

The Board acts as a central directive agency, attempting to guide production in the light of Canada's known needs and of British requirements as ascertained through constant telegraphic and, when the need arises, personal communication with the British authorities.

Through special sub-committees, the Board assures supplies of fertilizers and pesticides needed in Canada; by Dominion-Provincial joint programs, production is undertaken in suitable areas of those field root and vegetable garden seeds ordinarily supplied in large measure by Europe; and by direct action, the Board controls the fibre flax industry in Canada to make sure that a maximum quantity of flax fibre and tow goes forward to the British Fibre Control, and that surplus fibre flax seed from Canada is made available to Northern Ireland.

To prevent dislocations in the agricultural industry, the Board has endeavoured to assist those branches of agriculture that, through the disappearance under war conditions of normal export outlets, have become war casualties. A case in point is the apple industry, which, particularly in Nova Scotia and British Columbia, has been developed on an export basis.

Independent of the above Board, but working in close collaboration with it, are three Boards which purchase and forward supplies of Canadian farm products contracted for under agreements between the British Ministry of Food and the Canadian Government. The Bacon Board buys, stores, and ships Wiltshires and other pork products required by Britain, limiting, when necessary, supplies used in Canada in order to ensure that contract needs are met; the Dairy Products Board acts in a similar capacity with respect to Canadian cheddar cheese needed by the United Kingdom and takes such measures as will ensure needed supplies of other dairy products for Britain or for the domestic market; a Special Products Board, established in the spring of 1941, is responsible for purchasing and shipping to the United Kingdom certain Canadian farm products, such as eggs, and fruit and vegetable products, which are not already being handled by the two Boards mentioned immediately above. (See also article at pp. 138-144).

**The War as It has Affected Labour Regulation and Supply.**—War conditions stress the importance of labour in every aspect, the supply of workers, their training, placement, wages, hours, health and safety, organization and their relations with employers. To all these matters the Dominion Department of Labour has given special attention.

*Government Labour Policy.*—Certain principles considered fundamental to the regulation of labour conditions during the war were embodied in an order in council in June, 1940. These principles included: the acceleration of production in war industries; fair and reasonable standards of wages and working conditions; no undue extension of hours of work but, where possible, the adoption of a shift system; the maintenance of established safeguards for the health and safety of workers, and precautions to ensure healthful conditions in war industries; no interruption of work on account of labour disputes, but settlement of differences by negotiation or with the assistance of Government conciliation services or under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act; freedom to organize in unions and their recognition by employers through collective bargaining with a view to agreements governing working conditions and providing for the adjustment of differences; and, finally, the suspension of established conditions only by agreement.

*Conciliation and Investigation.*—One of the first steps taken to preserve industrial peace under the stress of war production was the extension in November, 1939, of the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act to war industries, the Minister of Labour