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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 15, 1947, 3 p.m.- The fifth 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 eighth 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 weather during the past two weeks has favoured all crops in the Maritime Provinces. Haying is now under way but humid weather in some areas has made curing difficult. Yields generally are good but not as heavy as expected because of a lack of clover. Grains, potatoes and root crops are all promising but the apple prospects in Nova Scotia are variable. Haying has commenced throughout Quebec but hot, humid weather is delaying operations. Favourable growing weather during the past two weeks has promoted good growth of grain crops and pastures, but continued hot weather is required by the cereals which are late. Some acreage in the upper St. Lawrence River counties remains unseeded as a result of the late spring.

In Ontario, heavy rains during the past week have improved the outlook for grain and pasture crops throughout much of the province. Excessive rainfall in the extreme eastern counties caused some damage to crops and delayed haying. An acute labour shortage is also hampering the hay harvest. Fall wheat and rye are now turning colour and promise good yields with harvesting expected to become general during the last ten days of July. Tobacco is growing well but corn is late and slow in developing. Spring grains still vary greatly in condition, and with acreage much reduced production is expected to be considerably below normal.

Above-normal temperatures throughout the Prairie Provinces since our last report have promoted rapid growth, but in areas where moisture reserves are deficient the crops have deteriorated. This applies particularly to south-west, west-central and northern parts of Saskatchewan, and to south-eastern Alberta. Rains are urgently needed in these areas. Elsewhere in the Prairies good to excellent prospects have been maintained. Extremely hot weather over most of Manitoba has promoted rapid growth of all crops during the past ten days. Wheat and coarse grains are heading, with up to 50 per cent of the wheat crop headed in southern and central areas. Flood damage has proven to be considerable along the Assiniboine Valley and in the Dauphin area but fortunately the acreage involved is not great. Pastures and hay crops vary from good to excellent over the greater part of the province. The crop outlook generally in Manitoba remains very good, although more rain will be needed to bring crops to full maturity. Excellent growth has been maintained in southern and most of the central districts of Saskatchewan. Continued drought in northern areas, however, has further reduced prospects and large areas there anticipate only poor to fair returns. Rains are urgently needed in the south-west and west-central areas to carry the crop. Considerable local hail damage is reported in widely scattered areas from storms July 4, 6, 10 and 11. Wheat is about 33 per cent in head compared with over 50 per cent at this time last year. Hot, dry weather over most of Alberta during the past two weeks has caused some deterioration of crops, particularly in the south-east. Scattered showers and some heavy local rains in the northern districts were exceptions to the general pattern of weather over the province. Moisture reserves are still satisfactory in most districts but in the south-eastern districts crops on stubble land are reported to be burned. Rain is urgently needed in these districts and will be needed in all districts to support the relatively heavy stands. The warm weather caused rapid crop growth and wheat is heading out in all districts,

although coarse grains are not as far advanced over the province as a whole. Haying is general in the south and will become general in the central districts shortly.

In British Columbia, moisture supplies are generally satisfactory. A limited area of winter barley has been cut and yields are better than average. Picking of loganberries is well advanced and early varieties of plums and apples are now being harvested. In spite of heavy losses from splitting, shipments of cherries have exceeded early estimates.

Maritime Provinces - Present weather conditions favour all plant growth and cereals, corn, potatoes and root crops are very promising. Haying has commenced, although it is not at present general, and the crop is below average, due to a lack of clover. In the Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia warm, humid weather has interfered considerably with hay making. Yields on new seeded meadows are good but below average on old fields. Pastures are good, generally, but herbage is not as abundant as was expected. The growth of root crops, potatoes, vegetables and grains has been good but the outlook for the apple crop is variable. In Cumberland County there has been good growing weather since the last report and all crops have developed satisfactorily. Early seeded grains promise good yields but the hay crop varies from fair to good because of the lack of clover. In the St. John River Valley of New Brunswick haying has been in progress for about a week. While the crop is later than normal, yields are about average. Pastures, on the other hand, are excellent. Grains, potatoes and other crops are growing well. Picking of the heavy strawberry crop is at the peak and the fruit is of good quality.

Quebec - In the Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere district of Quebec, higher temperatures and good rains have promoted growth of wheat, oats, barley and peas. The crops are clean and are now very promising. An abundant hay crop is being harvested and pastures are in excellent condition. Picking of the strawberry crop has commenced and yields are heavy. In the Lake St. John district, conditions during the past two weeks have favoured good growth of all crops. A very heavy hay crop is looked for and pastures are excellent. Cereal crops in the area are now up seven inches. At Lennoxville the hot, humid weather has been good for growth but made haying difficult. Pastures, silage corn and grains are now growing rapidly but continued heat is necessary for the grain crops. In the upper St. Lawrence River counties, haying is under way but hot, humid weather has delayed operations. Seeding continued into the first week of July in the Laprairie and St. John districts but had to be abandoned when haying commenced. Some sections report large acreages unseeded but in other areas seeding was pretty well completed.

Ontario - Heavy rains during the last week were beneficial to hay and pasture crops throughout most of the province. In the extreme eastern counties precipitation was excessive and caused some damage to crops, as well as checking haying operations. The acute shortage of labour on farms is also delaying haying. Fall wheat and fall rye are turning colour and promise good yields with harvesting becoming general during the last ten days of July. The tobacco crop is growing well, but corn is late and developing slowly. Spring grains vary greatly in condition and are now heading out in western and central Ontario. Pastures are in good condition, although some pasture land is very wet in eastern Ontario. Haying is commencing in northern Ontario with only fair yields indicated.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Chatham reports all crops to be progressing favourably but considerable insect damage is indicated to alsike and other clovers. Early sweet corn is heavily infested with the European corn borer. Harrow reports that recent showers have improved the crop in south-western Ontario. At the present time the canning tomato crop is good. Tobacco in this area is stated to be fairly good but corn and soy bean crops are late. All late crops will require hot weather with occasional good rains to produce average yields this year. Our reporter at Pelee Island states the condition of soy beans and tobacco is just fair with periodical rains needed to ensure satisfactory growth.

Our Barrie correspondent reports haying under way, but greatly delayed during the last week by heavy rainfall. Approximately half of the farmers are short of help and making very slow headway with haying. Spring grain crops are uneven but have benefited by recent rains. Our correspondent states that present prospects are for only half a spring crop. Corn and potatoes are doing well but much later than normal.

In Northumberland County prospects have improved but grain yields will vary from good to nil on wet soils. Canning peas are being vined with yields of around half a ton per acre. Apples promise to yield 25 per cent better than last

year. Some hail damage has occurred. A heavy hay crop is available but there is little help to take it off. Our correspondent at Morrisburg reports that grain crops are spotty. A large acreage has been sown to late buckwheat. Corn is good on high land but the low-lying areas are still wet and growth and colour of the crop are poor. Hay prospects are good but wet weather is hampering the harvest. A report from the Dominion Experimental Station at Kapuskasing indicates that crops there need rain very badly. Cereals are very late and the hay crop is light and short with the grass just coming into flower. Pastures are very poor.

Manitoba - Hot, dry weather over the greater part of the province has brought crops along rapidly since the last report. In southern and central areas approximately half of the wheat has headed and growth is generally excellent. Considerable local damage has been reported due to the floods along the Assiniboine River and in the Dauphin area.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Morden in the south-central part of the province reports crop progress to be favourable with wheat and barley filling and oats heading. The warm weather of the past week has hastened growth of all crops and condition of corn and sunflowers has improved. The hay crop is good and pastures are excellent with moisture supplies adequate for the present. Crop prospects here are good. Melita in the south-west also reports good prospects with 50 per cent of the wheat headed and a good proportion of the flax crop in bloom. Rye is filling well and has turned colour. Wild hay and pastures are excellent. Crops on the whole are still considered to be about ten days late. At Portage la Prairie in the central part of the province 40 per cent of the wheat is in head with a slightly above-normal crop in prospect. Early peas are in bloom and show good prospects on a slightly increased acreage. The condition of barley and oats is good. Infestations of cutworms and weeds are bad and moisture will be needed within one week. Hot weather is causing rapid growth.

The Dominion Experimental Station at Brandon reports that the high temperatures of the past week have caused rapid development of grain crops with wheat now 25 per cent headed and coarse grain 15 per cent headed. The flax crops have yellowed due to excessive moisture and are showing only slow recovery. A trace of leaf rust has been noted on the crops of Thatcher wheat. Prospects, generally, remain favourable. Similar prospects prevail in the Woodnorth area west of Brandon although considerable loss from flooding is reported in adjoining districts. Hay and pastures in this area are good.

At Teulon, in the north-central area two weeks of sunny, hot weather have advanced crops considerably and all early wheat, oats and barley are in head. A better than average crop is expected providing conditions remain favourable. Haying started about July 7 and is now quite general with a good crop anticipated. In the north-western portions of the province the intense heat of the last ten days has also brought early crops into the heading stage, with 15 per cent of the early wheat and 10 per cent of the early barley now headed. The later crops that were damaged by floods are now bleaching. Approximately 15 per cent of the late crops in the Dauphin area are reported being ploughed under. Many flooded gardens have had to be reseeded. Forty per cent of the flax is now in the flowering stage. Our correspondent at Selkirk reports wheat fully headed with barley 20 per cent in head. One-third of the flax crop is in the flowering stage. The grain crops here are very weedy. Haying has commenced with prospects of an excellent crop.

No insect damage of importance has been reported recently. Average precipitation since April 1 has been 6 per cent above normal as compared with 21 per cent above normal on June 30. Mean precipitation for the week ending July 14 this year was approximately 8 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan - Above-normal temperature has brought crops on rapidly during the last two weeks and excellent growth is maintained over most southern and central districts. Rains are now urgently required to carry the crop in the south-west where subsoil moisture conditions were below normal and in the Saskatoon to Kerrobert area. Except for local showers, drought conditions in the northern areas continue and only poor to fair returns are anticipated. Over the province as a whole, about 75 per cent of wheat has reached the shot blade stage with approximately 33 per cent in head as compared with over 50 per cent headed out at this time last year.

Indian Head reports all crops making excellent progress with early-sown wheat in full head. Hay crops in this area are good and stock is in good condition with pastures holding up well. Hot, dry weather has caused deterioration in the area

south and west of Swift Current where most grain fields are in head and flax is 50 per cent in bloom. Val Marie reports early wheat filling satisfactorily but later fields suffering and flax stands thin. Extreme heat has caused rapid deterioration in the area from Hanley to Outlook but other central areas appear to be maintaining a relatively favourable condition with prospects fair to good.

Coarse grains at Prince in the north-west are poor to fair. The wheat crop is somewhat better and is 90 per cent headed out but rain is urgently required to maintain present prospects. Further deterioration due to drought has taken place over the area between North Battleford and Prince Albert.

Melfort reports light hay yields and all grain crops heading. These crops are thin and further rains will not greatly benefit the crop situation now. It is expected that yields will be well below the average for the district.

The Entomological Laboratory at Saskatoon reports some grasshopper damage prevalent in the south-west where considerable bait has already been spread and that local outbreaks are found in the Maymont-Richard area and between Saskatoon and Rosthern. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 is now 7 per cent below normal as compared with normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 14 was 10 degrees above normal.

Alberta - Some deterioration of crop prospects in Alberta occurred during the past two weeks, particularly in the south-east, as a result of hot, dry weather. Widely scattered showers were inadequate to maintain moisture supplies and with well above normal temperatures in most districts, moisture reserves were significantly depleted. Scattered showers and heavy local rains in the northern districts were exceptions to the general pattern. The warm weather has hastened development of the crop and wheat is reported heading out in all districts. Coarse grains are not as far advanced although some fields are in head. Fall rye and winter wheat is reported ripening in southern Alberta. Haying is general in the south and is expected to be general in the central districts shortly. Yields are fair to good. Heavy damage to crops occurred from severe hail storms in townships forty-eight to fifty-two across the province, and in localities in the west-central districts. Little change is reported in the insect situation.

In the south-east marked deterioration of crops has occurred. Weather has been very hot and dry and stubble crops are badly burned. Rain is urgently needed to maintain prospects for crops on summerfallow. Irrigation farmers in the southern districts are using as much water as possible on crops. In the Claresholm area moisture reserves are reported sufficient for the present, with the crop in very healthy condition and above average yields anticipated. Wheat in this area is fifty per cent headed while coarse grains range from forty to sixty per cent in head.

The weather has been warm and dry in the east-central districts and some crops are starting to burn at the bottom. Crops have made rapid growth and are about fifty per cent headed. Rain is needed to support the heavy growth. Pasture conditions are indicated as good.

The crop outlook in west-central Alberta continues to be favourable. Warm weather is forcing crops and stands are heavy. Practically all wheat is heading out in the vicinity of Calgary and early barley fields are in head. Our Donalds correspondent reports wheat all in head and coarse grains heading very short. Farther north in the Edmonton area wheat stands are about fifteen inches in height and nearly fifty per cent headed, while oats and barley have not started to head as yet. Scattered showers and some heavy local rains maintained crop prospects in the northern districts. In the north-west, late crops show improvement from further showers.

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

British Columbia - In British Columbia weather conditions during the past two weeks have been variable. Moisture supplies are generally satisfactory, throughout the province with the exception of the Peace River district where crop prospects are none too good owing to spotty rainfall during the growing season. Harvesting of winter grains will be general within the next ten days and spring cereals are now heading out. Haying is in progress but the weather has not been too favourable. Yields for the most part, however, have been good. On Vancouver Island, root crops and corn benefited greatly from recent rains. A limited acreage of winter barley has been harvested and yields are better than average. Picking of loganberries is well advanced and early varieties of apples and plums are starting to move. On the lower mainland, cool weather and showers have greatly improved grass conditions on cattle ranges. In the Okanagan Valley the weather has been ideal for all crops. In spite of rain damage, cherry shipments have exceeded earlier estimates and the cucumber and tomato crops are better than expected. In the Prince George district excessive rainfall continues to delay cereal growth. Haying has been interrupted by frequent showers and the clover seed crop prospects are only fair.

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. July 14	
		8 a.m. July 14	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.52	8.60	6.78	74	66
	Melita	.70	12.08	8.68	72	67
	Waskada	.28	6.00	7.69	72	67
2	Boissevain	.08	9.33	6.81	72	66
	Ninette	.14	7.10	7.43	72	67
	Pilot Mound	.06	5.27 2/	7.97	74	67
3	Portage la Prairie	.10	6.04	7.09	76	65
	Grayville	trace	7.04	7.77	76	66
	Morden	.59	6.53	7.49	74	67
	Morris	.90	6.96	7.10	74	67
	Emerson	.56	7.86	6.66	74	67
4	Winnipeg	.32	6.65	7.95	75	67
6	Sprague	.50	9.04	7.84	72	65
	Pinawa	Nil	3.32	5.70	72	65
7	Virden	.60	11.10	6.29	76	64
	Rivers	.49	8.58	7.11	74	65
8	Brandon	.46	6.88	7.15	73	65
	Cypress River	.40	5.88	7.01	74	66
9	Minnedosa	.66	8.16	7.04	74	65
	Neepawa	.13	5.36	7.04	75	65
10	Russell	Nil	6.99	6.75	74	63
	Birtle	.28	11.06	6.95	N.R.	63
11	Dauphin	.03	8.82	5.96	76	64
12	Gimli	.19	6.73	7.66	74	66
13	Swan River	.12	6.59	6.99	75	63
	The Pas	.70	4.37	5.28	75	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.34	7.48	7.08	73.9	65.5
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.28	8.02	6.85	76	66
	Carlyle	.50	8.78	7.28	70	64
1B	Broadview	.24	8.74	6.32	71	64
	Moosomin	.68	13.37	6.15	75	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.84	6.09	6.62	75	65
	Midale	.38	5.37	7.34	72	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.43	6.50	6.80	76	67
	Regina	1.13	7.12	6.76	74	64
	Francis	.58	6.08	5.78	70	64
	Qu'Appelle	.64	8.65	7.96	72	65
	Indian Head	.38	9.10	7.77	74	64
3AS	Assiniboia	1.28	11.85	5.85	72	65
	Ceylon	N.R.	9.08 2/	8.34	N.R.	66
3AN	Chaplin	.46	8.50	7.10	75	65
	Gravelbourg	.90	7.16	6.07	72	65
3BS	Instow	.20	5.86	5.97	74	65
	Shaunavon	.50	5.84	5.79	75	64
	Cadillac	N.R.	5.45 2/	8.10	N.R.	64
	Val Marie	.80	6.12	6.40	71	66
	Aneroid	1.30	7.34	6.91	74	64
3BN	Pennant	Nil	6.49	7.25	74	65
	Swift Current	.20	5.74	6.79	74	64
	Hughton	Nil	3.03	6.18	73	64
4A	Maple Creek	.38	5.28	6.56	73	64
	Consul	.06	3.14	5.60	68	62
4B	Roadene	Nil	6.01	6.19	74	64
5A	Leross	.30	6.20	6.87	70	63
	Yorkton	Trace	6.71	6.52	75	62
5B	Dafoe	.26	4.39	6.00	74	63
	Foam Lake	.60	7.22	6.42	74	62
	Lintlaw	.38	5.58	6.53	72	62
	Kamsack	.10	7.09	5.80	74	63
6A	Davidson	1.32	6.30	5.55	73	65
	Dilke	.74	4.11	5.04	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.58	3.58	4.40	76	63
	Strasbourg	1.26	7.18	6.34	73	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.69 2/	6.12	N.R.	64
	Outlook	Nil	5.52	4.35	76	63
	Saskatoon	.03	3.85	5.79	77	63
	Elbow	.01	5.39	5.66	N.R.	64
	Dundurn	.04	5.02	6.82	76	64
	Tugaske	.32	6.60	5.62	74	64
7A	Kindersley	.06	3.31	5.23	74	63
	Rosetown	Trace	4.03	6.30	N.R.	63
7B	Macklin	.02	3.82	6.37	71	60
	Scott	.10	3.92	5.65	71	62
	Ruthilda	N.R.	3.18 2/	6.29	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.12	4.17	5.32	76	63

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

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m. July 14	
		8 a.m. July 14	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN (Con.)</u>						
8A	Nipawin	.24	2.48	6.72	76	62
	Hudson Bay Junction	.51	7.43	6.41	73	64
8B	Humboldt	.50	3.90	5.37	74	63
	Melfort	.65	3.05	5.98	75	63
9A	North Battleford	.18	2.27	6.14	74	65
	Rabbit Lake	N.R.	3.15 2/	6.17	N.R.	62
	Prince Albert	.06	2.12	6.17	76	64
9B	Waseca	.80	4.00 2/	6.12	72	61
	Island Falls	.10	4.70	6.14	71	65
<u>SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE</u>		.41	5.88	6.30	73.5	63.8
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Foremost	Nil	6.56	7.71	74	68
	Winnifred	Nil	6.22	5.14	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.03	6.16	5.69	74	68
	Maheyberries	.06	3.15 2/	5.83	72	68
2	Cowley	.05	5.78	7.35	65	61
	Macleod	Nil	9.84	6.40	70	66
	Cardston	Nil	5.64	9.77	69	65
	Lethbridge	Trace	8.73	6.64	71	65
3	Vauxhall	Nil	5.63	5.26	70	67
	Brooks	Nil	7.86	5.39	72	69
	Empress	Trace	2.16 2/	6.03	70	62
4	Vulcan	.12	7.06	6.88	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	Nil	4.63 2/	6.88	72	68
	Hanna	Nil	3.92	7.48	72	65
6	Olds	.08	7.06	7.01	66	60
	Calgary	.15	7.29	7.48	67	62
	Three Hills	.62	5.65	6.36	66	61
	Strathmore	Nil	4.92 2/	6.68	65	62
	Gleichen	Nil	5.03	6.05	69	62
7	Viking	N.R.	2.85 2/	5.80	N.R.	60
	Sedgewick	.20	4.56	6.18	69	60
	Hardisty	.68	4.97	6.29	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.04	4.78	5.51	70	63
	Hughenden	.24	3.68	6.03	72	66
8	Red Deer	.11	8.83	8.67	66	59
	Lacombe	N.R.	7.24 2/	7.45	N.R.	60
	Wetaskiwin	.94	6.04	6.90	67	61
	Camrose	N.R.	3.99 2/	6.67	N.R.	62
	Stettler	.06	4.68	7.61	67	60
9	Jasper	.08	4.67	3.55	60	59
	Rocky Mountain House	.75	9.03	7.72	64	60
	Springdale	.22	7.07 2/	8.55	62	59
10	Vegreville	1.86	6.72	7.63	N.R.	60
	Vermilion	1.46	5.27	7.15	67	61
	Lloydminster	.94	4.17	5.61	N.R.	61
11	Edmonton	.82	6.43	7.10	66	62
12	Whitecourt	.10	5.85	7.09	61	60
	Edson	1.86	7.09	6.70	58	58
13	Elk Point	.76	4.36	6.17	67	61
14	Campsie	.36	7.60	7.08	62	60
	Athabaska	.20	4.54 2/	6.27	65	61
	Lac La Biche	.62	7.43	6.36	68	61
15	High Prairie	N.R.	5.30 2/	6.24	N.R.	61
	Kinuso	1.30	2.93 2/	6.13	58	61
	Wagner	.68	6.25	6.48	59	62
16	Beaverlodge	1.26	5.66	5.17	57	60
	Grande Prairie	.68	3.60	6.17	58	60
	Fairview	.53	4.48 2/	4.59	58	60
17	Fort St. John	Trace	3.52	6.16	59	62
<u>ALBERTA AVERAGE</u>		.39	6.04	6.58	66.0	62.3

N.R. - No Report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

2/ - Incomplete: not included in average.

NOTE: Omitted from above -

4	High River	Trace	10.02 2/	7.94	64	61
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