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Dominion Statistician: Herbert Marshall
Director, Agricultural Division: C. V. Parker
Chief, Crop Section: W. D. Porter

TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 13, 1948, 3 p.m. - The eighth of a series of thirteen telegraphic reports covering crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces is issued today by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. 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

Crop deterioration was temporarily checked throughout most of the drought area of the Prairie Provinces as a result of good rains and scattered showers during the past week. Despite recent rains, however, only light yields will be received in the western half of Saskatchewan, in east-central Alberta and to some extent in northern areas of Alberta. Crop conditions continue to be good in Manitoba, fair to good conditions have been maintained over the eastern half and north-central Saskatchewan and prospects in south-western Alberta are still very favourable.

General crop conditions continue to be good in Manitoba with only a few districts reporting conditions as too dry. Local rains were received in many parts of the province during the past week and with relatively high temperatures crops made rapid development. Growth of late-sown crops was particularly noticeable. In the province as a whole 75 per cent of the wheat is now in head and coarse grains are beginning to head out.

General deterioration of crops in Saskatchewan has been checked since last report by good rains in west-central areas and widely scattered showers throughout most of the province. It is too late, however, for any extensive recovery and only light yields are anticipated in western and north-western districts. Prospects over central areas range from poor to fair. Fair to good condition has been maintained over the eastern half and north-central parts of the province. A relatively low outturn of coarse grains is anticipated but fall rye prospects over most areas remain fair to good.

Some improvement in crop prospects occurred in Alberta during the past week as a result of good general rains in the Peace River district and fair to good rains or showers in other areas of the province. At the time of reporting good rains were falling over a wide area. Prospects in south-western Alberta are still very favourable but in other areas crops show the effects of the drought and prospects are only fair to poor. Most of the wheat is in the shot blade with a small percentage headed. Coarse grain stands are uneven. There has been no material change in the insect situation.

Manitoba - Warm weather during the past week with local rains hastened the growth of all crops in Manitoba. Seventy-five per cent of the wheat is now headed and oats and barley are beginning to head out. Late-sown grains in particular made rapid growth this past week. The flax crop, however, is still variable in stage of growth, some of it being in bloom and other fields only two to three inches in height. Haying is well under way with fair to good yields being obtained. Prospects for sugar beets, peas and sunflowers continue to be good. Pasture conditions are fair to good. Minor damage has occurred from grasshopper infestations in a number of districts although rains of the past two weeks and control measures have curtailed damage. Good results have been obtained this year in weed spraying operations.

The Experimental Station at Morden reports that crop prospects are fair with rain being needed within a week to refresh growth. Warm weather during the week hastened the growth of wheat which is mostly headed. Some barley and oats are also headed out. Haying is well advanced and all row crops are making satisfactory growth. Heat last week caused a setback of late-sown crops in the Pilot Mound district but prospects continue very good. Wheat is heading rapidly, coarse grains are beginning to head and early-sown flax is coming into bloom. Rain would be welcome in most parts of this district. In the south-western part of the province at Melita crop conditions continue favourable and early wheat and oats are said to be a good height and fall rye condition is fair to good.

Our correspondent from Teulon states that most crops are heading out well and prospects are good. A considerable amount of weed spraying has been done in this district with satisfactory results. Considerable rainfall was received during the past week in the Vita district and 25 per cent of the crop land is said to be water-logged. Wheat and coarse grains have headed out and there is an excellent hay crop.

In the central part of the province, at Portage la Prairie, all early cereal crops are in head and late crops are well advanced. Prospects are said to be promising for a good crop. Some damage is being caused by the sweet clover weevil and the beet web worm is reported in sugar beets. Further west, at Brandon, relatively high temperatures during the week have caused rapid growth of late-sown crops. Early-sown grains are filling well and haying operations are proceeding rapidly. Moisture conditions are good at the present time and prospects for crops are also good. A report from Neepawa states that wheat is headed with excellent stands. Coarse grains are also good but growth has been uneven. The sweet clover crop is excellent whereas other hay crops in general are average. Haying will be general this week. Grain crops will require more rain soon. In the Shoal Lake area wheat is 90 per cent headed and looks better than an average crop. The flax crop is about half in flower with a small per cent late and short. Prospects for all cereal crops are good and moisture is ample for present needs. Alfalfa and hay crops are also good but most of the wild hay is still under water.

Fall rye is ripening in the Dauphin area and spring wheat and early-sown coarse grains are headed. Flax is an uneven crop but is growing well. Haying is well under way with a fair crop in prospect. Pastures are in good condition and gardens are progressing favourably. Some hail damage occurred in the northern section of the district during the past week. Our Swan River correspondent states that rye cutting will commence in two to three weeks. The wheat crop is in head and both rye and wheat will be average crops in this district. Coarse grains are growing well and a good hay crop is being

harvested. Satisfactory seed-setting has been obtained in alfalfa. Pasture conditions are said to be good and gardens are doing well. A good rain would be welcome in the western part of the district.

The Entomological Laboratory at Brandon reports that grasshoppers are still abundant in the districts around Neepawa, Gladstone, Macgregor, Wawanesa, Morden and Dominion City. Rains during the last two weeks, however, have prevented serious damage and control measures are generally in operation within the above areas. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 3 per cent above normal as compared with 8 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 12 was 6.5 degrees above normal.

Saskatchewan - A good soaking rain in west-central Saskatchewan and widely scattered showers throughout most of the province during the past week have checked the very general decline in crop prospects. Fair to good prospects are being maintained throughout most of the eastern crop districts and over north-central areas. Crops in west-central areas and over a considerable part of the north-west will be generally poor even should ideal conditions prevail to the end of the growing season. Some recovery, however, could take place in the feed situation. Coarse grains are spotty throughout most of the province and low yields are anticipated. Fall rye prospects over most areas remain fair to good. Swathing has commenced in some western districts.

Our Fillmore correspondent reports wheat sixty per cent headed with stands short but in good condition. Coarse grains in this district are poor because of weedy condition and heat with rain too late for much recovery. The past week has been dry and hot at Indian Head. Crops generally are maturing well with pastures and live stock in good condition. The hay crop has been below normal.

Central districts are spotty. Some early-sown and summerfallow crops have resisted extreme heat and drought and promise fair returns provided more moisture is received. Coarse grains are extremely variable and no substantial recovery can be expected. Further grasshopper damage is reported from local areas. An eight-hour rain soaked west-central areas yesterday. This will greatly help the feed situation but will not materially affect the generally low yield of grains. A report from the Experimental Station at Scott adds that farmers are making strenuous efforts to cut all available hay although the yield is poor.

As the result of recent rains, crops in the Melfort area have made a surprisingly good recovery. Wheat is now heading and coarse grains are advancing well. Generally fair conditions prevail over the northern districts from Shellbrook east. Further west there is great variability. Our Prince correspondent reports that flax and coarse grains are poor and that wheat ranges from poor to good. Additional moisture is required for filling.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 30 per cent below normal as compared with 32 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ended July 12 was 6.3 degrees above normal.

Alberta -

Improved crop prospects in Alberta are reported by the Provincial Department of Agriculture. Heavy rains in the Peace River district and fair to good rains or showers in other areas of the province were received during the past week, with good rains falling over a wide area the first day of this week. Crops in south-western Alberta are good but in other areas crops show the effects of the drought and are only fair to poor. Most of the wheat is now in the shot blade with a small percentage headed. Coarse grains are very uneven. Haying is under way in southern Alberta with good yields. Fall rye and fall wheat are reported to be in good to excellent condition in the south. There has been no material change in the insect situation since last week and the grasshopper control campaign in south-eastern Alberta is holding crop loss to a minimum.

In southern Alberta crop prospects continue to be favourable although some areas in this region require rain. Only scattered showers occurred during the week and in the south-east spring grains are beginning to suffer from lack of moisture. In the Medicine Hat area wheat is reported headed and oats and barley are seventy-five to ninety per cent headed.

Fairly heavy showers maintained the favourable crop prospects in the Calgary district where growth has been rapid. Farther north in the Lacombe area over one inch of rain was received during the week and normal prospects are reported. Wheat and early-seeded coarse grains are in the shot blade in this area and a few barley fields are in head. Our Hanna correspondent reports over one-half inch of rainfall general over the district. Sixty per cent of the wheat is in the shot blade stage but stooling was very poor and heads are small.

Wheat is heading out quite short in the Edmonton district but good rains falling at the time of reporting will be of considerable help. Heavy rains were general in the Peace River district and the crop situation is reported much improved. Heading is general.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 8 per cent above normal as compared with 4 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 12 was 1 degree above normal.

WEEKLY PRECIPITATION AND TEMPERATURE IN THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES 1948 ^{1/}

Crop District and Province	Station	Precipitation			Temperature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending	8 a.m.
		8 a.m. July 12, 1948	since April 1	since April 1	July 12, 1948 Mean	Normal
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Pierson	Nil	6.36	6.65	N.R.	66
	Melita	Trace	8.06	8.28	72	67
	Waskada	.16	6.50	7.51	72	66
2	Boissevain	.02	7.91	6.68	72	66
	Ninette	.02	6.63	7.30	74	66
	Pilot Mound	.02	10.44	7.79	73	66
3	Portage la Prairie	.33	8.08	6.92	75	65
	Graysville	.48	7.74	7.61	74	66
	Morden	.08	8.70	7.32	74	67
	Morris	.08	6.62	6.94	72	67
	Emerson	.94	9.48	6.49	71	67
4	Winnipeg	.91	7.75	7.74	74	67
6	Sprague	2.08	6.95 2/	7.76	72	65
	Pinawa	.16	2.42	5.54	70	65
7	Virden	.01	8.77	6.16	72	63
	Rivers	.02	7.91	6.95	72	64
8	Brandon	.10	6.89	6.98	73	65
	Cypress River	.10	5.84	6.83	N.R.	66
9	Minnedosa	.21	5.88	6.88	69	64
	Neepawa	.25	4.99	6.88	71	64
10	Russell	.78	7.19	6.59	69	63
	Birtle	Nil	6.41	6.76	69	63
11	Dauphin	Nil	8.49	5.78	69	63
12	Gimli	1.75	5.13	7.50	71	66
13	Swan River	.36	6.84	6.81	69	63
	The Pas	.50	6.42	5.13	69	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.36	7.10	6.91	71.6	65.2
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Estevan	.33	5.13	6.74	N.R.	65
	Carlyle	Nil	3.50	7.12	70	63
1B	Broadview	Nil	3.63	6.15	70	64
	Moosomin	Nil	6.22	6.05	70	64
2A	Yellow Grass	.02	3.72	6.59	72	65
	Midale	.06	3.61	7.16	72	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.47	3.19	6.66	74	67
	Regina	1.26	5.22	6.60	72	64
	Francis	Nil	4.02	5.66	69	64
	Qu'Appelle	.01	4.17	7.78	72	65
	Indian Head	Nil	5.76	7.60	71	64
3AS	Assiniboia	1.99	5.94	5.73	72	65
	Ceylon	1.10	5.03	8.17	71	65
3AN	Chaplin	1.46	3.24	6.97	74	65
	Gravelbourg	2.48	6.14	6.00	72	65
	Coderre	N.R.	1.84 2/	5.82	N.R.	N.R.
	Bishopric	1.12	3.19	5.94	72	65
3BS	Instow	.84	6.64 2/	5.85	70	65
	Shaunavon	.62	5.48	5.64	70	63
	Cadillac	N.R.	5.28 2/	8.01	N.R.	64
	Val Marie	N.R.	5.14 2/	6.26	N.R.	65
	Aneroid	1.30	4.90	6.80	71	64
3BN	Pennant	1.34	4.52 2/	7.14	72	64

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		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 12, 1948	since April 1	since April 1	July 12, 1948 Mean	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN						
3BN	Swift Current	1.27	5.87	6.63	71	64
	Hughton	.78	3.56 2/	6.06	70	63
4A	Maple Creek	.34	4.39	6.41	69	65
	Consul	.32	4.95	5.50	68	62
4B	Roadene	N.R.	3.80 2/	6.07	N.R.	63
5A	Leross	N.R.	4.39 2/	6.72	N.R.	62
	Lipton	.14	3.82	5.87	70	62
	Yorkton	Nil	3.58	6.33	70	62
	Dafoe	.42	5.09	5.88	70	62
5B	Foam Lake	N.R.	5.69 2/	6.25	N.R.	62
	Lintlaw	1.16	4.83	6.35	67	61
	Kamsack	.88	6.52	5.61	68	63
	Davidson	1.06	5.19	5.42	70	64
6A	Dilke	N.R.	1.44 2/	5.92	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	1.04	4.73	4.29	71	62
	Strasbourg	.12	2.98	6.22	70	63
	Harris	.96	3.42 2/	5.98	70	64
6B	Outlook	.72	2.56	4.24	N.R.	64
	Saskatoon	.20	3.35	5.62	70	63
	Elbow	.52	4.47	5.54	70	64
	Dundurn	.38	3.66	6.68	66	64
	Tugaske	.32	2.45	5.51	N.R.	64
	Kindersley	Trace	1.88	5.09	N.R.	63
7A	Rosetown	1.18	3.74	6.15	N.R.	62
	Macklin	.36	4.01	6.23	67	60
7B	Scott	.50	3.22	5.49	72	62
	Ruthilda	N.R.	1.52 2/	6.12	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	.98	3.94	6.15	70	63
	Nipawin	N.R.	2.58 2/	6.58	N.R.	62
8A	Hudson Bay Junction	.04	5.55	6.23	68	63
	Humboldt	.14	3.53	5.24	N.R.	63
8B	Melfort	.80	4.18	5.78	69	63
	North Battleford	.25	3.06	5.98	69	64
9A	Rabbit Lake	.64	6.10	5.99	63	61
	Prince Albert	Trace	6.03	6.02	68	64
9B	Waseca	.34	4.16 2/	5.97	64	61
	Island Falls	.46	3.94	5.97	65	64
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.60	4.34	6.18	69.8	63.5
ALBERTA						
1	Taber	.06	6.99	6.37	64	N.R.
	Foremost	.04	4.36	7.59	66	67
	Winnifred	N.R.	4.49 2/	5.09	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.18	3.05	5.58	68	67
	Manyberries	N.R.	4.52 2/	5.72	N.R.	67
	Cowley	.15	10.79	7.26	57	60
2	Macleod	Trace	10.78	6.27	64	66
	Cardston	Nil	13.12	9.63	61	64
	Lethbridge	.07	10.14	6.52	63	65
	Vauxhall	.14	4.41 2/	5.14	64	67
3	Brooks	.52	5.04	5.27	70	68
	Empress	.78	1.66	5.99	71	68

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		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 12, 1948	since April 1	since April 1	July 12, 1948 Mean	Normal
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
4	High River	.14	7.75 <u>2/</u>	7.85	55	60
	Vulcan	.52	9.84	6.75	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	N.R.	4.95 <u>2/</u>	6.74	N.R.	67
	Hanna	.66	2.26 <u>2/</u>	7.30	68	65
	Naco	N.R.	4.39 <u>2/</u>	6.35	N.R.	64
6	Olds	N.R.	8.39 <u>2/</u>	6.86	N.R.	60
	Calgary	.20	10.24	7.31	60	61
	Three Hills	.48	6.84	6.25	64	60
	Strathmore	Nil	4.68 <u>2/</u>	6.57	60	62
	Gleichen	.44	6.92	5.90	62	62
7	Viking	N.R.	1.28 <u>2/</u>	5.68	N.R.	59
	Sedgewick	N.R.	1.41 <u>2/</u>	6.02	N.R.	59
	Hardisty	1.16	3.19 <u>2/</u>	6.08	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	.49	4.84	5.38	64	62
	Hughenden	.88	3.94	5.88	65	65
8	Red Deer	.80	8.17	8.48	58	59
	Lacombe	N.R.	5.25 <u>2/</u>	7.29	N.R.	60
	Wetaskiwin	.90	6.53	6.73	62	61
	Camrose	N.R.	4.06 <u>2/</u>	6.50	N.R.	62
	Stettler	.80	3.78	7.42	66	59
9	Jasper	1.03	5.88	3.46	56	58
	Rocky Mountain House	2.02	11.28	7.49	57	59
	Springdale	N.R.	8.01 <u>2/</u>	8.33	N.R.	59
10	Vegreville	.14	4.57	7.42	N.R.	59
	Vermilion	.06	4.16	7.01	65	60
	Lloydminster	.62	4.95	5.45	66	60
11	Edmonton	.34	6.43	6.89	63	61
12	Whitecourt	1.51	10.23	6.84	60	60
	Edson	N.R.	8.32 <u>2/</u>	6.49	N.R.	58
13	Elk Point	1.14	5.10 <u>2/</u>	6.01	63	60
14	Campsie	N.R.	6.17 <u>2/</u>	6.87	N.R.	60
	Athabaska	N.R.	1.66 <u>2/</u>	6.08	N.R.	60
	Lac La Biche	.05	4.39	6.20	66	60
15	High Prairie	.84	7.71	6.05	62	60
	Wagner	1.11	5.72	6.26	61	61
16	Beaverlodge	3.04	7.10	4.98	59	59
	Grand Prairie	3.54	9.88	6.00	60	59
	Fairview	1.35	7.97	4.50	60	59
17	Fort St. John	1.99	4.85	6.00	60	61
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.74	6.94	6.43	62.6	61.7

N.R. No report.

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

^{2/} Incomplete: not included in average.

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