

of Labour in February, 1943. Immediately after this announcement of policy, discussions were held with all provinces. These discussions led to the signing of a farm labour agreement with the Dominion by every province. In 1942 agreements had been negotiated with only six of the provinces.

These agreements provided for united action by the Dominion and each province in the recruiting, transporting and placing of farm workers, together with measures designed to utilize the existing labour in agriculture to the best advantage. The agreements provided on a 50-50 basis for a maximum expenditure of \$510,000 by the Dominion, which was estimated as one-half of the amount that would be involved in carrying out the farm labour program. Later a further \$60,000 was made available by the Dominion (P.C. 28/7430) for contributing on a dollar for dollar basis with each of the three Prairie provinces to costs which might be incurred in moving harvest equipment from area to area as it was needed.

In addition to this the Dominion made available a maximum of \$300,000 to provide for transporting farm workers from one province to another and \$50,000 for general publicity to encourage people from cities and towns to help on the farms.

Out of the Dominion-provincial farm labour agreements have developed extensive programs to mobilize, transport and place farm labour. In each province there is a Dominion-provincial committee on farm labour. On this committee in most provinces is the provincial minister who signed the agreement, his deputy minister, other provincial officials and regional and local officials of the Employment Service. These committees decide what kind of farm labour recruiting and placement program is to be operated. The detailed administration of the program is the responsibility of an official of the province appointed for this purpose. These men in all provinces are called the directors of the Dominion-provincial farm labour programs.

Local committees have been organized in every province by the provincial agricultural field men. The committees' functions are: To stimulate agricultural production, provide for the most effective use of local labour and equipment and recruit men for other essential work when they are not needed on the farms. In some provinces these committees give valuable assistance in supplying information as to the essentiality of the farming operations of farm workers applying for postponement of military training.

ASSISTANCE FROM THE ARMED FORCES

(i) Air force leaves - Air force personnel were made available during 1943 through the granting of six-weeks seeding and harvesting leaves to men and women to work on their own or relatives' farms. During the fall there were 4,326 airmen on harvest leave. The distribution of these was as follows:

Ontario.....	698
Saskatchewan.....	1,675
Manitoba.....	534
Alberta.....	918
British Columbia.....	82
New Brunswick .....	118
Nova Scotia.....	92
Prince Edward Island.....	76
Quebec.....	138
	<u>4,326</u>

In 1944 provision has been made for the granting of spring farm leaves up to a maximum of two months to men in the air force to work on their own or their parent's farms.

(ii) Compassionate farm leave - In the spring of 1943 the Department of National Defence issued a special order to provide six-weeks farm leave for certain army personnel. Leaves were granted up to a certain percentage of unit