion	.10	1.50	2.24	54	55
	Fort McMurray	.11	2.21	2.65	54	55
	Embarras	.08	1.86	1.84	52	53
	Fort Smith	Trace	2.12	1.72	50	52
	Fort St. John	.35	1.91	3.04	54	55.
Alberta Average		1.28	3.30	3.44	55	55

N.R. - No report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada

2/ Incomplete figures not included in average.



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