

The Week at OTTAWA

BY H. DENT HODGSON
Canadian Press Staff Writer

OTTAWA (CP) — Indications are increasing that farm labor over a pressing wartime problem in Canada will continue short in the coming season, despite the fact the war is over and some unemployment exists in urban centres.

Interprovincial labor transfers and employment of servicemen, youths and prisoners of war helped ease the international food problem during wartime. Now that the bulk of the servicemen overseas have been repatriated, however, the need for farm labor apparently still remains great due to the desperate food situation in Europe and the tendency of many returned men to remain in the cities.

The pressing need for men on the farms last week prompted advice from the labor department urging farmers to "place your order for farm help now." The suggestion was that increased winter work would ease the labor requirements during the busy spring and summer months and also give farmers a chance to train their help for the time it will be most needed.

According to government statistics, between 35,000 and 40,000 workers were taken off farms during wartime. While many of these will be going back to the farm, a number will be tempted, at least temporarily, to remain in the city.

"What appeals to this group of people is of course year-round farm activity with good accommodation, and we are appealing to farmers to let us know where these opportunities exist," a labor official said.

Meanwhile, the department is consulting the provinces to find out if they wish to continue the wartime plan of Dominion-provincial co-operation on farm labor.

Elsewhere on the labor front the construction minister Howe said prospects were on the upswing. Canada had reached the halfway mark in its reconstruction program and industrial employment was stepping up steadily. The minister said present employment was attributable to discharges from the forces coming at a season when the Dominion generally experienced seasonal unemployment.

Good news came for many Canadian families with Prime Minister Mackenzie King's announcement that the 25,000-man occupation army will be withdrawn from Germany starting in April. The entire force should be repatriated by "September or October."

Official assurance of the final homecoming of all the Canadian forces abroad lent special emphasis to a rehabilitation report released by the veterans affairs department. The 10,000-word report, based on records of 4,333 veterans in the Montreal area and interviews with 500 of them, penetrated into the problems of the servicemen.

Among its findings were these: "One-half the veterans are in unfavorable situations, largely in consequence of limited employment opportunities, inadequate training facilities and unsatisfactory housing."

"Most veterans are primarily interested in opportunity and the prospect of advancement and are satisfied for the present with a modest income, provided it serves to make ends meet."

"Service-acquired skills are rarely being utilized or applied in veterans efforts towards re-establishment. Most highly-specialized technicians have returned to their pre-war jobs."

Employers mostly took the attitude, "It's up to him to prove himself," and their sense of responsibility ended with taking the veteran on staff. There was "little recognition of the necessity of special attention based on the possible needs of the individual in the crucial period of occupation readjustment."

Of British brides the report showed at least a subconscious anxiety and repression induced by prevalent evidence of the marked hostility of Canadian women. The survey found, however, that Canadian British couples are "progressing well" with few exceptions.

Of married veterans in the Montreal area, 50 per cent owned their own homes, 50 per cent rented, 12 per cent were awaiting wives from overseas and 34 per cent were with in-laws or sharing quarters. Of those renting, half were satisfied, one-quarter dissatisfied and the others "in distressing situations."

"In most cases it is the wife who has contributed the most effective measure of intelligence, forbearance, imagination and tact. The veterans are good stuff but with few exceptions the wives are even better stuff."

The big question-mark of Canada's post-war foreign credits was under study last week as the British loan delegation headed by Sir Wilfrid Eady, joint secretary of the British Treasury, joined with Canadian government officials in a discussion of a forthcoming loan to the United Kingdom.

The discussions continued in secret, but unofficial estimates placed the probable loan which would evolve as high as \$1,500,000,000 over a three-year period. In addition, the Domin-

The Internment of Civilians at Singapore 1942-45

(Continued from Last Week)

A survey made at the end of 1942 showed that each male internee had an average of 40 square feet of floor space. But this included passages through workshops, storerooms and other spaces in communal use, and the actual area which each internee could call his own was not more than 21 square feet, 11 1/2 ft. x 3 ft. In workrooms and messrooms there was no room on the floor even for the small quantity of baggage which had to be accommodated, and suitcases, kitbags, hats, towels and clothing had to be suspended from the roof. There were no separate rooms for the recreation of religious purposes. Concerts, lectures, educational classes and religious services had to be held in the open air.

The camp was infested with bed bugs which originated on the upper floor of cells but spread rapidly to all parts of the building. The high degree of congestion in the living quarters complicated the task of dealing with this pest and the utmost efforts of the Health Officers could do no more than keep the plague from getting completely out of hand. Throughout the stay at Changi, the bed bug added its quota to the squalor of living conditions and tabs assisted by the mosquito constituted one of the major sources of discomfort at night.

In view of the intimation in the original internment notice that no transport would be provided, those who assembled in the Padang on 17th February had limited their baggage to hand packages such as suitcases and kitbags containing in the main, clothing, toilet necessities and valuables. Those subsequently interned received very diverse treatment. Some were allowed to bring with them beds, bedding and a reasonable quantity of personal belongings. Others were sent in with even less baggage than those originally interned and often with no more than the clothes they wore. Of the great majority it may be said that they entered upon internment grossly deficient in the bare necessities of civilized life. They had no beds, bedding, stools, chairs, tables and many of them had no feeding utensils, no or little spare clothing, boots or toilet necessities. The Nipponese did nothing to supply these deficiencies. They provisioning of the camp was limited to food (rice, cooking oil, dried fish, sugar and salt), small quantities of washing soap, old newspapers (for use as toilet paper) and petrol for the Camp lorries. From the third year of internment they also supplied small quantities of drugs and hospital supplies and a fraction of the materials required for bed making and the repair of living quarters. The quantity of food supplied by the Nipponese ranged from 10 per cent to 95 per cent of the total rations issued to the camp at various periods. Everything else had to be supplied by the internees. They had to buy the extra food necessary to supplement official rations, to fill, cut up and transport to camp all firewood required, and to procure as best they might, drugs, medicines, hospital supplies, beds, bedding, clothing, footwear, toilet necessities, tools and materials required for the maintenance of essential services, for the cultivation of vegetable gardens and the repair of buildings. Funds were raised by loans from internees and un-interned persons but neither money available nor facilities provided by the Nipponese for its expenditure were ever sufficient to meet the full requirements of the camp.

The diet of the camp except for two periods (April to September 1943, and June to August 1944) was deficient in essential dietetic values and was insufficient to satisfy hunger. As the period of internment lengthened internees became more and more emaciated. Food became an obsession. It accounted for at least 75 per cent of the conversation of the Camp and when internees contemplated the pleasures of release they placed next only to reunion with their families relief from the nagging annoyance of incessant hunger. The camp did not expect or ask for a European scale of diet, and at any time during internment their desires for extra food would have been met by an expenditure at pre-occupation values of an additional 10 to 15 cents per head daily on such commodities as groundnuts, soya, green or red beans, dried fish or meat, eggs, and local fruit. During April to September 1943 these requirements were met by supplies from the Neutral Agent, Singapore (Mr. Schweizer) who was allowed to supply the camp with food and necessities on behalf of the International Red Cross, Geneva. This arrangement was negotiated by Mr. Asahi, Controller of Enemy Civilians from September 1942 to April 1943. The Camp menu varied at different stages of internment but typically, it was:

Breakfast: 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 pint rice porridge and tea without milk or sugar.
Lunch: Balled rice and vegetables

with or without small quantities of dried fish.
Supper: Bread made with rice flour and some form of baked or boiled fish made from the vegetables with dried fish (2 and 3 times weekly) and tea.

The most serious dietetic deficiencies were in Vitamin B and protein. Rubber seeds were collected when opportunity offered and issued under medical orders to those suffering from B deficiency. To provide supplementary protein a small farm had been started in August 1943 which it was estimated would provide about 1 1/2 oz. of small meat per internee daily within 3 months. Fortunately, rice had come before this scheme reached fruition.

(Continued Next Week)

Farm Best Place to Raise Geese

The raising of a flock of geese on the farm can be made a profitable undertaking because geese are comparatively inexpensive to feed and are almost immune to diseases common to other barnyard fowl. They require only cheap houses and the cheapest feed the farm produces. Where there is plenty of grassland, brooding geese will get along nicely from early spring to late in the fall with little grain feeding. Geese are grass eaters and will leave grain in the feeding trough to pluck the tender grass when it is available, says A. G. Taylor, Poultry Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

During the winter months, when they retreat to the ground and the supply of fresh green feed is not available, the geese should be supplied with a handful of mixed grain each day and as much well-cured alfalfa or clover hay as they will consume. If the hay is cut green and well-cured, they will eat both the leaves and stalks. They prefer the leaves, and an attempt should be made to provide them with as much of this as they require. They will eat leaves of lettuce, cabbage, potato peelings, turnips, carrots or almost any green vegetable. When this green feed is fed it should be supplied fairly liberally and the grain ration restricted accordingly. Grain may consist of oats, barley, corn and wheat of equal parts, and the best time to feed it is early in the evening.

About the end of February or early in March or about three weeks before the females are wanted to lay, a wet mash should be fed twice daily and the grain feeding as before. This change in feeding practice should commence just as soon as the weather starts to get mild and laying will commence in about three weeks' time.

Geese should be mated one male to two or three females, and this should be done preferably in January. A bulletin on "Goose Raising" explaining the method of selecting breeding birds and how they should be handled can be obtained by writing to Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Goose eggs should be hatched either by the goose or by barnyard hens as they do not hatch well in modern incubators. Goslings are easily raised, require very little attention, and a gosling once hatched and properly started is usually another goose in the fall. The farm is the natural habitat of the goose; in fact no other surroundings can make goose raising for market a paying proposition.

CLEARING AUCTION SALE

OF FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HAY AND GRAIN

The undersigned has received instructions from

JOHN WILLIAMS
To sell by public auction at his farm, Lot 15, Con. 7, Twp. of Trafalgar (opposite Hurby Store) on

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, 1946
At 1:30 o'clock the following:

HORSES: 1 Black Percheron Mare, 8 yr. old; 1 Belgian Mare, 7 yr. old. A very handy, blacky pair.

COWS, HEIFERS, STOCKERS, FAT CATTLE: 1 Durham Cow, fresh calf at side; 1 Reg. Holstein Cow, milking, bred to freshen in Aug.; 3 Holstein Heifers, 2 yr. old, not bred; 1 Part Durham and Holstein Heifer, 2 yr. old, not bred; 2 Hereford Heifers, about 1100 lbs.; 2 Hereford Steers, about 1200 lbs.; 2 Durham Steers, about 1100 lbs.; 1 Durham Steer, about 1050 lbs.; 1 Veal Calf.

PIGS, SHEEP, SUFFOLK EWES, PIGS & POULTRY: 7 Young Ewes, 4 Ewes with lambs; 9 York Feeders; 65 White Leghorn Yearling Hens, laying extra heavy.

HAY, STRAW, GRAIN & FEED: 15 ton of good Red Clover Hay; 15 ton Wheat Straw; 100 bus. Fall Wheat; 50 bus. Cartier Oats. Quantity of Chop.

IMPLEMENTS, FURNITURE, etc.: Deering Grain Binder 7 ft., good as new; M. H. Mower, good as new; Int. Mower; 2 Storm Deers, quantity of Window Sash; old House Trimmings; 2 Pine Timbers 12"x12"x20'; 4 Pine Timbers, 10"x10"x20'; 1 ton Chevrolet Truck, year 38, racks, tarpaulin, heater and all new tires; Forks, Hoes, Shovels, Chains, Bars, etc.

TERMS: Cash settlement with Clerk day of sale.

No Reserve as the farm is sold and Proprietor is moving to city.

HINDLEY & ELLIOTT, Auctioneers
R. R. Ford, Clerk 36-2

CLEARING AUCTION SALE

DURHAM CATTLE, HORSES, HOGS, FARM IMPLEMENTS, HAY AND GRAIN

The undersigned has received instructions from

A. HOWARD
To sell by public auction at Lot 20, Con. 7, Twp. of Nassawauya (known as the Finny farm) on

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27th
Commencing at 1:00 o'clock the following:

HORSES: 1 Clyde Mare, 6 yrs. old; 1 Belgian Gelding, 7 yrs. old. Quiet, good workers.

COWS AND YOUNG CATTLE: 1 Red Durham Cow, calf at side; 1 Blue Cow, fresh 2 mos., bred Feb. 6; 1 Brindle Cow, due time of sale; 1 Reg. Durham Cow, milking; Feb. 1; 1 Durham and Yorkshire Cow, milking, due in May; 3 Durham Steers, 1 yr. old; 1 Durham Heifer, eligible for registration, 1 yr. old; 2 Durham Heifers, 1 yr. old; 2 Durham Steers, 7 mos. old; 1 Durham and Yorkshire Heifer, 10 mos. old; 1 Red Durham Bull, 10 mos. old, eligible for registration.

REG. TAMWORTH HOGS: 1 Reg. Tam Sows, bred Jan. 19; 1 Reg. Tam Sows, bred Feb. 19; 1 Reg. Tam Sows, with 8 pigs ready to wean; 8 Tam Pigs, 10 weeks old; 1 Reg. Tam Hog, 10 months old.

HAY, GRAIN AND ROOTS: 30 ton Choice Timothy Hay; 30 ton Mixed Hay; 50 bus. Barley; 100 bus. Mangolds.

IMPLEMENTS: M.H. Grain Binder, 6 ft.; P.H. Mower; Cockshutt Dump Rake, new; Flat Hay Rack, new; Lumber Wagon; 1 H.C. 11-plate Disc, outthrow, good as new; M.H. Walking Plow, new; Set of Seed Harrows, 4-section, nearly new; M.H. 2-furrow Walking Plow, new; Vega Cream Separator, 550 lb. capacity, nearly new; Set of Sleigh, Sleigh Wagon Box, Scuffler; Buggy; Set of Light Sleighs; Steel Hog Troughs; Post Hole Digger; Quantity of Cedar Posts; Ox Yoke; Quantity of White Ash Lumber 2" and 2 1/2" Squares Asphalt Shingles; 1 set Heavy Breeseching Harness, new; 2 large low Collars, new; Odd Collars; Set of Single Harness; Doubletrees; Whiffletrees, Neckyokes; Chains, Shovels, Bars, etc.

Terms: Cash Settlement with Clerk Day of Sale.

No reserve as the proprietor is giving up farming.

J. A. ELLIOTT, ROY HINDLEY
Auctioneers

L. McMillan, Clerk

Use Special Glass For Fertilization

Make Experiments to Ensure Balanced Diet for Plant Root

URBANA, Ill. (CP) — A new kind of glass that dissolves in water is made for use as fertilizer at the Department of Ceramic Engineering of the University of Illinois.

The experiments are reported by Dr. Roger H. Bray, professor of soil fertility, Dr. Alfred P. Radger, research associate, and Dr. C. G. Harmon, assistant professor of ceramic engineering.

The purpose is a fertilizer that will last a long time in the ground, possibly five years, feeding out a balanced diet to the plant roots all the time. Some soil now have to be fertilized annually because the fertilizer is rapidly dissolved in them. Others have too much fertilizer at one application burns plants. The glass is

Use Special Glass For Fertilization

Make Experiments to Ensure Balanced Diet for Plant Root

designed to overcome this difficulty also. The glass is used in the form of beads that are strewn over the soil. The inventors say it also can be blown glass in the form of wool that will spread evenly.


This glass does not contain either nitrogen or organic materials. These two will not form glass. But the report states that virtually all the other fertilizing chemicals, major and minor, readily form glass and can be combined. The major chemicals in this glass are potassium, calcium, magnesium and phosphorus. The minors are sulphur, iron, boron, zinc, manganese and copper. A manufacturing advantage is use of crushed rock as raw material. Crushed field-spar gives the potassium and crushed rock phosphate yields and phosphorus.

The first experiments have been made at Illinois in sand. Potted tomato plants gave satisfactory yields. Field tests have yet to be made, and the report states that several years may be needed to learn the best use of this fertilizer under field conditions.




LUCKY DOG: Who wouldn't lead a dog's life when it means pointing like this with movie stars Annabella and Tyrone Power. "Loup Garou" is as proud of this picture as he is of being lead dog on one of the crack sled teams at Lac Beauport, near the Chateau Frontenac at Quebec City, where Annabella and her husband, recently discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps, spent several days enjoying Quebec winter sports.

What's the freshest product that you use every day?



It's NOT milk



It's NOT eggs

With a bin full of coal and a larder full of food, you might well face a cold week-end with confidence. The fact that you do not have a bin full of electricity somewhere does not worry you. Hydro has proved to be so dependable. Yet, electricity cannot be stored... must be made and delivered the very instant you use it. That is "Hydro Service".

Suppose it is 2 a.m. The baby has just fallen out of its crib. Half awake, you reach for a switch. You want light fast. You get light instantly. Yet the electricity that lights the lamp is made after you flip the switch... made at the source of water-power, perhaps hundreds of miles away. It flashes to you through many miles of transmission lines, through transformer and distribution stations, and you use it before the water that makes it can leave the powerhouse. One single break or failure in all those miles of wire and equipment might cut off your light... and newspapers would write about it, it would be so unusual.

To keep all these millions of dollars worth of equipment operating, with no mistakes or serious interruptions, is the continuous job of a large and wide-spread staff of watchful Hydro employees. Yet, the cost per unit of power is very low. Ontario power rates are among the lowest in the world. That is "Hydro Service".

THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMMISSION OF ONTARIO