

# CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN



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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

**COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE:** The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, on July 6, issued the following statement:

The Minister of Finance Mr. Abbott, is leaving by air today for London for informal talks with United Kingdom and United States authorities and, subsequently, to represent the Government at the Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers. The date on which the meeting will begin is now fixed for July 13.

Mr. M.W. Mackenzie, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Dr. G.S.H. Barton, Special Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, are flying to the United Kingdom at the same time as Mr. Abbott. They are both members of the United Kingdom-Canada Continuing Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs. The other two Canadian members of the Committee, Dr. W.C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance, and Mr. Dana Wilgress, High Commissioner for Canada, are already in London.

It will be remembered that this Committee was formed following the visit of Sir Stafford Cripps to Canada last September and held its first meeting last January. It was established as a means of ensuring continuity and close liaison between official representatives of the two countries.

The presence of these Canadian officials in London will afford opportunity for contacts and conversations with the United Kingdom members of the Committee. The extent of these conversations will naturally depend on circumstances as they develop.

**RAINS IMPROVE CROPS:** Rains have fallen over wide areas of the Prairie Provinces. Crop prospects in Manitoba remain generally excellent and material improvement is indicated in some sections of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Grain stands in Manitoba are heavy in most areas with nearly all early-seeded fields heading or in head. Rain is required, however, in the south-central portion of the Province around Morden where moisture supplies are still poor and lowered grain yields are anticipated.

Moisture conditions are much improved in the central part of Saskatchewan but the situation is little changed in the dry south-central and south-western districts.

Although the rains brought some relief to the drought affected areas in east-central Alberta, it is still too early to determine to what extent the crops have benefited. Conditions in west-central Alberta remain very dry and a tight feed situation is anticipated. The outlook in the south-western part of the Province and in the Peace River district is good, although further general rains will be needed to carry crops to maturity in all parts of Alberta.

Grasshoppers have been kept quite well in check in the affected areas of all three provinces.

Crop prospects in Ontario remain considerably below average as a result of drought.

In Quebec conditions are about average over most of the Province.