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Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.,
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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS - CANADA
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Ottawa, September 3, 1947, 3 p.m. - The tenth of a series of eleven telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the fifteenth of a series of sixteen 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

Some rain has fallen in the Maritimes during the past week but more moisture is needed in most sections to assure continued development of the crops. Early seeded grains are now being harvested and late seedings are beginning to change colour. Pasture conditions vary greatly. Good potato yields are expected, especially in New Brunswick but rain is required for this crop in Nova Scotia.

Reports from Quebec indicate that all crops have suffered from the drought which has prevailed throughout the province, especially in the western sections, during the past month. Pastures have become bare and the drop in milk production has been significant in many areas. The aftermath has not developed and grass is scarce, with the result that many farmers have had to harvest some of their grain crops for use as green fodder for dairy cattle. The harvest of grain is in full swing but average yields per acre are poor due to the forced maturity occasioned by the dry weather. Truck crops and gardens are beginning to show the effects of the prolonged hot, dry period. Potato prospects, which appeared very encouraging at August 1, have deteriorated considerably and the outlook now is only fair.

The harvesting of grain crops is nearly completed in old Ontario with yields generally below average. The sample is good in central and western Ontario but quite poor in the eastern counties. Late crops have improved during the month and both flax and buckwheat promise good yields. Pastures have been helped by recent rains. Tobacco harvesting is well advanced, although considerable hail damage occurred in a small area during the past week-end. A large crop of peaches is being harvested and a heavy grape crop is developing satisfactorily. The harvesting of second-cut alfalfa is general, but yields are low. A considerably larger fall-wheat crop is being sown this year. In northern Ontario the haying is finally being completed and the grain harvest is getting under way.

Excellent harvesting progress was made in Manitoba during the past week and operations were resumed in most districts of Saskatchewan and Alberta after recent delays due to wet weather. In Manitoba cutting and swathing is now nearly completed except in northern areas. Threshing is 50 per cent completed in the south and a good start has been made elsewhere except in the Swan River Valley where only one-third of the crop is cut. Wheat yields range from 5 bushels in the worst-hit areas of the south to 30 in the Swan River Valley. The sample is mostly Three and Four Northern. Barley is yielding poorly but the outturn of oats is considerably better. Flax promises to be nearest to an average crop. Prospects for special crops continue promising and pastures have seldom been in better condition. In Saskatchewan about 51 per cent of wheat and coarse grains has been cut; 65 per cent in southern districts; 20 per cent in north-eastern sections and from 45 to 60 per cent in central and western areas of the province. The Provincial Department of Agriculture advises that threshing returns are bearing out earlier yield expectations. Grains are somewhat bleached from recent wet weather. With the weather clearing toward the end of last week in Alberta, harvesting operations are again getting under way in all sections of the province. In the south-east threshing is progressing well while farther north and west cutting is becoming general. Over the province as a whole about 23 per cent of the wheat has been cut. Less advanced crops are ripening fairly rapidly as a result of the warm, clear weather.

Ideal harvesting weather prevailed throughout British Columbia during the past two weeks. Harvesting of winter wheat and peas is about completed and cutting of spring grains is in full swing in southern sections of the province. In the Peace River Block harvesting of spring wheat has just commenced.

Maritime Provinces - Showers during the past week in Nova Scotia relieved the drought slightly but more rain is urgently needed. Some early-sown grains have yielded well but the crops generally will be light. Unless more rain is received soon, the potato crop will also be light. Pastures are bare and there is little aftergrowth in the hay fields. In the Annapolis Valley pastures are dry and potatoes, vegetable and root crops are in need of moisture. An early frost is reported to have damaged tender crops in some areas. In Cumberland County, good rains fell during the last week of August but due to the prolonged dry spell, earlier in the month, pastures have been poor and yields of grain are not as heavy as anticipated. Early-seeded grain has been cut and partially stored, but late seedings are just turning colour and many fields will not mature. Recent rains have benefited corn and roots. The swedes crop is promising and potato crop prospects are fair.

In the St. John Valley of New Brunswick, warm, fine days have been ideal for harvesting of early-sown grains. Yields, however, are below average as a result of flooding in June. Late grains are ripening rapidly. A good yield of potatoes is anticipated. Pastures are good and the aftergrowth is heavy.

Quebec - The drought which has prevailed in Quebec during the last month, especially in the western sections, has affected all crops. Pastures have suffered and aftermaths have failed to develop to any extent with the result that many farmers have had to harvest their grain crops as green fodder for dairy cattle. The harvest of grain is under way but the yields per acre are poor. Truck crops and gardens are also showing the detrimental effects of the prolonged hot, dry weather. The potato crop, which was very encouraging up to the first of August has deteriorated considerably and the present outlook for this crop is only fair.

At Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere the cutting of barley is 100 per cent complete, oats 25 and wheat 10. The yields of wheat and barley are average but oat yields are about 25 per cent below average. The potato yields are slightly less than average. Fruits and vegetables have been affected by the dry weather and apples are small, although the yield of early varieties is good.

At Normandin 2.27 inches of rain has been received since August 18. Cereal crops are promising and are turning quickly. Milk production is still very good and pastures are good. The blueberry crop was slightly frozen at some places. At Lennoxville a good crop of hay has been harvested and the grain harvest is now under way. The crop is ripening unevenly and it is expected that it will be 50 per cent below normal. Corn and potatoes are good. At L'Assomption the harvesting of grain crops is general, but the quality and yield are poor. The tobacco harvest is in full swing with yield and quality generally low. Vegetable crops have suffered from the drought and pastures are only fair.

Ontario - The harvest of grain crops is nearly completed in old Ontario with yields generally below average. The sample is good in central and western Ontario but quite poor in the eastern section. Late crops have improved during the past month and both flax and buckwheat promise good yields. In northern Ontario haying is finally being completed and the grain harvest is getting under way although it has been delayed in some areas by showery weather. The tobacco harvest is well advanced although considerable hail damage occurred in a small area during the past week-end.

In the Chatham district recent warm weather and rains are expected to advance the late-sown crops. Grasshoppers are numerous on country roadsides and some damage may be expected from them in cultivated crops. Crops in Essex County have made remarkable improvement during the past two weeks, particularly corn, tobacco and soy beans. Although the flue-cured tobacco harvest is late, about 40 per cent of the crop has now been harvested. Burley and dark tobacco harvest will commence soon. It is expected that the yield of tobacco will be lower this year than last.

The harvest is progressing satisfactorily in Bruce County. Late-sown oats are surprisingly good and flax promises a fair crop. The yield of peas is less than 50 per cent of normal. A large wheat acreage is being seeded this fall. Pastures are good and corn and roots are excellent.

In Waterloo County the harvest is progressing very slowly due to unfavourable weather which has also lowered the quality of the grain. Yields will be no greater than anticipated earlier in the season. It is expected that corn will be a satisfactory crop.

Manitoba - Excellent progress with all harvest operations was made in Manitoba last week. Cutting and swathing is about completed except in the north-central and northern districts. Threshing is 50 per cent completed in the south half of the province and could be finished this week if the favourable weather continues. Northward from Rapid City the threshing is well under way except in the Swan River Valley where only one-third of the crop is cut. Wheat yields are ranging from 5 bushels in the worst areas in the south to 30 in the Swan River Valley and the grades are mostly Three and Four. Barley is yielding poorly whereas oat yields are considerably better. Flax promises to be the nearest to an average crop. Prospects for special crops continue promising and pastures have seldom been in better condition.

A report from Melita indicates that all grain and a considerable amount of flax have been cut in that area. Given continued good weather threshing of wheat and coarse grains will be completed this week. The best yields are being obtained from Durum wheat. Rapid progress has also been made at Morden. Threshing is well advanced and a week of fine weather will permit completion of the harvest of most grain crops. The reported yields are as follows: wheat 20, barley 22, oats 28, flax 9. Wheat is grading No. 3 Northern and coarse grains are being graded down because of weathering. Corn and sunflowers are doing well and pastures are good.

Our correspondent at Brandon reports that wheat and barley harvesting is about 80 per cent completed with oats 60 per cent cut and approximately 25 per cent of the crops threshed or combined. Expected yields are: wheat 19 bushels, barley 26, oats 34, flaxseed 9. A loss of one grade is expected due to incomplete filling and discolouration. At Woodnorth, 40 per cent of the threshing and combining is completed. Crops are yielding satisfactorily and pastures are excellent. Some shortage of harvest help is being reported. There has been no frost damage in this district.

At Teulon, in the north-central part of the province, fair progress was made in threshing of grains last week but rain on Thursday and over the week-end has interfered with harvesting operations. There is no change in the general situation. In the north-west at Dauphin, threshing and combining are under way. Ninety per cent of the rye has been harvested and the average yield is 25 bushels; 40 per cent of the wheat has been harvested and the average yield is 15 bushels grading Two to Three Northern. If good weather continues, 85 to 90 per cent of the harvest operations could be completed this week. Some blight is appearing on potato crops. Potatoes planted after the flood in late June are progressing favourably. Our correspondent at Shoal Lake also states that harvesting is now progressing favourably. Some rye fields averaged 30 bushels but practically no other threshing has been done. Eighty per cent of the crop has been cut. An extreme scarcity of harvesters is reported. A hail storm at Birtle last week caused 40 per cent damage to an area of 700 acres. A report from the Dominion Entomological Office indicates no change in the insect situation.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 is 17 per cent above normal as compared with 20 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 1 was less than one degree above normal.

Saskatchewan - After frequent delays due to wet weather, harvesting operations were generally resumed during the past week and for the province as a whole about 51 per cent of wheat and coarse grains has now been cut. Most progress has been made in southern districts where cutting is about 65 per cent completed. Cutting is now general in north-eastern districts with about 20 per cent down. Central and western districts average from 45 to 60 per cent of the cutting completed. The Provincial Department of Agriculture advises that combining and threshing returns are bearing out earlier yield estimates though the grains are somewhat bleached as the result of wet weather.

Hail losses have been particularly heavy this season. The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports losses from hail storms August 25 at Midale, Radville, Weyburn, Grassdale, Amulet, Ogema, Wheatstone, Congress, Cardross, Vantage, Gravelbourg, St. Boswells, Vanguard, Wymark, Herbert and Sanctuary; August 28 at Brownlee, Tugaskie, Earl Grey, Lucky Lake, Beechy and Hughton. Yield and grade are not as good as expected at Willowbrook, in the north-east. Most fields were weedy and dockage is heavy. The Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head, on the other hand, reports that yields are better than earlier estimates indicated for that district. Heavy land is averaging near 30 bushels per acre and lighter soils from 22 to 24 and grades are mostly Two and Three.

A report from the Manor area in the south-east states that cutting is 80 per cent completed but very little threshing has been done. Oats are generally poor in this area, flax fields show good promise, barley on summerfallow is a fair crop but second and third crop fields are poor.

Central areas show great variability in yield. Wheat in the Drake-Lanigan district is running about 15 bushels per acre but at Hanley only around 5 bushels per acre. Harvesting at Swift Current has progressed slowly due to further rains. Swathers are being used extensively owing to increasing damage by the wheat stem sawfly. Most wheat is grading No. 3 Northern but good weather is required to prevent further deterioration to sample. Rain also delayed progress in west-central districts. Harvesting is under way in the Melfort area where wheat yields are running up to 15 bushels per acre.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 6 per cent above normal as compared with 5 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 1 was one degree above normal.

Alberta - The weather in Alberta cleared toward the end of the past week and cutting is again getting under way in all sections of the province. Threshing is progressing well in the south-eastern district although delayed during the early part of the week by showers. Farther north and west cutting is becoming general but little threshing has been done. The wheat crop is about 23 per cent cut over the province as a whole. Warm, clear weather is hastening the ripening of the crop, particularly in the north-central district, where green fields were causing some concern. Local frost damage was reported from some areas in the Peace River district. Heavy hail storms occurred in the central districts. No material change in the insect situation was reported during the week.

Harvesting in southern Alberta progressed satisfactorily but was delayed in some areas by showers. Yields of wheat in the south-east are from 6 to 8 bushels per acre with the sample grading mostly Two and Three. Very little rye has been threshed. The winter feed outlook is favourable and range conditions are satisfactory. In the south-west the second cutting of alfalfa is under way on irrigated land with fairly good yields being reported. Sugar beets are making satisfactory recovery from hail damage.

Harvesting is in full swing in the Calgary area under ideal weather conditions. Some rye is being threshed and with continued favourable weather swathed grain will be threshed this week. Our Stettler correspondent reports harvesting will be general this week if clear weather continues. In the Lacombe area swathing is in progress but few combines are operating at present. Farther north in the vicinity of Edmonton the weather has cleared and many fields are ripening though some are still far from mature and frost damage may occur. Harvesting is expected to be general this week.

Excellent ripening weather is reported in the Peace River district. Earlier local frost damage is becoming more apparent. Cutting of spring wheat has begun in some areas and the harvest is expected to be general this week.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent above normal as compared with 5 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 1 was two degrees above normal.

British Columbia - In British Columbia the nights have been cooler during the past two weeks and apart from a few showers, the days have been fine and warm in most sections of the province. Heavy frosts occurred in the Prince George and Vanderhoof districts on August 19 and 20 causing severe damage to grain crops. The pea and winter wheat harvest is about completed and cutting of spring grains is in full swing in southern districts. In the Peace River Block harvesting of spring wheat is just getting under way.

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES 1/

Crop District	Station	PRECIPITATION			TEMPERATURE	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. Sept. 1	since April 1	since April 1	September 1 Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	N11	10.18	10.23	N.R.	59
	Melita	N11	15.92	13.42	58	59
	Waskada	N.R.	10.65 2/	10.56	N.R.	59
2	Boissevain	.02	13.35	10.18	N.R.	61
	Ninette	.06	10.56	10.68	58	60
	Pilot Mound	N11	11.25 2/	11.38	60	59
3	Portage la Prairie	.40	10.54	10.43	61	59
	Graysville	.22	14.48	10.66	58	59
	Morden	.04	14.23	10.59	62	60
	Morris	.10	14.04	10.67	60	59
	Emerson	.14	12.58	10.10	N.R.	60
4	Winnipeg	.60	13.39	12.02	60	60
6	Sprague	.20	15.28	11.07	57	58
	Pinawa	.60	6.18	9.18	60	57
7	Virden	.50	16.14	9.15	59	58
	Rivers	.53	12.73	10.69	58	58
8	Brandon	.22	11.22	10.85	59	59
	Cypress River	.14	9.94	10.70	60	58
9	Minnedosa	.33	12.33	10.54	58	58
	Neepawa	.25	11.76	10.54	60	58
10	Russell	.34	10.08	10.03	N.R.	56
	Birtle	N.R.	15.08 2/	10.61	56	56
11	Dauphin	.40	14.46	9.31	60	56
12	Gimli	1.16	12.45	11.01	59	58
13	Swan River	.42	11.33	10.79	57	54
	The Pas	.78	10.19	8.74	57	57
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.31	12.32	10.54	58.9	58.3
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.02	11.79	9.96	60	59
	Carlyle	.04	12.94	10.58	56	57
1B	Broadview	.21	12.37	9.56	55	57
	Moosomin	.16	16.43	9.67	N.R.	56
2A	Yellow Grass	.16	9.00	9.12	N.R.	59
	Midale	N11	9.55	10.03	57	59
2B	Moose Jaw	.32	10.19	9.58	60	59
	Regina	.13	11.23	9.65	57	58
	Francis	.54	10.21	8.24	54	59
	Qu'Appelle	.10	11.41	11.34	56	59
	Indian Head	.11	11.57	10.93	56	57
3As	Assiniboia	.08	17.82	7.71	N.R.	59
	Ceylon	.14	14.57	11.55	54	58
3AN	Chaplin	1.50	11.94	10.09	58	57
	Gravelbourg	.32	9.34	8.42	60	57
3BS	Instow	.10	8.51 2/	8.56	60	59
	Shaunavon	.12	8.04	8.04	N.R.	57
	Cadillac	N.R.	8.68 2/	10.56	N.R.	57
	Val Marie	.26	8.76	8.72	59	58
	Aneroid	.16	10.47	9.67	61	57
3BN	Pennant	.54	8.55	9.34	61	59
	Swift Current	.39	8.17	9.89	60	57
	Hughton	.58	5.67	8.66	60	57
4A	Maple Creek	.10	7.04	8.90	62	60
	Consul	.06	4.68	7.53	59	58
4B	Roadene	.14	8.99	8.66	62	57
5A	Leross	N.R.	11.43 2/	9.66	N.R.	56
	Yorkton	.89	10.56	10.08	58	56
5B	Dafoe	.07	11.60	8.83	61	54
	Foam Lake	.26	13.51	9.53	54	54
	Lintlaw	.08	9.78	9.55	53	54
	Kamsack	.74	12.34	9.17	55	55
6A	Davidson	.34	9.11	7.89	56	56
	Dilke	.32	8.31	7.30	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.22	9.58	6.22	57	55
	Strasbourg	.54	11.11	8.82	56	56
6B	Harris	.54	6.27 2/	8.41	53	56
	Outlook	1.32	8.80	7.42	N.R.	56
	Saskatoon	.49	6.96	9.28	58	56
	Elbow	1.66	9.01	7.82	N.R.	58
	Dundurn	.50	7.54	9.34	58	56
	Tugaske	1.22	10.06	7.82	58	57
7A	Kindersley	.62	7.79	8.37	N.R.	56
	Rosetown	.70	6.53	9.34	N.R.	55
7B	Macklin	.26	5.92	9.37	56	55
	Scott	.46	7.44	8.82	53	56
	Ruthilda	1.02	7.84 2/	9.42	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.72	8.09	8.51	58	57

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. Sept. 1	since April 1	since April 1	September 1 Mean	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN (cont'd)						
8A	Nipawin	.12	7.62	9.17	59	55
	Hudson Bay Junction	1.04	11.41	9.73	56	56
8B	Humboldt	.38	7.88	7.85	56	55
	Melfort	.22	10.12	9.68	54	56
9A	North Battleford	.93	6.29	9.22	58	58
	Rabbit Lake	1.06	7.75	9.59	50	55
	Prince Albert	.45	5.68	9.63	57	56
9B	Waseca	N.R.	6.84 2/	8.98	N.R.	53
	Island Falls	.15	11.15	10.21	56	56
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.44	9.66	9.12	57.2	56.7
ALBERTA						
1	Foremost	.20	9.84	10.93	N.R.	61
	Winnifred	.06	8.28	7.01	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.30	9.64	8.05	63	61
	Manyberries	.08	3.81 2/	8.24	64	61
2	Cowley	.16	9.81	10.17	58	57
	Macleod	.26	13.46	9.06	N.R.	59
	Cardston	.24	9.50	13.04	58	57
	Lethbridge	.08	12.34	8.95	61	58
3	Vauxhall	.02	7.78 2/	7.91	58	57
	Brooks	.16	11.34	7.74	61	60
	Empress	N.R.	4.73 2/	8.15	54	58
4	High River	.26	14.44	11.33	55	55
	Vulcan	N.R.	11.96 2/	8.98	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	Nil	7.40	9.93	N.R.	61
	Hanna	.12	7.28	10.44	58	57
6	Olas	.68	12.38	11.29	56	52
	Calgary	.13	11.41	11.24	58	57
	Three Hills	.04	9.79	9.51	56	55
	Strathmore	Trace	8.13 2/	9.94	55	53
	Gleichen	.28	9.71 2/	9.17	58	56
7	Viking	N.R.	3.71 2/	9.30	N.R.	54
	Sedgewick	N.R.	8.23 2/	9.97	N.R.	54
	Hardisty	.68	8.57 2/	9.45	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.38	10.94	8.03	58	57
	Hughenden	.90	7.08	8.95	57	58
8	Red Deer	.01	13.38	13.20	56	53
	Lacombe	N.R.	10.09 2/	11.22	N.R.	53
	Wetaskiwin	.38	11.41	10.70	56	55
	Camrose	Nil	8.32 2/	9.79	56	55
	Stettler	Nil	9.93	10.80	59	54
9	Jasper	.31	7.75	5.69	57	51
	Rocky Mountain House	.53	13.74	12.00	56	52
	Springdale	.01	12.04	13.31	51	52
10	Vegreville	N.R.	10.77 2/	11.90	N.R.	53
	Vermilion	.13	9.63	11.65	57	53
	Lloydminster	.56	9.64	8.46	57	53
11	Edmonton	.14	10.36	11.39	58	56
12	Whitecourt	.58	12.51	12.25	55	53
	Edson	.84	13.85	11.50	56	53
13	Elk Point	.04	7.60	9.40	54	51
14	Campsie	N.R.	13.59 2/	11.44	N.R.	53
	Athabaska	.74	9.12 2/	10.53	50	53
	Lac La Biche	.28	12.54	9.55	56	53
15	High Prairie	.04	12.46	9.49	59	54
	Kinuso	N.R.	8.33 2/	9.18	N.R.	55
	Wagner	.92	11.13	10.46	57	54
16	Beaverlodge	.46	12.19	7.97	58	54
	Grande Prairie	.03	8.53	9.57	59	54
	Fairview	.02	9.31 2/	7.28	58	54
17	Fort St. John	.51	6.86	9.05	57	56
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.28	10.60	9.89	57.1	55.2

N.R. No Report.

1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ Incomplete: not included in average.