

in that province and in Maine came at the same time.

Late in the fall the United States officials requested more help. As regular workers were not available because of the shortage of help in Canada, arrangements were made for college students from Quebec to go to Maine. Ninety-three students from Oka College near Montreal took advantage of the arrangement.

A movement of labour in the other direction had taken place in the summer when approximately 1,469 experienced tobacco workers came in from the United States to help in the tobacco growing area of western Ontario.

#### FARMERS WORKING IN OTHER INDUSTRY IN OFF SEASONS

Even with the reduced numbers of workers on farms, Canada's farmers have not remained satisfied with having achieved the greatest food production in the country's history. They have been anxious to engage in other essential war work during those months of the year when work on the farms is not at the peak. Last fall and early winter thousands of farmers, farmers' sons and other farm workers responded to an appeal and went into the woods, mines, food processing plants and other essential industries. The fundamental principle of this campaign was that only farmers who could be spared from their farms during the winter should answer the appeal, and that all should be released in the spring to return to the farms. This principle was emphasized and re-emphasized in an extensive publicity campaign conducted as part of the recruiting program.

This temporary help from farmers greatly eased a critical labour shortage in many of these industries. Active assistance from provincial fieldmen and local committees made possible a more thorough checking to see that farmers needed on their farms during the winter remained there, and also through this assistance a much more complete record has been obtained of those entering other industries.

#### 1944 PROGRAM

The farm labour program for 1944 is again actively under way in all parts of the country. Recently Labour Department officials visited all the provinces to renew the Dominion-provincial farm labour agreements. Every province has expressed a desire to enter into another farm labour agreement with the Dominion and to carry on an active joint farm labour program this year.

#### FARM MACHINERY

The difficulty in obtaining new farm machinery has further complicated the farmer's task. In the depression years of the early 30's, farm machinery on many Canadian farms fell into disrepair; machinery which was worn out was not replaced to the extent that was needed for an all-out production program. With the outbreak of war, manufacturers of farm machinery switched their plants to the more immediate task of munitions manufacture, and the existing equipment on Canadian farms was called on to set the greatest food production records in the country's history.

Under an order of October, 1942, a quota restricting the manufacture and importation of new farm machinery to 25% of the 1940 allotment was set. This situation was eased somewhat by the provision that repair parts were available to 150% of the tonnage distributed in 1940. In March, 1943, the quota on new machinery was raised to 35% of the 1940 output.

For the 1944 period - from July 1, 1943 to June 30, 1944, a quota of farm equipment equal in tonnage to approximately 77% of the normal output was established.