

Considerable numbers of workers have been compelled to leave their jobs and to take essential employment elsewhere. Employers in a long list of civilian industries have been ordered to discharge all men between the ages of 16 and 40 who for medical or other reasons are not in the Armed Forces, and these men have been assigned to essential jobs. Workers who are unemployed for two weeks or more may be directed into any job that is considered suitable. All men between the ages of 18 and 64 who have experience in coal mining and all men in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick who were formerly longshoremen may be directed back to employment in the mines or on the docks as the case may be. Any man between the ages of 16 and 64 may be directed to accept employment in cutting wood fuel, fishing or fish processing. Workers other than the above may be required to report for an interview and may be persuaded, though not compelled, to accept more essential employment.

Special provisions apply to agriculture. No farm worker may seek or accept employment outside agriculture without a permit, except short-term employment in related seasonal industries. Moreover, under agreements between the Dominion and the provinces, farm workers from one province may be moved, either temporarily or for an indefinite period, to provinces where they are more urgently needed. Soldiers, prisoners of war and Japanese are used in farm work, and Mennonites, Doukhobors and conscientious objectors who are relieved from the obligation to undertake military service have been directed into agriculture.

The manpower program is administered by the Director of National Selective Service who is responsible to the Minister of Labour. The Director is advised by a Selective Service Advisory Board which consists of representatives of Government Departments and agencies, industry, and labour. Under him there are several Associate Directors who are in charge of the different aspects of the program, and there are also regional directors who deal with matters that do not have to be referred to Ottawa. Local administration of the civilian side of the program is carried on through Selective Service officers who are stationed in the local Employment and Selective Service offices. These offices are the local offices of the Unemployment Insurance Commission (see p. 712) which, along with the other facilities of the Commission, have been placed at the disposal of the Minister of Labour for the duration of the War for the purposes of Selective Service. The managers of the Commission's local offices are the Selective Service officers. For the administration of the military call-up, the country is divided into 13 divisions in each of which there is a Registrar.

Subsection 2.—Provincial Labour Departments

Labour legislation in Canada is, for the most part, a matter for the provincial legislatures. In each province, except Alberta and Prince Edward Island, there is a special department or bureau charged with the administration of labour laws. The agricultural province of Prince Edward Island has enacted little labour legislation. In Alberta the Department of Trade and Industry administers most labour legislation, the Board of Industrial Relations having charge of statutes regulating wages and hours and factory welfare. In each province legislation for the protection of miners is administered by the department dealing with mines. Factory legislation in eight provinces and shops legislation in several provinces prohibit child labour, regulate the hours of women and young persons, and provide for safety and health. Minimum-wage legislation, except in Prince Edward Island, is administered by a special board which forms part of the Labour Department. Other