

Fruits and Vegetables.—A commercial inspection service covering fresh fruits and vegetables is provided and dealers and brokers handling these commodities in interprovincial, export and import trade are licensed and are subject to the regulations under the appropriate Act.

The fruit and vegetable canning and processing industry has made great strides in the past quarter-century. In 1949 over 500 plants were in operation which produced processed fruits and vegetables valued at \$175,000,000. The inspection of these plants, the testing of the products and the grading is done by the Canning Section of the Fruit and Vegetables Division.

Maple Products and Honey.—Regulations are established for the inspection, analysis and grading of these products. Sugar-bush licences are issued and interprovincial and export shippers of honey are registered. To prevent the possibility of adulteration of maple syrup and sugar, inspection is made of manufacturing plants, stores and restaurants.

Subsection 4.—Reclamation and Development

The prime objective of the Department of Agriculture has always been the better use of land and much of the experimental and research work has been concerned with the soil. For many years the Government, through the Department of Agriculture, has provided financial assistance when problems have arisen in connection with land and water resources. Such problems have usually been too large in scope for individual, municipal or provincial undertakings but the assistance given has been essentially on the self-help plan.

The development and rehabilitation projects undertaken under the provisions of the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Act and the Maritime Marshlands Rehabilitation Act are reviewed in detail in Section 3 of this Chapter dealing with Agricultural Irrigation.

Subsection 5.—Canada's Relationship with FAO

Conceived at a special United Nations Conference at Hot Springs, Virginia, in May, 1943, and finally brought into being at Quebec in October, 1945, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has as its objectives the raising of levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples of all countries, improvement in the efficiency of production and distribution of farm, forest and fisheries products, and the betterment of the conditions of rural populations. Beginning with 42 member nations in 1945, the membership had expanded to 65 by the end of 1949.

FAO is governed by a Conference in which each member nation has one vote. Between sessions of the Conference, which have been held annually, the Council of FAO acts for the Conference. The work of the Organization is directed by a Director-General who is appointed by the Conference. The technical divisions of FAO—Agriculture, Distribution, Economics and Statistics, Forestry and Forest Products, Nutrition, and Rural Welfare—provide a wide range of fact-finding and advisory services designed to furnish vital information as a basis for sound national and international action on the problems of food and agriculture, forestry and fisheries.