

perforating cards for every registration card, except for females whose home ties precluded them from engaging in national service. These cards were then sorted and the information thereon rapidly tabulated by electrical sorting and tabulating machines.

With these facilities it would have been practicable for the Board to furnish, on a few days' notice, the names and addresses of available persons, experienced in any occupation in which it might have been in the national interest to procure a larger number of workers. The Board actually furnished to various provincial authorities the names and addresses of upwards of 140,000 persons experienced in some branch of agriculture, who were willing to do farm work if called upon, but who at the time were otherwise engaged. By this one service the Board probably justified its existence by averting a shortage of harvest labour that threatened to become very serious. Its records were also employed in various other useful ways, such as tracing up enemy aliens who had not reported themselves to the police, and other aliens whom there was reason to suspect of Bolshevism.

Had the war lasted into 1919 the Board would have been in a position to render invaluable service, not only in the more intelligent application of experienced labour to work bearing directly upon the war, but in furnishing reliable statistics upon which the mobilization of man power for service overseas could have been based. The cessation of hostilities on November 11, however, relieved the pressure that was responsible for the Board's activity, and in the interests of economy the work was speedily terminated.

**Food Control.**—On February 11, 1918, a change was made in the designation of the authority for Food Control when the Canada Food Board was created and vested with all the powers of the Food Controller. Until November 11, 1918, 70 orders of the Food Board had been issued for the regulation of foods. The objective was to supply the maximum of exportable food stuffs to the Empire and to the Allies during the war. The middle way between voluntarism and control of commodities by licensing the dealers therein was found most effective. The means employed to secure control of war foods may be stated thus: (1) Direct purchase and export by Allied Government representatives. (2) Licensing of all dealers at home and their regulation by Order issued direct by the Board with personal responsibility on the part of the licensee. (3) Import and export "permits" regulating incoming or outgoing commodities not governed by the purchases of Allied Governments. The chief instrument of compulsory control in the domestic trade was the issue of licenses. To December 31, 1918, 78,016 licenses, 12,137 import "permits" and 14,761 export "permits" had been issued. The Board encouraged enforcement of its Orders through provincial and municipal authorities wherever possible, but it had its own staff of inspectors all over the Dominion, and where other means failed made compliance with its regulations compulsory by the suspension of the licenses of those who infringed them. A large number of voluntary organizations co-operated. During the spring and summer a vigorous "greater production campaign" on all Canadian farms was carried out successfully. City and boy labour was largely used, 20,400 boys being