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Authority of the Hon. James A. MacKinnon, M.P.
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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, May 27, 1947, 3 p.m. - The second of a series of sixteen 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

Below normal temperatures have prevailed for the past week throughout the Prairies and have retarded germination and growth in many districts. Average precipitation since April 1 has been well below normal in all three provinces but subsoil reserves have been adequate to maintain generally good moisture conditions. Wheat seeding in Manitoba is nearing completion with Saskatchewan and Alberta reporting wheat seedings 83 per cent and 90 per cent complete, respectively. More than half of the coarse grain acreage in all three provinces is now planted. Warmer weather is now required and rains would be helpful, particularly in some districts where soil drifting has commenced or is imminent. Overall crop prospects are considered to be generally satisfactory.

Wheat seeding is nearing completion in Manitoba with more than half of the coarse grains drilled in. Some farmers are holding back seedings of flax and coarse grains to obtain a better weed kill. Below normal temperatures have retarded growth but germination is generally satisfactory. Precipitation since April 1 is also well below normal but moisture reserves appear to be sufficient for the time being. Warmer weather is needed.

Subnormal temperatures have retarded growth in Saskatchewan but seeding has made good progress. At this date 83 per cent of the wheat, 58 per cent of the coarse grains and 38 per cent of the flax are reported in the ground. Some wheat is now showing green. Soil moisture conditions are considered generally good to fair and although some local soil drifting has occurred very little damage is indicated so far. Warmer weather is required to speed germination and rain would be welcome in areas where soil drifting damage is imminent.

The seeding of the wheat crop in Alberta is about ninety per cent completed while slightly more than one-half of the coarse grains has been seeded. Moisture conditions are generally satisfactory for germination and early growth but some districts report the need of good rains to replenish the topsoil. Cool weather has retarded the growth of crops in all but a few districts and warmer weather would be beneficial in promoting more rapid development of the new crops. Some evidence of damage to crops from the pale western cutworm has been noted.

Manitoba - The general picture in Manitoba is quite good. Wheat seeding is practically completed and better than 50 per cent of the oats and barley are in the ground. Some farmers are delaying seeding of flax and coarse grains in order to obtain a good kill of wild oats which are germinating well. Growth is generally retarded by about a week to ten days but despite this, grain is germinating and rooting satisfactorily with early planted wheat up six inches in some districts. Moisture appears to be ample so far with fair subsoil reserves. Slight drifting has occurred on finely worked fallows and warmth is now needed, especially for gardens and corn.

In the extreme south-west of the province seeding is very well advanced with wheat completed; 75 per cent of the coarse grains in; and 40 per cent of the flax. Fall rye is in good condition but the acreage is small. Pastures are only fair. In the Brandon area seeding is also well advanced but the surface moisture is reported only fair although subsoil moisture is satisfactory. Light frosts have occurred but no damage is reported. Germination in this area is irregular and rain and warm weather would be welcome. In the north-central area seeding is less advanced although early wheat and oats emerged the middle of last week. Moisture conditions are fairly satisfactory but warmer weather is required. Pastures have been slow in developing and with supplies of roughage running low, cattle are in rather poor condition. At Dauphin,

in the north-west, cool weather is retarding growth but moisture supplies are ample for germination. Pastures here, too, are late and feed reserves are low. Wheat seeding is reported to be 90 per cent completed with coarse grains now going in the ground.

Sweet clover weevil is reported active in the Portage-Morden areas. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 43 per cent below normal as compared with 37 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was 6 degrees below normal.

Saskatchewan - Very satisfactory progress has been made in the seeding of wheat and coarse grains during the last two weeks. Over a large area of the province, especially in the south-eastern, south-central, south-western and west-central districts, 90 per cent of the wheat seeding has been completed. Coarse grain seeding is showing good progress in these districts and in central Saskatchewan. For the province as a whole it is reported that 83 per cent of the wheat, 58 per cent of the coarse grains and 38 per cent of the flax have been sown. About 23 per cent of the wheat acreage is showing green but germination and growth are slow due to cold, backward weather. This condition has led to rather serious weed growth in early seeded fields. The soil moisture condition is generally good to fair. Whereas some soil drifting has occurred in a number of districts in the south and west, very little damage is reported to date. Timely and welcome showers in south-central and south-western areas have considerably reduced the soil drifting hazard. Higher temperatures are required to hasten development.

Manor reports wheat seeding 100 per cent, oats 60 per cent and flax 50 per cent completed with moisture conditions good but considerable infestation of wild oats. Favourable seeding progress is reported from Fillmore with germination even and conditions for weed destruction excellent. Advice from Indian Head indicates that wheat seeding is almost completed except in the more wooded area with coarse grain seeding well started. Hay and pasture fields are reported to be in excellent condition with live stock doing well. Seeding of cereal grains is virtually completed in the Scott district and 65 per cent of the flax acreage has been seeded. Early seedings of wheat show good stands but effective rains are required for even germination of later seedings and for hay and pasture fields. This same general condition applies to the west-central area including Rosetown except that flax seedings here are more nearly completed.

Serious weed conditions are reported from both the north-west and north-east districts. Reports from the north-west indicate a need for rain to hasten growth of grains. Seeding here is almost completed. Light rains in the north-east, however, have delayed seeding and only about 60 per cent of the wheat and 20 per cent of the coarse grains are in.

Some damage by wireworms and pale western cutworms is reported by the Entomological Laboratory, Saskatoon. The sweet clover weevil is responsible for some damage in the south-east. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 27 per cent below normal, as compared with 33 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was 4 degrees below normal.

Alberta - Satisfactory progress has been made with seeding in Alberta and about ninety per cent of the wheat crop has been sown. Coarse grains seeding is fifty to sixty per cent completed. Scattered showers and some heavy rains delayed seeding in some areas. Moisture conditions are generally satisfactory throughout the province but rain would be welcome in many districts. Germination and growth of the new crop have been slow in most districts because of cool weather.

The crop is furthest advanced in the south-east where seeding is practically completed and early wheat is four inches above ground. The topsoil in this district is reported dry and rain will be needed for complete germination of late sown crops. Fall rye is heading out in the area of Medicine Hat. In the south-west wheat seeding is nearing completion and good progress has been made with coarse grains. Moisture conditions are good to excellent but with cool weather growth is slow. Sugar beet seeding is practically completed and germination is reported fair. Thinning operations are progressing but some concern over labour is reported.

Seeding is expected to be completed within the week in the central districts of the province. Wheat seeding is 90 to 95 per cent completed and seeding of coarse grains is well advanced. Early-sown wheat is two inches above ground in the Calgary area. Moisture supplies are generally adequate and warmer weather is needed to promote more rapid growth. Good growth of fall wheat and rye is reported. In the northern districts seeding is well advanced with wheat reported 85 per cent completed and oats and barley 70 per cent completed. Seeding is expected to be completed in the Peace River district by the end of the month. Emergence of the crops is satisfactory and germination is reported to be good. Rain is needed in some areas.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18 per cent below normal as compared with 3 per cent above normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending May 26 was one degree below normal.

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. May 26 | |
| | | 8 a.m. May 26 | since April 1 | since April 1 | Mean | Normal |
| <u>MANITOBA</u> | | | | | | |
| 1 | Pierson | .36 | 1.53 | 2.85 | 48 | 53 |
| | Melita | .50 | 2.76 | 2.98 | 48 | 54 |
| | Waskada | .32 | 1.19 2/ | 2.27 | 48 | 54 |
| 2 | Boissevain | .20 | 1.08 | 2.95 | 45 | 53 |
| | Ninette | .14 | 1.54 | 3.13 | 48 | 53 |
| | Pilot Mound | .04 | .88 | 2.89 | 47 | 53 |
| 3 | Portage la Prairie | .17 | 1.34 | 2.67 | 47 | 54 |
| | Graysville | .14 | 1.26 | 2.61 | 43 | 53 |
| | Morden | .24 | .97 | 2.81 | 49 | 54 |
| | Morris | .26 | .98 | 2.50 | 48 | 54 |
| | Emerson | .10 | .96 | 2.14 | N.R. | 54 |
| 4 | Winnipeg | .23 | 2.07 | 2.99 | 48 | 55 |
| 6 | Sprague | .46 | 3.20 | 2.96 | 45 | 52 |
| | Pinawa | .18 | 1.44 | 1.91 | 48 | 52 |
| 7 | Virden | .30 | .92 | 1.95 | 48 | 52 |
| | Rivers | .33 | 1.50 | 2.53 | 47 | 53 |
| 8 | Brandon | .16 | 1.61 | 2.53 | 49 | 53 |
| | Cypress River | .12 | 1.10 | 2.59 | 47 | 53 |
| 9 | Minnedosa | .17 | 1.27 | 2.51 | 44 | 53 |
| | Neepawa | .11 | .77 | 2.51 | 47 | 53 |
| 10 | Russell | .05 | .12 | 2.16 | 46 | 51 |
| | Birtle | .30 | 1.38 | 2.22 | 48 | 51 |
| 11 | Dauphin | .58 | 2.01 | 1.94 | 46 | 52 |
| 12 | Gimli | .26 | 2.55 | 3.06 | 45 | 51 |
| 13 | Swan River | .70 | 1.64 | 1.89 | 46 | 50 |
| | The Pas | .22 | 1.22 | 1.70 | 42 | 51 |
| MANITOBA AVERAGE | | .26 | 1.44 | 2.51 | 47 | 53 |
| <u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> | | | | | | |
| 1A | Estevan | .38 | 1.73 | 2.45 | 49 | 52 |
| | Carlyle | .16 | 1.64 | 2.78 | 47 | 52 |
| 1B | Broadview | .30 | 1.58 | 2.39 | 45 | 52 |
| | Moosomin | .24 | 1.02 | 2.05 | 47 | 52 |
| 2A | Yellow Grass | .38 | 1.19 | 2.24 | 47 | 52 |
| | Midale | .58 | 1.39 | 2.80 | 50 | 52 |
| 2B | Moose Jaw | 1.18 | 2.13 | 2.22 | 49 | 54 |
| | Regina | .28 | 1.30 | 2.04 | 47 | 52 |
| | Francis | .18 | 1.28 | 1.53 | 45 | 52 |
| | Qu'Appelle | .34 | 1.73 | 2.75 | 47 | 52 |
| | Indian Head | .14 | 1.19 | 2.34 | 49 | 52 |
| 3AS | Assiniboia | 1.83 | 2.79 | 1.76 | 47 | 54 |
| | Ceylon | N.R. | 1.08 2/ | 3.24 | N.R. | 53 |
| 3AN | Chaplin | .96 | 1.90 | 2.60 | 49 | 54 |
| | Gravelbourg | 1.04 | 1.54 | 1.81 | 48 | 52 |
| 3BS | Instow | 1.04 | 2.46 2/ | 1.95 | 47 | 53 |
| | Shaunavon | .74 | 1.82 | 1.95 | 47 | 50 |
| | Cadillac | 1.00 | 2.46 | 3.11 | 48 | 50 |
| | Val Marie | .54 | 2.08 | 2.16 | 46 | 50 |
| | Aneroid | 1.06 | 2.48 | 2.14 | 48 | 51 |
| 3BN | Pennant | .52 | 1.85 | 2.46 | 48 | 54 |
| | Swift Current | .75 | 2.01 | 2.25 | 46 | 55 |
| | Hughton | .24 | .62 | 2.70 | 50 | 53 |
| 4A | Maple Creek | .94 | 2.72 | 2.25 | 50 | 53 |
| | Consul | .38 | 1.03 | 2.30 | 46 | 51 |
| 4B | Roadene | .80 | 2.00 | 2.71 | 49 | 53 |
| 5A | Leross | .18 | 1.56 | 2.16 | 45 | 50 |
| | Yorkton | .30 | .85 | 2.19 | 47 | 52 |
| 5B | Dafoe | .38 | 1.42 | 1.77 | 46 | 49 |
| | Foam Lake | .32 | .89 | 2.11 | 47 | 49 |
| | Lintlaw | .44 | 1.06 | 2.47 | 44 | 49 |
| | Kamsack | .48 | 1.58 | 1.62 | 47 | 50 |
| 6A | Davidson | .86 | 1.86 | 2.00 | 47 | 51 |
| | Dilke | N.R. | .88 2/ | 2.18 | N.R. | N.R. |
| | Semans | .40 | 1.04 | 1.61 | 48 | 50 |
| | Strasbourg | .64 | 1.46 | 2.25 | 46 | 52 |
| 6B | Harris | Nil | .05 2/ | 1.55 | 46 | 52 |
| | Outlook | .36 | 1.54 | 1.66 | 50 | 52 |
| | Saskatoon | .32 | 1.97 | 1.80 | 46 | 52 |
| | Elbow | .58 | 2.30 | 1.87 | 46 | 53 |
| | Dundurn | .36 | 2.38 | 1.96 | 46 | 52 |
| | Tugaske | .14 | .96 | 1.83 | 45 | 52 |



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- 4 -

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. May 26 | |
| | | 8 a.m. May 26 | since April 1 | since April 1 | Mean | Normal |
| SASKATCHEWAN (concluded) | | | | | | |
| 7A | Kindersley | .19 | .61 | 1.83 | 48 | 50 |
| | Rosetown | .14 | .74 | 2.21 | 48 | 51 |
| 7B | Macklin | .36 | 1.12 | 2.81 | 48 | 49 |
| | Scott | .08 | 1.16 | 2.02 | 48 | 52 |
| | Ruthilda | .28 | .48 2/ | 2.02 | N.R. | N.R. |
| | Biggar | .26 | .81 | 1.79 | 48 | 51 |
| 8A | Nipawin | .32 | 1.46 | 2.14 | 42 | 50 |
| | Hudson Bay Junction | .77 | 1.95 | 2.01 | 45 | 52 |
| 8B | Humboldt | .50 | 1.50 | 1.82 | 47 | 52 |
| | Melfort | .59 | 1.91 | 2.20 | 45 | 52 |
| 9A | North Battleford | .15 | .82 | 1.79 | 48 | 55 |
| | Rabbit Lake | .48 | 1.51 | 1.73 | 43 | 51 |
| | Prince Albert | .69 | 1.48 | 2.00 | 45 | 53 |
| 9B | Waseca | .24 | 1.57 | 2.00 | 48 | 51 |
| | Island Falls | .03 | 2.35 | 2.00 | 39 | 49 |
| SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE | | .49 | 1.56 | 2.15 | 47 | 51 |
| ALBERTA | | | | | | |
| 1 | Foremost | .46 | 1.62 | 3.51 | 51 | 58 |
| | Winnifred | .38 | 2.14 | 2.66 | N.R. | N.R. |
| | Medicine Hat | .51 | 2.26 | 1.96 | 53 | 55 |
| | Manyberries | .42 | 1.35 | 2.51 | 52 | 55 |
| 2 | Cowley | .02 | 2.08 | 3.00 | 49 | 51 |
| | Macleod | .24 | 1.86 | 2.17 | 52 | 55 |
| | Cardston | .12 | 1.26 | 4.15 | 51 | 54 |
| | Lethbridge | .32 | 2.25 | 2.48 | 52 | 54 |
| 3 | Vauxhall | .22 | 1.42 | 2.09 | 52 | 54 |
| | Brooks | .50 | 1.56 | 2.21 | 54 | 55 |
| | Empress | .26 | .34 | 2.16 | 54 | 56 |
| 4 | High River | .16 | 4.12 | 3.23 | 49 | 51 |
| | Vulcan | .30 | 1.18 | 2.39 | N.R. | N.R. |
| 5 | Drumheller | .34 | 1.62 | 2.24 | N.R. | 52 |
| | Hanna | .32 | 1.48 | 2.59 | 50 | 54 |
| 6 | Olds | .38 | 2.46 | 2.87 | 50 | 51 |
| | Calgary | .11 | 2.00 | 2.58 | 52 | 52 |
| | Three Hills | .22 | 1.36 | 1.87 | 50 | 50 |
| | Strathmore | .12 | .44 2/ | 2.23 | 49 | 50 |
| | Gleichen | .12 | .92 | 2.24 | 52 | 52 |
| 7 | Viking | N.R. | 1.25 2/ | 2.48 | N.R. | 50 |
| | Sedgewick | .10 | 1.96 | 1.73 | 48 | 51 |
| | Hardisty | Nil | 1.43 2/ | 1.71 | N.R. | N.R. |
| | Coronation | .43 | 1.92 | 2.17 | 49 | 52 |
| | Hughenden | .22 | 1.16 | 2.23 | 48 | 54 |
| 8 | Red Deer | .25 | 2.63 | 2.97 | 50 | 50 |
| | Lacombe | N.R. | 1.93 2/ | 2.31 | N.R. | 51 |
| | Wetaskiwin | .20 | 3.06 | 1.97 | 54 | 51 |
| | Camrose | .08 | 1.70 | 2.65 | 49 | 50 |
| | Stettler | .20 | 1.52 | 3.24 | 49 | 51 |
| 9 | Jasper | .05 | 1.39 | 1.52 | 53 | 50 |
| | Rocky Mountain House | .32 | 3.73 | 3.03 | 50 | 49 |
| | Springdale | .32 | 3.32 | 2.92 | 48 | 49 |
| | Vegreville | .26 | 1.38 | 2.57 | 52 | 51 |
| 10 | Vermilion | .51 | 1.50 | 2.16 | 47 | 50 |
| | Lloydminster | .08 | .29 | 1.76 | 45 | 49 |
| 11 | Edmonton | .06 | 2.71 | 2.20 | 52 | 53 |
| 12 | Whitecourt | .07 | 2.32 | 2.57 | 51 | 51 |
| | Edson | .04 | 2.61 | 1.96 | 51 | 51 |
| 13 | Elk Point | .24 | .94 | 1.92 | 46 | 49 |
| 14 | Campsie | .14 | 3.32 | 2.09 | 50 | 51 |
| | Athabaska | .54 | 1.72 | 2.24 | 49 | 51 |
| | Lac La Biche | .48 | 2.58 | 2.16 | 48 | 51 |
| 15 | High Prairie | .14 | 2.60 | 1.76 | 50 | 53 |
| | Kinuso | .12 | 1.63 2/ | 2.08 | 48 | 51 |
| | Wagner | .09 | 1.75 | 2.27 | 49 | 51 |
| 16 | Beaverlodge | .02 | 2.22 | 1.85 | 54 | 51 |
| | Grande Prairie | .10 | 1.30 | 2.05 | 55 | 51 |
| | Fairview | .44 | 1.82 | 1.36 | 52 | 52 |
| 17 | Fort St. John | .07 | 1.50 | 1.95 | 55 | 52 |
| ALBERTA AVERAGE | | .23 | 1.92 | 2.34 | 51 | 52 |

N.R. No report. 1/ Source: Meteorological Service of Canada. 2/ Incomplete: not included in average.