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WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

CROP REPORT: Dry, cool weather has prevailed over the greater part of the Prairie Provinces during the past week. Topsoil moisture reserves have been diminishing over parts of Manitoba, most of Saskatchewan and much of Central and North Alberta. Fairly general rains in Manitoba and showers in Alberta on June 21 have provided a considerable measure of relief, but most correspondents state that further rains are required. Recent rains have also improved conditions in south-eastern Alberta. In Saskatchewan, and wide areas of central and northern Alberta, rains are urgently required to prevent serious crop deterioration. All three provinces report poor germination in late-seeded crops. Since weather conditions this spring were unfavourable to early seeding over much of the west a large acreage of crops was seeded very late. Unless conditions more favourable to germination and growth of these crops develop in the very near future ultimate yields in the affected areas are almost certain to be curtailed. Insect infestations have not been too severe to date in Alberta and Manitoba but severe grasshopper damage is being experienced over many parts of central, south-western and western Saskatchewan. Extensive control measures in these areas are expected to reduce the loss considerably.

In Manitoba, fairly general rain and showers on June 21 provided much-needed relief to many areas where late-seeded crops particularly had been showing poor germination and growth.

Crops in the southern portion of the province have been making quite rapid progress with conditions in northern areas only a little less advanced. Except in local areas of the province surface moisture is now generally in fair supply with subsoil moisture reserves reported good to fair. Insect infestations have not been severe to date.

Lack of rain has brought growth to a standstill over much of southern and eastern Saskatchewan, while deterioration is reported during the past week in western, central and north-western areas of that province. Germination of late-sown grains has been seriously hampered by dry topsoil conditions and rain is now urgently required particularly over the western half of the province. Damage from grasshoppers is most severe in the Rosetown-Dodsland area but is also serious in many other parts in central, south-western and western Saskatchewan. Extensive control measures are being undertaken in the affected areas.

Crop conditions in Alberta are generally fair to good although rain is needed immediately in most central and northern districts as well as in the Peace River area. Showers on June 21 have provided some relief. As in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, germination of late-sown crops has been uneven. Pasture and hay crop prospects, with local exceptions, are considered fair to good and live stock conditions are generally satisfactory. Insect infestation in Alberta has not been particularly serious to date.