

FARM WORKERS IN ESSENTIAL INDUSTRIES

Mr. McIVOR:

In the recruiting campaign organized last fall to encourage farm workers to accept winter employment in other essential industries, what was done, (a) to prevent men leaving live stock and dairy farms where they were needed during the winter; (b) to ensure that all farm workers would return to agriculture in time for spring work?

Mr. MARTIN: (a) In the campaign conducted last fall to encourage farm workers who could leave the farms for the winter, to accept employment in other essential industries specific steps were taken to see that only those left who could be spared. This recruiting was carried out in cooperation with provincial agricultural fieldmen and local committees. Local employment and selective service offices were asked to clear with these provincial people as to whether farm workers for whom permits were being requested could be spared from their farms, before issuing these permits to work outside of agriculture.

We recognize that this procedure did not prevent some from leaving agriculture who should have remained, but during the past winter hundreds of farm workers who would like to have left the farms for the winter, were prevented because it was learned that they were needed on the farms the year round.

(b) All permits issued to farm workers recruited in the campaign were marked to expire April 1. It was agreed with the provinces that this date might be extended for those farm workers from areas where spring work might be backward owing to weather conditions. Regional superintendents have now been sent general instructions regarding the development of procedure in their respective regions for a systematic cancelling of these permits when men are needed back in agriculture. They have been asked to consult with provincial agricultural authorities as to the dates when men should be back in specific areas. Action will then be taken to cancel the permits of farm workers so that they will be released from their temporary employment to return to the farms on those dates. Definite instructions are being issued to local employment offices for a rigorous checking to see that farm workers are released on the dates when permits are cancelled. Provincial government representatives are being asked to advise when men return to agriculture in the areas from which they were recruited. This will act as a double check on men getting back to the farms.

PENSIONS AND NATIONAL HEALTH—WELFARE
BRANCH, QUEBEC PROVINCE

Mr. GAUTHIER:

1. Since the 1st of November, 1941, how many persons have been appointed to the welfare branch of the Department of Pensions and National Health, in the province of Quebec to aid in the civil reestablishment of soldiers?

2. What are their names, place of residence and occupation?

3. Have they served, (a) in the war of 1914 to 1918; (b) in the present war?

Mr. MACKENZIE (Vancouver Centre):

1. Fifteen.

2 and 3:

Name—Address—Occupation—War Service

Desjardins, L. H., 1010 St. James W., Montreal, Que., Veterans' Welfare Officer, grade 3, 1914-1918.

Bell, H. M., 205 Gohier, Montreal, Que., Veterans' Welfare Officer, grade 3, 1914-1918.

Bourgault, J. A., St. Louis de Bonsecours, Que., Veterans' Welfare Officer, grade 2, 1914-1918.

Brown, J., 3469 Hutchinson, Montreal, Que., Clerk, grade 4, 1914-1918 and present war.

Driscoll, W. S., 3564 Hutchinson, Montreal, Que., Clerk, grade 3, 1914-1918.

Verdon, R., 21 Dufferin, Granby, Que., Clerk, grade 3, present war.

Bourque, R. L. J., 2 St. Marguerite Rd., Montreal, Que., Clerk, grade 2, present war.

Haig, D., Philipsburg, Que., Clerk, grade 2, present war.

Klein, Miss E., 5214 Hutchinson, Montreal, Que., Stenographer, grade 2.

Moquin, Miss H., 3464 St. Denis, Montreal, Que., Typist, grade 2.

Lebeau, Mrs. J. A., 7651 Lasalle Blvd., Lasalle, Que., Typist, grade 2.

Poirier, Miss G., 3298 Verdun Ave., Verdun, Que., Stenographer, grade 2.

Ferland, L., 12407 Notre Dame des Anges, Cartierville, Que., Veterans' Welfare Officer, grade 1, 1914-1918.

Guay, Miss R., 99 Bourlamaque, Quebec, Que., Stenographer, grade 2.

Piegay, Miss J., 44 Marguerite Bourgeois Ave., Quebec, Que., Stenographer, grade 2.

*ROSARIO MESSIER

Mr. LECLERC:

1. Is Mr. Rosario Messier an employee of the dominion government in Ottawa?

2. If so, what are his duties?

Mr. McLARTY:

1. No.

2. Answered by No. 1.