

No Mutual Aid accounts were made up for New Zealand until the 1944-45 fiscal year, as that country was at first paying cash for its requirements. During last year, however, even before the agreement was signed on June 28, 1944, supplies began moving to New Zealand. Also a large number of New Zealand airmen were trained in Canada as part of Canada's Mutual Aid contribution.

Because of the severe drought in Australia last year large quantities of wheat are now being shipped to New Zealand. Formerly Australia was the main supplier of wheat and grains for the Pacific area, but Canadian farmers are now helping to feed allied workers and service men in that theatre, who, were it not for wheat shipped under Mutual Aid, would this year be virtually without this staple.

CHINA

With V-E Day and the consequent switch-over to the Pacific war, considerably greater amounts of Canadian-made war supplies will be sent to China. Shipments have been increasing ever since the Mutual Aid agreement was signed on March 22, 1944, but there have been long delays in getting the equipment into China.

Special efforts have been made to ship munitions that are complete in every detail so that they may be used by Chinese troops immediately. They have included guns and small arms of various types, ammunition, binoculars, mechanical transport, signals and wireless equipment.

The principal difficulty has been one of transportation. As no direct routes are open between Canada and China, all Mutual Aid equipment that has left this country destined for China has had to go by way of India, but even India was cut off by land from China. Until the Burma Road was reopened in January, 1945, Canadian supplies had to be flown over the hump into China, the allies' longest supply line in the war. It is anticipated that with the opening of the China sea coast, Canada will be able to make larger and increasingly important Mutual Aid contributions to the country which has been longest of all the United Nations in the war. Once sea ports are opened and supply lanes assured across the Pacific, Canada will be able to begin shipping much needed goods in quantity. Meanwhile Canadian supplies for the most part must still be flown into China and therefore must be stockpiled before reaching the Chinese soldiers.

INDIA

Canada's Mutual Aid contributions to India have consisted mainly of military vehicles for the Indian Army and wheat for the civilian populace. Because of India's great need of foodstuffs, a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat was offered to the government of India by Canada. The major part of this amount was shipped in Canadian ships, and all has now reached India. After the Mutual Aid agreement was signed on November 27, 1944, the wheat gift was included in the Mutual Aid accounts.

Although shipment of Mutual Aid supplies on India's account was confined to military vehicles for the Indian Army, large quantities of munitions and other war materials were sent to India for the use of British forces there. Consequently much of the military and communications equipment used by the British Army in the jungles of Burma has originated in Canadian factories. From the early days of the war against Japan, these supplies shipped on the United Kingdom account under Mutual Aid have been used to fight the Japanese in Burma.

Information on Canada's rehabilitation plans is being prepared and distributed by an Inter-Departmental Rehabilitation Information Committee. This information may be obtained from the Wartime Information Board. A roster of speakers on rehabilitation is available to groups and organizations on request to Mrs. Helen Marsh, Wartime Information Board.