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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT

Ottawa, July 20, 1948, 3 p.m. - The fifth 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 ninth 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

In general growing conditions in the Maritime provinces have been favourable during the past two weeks and crops appear to be making satisfactory progress. Haying operations are now under way and the yield is reported to be excellent. Conditions favourable for potato growth prevail in Nova Scotia with no blight reported so far. In New Brunswick the picking of a heavy strawberry crop is drawing to a close.

Although crop conditions in Quebec are, generally speaking, quite promising, a good rainfall is needed in many areas where grains are almost at a standstill. Several reports indicate that grain is beginning to head on short stalks owing to lack of moisture. In the Montreal and Saguenay districts, however, an abundant harvest is expected, with particularly promising prospects for garden crops in the Montreal area. The fine weather of the past two weeks has been favourable to hay making which is being carried on throughout the province. The yield from new meadows is of good quality but that from old fields is only fair. Pastures in some counties are beginning to suffer from the dry weather and early rains are needed to check further deterioration.

Continued favourable conditions in Ontario indicate a bountiful harvest of all crops. Harvesting of fall wheat is under way in southern districts and will be general by the end of the week, with prospects for an excellent yield. Spring grains are ripening rapidly and cutting of oats and barley is expected to start in many districts within a few days. Hot, dry weather during the past week has enabled farmers to make favourable progress in harvesting the hay crop which, in both quantity and quality, is better than average. Throughout most of the province pastures are in good condition for this time of year, although rain is needed in some sections, particularly in northern Ontario. Corn, potatoes, tobacco, soy beans and canning tomato crops have made rapid progress during the past two weeks.

General rains in the Prairie Provinces during the past week have somewhat improved the crop outlook. Prospects in Manitoba are now very favourable and in Saskatchewan favourable prospects have been maintained over eastern,

east-central and north-central districts. Elsewhere in Saskatchewan except for local areas prospects range from poor to fair. Prospects are now fair to good in most districts of Alberta.

Good rains were received in Manitoba last week and ample moisture is now assured to fill the crop in most areas. Prospects for late-sown coarse grains and flaxseed have greatly improved. Haying has been delayed, however, and in some areas considerable spoilage has occurred. Further rains and relatively cool weather in Saskatchewan have improved the feed and fodder crop outlook and provided favourable conditions for the more advanced wheat stands. Grasshopper damage is still a hazard and rye crops in western areas are being swathed to prevent destruction by migratory infestation. Crop conditions in Alberta have been improved by recent rains and moisture conditions are now satisfactory except in east-central districts where rainfall has been inadequate and crops are poor. Wheat is 50 per cent headed with no significant damage other than drought. Coarse grains show a very uneven stand.

General crop conditions in British Columbia during the past two weeks have shown considerable improvement although weather conditions for the most part have been quite unsettled with temperatures below normal. Heavy rains in the Peace River area and central interior regions, along with intermittent rain over the remainder of the province, are seriously interfering with the harvesting of an excellent hay crop. The cutting of fall rye is now well under way and the harvest of the winter wheat crop will commence in about a week's time.

Maritime Provinces - Grain acreage in Nova Scotia is expected to be below normal owing to a very wet spring. Late-sown grain crops are expected to return a smaller yield per acre and it is anticipated that some will be cut for hay. The hay crop is reported good and cutting is under way. Pastures are good and growing conditions for potatoes are favourable. At the present time the apple crop appears to be below normal.

Grain, potatoes and root crops in New Brunswick are making rapid progress although there is a wide variation in the stage of growth. The harvesting of an exceptionally heavy hay crop is under way with frequent showers in some areas hampering operations. The picking of a heavy crop of strawberries is drawing to a close. Pastures are holding up very well.

Quebec - Fine weather has prevailed throughout most of Quebec during the past two weeks. While this warm, dry weather has facilitated haying operations, it has had less beneficial results on the grains in many districts where crops are almost at a standstill from lack of moisture. The main exceptions to this condition appear to be the Saguenay and Montreal areas where abundant harvests are expected. Vegetables and hoe crops are in good condition and, barring unfavourable developments, yields should be large. The strawberry season is coming to an end and although the yield is somewhat smaller than last year, the crop has been generally satisfactory. Pastures in some counties are suffering from lack of moisture.

A report from Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere states that half the hay crop has been harvested with yields better than average. Wheat, oats, barley, peas, flax and corn all look promising and vegetable crops are in good condition. In the Normandin district crops have been helped considerably by warm, sunny weather and three-quarters of an inch of rain during the past two weeks. Early-sown grains are starting to head and appear promising.

Rain over the week-end helped pastures and crops in the Lennoxville area. The hay crop in the same district is of good quality and is about half harvested. Around Hemmingford haying was carried on under excellent conditions and is almost completed, with medium to good yields. Grain crops are very promising and corn is doing well. Apples are growing well and, although many orchards show considerable aphid infestation, scab is light.

A report from the Experimental Station at L'Assomption indicates that early oats are beginning to ripen and that all crops are suffering somewhat from continued lack of moisture. All types of tobacco crops are doing well and the outlook is quite promising.

In western Quebec haying is well under way and yields are generally good. Warm, dry weather has enabled haying to be carried on with minimum delay, but it is beginning to retard growth of grain crops. Oats and barley are headed out and some early-seeded fields are beginning to ripen. Cereals in the Three Rivers region were short when they headed out and yields will likely be diminished because of lack of moisture. Fibre flax has just passed the flowering stage and, as with cereals, the straw will be rather short. As in other districts, rain is needed to ensure the maintenance of pastures, gardens and late grain crops.

Ontario - Harvesting of fall wheat is under way in many parts of Ontario with excellent prospects for an abundant yield. Spring grains are also ripening rapidly and the outlook for all crops is very good. Warm, dry weather over most of the province for the past week has enabled farmers to make more favourable progress with haying than at the first of the season. In most districts haying is well advanced and yields have been good, both in quantity and quality. Pastures are generally in good condition although rain will soon be needed to maintain adequate growth.

In the Harrow district hot, dry weather during the past two weeks has improved crop prospects and promoted growth in corn, soy beans, tobacco and canning tomatoes. Winter wheat is good but oats are only fair. Around Barrie excellent progress has been made with haying, with much of the crop being baled in the field. Wheat in this district will be ready to cut within a week. More rain is needed for all spring crops and pastures.

In Renfrew County crop prospects continue to be one of the best on record. Harvesting of hay is well advanced and the quality has been good. Cutting of fall wheat has started and harvesting of barley and early oats will start soon. The pea crop, although limited in acreage, is particularly good. Corn and potatoes have made rapid growth but pastures are drying up in some sections due to lack of rainfall during the past ten days.

In the Chatham area crops are progressing well and harvesting of fall wheat is well under way. Oats are ripening quickly with prospects of better yields than last year for all spring crops. Corn and soy beans are making excellent progress under the present favourable weather conditions. A report from Pelee Island states that the soy bean crop is growing satisfactorily but would benefit considerably from rain. Rainfall is also needed in many other parts of the province to prevent deterioration of pastures and late crops.

Manitoba - Copious rains fell in Manitoba last week and crop prospects are excellent as a result. Late-sown coarse grains and flax have benefited greatly by the additional moisture. Most districts now have sufficient moisture to carry crops for a two-week period. Haying has been delayed and some spoilage has occurred but the rain has prevented any further grasshopper damage.

In the Morden area 2.3 inches of rain fell during the week and all crops are responding to the needed moisture. Most cereal crops have reached the filling stage. There has been steady improvement in late-seeded crops and an improvement in row crops. Crop prospects are generally good in this area. Moisture supplies are now adequate for two weeks around Pilot Mound. Wheat in this area is headed and medium in stand. Coarse grains are coming into head and the stands are medium to heavy. Flax is a very good crop and on the whole crop prospects are good. In the Melita district over 3 inches of rainfall was received and cool weather has prevailed during the past week. Our correspondent states there should be sufficient moisture to fill early crops and the growth of late-sown crops is rapid.

In the south-eastern part of the province rye cutting started during the week. Rain has also greatly improved crop prospects and the early-sown crop is filling well. Late-sown crops are uneven and still look poor. Haying is 70 per cent completed with a poor to fair crop.

In the west-central part of the province at Brandon showery weather has provided a good reserve of moisture to fill the crop. Prospects for late-sown coarse grains and flax are greatly improved. At Woodnorth crop prospects also continue good. Rainfall has delayed haying and summerfallow operations but pastures and gardens are in excellent condition. Early-sown grains are now in head and flax is also in bloom. In the Shoal Lake area conditions continue excellent though frequent light rains have delayed haying. Wheat is mostly headed and oats and barley 60 per cent headed, whereas flax is about half in flower. Fallows are wet and need cultivation. Slight lodging has occurred in oats and barley particularly Montcalm and about 2 per cent crop damage has been caused by flooding.

Our correspondent from Dauphin states that wheat is 90 per cent headed and oats and barley 60 to 70 per cent in head. Eighty per cent of the flax is in bloom. Heavy and constant rains are spoiling a good hay crop on the ground. Fall rye is beginning to ripen and alfalfa and clover stands are excellent. Weed infestation in non-sprayed crops is heavy with wild oats abundant. Good rains were received in the Swan River area during the week and crop conditions are greatly improved. All grain crops are above average. Oats and barley are heading. Flax is making good growth. Pastures are good and gardens are excellent.

The Entomological Laboratory at Brandon states that rains during the week have prevented any further grasshopper damage. Grain aphids have destroyed some crops and late barley in low lying land along the Assiniboine Valley and in the Swan River district. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 21 per cent above normal as compared with 3 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 19 was 2.8 degrees below normal.

Saskatchewan - The Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture reports that general crop prospects in Saskatchewan have shown no further deterioration during the past week. The feed and fodder outlook has improved with further rains and relatively cool weather. Generally fair to good wheat crop prospects have been maintained over eastern, east-central and north-central districts. Elsewhere except for smaller local areas prospects range from poor to fair with some of the summerfallow wheat in most districts having come through the drought period in fair condition. Grasshopper damage is still a hazard in central and west-central areas and rye fields are being swathed to prevent further loss. Wheat is estimated to be 80 per cent headed and averages about 17 inches in height. Coarse grains are generally spotty due to uneven germination and earlier drought. They average about 15 inches in height in the better districts, 12 inches in poorer areas. Summerfallow operations are nearing completion in most districts and live stock are reported to be in good condition.

Good rains received during the past week should fill most wheat in eastern districts. A report from Fillmore states that wheat is likely to go 10 or 12 bushels per acre and that coarse grains have shown considerable improvement. Early fields at Indian Head continue to make good progress and average wheat yields are expected. Coarse grain stands are light. The recent rains have kept up the pastures and live stock is doing well.

Surface moisture in east-central districts is now much improved and subsoil moisture remains fair. Most summerfallow crops show good promise but stubble sown fields have light stands. It is still too early to estimate the full extent of the benefit due to recent rains.

Western areas have also had good rains and considerable improvement can take place in crops that were not already too parched with drought. A report from Scott indicates that feed supplies are now reasonably guaranteed whereas two weeks ago the outlook was for exceedingly short crops. Migrating hoppers are causing considerable damage in this area.

Good rains south of Swift Current have improved prospects in a sizable local area south and east of that centre. In most of the south-west, however, crop prospects are only fair.

Further rains will be required for filling the crop but the general prospects in Saskatchewan show marked improvement. Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 18.6 per cent below normal as compared with 30 per cent below normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 19 was 2.6 degrees below normal.

Alberta - Crop conditions in Alberta have been improved by recent rains and prospects are now fair to good in most districts. Some heavy rains in the central districts and good showers in the remainder of the province were received during the past week. Moisture conditions are now satisfactory except in the east-central districts where rainfall has been inadequate and crops are poor. Wheat is 50 per cent headed with no significant damage other than from drought. Coarse grains, however, show a very uneven stand generally. Sixty per cent of the alfalfa crop and 40 per cent of other hay has been cut with the quality being fair to good. Fall rye is expected to be an above-average crop. Scattered hail storms were reported during the week throughout the province, local damage only occurring. There has been no extensive damage to crops from insects and sawfly infestations are reported moderate to severe in the areas surveyed.

In southern Alberta showers during the past week maintained the generally favourable moisture conditions. Some areas in the south-east report the need of rain. Crops are practically all headed in the south-east and fall rye is being cut. Range conditions are good. Grains in the south-west show good growth and all are heading well. Rye is starting to ripen in this area.

Crop prospects are only fair to poor in east-central Alberta as a result of inadequate rainfall during the growing season, but farther west in the central districts improved crop conditions have been reported. Growth has been rapid in the Calgary area and swathing of rye is expected to start in a few days. In the vicinity of Lacombe 40 per cent of the wheat and the barley is headed and a few oat fields are in head. The hay crop has been harvested with average yields. Our Stettler correspondent reports two inches of rain fell during the past week and grains are showing rapid growth. Wheat is 50 per cent in head with oats and barley in the shot blade stage.

Farther north in the Edmonton district good rains during the week improved general crop conditions. Growth has been rapid and wheat is fairly well headed. Coarse grains are late. In the north-east there has been no improvement in crop conditions and wheat, oats and barley are poor prospects. Crop growth has been rapid in the Peace River district and wheat is reported 20 inches in height, 80 per cent headed. Yield prospects for all crops in this district are much improved.

Average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 9.5 per cent above normal as compared with 8 per cent above normal a week ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 19 was 1.4 degrees below normal.

British Columbia - During the past two weeks general crop conditions in British Columbia have shown considerable improvement. Weather conditions for the most part have been quite unsettled and temperatures have been below normal. Heavy rains have occurred in the Peace River district and central interior regions while dull weather with intermittent rains has been general over the remainder of the province. The cutting of fall rye is under way and the harvest of the winter wheat crop will commence within a week's time. Haying operations are being hampered by the recent showery weather.

From Saanichton comes the report that haying is still being delayed by showers. Cherries in this area have been seriously attacked by brown rot. Loganberries are at their peak and good yields are being obtained. Fall-sown grains are maturing and pastures are holding up well.

Soil moisture conditions are favourable in the Summerland area and all crops are making good growth. The maturity of fruits and vegetables has been delayed by continued cool, rainy weather which has caused serious splitting of cherries. Good crops of fall grains are being harvested in the northern Okanagan Valley.

From Victoria comes the report that strawberry picking has been completed. Loganberries, raspberries and red currants are now moving in volume. Bing and Lambert cherries picking has commenced and vegetables are in good supply.

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 19, 1948	since April 1	since April 1	July 19, 1948 Mean	Normal
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Pierson	2.86	9.22	7.12	61	66
	Melita	2.76	10.82	8.87	62	68
	Waskada	2.78	9.28	8.02	61	67
2	Boissevain	4.66	12.57	7.14	61	67
	Ninette	3.46	10.09	7.75	60	67
	Pilot Mound	1.54	11.98	8.38	62	67
3	Portage la Prairie	1.02	9.10	7.50	66	66
	Graysville	1.26	9.00	8.17	66	67
	Morden	2.08	10.78	7.88	65	67
	Morris	.20	6.82	7.51	66	67
	Emerson	.52	10.00	7.09	62	67
4	Winnipeg	.22	7.97	8.45	66	68
6	Sprague	.86	7.81 2/	8.30	64	66
	Pinawa	.10	2.52	6.09	66	65
7	Virden	3.20	11.97	6.60	62	64
	Rivers	3.01	10.92	7.50	62	65
8	Brandon	1.86	8.75	7.55	64	65
	Cypress River	1.40	7.24	7.42	61	66
9	Minnedosa	2.30	8.18	7.44	62	65
	Neepawa	1.50	6.49	7.44	64	65
10	Russell	2.14	9.33	7.14	60	64
	Birtle	N.R.	6.41 2/	7.42	60	64
11	Dauphin	2.45	10.94	6.38	63	64
12	Gimli	.56	5.89	8.06	67	66
13	Swan River	2.02	8.86	7.44	62	63
	The Pas	.98	7.40	5.66	64	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		1.83	9.01	7.47	63.0	65.8
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Estevan	1.33	6.46	7.15	N.R.	65
	Carlyle	2.16	5.66	7.68	58	64
1B	Broadview	1.90	5.53	6.76	60	64
	Moosomin	4.16	10.38	6.44	60	65
2A	Yellow Grass	.68	4.75	7.04	59	65
	Midale	1.06	4.67	7.75	61	65
2B	Moose Jaw	1.19	4.38	7.12	63	67
	Regina	.65	5.87	7.13	61	64
	Francis	1.64	5.66	6.02	60	65
	Qu'Appelle	.84	5.01	8.38	60	66
	Indian Head	.74	6.50	8.16	61	64
3AS	Assiniboia	.67	6.61	6.11	62	66
	Ceylon	.50	5.53	8.73	59	66
3AN	Chaplin	1.70	4.94	7.45	62	65
	Gravelbourg	.06	6.20	6.18	62	65
	Coderre	.14	1.98 2/	6.16	N.R.	N.R.
	Bishopric	1.54	4.73	6.34	62	65
3BS	Instow	.64	7.28 2/	6.25	63	66
	Shaunavon	.24	5.72	6.13	62	64
	Cadillac	1.40	8.10	8.28	62	65
	Val Marie	1.72	6.86 2/	6.73	62	67
	Aneroid	.28	5.18	7.18	64	64

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		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
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SASKATCHEWAN						
3BN	Pennant	.82	5.34 2/	7.47	62	65
	Swift Current	.75	6.62	7.16	61	65
	Hughton	N.R.	3.56 2/	6.46	N.R.	64
4A	Maple Creek	.38	4.77	6.91	64	65
	Consul	.16	5.11	5.84	62	62
4B	Roadene	.56	4.84	6.48	63	64
5A	Leross	.98	5.37 2/	7.22	60	63
	Lipton	N.R.	3.82 2/	6.37	N.R.	63
	Yorkton	2.60	6.18	6.95	62	62
5B	Dafoe	1.10	6.19	6.30	62	63
	Foam Lake	.64	7.05	6.83	60	62
	Lintlaw	1.04	5.87	6.98	59	62
	Kamsack	2.26	8.78	6.26	61	64
6A	Davidson	1.02	6.21	5.83	61	65
	Dilke	N.R.	1.44 2/	6.34	N.R.	N.R.
	Semans	.10	4.83	4.66	62	63
6B	Strasbourg	.08	3.06	6.64	61	63
	Harris	.40	3.82 2/	6.43	66	64
	Outlook	1.64	4.20	4.63	63	64
	Saskatoon	.48	3.83	6.21	62	64
	Elbow	.58	5.05	5.92	61	65
	Dundurn	.24	3.90	7.12	61	64
	Tugaske	.46	2.91	5.88	62	65
	Kindersley	.47	2.35	5.61	N.R.	64
7A	Rosetown	1.16	4.90	6.66	N.R.	63
	Macklin	.38	4.39	6.74	61	61
7B	Scott	1.36	4.58	6.04	62	62
	Ruthilda	N.R.	1.52 2/	6.70	N.R.	N.R.
	Biggar	1.50	5.44	6.76	63	63
8A	Nipawin	N.R.	2.58 2/	7.02	N.R.	63
	Hudson Bay Junction	.98	6.53	6.85	62	64
8B	Humboldt	1.26	4.79	5.72	N.R.	64
	Melfort	.51	4.69	6.46	N.R.	64
9A	North Battleford	1.01	4.07	6.47	63	65
	Rabbit Lake	.22	6.32	6.62	58	62
	Prince Albert	.14	6.17	6.52	62	65
9B	Waseca	N.R.	4.16 2/	6.46	N.R.	61
	Island Falls	.12	4.06	6.57	64	64
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.94	5.41	6.65	61.5	64.1
ALBERTA						
1	Taber	.52	7.51	6.75	62	N.R.
	Foremost	.74	5.10	7.99	63	68
	Winnifred	.66	5.15 2/	5.29	N.R.	N.R.
	Medicine Hat	.24	3.29	5.98	65	68
	Manyberries	.32	4.84 2/	6.08	66	68
2	Cowley	.39	11.18	7.53	58	61
	Macleod	.08	10.86	6.72	64	67
	Cardston	.62	13.74	10.10	59	66
	Lethbridge	.31	10.45	6.92	63	66
3	Vauxhall	.96	5.37 2/	5.55	63	68
	Brooks	.10	5.14	5.69	64	69
	Empress	.08	1.74	6.41	63	70

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		Week ending	Total	Normal	Week ending 8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 19, 1948	since April 1	since April 1	July 19, 1948 Mean	Normal
ALBERTA						
4	High River	N.R.	7.75 <u>2/</u>	8.19	N.R.	61
	Vulcan	.32	10.16	7.17	N.R.	N.R.
5	Drumheller	.72	5.67 <u>2/</u>	7.21	63	68
	Hanna	.44	2.70 <u>2/</u>	7.91	63	66
	Naco	.34	5.79	6.88	61	65
6	Olds	.56	9.17	7.36	59	61
	Calgary	.09	10.33	7.89	60	63
	Three Hills	.32	7.26	6.66	60	61
	Strathmore	.04	4.72 <u>2/</u>	6.96	60	62
	Gleichen	.10	7.02	6.41	62	63
7	Viking	N.R.	1.53 <u>2/</u>	6.10	N.R.	60
	Sedgewick	1.02	3.41	6.59	58	60
	Hardisty	.62	3.93 <u>2/</u>	6.79	N.R.	N.R.
	Coronation	1.52	6.36	5.81	61	63
	Hughenden	2.02	5.96	6.42	59	67
8	Red Deer	.27	8.44	9.13	60	60
	Lacombe	1.90	7.15 <u>2/</u>	7.85	61	61
	Wetaskiwin	3.86	10.39	7.31	62	62
	Camrose	1.24	7.28	7.09	61	62
	Stettler	1.38	5.16	8.06	63	61
9	Jasper	.18	6.06	3.76	59	59
	Rocky Mountain House	1.72	13.00	7.94	59	60
	Springdale	.82	8.83 <u>2/</u>	9.10	56	60
10	Vegreville	.85	5.42	8.15	N.R.	60
	Vermilion	1.21	5.37	7.83	60	61
	Lloydminster	.86	5.81	6.01	63	62
11	Edmonton	1.53	7.96	7.64	62	62
12	Whitecourt	2.11	12.34	7.73	58	61
	Edson	N.R.	11.87 <u>2/</u>	7.21	N.R.	58
13	Elk Point	1.20	6.30 <u>2/</u>	6.57	60	62
14	Campsie	1.18	10.41 <u>2/</u>	7.61	59	61
	Athabaska	.90	2.56 <u>2/</u>	6.77	62	61
	Lac La Biche	1.57	5.96	6.76	62	61
15	High Prairie	.46	8.17	6.71	64	61
	Wagner	.68	6.40	7.04	60	62
16	Beaverlodge	1.02	8.12	5.46	62	60
	Grand Prairie	.62	10.50	6.58	63	60
	Fairview	.01	7.98	4.82	65	60
17	Fort St. John	.49	5.34	6.56	65	62
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.82	7.62	6.96	61.4	62.8

N.R. - No report.

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

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

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