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TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT — CANADA

This is the last 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 last 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 Provinces. — Recent rainfall throughout the Maritimes has been beneficial to pastures and crops, but in some areas has delayed the harvest. The cereal harvest has been progressing satisfactorily and in most regions yields are good. The early potato harvest is reported as light although later varieties are expected to result in average production. In Prince Edward Island most vegetable crops appear to be producing satisfactory results. In Nova Scotia processing crops, such as peas and beans, are producing relatively low yields because of the lack of dry summer weather. The blueberry crop has been very light and apples are not sizing as well as expected. New Brunswick reports that continuing dry weather dominates crop conditions.

Quebec. — During the last two weeks the temperature has been above normal throughout Quebec. Generally crop yields are good and pastures and hay meadows are in average to good condition. Due to frost, lack of moisture, and mildew, production of potatoes will be somewhat reduced. Yields of sugar beets are very good and corn for grain is satisfactory. Apple production is about normal and livestock are generally in good condition with milk production above average except for the southern part of the province where it is below normal. Some farmers have already begun their fall ploughing. Rainfall has been very light except in the Gaspésie and Bas St-Laurent regions where soil moisture is below average. In the northwest part of the province, frost has caused some damage to grain crops and in certain areas potatoes have also been slightly damaged. In southern Quebec, harvesting is more advanced than elsewhere, where it has just begun.

Agriculture Division
Crops Section

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Ontario. — Harvesting of spring grain is well under way and has been completed in some areas of the province. In most districts yields and quality are reported to be good. The corn crop, although somewhat late, is maturing well and a start has been made on silo filling. Both corn and beans show promise of producing good yields. Harvesting of tobacco is proceeding quite satisfactorily and some farmers will finish this week. In practically all areas of the province, pastures and meadows are in good condition with good moisture supplies and, as a result, the milk flow has held up well. In southern Ontario, the land is being prepared for winter wheat and fall ploughing is under way.

Prairie Provinces. — With the return of favourable weather this week harvesting operations are becoming general over much of the Prairie Provinces. Swathing is now in full swing throughout most of Alberta and Saskatchewan, but combining is still delayed. Conditions in Manitoba are less favourable because of the excessive rains. While grade losses are expected in most areas of the Prairie Provinces, insufficient threshing has been done to assess the effect of weathering and frost damage on average yields. Pastures are in good condition.

British Columbia. — Wet and cool weather conditions over most areas of British Columbia have delayed crop maturity and harvesting. Although grain crops are generally good and harvesting is well advanced in southern areas, only about 5 per cent of the barley and wheat has been harvested in the Peace River Block. Harvesting of the fescue seed crop has been completed with an indication of some 20 per cent reduction from the previous forecast. Harvesting of mid-season potatoes is well advanced at Coast and practically completed in the Okanagan area. A heavy yield of main-crop potatoes is expected in Coastal districts with harvest starting in approximately one week. The blueberry harvest continues although losses were sustained during earlier poor weather conditions. Peaches in the Okanagan Valley have been maturing slowly due to cool weather. Apples coloured better than usual with good sizing. Silage corn is late but cobbing up well.

MARITIME PROVINCES

Rainfall has been general throughout the Maritimes, although some areas still require additional moisture for the rapid recovery of pastures and those vegetable crops which suffered most from the earlier dry conditions.

Reports from Prince Edward Island indicate satisfactory grain yields. However, light yields are reported in some early potato varieties caused by large tubers but a light set. Most other vegetable crops appear to be producing about average yields. Two-thirds of the 840 acre tobacco crop has been harvested resulting in average production. However, the quality is slightly reduced due to wind damage. Most processing crops are yielding average quantity as well as quality. Apples are sizing well and a good crop is anticipated.

Reports from Nova Scotia indicate that most crops, except grain, suffered in varying degrees from a lack of moisture. A good tobacco crop in western Nova Scotia has been harvested. Processing crops in this region, such as peas and beans, are producing lower yields. Due to lack of moisture the apples do not appear to be sizing as well as expected and the early forecast may have to be revised. In Cumberland County grain harvesting is progressing well and yields are good. Silage corn looks promising but is about two weeks behind in maturity. The blueberry crop has been harvested but yields were very light due to the early frost in June and the continuous dry conditions. In Central Nova Scotia grain harvesting is about 60 per cent completed with good yields. Corn looks fairly well despite the lack of moisture. In eastern Nova Scotia grain harvesting has started with about 25 to 30 per cent completed and has yielded well.

Continuing dry weather dominates crop conditions in New Brunswick. The grain harvest has been completed under favourable conditions with above average yields. Barley crops were excellent, but oat production was light. Early indications are that potato yields will be light but of high quality.

QUEBEC

In the Lennoxville area with normal temperatures and light precipitation forage corn has grown well and grain yields are satisfactory. Production of potatoes is also good while pastures are satisfactory. Little ploughing has been done so far.

Rain which occurred during the last three weeks in the area around La Pocatière helped pastures and second-growth hay. Normal yields of turnips and potatoes are now expected. About 80 per cent of the cereals has been harvested. Wheat and coarse grain yields are average except where growth was irregular due to late sowing. Forage corn will be below normal with apple and honey production also below average.

In the Lake St. John region about 4 inches of rain have fallen since the beginning of August while temperatures have been about normal. Harvesting of cereal is going well with good yields in prospect but due to the damp weather threshing is proving difficult. The yield of potatoes is lower than last year while picking of a small crop of blueberries is proceeding slowly. Milk production is about average.

During the last three weeks, around Caplan, the temperatures have been slightly above average with very little precipitation. Due to lack of rain haylands and pastures are in poor condition and milk production has declined. Grain harvesting is going ahead satisfactorily with yields below those of last year. Although harvesting of potatoes has not yet begun good yields are in prospect.

ONTARIO

In Essex County growers are picking processing tomatoes; harvesting operations, however, are later than normal and yields are below average. The green and wax bean harvesting is completed but sweet corn picking is still under way, with variable yields reported. Warmer weather is needed for grain corn and soybeans. The second cut of hay is producing excellent yields and silo filling operations have started. The land has been prepared for fall wheat planting. Peach growers have finished harvesting an excellent crop and McIntosh apples are now being harvested with early varieties completed. Reports from Pelee Island indicate that soybeans and corn are showing excellent growth. The first soybean harvesting should start in three weeks' time.

Improved growing conditions in Kent County during the past two weeks have greatly assisted the growth and development of corn and soybeans. The former is still a week to ten days behind normal and will require continued warm weather for optimum development. Soybeans are maturing with crop prospects equal to last year. Farmers are harvesting white beans and extremely variable yields are reported with a 70 to 80 per cent crop in prospect. Harvesting of hybrid seed corn is now under way, and tomato picking is at its peak with the crop about two weeks later than normal. A good quality onion crop has been harvested. It is expected that winter wheat acreage will increase substantially in this district as a result of low corn prices. Picking of the flue-cured tobacco crop is almost completed and burley

harvesting has started. Yields are good. The Entomological Laboratory at Chatham reports that cabbage loopers are causing serious damage to late cabbage, tomato and celery fields due to poor control earlier in the season, and sap beetles are heavy in late processing corn.

In Simcoe County there has been a total of seven inches of rain since August 19. About 80 per cent of the grain crops has been harvested and well-managed corn is dented and maturing reasonably well. Nevertheless, heat is still needed. Silo filling will soon be under way and a very light crop of second cut hay is reported. Waterloo County reports indicate that corn is immature for this time of the year, which is attributed to 200 heat units less this year than last. Frequent rains are delaying harvesting operations, although the weather is bright and clear between showers. In Wellington County continued wet weather is making harvesting of the remaining 30 per cent of spring grains almost impossible. Yields to date, however, are slightly above average and the quality is good. Much of the grain corn is nicely dented and silage corn crop prospects are excellent. No frost damage is reported so far. Some winter wheat acreage has been sown and it is expected that the area seeded will be above average.

Reports from Halton County indicate that over six inches of rain have been received since August 1. This has delayed harvesting and some grain is still in the fields. Yields of spring grains and fruit and vegetables are above average. Corn crops are maturing rapidly with average or above yields in prospect. Pastures and new seedings are excellent. It is expected that winter wheat seeding will commence this week. Farmers in York County have almost finished harvesting spring grains. Moisture conditions are satisfactory, but warmer weather is needed to mature grain corn. Pasture conditions are above average and apple quality is good with good sizing reported.

In the Peterborough district the grain harvest is now almost completed, with above average yields reported. Corn is quite variable, but generally less mature than normal. Silage making will be general within the week. In Leeds County the grain harvest is practically completed, with good to excellent yields reported. Corn is maturing well and a good crop is expected, providing there is no early frost. Some silo filling has been done and a start has been made at fall ploughing. Pastures are in good condition.

Farmers in Renfrew County have completed harvesting spring grains, with above average yields and quality obtained; reports indicate some yields up to 100 bushels of oats and 75 bushels of barley. Silage corn harvesting has started, but the crop is slow in maturing.

In the Kapuskasing district weather conditions have been very wet during the first part of September, with 3.52 inches of rain having fallen. August was drier than normal. Early-seeded grains are ripe and are being harvested. The second crop of hay is 60 per cent harvested, but yields have been lower than normal because of delays in cutting and curing operations. The dry weather in August slowed down pasture growth and farmers were feeding supplementary concentrates and hay. In the Thunder Bay area the weather has remained wet and cool. The water table is high and as a result it is difficult to use machinery in wet, low-lying areas. Grain crops are ripening very slowly and unevenly. Potato harvesting is limited to immediate sale needs. However, pastures are excellent and milk flows are somewhat better than usual.

MANITOBA

Unfavourable weather conditions all across Manitoba continue to delay harvest operations. Heavy rains last week caused widespread flooding of the low areas of the Red River Valley, south-central and south-western districts of the Province. Swathing varies from 5 to 25 per cent in the central, eastern and Interlake district. Very little combining has been completed and some barley and rye has been in the swath for over a month. All crops are affected by excessive moisture. Considerable damage has occurred to cereals from lodging, heads breaking off, and sprouting. Flax however, is withstanding adverse weather conditions better than most crops. Losses to the hay crop are heavy and a shortage of fodder may develop in most districts throughout the province.

At Vita in the southeastern part of the province no harvest activity has taken place during the past two weeks. The harvest situation seems grim. In the area around Altona fair, sunny weather allowed swathing and combining to commence on Monday afternoon but some low wet spots had to be left over. In the vicinity of Morden little harvesting was completed during the past week due to continued wet weather. Some crops are sprouting in the swath. Because of wet conditions farmers plan on straight combining if fields become dry enough as many acres are dead ripe. Some barley which has lain in the swath is being put up for silage. Light frost was reported last week from several locations with no apparent damage. The harvest of canning corn is expected to get under way by the end of the week.

Farther west at Pilot Mound harvest conditions are now serious. Continued good weather is required to dry the fields, particularly low land and potholes which are flooded. It is impossible to cut cereals, and late crops are not maturing properly, especially the flaxseed. Very little of the hay crop has been stored as sloughs are filled with water. Hot, dry weather is badly needed.

In the Winnipeg area at Selkirk crops are deteriorating quite severely in some parts of the Selkirk district due to excessive moisture. Early grain has lodged quite badly and the waterlogged condition of fields has prevented movement of machinery. The late grain crop however is holding up quite well, and if the frost holds off for a few more weeks this crop should ripen well. Loss in the potato crop is estimated to be at least 50 per cent and in some areas where fields are badly flooded up to 100 per cent loss. The last two days have been rain free which is the longest dry period in two weeks. Rainfall to date is 20.46 inches since April 1. Farmers are adapting machinery to conditions by using combine tires on swathers, rice harvesting tracks on combines and by the use of grain dryers. Two to three weeks of dry weather is urgently needed. Farther west at Stonewell bright, sunny weather has prevailed over the district for the past three days and raised hopes of improved harvesting conditions. As of September 9 only 6 per cent of the crop had been swathed, but with continued good weather, swathing and combining will be general in most areas by the end of the week. Many fields will take at least two weeks of dry weather before they will support machinery. Only about one per cent of the crops has been combined thus far. The harvesting of hay has resumed with most of the second cut yet to be brought in. In the district of Portage la Prairie swathing is about 50 per cent completed. Practically all of the barley and oats have been swathed. Very steady rains last week and in previous weeks have halted combining with only the odd early field of barley combined. Some barley which had been swathed for a month is beginning to sprout. The outlook as far as yield is concerned is still good if the area is favoured with dry weather although the quality of the grain is bound to be reduced.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon reports that 1.47 inches of rain to date for the month of September, together with lower than average temperatures, has further aggravated weathering of grain. In addition bushel weights of sample grain are reduced and contribute to the lowering of grades. Frost damage on August 14 is now showing in cereal samples. Swathing is completed in approximately 40 per cent of the acreage but many fields are still too soft to carry heavy equipment. Any grain in swaths that has sunk to the ground is sprouting. Swathing and some combining has become general with improved weather of the past two days. Pastures are in excellent condition but the harvesting of hay is still being delayed. Warm, dry weather is urgently needed. To the west of Virden sunshine and warm weather finally returned to the area on September 8. Three to four good drying days are required for harvesting operations to resume. Wheat generally will be grading No. 4 and 5 with some feed grades due to frost and weathering. The losses due to sprouting are not yet substantial.

In the Interlake district at Teulon weather conditions are improving. Swathing is only 10 per cent completed and combining has started on the odd field. A few fields have some sprouting in the swath. Unless the weather improves there will be some shortage of hay throughout the area. Combining of the timothy seed crop is 70 per cent completed.

In west-central Manitoba at Neepawa continuing cool, wet weather further delayed field operations and maturity of crops. Eighty per cent of the rye has been swathed and 10 per cent harvested; 30 per cent of the cereals swathed and only isolated fields harvested. A large percentage of the second-cut hay is not down as yet and many bales from earlier operations are deteriorating in the field. Some hay stacks are soaked through and heating. In the vicinity of Minnedosa little or no progress has been made with harvesting during the past two weeks. Only a small percentage of the barley and rapeseed fields was swathed before the rains commenced. Frost damage in the northern part of the district is extensive and crop insurance has already processed claims for payment of insurance in Erickson, and Sandy Lake areas. Farmers were able to perform only limited cultivations on summerfallows that were in need of working. To the west in the vicinity of Shoal Lake cool, rainy weather has further delayed harvesting. Very little swathing has been done to date. Severe frost damage occurred on many fields in the area and if the weather permits these fields will be cut for livestock feed to supplement the shortage of hay. Warm, sunny weather is needed to ripen crops as many fields are still green. In the area around Russell swathing has commenced again but there has been no threshing activity and little is known about the yield and grade, but the frost will most likely lower grade prospects. If the weather holds a good average crop is still anticipated. Hay is in short supply but there is a plentiful supply of feed available.

In the northwest part of the province at Dauphin 50 per cent of the cereal grains has been swathed but very little combining has been done to date. The ripening of crops has been uneven and frost will likely affect both yield and grade. Much of the late-maturing flax has been frozen. Pastures are in very good condition. At Swan River fields of barley, rapeseed and some wheat and oats have been swathed or were being swathed within the last few days with the return of dry and fairly sunny weather. The odd combine is working on rye or barley fields. Fields of wheat are ripening slow and uneven with some of the grain showing frost damage. Pastures are in good shape for this time of the year. More warm, sunny weather is urgently needed.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reports the following storms in Manitoba: September 5, Shoal Lake area, Miniota area, and Carberry area.

The Canada Department of Agriculture Research Station in Winnipeg reports that most of the crop in Manitoba has matured or is approaching maturity with little or no rust damage. However, heavy infection by brown rust is destroying the leaves of late oats in southern Manitoba.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 47 per cent above normal compared with 44 per cent above normal a week ago, 49 per cent above normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 27 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 9 was 5.6 degrees below normal as compared with 0.6 degree above normal a week ago, 4.3 degrees below normal two weeks ago, and 8.5 degrees above normal for the week ending September 11, 1967.

SASKATCHEWAN

Present ideal weather will rapidly advance harvesting operations in Saskatchewan. On a provincial basis some 45 per cent of the cereal grains has been swathed. With the exception of the northern districts, about 70 per cent of the swathing has been completed in the western half of the province. In the southeast districts some 40 per cent has been swathed and this ranges down to 15 per cent in the east-central to less than 10 per cent in the northern districts. Threshing progress has been much slower but operations will advance rapidly this week if the present ideal weather holds.

In the Willmar district in the southeast part of the province some seven inches of rain were received in August and as a result only some swathing and very little combining has been done. Early-swathed fields are showing green because of sprouted grain. Grades and yields will be down because of frost damage and sprouting. Fields are very wet and pastures and forage crops are becoming green again. Very little combining has been completed at Yellowgrass because of the wet weather which has affected both grades and yields. Wheat is expected to turn out an average of about 18 bushels per acre. There is much evidence of sprouting, shelling, ergot and smut in the crops. Flax is fair but coarse grains are poor. This district needs three weeks of dry weather to put all crops in the bins.

The continuous wet weather at Fillmore has delayed harvesting. Scattered showers over the last week end varied from one-half to one and a half inches and as a result some fields will be difficult to harvest, especially in low-lying areas. Less than one-third of the swathed fields shows sprouting damage. Light frosts occurred during the past week but little damage is apparent. Pastures are greatly improved. The Experimental Farm at Indian Head reports that two good, warm, drying days in a row have enabled harvesting operations to get under way again. Swathing was quite general Monday and is now in full swing. Some combining has been attempted, mainly on oats and barley, but the grain is still tough and has deteriorated in grade. Wheat in the swath had over 16 per cent moisture content. Losses in grade in swathed fields due to the wet weather will be considerable. However, standing crops stood up very well and aside from some bleaching and slight shelling have suffered very little damage. Late weed growth in the crop will create harvesting problems in some areas. Weed growth on summerfallow fields has been heavy and farmers are attempting to get these under control by appropriate tillage. Pastures are green and lush and livestock are in excellent condition.

At Gravelbourg in the south-central part of the province heavy rains over the week end delayed harvesting over much of the district. Although swathed grains are starting to sprout standing fields have withstood the adverse weather well. Frosts in some parts of the district will reduce yields and grade. A vigorous growth of weeds and volunteer grain has been promoted by the heavy rains. Dry, hot weather is now urgently needed to get the harvest under way again.

Practically no combining has been done during the past three weeks in the Swift Current district because of wet weather. Swathing is some 90 per cent completed but weeds growing up through the swath may cause some problems with combining. This operation should begin again soon if the present warm, clear weather continues. Pastures are quite green and this has greatly relieved the feed situation. At Eastend, in the southwest part of the province, the harvest has also been delayed by the wet weather of the past week but conditions are now improving. Yields of all cereals are exceeding expectations. Some 10 to 15 per cent of the wheat has been combined with yields running from 15 to 20 bushels per acre. Livestock are doing well on improved pastures. Farther north at Leader rains during the past week halted all harvesting operations. In this district about one-quarter of the crop has been threshed and yields and samples have been good. Damage to unharvested crops has not been severe to date. Pastures are green and fodder seems plentiful.

At Melville in the east-central part of the province swathing and combining is getting under way again. Grades of cereal crops will be poor due to frost and rain damage. Hay yields are good but the quality is poor due to weathering. Pastures are in good condition. Swathing is general at Togo with the return of settled weather. A large acreage of wheat has been cut down for feed and it is expected that the predominant grades will be No. 5 and Feed for the remaining fields. Rust damage has been severe. Barley is badly discoloured and has very light bushel weight. Our correspondent expects that on the basis of seeded acreage average yields may be only 10 bushels per acre of low grade wheat and barley. Pastures are good. Wet weather at Sturgis has held up harvesting operations but with the return of more settled conditions swathing is now becoming general. Very little of the crop has been combined but samples so far are of poor quality. There has been insufficient combining completed to determine the crop yields but our correspondent anticipates an average of approximately 25 bushels per acre for wheat. Haying operations are still in progress.

The cloudy conditions and rain of the past two weeks have delayed all combining in the Drake district of central Saskatchewan. Most grain is in the swath but early swathed fields now show green because of sprouting and growth of weeds. Fall rye has been harvested and yields were average. At Saskatoon the hot, dry weather of the past few days has dried swaths and harvesting has resumed after a delay of several weeks. About 80 per cent of the crop has been swathed and combining has now started. Good yields and grades are expected in this district with little damage from frost or sprouting. There is moderate sawfly damage in some fields. Pasture growth is good.

At Rosetown in the west-central part of the province about 75 per cent of the oats and barley and 5 per cent of the wheat has been harvested. Most wheat samples are grading No. 3 Northern. The harvest has been delayed by the recent cool, cloudy and wet weather but with the return of more favourable conditions operations will resume this week. Wheat should average about 25 bushels, barley 40 and oats 50 bushels per acre. At Scott swathing operations are well advanced but very little combining has been done. It has been clear and sunny in this district since September 8 and if the favourable weather continues combining will be general by the end of this week. Due to weed growth and second growth of cereals the crop this year requires a longer period in the swath than normal.

At Melfort in the northeast part of the province harvesting operations resumed Monday after almost three weeks delay. Crops have now matured and swathing is now general throughout the region. Some deterioration has occurred in barley fields swathed before the rain but as yet insufficient has been threshed to determine the extent of damage. Little wheat has been swathed and none has been threshed. While all grains will suffer some grade losses from the rain and frost our correspondent anticipates yields should average as follows: wheat 25, oats 65, barley 42, flax 15, and rapeseed 26 bushels per acre. The heavy growth of late tillers will delay drying after the crops have been swathed.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association reported the following hail storms; September 6, Midale area, Forgan area. The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports that hail storms continued in August with storms on August 27 at Scout Lake, St. Victor, Reedlyn, Crane Valley, Chamberlain, Strasbourg, Govan, Semans, Southey, Dysart, Leross, Ituna, Zehner, Tuxford, Elfros, Wadena; on August 28 at Glen Ewan, Storthoaks, Antler, Trossachs, Canora; on August 30 at Tisdale, Arborfield, Carrot River; and on September 6 at Goodwater, Halbrite, Midale, Estevan.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 3 per cent above normal, compared with 1 per cent above normal a week ago, 2 per cent below normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 54 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 9 was 4.5 degrees below normal, compared with 2.2 degrees above normal a week ago, 1.0 degree below normal two weeks ago, and in contrast to 11.7 degrees above normal for the week ending September 11, 1967.

ALBERTA

In the southern part of Alberta most of the winter wheat crop has been threshed. Harvesting of spring wheat and other grains is progressing rapidly in the Brooks-Medicine Hat area where about 50 per cent of the wheat and 65 per cent of the barley is now threshed. In the dark brown soil areas wheat swathing has progressed reasonably well with about 30 to 90 per cent cut. Excessive moisture has promoted extensive second growth in some areas thus making wheat prospects uncertain. Swathing has progressed favourably and some threshing has been carried out in the Peace River area where yields are reported to be variable due to frost damage. However, good yields have been obtained from grass seed crops.

At Manyberries in the southeast of the province wheat is about 90 per cent swathed and 60 per cent harvested, and barley is about 80 per cent harvested. The yield of wheat is reported to be about 24 bushels per acre and barley about 48 bushels per acre. Pastures are in good condition and cattle are doing well. In the Medicine Hat area, the harvest north of Highway 1 to Empress is almost 100 per cent completed, south of Highway 1 to Cypress Hills the harvest varies from 75 per cent completed to practically none. It will take approximately two weeks of good weather to complete the harvest around Cypress Hills. Fall rye is being seeded. Pastures are short, however, livestock are in good condition.

At Lethbridge in the southwest part of the province the swathing of winter wheat is completed and about one-half threshed with excellent yields being reported. The swathing of spring grains is nearing completion and threshing has just commenced with prospects of excellent yields in store. To date no flax has been harvested. The second cut of hay is below average. The maturity of the corn crop is mixed and harvest will not be general until September 18. The harvest of beans is completed. Digging of an excellent potato crop for processing has just started. No combining was done the past week at Cardston due to rain. Swathing of spring grain is general and no frost damage has been received to date. Approximately 20 per cent of the harvest is completed. Pastures are excellent and livestock are doing well. About three to four weeks of good weather is needed for completion of the harvest. At Claresholm the swathing of all grain is in full swing and will be completed by the week end. Oats and barley are 50 per cent threshed and winter wheat is about 100 per cent threshed. Some spring grain is being threshed and if two weeks of good weather are received the crop will be about 100 per cent in the bin. Yields are good and grades are fair. Threshing of flax will commence in about two weeks.

In the south-central area at Brooks the harvest was delayed over the week end due to one-half to one and one-half inches of rain received throughout the district. However, warm, dry winds were received the past two days and combines are once again operating. Most yields and grades of cereals are good. About 60 per cent of the barley has been threshed and 40 per cent of the wheat. Aphids have been reported in some late flax fields. At Vulcan approximately 75 per cent of the barley has been threshed and average yields are being obtained. Swathing of spring wheat is general and a small acreage was threshed this week. Fifty per cent of the rapeseed has been harvested and it appears that yields will be above average. Approximately four weeks of favourable weather should see the completion of harvest.

At Hanna in the east-central region the harvest has been slow due to later than normal crop maturity on account of second growth. About 60 per cent of the crop has been swathed and about 10 per cent has been threshed. The frost damage will be light in the area. Due to the second growth in the oat and barley crops about thirty days more growing weather is needed.

At Calgary weather conditions have been favourable the past few days. Swathing is now becoming general and small amounts of barley have been threshed. If the weather remains warm progress will be rapid. In the Olds area swathing of grain is in full swing and some barley threshing has been done. The weather has been cool and damp and some grain is going into bins tough. Barley is weighing 45 to 50 pounds per bushel and is grading No. 1 Feed.

At Sedgewick in the northeast-central area the weather has now cleared after a week of cold and wet conditions. If the weather holds the harvest will soon be in full swing and some farmers are already combining. Frost damage was spotty and in some instances the damage was severe. According to samples received so far wheat, on the average, will grade No. 4. At Vermilion frost damage is showing up in all crops and grades will be below normal. Harvesting difficulties are being experienced in the area due to a great deal of second growth combined with cool, wet weather. However, swathing is becoming general as weather permits. Combining will be in full swing in a week to ten days' time. Some wheat crops have been cut and put into silage.

In the Edmonton area cool, wet weather has delayed all harvesting and practically nothing has been done. Unfavourable weather conditions have seriously affected the quality of all cereal grains and a month to six weeks of warm, dry weather is urgently needed.

At Bonnyville in the northeast area frost damage has seriously reduced crop yields to an estimated 25 to 50 per cent. Several fields have been cut for grain feed. Moist weather has resulted in a second growth and has thus delayed harvesting. Some swathing has been undertaken but to date no combining has been carried out. Pastures are in good condition.

In the Peace River area at Beaverlodge the harvest has been delayed by cool, wet weather. Swathing is general but wheat and oats have been slow in maturing. Only small amounts of barley have been threshed to date. The seed harvest is nearly completed. Farmers in the Berwyn area have been receiving cool, wet weather and the harvest is at a standstill. Barley is about 20 per cent swathed and wheat about 5 per cent swathed with little combining having been done. Frost was received over a wide area and damage is reported as being light to severe. Crops are ripening slowly and low grades coupled with a low bushel weight are expected.

The Alberta Hail Insurance Board reports that the only significant storm was on September 6 and scattered hail losses were reported from Peace River, Grand Prairie, Acme, Cluny and Rainier.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 0.2 per cent above normal, in contrast to 2 per cent below normal a week ago, one per cent above normal two weeks ago and 31 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 9, 1968 was 1.0 degree below normal in contrast to 1.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 0.3 degree above normal two weeks ago and 9.5 degrees above normal for the week ending September 9, 1967.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Reports from Victoria indicate that pastures are good as a result of above average August rainfall. Potato crops are also good but maturity has been delayed due to cool weather. Greenhouse tomatoes are progressing well. Harvesting of early apples and Bartlett pears is completed. Picking of McIntosh apples has started with an indication of good colouring and sizing. Corn and field tomatoes are maturing slowly although quality is about fair.

At Agassiz fine weather for the past two weeks has greatly expedited harvesting of third-cut hay. Harvesting of corn silage has commenced in a few areas with a good crop in prospect this year. Growers have almost completed picking blueberries and bush beans.

Reports from Summerland indicate harvesting of peaches is completed. McIntosh apples, prunes and grapes are now being harvested and picking of Anjou pears will start soon.

At Creston about 50 per cent of the grain crop has been harvested. Cool weather with showers has delayed operations and has reduced yields and grades to lower than average. Harvesting of second-cut alfalfa is completed. Apples are colouring well and an average crop is anticipated, but quality will be lower than average as a result of hail damage.

Reports from Prince George in the Central Interior indicate that cool and wet weather conditions have delayed the harvest of grain crops, and the small acreage of winter wheat surviving winterkill has not ripened as expected.

At Smithers frequent showers and cool weather conditions have slowed the maturing of grain crops. If dry weather does not come soon, losses will be high.

At Fort St. John farmers continue to plough down frost damaged fields. About 5 per cent of the grain crop has been threshed and about 35 per cent has been swathed. Hot weather is generally needed in many areas to mature grain crops.

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. Sept. 9, 1968	since April 1	since April 1	8 a.m. Sept. 9 1968	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
MANITOBA						
1	Boissevain	2.16	16.72	12.72	52	56
	Pierson	1.01	12.92	11.43	48	56
	Waskada	1.56	18.43	12.06	50	57
2	Baldur	2.33	22.24	12.66	50	57
	Pilot Mound	2.32	23.67	12.38	50	56
3	Altona	1.36	16.17	11.71	52	58
	Deerwood	.95	25.57	12.20	53	59
	Graysville	.87	22.23	11.03	51	57
	Morden	1.41	23.07	12.45	55	59
	Morris	.93	20.97	11.59	51	59
	Portage la Prairie	.67	18.81	14.17	53	58
	Roland	.47	19.32	12.08	52	59
4	Stonewall	.60	21.07	12.86	52	57
5	Emerson	2.11	22.70	12.24	53	58
	Steinbach	.90	18.96	12.32	51	57
	Winnipeg	.88	20.60	12.42	53	58
	Starbuck	.97	18.52	12.25	53	58
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.24	21.62	11.89	52	57
	Great Falls	N.R.	14.02(2)	9.62	N.R.	57
	Sprague	.64	23.17	13.68	50	55
7	Rivers	1.12	14.38	12.24	50	56
	Virden	.43	13.37	11.94	50	56
8	Brandon	1.42	15.23	12.66	49	56
	Cypress River	1.05	19.34	12.17	51	57
9	Gladstone	1.05	16.87	12.74	N.R.	56
10	Birtle	.53	12.03	12.52	49	55
	Rossburn	.66	14.65	11.62	48	56
	Russell	.32	9.05	10.35	48	54
11	Dauphin	.81	10.20	12.25	51	56
12	Arborg	.52	15.99	12.22	49	57
	Gimli	.23	17.18	12.75	53	56
	Steep Rock	1.10	12.53(2)	11.42	57	56
13	Swan River	.15	13.67	12.01	49	56
	The Pas	1.02	11.70	10.57	50	54
14	Grass River	N.R.	16.14(2)	12.58	N.R.	56
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.99	17.83	12.11	51.1	56.7

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. Sept. 9	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 9, 1968	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1968	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
SASKATCHEWAN						
1A	Carlyle	.67	10.76	10.99	48	55
	Estevan	.28	10.99	10.63	52	58
	Oxbow	.27	11.11	10.33	49	56
	Willmar	N.R.	10.14(2)	11.55	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	.36	9.68	12.00	50	54
	Moosomin	.39	10.56	12.20	50	55
2A	Yellow Grass	.59	12.37	10.30	50	56
	Weyburn	.46	11.22	10.50	51	57
	Midale	1.26	11.52	10.42	51	57
2B	Moose Jaw	.37	7.75	9.82	53	58
	Regina	.10	7.39	10.23	50	56
	Francis	.24	9.85	9.91	49	55
	Indian Head	.13	8.58	10.21	50	55
3AS	Ormiston	.73	9.81	10.41	51	57
	Cardross	1.31	9.41	10.30	50	57
	Ceylon	.69	10.27(2)	10.68	51	56
3AN	Gravelbourg	N.R.	4.39(2)	8.85	N.R.	57
3BS	Shaunavon	.38	5.67	8.85	52	57
	Pambrun	N.R.	5.40(2)	9.56	N.R.	56
	Climax	N.R.	3.79(2)	8.12	N.R.	N.R.
	Aneroid	.09	5.02	8.65	52	57
3BN	Instow	.25	5.33	9.13	51	56
	Swift Current	.64	6.41	9.99	52	56
	Pennant	.85	5.42	8.86	53	56
	Hughton	.45	9.45	8.05	53	57
4A	Maple Creek	.83	7.11	8.33	54	57
	Consul	.41	7.19	7.68	51	56
4B	Abbey	.44	6.44	8.46	53	57
	Leader	.45	9.35	7.92	52	57
5A	Balcarres	.39	8.89	11.00	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	.22	10.51	10.96	49	56
	Melville	.30	10.97	11.08	48	55
	Yorkton	.17	10.73	10.81	50	55
5B	Bangor	.33	11.34	11.38	49	55
	Wynyard	.82	9.32	10.38	49	55
	Foam Lake	.75	8.54	10.52	49	54
	Kuroki	.62	9.31	10.72	50	53
6A	Lintlaw	N.R.	.98(2)	10.83	N.R.	53
	Kamsack	.19	10.67	10.18	49	55
	Davidson	.19	9.85	9.37	52	55
	Strasbourg	.19	8.54	10.62	49	56
	Watrous	.39	10.15	9.26	50	56

For footnote, see page IV.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 9	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 9, 1968	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1968	Normal
		inches			degrees F.	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN — Conc.</u>						
6B	Harris	N11	7.81(2)	7.89	55	55
	Outlook	.08	12.50	8.01	54	56
	Rosthern	.76	13.18	8.92	51	55
	Saskatoon	.38	12.74	8.63	51	56
	Elbow	.04	6.41	9.69	53	57
	Tugaske	.26	8.83	9.83	51	56
	Dundurn	.36	14.53	8.45	52	56
7A	Alsask	.25	9.60	7.30	53	56
	Kindersley	.06	8.00	7.98	52	56
	Rosetown	.13	9.54	8.90	52	55
7B	Macklin	.54	11.69	8.96	51	54
	Denzil	.16	12.81	8.80	51	53
	Scott	.09	9.62	8.99	52	53
	Biggar	.09	10.84	8.95	53	55
8A	Hudson Bay	.70	13.34	11.04	50	53
	Prairie River	.46	13.48	11.24	48	53
8B	Humboldt	.36	13.70	8.83	49	54
	Melfort	.72	13.48	9.86	52	54
9A	North Battleford	.61	10.23	8.64	52	55
	Victoire	N.R.	10.95(2)	9.68	N.R.	53
	Prince Albert	.40	13.85	10.00	50	54
9B	Waseca	.33	11.94	10.29	50	53
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.41	9.96	9.70	50.9	55.4

ALBERTA

1	Empress	.35	8.95	8.14	55	57
	Foremost	.49	9.22	8.32	55	57
	Manyberries	N.R.	6.59(2)	7.44	N.R.	58
	Medicine Hat	.12	8.84	8.26	57	58
2	Brooks	N.R.	7.17(2)	8.67	N.R.	56
	Drumheller	.04	7.50	8.68	55	54
	Gleichen	.29	10.71	9.78	55	55
	Hays	.34	6.65	7.80	56	57
	Rainier	.46	7.71	8.85	57	56
	Vauxhall	.20	9.59	7.89	56	56
	Raymond	.48	10.31	9.10	56	57
	Lethbridge	.13	10.12	9.88	58	56
	Trochu Equity	.27	10.27	11.20	53	54
	Queenstown	.27	12.87	10.26	58	55

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.	since	since	8 a.m.		
		Sept. 9, 1968	April 1	April 1	Sept. 9		
					1968	Normal	
			inches		degrees F.		
ALBERTA — Concluded							
3	Calgary	.22	8.64	11.92	54	54	
	Cardston	.36	11.39	10.94	55	55	
	Pincher Creek	.19	12.52	11.89	57	54	
	Fort MacLeod	.34	10.66	10.96	57	57	
	High River	.33	14.33(2)	12.32	52	52	
	Magrath	.71	9.80	11.08	54	57	
	Olds	.41	12.43	12.85	52	52	
4	Alliance	.92	11.47	9.91	52	54	
	Coronation	.98	9.70	9.63	52	53	
	Hughenden	.47	11.22	9.88	52	54	
	Lloydminster	.41	11.09	10.01	49	54	
	Stettler	.26	9.92	10.92	51	53	
	Vegreville	.54	9.15	10.40	51	53	
	Ranfurly	.79	10.53	11.41	50	53	
	Vermilion	.32	13.41	10.71	50	52	
	Edmonton	.59	9.88	12.41	52	53	
	Lacombe	.55	12.21	12.72	52	53	
5	Red Deer	.92	13.39	12.00	53	53	
	Rocky Mountain House	1.03	17.00	14.35	53	52	
	Wetaskiwin	.36	9.23	12.25	53	53	
	Athabasca	.93	10.96	11.42	45	52	
	Campsie	.05	11.86	12.78	51	51	
	Edson	.62	13.66	14.07	52	50	
	Elk Point	.46	10.11	10.85	48	51	
6	Lac la Biche	1.24	8.82	11.19	49	53	
	Whitecourt	.31	12.01	13.52	51	50	
	Beaverlodge	.46	10.48	9.67	51	52	
	Fairview	.05	8.86	9.57	51	52	
	Ft. Vermilion	.01	4.57	7.96	46	50	
	Grande Prairie	.51	12.78	9.50	53	52	
	High Prairie	.30	9.47	10.86	52	51	
7	Peace River	.47	8.29	7.82	51	52	
	Rycroft	.15	9.87	9.82	51	52	
	Wagner	.88	13.42	10.11	51	51	
	ALBERTA AVERAGE		.45	10.48	10.46	52.7	53.7

(1) Source: Meteorological Service of Canada.

(2) Incomplete; not included in average.

N.R. - No report.