WEATHER
The week was considerably warmer than normal. There was practically no precipitation over the southeastern and extreme southwestern portions of the State, but elsewhere there were a few local light to moderate showers.

Mean temperatures and average precipitation were near normal for the month of May for the State as a whole. The first few days were unseasonably warm, but temperatures were generally near or slightly below normal thereafter. A small area in the middle Republican Valley was very dry, but rains were adequate elsewhere, and rainfall was generally heavy over the northeastern portion of the State and much of the Panhandle.

CROPS
Corn made splendid progress during the past week. There was considerable lapse of time between the earliest and latest planting; however, much of the corn has been cultivated once and some has been cultivated twice. While most of the replanting is up, there was some late replanting finished last week.

Corn is far ahead of last year. About 29% of the corn was planted by May 10, 68% by May 17, 81% by May 26 and 94% by June 2. A year ago only 5% had been planted by May 12, 13% by May 19, 47% by May 26 and only 77% by June 2. Furthermore, corn failed to make as good progress a year ago because of the continued cold, wet weather at that time as compared with highly favorable growing conditions most of the time so far this year.

Winter wheat continued to make excellent progress last week. The crop ranges from filling in southern counties to heading in northeastern and starting to head in the southeastern portion of the Panhandle. No serious insect damage is reported except two counties, Cheyenne and Keith, reported some damage from Hessian Fly. Cheyenne county also reported considerable hail damage. Kimball county reports that cutworms are disappearing.

A small area in Franklin and Harlan counties, which was short of rain last month, is reporting a need for rain. Generally, the moisture needs of the winter wheat crop are ample unless there is a period of abnormally hot, windy weather. There is still a good reserve of sub-soil moisture but the surface soil is becoming quite dry over most of the State.

Reports on oats vary considerably. Oats in fields of high fertility are showing up well. Early oats started to head out last week. A number of counties reported green bug infestation. There is some complaint of weeds. A number of counties reported that oats needs rain.

Most of the first crop of alfalfa in southern and eastern counties has been harvested under highly favorable conditions. The quality of the first crop is good. Generally, the yields were good but some were a little disappointing. Harvest of alfalfa is just starting in the southern Panhandle. Harvest of red clover has started in southeastern Nebraska. Wild hay is making fine progress but a little rain would be helpful.

Farmers are planting potatoes in the North Platte Valley and have started to plant beans. Sugar beets are improving and blocking is well along. In the east, soybean planting is about completed, while in central Nebraska, planting continues. Sorghum planting is about three-fourths done and some of the earlier planting is up.

There has been no rain of consequence for the past two weeks and about half of the counties are reporting the surface soil dry and needing moisture for corn, spring small grain crops, pasture and the second crop of alfalfa. Sub-soil moisture is reported ample throughout the State.