

PERMANENT LANDINGS FOR VETERANS: "Permanent landings" will now be granted by the Canadian Government to the majority of the 4,500 Polish veteran immigrants who were brought to Canada in 1946 and 1947 for work in agriculture, Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, Minister of Labour, has announced.

When these veterans volunteered for Canadian farm jobs, they undertook to remain in agriculture for two years, and the arrangement provided that they were to complete this two-year period before being allowed to apply for "permanent landing", the Minister explained. So satisfactory has been the conduct of most of these immigrants, that the Canadian Government has decided to shorten this waiting period before they were allowed to take this first step towards their citizenship. All those who have cooperated in the operation of the scheme and who can satisfy the requirements of the Immigration Act will now be granted "permanent landings".

The granting of "permanent landings" will in no way relieve the veteran of his responsibility to his undertaking with respect to farm employment, Mr. Mitchell emphasized. However, by obtaining "permanent landings", they will acquire the right to apply for the immigration of their close relatives.

APPLICATION FORMS

Application forms will be sent to each veteran within a few weeks for completion and signature. Each application is to be considered on its own merits and those from applicants who have not completed their undertakings and contracts, may not receive favourable consideration at this time, the Minister pointed out.

The group of veterans brought to Canada from Italy in the fall of 1946 will have completed their undertakings this fall. It is hoped that these veterans will continue in the agricultural industry. However, most of the veterans who came from England last year will only have completed their first year's contract in June. Employer and veteran may confer and enter into another agreement for a second year of the undertaking period. Either or both may call upon the National Employment Service for advice where help is needed.

Some veterans have rented farms and are operating them on a crop-sharing basis. This was an arrangement which the Department encouraged, Mr. Mitchell pointed out, and "permanent landing" will be granted as soon as possible to any veteran who has an arrangement of this kind approved by the National Employment Service.

According to reports from local employment offices and Provincial authorities, the Polish veterans have, on the whole, indicated their willingness to fulfill their undertaking to remain in agricultural employment for two years. "They have performed useful service to Canadian agriculture", the Minister said. "We are sure that the good record established to

date will be maintained by these men for the balance of the period of undertaking and later as full Canadian citizens."

DR. BARTON TO CONTINUE: It has been announced by the Dominion Government that Dr. G.S.H. Barton, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, who has reached retirement age, has been asked to continue in his present position until June, 1949.

Dr. Barton's contribution to Canadian agriculture as Deputy Minister since 1932 is well known. The war naturally added increased responsibilities, for Canadian food and agricultural supplies soon became just as essential as the more tangible weapons of war used on the actual battlefield. During that time Dr. Barton was a key figure on most of the Allied committees whose task it was to keep supplies of food and other agricultural commodities flowing to Allied countries and armed forces overseas.

In the international field he headed the Canadian delegation to the original United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture at Hot Springs, Va., in 1943, and has attended all subsequent conferences of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) in 1945, 1946 and 1947. At the 1947 Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, Dr. Barton was appointed Canadian representative on the Council of the Organization. The Council acts as an executive body of FAO to keep the world food and agricultural situation and inter-governmental commodity arrangements under constant review, with a view to stimulating action and co-operation among member governments.

In view of Dr. Barton's broad experience of Canadian agriculture and his intimate knowledge of world food and agricultural conditions, the Government considered that his services should not be lost to the Dominion Department of Agriculture at the present time.

R.G.C. SMITH'S APPOINTMENT: Appointment of R.G.C. Smith to the position of Commercial Secretary in Rome was announced July 2 by Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce. Formerly Commercial Secretary in Havana, Mr. Smith succeeds J.P. Manion, who has been transferred from Rome to Paris. Presently on tour of industries across Canada, Mr. Smith will take up his new position in October.

Born in Quebec City, Mr. Smith graduated from Bishop's College School and the Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, and attended McGill University for one year. He served in the Canadian Army from 1940-45, overseas and at headquarters in Ottawa. Joining the Trade Commissioner Service in 1930, Mr. Smith has been stationed in Buenos Aires and New York, and in January 1946 was appointed Commercial Secretary at Havana.