

1941, provides that such persons will receive benefits equal approximately to the highest rate of benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act while they are awaiting employment or receiving training to fit them for employment, and that after they have been fifteen weeks in insurable employment their military service after July 1, 1941, will count as insurable employment. The Department of Labour is authorized to undertake a training program for discharged persons.

The Agricultural Supplies Board.—The Agricultural Supplies Board is a war-time control body operating under the Department of Agriculture. It is the responsibility of the Board and its collaborating provincial production committees to ensure that Canadian agriculture is conducted during war-time in a manner calculated to satisfy, so far as possible, the needs of Canada and the United Kingdom for food and fibres. The work of this Board up to 1941 is outlined in the 1940 and 1941 editions of the Year Book and, especially as regards the results attained, in the special articles concerning agriculture. The following review brings that material up to date.

Early in June, 1941, the Agricultural Supplies Board reviewed the changing picture of supplies, and indicated to the Provincial Departments of Agriculture and to the farm press its belief that calls for the increased production of various agricultural commodities were likely to be made. Subsequent developments have shown that this belief was well founded. (See pp. 183–188 of this volume.)

Another aspect of the supply problem presented itself with Japan's entry into the War in December, 1941, and the subsequent enlargement of the active war zone to the Southern Pacific and Indian Ocean areas. Agriculture was hard hit by the cutting off of supplies of tin from Malaya, of jute from Calcutta, and of various kinds of fibre from the Philippines. Coincident with these developments, came a speeding-up of the production of war supplies with a consequent greatly increased demand for steel and other basic materials for strictly war purposes, and a severe restriction of their uses in the manufacture of equipment for civilian purposes, including agriculture. The intensification of submarine warfare on the Atlantic raised new problems in connection with the shipment of food and other supplies to Britain.

From the time of its establishment, the Agricultural Supplies Board has been interested in the control of exports of such commodities as might be required in Canada for agricultural purposes. From time to time the Board has, by recommending the passing of certain Orders in Council, safeguarded the supply in Canada of certain commodities. Such action was taken in March, 1941, in connection with the export of certain feed grains, bran, shorts, and middlings, when their export was prohibited except by permit authorized by the Department of Agriculture. Similar steps have been taken on the recommendation of the Administrator concerned, with respect to other kinds of live-stock feeds, as well as to fertilizers, pesticides and certain seeds.

Assistance to Agriculture.—In September, 1941, provision was made for freight assistance from Fort William east, on Western feeds, required in Eastern Canada, in order to reduce transportation charges on such feeds to approximately export freight levels. Later, the Dominion Government undertook the payment of full freight charges in the movement of these feeds when brought down in carload lots or steamship cargoes. The Government also undertook to pay full freight charges