

Arrangements were continued with the provinces whereby the municipalities or, in any district where no municipal organization existed, the province would distribute assistance to dependants of persons interned or detained in Canada under Defence of Canada Regulations who were, after investigation, found to be in necessitous circumstances, the Dominion fully reimbursing the province, and/or the municipality through the province, for such expenditures as were incurred. Expenditures by the Dominion for this purpose were authorized by an Order in Council dated May 27, 1940, under authority of the War Measures Act, the expenditures to be charged to War Measures appropriations.

A Dominion contribution of 50 p.c. of direct labour costs incurred by the provinces in completing certain municipal improvement projects authorized in the 1939-40 agreements was provided for in the direct relief agreements with all provinces with the exception of Nova Scotia and Ontario, where municipal improvements had not been carried on under the 1939-40 legislation. It was provided that the Dominion contribution should apply only to wages paid to unemployed persons in necessitous circumstances.

Agreements providing for a Dominion contribution of 50 p.c. of expenditures incurred in carrying on certain provincial undertakings were entered into with the Province of New Brunswick (this Province had adopted a policy of substituting public works for direct relief), and with the Province of Nova Scotia where emergent unemployment conditions existed in certain sections. An agreement with the Province of Quebec provided for a Dominion contribution through the Province to expenditures incurred by the city of Quebec in constructing an intercepting sewer system undertaken for the alleviation of unemployment in that city. The Dominion agreed to contribute to expenditures incurred by the Province of Ontario in assisting necessitous individuals to cultivate and crop garden plots on vacant lands. An agreement was also entered into with the Province of Manitoba, which provided for a Dominion contribution to costs incurred by the Province in connection with the carrying on of certain projects that enabled recipients of direct relief to compensate by labour for the relief issued.

Forestry Training.—See under “Youth Training and the War-Time Industrial Training Program, 1940-41”, p. 678.

Development of Tourist Highways.—The Department of Mines and Resources entered into agreements with the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia (under the provisions of the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act, 1940) to provide for Dominion assistance in developing tourist highways in those Provinces. The agreements provided for contribution by the Dominion of 50 p.c. of the total costs incurred by the provinces, with the understanding that in respect to employment on the projects preference should be given to relief recipients and persons in necessitous circumstances.

Farm Employment Plan.—Agreements respecting the placement of unemployed necessitous persons in employment on farms entered into with the Provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia under the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance Act, 1939, were, at the request of those Provinces, extended for the month of April, 1940. New agreements for the winter of 1940-41 were completed with the same provinces under the Unemployment and Agricultural Assistance