

Columbia; production and transportation assistance on lime for agricultural purposes and quality premiums on hogs. Newfoundland became eligible for these forms of assistance in the spring of 1949.

Assistance in 1948 took the form of price support for some agricultural commodities. The Agricultural Prices Support Act, 1944, was amended in 1949, its powers being extended to Mar. 31, 1950. Under this Act, the Agricultural Prices Support Board has authority to support the price of any agricultural commodity except wheat. Owing to good production and restricted export outlets the Board supported 1948 crops of the following commodities:

Potatoes.—In Prince Edward Island and designated counties of New Brunswick the Board paid \$1·15 per 100 lb. for Canada No. 1 grade in the bin on the farm.

Apples.—Nova Scotia apples sold fresh were supported at \$3·90 per bbl. and for processing into dried apples or concentrated juice at \$2·50 per bbl. For British Columbia apples remaining unsold, producers are guaranteed \$2·00 per box up to a maximum of 250,000 boxes.

Dried Beans.—The Board paid \$3·75 per bu. for Ontario dried white beans, grades Canada No. 1 and No. 2 delivered to the bean warehouses up to July 31, 1949. The sum of \$200,000 was allotted to meet the deficiency between the support price and the average price realized by farmers in marketing their product. In addition, the Board purchased and shipped to Palestine for relief purposes approximately 38,000 bu. at \$3·75, which, including shipping costs, will total a further \$200,000.

Honey.—The Board was authorized to purchase up to 5,000,000 lb. in car-lot quantities, at 14 cents per lb. for White No. 1 grade pasteurized, or 13 cents per lb. if unpasteurized, with appropriate differentials for lower grades, less the export freight rate to Montreal.

Dried Skim Milk.—The Board can spend up to \$1,000,000 from May 21, 1949, for the purchase of dried skim milk at 9·5 cents per lb. for roller and 10·75 cents per lb. for spray, f.o.b. country points.

Butter.—Because of a marked decline in domestic prices of butter, the Board, on Apr. 1, 1949, was authorized to buy No. 1 creamery butter basis 58 cents per lb. Montreal.

SO₂ Fruits.—The Department of Agriculture provided assistance in disposing of surplus British Columbia sulphur dioxide raspberry pulp.

Export Contracts.—To enable the Federal Government to fulfil its obligations under the food agreements and also to export food supplies to distressed countries, Parliament, under the Agricultural Products Act, 1947, authorized the Minister of Agriculture to sell or export agricultural products, other than wheat, and establish commodity boards vested with the necessary regulatory powers. This Act is on an annual basis but may be continued in force for further 12 month periods with the approval of Parliament. In 1949 the Act was extended to Mar. 31, 1950.

Contracts for 1949 cover fewer commodities and smaller quantities than in 1948, owing to the United Kingdom dollar position. At the beginning of 1948 contracts covered wheat, bacon, beef, mutton, lamb, cheese and eggs. The wheat, mutton and lamb contracts were fulfilled. The beef contract was cancelled about the middle of 1948 and on Aug. 16, the restriction on shipment of live cattle and beef to the United States was removed. The bacon contract was increased, but shipments did not meet the original lower figure. The egg contract was reduced by mutual agreement. The cheese contract was not met.