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Resolution (No. 9)  
for facilitating the movement of  
agricultural machinery and farm  
labour across the international  
boundary

Adopted by the Joint Economic  
Committees of Canada and the  
United States February 27, 1942

The Joint Economic Committee of Canada and the United States recommend that the Governments of the two countries take suitable action:

1) To permit used agricultural machines and their operators or normal crews, to move across the border without payment of duty, with a minimum of restrictions, and with such regulations as either country may consider necessary to insure that the machines or members of the crews return within a specified time to the country from which they came.

2) To facilitate the seasonal movement of farm labour across the common boundary under such rules and regulations as will further the efficient distribution of labour for peak requirements.

The reasons for these recommendations are:

Shortages of agricultural machines and of farm labour skilled in their use impede the wartime agricultural programmes both in Canada and in the United States; and scarcities of steel and other metals limit the current output of labour-saving machinery. The movement of machines within each country has contributed to economies in the use of machines and labour and achieved greater efficiency of agricultural output. The removal of such regulations and restrictions as now impede the movements across the common boundary of both farm machines and the labour associated with them, would further increase their efficient use, thereby contributing to the common war effort.

Seasonal requirements for farm labour especially in adjacent areas of Canada and the United States ordinarily occur in a time sequence that gives opportunity for the movement of such labour, especially at planting and harvest time when labour shortage caused by the war might have serious effects on farm production in many localities on both sides of the border.

February 27, 1942.

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