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Dominion Statistician: Herbert Marshall.

Director, Agricultural Division: J. B. Rutherford.

Chief, Crop Branch: W. D. Porter

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 22, 1947, 3 p.m.- The sixth 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 ninth 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

With adequate moisture and warmer weather the outlook for most crops in the Maritimes is very promising. Haying is under way and yields generally are good. Early-sown grains are heading out and potato fields in commercial areas are in bloom. Root crops are also developing well.

According to reports from Quebec, nearly 40 per cent of the hay crop has been harvested. On the whole, the yield is fairly satisfactory. With a few exceptions the growth of grain has been very rapid during the past two weeks and it is anticipated that the cereal crop will be better than earlier forecasts indicated. Pasture growth is abundant. Vegetables are making good progress and fruits are sizing well. A splendid crop of strawberries has been picked, although excessive moisture caused some softening of the fruit.

In Ontario, rain during the past week has revived pastures but has retarded haying operations and in some cases has caused spoiling. Generally speaking, yields are only fair. In some areas the fall wheat harvest is getting under way with good yields indicated. Early oats and barley have headed. Late crops, including tobacco, have benefited from recent rains and are making good growth. Spring grain prospects in eastern Ontario are very poor. Farm labour continues scarce.

The over-all crop outlook in the Prairie Provinces has deteriorated somewhat during the past week. While conditions throughout Manitoba and northern and north-central portions of Alberta have been well maintained, the high temperatures and dry weather of the last two weeks have considerably extended the margins of the seriously moisture deficient areas in Saskatchewan and in south-eastern and east-central Alberta. Timely rains could, however, materially alleviate the situation in many of the dry sections where deterioration has not proceeded too far. Generally satisfactory crop conditions have been maintained in Manitoba with most grains now headed. Cooler weather has relieved the moisture situation but rains would be welcome over all the province to promote filling. An occasional field of fall rye will be harvested in the south before the end of the month and excellent progress is being made with the heavy hay crop. Corn, potatoes and other row crops are in good condition. Damage to the crops from hail and insects has been very light to date. Continued high temperatures with dry weather have caused considerable deterioration of crops in Saskatchewan. The severe drought area in the northern districts now extends well into the north half of west-central Saskatchewan. With 75 to 80 per cent of the wheat in head good prospects are maintained in south-eastern, east-central and in the southern part of south-central districts. Favourable conditions are also reported for the area east of Last Mountain Lake and in the Sceptre area. Elsewhere conditions are now only fair to poor. Crop conditions in Alberta are somewhat less favourable than a week ago. Continued hot, dry weather over most of the province has caused further deterioration of the crops in the south-eastern and east-central districts, while moisture supplies in the central districts are being rapidly depleted. Showers and good rains, particularly in the north-western district, have maintained moisture supplies across the northern growing areas, and crop conditions in the Peace River district are much improved. Wheat averages about 75 per cent in head, while coarse grains are about 45 per cent headed. Haying is general with fair yields reported. No significant insect infestation has been reported, but hailstorms in the north-east and the extreme south-west caused some damage during the week.

Moisture supplies are generally satisfactory throughout British Columbia. Haying is nearly completed and harvesting of fall grains has commenced. Spring grains are headed out and in southern districts are changing colour. Second cut alfalfa is developing rapidly. Apricots are moving to market in volume, but raspberries are past the peak.

Maritime Provinces - The weather in Prince Edward Island during the first half of the month was very dry but crops have not suffered unduly. Cereals are beginning to head and potatoes are coming into bloom. The prospects for this crop are very promising. Development of root crops is normal at present and pastures are above average. In Nova Scotia favourable rains and heat have greatly improved crop prospects. Haying is under way and reports of yields vary from light to heavy. All early plantings of potatoes, grains and root crops are developing well, but there is some uncertainty as to whether late-seeded crops will mature satisfactorily. The strawberry crop, although spotty, was about 25 per cent larger than that of last year. A report from the Annapolis Valley states that haying is in full swing and that yields are average. Early-sown grains are headed out and hoed crops are looking well. A great improvement in crop prospects in New Brunswick has taken place since mid-June. Haying began in the northern part of the province about July 15, and yields are heavy. In southern and south-eastern sections, the outlook is less favourable but a fair average crop is looked for. Grain fields, chiefly oats, are late but promise satisfactory yields. Root crops are also growing well. Potatoes in the counties of Victoria and Restigouche are extremely late. In other sections, fields are growing vigorously and average crops are anticipated.

Quebec - At July 19 it was estimated that nearly 40 per cent of a fairly satisfactory hay crop had been harvested in Quebec, and with few exceptions it was anticipated that the cereal crop would be better than earlier forecasts indicated. At Normandin in the Lake St. John area, haying is under way with yields excellent on new seeding and medium on old meadows. Recent growth of cereals has been rapid with height now ranging between 10 and 15 inches. Pastures are good and potatoes in the Chicoutimi area are excellent. At Lennoxville 10 per cent of a good hay crop has been harvested although weather conditions have been variable. Pastures, corn and potatoes are good. At St. John, the agricultural situation has displayed marked improvement during the last two weeks. Hay crops and pastures are very good. Vegetable crops are progressing but they are late for the season. The canning pea crop of this district has been greatly reduced due to excess rain and aphids. At Hemmingford, good hay crops are reported although the harvesting weather is unsatisfactory due to heavy showers. Acreages of grain have been greatly reduced and the anticipated yields are poor. The corn crop is only fair and the acreage is below average. The apple crop is expected to be small and the quality low due to the prevalence of scab. At L'Assomption frequent rains have delayed haying operations. Grain crops are generally poor and hay crops are only fair. Tobacco crops have improved considerably and pastures are excellent.

Ontario - Frequent rains in Ontario during the past week have delayed haying operations and in some instances caused spoiling. Fall wheat harvesting is getting under way with good yields indicated. Spring grain prospects in eastern Ontario are very poor.

Around Chatham recent rains have revived crops and heavy grain and hay crops are indicated. Fall wheat cutting is under way and yield prospects are good. Some hail damage was reported on tobacco in Dover township. According to the Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Chatham, sweet clover weevil has caused considerable damage in a large number of fields of seedling sweet clover and onion thrips and leaf hopper on white beans are developing dangerous populations. From Pelee Island comes the report that soy beans and tobacco indicate a light crop this year. Incessant rainfall in the Walkerton district has delayed haying for more than a week and large quantities of hay have been spoiled. Grain crops are making satisfactory growth but are late. It is estimated that the yield of wheat will be below average. Corn and root crops are making satisfactory progress. Flax looks good but late peas are suffering from attacks of aphids.

In the area around London, frequent showers have delayed haying seriously but have provided moisture for other crops. The fall wheat harvest is expected to be general within the next 10 days. Oats are well headed and some good fields are reported. Beans, corn and sugar beets are doing well although they are quite late. Pastures are good for July.

Haying is well under way in the Barrie district but scattered showers have seriously interrupted the harvest. The crop, in general, is fair. Spring grains are heading out on short straw in some cases but rains should help materially. Fall wheat on well drained soil should yield well.

Manitoba - Crop conditions throughout the province remain satisfactory. The major part of the grain crops is headed with seed wheat especially showing heavy and uniform stands. Much of the flax crop is in flower or setting. The late feed crops are generally less satisfactory. In the south an occasional fall rye field will be harvested before the end of the month. While the return to normal temperatures has relieved the moisture situation, rain would be welcome over all the province. Excellent progress is being made with the heavy hay crop, while corn, potatoes and other row crops are doing well.

At Morden, in the southern part of the province, crops are reported to be progressing favourably with wheat, oats, barley and flax filling. Some early barley is beginning to turn colour. While moisture conditions are fair, crops will require further moisture to complete filling. In the East Selkirk area, extreme heat early last week may have damaged early headed barley and oats but in general all crops are developing rapidly. Rye is turning and promises a good yield. Moisture conditions are excellent and the harvesting of a bumper hay crop is proceeding rapidly. Potatoes are coming into full bloom. In the area around Melita in the south-west, all crops are progressing favourably. Sub-soil moisture reserves appear to be sufficient but rains would now be beneficial. Grain crops are filling well.

In the Brandon area the somewhat lower temperatures of the past week have been favourable for the filling of wheat which is practically all headed. Coarse grain is now about 75 per cent headed and rain will be required in some districts shortly to prevent deterioration of the heavy crops. The flax crop is variable but some good fields are in evidence. Loose smut is very prevalent in barley. At Teulon in the north-central area some of the barley crops have been considerably damaged by extreme heat. Wheat and oats remain fairly good with some oat fields being extremely weedy and only light yields anticipated. In this section crops are generally uneven and cooler weather and rain will be required to fill the grain properly. Haying is in full swing with good to heavy stands.

Our Neepawa correspondent reports crops to be in excellent condition although 70 per cent was seeded late. More moisture is now required. Fall rye is beginning to ripen and the hay crop is termed excellent. The Shoal Lake area crops are generally very good although late. Fallow crops promise 20 per cent above average yields but showers are needed. Summerfallows have been reworked but mustard here is unusually bad and none has been sprayed due to the earlier rains. Tame hay yields are good except on old stands.

No insect infestations are reported other than a localized outbreak of beet web worm which has caused damage to some fields of sugar beets in the Portage la Prairie area. Light hailstorms occurred at Souris and Dominion City. Average precipitation since April 1 has been one per cent below normal as compared with six per cent above normal on July 14. Mean temperature for the week ending July 21 this year was approximately normal.

Saskatchewan - The severe drought area in the northern districts of Saskatchewan now extends well into the north half of the west-central districts. Marked deterioration has taken place as far south as the Goose Lake Line and prospects have been generally reduced in central and south-west areas due to extremely high temperatures with little rain. The Provincial Department of Agriculture reports that good prospects are maintained in the Regina-Weyburn, east-central, south-eastern and in the southern part of south-central districts; also that favourable conditions are found east of Last Mountain Lake and in the Sceptre area. Elsewhere deterioration has been general and crop conditions range from fair to very poor. Harvesting of fall rye will become general during the next week or ten days with most districts reporting a fair crop.

Wheat in the Yorkton area is almost all headed and stands are good. Coarse grains are well advanced into the heading stage but stands are less uniformly good than those of wheat. Willowbrook reports need of rain to fill crops. The Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports 75 to 80 per cent of wheat headed and stands heavy. The hay crop in this area is better than average. At Fillmore wheat is about 65 per cent headed and rain is needed to mature late-sown crops, especially coarse grains, which are now starting to burn.

Swift Current reports that the rye crop is fairly well filled and ripening fast with prospects of a better than average yield. Flax has deteriorated during the dry, hot weather. Wheat on clean fallow shows prospects of an average crop but stubble fields and weedy fallow have been burned quite badly during the hot, dry spell. Val Marie also reports heat damage with wheat ripening fast and the flax crop suffering badly.

Crop conditions in central Saskatchewan are quite variable. All crops are burning badly at Hanley and immediate rains are needed to insure more than feed and seed. A report from Drake indicates that some rye fields are now ready to swath;

wheat is 80 per cent headed, but the moisture reserve is poor, hence further rains are urgently needed for good filling. Hay in this area has only made a fair crop.

Summerfallow crops in the Rosetown area are fair but stubble crops are badly in need of moisture. The Dominion Experimental Station at Scott reports that flax is holding somewhat better than the cereal crops which have continued to deteriorate during the past week. This report states that except for some smaller areas all grain yields north of township 34 will be light. Some rain has fallen in the Melfort area. This will help considerably in filling out grain. All indications for this area point to the lightest harvest in ten years. Feed reserves will be short due to a very light hay crop.

Considerable further local hail damage is reported from storms on July 11 at Mankota, Limerick, Melaval, Ponteix, Cardross, Mossbank, Assiniboia, Glen Bain, Vanguard, Kandahar and Wilcox. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 11.5 per cent below normal as compared with 7 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 21 was 1 degree above normal.

Alberta - With only light scattered showers in most districts during the past week crop prospects in Alberta are less favourable than a week ago. Hot, dry weather in south-eastern and east-central Alberta caused further deterioration of crops and rain is urgently needed, particularly over the eastern and south-eastern districts. Conditions are still fair to good in most areas but burning is reported from the south-eastern third of the province. Conditions are more favourable in the north-central and northern districts, and in the north-west, good general rains were received during the week. Wheat averages about 75 per cent in head with coarse grains 45 per cent headed over the province as a whole. Haying is now general with fair yields and good quality. Hailstorms were reported in the north-central and north-eastern districts and in the extreme south-west during the week. No significant insect infestation has developed as yet.

Hot, dry weather of the past two weeks has materially reduced prospective yields in the south-eastern districts and rain is urgently needed for filling. Harvesting of fall rye has commenced in the Manyberries area with yield prospects only fair. In the Medicine Hat area, wheat is reported ninety per cent headed and oats and barley 70 to 80 per cent in head, with the rye harvest expected to begin next week. In the south-western districts the crop situation is generally satisfactory, and irrigated crops are reported as favourable. Our Claresholm correspondent reports all grains headed with indications of above-average yield.

Crop conditions in central Alberta are variable. Prospects in the west-central districts are generally favourable but rain is needed to replenish moisture supplies which are rapidly being depleted. Wheat has practically all headed while coarse grains are heading out. Late-sown crops in most areas require rain. In the east-central districts, rain is needed immediately to check further deterioration. All early grain in the vicinity of Sedgewick is headed out with short heads and rain is needed for filling. From Edmonton, hot, dry weather is reported to be forcing crops too rapidly.

Crop prospects in northern Alberta were maintained during the week as a result of showers and good rains in some districts. Considerable improvement in conditions was recorded in the north-western district where further general rains occurred this week.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal as compared with 8 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 21 was approximately 1 degree above normal.

British Columbia - Apart from a severe thunderstorm followed by heavy showers on the night of July 14, the weather in British Columbia has been fine and decidedly warm in all sections during the past week. Harvesting of fall grains has commenced and will be general in about a week's time. Haying is now nearing completion. Oats generally are headed out and in southern districts are commencing to turn colour. Apricots are now moving in volume and raspberries are past the peak. Potato and vegetable crops are very promising. Our reporter in the Fraser Valley states that moisture supplies in that area are adequate for crop growth. Pastures are good and some second crop hay is being cut. Grain crops are also satisfactory. Early-sown oats and barley are turning colour and winter grains are ripening. In the northern Okanagan Valley a heavy crop of fall wheat is ripening rapidly. Coarse spring grains are promising and second growth alfalfa is coming on quickly after recent rains.

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES - 1947

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 3 a.m. July 21	
		8 a.m. July 21	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.03	8.63	7.26	65	67
	Melita	Trace	12.08	9.26	66	68
	Waskada	1.82	7.82	8.24	64	68
2	Boissevain	.35	9.68	7.28	65	66
	Ninette	.04	7.14	7.88	65	67
	Pilot Mound	.22	5.49 2/	8.54	66	67
3	Portage la Prairie	.32	6.36	7.67	69	66
	Graysville	.70	7.74	8.33	69	67
	Morden	.06	6.59	8.03	68	67
	Morris	.14	7.10	7.67	66	67
	Emerson	.06	7.92	7.26	N.R.	67
4	Winnipeg	Trace	6.65	8.65	67	68
6	Sprague	.48	9.52	8.48	66	66
	Pinawa	.24	3.56	6.25	66	65
7	Virden	Nil	11.10	6.71	67	64
	Rivers	.02	8.60	7.66	66	66
8	Brandon	Nil	6.88	7.71	65	66
	Cypress River	.18	6.06	7.59	66	66
9	Minnedosa	Nil	8.16	7.60	64	65
	Neepawa	Trace	5.36	7.60	67	65
10	Russell	Nil	6.99	7.28	64	64
	Birtle	N.R.	11.06 2/	7.60	N.R.	64
11	Dauphin	.08	8.90	6.54	64	65
12	Gimli	.16	6.89	8.21	65	66
13	Swan River	.10	6.69	7.61	68	64
	The Pas	.31	4.68	5.81	66	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.21	7.55	7.64	66	66
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Estevan	.22	8.24	7.26	67	66
	Carlyle	Nil	8.88	7.84	63	64
1B	Broadview	Nil	8.74	6.93	64	64
	Moosomin	Nil	13.37	6.55	66	66
2A	Yellow Grass	Nil	6.09	7.05	64	65
	Midale	Nil	5.37	7.92	65	66
2B	Moose Jaw	Nil	6.85	7.21	69	67
	Regina	Trace	7.12	7.21	66	64
	Francis	Nil	6.08	6.11	62	65
	Qu'Appelle	Trace	8.65	8.54	65	65
	Indian Head	.01	9.11	8.31	65	64
3AS	Assinibois	Trace	11.85	6.20	66	66
	Ceylon	N.R.	9.08 2/	8.88	N.R.	66
3AN	Chaplin	Trace	8.50	7.57	63	66
	Gravelbourg	Trace	7.16	6.22	67	66
3BS	Instow	N.R.	5.86 2/	6.35	N.R.	66
	Shaunavon	Nil	5.84	6.26	68	64
	Cadillac	N.R.	5.45 2/	8.35	N.R.	64
	Val Marie	Nil	6.12	6.86	66	66
	Aneroid	Nil	7.34	7.28	67	64
3BN	Pennant	Nil	6.49	7.54	67	65
	Swift Current	.03	5.77	7.30	68	65
	Hughton	N.R.	3.03 2/	6.57	N.R.	64
4A	Maple Creek	Nil	5.28	7.04	66	65
	Consul	.04	3.22	5.93	67	62
4B	Roadene	Trace	6.01	6.58	67	64
5A	Leross	.96	7.16	7.35	67	64
	Yorkton	Trace	6.71	7.13	65	63
5B	Dafoe	Trace	4.39	6.42	66	63
	Foam Lake	Nil	7.22	6.98	67	63
	Lintlaw	Trace	5.58	7.16	62	63
	Kamsack	.02	7.11	6.45	63	64
6A	Davidson	.06	6.45	5.94	66	65
	Dilke	Nil	4.11	5.45	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	Trace	3.58	4.76	66	64
	Strasbourg	.09	7.27	6.76	64	63
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.69 2/	6.54	N.R.	64
	Outlook	.02	5.54	4.75	69	64
	Saskatoon	.05	3.90	6.38	69	64
	Elbow	Nil	5.39	6.02	N.R.	65
	Dundurn	.04	5.06	7.22	67	64
	Tugaske	Trace	6.60	5.99	66	65
7A	Kindersley	Nil	3.31	5.77	N.R.	64
	Rosetown	Trace	4.03	6.81	N.R.	63
7B	Macklin	.10	3.92	6.89	63	61
	Scott	Trace	3.92	6.20	64	62
	Ruthilda	Trace	3.18 2/	6.86	N.R.	N.R.
	Bigger	Nil	4.17	5.93	68	64

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 21	
		8 a.m. July 21	since April 1	since April 1	Mean	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN (cont'd)						
8A	Nipawin	.84	3.32	7.11	67	63
	Hudson Bay Junction.	.03	7.46	7.01	65	64
8B	Humboldt	.04	3.94	5.86	66	63
	Melfort	.96	4.01	6.66	64	64
9A	North Battleford	.20	2.47	6.60	66	65
	Rabbit Lake	.08	3.69	6.80	60	62
	Prince Albert	.06	2.18	6.66	65	64
9B	Waseca	N.R.	4.00 2/	6.59	N.R.	61
	Island Falls	.27	4.97	6.73	63	65
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.08	5.99	6.77	65.6	64.2
ALBERTA						
1	Foremost	Trace	6.56	8.11	68	69
	Winnifred	.04	6.26	5.35	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	Trace	6.16	6.09	71	69
	Manyberries	.02	3.17 2/	6.17	70	69
2	Cowley	.08	5.86	7.61	64	62
	Macleod	.10	9.94	6.84	70	67
	Cardston	.40	6.04	10.22	66	66
	Lethbridge	Trace	8.73	7.01	69	66
3	Vauxhall	N.R.	5.66 2/	5.67	N.R.	68
	Brooks	.06	7.92	5.81	69	69
	Empress	Trace	2.83	6.43	67	70
4	High River	.58	10.60	8.30	62	62
	Vulcan	N.R.	7.06 2/	7.29	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.16	4.79	7.34	69	69
	Hanna	.04	3.96	8.08	66	66
6	Olds	.18	7.24	7.50	62	61
	Calgary	.79	8.08	8.05	63	63
	Three Hills	.26	5.91	6.78	64	61
	Strathmore	.02	4.94 2/	7.07	64	62
7	Gleichen	Nil	5.03	6.55	65	63
	Viking	N.R.	3.49 2/	6.22	N.R.	60
	Sedgewick	.34	4.90	6.75	63	60
	Hardisty	.18	4.65 2/	6.98	N.R.	N.R.
8	Coronation	.15	4.93	5.93 2/	65	63
	Hughenden	.10	3.78	6.58 2/	66	67
	Red Deer	.19	9.02	9.3	62	60
	Lacombe	.02	7.26 2/	8.1	64	61
9	Wetaskiwin	Nil	6.04	7.1	63	62
	Camrose	Trace	4.08 2/	7.1	62	61
	Stettler	.10	4.78	8.24	63	61
	Jasper	.22	4.89	3.85	62	59
10	Rocky Mountain House	.22	9.25	8.16	62	60
	Springdale	.02	7.74	9.29	58	60
	Vegreville	Nil	6.52	8.35	N.R.	60
	Vermilion	.03	5.30	7.97	61	61
11	Lloydminster	.16	4.33	6.16	N.R.	62
	Edmonton	Trace	6.43	7.85	63	62
12	Whitecourt	.40	6.25	7.99	61	61
	Edson	.52	7.61	7.43	60	58
13	Elk Point	Nil	4.36	6.73	64	62
	Campsie	.22	7.82	7.82	60	61
14	Athabaska	.08	4.62 2/	6.95	64	61
	Lac La Biche	.78	8.21	6.92	64	61
	High Prairie	1.02	7.15	6.90	61	61
	Kinuso	N.R.	2.93 2/	6.70	N.R.	61
15	Wagner	.31	6.56	7.25	60	62
	Beaverlodge	2.08	7.74	5.65	61	61
	Grande Prairie	1.95	5.55	6.73	61	61
	Fairview	1.33	5.81 2/	4.91	62	61
16	Fort St. John	.27	3.79	6.72	62	62
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.03	6.38	7.11	63.9	62.9

N.R. - No Report.

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

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