

This quota represented an improvement of about 130% over the previous situation. The quota for repair parts was fixed on the basis of 156% of the normal output. In addition there was some expansion in the types of machines, and certain smaller items were removed from rationing regulations.

In 1945, total tonnage of farm machinery production will be approximately one-half the tonnage manufactured during 1940 and 1941. There will be no restriction on production of spare parts for farm machinery.

Canadian manufacturers and importers will be permitted to commence production and import of 1945 equipment quotas on July 1, 1944, but as it takes approximately six months to produce most machines after ordering materials, very little of the 1945 quotas will reach Canadian farmers before January, 1945.

Expansion of quotas does not necessarily mean that this much machinery is produced. These quotas are modified by the availability of machinery and the labour supply. While the supply situation has eased as far as some materials are concerned, shortage of manpower and consequent difficulty in obtaining adequate supplies of steel sheets, malleable castings, ball and roller bearings and motors prevents unrestricted output.

Comparisons of current steel tonnages allocated to the implement industry as compared to 1939 are not indicative of the relative farm machinery output in these years. Steel for the production of implements is obtained from both the United States and Canada, but since the outbreak of war Canadian machinery producers have obtained much larger proportions of their steel requirements from Canadian sources than from the United States. While steel from Canadian sources for the production of farm equipment in Canada in 1945 may be 271% of Canadian steel consumed for this purpose in 1939, this does not by any means indicate that the output will represent the same percentage of 1939 production.

The tonnage devoted to the 1945 manufacturing program will be confined to types of machinery designated by Canadian agricultural authorities as essential to Canada's production of foodstuffs.

In addition to the tonnage of farm equipment being made available for ordinary domestic use, Canadian manufacturers are being asked to produce an additional tonnage of equipment specifically for the establishment of war veterans on the land. Canada's contribution of farm equipment for rehabilitation under the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration program will also entail an additional tonnage.

An agricultural machinery committee of the Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Food Board was set up in December of 1943. The terms of reference of this committee are:

"To assemble all pertinent facts and recommend supplies, production and distribution of agricultural implements and machinery and food processing machinery."

J.S. Duncan, president of Massey-Harris Company, Limited, farm implement manufacturers, is chairman of the committee. Herbert H. Bloom, administrator of farm and construction machinery of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, represents the Canadian section. The committee will co-ordinate civilian requirements of the supplying countries as well as the needs of liberated areas as they are presented by such agencies as U.N.R.R.A.

Under the rationing system set up for farm machinery, manufacturers and importers are required to make equitable allocation of available supply to each province. A farm machinery ration officer, thoroughly conversant with farm conditions and the agricultural implement business, is attached to the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in each province. Ration advisory boards sit on applications from farmers and advise the local rationing officer. Members of the boards are leading farmers and other men interested in agriculture.

Among the regulations put in force which are designed to ensure the fairest possible distribution of new equipment are these: 1. A dealer must not divert to his own use machines which were obtained for sale to customers without permission from the rationing board. 2. Farmers must not sell used machines simply with the