

GREATER PRODUCTION PLANS

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mr. W. R. Reek, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for New Brunswick, sends the following:

"This Department is distributing 83,000 bushels of seed oats, 12,000 bushels of seed wheat and 1,500 tons of fertilizer. We have been giving demonstrations on the treatment of 'smut' on seed and have been buying corn and mill feeds for livestock. We are distributing thousands of eggs to clubs and school children and encouraging and assisting gardening through the school children by arranging for supervision and a supply of seed. We are sowing pig pastures in every county and making an effort to supply pigs. The Governor has issued a proclamation calling for a war session of county councils to organize in every possible way down to the parishes, the week of April 14 to be devoted to special preparation. Meetings are now being held in various sections and will continue. Our district representatives are emphasizing the importance of production, and assistance is being given to place the 'Soldiers of the Soil'. Labor from the cities and towns will be recruited where possible. Gardening in every town and village is now the subject of special effort. During the summer the breaking of vacant lands will be undertaken."

ALBERTA.

Mr. H. A. Craig, Minister of Agriculture for Alberta, reports:

"We have divided this province into sixteen districts, with a representative of this department in each district. Each representative has a motor car at his disposal. The business of these men will be to locate suitable farm employment for returned soldiers who wish to take such positions, to put farmers in touch with farm labourers and to allocate women willing to work on the farms, to bring those who wish to rent land in touch with those who have land to rent, to assist in the control of weeds, to encourage farmers to put every possible acre into crop where cultivation work can be done properly, to encourage breaking of new land and especially to bring those who wish to have contract breaking done in touch with contractors for such work, and in every possible way to be of assistance to the farmers of their respective districts."

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mr. William E. Scott, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia has outlined the following plans to meet the labour shortage in that province:

1. Employment of women and girls on lighter farming work, and especially in harvesting fruit crops. "Last year excellent work was done by our women and girls, and had it not been for their assistance a considerable portion of the fruit crop would undoubtedly have been lost," Mr. Scott states. "This year the work will be under the direction of the Labour Bureau with the closest co-operation of this Department. I do not anticipate any difficulty in meeting fully the requirements of our fruit growers this year. Women will also supply the shortage of labour in our fruit canneries and fruit packing houses, and will help with vegetable crops."

2. Employment on the farms of boys enrolled under the S. O. S. movement. "This work is well advanced in our province. I have no doubt that with the help of the boys and any adult labour which may be secured in our cities, British Columbia farmers will be enabled successfully to care for the crops that they may grow this year."

Mr. Scott has telegraphed this statement of the Greater Production efforts of his Department:

"This Department is working towards greater production along the following lines:

1. Distribution of selected seed grain to farmers at cost price.
2. Facilitating purchase of Fordson and other tractors by farmers.
3. Organization of labour for the farms through the S. O. S. movement and by means of the Y. W. C. A.
4. Practical experts are visiting farms to encourage increased production of hogs.
5. Endeavouring to get the lowest possible transportation rates on farm labour.
6. Co-operation with cities and municipalities in garden lot and vacant area cultivation.
7. Distribution of fertilizers to farmers at cost.
8. Encouraging the growing of seeds.
9. General education campaign by Departmental officials amongst farmers.