

The agreements entered into under the 1938 Act with the Provinces of British Columbia and New Brunswick, respecting works undertaken as a supplementary means of providing employment for those single unemployed persons deemed unsuitable for farm work, were also, at the request of the provinces, extended under the 1939 Act.

In order to meet the problem of the single and transient unemployed, the Farm Employment Plan, the cost of which is shared jointly between the Dominion and the Provincial Governments, was again placed in operation in British Columbia, Alberta, and Manitoba from Oct. 1, 1939, to Mar. 31, 1940.

The arrangements covered by the agreements provided for the payment to the farmer of \$5 per month in Alberta and British Columbia but no payment was made to the farmer in Manitoba, while those accepting employment under the plan in the three provinces received \$5 per month with an additional bonus of \$2.50 per month where continuous employment was maintained up to Mar. 31, 1940, plus free transportation, and a clothing allowance, where necessary, not exceeding \$3.

In addition to the Farm Employment Plan, and in order to meet the peculiar needs of British Columbia, where agriculture does not lend itself to the absorption of large numbers of men, the agreement of Nov. 8, 1938, was renewed and provision made for a Dominion contribution of 50 p.c. towards the cost of forestry and other works undertaken by the Province as a supplementary means of providing employment. The agreement covered the period from Apr. 1, 1939, to Mar. 31, 1940. To ensure that the men, on completion of the work, would not be without funds, a system of deferred payment was placed in operation, wages were payable at specified post offices, the amount of money standing to the credit of any man on the completion of the work being paid in weekly instalments of \$4.

Rehabilitation of Older Unemployed.—At the 1939 session of Parliament, funds were appropriated for the purpose of restoring the skill, physique, and morale of those who, through continuous unemployment, experienced difficulty in establishing themselves. The Dominion offered to contribute 50 p.c. of the cost of such rehabilitation plans. Agreements have been signed and various plans have been undertaken in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

Re-Establishment of Settlers.—Another activity administered by the Department of Agriculture under the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act, 1939, was the re-establishment of settlers in the Provinces of New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. This was a continuation of the policy of previous years, the agreements with the four provinces, arrived at under the 1937 Act, being extended with slight modifications in one or two instances. The program is designed to assist settlers in pioneer areas to become self-sustaining and expenditures under the agreements are made chiefly for the breaking and clearing of land and the purchase of building materials, farm implements, and live stock. The amounts made available under the agreements for the year 1939-40 were: New Brunswick, \$30,000; Saskatchewan, \$250,000; Alberta, \$75,000; and British Columbia, \$15,000.

Relief Settlement.—The Dominion continued to assist the Provinces of Quebec, Manitoba, and Alberta in placing selected families that would otherwise be in receipt of material aid on the land under the Relief Settlement Plan outlined on p. 762 of the 1937 Canada Year Book.