

CROP CONDITIONS THROUGHOUT CANADA

Prospects are Still Very Uncertain—Much Variation in Localities

A summary of telegraphic crop reports received on the condition of field crops throughout Canada was issued on July 3rd by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics as follows:—

Atlantic Provinces.—In Prince Edward Island splendid growing weather has assured an excellent hay crop. Grain and potatoes are well up to average. Frost on 20th and 21st June damaged beans, tomatoes and early potatoes in some sections. Roots and corn are making good growth. In Nova Scotia (Kentville) June has been cool and very dry. Frost on the 21st reduced bean crop 15 per cent. Corn has made inferior growth. Grain and roots looking well. Hay very poor, about 40 per cent. of normal. Apples a fair crop; about half a million barrels. In New Brunswick (St. John) excepting local frost in some sections which damaged beans and potatoes, June has given favorable weather for seeding and growth of crops. More grain has been seeded than usual. The hay yield will be large. Pastures are excellent and dairy production good.

Quebec.—Bonaventure. General growth medium. Hay fine. Eighty per cent. of grain has germinated well. Frost caused damage to beans and other vegetables. Much rain and temperature cool. Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere. Hay will give an average crop. Wheat is good on drained land but rather backward on the whole. Other grain only fair and rather late. Potatoes are promising on dry land. Cap Rouge. Meadows and pastures look very well. Grain and silage corn are suffering from excess of precipitation and lack of heat. Potatoes are good on high land and poor on low spots. Swedes are coming up nicely. Actonvale. Gardens injured by recent frosts. Cereals have good appearance. New prairie hay good; prairie hay over two years medium. Pasture very good. Cold weather to date greatly hindered development of vegetables and hay. Makamik. Hay suffered from winter killing. The condition of cereals is very good but growth late. Potatoes are late coming out. Shawville. Crop conditions fair; wheat and peas good; oats and corn backward. Some spots touched with frost; hay crop very thin, but improving rapidly with recent rains. Root crops and potatoes fair; beans doing well, but late.

Ontario.—Ottawa and district. Hay is poor to fair. Of wheat, which is little grown, the crop is only fair. Oats promise well. Corn for silage is very backward. This crop is also poor in south-western Ontario owing to bad seed which failed to come up. All kinds of roots and also potatoes promise well. Pasture has been good on the whole.

Manitoba.—Brandon. June very dry with hot winds. Crop prospects poor.

Saskatchewan.—The Provincial Department of Agriculture reports (June 25) that while the whole province has more or less been affected by the recent drought, the crop in no district is entirely ruined. Rains throughout the province have proved beneficial, arriving just in time in many districts to save the situation. Indian Head. The early part of June was dry accompanied by hot winds which retarded growth to a considerable extent. However, during the past week rain fell on the 24th, 25th and 27th. This with cool, cloudy weather has greatly improved crop conditions, and prospects at present are for a fair average crop. Scott. Owing to drought, late sown grain has failed to germinate. Early sown oats have been frozen off badly. Rain must come immediately if any crop is to be harvested in the prairie section. Conditions more favorable in northern part of district.

Alberta.—The Provincial Department of Agriculture reports that during the past month growing conditions have been somewhat irregular. In the early portion growth was hindered by cool weather and lack of moisture with strong winds in a few districts. Warmer weather prevailed after the tenth with light showers. Crops injured from early frosts, but recovered rapidly as weather became warmer. Good growing weather after middle of month, and all crops, excepting in a small area where more rain is needed, progressed very favorably. While conditions have not been ideal, an average crop over a very large portion of the province is assured. Hay, however, will be shorter than usual, but there is a good promise of an extra yield of vegetables. Warm weather and frequent showers during past week have greatly brightened outlook for the harvest. Lacombe. First three weeks of June were windy, warm and dry. Early sown crops

made slow growth, being delayed by insufficient moisture, and in certain areas by drifting sand. During last week rain fell over greater portion of central Alberta supplying immediate needs of grain crops. Hay will be light.

British Columbia.—Agassiz. Weather conditions during June decidedly unfavorable for growing crops. Cereals, roots, hay and pasture badly in need of moisture. Livestock in fair condition. Summerland. June drop in all fruits very heavy. Present indications show only medium crop in apples, pears, plums and apricots. Peaches on trees well attended to have good crops. Hay crop will be short. Grain will be light under dry farming. Season very dry and getting hotter. Sidney, V.I. Drought conditions continued during the month. Hay, averaging one ton per acre, has been harvested in good condition. Autumn wheat fair. Spring grains short. Small fruits, vegetables, roots and potatoes will yield low. Orchard fruits fair. Rain needed.

The report of the executive of the Canadian Northern Railway Company, summarizes the conditions in the west as follows:—

"An optimistic tone characterizes the weekly report on the growing grain in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. The report shows that rain has fallen over the larger part of the vast grain-growing areas served by the company's more than six thousand miles of line in the three prairie provinces in Canada. Where last week the majority of the agents reported a need of rain, that of the week under review shows but 44 agents calling for moisture. In a few cases there is a complaint of continued high winds, and consequently rapid drying out of the ground. But the great majority declare moisture as sufficient, and that conditions are satisfactory for the growing grain.

LEVIS LOAN APPLICATION TURNED DOWN

On Tuesday, the 3rd instant, a delegation of ratepayers of Levis, Quebec, waited on the provincial government for permission to borrow \$134,000. The loan, however, had not been approved by the ratepayers and the government refused it until it had been submitted.

KELOWNA REQUIRES MORE WATER

At a recent meeting, held in Kelowna, British Columbia, the subject of an increased water supply for the Glenmore valley was discussed. A committee was appointed, which has been authorized to make every effort to obtain more storage accommodation by increasing the number of dams. At present there is one dam holding the supply of water for the district and a second is under the course of construction. The construction of two more is being advocated to ensure a plentiful supply.

QUEBEC TAX RATE

On June 28th the city council of Quebec approved of a by-law adding 40 cents per hundred dollars of assessment to the tax rate. This makes the rate \$2.37 per hundred, or 23.7 mills. The budget at present shows a deficit of \$256,466, which was largely the reason for the increase in the rate. The city also has a bill of \$26,000 from property owners whose property was damaged in the recent riots in Quebec. The city will not be subject to any liability for deaths, as a proclamation had been issued, giving the necessary warning beforehand.

Y.M.C.A. PUBLISHES STATEMENT

There appears in this issue the annual statement of the National Council of the Young Men's Christian Association of Canada for the year ended December 31st, 1917. The total receipts were \$4,329,654, including about \$190,000 brought forward from 1916. Of the funds received during the year, \$2,981,797 was derived from canteen sales and \$1,151,939 from subscriptions, so that the contributions were 38 per cent. of the total business transacted. The cost of the goods sold was \$2,368,486 which does not include transportation, etc. Apart from this, the largest items are for huts and equipment, entertainments and salaries.

The publication of this statement has been delayed by reason of the difficulty of sending the auditors to France.