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Crop Reporting Series — No. 18TELEGRAPHIC CROP REPORT — CANADA

This is the last of the 1969 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

Maritime Provinces. — Throughout the Maritime Provinces some of the crops have been harvested and prospects for good yields continue although some damage was caused by strong winds and rains received last week. In Prince Edward Island about 40 per cent of the grain has been harvested and the remainder is ready for harvest. Poor weather in the last 10 days delayed field work. Potatoes and root crop prospects are good. In Nova Scotia the grain harvest is one-quarter to one-half completed with good yields being reported, although some loss occurred due to hurricane Gerda last week. The blueberry picking has been almost completed. Corn suffered from the heavy winds last week but a heavier tonnage than last year is predicted. Apple picking is in progress and a 10 to 15 per cent loss was reported due to the strong winds from the hurricane. Growers are still harvesting vegetable crops and yields and quality are good. Pastures are in good condition. In New Brunswick harvesting has also been delayed because of the heavy rains associated with the hurricane. Grain crops are being harvested with yields near or slightly below average, in spite of severe lodging of grain and fodder corn. The corn is well matured and only very slight frost damage has occurred in isolated areas. The main vegetable crops are now available in quantity. In the southern part of the province there was about a 5 per cent apple loss due to the strong winds last week. The second cutting of hay has been completed and in some instances the third cutting is being taken off.

Agriculture Division

Crops Section

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Quebec. — The first ten days of September were warm but subsequently the weather was wet and windy. As a result fall work has practically stopped. However, harvest is well advanced in the southern and central part of the province; although in other areas it is barely beginning. Yields vary from average to excellent. In several counties a third crop of hay has been harvested with remarkable yields. The state of pastures and hay after growth has been good to excellent. The harvest of mid-season vegetables is ending and yields have been more than satisfactory. On the other hand, the harvest of fall vegetables is beginning but yields are not expected to be quite as good. Harvesting of field crops has commenced with satisfactory yields reported. Harvesting of a heavy crop of ensilage corn is well under way with corn kernels reported to be normally ripened. Growers have finished picking a good tobacco crop. Similarly the sugar beet harvest should be finished by September 23 with yields expected to be below those of a year ago.

Ontario. — Dry weather has prevailed over most of Ontario during the past month and as a result some crops have been brought to maturity earlier than anticipated. Corn silage is being harvested in many counties and operations have been generally completed in southern Ontario. Harvesting of spring grains has been finished in southern and central Ontario while some counties in the western, eastern and northern parts of the province report about 25 per cent of the crop yet to be harvested. Planting of fall wheat is common in many areas, although ploughing has been delayed in some districts due to hard, dry soil. Harvesting of soybeans and white beans is under way and average yields are reported. The hot, dry weather has reduced the quality of much of the white bean crop due to splitting. Picking of tobacco is nearing completion while tomato picking is just reaching its peak. Pastures are in short supply in most districts.

Prairie Provinces. — Harvesting in the prairie provinces is nearing completion under good weather conditions except for the central and northern districts of Alberta where cool, wet weather is hampering activities. Yields and quality are variable, being very good in Saskatchewan but slightly below the levels previously anticipated in Manitoba; in Alberta average or above average yields are still expected. Pastures are dry in Saskatchewan and southern Alberta but good elsewhere.

British Columbia. — Weather conditions continue varied but generally harvesting is progressing favourably, except in the Peace River District and central interior. Excessive early moisture and later drought conditions affected hay crops with yields reported from poor to good. The blueberry harvest is practically complete with yields below average. Mid-season potato crops are over in the Okanagan and almost finished at the Coast. Due to drought earlier in the year, yields of the later varieties are expected to be lighter than last year, with digging expected to start in one week. Corn silage crops are expected to be good. Cereal grain harvesting in the Kootenays and the Okanagan is completed, with lower yields than last year. Late August rains improved crop prospects in the Peace River Block. Harvesting has been delayed with only 10 per cent of grain swathed at the end of August. Yield prospects are well below those of 1968, with some frost damage reported as well. Harvesting of the creeping red fescue crop is completed with yields considerably below average. Yields of alsike clover however, are good. In the Okanagan the pear harvest has been finished and the apple crop appears promising with size generally good. Sweet corn is being harvested in the Lower Mainland with good quality reported. There is a plentiful crop of good quality early onions.

MARITIME PROVINCES

In Prince Edward Island poor weather in the last ten days has delayed the grain harvest which is about 40 per cent completed. A good crop is presently being taken off. Potatoes and root crops indicate above average yields. Pastures slackened off during a dry period a few weeks ago but recent rains are bringing them back rapidly. The tobacco harvest is about two-thirds completed and the quality is above average. It is estimated by our correspondent that the production will be in excess of 3.5 million pounds if no frost damage occurs before the end of this month. Cobbler variety of potatoes is yielding well and average yields of Kennebec and Sebagoe varieties are anticipated. Corn for silage is maturing slowly with no frost damage to date. Harvesting of processing peas is about completed and yields were average and quality variable. The harvest of broccoli and cauliflower for processing is just getting under way and quality is generally good. Pastures are holding up well where fertilized. The aftermath in meadows is providing valuable supplementary feed for livestock.

In the Amherst district of Nova Scotia the weather has been only fair for combining and as a result farmers are a little behind in their work. The second cut of hay has been almost impossible to make due to the weather conditions. Silage corn is progressing very well although some losses occurred from the heavy winds last week. The blueberry crop is about completed. Around the Truro area the damage from hurricane Gerda was light. There has been excellent harvest weather for grains and above average yields have been coming off. Silage corn stands are very promising and the tonnage is expected to be high. The working of land for winter grain crops is under way. Blueberry crops have been harvested with above average yields of good quality. Conditions of pasture and aftermath are above average for this time of year. In the Annapolis Valley hurricane damage was reported in varying degrees. Our correspondent reports about a 10 to 15 per cent loss in the corn and apple crops, with losses in tobacco and small grain crops as well. The apple picking is now in progress and the tobacco harvest is about two-thirds finished and should be 100 per cent completed by September 25. The grain harvest is about 60 per cent completed but only about 5 per cent of the corn for silage has been harvested. Vegetable crops continue to be harvested with good yields and quality reported. The size and quality of the pear crop is good and little damage was caused by the storm. Pastures are in good condition.

In the Perth area of New Brunswick wet weather has delayed the grain harvest and heavy rains on September 8 and 9 caused severe lodging. The quality will be affected due to discolouring. Rain-soaked fields are hampering the top killing of potatoes. The potato harvest has been delayed about a week but will be general when weather permits. A week of good weather is urgently needed. In other areas of the province cucumbers and green tomatoes are being harvested for pickling. The second cutting of forage is now completed. Growth on pastures has slowed up and additional feeding is general. Grain crops are being harvested with yields near or slightly below average. Harvesting of corn is in full swing. However, lodging occurred due to hurricane Gerda. The crop is well matured and only very slight frost damage has occurred.

QUEBEC

The St. Jean area reports above average temperatures during the first week of September but cool and rainy weather during the second week. The apple crop is forecast at about 5 million bushels by our correspondent. Warm weather during the latter part of August and at the beginning of September has increased prospects for

a good crop. The apples are generally of good colouration but about 20 to 30 per cent are spotted. The apple harvest is only about 25 per cent completed and the vegetable harvest is in various stages of completion. The bean crop is about 75 per cent harvested. The onion harvest is just beginning with very good quality yields being reported. Potatoes are about 50 per cent harvested and yields are considerably above average. However, carrots are about 40 per cent completed and yields are low. Harvesting of peas is well under way but yields are generally below average.

Reports from the Lennoxville area indicate that there has been no frost to date. Temperatures are normal for this time of the year. Likewise, the soil humidity is normal despite frequent showers. As a result, fall ploughing of stubble has started. The harvest of alfalfa and red clover second cut is under way with yields reported to be generally good. Cultivated pastures are in good condition. Potato harvesting has commenced with yields reported to be satisfactory. Silage corn is now being cut with initial yields indicating a better than average crop.

In La Pocatiere region frequent and abundant rains accompanied by violent winds from September 6 to 9 caused considerable damage to cereal crops and reduced yields about 35 per cent. The harvest is only about 75 per cent completed; due to wet soil conditions. Pastures are reported to be satisfactory. Average yields of silage corn are being taken off. The harvest of potatoes is under way and yields are generally good.

In the Normandin area frequent rains have been reported since August 26 with 3.18 inches of rain falling. On September 15 the first killing frost was reported. Harvesting of cereals has begun and yields are expected to be quite good. Digging of potatoes is under way with yields expected to be above average. Picking of blueberries is finished, and yields were quite low. Damp weather has hampered the harvest of cereal crops but has improved pastures and the second growth of hay.

In the Caplan area, warm temperatures during the latter part of August and the beginning of September have advanced the ripening of cereals and the second crop of hay. On September 9, 3.68 inches of rain fell and this accompanied with warm weather improved the state of pastures. The harvesting of cereal crops is well under way. Yields however have been affected by the heavy rain of September 9. In several areas of the region frost caused considerable damage on September 14. Sweet corn crops are good and the harvest of cucumbers has been satisfactory. Flax is reported to be well ripened.

ONTARIO

In Essex county of southern Ontario the weather has been warm and dry and rain is urgently required. Yield prospects for spring grains, corn and soybeans remain below normal. Seeding of winter wheat has commenced, while picking of tomatoes is in full swing although yield prospects appear below normal. Silo filling has commenced. Picking of peaches and tobacco is nearly completed. Pastures have dried up. On Pelee Island yields of winter wheat were better than average but corn is maturing unevenly. Late-seeded soybeans are very poor and only 50 per cent of an average crop can be expected. Dry weather in Kent county is rushing corn to maturity. Fall wheat is being planted and silo filling operations are under way. Picking of tomatoes is just about at its peak with good yields and high quality reported. Some fields of corn are showing evidence of leaf blight while cabbage loopers have caused severe damage in cole crops and to a lesser extent in tomatoes. Sap beetles are plentiful in most areas.

Silo filling operations are under way in Middlesex county and picking of corn has commenced in the southwest area. Harvesting of soybeans and white beans has been under way for some time due to the early maturity of these crops caused by the dry weather. Pastures have dried up and supplementary feeding of cattle is being carried out throughout the county. In Norfolk county there has been no rain for four weeks and as a result corn and pastures have been drying up. Silo filling is in progress and picking of tomatoes is under way. The dry weather has also resulted in dry seed-beds for wheat and caused problems in tobacco curing. Both yield and quality of grain corn will be reduced. Picking of tobacco is almost completed and the yield appears to be above that of last year. Harvesting of apples has just commenced and a good crop is expected.

In Simcoe county of western Ontario conditions have been very dry since the middle of August. Silo filling operations are under way as the corn was drying up badly in the field. Harvesting of spring grains will be completed in about another week and yields are turning out about average. Pastures are very dry. In Bruce county harvesting of spring grains is nearly completed and corn is about ready for silage. Pastures are beginning to show some recovery and ploughing is getting under way. In Waterloo county harvesting of corn for silage is progressing rapidly and a good crop is general on most farms. Seeding of fall wheat is well advanced but a good rain would be welcome in all areas of the county. Harvesting of spring grains has been completed in Halton county and yields were about 10 per cent less than normal. Corn has matured rapidly and silage making is now under way and yields are about average. Seeding of winter wheat is in progress. Both apples and pears indicate an excellent crop while pastures and hay fields are drying up.

In Peterborough county of central Ontario harvesting of spring grains is almost completed but pastures are suffering from lack of rain. Silage operations are under way on many farms. In Prince Edward county combining of spring grains has been completed on most farms. Yields and quality were generally average except in late-seeded fields. Land is now being prepared for fall wheat. Silo filling operations are in progress and good yields are expected. Rain is needed throughout the county.

In Carleton county of eastern Ontario early-planted corn is maturing well and generally shows good yield prospects. Harvesting of spring grains is nearly completed. Pastures are in fair condition. Harvesting of early-maturing corn for silage has commenced in Renfrew county. Combining of spring grains has made good progress but late-seeded fields have still not matured. Yields of oats have been about average and barley above average.

A report from Kapuskasing in northern Ontario indicates that August was warmer than usual while the first two weeks of September have been cooler with frequent showers. Yields of early-seeded grain were slightly above average. Completion of the grain harvest as well as digging of potatoes has been delayed by wet weather. Pastures are in fair condition. Harvesting of spring grains is progressing favourably in the Thunder Bay District and both yields and quality are above average. Digging of early potatoes has commenced while later fields have either been chemically or frost killed and harvesting of these should follow in about a week. Although yields of potatoes have varied widely the general average is expected to be about normal.

MANITOBA

Cereal combining is now general in Manitoba and in some districts is nearing completion. Quality and yields are variable and are generally below those anticipated

earlier, with wheat ranging from 20 to 40 bushels per acre, barley from 35 to 70, and oats from 40 to 70. Swathing of flax and buckwheat is general. Seeding of fall rye has been completed. Sunflowers and sugar beets are progressing well, as is the fall tillage. Haying is completed and pastures are good.

At Vita in the southeast of the province, with 75 per cent of the crop harvested, crop yields are: wheat 20 to 25 bushels per acre, oats 35 to 60 bushels per acre, and barley 25 to 40 bushels per acre. Some hail damage has occurred in the municipality of Franklin. In the area around Morden sunny, dry weather during the past week has hastened the harvest. Combining is 70 per cent completed around Stanley and 55 per cent completed around Pembina. Flax and buckwheat swathing is now general, with some early flax being combined. Rapeseed is yielding from 15 to 30 bushels per acre, and sunflowers and field corn are maturing rapidly in the warm weather. Fall work on land is 25 per cent completed. To the west at Pilot Mound some farmers are reported to have completed harvesting and overall about 70 per cent of the harvesting is done. Good yields and good quality have been reported to date, although this is quite variable in some areas. The early flax yield is reported to be 15 to 22 bushels per acre. Hay yields were good and pastures are average. At Melita harvesting of cereal crops is 90 per cent completed and flax about 50 per cent completed. The early flax yields are averaging 11 bushels per acre. The rye seeding on summerfallow is almost complete. The approximate average yields are: wheat 28 bushels, barley 45 bushels, rye 18 bushels, oats 55 bushels, and flax 12 bushels per acre.

In the Winnipeg area at Beausejour harvesting is 70 per cent completed, with cereal crops generally completed and flax still unharvested. Yields and weight are not as good as earlier expected, with wheat yielding 15 to 30 bushels. Recent wet weather is delaying the harvest, but field work is progressing favourably and pastures are holding well.

In the area around Brandon favourable weather has resulted in barley and wheat harvesting being largely completed with the odd fields of late oats and some flax remaining to be swathed. Fall tillage has started. Our correspondent reports that feed wheat yields will average slightly above 30 bushels per acre, with some reports of wheat and barley lacking plumpness, probably due to widespread infection of wheat rust. At Virden the harvesting of coarse grains is nearly completed with about 20 per cent of the wheat remaining. Yields have been very good with barley ranging from 50 to 60 bushels, oats from 60 to 70 bushels, and wheat from 35 to 40 bushels per acre. Fall rye has now been sown and more hay than earlier estimated has been put up.

In the Interlake district at Arborg harvesting of cereals is 50 per cent completed. Rain on the week end again will hold up threshing for a couple of days. Livestock and pastures continue to look good.

In the west-central part of the province at Neepawa clear sunny weather has predominated but swathed grain is not drying as well as expected. About 75 per cent of the wheat has been swathed and 40 per cent harvested; 95 per cent of the barley has been swathed and 70 per cent harvested; 85 per cent of oats has been swathed and 60 per cent harvested. Some rape has been harvested and a few fields of flax swathed. At Shoal Lake 50 per cent of the cereals has been combined, with wheat yielding 20 to 40 bushels and barley 35 to 70 bushels per acre. Harvesting of rape and flax is under way. Harvesting will be completed by the end of September. In the area around Russell harvesting is 80 per cent complete, with yields of wheat averaging 30 bushels per acre and grading No. 2 and No. 3 Northern. The barley yields range from 40 to 80 bushels per acre and are grading 3 C.W. and No. 1 Feed. Yields of rapeseed are

poor, but are grading No. 1 and 2. Second cuts of alfalfa are good and fall rye is up 3 to 5 inches.

In the northwest of the province at Dauphin a hail storm on September 6 near Ethelbert destroyed 3,000 acres of cropland. Spring wheat is yielding 25 bushels, durum 25 bushels, oats 40 bushels, barley 30 bushels, and rye 20 bushels per acre as combining is 60 per cent completed. Harvesting has progressed exceptionally well at Swan River during the past ten days, with combining of cereals and rapeseed estimated to be at 50 per cent. About 5 per cent of the swathing remains to be done. Quality and yields vary from fair to good and pastures are in good condition.

The Canadian Hail Underwriters Association report the following hail storms in Manitoba: August 27 — Binscarth and Oakburn areas; August 28 — Pilot Mound, Killarney and Swan River areas; August 29 — Benito, Pine River and Crystal City areas, Baldur to Holland; September 6 — Holland to Sperling, Carberry, Glencairn and Sifton areas.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 1 per cent below normal, compared with 1 per cent above normal a week ago, 0.2 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 43 per cent above normal a year ago. The mean temperature for the week ending September 15, 1969 was 4.9 degrees above normal compared with 3.9 degrees above normal a week ago, 5.9 degrees above normal two weeks ago, and 11.7 degrees above normal for the week ending September 16, 1968.

SASKATCHEWAN

Recent warm, dry weather in Saskatchewan has enabled farmers to make rapid progress with harvesting operations. Throughout most of the province reports indicate that about 75 per cent of the spring wheat has been combined and in some of the earlier areas it is expected that harvesting will be completed by the end of this week given continued good weather. In almost all districts very good yields are reported with outturns being better than had been expected earlier. Also grain is coming off dry and quality is good. Pastures in many districts are in only fair condition as the result of dry weather.

In the Moosomin district continued dry weather has favoured rapid progress with all harvesting operations, and about 75 per cent of the fields have now been combined. Yields have been better than expected and very good quality is being obtained. Ergot and immature kernels are the only degrading factors being encountered. The first killing frost occurred on September 16. In the Yellowgrass district spring wheat combining has been practically completed and progress with coarse grains and oilseeds is also reported. All the grain is being harvested dry and without frost damage so far. It is anticipated that harvesting will be completed in one week's time.

At Fillmore progress with harvesting has been rapid and most farmers will have completed combining their grain crops this week. Very good yields are being obtained with wheat on summerfallow producing up to 40 or 45 bushels per acre and most grading No. 2 Northern. Barley yields, however, are showing very considerable variation while durum wheat is reported fair to poor. Some flax has already been swathed and pastures are very dry and depleted. The Indian Head district has had excellent harvesting weather during the past few weeks enabling farmers to proceed rapidly with harvesting operations. All of the oats and barley crops have been swathed and 95 per cent has been combined. The wheat crop is 90 per cent swathed and 70 per cent combined and yields of 45 bushels to the acre are common with the average yield expected to be over 30 bushels per acre in this district. Most of the wheat is grading No. 2 with excellent colour. The grain is good and dry which will facilitate storage. Flax

crops are ripening and swathing is just getting under way. Yields are excellent. New growth is just appearing on summerfallowed fields some of which will require one more tillage operation this season. If the good weather continues, combining will be 95 per cent completed by the week end except for flax. Pastures are very dry and sparse but livestock are in good condition and are being turned out to graze on fields that have been combined.

Farmers in the Big Beaver district have combined 90 per cent of their wheat and reports indicate yields of 35 bushels per acre with oats reaching 90 bushels and barley 50 bushels. Wheat will grade in the top three grades and all the grain is dry. Storage space is a problem. Summerfallows are in good condition. Livestock also are doing well and large amounts of straw are being baled for feed. At Gravelbourg all the spring wheat has been harvested, 75 per cent of the durum wheat, 95 per cent of the oats, 100 per cent of the barley and 2 per cent of the flax. Very good yields are being reported. There has been no rain since the last report and weather conditions have been ideal for harvesting. However, the soil is dry and moisture reserves on summerfallow are only fair.

At Val Marie in the southwest of the province farmers have completed 95 per cent of the wheat harvest and it is estimated that about 85 per cent of the crop will grade No. 2. The second cut of hay on irrigated land is half completed. At Eastend harvesting is nearing completion with yields in the district estimated at from 18 to 20 bushels per acre. The weather is warm and dry. Cattle and pastures are in from fair to good condition. Grain storage is a major problem. With excellent weather during the past week harvesting operations have proceeded apace in the Swift Current district; about 80 per cent of the wheat and coarse grains have been combined with very good wheat yields reported and most of the grain grading No. 2. Barley is averaging 45 bushels to the acre and oats 70. Flax crops are now being swathed with very good yields in prospect. Although pastures are very dry grazing should be sufficient. Rain is needed to germinate fall-seeded rye crops. At Leader harvesting of grain and flax has been completed with good yields above earlier expectations. No fall moisture has been received to date. A good deal of grain is stored outside.

Harvesting is 85 per cent completed at Togo with good grades and generally above average yields reported. Combining should be finished by the end of this week. Reports from the Endeavour district indicate harvesting operations are well under way, with about 60 per cent of the wheat combined and average yields of 30 bushels per acre reported. Wheat is grading mostly No. 3 Northern. About 80 per cent of the coarse grains has been harvested with good yields being reported also. Rapeseed growers have finished harvesting their crops and haying has also been completed.

In the Drake District continuing hot, dry weather has seen harvesting mostly completed except for rape and buckwheat fields. Wheat yields of 25 bushels per acre are average for the district and yields of other grains are comparable. Summerfallow fields are black. This week the weather has been cloudy and cold with frost on the night of September 15. Cattle are in good condition with ample fodder supplies. At Craik 50 per cent of the harvest has been completed with 30 bushel yields of spring wheat indicated. Durum is producing about 28 bushels per acre, oats 55, barley 45 and flax 17. Another ten days of good weather will see harvesting completed. Pastures are drying up.

At Rosetown in the west-central part of the province 95 per cent of the crops has been harvested. Reports indicate that the average yield for wheat is about 30 bushels per acre, barley 50, oats 70 and flax 16. All grains have been harvested dry

so far. Wheat is grading No. 2 Northern. Some summerfallow fields are turning green again and some farmers are baling straw. In the Scott district 70 per cent of the threshing has been completed with good quality grain crops reported. Yields are better than average with wheat producing from 23 to 28 bushels per acre oats 55 to 60, barley 40 to 45, rapeseed 20 to 25, and flax 14 to 16. Some harvested fields are being pastured.

Reports from Melfort indicate that swathing has been completed and 50 per cent of the crops has been combined under ideal conditions. Sample and test weights are good with considerable wheat grading No. 2 Northern. Yields are slightly better than expected earlier. A frost of 7 degrees occurred on the night of September 15; although gardens have been damaged field crops will generally be little affected. Farmers in the Meota district have harvested 70 per cent of their crops to date. Yields are good with summerfallow wheat yielding 30 to 35 bushels per acre. Rapeseed, however, is yielding less than had been expected with an estimated average of 1,000 pounds per acre reported. Summerfallow is very green and will have to be sprayed or cultivated as soon as possible. Pastures are very dry.

In the Saskatoon district harvesting has been completed and all the grain has been taken off dry due to the extended period of excellent harvest weather. Wheat yields range from 15 bushels per acre on stubble to 40 bushels on summerfallow. Many farmers are now cultivating summerfallow. Pastures are very dry and frost on the night of September 15 killed potatoes and garden crops.

The Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance Association reports hailstorms on August 25 at Trossachs, Yellow Grass, Cedoux, Lewvan, Sedley, Tyvan, Odessa, Arbury, Leross, Hendon, Rose Valley, Kelvington; August 26, Indian Head, West Bend, Theodore; August 27, Regway, Benson, Steelman, Ralph, Griffin, Lipton, Zehner, Davidson; August 28, Assiniboia, Cardross, Bayard, Southey, Cupar, Kelliher; August 29, Bateman, Coderre, Courval, Moose Jaw, Brownlee, Aylesbury, Duval, Semans, Raymore, Arbury, Ituna; August 30, Dodsland; September 3, Kincaid, Bateman, Admiral, Neville, Wymark, Gouldtown, Lucky Lake, MacRorie, Asquith, Lacadena, Humboldt, Pathlow, Melfort, Tisdale, Carrot River. The Canadian Hail Underwriters' Association reports the following hailstorms: August 27, Lake Alma, Griffin, Steelman, Edenwold and Southey areas; August 28, Markinch, Raymore area, Leross area; August 29, Esk to Tuxford, Craik to Punnichy, Pelly; September 3, Humboldt to Aylsham, Admiral to McMahon, Beechy to Hawarden; September 4, Steen Lake, Lenore and Hinchliffe area; September 13 Allan area.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 17 per cent below normal compared with 15 per cent below normal a week ago, 15 per cent below normal two weeks ago and unchanged from a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 15 was 7.8 degrees above normal compared with 1.4 degrees above normal a week ago, 4.7 degrees above normal two weeks ago and 11.2 degrees above normal for the week ending September 16, 1968.

ALBERTA

Cool wet weather has halted harvesting in Northern and central regions of Alberta for the second time in the past two weeks. Cool evenings have heightened the risk of frost damage to many late crops. In southern regions harvesting of cereal and oilseed crops is nearly completed with above average yields and grades reported. In central regions much of the crop is still in the field and warm dry weather is required during the next three weeks for a satisfactory harvest. Over all yields are still expected to be above average. In the Peace River District the rains have

seriously delayed harvesting. Much more hot weather is needed to complete the harvest as fields are very wet. There have been reports of frost damage although the extent has not yet been determined.

In southwest Alberta around Lethbridge harvesting of cereal grains is 95 per cent completed and flax harvesting is 50 per cent. Hot, dry weather caused some late seeded spring wheat to shrivel and also delayed seeding of winter wheat and rye. The sweet corn harvest will be completed by September 24 with the overall yield down but quality good. The harvest of potatoes for storage is well under way with reported yields slightly above average and average quality. The 39,000 acre sugar beet harvest is due to commence September 29 with the expected yield to average 14.4 tons per acre. At Cardston harvesting of cereal grains is 90 per cent completed and the oilseed harvest is 60 per cent. Dry conditions have delayed seeding of fall grains and germination is patchy. Livestock are in good condition but pastures and haylands are quite dry. There has been a limited amount of fall cultivation so far. In the Claresholm area harvesting is nearly completed with only flax remaining. Seeding of winter wheat and rye is almost complete but acreage is down due to a hesitancy to sow these crops under dry conditions. Farmers are baling their straw and pastures have dried up considerably.

Around Brooks in the south-central region the harvest is 70 per cent complete with good average yields on both dry and irrigated land. Due to a shortage of bins some grain has been piled in the field. The flax harvest is just beginning. Forage corn, green oats and barley are being cut for silage and carrots are now being processed. There have been numerous prairie fires due to the dry, hot weather. In the Vulcan area approximately 70 per cent of the crop has been harvested with yields averaging 27 bushels per acre for wheat, 55 bushels per acre for barley and 20 bushels per acre for flax. Samples of grain which have been submitted are in the top grade categories. A frost was reported on September 14 but this will not affect the quality of the grain. Ten days of dry weather should see the completion of the harvest.

Around Hanna in east-central Alberta the harvest is about 75 per cent completed with reported yields of 25 bushels per acre for wheat, 30 bushels per acre for barley, 40 bushels per acre for oats and 15 bushels per acre for rye. The grain is dry and wheat is grading No. 2 Northern and No. 3 Northern. The wheat harvest has been held up for five days due to one-half inch of rain which fell on September 13. Frost was reported on September 14.

In the Calgary area good progress was made last week in harvesting with above average yields and good quality. Harvesting is now about 50 per cent completed and has been delayed by a week to ten days due to rain and snow which fell last week. At Olds barley threshing is about 50 per cent completed with the wheat harvest due to commence as soon as the weather becomes dry. Yields are reported as heavy and the quality is good.

Vermilion, in northeast-central Alberta, reports that swathing is nearly complete. Combining of oats, barley and rapeseed crops is about 80 per cent complete with the wheat harvest about 10 per cent completed. Rains on the week-end have stopped all harvesting. Frost damage has been reported on wheat samples which will no doubt lower the grades. All crops are average or above average with oats exceptionally good.

In west-central Alberta the Red Deer area reports that two and one-half to three and one-half inches of rain which fell ten days ago have stopped all field activities. The crops still look excellent but some late fields will not mature. In the Lacombe area two inches of rain between September 3 and 5 and one-quarter inch on September 13 have delayed harvest but have helped hay and pasture. Swathing is 70 per cent completed and combining is 25 to 30 per cent completed with generally good yields and variable quality reported. Some of the barley is light where moisture was in short supply during the growing season. In the Eckville area swathing is nearly all completed with combining 50 per cent completed. Summerfallow is in fair condition and pastures are holding up well. Two weeks of ideal weather would see the harvest completed.

In the northeast region around Bonnyville recent rains have halted all harvesting until the end of this week. Approximately 10 per cent of the grain has been harvested with yields and grades better than last year. The second-cut of alfalfa is yielding well and most farmers have an adequate supply of forage. Around Colinton swathing of cereal and oilseed crops is 75 per cent completed but very little swathing of forage seed crops has been done to date. Approximately 85 per cent of the second-cut hay is down with about 30 per cent baled. The balance of the cut hay is deteriorating badly due to wet conditions. Very little combining has been done due to frequent rains. Many fields are so wet that it is impossible to get on them. Grain is expected to be of generally low quality this year due to deterioration in the swath caused by moisture. Forage seed is sprouting in the pods standing in the fields and many heads are falling off as the stems rot.

In the Peace River area around Beaverlodge continued wet weather with some four inches of precipitation reported in September has halted the harvest. Less than 10 per cent of the cereal and oilseed crops has been harvested. Some sprouting in swaths has been reported as well as damage from earlier frosts. Snow on September 14 will delay further harvest operations for up to two weeks. At Peace River no harvesting has been done since September 1 due to rains. Grain is sprouting in the swath and field work is not expected for another week. At Fort Vermilion a light rain on September 7 slowed down harvesting in the area. Harvest conditions have improved but better weather is hoped for. Most of the harvest to date has been on crops of barley and rapeseed with almost no wheat, oats or flax harvested. A good portion of the district escaped the rain and snow which fell over most of the Peace region on September 14 and 15.

The Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation reports that no significant hail activity has occurred during the past reporting period.

The unweighted average precipitation for the province since April 1 has been 7 per cent below normal compared with 7 per cent below normal a week ago, 17 per cent below normal two weeks ago and 0.4 per cent below normal a year ago. Mean temperature for the week ending September 15, 1969 was 4.8 degrees above normal compared with 0.1 degree below normal a week ago, 0.2 degree above normal two weeks ago and 6.1 degrees above normal for the week ending September 16, 1968.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Reports from Victoria indicate drier conditions than normal with fall pastures poor. The increasing use of pasture irrigation is reducing the dependance on rainfall. The second early potato crop acreage is down with slightly lower than normal yields. The late potato acreage is up due to better prices for netted gems, with average yields on non-irrigated areas and heavy yields on irrigated fields. A good crop of McIntosh and Tideman Red apples has been harvested.

The fall crop of greenhouse tomatoes is promising.

Agassiz reports rainfall since the last report as close to average. Harvesting of corn for processing is approaching a peak, with yields average, and variable maturity within the fields. The harvest of broccoli for processing has commenced, and the bush bean harvest is almost complete. Most of the oat crop has been harvested and considerable third-cut hay was harvested the second week in September.

At Summerland the harvest of McIntosh apples is in full swing, with all apple varieties of good size and fair colour maturing rapidly. Windfall losses of apples are light. Anjou pears are being harvested and the Italian prunes are nearly finished. All crops are earlier than usual, as a result of the warm June weather. Rain and cooler weather are required to improve apple colour. At Vernon the weather continues dry but cooler with light frosts reported in many areas on September 15. The harvest of cereal grains is almost completed. The yield of fall wheat was 15 per cent below last year at 45 bushels per acre. Harvesting of a good crop of field corn is commencing and the third cutting of alfalfa is in progress.

Reports from Prince George in the central interior indicate that cool, damp weather has delayed harvesting of grain and second cutting of forage crops. Most grain is still standing but grass, legumes and grain for silage have been harvested. It appears there will be no shortage of forage, resulting from the hot, dry June.

At Dawson Creek in the Peace River Block severe wet conditions and some snow are hampering harvesting operations. Swathing is incomplete and no threshing has started yet. Considerable frost damage is reported.

At Fort St. John wet weather has delayed swathing and combining. Twenty per cent of the wheat is swathed, 40 per cent of the barley, and 5 per cent of the oats. Frost damage is reported in low-lying areas, but average yields of barley and wheat are expected. Rape and flax yields are low as a result of frost damage. Hay and fescue harvesting has been completed, but legume seed crops are still in the swath. Five days of good weather will be required before combining commences.

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m.	
		Week ending 8 a.m.	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	Sept. 15	
		Sept.15,1969			1969	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>MANITOBA</u>						
1	Boissevain	nil	10.74	13.00	61	55
	Pierson	nil	10.95	11.65	59	56
	Waskada	N.R.	8.23(2)	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
2	Baldur	trace	9.77	13.07	60	56
	Pilot Mound	trace	11.64	12.71	59	55
3	Altona	.18	9.60	12.10	60	57
	Deerwood	.01	12.48	12.63	59	58
	Graysville	nil	13.45	11.43	59	56
	Morden	.11	9.94	12.80	62	58
	Morris	.30	14.14	11.99	61	58
	Portage la Prairie	trace	16.17	14.68	62	57
	Roland	.02	11.49	12.54	62	58
4	Stonewall	.02	14.15	13.26	60	56
5	Emerson	nil	10.92	12.70	62	57
	Steinbach	.23	12.49	12.81	60	56
	Winnipeg	.02	15.64	12.87	62	57
	Starbuck	trace	16.31	12.68	62	57
6	Seven Sisters Falls	.06	12.64	12.30	61	56
	Great Falls	.25	7.36(2)	10.01	61	56
	Sprague	.10	16.28	14.22	62	54
7	Rivers	nil	14.06	12.56	62	55
	Virden	trace	12.97	12.22	60	55
8	Brandon	nil	13.58	12.98	60	55
	Cypress River	nil	16.55	12.52	61	56
9	Gladstone	nil	13.55	13.20	N.R.	55
10	Birtle	trace	11.72	12.87	60	54
	Rosburn	trace	12.10	11.97	64	54
	Russell	nil	11.47	10.68	59	53
11	Dauphin	nil	10.12	12.63	60	56
12	Arborg	.11	9.35	12.71	62	55
	Gimli	.02	12.05	13.21	61	55
	Steep Rock	N.R.	.46(2)	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
13	Swan River	.05	10.16	12.38	58	54
	The Pas	.11	7.44	11.02	55	52
MANITOBA AVERAGE		.05	12.38	12.51	60.6	55.7
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u>						
1A	Carlyle	nil	12.47	11.19	60	54
	Estevan	nil	11.59	10.94	63	57
	Oxbow	trace	9.83	10.54	60	54
	Willmar	nil	12.56	11.85	N.R.	N.R.
1B	Broadview	nil	10.17	12.35	61	53
	Moosomin	nil	13.33	12.56	60	54
2A	Yellow Grass	nil	7.61	10.58	62	55

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 15, 1969	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 15	
					1969	Normal
SASKATCHEWAN - Continued						
2A	Weyburn	nil	9.36	10.79	63	56
	Midale	nil	8.80	10.66	63	56
2B	Moose Jaw	nil	9.52	10.08	66	57
	Regina	trace	8.51	10.52	66	55
3AS	Francis	.02	9.98	10.16	57	54
	Indian Head	nil	7.07	10.50	63	54
	Ormiston	.02	4.89	10.66	64	56
	Cardross	.01	8.45	10.56	64	56
	Ceylon	nil	9.55	11.02	64	55
3AN	Chaplin	N.R.	6.61 (2)	9.30	N.R.	54
	Gravelbourg	N.R.	8.65 (2)	9.05	N.R.	56
3BS	Shaunavon	nil	10.39	9.07	63	56
	Pambrun	nil	10.65	9.81	64	56
	Aneroid	nil	9.73	8.86	67	56
	Instow	nil	8.83	9.38	64	55
3BN	Swift Current	trace	8.33	10.27	67	55
	Pennant	N.R.	6.12 (2)	9.12	N.R.	55
	Hughton	nil	6.19	8.28	61	56
4A	Maple Creek	nil	7.58	8.59	67	56
	Consul	nil	4.35	7.82	62	55
4B	Abbey	N.R.	5.03 (2)	8.69	N.R.	56
	Leader	nil	6.57 (2)	8.16	63	57
5A	Cupar	N.R.	4.60 (2)	10.69	N.R.	55
	Balcarres	trace	6.68	11.30	N.R.	N.R.
	Lipton	trace	11.13	N.R.	62	N.R.
	Melville	nil	8.43	11.44	61	54
	Yorkton	nil	9.33	11.15	62	54
	Bangor	nil	10.69	11.74	62	54
	Wynyard	trace	8.40	10.74	63	54
	Foam Lake	N.R.	7.51 (2)	10.84	N.R.	54
6A	Kuroki	nil	7.69	11.07	60	52
	Kamsack	nil	8.81	10.53	60	54
	Davidson	trace	8.84	9.63	64	54
	Strasbourg	nil	6.27	10.99	64	55
6B	Watrous	trace	8.03	9.56	61	55
	Harris	nil	4.48	8.15	62	54
	Outlook	nil	6.47	8.25	63	55
	Rosthern	trace	7.18	9.24	61	54
	Saskatoon	trace	6.91	8.92	62	54
	Elbow	nil	8.24	9.97	64	56
	Tugaske	nil	7.82	10.11	60	55
	Dundurn	nil	4.25	8.74	65	55
7A	Alsask	N.R.	5.90 (2)	7.47	N.R.	55
	Kindersley	.04	6.71	8.25	62	55
	Rosetown	.02	6.88	9.16	62	54

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 15	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.15,1969	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1969	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>SASKATCHEWAN</u> - Concluded						
7B	Macklin	nil	6.54	9.22	62	52
	Denzil	.03	7.09	9.06	59	52
	Scott	.05	7.72	9.24	59	52
	Biggar	nil	7.75	9.27	61	54
8A	Hudson Bay	.07	8.46	11.39	59	52
	Prairie River	N.R.	5.85(2)	11.60	N.R.	52
8B	Humboldt	.06	5.71	9.08	61	53
	Melfort	trace	7.02	10.21	62	53
9A	North Battleford	.05	6.62	8.87	62	54
	Victoire	N.R.	9.33(2)	10.00	N.R.	52
	Prince Albert	.09	7.93	10.29	59	53
9B	Waseca	N.R.	7.79(2)	10.61	N.R.	52
SASKATCHEWAN AVERAGE		.01	8.26	9.97	62.3	54.4
<u>ALBERTA</u>						
1	Empress	nil	8.31	8.39	66	56
	Foremost	trace	4.51	8.55	62	56
	Manyberries	N.R.	4.18(2)	7.63	N.R.	57
	Medicine Hat	nil	4.48	8.58	68	58
2	Brooks	.01	5.22	8.94	63	55
	Gleichen	.23	7.61	10.00	58	54
	Hays	N.R.	5.69(2)	8.06	N.R.	56
	Rainier	.13	5.26	9.13	62	55
	Vauxhall	trace	6.47	8.14	62	55
3	Raymond	nil	7.61	9.36	60	55
	Lethbridge	nil	8.76	10.17	63	56
	Trochu Equity	N.R.	.65(2)	11.38	N.R.	53
	Queenstown	.05	8.52	10.50	62	54
	Calgary	.21	12.88	12.19	57	52
	Cardston	nil	10.27	11.31	60	54
	Pincher Creek	.04	12.44	12.30	59	53
	Fort MacLeod	nil	10.11	11.31	61	56
	High River	.23	12.91	12.66	57	51
	Magrath	nil	9.29	11.40	64	56
4	Olds	.40	14.28	13.14	54	52
	Alliance	.20	8.76	10.16	57	53
	Coronation	.25	7.23	9.92	58	53
	Hughenden	.13	8.87	10.17	57	53
	Lloydminster	.20	11.06	10.26	57	53
	Stettler	.01	13.49	11.20	56	52
	Vegreville	nil	9.90	10.71	57	52
	Ranfurly	.13	7.71	11.76	57	52
	Vermilion	.14	9.90	11.08	57	51

Precipitation and Temperature Data, Prairie Provinces(1)

Province and crop district	Station	Precipitation			Mean tem- perature week ending 8 a.m. Sept. 15	
		Week ending 8 a.m. Sept.15,1969	Total since April 1	Normal since April 1	1969	Normal
			inches		degrees F.	
<u>ALBERTA - Concluded</u>						
5	Edmonton	.04	12.81	12.70	55	53
	Lacombe	.26	10.29	13.08	56	52
	Red Deer	.39	13.82	12.26	57	52
	Rocky Mountain House	.13	15.79	14.77	55	51
6	Wetaskiwin	.09	10.47	12.56	56	52
	Campsie	N.R.	14.92(2)	13.08	N.R.	50
	Edson	.04	14.36	14.40	57	49
	Elk Point	.21	9.86	11.23	55	50
	Lac la Biche	.74	15.83	11.61	54	52
7	Whitecourt	.06	15.65	13.78	54	49
	Beaverlodge	2.55	10.22	10.01	52	51
	Fairview	1.56	10.38	9.85	56	51
	Ft. Vermilion	.09	5.80	8.20	53	49
	Grande Prairie	2.64	11.20	9.75	54	51
	High Prairie	1.56	9.54	11.16	51	51
	Peace River	.76	8.54	8.06	56	51
	Rycroft	2.74	10.45	10.13	51	51
	Wagner	.48	11.82	10.42	54	50
ALBERTA AVERAGE		.40	10.06	10.77	57.6	52.8

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