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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 6, 1948, 3 p.m. - The fourth of a series of eight telegraphic reports covering crop conditions throughout Canada is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Included in this report is the seventh of a series of thirteen telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the 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

Seeding is now completed in the Maritime Provinces although all farm operations were considerably delayed by excessive rains early in June. With the advent of warm weather all crops are now growing rapidly. The hay meadows and pastures are excellent in all three provinces and clover is very abundant. The strawberry crop in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will be large but the set of apples in Nova Scotia is irregular with considerable scab in evidence.

Very little rainfall was received throughout Quebec during the past two weeks with the result hay and pastures suffered somewhat. Recent rains, however, have improved conditions considerably. Grain crops are making satisfactory progress and the condition of pastures is now fair to good. Hay making is in progress with fair to good yields. Generally speaking, all industrial market gardens and fruit crops are now in good condition. Yields of strawberries, however, suffered somewhat from dry conditions.

Frequent rains throughout Ontario during the past ten days have greatly benefited all grains and late crops, and good yields are now indicated. Potatoes, vegetable and fruit crops are making excellent progress. The fall wheat crop, which is especially good, is beginning to ripen and early-seeded spring grains are heading out in several districts. Pastures have responded to improved moisture conditions and milk flow is being well maintained. In the southern part of the province tobacco and canning tomato crops are making good growth. While frequent showers have been beneficial to crops, they have interfered rather seriously with weed control and haying. Some hay acreage which was cut has been spoiled and with adverse weather conditions there is urgent need in most areas for additional farm help to save the hay crop.

Crop prospects are generally fair to good in Manitoba, eastern and south-western Saskatchewan and in southern Alberta. Elsewhere over large areas in Saskatchewan and central and northern Alberta conditions are critical due to lack of moisture. Timely rains over the greater part of Manitoba have relieved the moisture shortage and crop prospects are much improved. Stands of

grain are almost uniformly good and early-sown wheat is beginning to head. Hay crops are also good and having operations have commenced. Late-sown flaxseed is patchy due to uneven germination. Grasshopper damage is occurring in the Neepawa and Gladstone districts and also around Wawanesa, Morden and Dominion City. Crop conditions in eastern and south-western Saskatchewan have been fairly well maintained, In other areas deterioration has been quite general. Wheat stands are short with approximately 60 per cent in the shot blade and about 10 per cent in head. The rye crop, however, ranges from fair to good in most districts of the province. Grasshopper damage has been heavy in southcentral, central and west-central districts but the chief cause of the critical crop situation is continued drought. Crops are suffering from drought over most of the central and northern districts of Alberta. Crop prospects continue to be favourable in southern Alberta and as far north as Red Deer in the western sections. Only scattered showers were received during the past week and with warmer weather moisture conditions in central and northern districts are poor. Wheat is in the shot blade in many districts though very short in the dry areas. Insect damage as a whole has been slight with some grasshopper activity being indicated. Scattered hail storms have occurred in central and northern districts.

The weather in British Columbia has been generally fine and warm during the past two weeks. Moisture supplies are adequate in the southern parts of the province but in the Peace River and central-interior areas rain is badly needed. Late-seeded crops in these areas are spotty as a result. Fall wheat is headed out in all districts and is very promising but spring wheat, oats, barley and flaxseed will be below average. Flooding in the Fraser Valley makes crop forecasting in that area difficult, but in the unflooded sections of the Valley good crops are looked for.

Maritime Provinces - Seeding operations have just been completed in Prince Edward Island. The growth of cereal crops is luxuriant and potatoes and turnips, though late, are developing satisfactorily. Hay meadows and pastures are excellent and the percentage of clover and alfalfa is high.

In Nova Scotia much late seeding was done during the latter part of June as the soil was too wet to work earlier in the month. Hay fields and pastures are excellent with clover very abundant. The strawberry crop is good but the set of apples is reported to be patchy with considerable scab in evidence.

In New Brunswick potatoes, grains, roots and vegetables are making rapid growth since the onset of hot weather during the last week in June. The hay crop is expected to be the best in several years and pastures are also satisfactory. The strawberry crop, although late, will be heavy.

Quebec - Crop conditions throughout Quebec during the past two weeks have been fairly uniform with very little rainfall except in the latter part of the period. Pastures and hay crops which were beginning to suffer from low temperatures and lack of rainfall are now recovering under improved growing conditions. Lack of rain has facilitated progress in haying operations and the hay crop is reported as being fair to good. Grain crops which in some areas were almost at a standstill due to dry cool weather during June are now making favourable progress.

A report from the Dominion Experimental Station at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere states that wheat, barley and oats are standing up well under the dry weather and that having is in progress with yields being fair to good. The yield of strawberries was considerably reduced by dry weather, although vegetable crops are in good condition. Prospects for the potato crop in eastern

Quebec are promising and no severe insect infestation is reported.

In the Lake St. John district heavy rainfalls received last week were very beneficial to all crops. Prior to these rains growth was almost negligible due to lack of moisture and unfavourable temperature conditions. Haying is expected to start in the district next week with indications of a fair crop. Growth of spring grains has been slow with grain being only about eight inches high.

Around Lennoxville grain is growing well and pastures are good. The crop situation in the Richelieu Valley is very good, with the canning pea crop especially promising. Corn and cereals are making good progress under recently improved weather conditions. Processing of peas has started and both yield and quality are good. A report from Hemmingford states that haying is well advanced with yields medium to good. The potato crop is good although some blight is reported. Some scab and blight is reported on the apple crop. The Experimental Station at L'Assomption reports that ensiling of green hay is under way and that pastures are in good condition. The tobacco crop has improved greatly and early oats have headed out.

In the western Quebec district, haying commenced during the past week. Cold, dry weather has delayed the growth of hay but, in general, yields are above average. Grain and hoe crops look very promising in the area north of Montreal. In the districts around Three Rivers, St. Hyacinthe and south of Montreal there is a definite shortage of moisture, with grains, hoe crops and fibre flax suffering. Harvesting of canning peas has started in the Montreal region and yields are good.

Ontario - Crop prospects in Ontario have been further improved by frequent heavy rains during the latter part of June and the first days of July. All grain and late crops, with the exception of corn, have benefited greatly and barring unusual developments good yields are indicated. In the Barrie district growth has been exceptional and prospects have improved as much as fifty per cent during the past two weeks. Potatoes, vegetables and fruits have also made rapid progress under favourable growing conditions. Early-seeded spring grain is heading out in some counties and fall wheat is beginning to ripen.

A report from the Dominion Experimental Station at Harrow, states that tobacco and canning tomato crops are making good growth. Corn and soy bean crops are somewhat less advanced than normal, with higher temperatures needed to accelerate their development. In the Chatham area tomatoes, sugar beets and beans are developing well and the canning pea crop in Kent County is fifty per cent harvested.

Pastures which in some districts were beginning to suffer from lack of rain have responded to the frequent showers of the past two weeks and are showing great improvement. While rains have been beneficial to crops, they have interfered with effective weed control and haying.

In many areas haying has been delayed by numerous showers and some acreage has been spoiled. As in former years there is an acute shortage of experienced farm labour to help harvest the hay crop. The situation is further aggravated by adverse weather and unless both weather and labour conditions improve, it is doubtful if all of the hay crop can be saved.

Manitoba Crop prospects in Manitoba have greatly improved owing to recent rains occurring over the greater portion of the province. Early sown wheat is starting to head and other crops are making very rapid growth. Late-sown flax crops are patchy due to uneven germination. Haying operations have started and the hay crop is fairly good over most of the province.

In the Morden area 1.5 inches of rain fell last week and all crops are responding to much needed moisture. Some wheat is starting to head and other cereal crops are making satisfactory progress. Grasshoppers are doing some damage in this area. In the south-western part of the province at Melita substantial rains have also been received and crop conditions are very favourable. Early wheat is heading and flax is in all stages of development from just appearing above ground to a few fields in bloom. Recent rains have improved pasture conditions and gardens are good. In the south-eastern part of the province all crops are growing satisfactorily after recent rains. Flax is said to be the most promising crop. Fall rye is headed out; wheat is about 20 per cent headed and the odd field of barley is headed out. Hay cutting started last week with a light crop in most meadows. Sweet clover, red clover, and alfalfa hay yields, however, are satisfactory.

In the Portage la Prairie district recent rains are bringing crops on rapidly and cereal grains are coming into shot blade. Grashopper infestations are serious west of Portage. There has been a reduction in pea acreage in this area. Our correspondent from Brandon reports that prospects are much brighter owing to improved moisture conditions over the past two weeks. Grain is now heading and pastures have come back rapidly. At Woodnorth all crops are making excellent progress owing to the abundant rainfall received during the past ten days. In the north-central part of the province at Teulon recent rains, although somewhat uneven, have changed the crop outlook considerably for the better. Some districts still require moisture. Wild pastures and hay crops are generally poor whereas cultivated hay crops are in better condition. Our correspondent from Minnedosa states that crops are showing much improvement since recent rains but moisture is still not sufficient to carry the crop for very long. Much seed is just germinating while some crops are in the shot blade or early headed stage.

Present prospects for all crops in the Neepawa area are very good. Grasshoppers are causing damage in a small area of this district and there have been several reports of hail damage. Late crops have germinated poorly, especially late sown flax. In the Dauphin area there are heavy stands of wheat and coarse grains. Wheat is beginning to head and coarse grains are in the shot blade. Flax is from 3 to 18 inches in height and is mostly clean and uniform in stand. A heavy rain with up to 50 per cent hail damage occurred between Pilot Mound and La Riviere on July 2. Splendid rains were received in the Swan River area during the past week. Wheat is heading and is said to be a good average crop. Rye is somewhat patchy and barley and oats are making very rapid growth. Pastures have improved greatly since recent rains.

The Dominion Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports grass-hoppers are doing heavy but spotty damage in the Neepawa-Gladstone areas and also around Macgregor, Wawanesa, Morden and Dominion City. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 8 per cent above normal as compared with 9 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 5 was 1 9 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan - Scattered showers since the last report have helped to maintain average crop prospects in the Regina-Weyburn and eastern districts of Saskatchewan but most other areas are suffering serious deterioration and immediate rains are required to check further declines in general crop prospects. The provincial Department of Agriculture reports that for the province as a whole, wheat averages about eleven inches in height with sixty per cent in shot blade and about ten per cent in head. Late-sown wheat and coarse grains show extreme variation, the general prospect, however, being only poor to fair. The rye crop ranges from fair to good in most districts. While drought is the chief cause of the poor crop conditions, grasshopper damage has taken a heavy toll in south-central, central, and west-central districts. There was some loss from widely scattered hail storms on June 27 and 28.

Reports from the Indian Head district indicate that crops there are well advanced with prospects for a good yield. Early-seeded wheat is heading and the stands on heavy land are fully up to average. The hay crop in this area also showsgood promise. Farther north, at Willowbrook, recent showers have improved the outlook for coarse grains, wheat is heading but stands are short. Rye crops in this district are good but will require additional rain to fill. Scattered showers over central areas about ten days ago provided a temporary relief from drought and helped to maintain condition of early-sown crops but extensive grasshopper damage and poor emergence of late wheat and coarse grains have brought about a poor crop outlook for most of the area.

Prospects for an average yield still hold in the south-west.
Reports from Swift Current indicate that fall rye is filling for an average or better yield and while recent hot, dry weather has caused some deterioration many parts of the district have received sufficient rain to ensure a near average yield of all crops unless more adverse conditions develop. Summarizing conditions for west-central Saskatchewan, a report from the Dominion Experimental Station at Scott states that the grain crop is definitely poor with a considerable amount that promises to be in the failure class. Pastures are poor and the hay crop light. Rains could still provide feed from late-sown grain and benefit pastures. Local showers in the north-west district have maintained average crop conditions. Wheat is starting to head and the rye crop is filling well. Crops in the Melfort area are quite variable with grain yields promising to be slightly less than last year for the district as a whole. Hay and feed crops, however, are considerably better than last year.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1, has been 32 per cent below normal as compared with 29 per cent below normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ended July 5 was 4.1 degrees above normal.

Alberta - Crop conditions continue to be fair to good in southern Alberta and as far north as Red Deer in the western sections. Elsewhere in the province crops are suffering from drought and rain is urgently needed. Only scattered showers were received during the past week and with warm weather, moisture conditions in the central and northern districts are poor, particularly in north-eastern Alberta. Wheat is reported in the shot blade in many districts though very short in the dry areas. Insect damage as a whole has been slight with some grasshopper activity being indicated. Scattered hail storms in central and northern districts damaged fall grains.

In the southern and south-western districts showers have maintained the generally excellent moisture conditions, and with the warmer weather crops are progressing satisfactorily. Fall rye in the vicinity of Calgary is reported very good and pastures are in good condition. Farther north in the

Olds area crops are progressing well except for late seedings which require rain. Coarse grains are four to ten inches high in this area and rye is headed out.

Rain is needed in the east-central and west-central districts.

From Hanna early crops are reported in the shot blade and very short, with late wheat showing uneven germination and little growth. Fall rye is headed out in this area and pastures are suffering from lack of rain. Our Sedgewick correspondent reports crops as poor with pastures becoming short. In the Lacombe area all crops are in need of a soaking rain to maintain normal prospects.

Crops and pastures are very poor in the north-eastern districts and continue to deteriorate. Rain is urgently needed in these districts. In the Peace River district recent showers have improved crop prospects somewhat but many areas are still in need of rain. Crops are thin and stands are uneven. Wheat is ten inches in height and coarse grains average seven to nine inches.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 4 per cent above normal as compared with 6 per cent above normal two weeks ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 5 was 1 degree above normal.

British Columbia - Apart from a few scattered showers, the weather in British Columbia during the past two weeks has been generally fine and warm. The moisture supplies are satisfactory in the southern areas of the province but rain is badly needed in the Peace River and central-interior regions. Late seeded grains in these areas, as a result, are very spotty. Fall wheat is headed out in all districts and is promising. However, yields of spring wheat, oats, barley, and flaxseed will be below average. Haying is under way and good yields of alfalfa and other hays are in prospect. In the Fraser Valley the month of June has been very dry. The flooding conditions make crop forecasting very difficult but in the unflooded areas crops are good, especially hay fields, pastures, oats, corn and berries. Tree fruits in this district are poor.

In the northern Okanagan Valley, fall wheat stands are very heavy. Alfalfa is now being cut and yields range up to three tons to the acre. The corn crop in this district is average. In the Summerland section of the Okanagan Valley, the weather and soil moisture conditions have been favourable and all crops are growing rapidly. Fruit is sizing well and the general condition of orchards is excellent although insects and disease are causing some damage. In the Prince George area dry weather prevailed during June and the hay crop, as a result, is light. The prospects for alsike clover seed, however, are good.

Crop District	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending Total Normal		Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m.	since	since	July 5	
		July 5, 1948		April 1	Mean	Normal
MANITOBA						
1	Pierson	.40	6.36	6.14	67	64
*	Melita	.76	8.06	7.62	66	65
	Waskada	.08	6.34	6.85	69	64
2	Boissevain	.12	7.89	6.17	67	65
EN .	Ninette	.14	6.61	6.78	67	65
	Pilot Mound	2.36	10.42	7.14	67	65
C .		1.34	7.75	6.31	68	65
3	Portage la Prairie	.42	7.26	6.96	68	65
	Graysville	1.40	8.62	6.71	67	66
	Morden		6.54	6.33	66	66
	Morris	.96		5.86	63	66
	Emerson	3.26	8.54		67	66
4	Winnipeg	1.44	6.84	7.02		64
6	Sprague	.98	4.87 2/		63	
	Finawa	.50	2.26	4.98	66	64
7	Virden	.84	8.76	5.64	68	63
	Rivers	.72	7.89	6.36	68	64
8	Brandon	.46	6.79	6.38	67	64
	Cypress	.56	5.74	6.23	65	65
	Minnedosa	.63	5.67	6.28	64	64
	Neepawa	.62	4.74	6.28	66	64
10	Russell	1.10	6.41	6.01	64	62
	Birtle	1.06	6.41	6.08	67	62
11	Dauphin	1.49	8.49	5.20	65	63
	Gimli	.57	3.38	6.93	64	65
12	Swan River	1.20	6.48	6.13	65	61
13	The Pas	1,39	5,92	4.59	65	63
MANITOBA AVE		.95	6.81	6.31	66 .1	64.
SASKATCHENAN						
1A	Estevan	.09	4.80	6.30	N.R.	64
TW	Carlyle	.32	3.50	6,51	64	62
10		.27	3.70	5.53	65	63
1B	Broadview Moosomin	.32	6.22	5.61	67	63
		Trace	3.70	6.06	68	64
24	Yellow Grass	.02	3.55	6.53	67	64
	Midale		2.72	6.12	69	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.01	3.96	6.01	67	63
	Regina	.08		5.18	64	62
	Francis	.40	4.02		67	64
	Qu'Appelle	.02	4.16	7.13		62
	Indian Head	.24	5.76	6.96	67	65
3AS	Assiniboia	.02	3.95	5.28	68	
	Ceylon	.02	3.88	7.53	66	64
3AN	Chaplin	Trace	1.78	6.45	68	64
	Gravelbourg	Trace	3.66	5.67	68	64 N D
	Coderre	Nil	1.84	5.55	68	N.R
	Bishopric	.02	1.99 2		68	64
3BS	Instow	N.R.	5.80 2		N.R.	64
	Shaunavon	Nil	4.86	5.11	69	63
	Cadillac	.04	5.28	7.58	68	63
	Val Marie	.12		5.72	66	64
	Aneroid	Trace	3.60		67	63
3BN	Pennant	Nil	3.18 2	A	70	63
	COMPANY OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	17		A Maria		

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		Prec	ipitation	Temperature	
Crop District	Station	Week ending		Week endir	g 8 a.m.
and Province		8 a.m.		July 5,	1948
and Flovings		July 5, 1948		Mean	Normal
SASKATCHENAN					
	Swift Current	Nil	4.60 6.05	68	63
	Hughton	N.R.	2.78 2/ 5.62	N.R.	62
	Maple Creek	.02	4.05 5.87	69	63
	Consul	.34	4.63 5.12	N.R.	61
4B	Roadene	Nil	3.80 5.64	70	62
5A	Leross	.06	4.39 6.16	62	61
	Lipton	.02	3.68 5.32	65	62
	Yorkton	.72	3.58 5.70	66	62
5B	Dafoe	.25	4.67 5.44	66	60
	Foam Lake	1.22	5.69 5.73	65	60
	Lintlaw	.34	3.67 5.72	64	60
	Kamsack	1.76	5.64 4.97	65	62
6A	Davidson	。02	4.13 5.00	66	63
	Dilke	.56	1.44 2/ 5.45	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.16	3.69 3.91	67	60
	Strasbourg	₆ 06	2.86 5.74	65	62
6B	Harris	Nil	2.46 2/ 5.38	68	62
	Outlook	Trace	1.49 3.85	N.R.	63
	Saskatoon	Trace	3.15 5.02	68	62
	Elbow	.20	3.95 5.10	67	63
	Dundurn	Nil	3.28 6.14	64	62
	Tugaske	.01	2.13 5.07	67	62
7 A	Kindersley	Nil	1.88 4.56	N.R.	60
	Rosetown	Trace	2.56 5.60	N.R.	61
7B	Macklin	.18	3.65 5.70	64	60
	Scott	Nil	2.72 4.93	64	61
	Ruthilda	N.R.	1.52 2/ 5.53	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	Nil	2.96 5.51	68	62
8A	Nipawin	N.R.	2.36 2/ 6.08	N.R.	60
	Hudson Bay Junction		5.51 5.61	64	62
8B	Humboldt	Nil	3.39 4.73	66	61
	Melfort	.08	3.38 5.11	66	61
9A	North Battleford	.07	2.81 5.45	67	63
	Rabbit Lake	.42	5.46 5.34	60	61
	Prince Albert	.09	6.03 5.46	66	63
9B	Waseca	N.R.	3.82 2/ 5.44	N.R.	60
	Island Fails	.65	3,48 5,36	64	62
SASKATCHEVAN	AVERAGE	.17	3.84 5.65	66.4	62.3
ALBERTA					
1	Taber	.10	6.93 5.94	66	N.R.
	Foremost	.02	4.32 7.16	N.R.	64
	Winnifred	Nil	4.49 4.87	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.11	2.87 5.11	70	65
	Manyberries	Nil	4.52 5.31	68	66
2	Cowley	.01	10.64 6.92	61	59
	Macleod	Nil	10.78 5.76	68	64
	Cardston	.20	13.12 9.06	N.R.	63
	Lethbridge	.16	10.07 6.07	66	63
3	Vauxhall	N.R.	4.27 2/ 4.71	N.R.	65
	Brooks	.12	4.52 4.83	N.R.	66
	Empress	Nil	.88 5.49	N.R.	66
4	High River	Traca	7.61 2/ 7.47	60	59

Weekly Precipitation and Temperature in the Prairie Provinces 1948 1/

		Precipitation			Temperature	
Crop District		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week end	ing 8 a.m.
and Province	Station	8 a.m.		since	Mean	Normal
		July 5, 1948	April 1	April 1		
ALBERTA						
4	Vulcan	Nil	9.32	6.22	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.28	4.66	6.21	N.R.	65
	Hanna	.10	1.60 2/	6.64	68	64
	Naco	N.R.	3.99 2/		N.R.	63
6	Olds	.10	8.39	6.35	60	59
	Calgary	.04	10.04	6.69	63	60
	Three Hills	.32	6.36	5.81	60	59
	Strathmore	Nil	4.68 2/		62	60
	Gleichen	Nil	6.48	5.37	65	60
7	Viking	N.R.	1.20 2/		N.R.	58
·	Sedgewick	Nil	1.41 2/		62	58
	Hardisty	N.R.	2.03 2/		N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.05	4.35	4.92	64	61
	Hughenden	.08	3.06	5.31	63	64
8	Red Deer	Trace	7.37	7.78	60	58
0	Lacombe	N.R.	5.25 2/		N.R.	59
	Wetaskiwin	.28	5.63	6.09	62	59
	Camrose	.36	4.06	5.89	61	60
	Stettler	Nil	2.98	6.79	N.R.	58
9	Jasper	.01	4.85	3.17	58	57
3	Rocky Mountain		9.26	6.95	60	57
	Springdale	.02	8.01	7.53	55	58
10	Vegreville	.70	4.43	6.67	N.R.	58
10	Vermilion	•35	4.10	6.20	62	59
	Lloydminster	.68	4.33	4.89	63	59
11	Edmonton	.12	6.09	6.14	62	60
12	Whitecourt	.55	8.72	6.04	55	59
16	Edson	N.R.	8.32 2/		N.R.	57
13	Elk Point	.96	3.96 2/		60	59
		1.18	6.17 2/	6.14	58	59
Į.	Campsie Athabaska	.28	1.66 2/	5.44	58	59
	Lac La Biche	.86	4.34	5.60	62	59
1.5	High Prairie	.22	6.87	5.37	57	59
	Kinuso	N.R.	1.58 2/	4.81 2/	N.R.	N.R.
		.30	4.61	5.54	58	59
16	Wagner Beaverlodge	.16	4.06	4.55	57	58
		.29	6.34	5.41	56	58
	Grand Prairie	.15	6.62	4.16	56	58
17	Fairview	.46		5,43	57	60
17	Fort St. John	Complete and the complete of t	2.86			
ALBERTA AVER	AGE	.22	6.09	5.88	61.2	60.4

N.R. - No Report.

1/ - Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.
2/ - Incomplete: not includedin average.

