

Among the main developments in FAO in 1948 was the organization of divisions having to do with rural welfare and commodity distribution together with a further strengthening of the regional officers.

As a member of the Council of FAO as well as one of the principal food exporters of the world, Canada has continued to maintain a close relationship with FAO. Canada's representative acted as Chairman of the Finance Committee through the regime of the Executive Committee when FAO was being organized and continued in this capacity under Canada's membership in the Council of FAO until the Washington Conference in 1948. Canada has been a member of the International Emergency Food Committee since its establishment, a Canadian representative having been elected Chairman for 1948-49. Membership in the Working Party on International Commodity Arrangements was accorded Canada at the Washington Conference in 1948. The chairmanship of this Working Party has also been assigned to the Canadian representative.

Liaison with FAO Headquarters on non-policy matters is maintained through the Canadian Interdepartmental FAO Committee composed of representatives of those departments of the Federal Government that are particularly concerned with the work of FAO. In addition to functioning in an advisory capacity to the Government, this Committee assists in the collection of information required by FAO in its work and also serves as a means of disseminating information coming from FAO.

Canada has also been a source of technical assistance for FAO. In addition to providing representatives on the various technical advisory committees established by FAO, technical assistance has been supplied to missions and conferences in connection with grain production and marketing, the preservation of stored products, agricultural engineering and various problems in the fisheries industry. The results of research work carried on in Canada in connection with the control of rinderpest have already aided in the establishment of a program for the control of this dread disease in the Far East. Samples of corn and other seeds have also been provided for testing by other member nations.

Subsection 2.—The Federal Government*

Farm Credit

The Federal Government has set up several agencies to handle the matter of farm credit; the Canadian Farm Loan Board is empowered to make long-term loans to farmers† and the chartered banks, under the Farm Improvement Loans Act, to provide intermediate and short-term credit.

The Canadian Farm Loan Board.‡—This Board was appointed by the Governor in Council under the provisions of the Canadian Farm Loan Act (c. 66, R.S.C. 1927, as amended by c. 46, Statutes of 1934 and c. 16, Statutes of 1935) and, as an agency of the Crown in the right of Canada, administers a system of long-term mortgage credit for farmers throughout the country. The Board commenced its work in 1929 and since 1935 has carried on lending operations in all provinces.

* Except as otherwise indicated this material was prepared under the direction of J. G. Taggart, C.B.E., Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa.

† In addition to the credit supplied by the Canadian Farm Loan Board, and in order to meet the demand for long-term loans on easier terms of repayment and on a higher ratio in relation to farm values than that available from the Canadian Farm Loan Board and to facilitate refinancing indebtedness, the Province of Quebec established the Quebec Farm Credit Bureau which commenced operations in March, 1937,

‡ Revised by W. A. Reeve, Secretary, Canadian Farm Loan Board, Ottawa.