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Rains Aid Crops: Fairly general rains fell over most of the Prairie Provinces during the past week. Average rainfall since April 1 for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta now stands at two, seven, and 17 per cent below normal respectively -- a marked improvement in all three provinces over a week earlier. Pre-seasonal precipitation, however, was far below normal in the greater part of the West and this factor continues to affect crop development adversely, particularly in the normally low rainfall areas, the Bureau of Statistics announced on July 26.

Prospects in Manitoba with few exceptions remain good to excellent. Rains have well maintained the satisfactory condition already established in northern and eastern districts of Saskatchewan, and should now carry the crops to maturity in those areas. Some improvement is noted in central and western districts but relief came too late to most of the drought area in south-central and south-western Saskatchewan, where the principal benefit accruing will be to pasture and fodder crops. Crop prospects in Alberta are still, with some exceptions, generally poor to fair, although good rains have improved late-sown crops and relieved the feed situation in central and northern parts of the Province.

International Trade Fair, 1950: It was announced on July 27 by the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Howe, that plans will be put in hand immediately for the holding of the third Canadian International Trade Fair in Toronto from May 29 to June 9, 1950.

The preparation for a Fair of this type is a ten or twelve month operation. It calls for a well organized promotional program that virtually encircles the globe. For this purpose the Trade Commissioner offices maintained by the Department of Trade and Commerce in most of the world's principal commercial centres are of invaluable aid to the Trade Fair Administration, which is centered in Toronto. The whole undertaking is under the immediate supervision of the Canadian Government Exhibition Commission, the announcement says.

Despite various handicaps, some of them serious, arising from abnormal or unsettled conditions in the field of international trade, the first Canadian International Trade Fair, held in 1948, and the second in May and June of this year, met with an encouraging measure of success. Well supported by both Canadian and foreign exhibitors, they served effectively to widen Canada's commercial contacts with other countries, and produced some surprisingly good results in actual business done.

Atomic Research Materials: The Canadian Press reported this morning as follows:

Ottawa, July 28 -- (CP) -- Security-conscious Canada, playing an ever-widening part in the field of atomic energy development, has taken steps to tighten restrictions on export of any materials or equipment used in atomic research.

Working in co-operation with the United States and the United Kingdom, the Dominion is plugging any loopholes through which atomic equipment might have been shipped without authority to another country.

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