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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the fourth of the 1964 series of six telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the eighth of a series of eleven telegraphic reports on crop conditions in the Prairie Provinces. A selected list of crop correspondents chosen from the Federal 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 Division, Department of Transport.

S U M M A R Y

Maritime Provinces In the Maritime Provinces the weather during the past week has been good for advancing growth of all crops but damp conditions have retarded haying operations. Hay crops are excellent in Prince Edward Island and pastures also continue to make good growth, with clovers being well maintained. Potatoes are looking good and all cole crops are making satisfactory growth. In the Valley and in western Nova Scotia growing conditions are also excellent but the hay harvest is being delayed by damp weather. Hay lands and pastures are producing excellent yields. The pea harvest for processing is under way and some new potatoes are being lifted. Lettuce and strawberry picking is about completed and early cabbage is arriving on the market. Growing conditions are also excellent in central and eastern parts of the province although haying is being delayed by damp weather. Some early potatoes are on the market and about 80 per cent of the strawberry crop has been taken off. Crop stands are also excellent in Cumberland County and about 50 per cent of the strawberries have been harvested. Present estimates indicate the blueberry crop may be somewhat lower than early forecasts because of lack of pollination or some frost damage. About 10 per cent of the hay has been put up in New Brunswick and fertilized pastures continue to be productive. The potato crop is also improving rapidly with better growing conditions, but some fields still look poor. A promising grain crop is now heading and early-seeded corn is tasseling. Strawberry picking is nearing completion in central areas and at a peak in later areas. The apple crop is sizing well and is expected to be equal to or greater than last year.

Quebec During the past two weeks rainy weather with considerable heat has prevailed in nearly all areas of the Province of Quebec. This has been favourable to vegetative growth in general but wet weather has delayed the completion of

Prepared in the Crops Section, Agriculture Division

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haying which, however, was well advanced in the district of Montreal. Yields of hay are not up to normal and the quality has been adversely affected by inferior conditions. Meadows and pastures have profited by recent rainfall and production of milk is normal. Livestock are in good condition and cereals and market garden crops are now normal. The strawberry harvest is completed in the principal centres and the output has varied from fair to good. The raspberry crop is nearly finished in the Montreal district while picking is still going on in the Ottawa Valley. A reduction in the apple crop is anticipated. In spite of damage caused by wind and drought in the Napierville district, a good crop of vegetables is expected because of re-seeding. South of Montreal canning peas are being harvested and outturns are better than first expected. Sweet corn is about 10 days late in appearing on the market. The first crop of potatoes is giving below average yields on light soils but fall varieties have a better appearance and are promising. In some districts, there is an abundance of weeds and insects.

Ontario Crop conditions across the province of Ontario have been greatly improved by heavy rains during the past week. Wheat harvesting is under way in Southwestern Ontario and the crop is ripening rapidly across the rest of the province. Spring-sown grains are making excellent growth and there appears to be sufficient moisture in most areas to bring them to maturity. Good yields are expected. Corn and truck crops continue to do well and harvesting of sweet cherries is in full swing. The first cutting of hay is either completed or in the final stages, but recent wet weather has hampered storage. Aftermath of hay and pasture fields is doing exceptionally well. Some outbreaks of army worm have been reported in various parts of the province and hail storms have caused minor damage. Several parts of Ontario report light to medium rust damage to fall wheat resulting in lower yields and poorer quality.

Prairie Provinces Crop conditions are being well maintained in Manitoba and throughout southern districts of Saskatchewan and Alberta as well as in the western parts and the Peace River District of Alberta. Improvement has occurred in eastern districts of Saskatchewan, but local showers have been insufficient to cause any substantial improvement in crop prospects in most central, western and northern areas. In districts adjacent to Saskatchewan in central and northern Alberta, crop prospects are also below normal and some deterioration is still occurring. Recent warm weather throughout the Prairies has advanced crops rapidly and the bulk of the wheat is headed. Fall rye harvesting is commencing in some southern districts and haying is nearing completion in most areas.

British Columbia In British Columbia the harvesting schedule is later than normal due to one of the coolest summers in recent years. At the Coast, lifting of early potatoes has passed its peak and second early varieties show promise of excellent yields. Peas for processing are now coming off with generally excellent returns. Harvesting of the strawberry crop has now finished and picking of raspberries and loganberries is under way, but hampered by unsettled weather. Cole crops are in good supply. In the Okanagan Valley one of the best cherry crops of the past few years is nearly completed, although some losses have occurred from splitting. Early varieties of apricots are reaching maturity this week. Prospects for peaches and pears continue favourable. Picking of early apples is just beginning and later varieties are sizing well. Pastures in the Interior region continue to be good. The outlook for grain crops in the Peace River Block remains generally promising.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island the weather during the past two weeks has been cloudy and warm with high humidity. Although hay crops are being harvested and yields are excellent, the unpredictable weather is causing some delays. Potato and grain crops look promising at this time but the wet weather is conducive to the development of late blight. Strawberries are now being picked and yields are average. The pea harvest is approaching and prospects appear excellent although the aphid population is higher than normal. The apple set is heavy but growth has been delayed by adverse weather.

There has been very little rain during the past two weeks at Truro, Nova Scotia, but the weather has been warm and humid making hay curing difficult. Harvesting of this crop is well under way and yields are better than average. Clover stands are heavy on well-tilled land. All field crops are making good growth and early-seeded grains are starting to head. Pastures are still in good condition but growth is now slowing up due to drier weather. At Amherst the weather has been very favourable for farming and haying operations are about half complete. Yields of this crop are very good. Grain crops are beginning to head a little earlier than last year. The corn crop is looking very good.

The warm weather of the past week has advanced field crops rapidly in most sections of New Brunswick. Haymaking has proceeded well in the Fredericton district. However a report from Andover indicates the damp, humid weather in that area is hampering haying operations and very little hay has been stored to date. Potatoes are in blossom and filling the rows, grain crops are headed, and prospects appear good. Pastures are holding up well.

QUEBEC

Dry weather is still prevailing in the St. John's region of Quebec. Vegetable and field crops, however, are doing well but rain would be very beneficial. Grain crops have ripened fast in the past few days. Fair yields are expected although army worms are appearing in great numbers and have caused damage in the district south and north-east of Montreal. Larvae are almost full grown at the present time. Pea crop yields have been good and the quality is satisfactory. Fire blight has been found in some Hemmingford apple orchards and the green apple aphid is more abundant than usual. Populations, however, are naturally decreasing now. The June fall of apples was heavier than usual. The apple maggot adults emerged ten days earlier than normal. Our correspondent from Lennoxville reports normal temperatures and frequent rains amounting to 2.67 inches since the 7th of July. Grass growth has been normal. Silage making is now finished, but haying is still in progress. Cereal growth is also normal. Flax and potatoes are in flower and barley has commenced to turn. Oats are in the milk stage and fodder corn is growing well. The Experimental Farm at Ste. Anne de la Pocatière reports that haying is about 35 per cent completed and is being rendered difficult by light but frequent showers and fog. The quality has been reduced. Cereal crops are in the heading stage and look promising. Some have been affected by recent storms. Pastures are very good and milk production is above average. Potato plants have a good appearance.

In the Normandin district rainfall amounting to 1.07 inches has been received during the past two weeks. Haying has been delayed due to showery weather but yields of grain and hay are expected to be good. Clover, however, appears to be severely damaged by winterkilling. Cereals are short and light, and pastures and vegetable crops are good. Potatoes are progressing and blueberries are promising. At Caplan temperatures have been about normal and less rain has been received in the past few days. Hay-making is in progress and yield and quality are expected to be lower than average.

Early-sown cereals are heading on short straw. Aphids are numerous in late-sown oats and barley fields, and there is a heavy infestation of septoria leaf and stem blotch on grasses. Pastures are in good condition and milk production is normal.

ONTARIO

In Middlesex County in Southern Ontario hot weather has promoted rapid growth of corn, beans and other row crops and hastened the maturity of grain. Top yields are reported for fall wheat but many samples are somewhat shrunken from rust. Some oats and barley will combine shortly. Mild army worm infestations are reported and large acreages of field beans have some bacterial blight. Second crops of hay are being taken off and pastures are slightly dry in some areas. Farther south in Essex County the wheat harvest is under way and yields are excellent. Canning peas and beans are almost completed and yields are good. Early potatoes are 80 per cent completed and yields have been excellent. Other in-season fruits and vegetables are being harvested. Corn, soy-beans and tobacco are doing very well and late processing tomatoes look very good. Army worm is well controlled and damage has been limited. On Pelee Island fall wheat is of good quality, yielding between 35 and 40 bushels per acre. Soybeans and other crops are in good condition but showers would increase growth.

In Kent County, 15 to 20 per cent of the wheat crop has been combined with yields and quality good. Oat and barley prospects are favourable and canning crops are making good growth. Army worms have caused varying damage to late cereals and corn, with total loss less than 2 per cent. Grain corn has made phenomenal growth and is much further advanced than average. Soybeans, white beans and sugar beets are in excellent condition. Harvesting of processing peas is completed and good yields are reported. The green and wax bean harvest is well under way with good yields. Burley tobacco has made good growth.

Farther east in Norfolk County, a heavy rust infestation has caused greatly reduced yield and quality in winter wheat. Harvesting is in full swing. Spring grains are in good condition and filling well. Ample moisture is providing excellent pastures and growth of row crops. Army worm has been found in some fields but damage has been light. In Lincoln County heavy rain on July 11 and 12 caused severe splitting of sweet cherries with up to 50 per cent loss followed by an outbreak of brown rot. Fruit insects and mites are generally at a low level.

In Simcoe County of Western Ontario recent rains have relieved drought conditions and hot weather continues. Winter wheat harvest has started and spring grains should be ready in two weeks. The first cases of army worm have been reported. There is still a good deal of bale hauling to be completed. Sporadic outbreaks of army worms in Bruce County leave crop estimates uncertain at this time. Otherwise, recent rains have resulted in all crops making good growth. The first cut of hay was variable in yield but there is promise of a good aftermath. All corn crops are making excellent growth. In Wellington County all crops are responding well to recent rains but some lodging of spring grain may reduce yields. Fall wheat has suffered from rust and the quality of grain is poor. Army worm infestations have caused only slight damage to date. On the other hand, fairly serious army worm outbreaks have been found in two-thirds of Waterloo County. Farmers have taken control measures by both baiting and spraying and the incidence is now lessening. In Halton County second cutting of hay is under way. Winter wheat harvesting has commenced with average yields. Recent heavy rains and winds have flattened some oat fields and damaged fruit trees. There has also been some

damage by hail to both corn and fruit. Pastures are in good condition. No army worms have been reported.

In Durham County of Central Ontario continued rains have aided moisture conditions. Some hay was lost due to the wet weather but prospects for other crops are good. Winter wheat is promising and cutting has started. Leaching from excessive moisture may affect tobacco yields. To the north in Peterborough County hay aftermath is good and spring grains are headed out and growing well. Winter wheat is being cut. Pastures are in good condition and army worms have been reported.

In Leeds County the first-cut of hay about 70 per cent of normal. Fall wheat is in good condition and cutting is expected to start about August 1. Oats are fair to good and corn is growing rapidly. Pasture and milk flow are both below normal. Some damage has been reported due to army worms. In Dundas County spring grain crops are much improved by the recent rains but army worm damage is severe in some early fields. The corn crop is well advanced and prospects are good, but more rain will be needed shortly. Pastures require extended wet weather for a good recovery. Recent rains in Carleton County have sparked crops such as corn, second-cut hay, pastures and grain to make rapid growth. Most crops appear to be back to normal and prospects are good for the remainder of the year. Early-spring grain and winter wheat are ripening and quality appears to be better than first expected. Hail and army worms have caused considerable damage in small areas. The army worm outbreak is not generally a serious one although a few farmers have treated grain fields to control the pest. To the northwest in Renfrew County the drought situation continues to be very serious in most of the agricultural areas. The pasture situation is critical. Many farmers have sprayed fields in an attempt to control outbreaks of army worms. Fall wheat harvesting has started and the crop is slightly below average due to the drought. There is a keen demand locally for hay and prices are ranging to thirty dollars per ton.

The district of Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario has responded well to the warm weather of the past two weeks. Grasses and legumes are good crops but haying operations have been slow due to frequent showers. Yellow dwarf disease has been observed in oat and barley plots at the Experimental Farm. In the Thunder Bay district haying operations are nearing completion and yields are very good. Although the weather is warm and dry, grain and potato crops are showing good growth. However, the yields per acre will be down due to drowning-out occasioned by excessive rainfall during late May and early June. Pastures are in good condition and milk flow is normal.

MANITOBA

The crop situation in Manitoba continues favourable after a week of hot weather and showers. Cereal crops are headed, flax is in bloom and special crops are satisfactory. Rye is ripening. Late oats, barley and flax fields are uneven in growth. Crops are fair but improving in the northwest. In general flax is fair to good but reports from Ste. Rose indicate poor condition due to earlier dry weather and limited acreage damage by excess water in the Emerson vicinity. There are traces of aster yellows in flax and a few fields have been lost from heat canker. Traces of this appear in cereal crops. Haying is two-thirds completed with adequate supplies expected at most points. Grasshoppers are on the wing but there has been no serious damage. Weeds are thick.

Two inches of rain were received in the Arnaud-Greenridge area in southeast Manitoba last Thursday and Sunday. Although water is still evident on the fields, the moisture did more good than harm. In the Dominion City, Ridgeville, Emerson areas

about one inch of rain was received and no water is evident on fields. Crops are looking promising though patchy in growth. In the Altona district, beet thinning is virtually completed. Scattered hail and winds have caused some damage in the district but none of a very serious nature. The heat may affect the filling of early cereals. Corn and sunflowers are progressing rapidly and some sunflowers were budding this week. Most of the peas are filling and prospects are excellent for this crop. Forage crops and pastures are generally good and grass seed yields are promising. Rainfall varying from 1.13 to 2 inches was received in the Morden district during the past week. High temperatures have prevailed and localized hail and wind damage has occurred. Haying is continuing and canning peas are being harvested as quickly as possible. Cereal crops are looking good and fall rye is ripening. Sugar beets are progressing satisfactorily.

In southwest Manitoba at Melita about half an inch of rain was received during the last week and as a result, crops are holding in good condition. A small percentage of rye has been swathed and the remainder will be harvested in 10 days time. Haying operations are in full swing. Farther east at Somerset, wheat is in excellent condition with most of it in head. Flax is also looking good and is in bloom. There is a trace of aster yellows in flax and several reports of browning of tips of evergreens. Weed growth on summerfallows is heavy. Haying is progressing rapidly and yields are good.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that high temperatures of the past few weeks have hastened crop development. Some early crops are beginning to turn in colour. Cereals are filling well. Moisture supplies are adequate as a result of local showers. Only traces of stem or leaf rust are in evidence on wheat but crown rust is developing fairly rapidly on oats. Foliage diseases of barley are now making an appearance. Haying is about 60 per cent completed with good prospects for a second cut. Pastures continue good and gardens are now looking well after a slow start.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa early cereal crops are headed and rye is ripening with an average yield expected. Moisture is adequate for field crops in this district. A light infestation of leaf rust is appearing on wheat. Haying is in progress. At Minnedosa wheat is from 95 to 100 per cent headed, oats and barley 40 per cent, and flax is in blossom or the early boll stage. Recent rains have slowed down haying operations. There is no shortage of hay. Insects continue to be a problem on horticultural crops. Farther west at Shoal Lake rain over the entire area has been received. Haying operations have been slow but yields of hay are fair. Cereals generally are excellent. They are headed and filling well. Flax and rapeseed also appear good. Cattle are in good condition except for some problems with pink eye. Pastures are excellent. Insects and plant diseases are prevalent in horticultural crops. Some very scattered hail and wind damage has occurred.

In northern Manitoba at Dauphin crop conditions have improved greatly since the rain last Wednesday. Some runoff was experienced due to the sudden downpour. More rain is needed. The prospective yield outlook is still below 50 per cent of normal.

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station at Winnipeg reports that wheat leaf rust is developing at a moderate rate on Selkirk and Pembina varieties in southern Manitoba, but the crop is well past heading and losses should be small. Wheat stem rust is expected to cause significant losses only in rare fields of susceptible varieties. Crown rust and stem rust of oats are scarce.

The Entomological Laboratory at Winnipeg reports that the grasshopper infestation remains severe in the lighter soil areas. Timely rain and good growing conditions have helped keep pastures in good condition in spite of damage caused by grasshoppers. The good pasture growth has helped to minimize widespread movement from pastures and hay fields to adjacent cropland. However, there is some movement taking place and damage is occurring in grain fields.

Hail storms have been reported in the following areas: July 15, Makaroff, Gilbert Plains, Rossburn, Lenora to Brandon on to Neepawa, Exira to Woodside; July 16, Westbourne to Portage on to Marquette, Selkirk and Beauséjour area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 16 per cent above normal as compared with 18 per cent above normal a week ago, 20 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 36 per cent above normal for the same period a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 20 was 3.5 degrees above normal as compared with 1.8 degrees above normal a week ago, .1 degree above normal two weeks ago and .8 degree above normal for the week ending July 22, 1963.

SASKATCHEWAN

The recent extremely high temperatures throughout Saskatchewan resulted in some crop deterioration particularly in the dry areas of the province. While light to heavy showers have been received at scattered points, and these have brought about some local improvement, good rains are needed in most areas. Showers have been more frequent in the Regina-Weyburn and southeastern districts and moisture conditions there are satisfactory for present requirements. Wheat throughout the province averages 23 inches in height and coarse grains about 20. Approximately 90 per cent of the wheat is headed and present prospects are that fall rye will yield about 15 bushels per acre.

In the Willmar district in the southeast part of the province crops are holding very well but good rains will soon be required to prevent deterioration of the very heavy stands. Fall rye swathing will begin about the first week in August. Haying is nearing completion and pastures are still making growth. Gardens are good but late. All crops are also very good in the Fillmore district and our correspondent rates them as being better than at the same period a year ago. However, a good rain is needed to ensure proper filling of most fields. Haying is nearing completion and yields are generally good. Gardens are improving with the recent warm weather.

The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that 0.81 inch of rain in three separate showers during the past week has maintained favourable conditions for grain crops which are now fully headed and filling well. Grasshoppers are not a threat in this area and no rust has appeared on the growing crop. Wild oats are starting to show above the wheat but should not be too serious. Haying operations are well advanced but yields are light. Pastures are only fair and are in need of more rain. Livestock are in excellent condition.

In the southwest part of the province two good showers were received last week in the Gravelbourg area, giving parts of the district over one inch of rainfall. Early crops are showing some sign of changing colour. No hail damage is evident in the district. The hay crop has been light. The weather remains hot and dry at Big Beaver and an average crop is now filling. Fall rye is poor. Pasture lands are still green but grazing is short. Some hail damage is reported in this area. All crops are fully headed in the Swift Current district and early-sown fields are beginning to fill. Scattered showers have maintained cereals seeded on summerfallow but stubble-sown crops are poor. A good rain soon would ensure average yields. Swathing of fall rye has now started and yields are expected to range between 12 to 15 bushels per acre.

The weather continues hot and dry with some strong winds in the Shaunavon district and, as a result, some crops are beginning to suffer. Hail has also damaged some crops from 25 to 85 per cent. All crops are in head and our correspondent estimates that wheat yields will average 25 bushels, oats 60 and barley 45 bushels per acre. There has been no damage from insects and the hay supply will be sufficient. The hot, dry weather is advancing crops rapidly at Val Marie and early-sown fields of wheat are starting to turn. Coarse grains are showing some damage due to lack of moisture. Grasslands are fair to good. There has been no noticeable damage from grasshoppers. All crops continue to make favourable growth in the Leader district and stands of cereals range from good to very good. No damage from any source is reported. Some fall rye is now being harvested and yield outturns are good.

Heavy rains with some hail have restored moisture reserves in the Togo district in the east-central part of the province and shower activity is continuing. As a result, the crop outlook for the district is much improved, especially for late-sown fields. Some early-sown fields which have suffered from the early summer drought are being salvaged for feed and pasture. Growth of wheat is now rapid and stands are heavy on some summerfallows. Haying is nearing completion and it is expected there will now be enough straw to supplement the small hay crop. Some 90 per cent of all grain is in bloom at Sturgis and crops look very promising. Frequent showers have delayed the hay harvest. The rape crops are very good. Rainfall in the Melville area has totalled 6.60 inches this season to date and crops are good. There is no damage from grasshoppers or hail as yet. Hay supplies throughout the district will be adequate and there may be some available for sale.

Scattered local showers received so far in July in the Drake district in the central part of the province have provided about an inch of moisture. Considerable second growth is appearing in cereal crops and the heat wave of last week did some damage. Wheat yield prospects at this time are about the longtime average, but coarse grain outturns will be below average. Grasshoppers are now on the wing. Haying operations are nearing completion. Continued hot weather and only scattered showers during the past week have caused a further decline in crop conditions in the Saskatoon district. Crops on stubble and many summerfallow fields on light land are now beyond recovery but some summerfallow fields on heavier land may still yield 15 bushels per acre. Fall rye is almost ripe.

In the west-central part of the province at Rosetown moisture is still deficient and some hail has been received south of town. Wheat could still average 15 bushels if rain were received this week. Flax crops are still in bloom. Summerfallows are black.

In the northwest part of the province at Paradise Hill several heavy showers were received during the past week and there is now sufficient moisture to fill wheat heads. However, most coarse grains will be cut for feed. Pastures are improving and there should now be enough fodder to carry the livestock. Condition of crops has also improved since the recent rain in the Meota area but more precipitation will be needed to complete the filling of heads.

Scattered showers during the past week in the Melfort district in the northeast part of the province provided only slight relief to crops and more rain is urgently needed. Crop stands are extremely variable ranging from fair to very poor within short distances. Stands of rape are also patchy due to poor germination and outturns will be a near-failure in many fields. Haying is well advanced but yields are light. Crop prospects have improved during the last week in the Nipawin district due to local showers. Clover and grass crops are also responding to the more favourable conditions as are fields of rapeseed and flax. Yields of hay and pasture are very poor. Our correspondent estimates that yields may be half of normal if further rains are received during the last half of this month and early August.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following hail storms: July 14, Bruno, Quill Lake, Westbend and Goodwater areas; July 15, Semans to Dysart and Hubbard to Fenwood, Yorkton, Stockholm and Ricetown areas; July 16, Smeaton and Meskanaw areas. The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports that there have again been numerous hail storms. The major points are as follows: July 13, Willowbunch, Verwood, Spring Valley; July 14, Goodwater, Quill Lake, Bruno; July 15, Rocanville, Southey, Cupar, Leross, Kandahar; July 16, Young, Hepburn.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 10 per cent below normal, compared with 16 per cent below normal a week ago, 12 per cent below normal 2 weeks ago and in contrast to 42 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 20 was 1.9 degrees above normal, compared with 5.5 degrees above normal a week ago, 0.9 degree below normal two weeks ago, and 0.4 degree above normal for the week ending July 22, 1963.

ALBERTA

Recent warm weather has continued to reduce crop yield prospects in east-central areas of Alberta, but elsewhere prospects remain promising. Moisture supplies are now good in the Peace River area, from there south to Sangudo and Lac la Biche and in all of the western regions. Elsewhere showers continue to be spotty, and are improving the feed situation in the east-central part of the province even where it is now too late for grain crops to recover. The incidence of hail is increasing with damaging storms passing between Lacombe and Didsbury and in areas south of Lethbridge.

Light rains during the past week improved soil moisture conditions in the Manyberries district but more rain is needed to fill the crops which are now all headed. Second summerfallow operations are nearing completion and range vegetation is now beginning to cure. Harvesting of rye has commenced in the Medicine Hat district and yields up to 18 bushels per acre are reported. Spring grains are all headed on fairly heavy stands and more rain is required to ensure good filling. Pastures are good in this district and the hay crop on irrigated land has been heavy. Some hay is now being moved to Saskatchewan.

Crop conditions continue to be very favourable around Lethbridge with the prospect of a better than average yield of cereals. Harvesting of peas, rye and winter wheat has commenced. The yield of peas is reported to be normal and quality is average. There have been several severe hail storms in parts of this district. Ideal conditions still prevail at Cardston. All grain crops and pastures are good. Fall rye and winter wheat are turning colour and spring crops are heading and there is sufficient moisture to complete filling. Haying operations are well advanced and yields are heavy. Some farmers are having difficulty completing summerfallow due to excessive moisture. Farther north at Claresholm more rain is now required to maintain the good crop prospects. The hay crop in this district was the best obtained in many years.

The Brooks district has had extremely hot and dry weather during the last ten days but crops are still standing up well. All farmers in the irrigation districts are putting on water. Grain crops on both dry and irrigated land are well headed on a good length of straw. Flaxseed is in bloom. At Vulcan crops are starting to yellow and require more rain very soon for proper filling. Swathing of rye and winter wheat will be general next week and these crops are expected to yield about 30 bushels per acre.

Stands of grain are good at Hanna and scattered showers have maintained favourable conditions although more rain is needed to help complete filling and to maintain pastures. Swathing of rye will be general by the end of the month. Warm dry weather has advanced crops rapidly around Calgary. Surface moisture has been depleted and, though subsoil moisture is fair, rain is needed to ensure proper filling and protect present good prospects. Wheat is about 100 per cent headed and barley and oats about 75 per cent in the Olds district, where crop prospects remain generally very good. About 5 per cent of the district has suffered hail damage, some quite severe.

Crop conditions vary a great deal in central districts of the province. Local showers from two to three inches have occurred around Sedgewick but most of the district needs rain to promote good filling. Pastures are poor and the hay crop was light. Crops have been deteriorating at Donalda. Grain is headed at about ten inches and is now burning quite badly except where widely scattered showers were received. Without rain in the next few days there may be almost total loss of many fields in the district.

The Experimental Farm at Lacombe reports that haying is 80 per cent completed and additional moisture will be needed soon to develop second cut and to ensure good filling of cereal crops. Severe hail damage devastated about 160 square miles in Lacombe County. Severe hail storms are also reported from Eckville, with damage ranging from 10 to 100 per cent in strips three to six miles wide. Haying is 60 per cent completed and crop and summerfallow conditions are fair to good.

Crop conditions have improved greatly at Vermilion in the northeast central district. Three-quarters of an inch of rain last week stopped the burning of grain and if conditions remain favourable wheat might yield 20 bushels, oats 25 and barley 20. Pastures are greening up but are very short. More rain is needed. Recent rains of about one-half inch also halted deterioration of crops around Edmonton. Even if present prospects are maintained, only a fair crop is anticipated. The Stoney Plain district had heavy rains which improved crop conditions substantially. Most of the grain crop is headed and some early-sown barley fields are beginning to ripen. Lodging is prevalent in barley that was heavily fertilized or sown on new land. Haying operations were suspended due to rain but should be resumed this week. Good weed kills were obtained in the first summerfallow operation which took place under comparatively dry conditions. Fields are now being worked over for the second time.

The Bonnyville district, which had suffered very severely from prolonged drought, received good rains during the past week and second growth will provide badly needed forage. Pastures are showing signs of recovery but most cereal crops are too far gone to make any grain yield. Wheat and coarse grains are all headed out at Colinton. In general the heads are fairly small. Length of straw is good on summerfallow but short on stubble fields. There is sufficient moisture at present and a good recovery of pastures and forage crops since the recent rainfall.

Crop conditions in the Peace River area are quite variable. Growth in the Beaver Lodge district is exceedingly lush but about two weeks late due to cool, wet conditions. Some barley crops are lodging. Yield prospects are excellent if warm, dry weather sets in. Three to four inches of rain fell last week in the Berwyn district and warm weather is now required to speed heading and filling. Many fields had been damaged by heavy rains earlier in the season and an extremely wide range of yields is expected. The season was drier farther north at Fort Vermilion. Wheat and barley are in the dough stage and too far advanced to derive full benefit from recent rains. Oats are in the milk stage and are filling well. About 50 per cent of rape is still blooming and pastures are making good recovery after last week's rains. Flax is 9 to 12 inches high and has 4 to 10 bolls per plant.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports that the first storms of consequence for the season occurred on July 18. There are many reports of 100 per cent damage and hail stones up to tennis-ball size at Coutts, Warner, Milk River, Foremost, Nemiscam, Etzikom, Orion and Manyberries. Another storm ran from Seven Persons through Medicine Hat, Dunmore and Irvine. A storm at Sundre, Didsbury, Olds and Kneehill produced stones from walnut to golf-ball size and another touching on Rocky Mountain House, Eckville, Benalto, Sylvan Lake, Blackfalds, Lacombe, Tees, Clive, Bashaw and Daysland where stones were from pea to tennis-ball size. Other storms occurred as follows: July 12 at Empress and Acadia Valley; July 14 at Milk River; July 15 at Sundre, Bentley, Forshee, Rimbey, Blackfalds, Ponoka, Lacombe, Mayerthorpe, Drumheller and Youngstown; July 16 at Elk Point and on the 17th at Beaver Lodge. The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association also reports a storm in the Bruce area on July 16.

The average unweighted precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 16 per cent above normal, compared with 10 per cent above normal a week ago, 17 per cent above normal 2 weeks ago, and 10 per cent above normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 20, 1964 was 1.9 degrees below normal in contrast to 5.8 degrees above normal a week ago and 0.4 degree above normal two weeks ago and compared with 0.5 degree below normal for the week ending July 22, 1963.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

On the Vancouver Island bumper crops of hay and strawberries have been harvested. The price of strawberries has been strong with an increase in tonnage in the fresh fruit trade. Harvesting of early potatoes, cherries and loganberries has started and prospects for these crops are excellent.

In the Lower Fraser Valley temperatures are continuing unseasonably cool. Precipitation to date for July is 90 per cent of the long-term total for the month. Strawberry harvesting is nearing completion. The raspberry harvest is just starting, but fruit crop prospects deteriorated seriously because in the past two weeks fruit rot damage has been extensive. Hay harvesting was hampered by weather. Pastures are excellent and corn and bean crops are fair. Seepage water from freshets is still present in some fields.

In the South Okanagan Valley cherry harvest has been completed. At Oliver and Osoyoos lambert picking is in full swing. In the northern part harvesting of apricots is expected to start this week. Good crops of peaches and prunes are progressing well and pears are sizing well. Early apples are being harvested.

In the North Okanagan Valley, although first crop hay yields were 15 to 20 per cent above average, harvest weather was marred by frequent showers and thus hay quality is quite variable. With adequate moisture to date, anticipated cereal crop yields are 20 to 40 per cent above average. Harvesting of fall wheat should commence about the end of the month. Field peas, potatoes and other vegetable crops generally look good. Pastures and ranges are above average in productivity this year.

Kamloops and southern Cariboo regions are generally cooler than normal with frequent showers which have seriously hindered haymaking. Pastures are producing well. Water levels remain abnormally high and are just beginning to drop. Ranges at mid-altitude were producing well but sub-alpine ranges are barely starting to grow.

In the Central Interior hay harvesting has been seriously delayed by wet weather and wet ground conditions but so far deterioration has been slow. Grains are growing slowly. Pastures are excellent and production above average.

In the Peace River Region at Dawson Creek moisture is excessive. Heavy barley crops are beginning to lodge. Seed crop prospects are good, but harvesting is not possible due to wet conditions. Growing conditions are not good due to cool, wet weather. In the Fort St. John area crop growth is excellent and moisture supplies are extremely good. Provided ample sunshine is experienced, bumper yields can be expected for all crops. Wet weather has delayed hay harvesting considerably.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	week ending	
		8 a.m. July 20, 1964	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. July 20	
			inches		1964	Normal
						degrees F.
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	.02	7.82	8.07	72	67
	Pierson	.50	10.30	8.08	73	68
	Waskada	N.R.	11.13(2)	8.43	N.R.	68
2	Ninette	.12	9.52	8.69	70	68
	Baldur	.17	9.16	8.48	70	68
	Pilot Mound	.25	9.52	8.27	70	68
3	Altona	.87	9.14	7.82	74	70
	Deerwood	.31	8.29	8.25	73	68
	Graysville	.34	7.55(2)	8.01	71	69
	Gretna	.96	13.31	7.82	73	71
	Morden	.85	9.19	8.50	74	70
	Morris	1.07	11.84	7.32	74	70
	Portage la Prairie	1.00	10.82	8.29	72	70
	Roland	.38	8.97	8.01	72	69
4	Stonewall	1.46	11.57	8.00	71	69
5	Emerson	.85	14.29	7.82	75	70
	Steinbach	1.87	11.75	8.02	74	69
	Winnipeg	.06	8.58	7.61	73	69
	Starbuck	.14	9.04	7.61	N.R.	69
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.44	9.50	7.12	74	67
	Great Falls	1.30	9.84	6.79	74	67
	Sprague	2.71	14.30	8.51	74	66
7	Reston	N.R.	1.34(2)	8.15	N.R.	69
	Rivers	1.41	8.80	9.19	72	68
	Virden	.72	10.90	7.67	72	69
8	Brandon	.35	9.34	8.72	71	68
	Cypress River	.06	9.37	8.05	72	69
9	Gladstone	.41	6.77	8.11	N.R.	N.R.
10	Birtle	.55	7.38	7.73	69	65
	Rosburn	1.81	7.67	7.38	69	65
	Russell	.59	8.05	7.32	69	66
11	Dauphin	3.73	7.65	7.58	71	69
	Gilbert Plains	.61	5.41	7.58	69	69
12	Arborg	.34	6.13	7.52	70	68
	Gimli	.50	8.73	8.11	71	68
	Steep Rock	.27	4.10	7.29	73	66
13	Swan River	.66	4.71(2)	7.10	71	65
	The Pas	1.35	7.36	6.10	64	66
14	Grass River	.63	6.81	8.31	71	68
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.80	9.13	7.88	71.6	68.1

II

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	week ending	
		8 a.m. July 20, 1964	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. July 20 1964	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Carlyle	.19	8.47	7.68	70	66
	Estevan	.02	9.37	8.02	73	69
	Oxbow	N.R.	7.66(2)	8.05	N.R.	68
	Willmar	.09	7.07	7.54	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.46	8.65	7.78	69	65
	Moosomin	.85	9.30	8.27	70	68
2A	Yellow Grass	1.36	7.14	7.29	71	68
	Weyburn	.12	6.66	7.37	72	68
	Midale	.14	6.47	7.08	72	68
	Claybank	N.R.	6.51(2)	7.35	N.R.	69
2B	Moose Jaw	1.00	5.08	6.71	73	69
	Regina	.57	7.68	7.03	71	68
	Francis	2.26	9.68	6.41	68	67
	Qu'Appelle	.91	6.12	7.64	71	67
	Indian Head	.73	6.74	7.04	70	67
3AS	Ormiston	.39	4.98	7.28	72	69
	Minton	.31	7.94	7.83	70	68
	Cardross	.89	4.54	7.29	72	68
	Ceylon	.65	7.36(2)	8.02	70	68
3AN	Chaplin	.95	5.02	6.11	72	68
	Gravelbourg	.57	4.53	6.89	72	69
3BS	Shaunavon	.25	8.98	6.43	69	69
	Pambrun	N.R.	4.33(2)	7.08	N.R.	68
	Aneroid	.19	4.71	6.45	70	68
	Instow	.71	6.34	6.42	68	68
3BN	Swift Current	.56	4.85	6.81	70	68
	Hodgeville	N.R.	5.09(2)	6.94	N.R.	68
	Hughton	.26	2.69	5.70	69	68
4A	Maple Creek	.56	7.28	6.30	71	68
	Consul	.37	5.68	5.64	68	66
4B	Abbey	N.R.	4.12(2)	5.54	N.R.	67
	Leader	.61	6.67	5.66	69	67
5A	Cupar	.39	4.21	6.48	73	67
	Balcarres	.60	5.56	6.26	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	.35	4.06	6.26	71	68
	Melville	.63	6.78	6.92	70	66
	Yorkton	1.47	6.07	7.11	71	67
	Bangor	.37	6.71	7.14	68	66
	Dafoe	.88	5.54	7.11	70	67
5B	Foam Lake	1.36	8.45	7.31	70	66
	Kuroki	.93	9.72	7.30	67	65
	Lintlaw	.80	9.30	7.28	67	65
	Kamsack	3.40	8.08	6.86	71	66
	Davidson	.35	4.69	6.49	70	67
6A	Imperial	.32	6.13	6.37	69	67
	Strasbourg	1.33	4.48	6.58	72	66

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	week ending	
		8 a.m. July 20, 1964	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. July 20	
			inches		1964	Normal
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> - Concluded						
6A	Watrous	.47	3.85	6.09	69	67
6B	Harris	N.R.	3.68(2)	6.01	N.R.	67
	Outlook	1.31	5.04	5.68	71	69
	Saskatoon	.18	3.24	6.70	71	67
	Elbow	.49	4.71	5.87	72	68
	Tugaske	.62	5.81	6.43	70	67
	Dundurn	1.06	4.20	6.09	69	67
	Alsask	N.R.	4.67(2)	5.62	N.R.	67
7A	Kindersley	.21	4.50	5.50	68	67
	Rosetown	.33	3.89	6.53	69	67
	Macklin	1.00	7.46	6.12	63	66
7B	Denzil	.63	6.79	6.12	63	66
	Scott	.13	4.15	6.11	63	65
	Biggar	.24	4.59	6.22	64	67
8A	Hudson Bay	.61	9.71	7.20	66	65
	Prairie River	.50	4.60	6.98	66	65
8B	Humboldt	1.76	6.68	6.30	69	66
	Melfort	.96	3.10	6.54	66	66
9A	North Battleford	.24	5.03	5.96	64	67
	Victoire	1.30	5.47	6.07	63	63
	Prince Albert	.65	1.51	6.80	65	66
	Island Falls	.71	4.96	6.32	62	64
9B	Waseca	1.38	5.75	6.25	61	64
	St. Walburg	2.13	4.86	6.38	60	63
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.73	6.01	6.70	68.8	66.9

ALBERTA

1	Empress	.40	4.97	4.34	N.R.	71
	Foremost	.03	8.65	6.62	68	70
	Hanna	.48	8.25	6.25	63	65
	Manyberries	.52	6.24	5.36	69	70
	Medicine Hat	.10	4.72	5.71	70	71
2	Winnifred	.17	8.35	5.64	N.R.	N.R.
	Brooks	.15	5.23	5.46	69	69
	Drumheller	.52	6.05	6.08	68	68
	Gleichen	.18	6.28	6.60	64	65
	Hays	.22	7.17	5.66	66	71
	Rainier	.13	6.70	5.53	68	68
	Vauxhall	.12	6.31	5.60	67	67
	Warner	.24	10.10	7.41	68	68
	Raymond	.30	10.68	7.41	67	67
	Lethbridge	.30	10.03	7.51	67	65
	Three Hills	N.R.	1.76(2)	6.91	N.R.	64

IV

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 20, 1964	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending	
					8 a.m.	
					July 20 1964	Normal
		inches			degrees F.	
<u>ALBERTA</u> - Concluded						
2	Trochu	.01	7.10	7.48	N.R.	64
	Vulcan	.12	8.03(2)	6.85	66	66
3	Calgary	.01	9.73	8.24	63	63
	Cardston	.70	13.24	8.20	63	66
	Pincher Creek	.56	11.80	9.15	63	63
	Fort MacLeod	.19	7.25	8.15	66	68
	High River	.17	6.57	9.12	61	62
	Magrath	.50	9.89(2)	8.02	66	66
	Alliance	.11	5.59	7.28	63	64
	Coronation	.18	4.74	6.08	64	64
4	Hughenden	.40	5.59	6.38	63	64
	Lloydminster	.70	4.91	6.17	61	65
	Stettler	.08	6.29	7.66	63	64
	Vegreville	.73	5.34	6.43	62	65
	Ranfurly	.91	4.76	6.89	61	65
	Vermilion	.71	5.52	6.60	61	63
	Edmonton	.80	6.29	7.86	60	64
	Lacombe	.38	6.78	8.29	61	63
5	Red Deer	.10	7.86	7.86	62	61
	Rocky Mountain House	.77	11.39	10.19	59	61
	Wetaskiwin	.39	5.73	7.78	62	62
	Athabasca	N.R.	5.55(2)	6.78	N.R.	61
	Campsie	2.67	9.83	8.00	59	62
	Edson	1.91	10.07	8.44	57	60
	Elk Point	1.08	6.76(2)	6.72	59	62
	Lac la Biche	1.53	6.20	6.85	60	64
6	Smith	2.79	8.59	6.44	59	61
	Whitecourt	2.96	12.31	8.46	57	60
	Beaverlodge	N.R.	11.27(2)	5.92	N.R.	61
	Fairview	2.18	9.69	6.13	57	61
	Ft. Vermilion	.19	3.69	4.78	63	63
	Grande Prairie	3.37	12.81	6.01	56	62
	High Prairie	4.51	13.49	7.03	51	62
	Peace River	3.09	10.90	5.63	58	62
7	Rycroft	3.21	11.83	5.85	56	62
	Wagner	4.44	10.63	6.09	58	61
	ALBERTA AVERAGE		.95	7.96	6.88	62.5

N.R. - No report.

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.

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