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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT - CANADA

This is the third of the 1968 series of six telegraphic reports, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, covering crop conditions throughout Canada. Included in this report is the sixth 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.

SUMMARY

Maritimes. - Throughout the Maritime Provinces moisture conditions are excellent, although many crops require warmer weather. Heavy rainfall and cool weather retarded growth to a certain extent in Prince Edward Island. Some hay is being cut with pastures doing well; most grain is growing well and showing good colour. Most vegetables are making good growth and a few strawberries are coming onto the market.

Most areas of Nova Scotia report excellent growth due to adequate moisture, however, additional heat is required. Pastures are generally quite good and haying operations are just starting. Some areas report frost damage to strawberry and blueberry crops. The strawberry harvest has commenced about a week ago in most districts.

New Brunswick reports that most crops are maturing normally. Forage crops are excellent and pastures, for the most part, are outyielding grazing requirements. Several crops require more heat for normal development. Most vegetable crops appear to be growing well. Apples are developing satisfactorily and sprays have been applied in all orchards. Strawberries are being harvested in the last week of the month. Eastern counties report frost damage was extreme but the principal strawberry producing areas were relatively frost-free.

Quebec. - In general weather conditions have been variable throughout Quebec with several districts reporting below average temperatures and rain. There has been some frost damage to field crops, strawberries and raspberries in the lower Gaspé, Abitibi and Temiscamingue districts. Soil moisture supplies vary from poor to excellent. Weed control is proving difficult on grain corn; no matter how many sprays the treatment seems insufficient to control all pests.

Agriculture Division
Crops Section

5502-508

Ontario. — Warm dry weather is urgently required throughout the province to advance crop growth. Winter wheat is entering the final stages of growth. Although some fields appear uneven the heads are filling out well. Spring-seeded grains are generally in good to excellent condition with the exception of localized areas in Eastern Ontario where low night temperatures and excess moisture have retarded growth. Development of the corn crop has been hindered by cool weather in almost all parts of the province. Soybeans are progressing well but some replanting of dry beans was required. Harvesting of early potatoes has been delayed about 10 days due to heavy rains.

Prairie Provinces. — Recent rains have improved crop conditions in Manitoba where the situation is generally good. Many areas of Saskatchewan have also received rain and benefited but the Regina-Weyburn and southcentral districts remain dry and rain is urgently needed. Hay prospects are poor to fair. In southern Alberta and the Peace River District conditions are good but less favourable elsewhere. Hay crops will be light and pastures are fair.

British Columbia. — During the latter half of June, generally unsettled weather conditions with showery intervals have prevailed over most of British Columbia. Soil moisture levels have improved with no crop damage reported. At the Coast, early potato digging is rapidly progressing with generally good yields and quality. The main carrot crop harvest commences this week with good prospects. Other early vegetables are now in good supply. With yields surpassing earlier estimates by 15 percent, the strawberry harvest is now entering its final phase. Other berry crops, particularly loganberries, are also showing up better than earlier anticipated. In the Okanagan, cherries are coming off in volume with a better than average crop in prospect although below last year's record. Apricots are sizing well and prunes and Bartlett pear crop prospects are good. The apple outlook is variable. The main vegetable crops are progressing satisfactorily with the exception of corn and tomatoes which show the effects of recent cool temperatures. In the Peace River District, substantial rain has improved grain growth to normal and above normal levels. Pastures in all sectors are now in good condition.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island the weather for the past month has been cool with considerable rainfall. Some hay is being cut and pastures and grains are doing well. Growth of early potatoes has been generally retarded due to cool weather, but later varieties appear more promising. Some frost damage has been reported on strawberries and a few berries are now coming onto the market. Cherries are growing well and the apple set is good.

In Nova Scotia, cool weather and cold nights over the past couple of weeks has delayed crop growth. The Cape Breton area reports good growth of hay, and pastures are holding up well due to recent rainfall. More warm weather is needed to advance haying operations as well as vegetable and strawberry crops. In central Nova Scotia, pastures are normal with some haying and silage making completed but again more heat is required. The strawberry harvest should commence within the next week. Conditions in Cumberland county are about the same as in central Nova Scotia except that frost on June 10 caused considerable damage to strawberry and blueberry crops. The total amount of loss is still not determined. Western Nova Scotia reports good grain and corn growth. Strawberry harvesting began about a week ago in the Kings County area.

Growth was slow on most crops in New Brunswick during June and the earliness that was anticipated will probably be nullified. Forage crops are average or above where adequately fertilized, and pastures for the most part are excellent. Cool, damp weather has delayed the commencement of haying. Cereal crops are growing well and some fields were showing heads at the month's end. Corn is behind schedule for this time of year and requires more heat if a normal crop is to develop. Many crops such as tomatoes and beans are showing poor development due to cool temperatures, although cabbage and cauliflower crops are exceptionally good with increased acreage reported. Apples are developing well and cover sprays have been applied in all orchards. Strawberries were being harvested the last two weeks of the month with the principal strawberry crop appearing relatively frost-free. Potatoes are showing excellent growth with the first harvest anticipated by July 10 or 15.

QUEBEC

On June 18 there was hail in St. Hyacinthe county but only light damage was reported. However, reports are being received of damage by insects and disease. In the southern counties farmers have started haymaking, but recent rains have delayed curing. Growers have completed thinning the sugar beet crop and potatoes look promising. Grain corn fields are developing well and flax is good on well drained soils. Vegetables vary from good to excellent and tree fruits and small fruits are promising.

Reports from la Pocatière indicate cool temperatures and June precipitation which was 38 per cent above normal. Although rainfall was badly distributed, haylands benefited. Haymaking is expected to start on July 4 and indications are that the yield will be about 20 per cent below normal. Vegetables are good and pastures and early-sown grains are promising but the germination of later-sown fields was very irregular. Rutabagas and potatoes are doing well. In the Saguenay district and Lake St. John, grain growth is slow. Similarly, haylands and pastures are late.

Low temperatures and rain have slowed corn growth and made haying difficult in the Lennoxville district. Heavy yields, however, are reported and grass silage making is about 50 per cent completed. Pastures are also in good condition.

At Caplan lack of rain during the last few weeks has generally delayed plant growth. Low night temperatures have damaged vegetables and grain crops. Pastures are developing more slowly than last year. As a result of poor pastures, milk production is somewhat down. Some insect infestations on bushes and garden crops are reported. Silage making will start soon.

ONTARIO

In Essex County of Southern Ontario winter wheat is now turning and spring-sown oats and barley are headed. Harvesting of peas is continuing and the yield and quality are very good. Growth of full season crops has been hampered by cool, wet weather but harvesting of early potatoes has commenced. Picking of tomatoes is also under way. Haying operations are progressing slowly and quality of the crop is only fair. Heavy rains in Kent County on June 25 varied from 2 to 5 inches and caused damage to some crops. Cool, wet weather during most of the month of June has delayed normal development of all crops. The corn crop especially has made abnormally slow progress. Harvesting of peas for processing began on June 24 but has since been delayed due to wet weather. Winter wheat is heading and combining is expected to start about July 15. Planting of white beans is completed but some replanting was necessary due to flooding.

Some fields of oats are badly lodged. Alfalfa weevils have appeared in Kent County and severe infestations have been found in the Merlin and Wheatly areas.

Heavy rains in Middlesex County during the past week have delayed haying operations and losses have occurred in some areas. Development of the corn crop is slow but the outlook for spring grains is very good. Recent heavy rains have seriously affected all crops in Norfolk County and haying operations have been delayed. Many fields are still suffering from excess moisture. Harvesting of strawberries is progressing well although rot is a problem. The tobacco crop may need side-dressing. The principal requirement of all crops is an extended period of warm, dry weather.

In Lincoln County development of the fruit crop is somewhat behind schedule following an early spring. Heavy rain has caused considerable damage through splitting of early varieties of sweet cherries. Fruit insect infestations are generally light and the oriental fruit moth population is very light. Scab on apples and rot in strawberries have been a problem where these crops have not been sprayed.

Haying operations are well behind schedule in Simcoe County of Western Ontario, due to wet weather. Grain crops are now heading and yield prospects look good. Cool weather during June has retarded crop growth in Bruce County. The corn crop in particular is slow in developing. Haying operations have been delayed by continued wet weather. Spring grains and pastures look very promising and the turnip crop has made a good start.

Recent rains have delayed haying operations in Waterloo County although considerable alfalfa has been winterkilled. Winter wheat is making excellent progress and corn is now growing rapidly after a slow start. Atrazine has been in short supply in many areas and, as a result, weed control is not as good as it should be. Below average hay yields are reported from Wellington County largely due to winterkill, but also due to poor weather conditions. Haying operations were late in starting and have been seriously hindered by wet weather. Spring grains look good with some barley already headed. Corn is badly in need of hot weather. Cool, wet weather has delayed development of hay, corn and vegetables in Halton County. Haylage operations are nearly completed but very little baling has been done and much of this has since spoiled. Winter wheat and early-seeded spring grains are headed. Pastures are excellent. Disease and insects are abundant on fruit and vegetables due to excessive moisture.

In Durham County of Central Ontario haying operations have been slow due to prolonged wet weather. There is considerable variation in development of the corn crop but pastures are excellent. Harvesting of peas for processing is under way. In Peterborough County moisture conditions have been adequate to excessive during June. Frequent showers had delayed haying operations but the work is once again in full swing. Most crops look good but require prolonged warm weather for optimum growth.

Although haying operations commenced in Leeds County during the last week of June, weather conditions have been very unfavourable during the past ten days due to heavy rains. Growth of cereal grains is good and most of these crops are now in head. Pastures are generally good but warm weather is the main requirement, particularly for the corn crop.

In Renfrew County of Eastern Ontario crop growth was slow during early June due to below-normal temperatures, but three and a half inches of rain and warmer temperatures have since produced rapid growth of all crops. Haying operations are under way and the crop is about 75 per cent of normal due to winterkilling of alfalfa.

The report from Kapuskasing in Northern Ontario indicates that crop growth is generally excellent. Moisture supplies are ample but frost occurred on June 20 and caused some damage to tomatoes, beans and potatoes. Haying operations are not yet generally under way. Early-seeded barley is heading and good yields are expected. Timothy and brome are now fully headed. Crop development in the Thunder Bay District has been slow due to excessive moisture. Pastures are generally adequate but growth has been slow due to cool weather. Haying operations have commenced on a few farms. Some potatoes still remain to be planted.

MANITOBA

Growing conditions over most of Manitoba were improved by recent generous rains. Cereals and special crops are progressing well and early peas and mustard are in bloom. Insect damage has been light and weed spraying is nearly completed. Haying operations have started and should become general next week. Hay and pastures are good to excellent in eastern districts but forage crop yields are below average in the western part of the province.

In the southeast at Vita prospects for hay and early-seeded crops were excellent until the three inches of rain came on June 30. All fields then became soggy and water puddles formed everywhere. This is expected to hamper completion of weed spraying and will interrupt haying for at least a week. In the vicinity of Altona 2.5 inches of rain was received over the week end. The weeding of sugar beets is nearing completion and the spraying of weeds is finished. Haying operations have started and crop prospects are generally good. In the Morden district early-seeded sunflowers and corn are 8 to 10 inches in height. Haying commenced last week with farmers reporting a slightly better than average cut. Cereal crops generally have tillered well. Rainfall in excess of 2.5 inches over the past week end has assured a sufficient supply of moisture for rapid growth. The acreage of oats is reported to be up by 12 per cent and flax by 15 per cent over last year. Acreage of peas and corn for canning purposes remains about the same as in past years. However, the acreage of dry peas is estimated to be up by 15 per cent over previous years.

In the Pilot Mound district crop and pasture conditions have improved due to the general rains of 2.5 inches received over the week end and overall crop conditions are rated as excellent. Increased crop damage by wireworms is reported, and to a lesser degree some damage by cutworms. Haying will be general this week, weather permitting. Summerfallow operations are well under way. At Melita rainfall ranging from .8 to 1.4 inches was received over the week end but previous hot, dry, windy weather had cut back crop prospects. Crops seeded to summer fallow land on clay soils are generally in fair condition. The outlook for pasture and hay crops is, for the most part, poor.

In the area around Winnipeg at Selkirk rain this past week end was quite general, varying from 1.8 to 2.96 inches and in some areas this resulted in excessive moisture. Some hail fell at scattered locations, and the occurrence of a twister which touched down at Petersfield damaged a few buildings. In the vicinity of Stonewall approximately two inches of rain fell during the past week end. Crops are making excellent progress, especially on fertilized fields. However, some yellowing has occurred in flax and barley fields. Weed spraying is finished. Haying has started and good yields are in prospect. Pastures are in good condition but livestock are being molested by mosquitoes. At Portage la Prairie crops are now growing rapidly after good rains of about 3 inches received over the week end. This year's cereal and hay crop outlook appears excellent. Most of the spraying has been completed with the main weeds being wild millet and wild buckwheat. A fair amount of damage has been inflicted by cutworms. Haying operations are just getting under way.

Reports from Brandon indicate that the prospects for grain crops have greatly improved as a result of the 1.27 inches of rain received over the week end. Some fields of grain are at the heading stage, but the bulk of the crop is in the early shot blade. Pastures and hay fields are also expected to benefit from the recent rains.

At Teulon in the Interlake area rains this last week amounted to 2.8 inches, and as a result of this moisture, crops are doing very well. No major insect damage is reported in the area. Haying operations have just started and crop spraying work has just been completed. To the north at Arborg crop growth has been excellent. Rainfall during the week end was over 2.5 inches, which formed ponds in some fields. However, the water ponding should disappear within a few days, without damage to crops in most cases.

In the west-central part of the province at Neepawa crop conditions are excellent, due to the better than one inch of rain received last week. Special crops are showing favourable growth. Haying operations have not started, although the alfalfa crop is in bloom. Spraying of wild oats has been completed and treatment for broad leaf weeds is presently under way. Only slight grasshopper damage has been evident in pastures, although sporadic patches of cutworm damage have been noticed in cereals. In the vicinity of Minnedosa crop conditions are rated good to excellent, on account of the approximately one inch of rain received on the week end. Light infestations of cutworms and flea beetles have been reported in some fields, but at the present time this is not considered serious. An excellent kill of weeds was obtained on buckwheat in the Newdale area with the use of Bromoxynil chemical. At Shoal Lake warm, dry weather continues and rain is needed badly, as some crops are withering from lack of moisture. Mustard is at the flowering stage, and the crop is developing on very short stalks. Late seeded crops generally are very poor. The growth of hay and pasture is also very poor, due to lack of moisture. Fall rye is just beginning to ripen. Rain throughout the area last Sunday and Monday will be most beneficial to all crops. Reports from the Russell area indicate that an inch of gentle, steady rain received over the week end has greatly improved the crop situation. Stubble crops were beginning to turn brown and the late-seeded crops showed uneven germination. Early-seeded wheat is heading on very short straw. The hay crop will be reduced by one-half this year. However, pastures should improve as a result of the recent moisture.

In the northwest around Dauphin a general rain from one-half to over one inch was received just as crops were starting to deteriorate. Weed spraying in the area is almost completed. Haying operations are now under way with light to medium yields being harvested. Pasture conditions range from poor to fair. In the Swan River Valley timely rains of up to two inches were received over the week end. Crop prospects at the present time look good to excellent. Haying operations are now under way.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports that a hailstorm occurred on June 20 in the Harte area of Manitoba.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 12 per cent above normal, in contrast to 4 per cent below normal a week ago, compared with 7 per cent above normal two weeks ago and 14 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 1 was 6 degrees below normal, compared with 1.8 degrees below normal a week ago, 4.3 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 1.8 degrees below normal for the week ending July 3, 1967.

SASKATCHEWAN

Week end rains have improved the crop outlook in many areas of Saskatchewan. However, showers were very scattered, particularly in the Regina-Weyburn and south-central districts. In these areas general rains are urgently needed to prevent crop deterioration. Wheat and coarse grains average about 8 inches in height which is about the same as a year ago. Early growth has been slow and consequently, hay prospects are only poor to fair.

At Fillmore in the Southeast part of the province wheat and coarse grains are growing well but more rain would be welcome. Early wheat is in the shot blade and stubble crops are short. Wild oat growth is heavy. Pastures and wild hay are thin. A general rain would still guarantee above-average crops in this district. At Yellowgrass eight-tenths of an inch of rain over the week end has given hope for an average crop. Early-sown fields are in shot blade or heading. Summerfallows are in good condition and weed spraying has been completed. The crop will be shorter in height than normal but further rain in about two weeks would assure good outturns. The hay crop is light.

A very welcome 0.45 inch of rain fell on June 27 at Indian Head and this did much to halt further crop deterioration. Until this date only 0.27 inch of rain has fallen during June in five different light showers, making this the driest June on record. Early-seeded wheat crops are now in the shot blade at 13 to 15 inches high. Crops will be light on lighter soils but have stood up quite well on heavier soils. Good weed control has been secured except for wild oats which are serious in many fields. Haying operations are getting under way but the crop is very short and thin. Pastures have deteriorated very badly. No insect damage is apparent in the area. At Willmar some 3.64 inches of rain have been received since April 1 and this district now needs rain immediately. Some crops came up well while others are patchy because of the cold growing conditions. Crops were weedy but most spraying has now been done. The rye crop is fair with some good fields in evidence. Forage crops will not be too heavy in this district but otherwise the crop outlook remains good.

At Val Marie in the southwest part of the province crops now look very good following the three-quarters of an inch of rain which fell last week. Haylands are much improved and the first cutting is just getting under way. At Swift Current flax and cereal crops are making good progress with early-sown fields beginning to head. The height is good. Light rains have maintained adequate moisture for crop development and no damage has been experienced to date.

In the east-central part of the province around Melville crop conditions are good due to recent rainfall. Forage crops and pastures are fair. Rainfall since April 1 in this district has totalled 2.71 inches compared with only 0.61 inch a year ago and the longtime average of 5.26 inches. At Sturgis rain during the past week combined with warm weather has provided very good growing conditions for all crops and haylands. Weed spraying is about completed and haying operations will soon begin. The rainfall this growing season has totalled 3.94 inches to date.

At Saskatoon crops generally look good and are about 12 to 18 inches high and in shot blade or starting to head. There are some thin, poor stands on light soil. Surface moisture conditions are good following the recent rains which totalled 1.29 inches but the subsoil moisture is very poor and more rain will be required to fill heads. Fall rye heads are now filling but the stands are thin. Haying has now

started and yields are fairly good. Entomologists report diamondback moths abundant in fields of rapeseed and mustard and control of larvae will likely be required. Recent rains of 0.55 inch have eased the surface moisture situation at Craik. Fall rye has headed and wheat is heading but more rain will be needed for proper filling. The hay crop is short and pasture lands are in need of moisture.

In the Rosetown district in the west-central part of the province spraying for weeds has been completed and most summerfallow fields are black. Pastures are fair and haying is expected to start in about two weeks' time. About half an inch of rain was received this past week but more would be welcome. Early wheat is about 10 inches in height. About 800 acres of flax had to be reseeded in this district. Moisture supplies were extremely limited in the Scott district until the end of June and forage crops were a near failure. Pastures were very short and cereal crops on stubble were deteriorating rapidly and summerfallow crops were on the verge of deterioration. Early-sown fields were heading at 8 to 10 inches high. Nearly one inch of rain fell during the week end and while this will relieve the drought, crop potential in the district has been seriously reduced.

In the Melfort district in the northeast part of the province some 1.25 inches of rain which fell at the end of June has temporarily arrested the deterioration of soil moisture supplies. Crop stands are heavy in this district. Early-seeded fields are in the shot blade to heading stage of development while late-seedings range to the two to three leaf stage. All crops are now growing rapidly. A considerable acreage of mustard in the Naicam-Humboldt area is short and in flower. Polish rape is also in flower in many fields. Haying has started with yields reasonably good. Pastures will benefit from the recent rains.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports hail storms in the following areas: June 16, Wilcox and Milestone; June 20, Gravelbourg, Glen Bain, Webb, Verlo, Richmond and Fox Valley; June 22, Petaigan; June 27, Horsham, Venn, Jordan River, Carrot River, Aylsham, Wadena, Saskatoon, St. Front; Humboldt, Carmel, Hepburn and Radisson. The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reported storms on June 20 in the Fox Valley area, and on June 27 in the Arborfield area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 31 per cent below normal compared with 39 per cent below normal a week ago, 30 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 51 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 1 was 4.2 degrees below normal, compared with 1.1 degrees above normal a week ago, 3.3 degrees below normal two weeks ago and 1.5 degrees below normal for the week ending July 3, 1967.

ALBERTA

Throughout most of Alberta crop conditions are extremely varied ranging from good in the south to fair to poor in the central regions and good in the Peace River area. In some areas warm weather and drying winds have caused crop deterioration. Crops range in height from 16 to 18 inches in the south to only a few inches in the drier regions. The Peace River region is the only area of the province with a plentiful moisture supply. Hay crops will be light throughout the province, especially in the central regions. Pastures are very short and are reaching the critical stage in the dry areas. Winter feed supplies will probably be scarce.

In the southeast at Manyberries wheat is about 15 inches in height and about 50 per cent headed. Barley is about 80 per cent headed and rye is doing well. Grass-

lands are in good condition and cattle are doing well. To date no insect damage has been reported. Haying and summerfallowing are in progress. At Medicine Hat recent rains have maintained good crop conditions. Early-sown wheat has headed and the balance is about 18 inches and ready to head. Considerable amounts of barley has headed and oats are in the boot stage. Fall crops are filling well and one more rain should assure a good crop. Grass and livestock are doing well. At Lethbridge in the southwest area crops remain in excellent condition. Recent rains have helped in the filling out of winter wheat heads. Although alfalfa weevils may be a serious problem in the Lethbridge area, there is no major insect nor disease damage to date. Haying has just commenced and only a fair crop is expected. Crops are in excellent condition at Cardston. Winter wheat is headed and filling well. Also some barley is headed. Haying has commenced in the area. Pastures are in good condition due mainly to the abundance of moisture. Summerfallowing is completed. At Claresholm crops and moisture conditions are excellent. Winter wheat and rye is heading out and some early barley has headed. Hay and pasture crops are good. To date no insect damage has been reported. Warm weather in the area would be welcome.

At Vulcan in the south-central region all crops are in good condition. Since the last report, 2.4 inches of rain were received. Growth on pastures has been very good and haying will commence this week. Some early-sown wheat and barley have started to head out. Rape and mustard fields are in bloom. There is some root rot in the area. Warmer weather will be welcome.

At Hanna in the east-central area crop prospects appear good. However, the hay crop will only be about one-half of normal. Hot winds occurred on June 27 and resulted in some deterioration. One and one-half inches of rain was received on the week end. At Calgary warm weather is helping to bring crops along rapidly. Good rains were received on the week end and have helped bring about excellent crop conditions. Recent rain has greatly improved crop conditions at Olds. Some early barley is beginning to head and general conditions are satisfactory.

In the area around Edmonton recent rains of approximately one inch have improved cereal crop prospects. Prospects for the first cutting of hay are poor. Moisture conditions are only fair and more rain is required.

In the west-central region at Lacombe early-sown cereals appear good. However, late-sown crops are very uneven. Recent showers have been sufficient to prevent cereal crop deterioration. Haying is expected to start within a week and a light harvest anticipated. Recent rains greatly improved crop prospects at Eckville and weed spraying is nearly completed. Early-seeded barley is starting to head. Summer-fallow land is in fair condition. Haying will commence next week with below average yields expected especially on new hay land.

In the northeast to north-central area at Colinton rainfall since the first of May was 6.5 inches. It is reported that rapeseed acreage has decreased in the area while wheat acreage has increased. Crop conditions are excellent. However, forage crops are only fair. Haying should begin about the middle of July.

At Beaverlodge in the Peace River area spring cereals and all seed crops are in good to excellent condition. Cool weather has delayed development but moisture conditions are good to excellent. Harvesting of forage crops should commence this week.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board at Calgary reports the following hail storms: June 20 - severe storm ten miles long, 4 miles wide passing four miles south of Schuler in a northwest to southeast direction; June 23 - localized storm at Milk River; June 26 - severe storm moving northwest to southeast and damage reported from Maythorpe, Legal and St. Albert; June 27 - west to east storm in Township 17, Ranges 3, 2 and 1 passing midway between Hilda and Schuler; heavy damage reported from Pivot; small storm reported three miles west of Ponoka. The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following hail storms: June 20 - the Schuler area; June 22 - Belloy area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 0.2 per cent above normal, in contrast to 9 per cent below normal a week ago, 2 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and 14 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending July 1 was 3.6 degrees below normal as compared with 1.3 degrees below normal a week ago, 2.5 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 0.6 degree above normal for the week ending July 3, 1967.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Reports from Victoria indicate that most crops are developing quickly due to recent fine weather. Strawberries are past their peak with quality having been excellent. Loganberry picking will be in full swing by July 5 and above average yields are expected. Cool season vegetables are good but warm season crops are slow. Early potatoes are being dug with good quality reported. Hay crops are giving good yields and quality.

At Agassiz in the Lower Fraser Valley, the June rainfall was 6.2 inches. Growth of all crops is generally good with weed control difficult due to wet weather. The strawberry harvest is at its peak and raspberry picking has commenced with the peak anticipated about July 10 to 15. The processing pea harvest has commenced and all processing crops, including corn, appear average. Pastures are excellent with growth of second crop hay above average.

Reports from Summerland in the south Okanagan indicate that the sweet cherry harvest is well under way with a crop two-thirds of last year's. The fruit is large with no splitting. Apricots, pears and all fruits, except grapes, are slightly lower in yield than in 1967. However, the grape crop is expected to be double that of last year. Early apple shipments are expected within ten days. Field tomatoes and cucumbers will be available next week. Pastures, hay and grain crops are in good condition.

At Vernon in the north Okanagan, above average precipitation and normal temperatures have occurred. Pastures are excellent and hay yields are heavy. Showery weather has delayed haying and the first-cut hay badly bleached with sixty per cent harvested and many bales still on fields. Cereal and pea crops are heavy. There is some lodging of both cereals and hay.

In the Kamloops district, range conditions are very good because of cool, damp weather. However, corn requires more heat if high quality silage is to be produced. Potatoes and tomatoes look good. The first hay crop is stored in fair to good condition.

Reports from Prince George in the central Interior indicate that cool weather during June has delayed optimum growth and harvesting of forage crops. Growth on reseeded alfalfa fields is progressing slowly. Winter wheat and spring cereals require warmer weather for optimum growth. At higher elevations frost and cold nights have retarded some crops. Haying and silage operations are expected to commence very soon.

At Smithers in the Skeena River Valley, June was unseasonably cool with showers and frost on several occasions. Nevertheless, crops are good and the month-end heat has speeded development. Hay harvesting conditions are presently good with earliest fields now being baled.

Reports from Dawson Creek in the Peace River Block indicate that after general rains of three inches or more crop prospects never looked better. Our correspondent forecasts yields of wheat, 30 bushels; winter wheat and barley, 40 bushels; oats, 60 bushels or greater; fescue, 300 pounds. Few fields of clover are good due to a poor catch. In the Fort St. John area, moisture is generally adequate at the moment. Winter wheat and fall rye are headed with spring wheat and early-seeded barley starting to head. Late-seeded barley is making good growth. Forage crops appear promising.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 1, 1968	Total since April 1 inches	Normal since April 1	8 a.m. July 1 1968	Normal degrees F.
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	1.46	4.95	6.87	58	64
	Pierson	3.24	5.98	6.25	58	65
	Waskada	.84	4.45(2)	6.55	57	66
2	Baldur	N.R.	3.98(2)	6.60	N.R.	66
	Pilot Mound	3.24	9.33	6.45	58	65
3	Altona	2.30	8.61	5.81	61	67
	Deerwood	2.89	11.08	6.30	61	67
	Graysville	2.87	9.10	6.02	60	66
	Morden	2.26	9.01	6.44	63	68
	Morris	.60	8.12	5.95	61	68
	Portage la Prairie	2.65	8.81	7.52	61	67
	Roland	N.R.	6.01(2)	6.20	N.R.	67
4	Stonewall	2.20	7.93	6.60	61	65
5	Emerson	2.45	10.58	6.01	62	67
	Steinbach	2.27	9.64	6.20	61	66
	Winnipeg	3.33	9.20	6.33	61	66
	Starbuck	3.53	8.53	6.20	61	66
6	Seven Sisters Falls	3.53	11.57	6.32	59	66
	Great Falls	N.R.	4.43(2)	4.71	N.R.	66
	Sprague	2.34	11.34	6.45	55	64
7	Rivers	1.22	4.60	6.51	59	64
	Virden	.40	4.36	6.20	58	65
8	Brandon	1.30	5.42	6.61	59	65
	Cypress River	2.50	8.09	6.42	58	66
9	Gradstone	1.25	5.69	6.60	N.R.	65
10	Birtle	.60	3.27	6.28	56	63
	Rosburn	1.06	3.12	5.80	58	62
	Russell	.85	2.16	5.33	57	63
11	Dauphin	.87	3.68	6.77	60	65
12	Arborg	2.78	8.37	6.30	58	64
	Gimli	2.74	8.59	6.31	60	65
	Steep Rock	N.R.	5.17(2)	6.10	N.R.	63
13	Swan River	2.08	6.18	5.67	59	63
	The Pas	.91	5.21	5.01	58	63
14	Grass River	N.R.	4.01(2)	6.70	N.R.	65
MANITOBA AVERAGE		2.02	7.01	6.24	59.2	65.2

For footnotes, see page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 1, 1968	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending 8 a.m. July 1 1968	Normal
		inches			degrees F.	
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.18	3.79	5.62	60	64
	Estevan	.27	3.55	6.10	59	66
	Oxbow	N.R.	3.56(2)	5.63	N.R.	63
	Willmar	1.25	3.95	6.00	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.40	3.16	6.64	57	62
	Moosomin	.20	3.52	6.41	59	63
2A	Yellow Grass	.78	3.22	5.55	58	64
	Weyburn	.01	2.35	5.60	59	64
	Midale	.04	2.94(2)	5.56	56	65
2B	Moose Jaw	.62	1.92	5.57	60	65
	Regina	.40	1.74	5.71	58	64
	Francis	.50	1.86	5.27	53	63
	Indian Head	.57	2.25	5.66	57	63
3AS	Ormiston	.46	1.78	5.90	59	63
	Cardross	N.R.	2.36(2)	5.90	N.R.	64
	Ceylon	N.R.	1.63(2)	5.90	N.R.	62
3AN	Gravelbourg	1.57	2.76	5.00	59	64
3BS	Shaunavon	.39	2.51	5.19	58	63
	Pambrun	N.R.	1.94(2)	5.50	N.R.	64
	Climax	N.R.	3.79(2)	4.60	N.R.	N.R.
	Aneroid	.50	2.81	4.95	57	63
	Instow	N.R.	2.61(2)	5.25	N.R.	63
3BN	Swift Current	.29	2.40	5.67	58	63
	Pennant	N.R.	1.11(2)	5.24	N.R.	64
	Hughton	N.R.	3.31(2)	4.41	N.R.	64
4A	Maple Creek	.43	3.90	4.87	60	65
	Consul	.18	4.02	4.06	56	62
4B	Abbey	N.R.	3.96(2)	4.80	N.R.	63
	Leader	1.09	4.61	4.54	56	65
5A	Balcarres	1.26	3.61	5.80	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	N.R.	3.63(2)	5.70	N.R.	62
	Melville	.72	4.01	5.70	56	62
	Yorkton	1.13	5.45	5.50	59	63
	Bangor	N.R.	2.34(2)	6.10	N.R.	62
5B	Wynyard	.81	2.26	5.42	59	63
	Foam Lake	1.11	3.15	5.58	59	61
	Kuroki	1.09	3.48	5.70	57	61
	Lintlaw	N.R.	.98(2)	5.87	N.R.	60
	Kamsack	1.53	3.71	5.24	57	62
6A	Davidson	.30	3.23	5.39	59	63
	Strasbourg	.53	2.50	5.93	60	62
	Watrous	.39	2.66	5.00	59	63

For footnotes, see page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending 8 a.m. July 1, 1968	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	8 a.m. July 1	
		inches			1968	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN — Concluded						
6B	Harris	1.39	5.26	4.57	61	64
	Outlook	.72	2.73	4.43	64	65
	Rosthern	.70	4.04	4.49	64	64
	Saskatoon	1.31	4.83	4.31	61	64
	Elbow	.15	1.52	5.40	63	63
	Tugaske	.43	2.27	5.62	58	63
	Dundurn	1.11	4.65	4.54	62	64
7A	Alsask	N.R.	2.18(2)	4.12	N.R.	64
	Kindersley	.68	2.83	3.87	59	64
	Rosetown	.40	4.31	4.63	59	64
7B	Macklin	1.46	4.76	4.26	62	62
	Denzil	2.02	3.74	4.40	57	62
	Scott	.93	2.59	4.63	60	61
	Biggar	.29	4.76	4.66	60	63
8A	Hudson Bay	2.17	7.42	5.44	58	61
	Prairie River	3.01	7.01	5.80	53	61
8B	Humboldt	1.84	3.62	4.91	59	62
	Melfort	1.27	4.13	5.11	59	62
9A	North Battleford	.97	2.98	4.35	61	63
	Victoire	1.58	6.06	4.90	61	59
	Prince Albert	1.48	6.07	4.79	59	62
9B	Waseca	N.R.	3.39(2)	4.83	N.R.	61
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.86	3.59	5.22	58.8	63.0

ALBERTA

1	Empress	1.95	5.90	4.50	64	64
	Foremost	1.10	6.00	5.31	57	64
	Manyberries	N.R.	4.02(2)	4.78	N.R.	64
	Medicine Hat	.68	7.30	4.94	59	65
2	Brooks	1.10	5.39	4.72	57	64
	Drumheller	.24	4.33	4.53	65	61
	Gleichen	2.75	7.63	5.56	57	62
	Hays	.64	4.94(2)	4.50	59	65
	Rainier	1.01	5.54	4.80	59	64
	Vauxhall	1.01	7.07	4.50	58	63
	Raymond	1.25	6.25	5.79	57	64
	Lethbridge	1.55	6.54	6.36	59	63
	Trochu Equity	N.R.	3.24(2)	5.35	N.R.	62

For footnotes, see page IV.



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Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending	
		Week ending	Total	Normal	8 a.m.	
		8 a.m. July 1, 1968	since April 1	since April 1	July 1	
		inches			1968	Normal
					degrees F.	
ALBERTA — Concluded						
2	Queenstown	2.17	7.98	5.92	57	62
3	Calgary	.62	4.75	6.84	57	60
	Cardston	1.25	6.50	7.36	57	60
	Pincher Creek	1.39	8.18	8.07	55	59
	Fort MacLeod	.29	6.48	7.27	57	63
	High River	1.65	10.31	7.51	53	58
	Magrath	1.39	5.38	7.30	57	62
	Olds	.93	6.18	6.80	55	59
4	Alliance	1.68	4.35	4.50	58	61
	Coronation	1.45	3.99	4.22	58	61
	Hughenden	.82	3.44	4.61	60	61
	Lloydminster	.76	4.41	4.58	58	62
	Stettler	.12	2.38	5.42	64	62
	Vegreville	.47	2.37	4.74	59	61
	Ranfury	.85	3.45	5.11	57	61
	Vermilion	1.19	4.93	4.53	58	60
5	Edmonton	.81	2.96	6.08	57	62
	Lacombe	.68	4.22	6.82	57	60
	Red Deer	.71	4.02	6.23	56	60
	Rocky Mountain House	1.13	6.91	7.40	54	59
	Wetaskiwin	.74	3.16	6.12	57	60
6	Athabasca	1.62	6.32	5.39	51	59
	Campsie	1.09	5.65	5.89	55	58
	Edson	1.04	6.13	6.70	54	57
	Elk Point	.70	5.08	5.13	56	59
	Lac la Biche	.81	4.08	5.02	56	60
	Whitecourt	1.41	5.18	5.93	53	57
7	Beaverlodge	N.R.	5.32(2)	4.65	N.R.	59
	Fairview	.77	5.17	4.67	57	59
	Ft. Vermilion	N.R.	1.44(2)	3.72	N.R.	59
	Grande Prairie	.58	8.10	4.75	57	59
	High Prairie	.94	6.07(2)	5.17	56	58
	Peace River	.44	4.19	3.73	56	59
	Rycroft	.51	6.61(2)	4.70	56	59
	Wagner	1.12	6.99	4.60	56	59
ALBERTA AVERAGE		1.03	5.49	5.48	57.2	60.8

(1) Meteorological Service of Canada.
(2) Incomplete; not included in average.
N.R. — No report.