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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, August 6, 1947, 3 p.m. - The seventh of a series of 11 telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the eleventh of a series of 16 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. The weather data included in this release are furnished by the Meteorological Service of Canada.

SUMMARY

The growth of grains, roots and potatoes has been excellent in the Maritime Provinces. Good progress has been made with the hay crop except in New Brunswick where excessive rain has delayed operations and caused some spoilage. Some early sown fields of oats have been cut. Late sown crops are growing rapidly. Potatoes look promising although blight has begun to develop in some areas.

Reports from Quebec indicate that during the past two weeks haying operations have been delayed and the quality of hay damaged by frequent heavy rains. The average yields of hay per acre are good but about 35 per cent of the crop still remains to be harvested. Generally speaking pastures have benefited from wet weather and milk production has been maintained at a good level. The appearance of grain crops is good on well drained soils but only mediocre on low land. In spite of abundant weed growth truck crops are promising and potato crop prospects are especially good. The strawberry crop has been one of the best and raspberries and blueberries also promise good yields.

Harvesting conditions in Ontario during the past 10 days have been generally more favourable. During the period large quantities of hay have been stored although in several sections there are many farmers who still have hay in the fields. Much of the fall wheat has been cut and some threshing has been done with yields average or better. Early sown spring grains which generally look well are ripening rapidly and a few fields have been cut. Late sown fields are likely to be failures. Much of the corn acreage is quite poor. Tobacco growing districts report good prospects for this crop. In northern Ontario the harvest of a very good crop of hay got under way about 10 days ago but recent rains have delayed operations. Late sown grains in this area are promising.

Further deterioration in crop prospects have occurred in the Prairie Provinces during the past week. Premature ripening will reduce yields, especially of coarse grains, in most districts. Intensive heat during the past week has hastened maturity of all grains in Manitoba and has caused further deterioration especially to coarse grain crops which are maturing too rapidly. Rains since Saturday have brought some relief. The wheat crop in the main is promising especially in the Red River Valley and Swan River regions. Oats and flaxseed crops are average whilst barley prospects are below average. Other crops are mostly good especially the hay crop which has been gathered under excellent conditions. Swathing and cutting operations are becoming general in the south-west and central sections of the province whilst in the northern areas harvesting will get under way next week. Continued dry weather with high temperatures is forcing premature ripening of all grains in Saskatchewan. Harvesting of fall rye is now general and cutting of coarse grains will start this week. Some fields of wheat are now being harvested in the western districts. Considerable sawfly damage is indicated in south-central, south-western and west-central districts. Timely rains in central and northern Alberta brought some improvement in crop prospects for the province as a whole. Continued hot, dry weather in the south-eastern and east-central districts, however, caused further deterioration of crops. Rain is urgently needed in these districts and elsewhere in the province for filling, particularly of late crops. Prospects are fair to good in the central and

northern districts but in the south-eastern half of the province the outlook is poor. The wheat crop is headed out with coarse grains ninety per cent in head. Some combining of early fields of wheat is reported in the south, and cutting of fall rye is under way.

The weather in British Columbia has been hot and dry during the past two weeks. Mixed hay is now under cover and harvesting of winter grains and field peas is general. Some early fields of oats have also been cut. The hop crop is promising and early plum and peach varieties are moving to the packing houses. Picking of field tomatoes is now general.

Maritime Provinces

The weather in Prince Edward Island has been ideal for hay making during the past two weeks but yields are slightly below average. Grain and root crops are growing rapidly but pastures are beginning to show the effects of the dry weather. In Nova Scotia the crops are promising but now need more rain. The hay crop is well above average except in Yarmouth and southern areas where continuous fog has delayed harvesting. In the Annapolis Valley good haying weather is being experienced. Some early fields of oats are now being cut and late sown fields are growing well. Fertilized pastures are far better than average due to adequate moisture supplies. Some blight has developed on potatoes and early planted fields will yield only average crops. Apples have sized well during the past 10 days. In the Nappan area the growth of all crops has been good. The weather, however, has been poor for haying. Fog, high humidity and showers have retarded operations and much of the hay will be over-mature. Yields are expected to be about average. Early seeded grains are turning colour and growth of hoed crops has been good. In New Brunswick growth has been excellent. Frequent rains, however, have delayed hay making and caused some spoilage. Oats are variable from poor to very good but only traces of rust have been found to date. Potato fields look promising and pastures are excellent. Root crops, although backward are growing vigorously.

Quebec

Frequent heavy rains have delayed haying operations in Quebec and it is estimated that there is still 35 per cent of the crop to be harvested. Pastures are good and milk production has been well maintained. Only grain crops on well drained soils look promising. Vegetable and fruit crops are generally good. In the Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere district heavy rains have been experienced during the last 10 days. Only 25 per cent of the hay has been stored and the quality is poor. Wheat, oats and barley are 60 per cent headed and look well. Fruit and vegetable crops appear excellent and a good yield is expected. In the area around Lake St. John generally heavy rains have delayed haying operations although it is estimated that from 30 to 40 per cent of the crop has been harvested in fairly good condition. Most of the cereal crops are headed and prospects are good. Pastures are excellent and milk production is above normal. At Lennoxville 60 per cent of a good hay crop has been harvested. The grain crops are heading out and are expected to be only 50 per cent of normal. Corn, potatoes and pastures are good. Fifty per cent of the hay has been cut in the district around L'Assomption, but the quality is poor due to frequent rains. Grains, corn and tobacco are reported to be generally poor. Pastures are good and canning crops are light.

Ontario

Although large quantities of hay have been stored during the past ten days, many farmers in several sections of the province still have hay in the fields. Much of the fall wheat has been cut and some threshing done with yields ranging from fair to good. Early sown spring grains look well, but late sown crops will be poor. Much of the corn acreage is quite poor.

All crops are reported to be progressing favourably in the Chatham district, but rain is needed. Aphids are attacking small areas of the tobacco crop but these are unimportant when total acreage is considered. Hay and grain crops are turning out well in this area.

In Essex County the growth of crops was very rapid about the middle of July, but now more hot weather and rain are needed to continue proper growth. The tobacco crop is good but somewhat late. Corn and soybeans are also late and only fair. Fruit crops are good, but early potatoes and early tomatoes are only fair. Around Galt, the season is three to four weeks late. Fall wheat cutting is general

and the yield is expected to be slightly below average. Although haying operations have been delayed by wet weather they are rapidly being completed. Spring grain crops are expected to yield 60 per cent of average and cutting will be general next week. Corn and roots promise an average crop. At Barrie the wheat harvest is in full swing with haying only half completed on many farms. Wet weather has held up haying operations and spoiled much of the crop. However, the extra precipitation has improved spring grain prospects.

Haying operations started ten days ago in the Kapuskasing district of northern Ontario but recent rains have slowed progress. Early sown cereals are beginning to head out. Late sown grains are promising and pastures are fairly good. So far there has been no insect damage.

Manitoba

Intensive heat during the past week has hastened maturity of all grains and has caused further deterioration especially to coarse grain crops which are maturing too rapidly. Rains since Saturday have brought some relief. The wheat crop in the main is promising, especially in the Red River Valley and Swan River regions. Oats and flaxseed crops are average whilst barley prospects are below average. Other crops are mostly good, especially the hay crop, which has been gathered under excellent conditions. Swathing and cutting operations are becoming general in the south-west and central sections of the province, whilst in the northern areas harvesting will get under way next week.

In the south-central part of the province crops have suffered considerable damage during the past week from excessive heat. The swathing and cutting of barley and oats is in progress. The early combine returns of barley indicate comparatively low yields. At East Selkirk moisture has been excessive and in some districts hail damage is running 10 to 25 per cent. In the south-west area around Melita, considerable damage to crops has occurred during the past week from excessive heat. Cutting will be general by the end of this week and all grains are maturing fast.

Reports from the Brandon area indicate little change in crop conditions from a week ago. Harvesting of early sown barley has commenced and crops are generally ripening rapidly. Coarse grains have also suffered from heat in this area. At Woodnorth prospects have been lowered considerably by heat and lack of rain, especially coarse grains, whilst summerfallow wheat and flax show the most promise.

In the north-west around Dauphin, crops are maturing rapidly and cutting of feed grains is in progress. Some hail and wind damage occurred during the past week. A good hay crop is reported and the flax crop is 90 per cent in blossom. Farther south in the Shoal Lake area prospects also deteriorated during the week and harvesting will soon commence. Average precipitation for Manitoba since April 1 is .6 per cent above normal as compared with 2 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 4 was 8 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan

The crop condition in Saskatchewan is steadily declining. Continued hot weather during the past week with little or no rain in most districts hastened premature ripening, reducing yield prospects for all grains. Harvesting of fall rye is general and cutting of coarse grains will start in most districts this week. Some wheat fields are now being harvested in western districts. Moderate grasshopper damage, especially in oat fields, is quite general and considerable sawfly damage is indicated over south-central, south-western and west-central districts.

Our Yellowgrass correspondent reports that high temperatures have caused a big drop in yield prospects and lowered the grade of all crops in that area with oats, especially, filling very poorly. Excessively high temperatures forcing early maturity have reduced grain yields from 10 to 15 per cent in the Indian Head area according to a report from the Dominion Experimental Farm. This area has had very favourable moisture conditions throughout most of the season and deterioration here is indicative of the condition in east-central and south-eastern districts generally. A report from Fillmore states that all crops are maturing rapidly with good prospects maintained on summerfallow. Oat and flax fields have suffered most from the dry weather. The oat crop will be light and rains are urgently needed to maintain prospects of an average flax yield in this area. Some central areas received scattered showers during the past week which have promoted fair filling of wheat, but yield prospects for late sown coarse grains remain poor. No oats will be harvested in the Hanley area and barley and wheat yields are expected to be very low.

Fall rye is now about 50 per cent threshed in the south-west and the Swift Current Experimental Station reports that yields are ranging from 6 to 14 bushels per acre. Flax is not filling in this area due to the excessive heat. Some wheat is now being harvested in the western districts. Yields are low and the kernels shrunken. The crops in west-central and north-west areas have suffered further deterioration. Fair prospects are maintained on the heavy land along the Goose Lake line but north of this area all crops range from poor to failure except in a few localities. Sawfly damage in wheat is general in south-western and western districts. Conditions in the Melfort area have not changed materially since last report. Rye fields are yielding a light crop of fair sample. Maturity of all grains is being hastened.

Hail damage on July 27 is reported from Moose Jaw, Boharn, Cabri, Central Butte, Southey, Elbow, Wartime, Fiske, Allan, Colonsay, Biggar, Denzil and Senlac and on July 28 from Lestock, Southey, Stalwart, Loreburn, Davidson, Dunblane, Steeleale, Sanctuary, Semans, Imperial, Broderick, Anerley, Dinsmore, Wynyard, Dafoe and Young.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 14 per cent below normal as compared with 9 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 4 was 8 degrees above normal.

Alberta

Some improvement in crop conditions in Alberta during the past week occurred as a result of timely rains in the central and northern districts. Crop prospects are fair to good in these districts. However, in south-eastern and east-central Alberta only scattered local showers were received and the crop outlook remains poor. Temperatures continued well above normal throughout the province during the week. The wheat crop is reported headed out, while coarse grains are ninety per cent in head. Cutting of fall rye is well advanced in the south and some early wheat fields have been combined. Considerable damage from hail was reported in scattered local areas, and damage by the wheat stem sawfly is general.

Continued dry weather in south-eastern Alberta has resulted in early ripening of all crops. Hot winds caused further deterioration of the crop during the week. Combining of spring wheat has begun with yields of five to fifteen bushels per acre and grades reported ranging from number two to five. Harvesting of fall rye is well under way and yields are light. Crops in south-western Alberta are still quite promising although rain is required for filling. Rye and fall wheat are being swathed and haying is in full swing. Sugar beets are in satisfactory condition.

In the central districts conditions remain variable. Rain is urgently needed in the east-central districts for filling of late crops. Prospects in these districts have declined considerably because of the hot, dry weather. In the western sections of the central districts wheat on summerfallow is expected to yield well but coarse grain prospects are only fair. Rain is required in all sections. Pastures will benefit from recent local showers but, in general, they are in poor condition.

Beneficial rains in the northern districts have maintained the relatively favourable prospects. In the Peace River district crops are filling well and about average yields are anticipated. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal as compared with 11 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending August 4 was 4 degrees above normal.

British Columbia

The weather in British Columbia during the past two weeks has been generally dry and very warm. Mixed hay has been harvested and second crop alfalfa is ready to cut. Harvesting of winter grains and field peas is now general and some early stands of oats have been cut. Spring wheat, for the most part is headed out. Pastures and ranges, in general, are now looking quite poor as a result of hot, dry weather. Hop plantations are in good condition and the crop prospects are quite promising. The harvesting of apricots is about completed and early peaches and plums are moving to the packing houses. Harvesting of field tomatoes is now general.

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES - 1947 1/

Crop District and Province	Station	PRECIPITATION			TEMPERATURE	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. August 4	Since April 1	Since April 1	August 4 Mean	Normal
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Pierson	.04	8.67	8.26	72	65
	Melita	.24	12.66	10.54	74	66
	Waskada	Nil	7.82 2/	9.21	71	66
2	Boissevain	.38	10.18	8.22	72	65
	Ninette	Nil	7.30	8.76	72	65
	Pilot Mound	.30	6.67 2/	9.56	74	65
3	Portage la Prairie	.24	7.82	8.71	74	64
	Graysville	Nil	9.36	9.19	74	65
	Morden	.04	7.15	8.97	75	66
	Morris	.01	8.76	8.71	73	66
	Emerson	.04	8.66	8.33	73	66
4	Winnipeg	.47	9.25	9.92	72	66
6	Sprague	.26	10.74	9.52	70	65
	Pinawa	.18	4.42	7.27	70	63
7	Virden	.80	12.22	7.52	71	63
	Rivers	1.09	10.46	8.71	71	64
8	Brandon	1.38	9.20	8.80	72	64
	Cypress River	.08	7.06	8.71	73	65
9	Minnedosa	1.04	10.25	8.63	69	63
	Neepawa	.91	7.64	8.63	71	63
10	Russell	.01	7.76	8.25	N.R.	62
	Birtle	N.R.	11.10 2/	8.80	N.R.	62
11	Dauphin	.52	9.72	7.63	70	63
12	Gimli	.90	7.97	9.30	72	64
13	Swan River	.78	8.27	8.76	70	62
	The Pas	Trace	5.38	6.81	70	63
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.39	8.73	8.68	72	64
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Estevan	.12	8.43	8.14	75	64
	Carlyle	Nil	8.88	8.83	68	62
1B	Broadview	.22	9.22	8.07	68	63
	Moosomin	.48	13.93	7.46	71	64
2A	Yellow Grass	.02	6.13	7.78	71	64
	Midale	.52	5.91	8.83	72	64
2B	Moose Jaw	Nil	7.76	8.08	73	65
	Regina	Trace	7.66	8.18	71	62
	Francis	.08	6.52	6.78	69	64
	Qu'Appelle	.04	9.27	9.63	70	63
	Indian Head	.06	9.73	9.26	72	62
3AS	Assiniboia	Nil	12.39	6.77	71	64
	Ceylon	.01	10.51	9.92	74	65
3AN	Chaplin	Trace	8.64	8.44	74	64
	Gravelbourg	Nil	7.48	6.62	74	64
3BS	Instow	Trace	6.44 2/	7.10	74	65
	Shaunavon	.18	6.44	6.99	73	63
	Cadillac	.08	6.40 2/	8.92	75	63
	Val Marie	Nil	6.38	7.56	70	65
	Aneroid	Nil	8.36	8.06	75	63
3BN	Pennant	Nil	6.89	8.10	76	64
	Swift Current	.02	6.29	8.25	74	63
	Hughton	.50	4.41	7.31	74	63
4A	Maple Creek	Trace	5.68	7.81	73	64
	Consul	Nil	3.38	6.47	70	61
4B	Roadene	.02	6.35	7.32	74	63
5A	Leross	.04	7.00	8.23	68	62
	Yorkton	.07	7.47	8.29	70	61
5B	Dafoe	1.12	8.27	7.18	70	61
	Foam Lake	1.70	9.78	8.05	68	61
	Lintlaw	.40	6.64	8.25	67	61
	Kamsack	.60	8.21	7.68	69	62
6A	Davidson	.24	7.05	6.66	72	63
	Dilke	Nil	4.09	6.00	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.46	4.44	5.33	74	62
	Strasbourg	Nil	7.59	7.49	70	62
6B	Harris	.06	3.75	7.32	74	63
	Outlook	.24	5.98	5.61	74	63
	Saskatoon	.13	4.77	7.50	72	62
	Elbow	.01	6.30	6.66	71	63
	Dundurn	.08	5.30	7.93	74	63
	Tugaske	Trace	6.80	6.66	72	64
7A	Kindersley	.08	3.61	6.76	N.R.	62
	Rosetown	.16	4.35	7.74	N.R.	62

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES - 1947^{1/} (CONCLUDED)

Crop District and Province	Station	PRECIPITATION			TEMPERATURE	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. August 4	Since April 1	Since April 1	August 4 Mean	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN (con.)</u>						
7B	Macklin	.04	4.62	7.89	68	60
	Scott	.18	4.64	7.21	68	61
	Ruthilda	.18	3.54 2/	7.87	N.R.	N.R.
8A	Biggar	.06	4.67	6.97	72	62
	Nipawin	.10	3.84	7.76	68	61
	Hudson Bay Junction	.11	7.79	8.00	68	62
8B	Humboldt	.14	4.24	6.72	70	61
	Melfort	.20	5.36	7.92	69	63
9A	North Battleford	.02	3.41	7.52	70	64
	Rabbit Lake	.24	4.25	7.92	64	61
	Prince Albert	.02	2.28	7.61	69	63
9B	Waseca	Trace	4.02	7.44	70	60
	Island Falls	.86	6.22	7.90	69	64
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.17	6.54	7.63	71.2	62.7
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Foremost	.10	6.74	8.99	72	68
	Winnifred	Nil	6.34	5.99	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.02	6.23	6.78	75	67
2	Manyberries	Trace	3.19 2/	6.82	74	68
	Cowley	.03	6.02	8.32	65	62
	Macleod	.02	10.04	7.58	71	66
3	Cardston	.02	6.14	11.10	68	65
	Lethbridge	Trace	8.29	7.65	72	65
	Vauxhall	Nil	6.09 2/	6.46	70	66
4	Brooks	.02	8.00	6.56	71	68
	Empress	Trace	2.83	7.05	N.R.	68
	High River	.08	10.72	9.17	64	61
5	Vulcan	.06	7.96	7.93	N.R.	N.R.
	Drumheller	.03	4.94	8.20	71	68
	Hanna	.02	4.12	9.08	70	64
6	Olds	.38	7.94	8.60	65	59
	Calgary	.25	8.34	9.14	66	61
	Three Hills	.46	6.41	7.66	68	60
7	Strathmore	.01	4.95 2/	7.99	66	60
	Gleichen	Nil	5.03 2/	7.48	67	61
	Viking	N.R.	3.49 2/	7.14	N.R.	59
8	Sedgewick	.28	5.42 2/	7.82	68	59
	Hardisty	.04	5.13 2/	8.10	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.34	6.02	6.69	69	62
9	Hughenden	.12	4.04	7.55	68	65
	Red Deer	.16	9.43	10.56	64	58
	Lacombe	.68	8.75	9.06	65	59
10	Wetaskiwin	N.R.	6.54 2/	8.56	N.R.	60
	Camrose	1.08	5.42 2/	8.23	65	60
	Stettler	.88	5.73 2/	9.19	64	59
11	Jasper	.85	6.03	4.44	59	56
	Rocky Mountain House	.81	10.37	9.29	63	58
	Springdale	1.12	9.46	10.65	60	58
12	Vegreville	.57	8.23	9.69	N.R.	59
	Vermilion	.34	5.72	9.50	65	59
	Lloydminster	.02	4.77	7.14	66	60
13	Edmonton	1.91	8.72	9.27	66	61
	Whitecourt	2.67	10.21	9.62	62	59
	Edson	2.18	11.13	8.86	60	57
14	Elk Point	.58	5.36	7.74	64	60
	Campsie	1.50	9.32 2/	9.28	63	59
	Athabaska	1.06	6.88 2/	8.28	59	59
15	Lac La Biche	.06	8.68	7.95	64	59
	High Prairie	1.02	10.85	7.97	64	60
	Kinuso	1.26	6.01	7.68	62	60
16	Wagner	.50	7.69	8.53	63	60
	Beaverlodge	.80	9.58	6.53	60	59
	Grande Prairie	.71	6.59	7.79	62	59
17	Fairview	.64	7.61 2/	5.64	62	60
	Fort St. John	.23	4.16	7.63	64	61
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.50	7.28	8.10	65.7	61.3

N.R. - No report.

^{1/} - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

^{2/} - Incomplete: Not included in average.