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REPORT OF PRISONER OF WAR LABOR

1944 POTATO HARVEST

AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE

Prepared Jointly
by
Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association
and
Emergency Farm Labor Program
Maine Extension Service

REPORT ON PRISONER OF WAR LABOR
1944 POTATO HARVEST
AROOSTOOK COUNTY, MAINE*

On Thursday, July 27, 1944, a conference was held at the Houlton Army Airfield, Prisoner of War Compound, attended by Colonel Phelps, Major Emerson, and Captain Houke of the First Service Command; Leo Thibodeau of U.S. Employment Service; and Smith C. McIntire, Winthrop Libby and Fred L. Lamoreau of Maine Extension Service. The purpose of the conference was to discuss ways and means of utilizing Prisoners of War in the 1944 potato harvest in Aroostook County. As a result of this conference, it was decided that prisoners would be available in sufficient numbers to warrant a certification from U.S.E.S. and Maine Extension Service for 1700 to be used in warehouses and for picking. It was also decided that there was an immediate need to establish some organization preferably with headquarters in Houlton, Maine, which could enter into a contract with the Army for these Prisoners and initiate policies and procedures necessary to the practical utilization of prisoners as harvest workers.

On August 9, 1944 at a meeting in Presque Isle, Maine, attended by Extension officials and Farm Bureau members, a corporation was incorporated under the non-stock laws of the State of Maine named the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association (See Exhibit I). The purpose of this association, as stated in its certificate of organization is "to provide a supply of emergency farm labor essential to the production of food in Aroostook County; to engage in any activity in connection therewith or incidental thereto".

*Prepared by Fred L. Lamoreau, Assistant State Farm Labor Supervisor, Acting Manager, and Raymond Atherton, Extension Economist, Marketing, Acting Treasurer, December 31, 1944.

This association was to enter into all contracts with the Army for Prisoners of War and in turn enter into contracts with individual farmers for the use of these prisoners. The Association also was to act as the fiscal agent, collecting from growers for prisoner labor and transportation of prisoners and paying the Army and other costs incident to this project. Headquarters were established in Houlton, Maine, and personnel hired and borrowed from the Extension Farm Labor Program for the purpose of carrying on the Association's business. The personnel was made up of a Manager, an Accountant, a Transportation Agent and three clerks.

When it was assumed that Prisoners of War would be available but before the details of the program were known a tentative order form was circulated among prospective employers (See Exhibit II). On September 5th the Association signed War Department Contract for Prisoner of War Labor (No. W17-022 pag 6) requesting 1700 workers. Employer contracts were immediately supplied to growers (See Exhibit IIIa). Experience with this form has suggested minor revisions that should be considered in future projects (See Exhibit IIIb). Signed contracts were accepted from farmers for a total of 1645 prisoners-- 1635 for picking and 10 for warehouse work. There was a demand for about 500 more but the Association kept below the 1700 contracted for with the Army. The maximum number of prisoners made available by the Army in any one day was 1402.

Three rates of wage were paid the Association by the farmer for the Prisoner of War labor and forwarded by the Association to the War Department:

Picking only	15 cents per Bbl.
Picking and loading.....	16 " " "
Warehouse and other work	70 " " hour

A procedure was worked out with the Army whereby a prisoner group was assigned to each farmer, the group and farmer being identified numerically

by the same number. In other words, farmer No. 10 had group No. 10. This facilitated greatly the identification of farmers and prisoner groups on reporting work done and on transportation.

Copies of the contract were made in duplicate; one copy for the grower and one for the Association. On signing the contract, an association membership fee of \$10 was collected from each grower and a \$20 deposit on each prisoner under contract, this deposit to be used as final settlement to the Association against the grower's bill for picking and transportation.

For instructions given to growers at the time the contract was signed (See Exhibit Iva IVb & IVc).

TRANSPORTATION

The transportation of the prisoners from and to the compound each morning and night was the most difficult part of the program to organize and administer. This was jointly financed by employers and the Extension Farm Labor Program, employers being required to pay \$2.50 per prisoner per week or fraction thereof. Trucks and drivers were contracted for on a straight time basis and were paid each Saturday and a receipt obtained (See Exhibit V).

For a copy of the contract entered into by the trucker and Extension Farm Labor Program with rules and instructions given to the trucker to be followed in the transporting of Prisoners of War together with the "Release on Transportation Agreement" (See Exhibits VIa, VIb and VIc).

The trucks were equipped according to Army standards for transporting. Each truck was identified by a windshield sticker with a number on the front for identification and the schedule on back for drivers information.

The loading of the prisoners was started at 5:30 each morning. All trucks were in the compound not later than 5:30 and each had a definite loading station with a number corresponding to the number of the truck.. For a

diagram of the loading field (See Exhibit VIIa).

A truck with a 14-foot body was suitable for hauling 30 prisoners with guards. Fifty trucks were used at the peak of the operation in the transportation schedule designed to handle 1650 men. At least one man from the Association office was always at the compound when the prisoners were being loaded and unloaded. Insofar as possible all trucks operated on a definite schedule. Maps were used in the Association office with every farmer located by name and number. This facilitated the speed of giving or getting information from the crews and growers in the field.

PROCEDURE ON PRISONER OF WAR WORK

The work period in this report and that covered by tables of data is from September 11 to October 28. Several crews were put out before September 11, but more for the purpose of training leaders for crews later in the season. Beginning October 30, when only a few were still digging and field conditions were not good, each grower was required to transport his own men and either feed them the hot noon meal or transport it from the base (See explanatory letter to growers, Exhibit VIIb). Beginning November 1, all Prisoner of War work was put on an hourly basis because it was cold and fields were so muddy that workers could accomplish very little. Only four growers were serviced after November 1.

A daily record of all potatoes picked by each prisoner group was kept by the grower and turned in daily to the guard. The guard approved this record by signature and brought it back to the Prisoner of War Compound. It was recorded there and then turned over to the Association the next morning. In a good many cases the prison group leader also signed the slip in the field. The report form shown as Exhibit VIIIa was used in duplicate. The original

was brought in by the guard and the duplicate served as an itemized bill for the grower. Sixty of these daily report forms were made into a book and a book was given to each grower. For instructions sent farmers (See Exhibit VIIIb). In future projects it is suggested that the daily record be kept in triplicate so the Army can retain a copy.

The daily record when received by the Association was transferred to a card file showing the daily accumulative data regarding the work done and the financial standing of the grower's account (See Exhibit VIIIc).

The grower was instructed to have his cost for any week's work and the transportation for that week in the Association office on or before the following Tuesday. Collections came in well under this system, and at no time was there any sizeable amount overdue. When a grower's account was closed an itemized statement was sent him giving a complete record of the work done and a summary of his account (See Exhibit IXa & IXb).

WORK ACCOMPLISHED

Field contacts by Association officials were made insofar as personnel and time allowed. Many of these visits to farms utilizing Prisoners of War were made with Army representatives. Adjustments were made in the number of men in crews, the idea being to utilize men and equipment to full advantage. In future programs of this type it would be advisable to have several men in the field continuously checking on the Prisoner of War crews. This is a type of program which requires constant field checking by Extension and Army personnel working jointly.

To better explain the accomplishments of prisoners working the following tables have been compiled. Table I and II indicates the daily picking record of all the prisoners as groups:

TABLE I
DAILY POTATO PICKING RECORD FOR
ALL PRISONERS OF WAR, AROOSTOOK
COUNTY - 1944

DATE	NO. GROWERS	NO. POW REQUESTED	NO. POW FURNISHED	BBL'S. PICKED DAILY	CUM. BBL'S. PICKED	AVERAGE PER MAN	WEA- THER	NO. TRUCKS	AV. NO. POW PER TRUCK
9/5	4			3120	TRAINING CREWS				
9/10	Sunday								
9/11	24	330	314	8809	9929	21.7		30	10
9/12	24	385	365	8699	18628	23.8		30	12
9/13	41	540	535	9814	28442	18.5		30	18
9/14	43	615	568	14177	42619	25.0		30	19
9/15							Hurricane		
9/16	27	370	368	8529	51148	23.2	Wet	32	12
9/17	Sunday								
9/18	95	1175	1133	28545	79693	25.2		42	27
9/19	108	1290	1241	29902	109595	24.1		45	28
9/20	118	1370	1284	30574	140189	23.6		45	29
9/21	120	1400	1231	30126	170295	24.5		45	27
9/22	120	1400	1222	30654	200949	25.1		46	26
9/23	118	1420	1240	31013	231962	25.0		46	27
9/24	Sunday								
9/25	135	1620	1375	34814	266776	25.4		50	28
9/26	137	1620	1349	31573	298349	23.4	Rainy	50	27
9/27	137	1645	1402	36711	335063	26.2		50	28
9/28	16	270	258	2137	337917	8.3	Rainy	50	5
9/29	31	350	337	3419	340616	10.0	Rainy	50	7
9/30	134	1645	1400	33615	374431	24.1		50	28
10/2	134	1645	1368	37267	411698	27.2		50	27
10/3	131	1645	1348	30779	442477	22.0		50	27
10/4	138	1645	1354	32602	435079	23.3		50	27
10/5	134	1645	1347	33589	508668	24.9		50	27
10/6	112	1390	1213	11918	520568	9.8	Rainy	50	24
10/7	118	1450	1324	29123	549709	22.0	Wet	50	27
10/8	1	10	10				Rain	51	
10/10	2	20	20	209	549729	1.0	Rain	50	
10/11	68	900	815	12304	562033	15.0	Rain	48	18
10/12	109	1400	1305	29829	590362	22.1	Wet	48	27
10/13	112	1400	1283	29969	620831	23.4	Wet	48	27
10/14	26	380	373	1881	622712	5.0	Rain	46	8
10/16	79	1100	996	16931	639643	17.0	Wet	40	25
10/17	79	1100	1091	21218	660861	19.4	Wet	41	27
10/18	83	1150	1058	19719	680580	18.6	Wet	38	28
10/19	21	280	275	2004	682584	7.3	Rain	32	9
10/20	63	880	880	16034	698618	18.2	Wet	30	29
10/21	50	700	693	5714	704332	8.3	Snow	28	25
10/23	13	200	178	1445	705777	8.1	Mud & Rain	24	7
10/24	35	625	521	7528	713305	14.5	Mud	23	23
10/25	27	400	383	2751	716056	7.2	Mud-Rain	19	20
10/26	13	185	185	1454	717510	7.8	" "	15	12
10/27	19	290	287	3723	721235	12.9	" "	13	22
10/28	18	315	311	2787	724020	8.9	Freeze	13	24
10/30							Snow & freeze		

40/ 7124
17. 6 and 10/1 day

TABLE II
RECORD OF COST TO ALL GROWERS
USING PRISONERS OF WAR
ARDOOSTOOK COUNTY - 1944

DATE	COST FOR BBLs. PICKED DAILY	CUM. COST FOR BBLs. PICKED	HOURS WORKED DAILY	COST HOURS WORKED DAILY	ESTIMATE COST TRANSP.	TOTAL CUM. COST TO GROWERS
Sept.						
5-9	477.06	477.96				477.96
11	1067.88	1545.82			174.58	1720.40
12	1362.07	2907.89			202.94	3295.41
13	1554.64	4462.53			297.46	5157.51
14	2213.67	6676.20			515.81	7686.99
15	HURRICANE					
16	1326.60	8002.80			204.61	9198.20
18	4440.32	12443.72			629.95	14269.07
19	4641.56	17088.79	80	58.00	690.00	19658.73
20	4749.74	21894.73	56	39.20	713.90	25159.57
22	4719.45	26653.18	64	44.80	684.44	30608.26
22	4760.37	31458.35	56	39.20	679.43	36067.26
23	4806.61	36304.16	64	44.80	629.44	41628.11
25	5375.58	41724.54	84	44.80	766.39	47811.88
26	4865.28	46654.62	56	39.20	750.04	53486.40
27	5680.47	52374.29	32	22.40	779.51	59968.78
28	326.39	52723.08	117	81.00	143.45	60520.62
29	522.07	5327.05	99	69.30	127.37	61299.36
30	5224.50	58620.85	92	64.40	778.40	67566.66
Oct.						
2	5755.61	64443.41	32	22.40	760.61	73905.28
3	4787.32	69253.13	56	39.20	753.89	79485.69
4	5062.88	74355.21	105	75.50	752.82	85374.89
5	5195.00	79623.91	42	29.40	748.93	91348.22
6	1829.18	81482.29	100	70.00	647.43	93921.83
7	4502.87	86055.16	53	39.20	736.14	99200.04
9		88094.36	52	5.85	5.56	99209.45
10	3.20	88101.41	80	46.00	11.12	99279.77
11	1891.90	89049.31	65	45.50	443.14	101660.31
12	4447.55	92542.36	56	39.20	728.58	106872.64
13	4623.29	97204.85	72	50.40	713.35	112259.68
Additional to 9th		97255.25	49 1/2	34.65		112294.33
14	298.92	97578.82	56	39.20	207.39	112829.84
16	2625.39	100243.41	72	50.40	553.78	113059.41
17	3284.84	103558.85	72	50.40	606.60	113981.25
18	3028.28	106637.13	88	61.60	588.23	123659.36
19	345.05	107043.98	13	12.60	152.90	124169.93
20	2461.50	109518.08	72	50.40	489.28	127181.11
21	882.55	110451.03	36	25.20	385.31	128464.17
23	222.66	110698.89	40	28.00	98.97	128613.80
24	1152.89	117866.78	46	32.20	289.68	130288.57
25	424.28	112345.26	96	67.20	212.95	130993.00
26	223.81	112634.27			102.86	131519.67
27	565.23	113206.50	46	32.20	159.57	132076.67
28	419.11	113657.81	116	61.20	172.92	132749.90

The following data summarizes Tables I and II:

1. Total charge to growers for transportation	\$ 18,933.75
2. Total cost of transportation to Association	32,475.20
3. Increased cost to grower per Bbl. due to transportation	2.62 cents
4. Increased cost to grower per Bbl. if he had stood complete cost of transportation	4.47 cents
5. Total average cost to grower per Bbl.	18.2 cents
6. Average charge to grower per prisoner per day for transportation	55.6 cents
7. Average cost per prisoner per day for transportation to Association	94.8 cents
8. Average cost per prisoner per day to Association for transporting if the number of prisoners asked for had been furnished	85.3 cents
9. Total number of barrels picked by POW's	724,717 Bbls.
10. Total number of barrels loaded by POW's	348,735 "
11. Approximate total number acres picked by POW	8,000 Acres

Table III gives a summary of the work record of each grower who was using War Prisoners and his average cost per barrel. In column 9 the letter "P" indicates that the crew was picking only. If the letters "PL" occur, then this indicates that the crews were picking and loading. This table includes the potatoes picked from October 28 to November 1, which gives the reason for the difference in total number of barrels from those shown by the individual grower totals which comprise the entire amount picked.

TABLE III
INDIVIDUAL GROWER RECORD
OF POTATOES PICKED
AND COSTS INVOLVED

GROWER NO.	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE	TOTAL BBLs.	COST OF LABOR	COST OF TRANSP.	TOTAL COST	AV. COST PER BBL.	P&PL
1	9-11	10-13	6768	1082.88	175.00	1257.88	18.6	pl
2	9-18	10-8	3718	594.88	66.60	661.48	17.8	pl
3	9-11	10-25	16725	2676.00	539.60	3015.60	18.0	pl
4	9-11	10-18	4920	787.20	138.40	925.60	18.8	pl
5	9-19	10-20	5439	848.94	163.80	1012.74	18.6	p-pl
6	9-20	10-25	3487	556.76	145.80	702.56	20.1	pl
8	9-12	10-6	4882	748.30	86.20	834.50	17.1	p
9	9-12	10-5	4578	732.48	87.02	819.50	18.0	pl
10	9-5	10-5	4226	660.99	65.80	726.79	17.2	pl

TABLE III
(continued)

GROWER NO.	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE	TOTAL BBLs.	COST OF LABOR	COST OF TRANSP	TOTAL COST	AV. COST PER BBL	P & PL
11	9-11	10-13	8996	1433.16	174.70	1607.86	17.9	pl
12	9-14	10-21	3742	578.09	109.80	687.89	18.4	p-pl
14	9-18	10-12	4253	680.48	86.80	767.28	18.0	pl
17	9-11	10-18	7283	1165.28	205.40	1368.68	18.8	pl
19	9-11	10-18	14644	2343.04	375.50	2718.54	18.6	pl
20	9-19	10-24	7322	1167.56	178.30	1345.86	18.4	pl
21	9-11	10-28	12199	1951.84	390.40	2342.24	19.2	pl
24	9-14	10-18	4833	768.76	131.50	900.26	18.6	pl
25	9-18	10-13	4170	657.62	86.40	744.02	17.8	pl
26	9-18	10-6	3897	623.52	65.40	688.92	17.7	pl
27	9-14	10-2-	3997	635.74	129.90	765.64	19.2	pl
28	9-11	10-17	7390	1182.40	200.35	1382.75	18.7	pl
29	9-18	10-29	4757	713.55	119.40	832.95	17.5	pl
30	9-18	10-18	7948	1271.68	208.60	1480.28	18.6	pl
31	9-18	10-14	3769	603.04	92.80	695.84	18.5	pl
32	9-18	10-6	3996	600.06	79.80	679.86	17.0	p
33	9-18	10-21	6877	1078.62	157.62	1236.24	18.0	pl
34	9-11	10-2	3745	599.20	74.45	673.65	18.0	pl
35	9-18	10-27	5378	853.93	148.20	1001.13	18.6	pl
37	9-13	10-6	4363	695.76	90.40	786.16	18.0	pl
38	9-11	10-4	5908	900.18	90.80	990.98	16.8	p-pl
39	9-7	10-6	6949	1045.99	133.40	1179.39	17.0	p
40	9-21	10-13	2416	386.56	80.95	467.51	19.4	pl
41	9-18	10-16	4670	700.50	100.50	801.00	17.2	p
42	9-13	10-5	4336	693.76	92.00	785.76	18.1	pl
43	9-18	10-5	2781	417.15	60.75	477.90	17.2	p
45	9-19	10-21	2680	428.08	106.60	534.68	20.0	pl
46	9-18	10-28	3870	810.60	125.50	936.10	24.2	p
47	9-12	10-13	4763	762.08	121.00	883.08	18.5	pl
50	9-18	10-7	3419	526.21	63.80	590.01	17.3	p
51	9-18	10-12	3605	574.85	78.30	653.15	18.1	pl
52	9-19	10-23	2988	478.08	85.60	563.68	18.9	pl
53	9-14	1-18	4405	636.91	109.00	745.91	16.9	p
56	9-13	9-30	3347	532.83	73.32	606.15	18.1	pl
57	9-11	10-20	5445	816.75	127.97	944.72	17.4	p
58	9-13	10-18	4949	756.69	132.20	888.89	18.0	p-pl
59	9-18	10-5	3038	455.70	65.80	521.50	17.2	p
60	9-18	10-13	5575	842.07	131.76	973.83	17.5	p
61	9-19	10-11	2082	322.69	82.40	405.09	19.5	pl
62	9-19	10-21	3677	561.43	100.20	661.63	18.0	p
63	9-14	10-19	4631	711.75	122.20	833.95	18.0	p
65	9-18	10-16	2809	417.44	99.70	517.14	19.8	pl
68	10-20	10-25	461	73.76	25.00	98.76	21.4	pl
69	9-11	10-18	5016	752.58	141.20	893.78	17.8	p

TABLE III
(Continued)

GROWER NO.	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE	TOTAL BELLS.	COST OF LABOR	COST OF TRANSP.	TOTAL COST	AV. COST PER BELL	P & PL
70	9-18	10-4	5225	788.77	94.40	883.17	18.9	p
71	9-18	10-20	4351	658.15	110.20	768.35	17.6	p
72	9-18	10-12	3506	552.71	83.20	641.91	18.3	pl
73	9-18	10-5	3792	606.06	64.60	670.66	17.7	pl
74	9-20	10-18	2191	341.42	85.20	426.62	19.5	pl
75	10-13	10-23	1092	163.80	33.50	197.30	18.1	p
76	9-19	9-27	1945	291.75	43.60	335.35	17.2	p
77	9-14	10-13	7544	1131.60	155.40	1287.00	17.1	p
78	9-25	10-17	2669	424.30	73.90	498.20	18.7	pl
79	9-20	10-18	3602	589.83	117.80	707.63	19.6	p
80	9-22	10-18	3974	633.24	109.30	742.54	18.7	pl
81	9-11	10-17	5857	877.95	135.50	1013.45	17.3	p
82	9-18	10-16	4023	623.52	102.50	726.02	18.0	pl
84	9-19	10-25	5588	894.08	130.30	1024.38	18.3	pl
85	10-16	10-24	1221	184.60	38.30	222.90	18.3	p
86	10-17	10-26	1640	246.29	87.50	333.79	20.4	p
87	9-14	10-20	6577	1045.69	156.46	1202.15	18.3	pl
88	9-18	10-17	3956	629.97	95.30	725.27	18.3	pl
89	9-20	10-24	4351	668.30	134.00	802.30	18.4	pl-p
90	9-13	10-27	6453	1035.52	151.30	1186.82	18.4	pl
91	9-18	10-18	3755	680.88	104.60	785.48	20.9	pl
92	9-19	10-17	1627	260.32	73.25	333.57	20.5	pl
93	9-25	10-21	2519	403.04	85.20	488.24	19.4	pl
94	10-18	10-18	543	81.45	25.00	106.45	19.6	p
95	10-18	10-25	354	56.64	37.50	94.14	26.6	pl
96	10-17	10-28	2224	339.96	90.80	430.76	19.4	p-pl
97	10-20	10-26	682	109.12	39.90	149.02	21.9	pl
98	10-20	10-28	633	94.95	37.50	132.45	20.9	p
99	10-20	10-28	660	99.00	37.50	136.50	20.7	p
100	9/27	10-25	3269	524.65	113.10	637.75	19.5	p
101	9-19	10-27	4847	718.39	129.60	847.99	17.5	p-pl
102	9-25	10-28	3559	633.79	120.20	753.99	21.2	pl
103	9-25	10-24	4044	610.65	129.35	740.00	18.3	p
104	9-25	10-21	3131	489.65	96.40	586.05	18.1	p
105	9-25	10-28	4293	643.65	154.74	798.39	18.6	p
106	9-19	10-24	6299	970.84	139.60	1110.44	17.6	p-pl
107	9-18	10-28	4507	676.05	137.60	813.65	18.1	p
108	9-20	10-2	1630	244.50	46.40	290.90	17.8	p
109	9-25	10-28	3507	524.55	120.60	645.15	18.4	p
110	9-25	10-24	3149	501.97	104.10	606.07	19.3	pl
111	9-21	10-28	4443	666.45	166.20	832.65	18.7	p
112	9-25	10-27	5561	837.19	121.00	958.19	17.2	p
113	9-18	10-13	4251	652.08	118.20	770.28	18.2	p
114	9-21	10-21	3154	474.72	105.95	580.67	18.4	p
115	9-19	10-12	2675	403.61	89.60	493.21	18.4	pl
116	9-18	10-27	5432	816.98	146.60	963.58	17.7	p
117	9-22	10-20	4120	619.32	151.30	770.62	18.7	p
118	9-18	10-27	13121	2012.23	322.60	2334.83	17.8	p-pl
119	9-20	10-28	5258	819.70	140.40	960.10	18.3	p
120	9-18	10-28	5147	779.52	133.20	912.72	17.7	pl

TABLE III
(Continued)

GROWER NO	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE	TOTAL BBLs	COST OF LABOR	COST OF TRANSP	TOTAL COST	AV. COST PER BBL	P & FL
121	9-19	10-21	7106	1104.00	152.11	1256.11	17.8	p
122	9-25	10-27	4263	640.83	125.80	766.63	18.0	p
123	9-18	10-8	2981	447.15	52.50	499.65	16.8	p
124	9-18	10-21	5264	839.95	183.05	1023.00	19.4	p
125	9-18	10-13	2329	372.47	89.20	461.67	19.8	pl
126	9-18	10-2-	5449	819.33	106.80	925.93	17.0	p
127	10-12	10-28	1142	181.83	50.50	232.33	20.3	pl
128	10-13	10-28	2475	371.79	79.90	451.69	18.2	p
129	10-16	10-28	4101	615.15	140.00	755.15	18.4	p
130	9-13	10-18	5505	829.62	127.20	956.82	17.4	p
131	9-23	10-21	4609	691.35	94.90	786.15	17.1	p
132	9-18	10-28	7915	1256.09	319.40	1575.49	19.9	pl
133	9-12	9-25	2681	417.35	74.90	492.43	18.4	p
134	9-18	10-5	2429	386.34	85.80	474.24	19.5	p
135	9-19	10-18	4475	671.25	104.90	776.15	17.3	p
136	9-18	10-13	4347	783.34	90.00	873.34	18.8	pl
137	9-18	10-14	3158	505.29	93.80	598.98	19.0	pl
138	9-18	10-21	5141	822.53	114.30	937.13	18.2	pl
139	9-11	10-18	6127	922.24	140.40	1063.24	17.4	p
140	9-18	10-7	2816	422.40	65.40	487.80	17.3	p
141	9-18	10-25	7829	1204.67	196.25	1400.92	17.9	p-pl
142	9-18	10-20	4200	630.54	109.00	739.54	17.6	p
143	9-11	10-13	7393	1127.60	199.50	1326.10	17.9	p
144	9-11	10-20	8559	1251.21	218.60	1467.91	17.6	p
145	9-18	10-13	4048	609.40	89.80	699.20	17.3	p
146	9-12	10-18	3957	1043.55	146.80	1190.55	17.1	p
147	9-13	10-7	4435	665.25	89.80	745.95	17.0	p
148	9-11	10-4	3349	535.84	87.60	623.44	18.6	pl
149	9-11	10-14	4719	744.33	109.90	854.13	18.1	pl
150	9-13	10-18	5298	813.49	137.33	950.82	17.9	pl
151	9-20	10-16	3681	586.96	102.10	691.06	18.8	pl
152	9-11	10-14	11363	1705.20	324.00	2029.20	17.9	p
153	9-11	10-24	9378	1434.86	232.15	1667.01	18.0	p
154	9-25	10-7	2711	406.65	50.00	456.65	16.8	p
155	9-14	10-17	5518	830.44	119.10	949.54	17.2	p
156	9-13	10-17	16564	2563.07	389.70	2952.77	17.8	p-pl
157	9-11	10-4	3618	572.70	91.20	663.90	17.4	p
158	9-11	10-20	5790	878.84	139.20	1018.04	17.6	p
159	9-11	10-20	5440	816.80	145.70	962.50	17.7	p
160	9-25	10-17	5789	870.78	206.85	1077.63	18.6	p
161	9-23	10-13	2611	391.65	62.20	453.85	17.4	p
162	9-18	10-7	3523	526.97	65.40	594.37	16.9	p
163	9-18	10-16	9038	1365.54	257.16	1622.70	18.0	p
164	9-18	10-13	5882	941.12	136.80	1077.92	18.3	pl
165	9-18	10-13	5541	833.55	138.00	971.55	17.5	p
166	9-18	10-17	11633	1744.95	301.80	2046.75	17.6	p
167	9-25	10-17	3337	1250.55	230.40	1480.95	17.8	p
168	9-23	10-13	2649	397.35	85.10	482.45	18.2	p
169	9-27	10-16	1682	279.88	61.40	341.08	20.3	pl
170	10-13	10-18	687	103.05	30.30	133.35	19.4	p
TOTALS*				112257.98	18881.14	131139.12	18.2	

722,693

* The differences between these totals and others are due to the fact that this table does not include potatoes that were picked on an hour wage the last few days that P.W.'s worked.

From a study of the records about 20% of the farmers got from an 8 to 10 hour day from the prisoner crews, 65% from 7 to 8 hours a day, and 15% from 6 to 7 hours a day. Farmers within a 12-mile radius of the Prisoner of War Compound paid in \$9,032.82 - enough to cover the cost of transportation. Outside the 12-mile radius the Association collected \$9,946.02 for transportation charges and paid out \$23,391.38, making necessary a subsidy from Extension Farm Labor Program funds especially allocated for this purpose of \$13, 445.36. Seventy-four of the growers under contract using Prisoners of War were within a 12-mile radius of Houlton and seventy-nine growers were in the 12 to 40 mile radius. Approximately 48% of the Prisoners of War were utilized within the 12-mile radius and 52% outside. Approximately one half of the potatoes picked by the prisoners were also loaded by them.

GROWER REACTION

In an attempt to determine the reaction of the growers to the use of prisoners compared to other types of imported labor, the two following questions were asked of 153 members of the Association who had used prisoners. These were in the form of a mailed questionnaire sent to growers soon after the harvest was completed.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Which type of labor would you prefer another fall?
Prisoner, Jamaican, Canadian, Southern.
2. What improvements would you suggest in the POW deal if the program is carried out another fall?

There were fifty-eight growers who returned their questionnaires

- | | |
|----|---|
| 51 | preferred prisoner labor |
| 0 | preferred Jamaican labor |
| 7 | preferred Canadian labor |
| 0 | preferred Southern labor |
| 24 | were satisfied with the program as handled this year. |

Questionnaire (continued)

- 19 wanted longer hours
- 4 wanted POW camps established other places
- 3 expressed dissatisfaction with guards
- 3 would want to transport their own
- 4 wanted less wholesale changing of crews from day to day
- 4 expressed no charge or less charge for transportation
- 2 expressed dissatisfaction with transportation
- 5 wanted same number of men furnished every day
- 2 wanted same guard each day
- 1 wanted same crew next year
- 3 wanted English speaking prisoner in each group

175
5
875

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

Cash Receipts & Disbursements

Aug. 3, 1944 - Jan 29, 1945

RECEIPTS:

From: Growers - Weekly Labor Payments	\$ 92,852.98	
" Transportation Payments	14,195.38	
Deposits	38,120.00	
Memberships	1,570.00	
Guard Fund (See Exhibit X)	238.70	
" First National Bank-		
Transfer from trucking A/C	<u>5,791.00</u>	
Total Receipts		\$ 152,768.04

DISBURSEMENTS:

To: Treasurer of U.S. Prisoner of War Labor-	114,157.26	
Extension Farm Labor Program -		
Transportation	18,848.41	
Growers - Refunds - Bal. of Deposits	12,053.03	
First National Bank -		
Transfer to trucking A/C	5,791.00	
Guard Fund	238.70	
Association Expense	186.09	
Petty Cash Fund	<u>25.00</u>	
Total Disbursements		\$ 151,299.49

BAIANCE - January 29, 1945 \$ 1,468.55

Balance January 29, 1945 (Per Check Book)	\$ 1,468.82	
Less: Cash Over	<u>.07</u>	1,468.55

Petty Cash Fund 25.00

(1) Cash Balance January 29, 1945 \$ 1,493.55

(1) Represents balance of Association Funds
awaiting action by Trustees of Association
relative to disposition, i.e.,

- (a) Refund to Members
- (b) Held to start 1945 program
- (c) Other

PRISONER OF WAR POTATO HARVEST PROGRAM

AROOSTOOK - 1944

COST - SOURCE OF FUNDS

Items	Total Cost	Extension Farm Labor Program	Growers
Personnel - P.O.W. Office, Houlton	\$ 708.00	\$ 708.00	\$
Travel " " "	591.46	591.46	
Office Expense " " "	328.91	328.91	
Assoc. " " " "	<u>186.09</u>	<u> </u>	<u>186.09</u>
Total Administrative	1,814.46	1,628.37	186.09
Prisoner of War Transportation	32,487.99	13,639.58	18,848.41
" " " Labor	114,157.26	-	114,157.26
Guard Fund	<u>238.70</u>	<u> </u>	<u>238.70</u>
TOTAL	\$ <u>148,698.41</u>	\$ <u>15,267.95</u>	\$ <u>133,430.46</u>

BY-LAWS

of

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

(ADOPTED IN 1944)

Article I

Purpose and Powers

The purposes of said corporation are Agricultural: To provide a supply of emergency farm labor essential to the production of food in Aroostook County; to engage in any activity in connection therewith or incidental thereto.

All activities of this association shall be non-profit and co-operative in character for the mutual benefit of its participating farmer members. It shall have and exercise all powers and rights now or hereafter granted by the State to corporations formed under this chapter.

Article II

Members

Section 1. Qualifications - This association shall not have any capital stock, but any person, firm, partnership, corporation or association, who is a bona fide producer of farm products in the territory served by the association may become a member of the association upon payment of an entrance fee of ten dollars (\$10.00), executing a grower's agreement for prisoners of war or other farm labor, and meeting such other uniform conditions as may be prescribed by the board of directors.

Section 2. Voting Rights - The voting power of the members of this association shall be equal and each member shall have one vote only. Whenever any member ceases to be a producer or patron of the association, as conclusively determined by the board of directors, he shall lose the right to vote and to hold office during the period that he is not a producer or patron.

Section 3. Termination - Any member may withdraw from the association at any time but such withdrawal shall not affect any right or lien which the association has against the withdrawing member or his property for his indebtedness, if any, to the association. If any member ceases for any reason to use the facilities of the association, or fails to comply with any of the requirements of the association or obstructs the purpose and proper activities of the association, the board of directors, at its option, may cancel his membership and expel him from membership in the association and all of his rights and interest therein shall be that act be cancelled and such member shall be entitled only to payment or credit for the equitable appraised value of his property rights and interest in the association.

Section 4. Property Rights - The property rights and interests of each member in the association shall be determined and fixed in the proportion that the patronage of each member shall bear to the total patronage of all the members with the association, as determined by the board of directors. New members admitted to membership shall be entitled to share in the property of the association in accordance with the foregoing general rule.

Article III

Directors and Officers

Section 1. Number and Election - The board of directors of this association shall consist of seven members. At the first annual meeting of the members of this association, directors shall be elected to succeed the incorporating directors. Thereafter, the directors shall be elected annually by ballot at the annual meeting of the members. Each director shall be a member of the association. Directors shall hold office until their successors have been elected and have entered upon the discharge of their duties.

Section 2. Election of Officers - The board of directors shall meet within ten (10) days after each annual election and shall elect by ballot, a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer (or a secretary-treasurer, each of whom shall hold office until the election and qualification of his successor unless earlier removed by death, resignation or for cause. The president and vice president only need be members of the board of directors.

Section 3. Vacancies - Whenever a vacancy occurs in the board of directors, other than from the expiration of a term of office, the remaining directors shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next regular meeting of the members.

Section 4. Board Meetings - In addition to the meetings mentioned above, regular meetings of the board of directors shall be held at such times and places as the board may determine.

Section 5. Special Meetings - A special meeting of the board of directors shall be held whenever called by the president or by a majority of the directors. Any and all business may be transacted at a special meeting. Each call for a special meeting shall be in writing, signed by the person or persons making the same, addressed and delivered to the secretary and shall state the time and place of such meeting.

Section 6. Compensation - The compensation, if any, of the members of the board of directors and of the executive committee shall be determined by the members of the association at any annual or special meeting of the association.

Section 7. Quorum - a majority of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the board.

Article IV

Duties of Directors

Section 1. Management of Business - The board of directors shall have general supervision and control of the business and the affairs of the association and shall make all rules and regulations not inconsistent with law or with these by-laws for the management of the business and the guidance of the members, officers, employees and agents of the association. They shall have installed an accounting system which shall be adequate to the requirements of the business and it shall be their duty to require proper records to be kept of all business transactions.

Section 2. Employment of Manager. - The board of directors shall have power to employ or to authorize the employment of a manager and such other employees as may be deemed necessary and to fix their compensation. The manager shall have charge of the business of the association under the direction of the board of directors. The manager shall not serve as a director.

Section 3. Bonds and Insurance - The board of directors may require all officers, agents and employees charged by the association with responsibility for the custody of any of its funds or property to give adequate bonds. Such bonds shall be furnished by a responsible bonding company, approved by the board of directors and the cost thereof shall be paid by the association. The board of directors, in its discretion, may provide for the adequate insurance of the property of the association and property of all kinds, regardless of ownership, which may be in the possession of the association or stored by it, and in addition, ^{may} provide for adequate employers' liability insurance for all employees.

Section 4. Audits - At least once in each year the board of directors shall secure the services of a competent and disinterested public auditor or accountant, who shall make a careful audit of the books and accounts of the association and render a report in writing thereon, which report shall be submitted to the members of the association at their annual meeting. This report shall include at least (1) a balance sheet showing the true assets and liabilities of the association, (2) an operating statement for the fiscal period under review.

Section 5. Depository - The board of directors shall have the power to select one or more banks to act as depositories of the funds of the association and to determine the manner of receiving, depositing and disbursing the funds of the association and the form of checks and the person or persons by whom same shall be signed with the power to change such banks and the person or persons signing such checks and the form thereof at will.

Article V

Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of President - The president shall (1) preside

over all meetings of the association of the board of directors and of the Executive Committee, (2) call special meetings of the association and of the board of directors, (3) perform all acts and duties usually performed by an executive and presiding officer and (4) sign such papers of the association as he may be authorized or directed to sign by the board of directors, provided, the board of directors may authorize any person to sign any or all checks, contracts, and other instruments in writing on behalf of the association. The president shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors.

Section 2. Duties of Vice President - In the absence or disability of the president, the vice president shall perform the duties of the president, provided, however, that in case of death, resignation or disability of the president, the board of directors may declare the office vacant and elect his successor.

Section 3. Duties of Secretary - The secretary must be a resident of the State of Maine and sworn to the faithful discharge of his duties. The secretary shall keep a complete record of all meetings of the association and of the board of directors and shall have general charge and supervision of the books and records of the association. He shall sign all papers pertaining to the association as he may be authorized or directed to sign by the board of directors. He shall serve all notices required by law and by these by-laws and shall make a full report of all matters and business pertaining to his office to the members at the annual meeting. He shall keep the corporate seal; and affix the corporate seal to all papers requiring a seal. He shall keep membership records. He shall act as secretary of the executive committee. He shall make all reports required by law and shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the association or the board of directors. Upon the election of his successor, the secretary shall turn over to him all books and other property belonging to the association that he may have in his possession.

Section 4. Duties of Treasurer - The treasurer shall perform such duties with respect to the finances of the association as may be prescribed by the board of directors.

Article VI

Executive Committee

Section 1. Powers and Duties - The board of directors may, in its discretion, appoint from their own membership an executive committee of three (3) members, determine their tenure of office, their powers and duties and fix their compensation. The executive committee shall have such powers and duties as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the board of directors and these duties and powers may be all of the duties and powers of the said board of directors, subject to the general direction, approval and control of the board of directors. Copies of the minutes of any meeting of the executive committee shall be mailed to all directors within eight (8) days following such meeting.

Article VII

Duties of Manager

Section 1. In General - Under the direction of the board of directors the manager shall have general charge of the ordinary and usual business operations of the association. He shall, so far as practicable, endeavor to conduct the business in such a manner that the members will receive just and fair treatment. Upon the appointment of his successor, the manager shall deliver to him all money and property belonging to the association which he has in his possession or over which he has contrbl.

Section 2. Duty to Account - The manager shall be required to maintain his records and accounts in such a manner that the true and correct condition of the business may be ascertained therefrom at any time. He shall render annual or periodical statements in the form and in the manner prescribed by the board of directors. He shall carefully preserve all books, documents, correspondence and whatever kind pertaining to the business which may come into his possession.

Article VIII

Meetings

Section 1. Fiscal Year - The fiscal year of this association shall be the calendar year.

Section 2. Annual Meeting - The annual meeting of the members of the association shall be held at such duate and place as the board of directors shall designate.

Section 3. Special Meetings - Special meetings of the members of the association may be called at any time by order of the board of directors and shall be called at any time upon the written request of at least five members. The request shall state the time, place and object of the meeting.

Section 4. Notice of Meetings - Written or printed notice of meetings for every regular and special meeting of members shall be prepared and mailed to the last known post office address of each member not less than five (5) days before such meeting, or notice may be printed in the Houlton Pioneer Times. Such notice shall state the object or objects thereof and the time and place of meeting. No business shall be transacted at special meetings other than that contained in the call.

Section 5. Quorum - Not less than ten members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the association except for the transaction of business concerning which a different quorum is specifically provided by law or by these by-laws. If a quorum is not present at any annual or special meeting, an adjourned meeting may be held at such time and place as the president or chairman deems advisable. The members present at any such adjourned meeting shall constitute a quorum. Proper notice of an adjourned meeting shall be given not less than five (5) days previous to the date of the adjourned meeting.

Article IX

Financing

Section 1. Reserves - The books and records of the association shall be kept in such a manner, by years, that the amount carried to general reserves accruing from patronage of each member of the association may be ascertained at any time. Whenever in a given year the operations of the association result in a net loss, such loss to the extent that general reserves are available, shall be charged against the same and they shall thereby be reduced accordingly. The board of directors shall prescribe the basis upon which the reserve contributions of patrons by years shall be reduced on account of any such loss, so that it will be borne by the patrons on as equitable a basis as the board of directors find practicable. Whenever in the discretion of the board of directors the reserves are found to be in excess of the amount deemed reasonably necessary for the sound financial operations of the association, such excess shall be applied to paying off ratably, by years, the oldest unexhausted reserve contributions of patrons. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the association in any manner, after the payment of all debts, any balance remaining over shall be distributed ratably to the patrons on an equitable basis.

Article X

Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1. Seal - The seal of the Association shall contain these words and figures: "ARCOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION, INC* CORPORATION, MAINE, 1944.

Section 2. Non-Member Business - This Association may do business with non-members in an amount the volume of which does not exceed the volume of business done with members.

Article XI

Amendments

If notice of the character of the amendment proposed has been given in the notice of a meeting, these by-laws may be altered or amended at any regular or special meeting of the members by the affirmative vote of three-fourths or more of the members present.

TENTATIVE ORDERS FOR PRISONERS OF WAR

TO THE AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION:

Please deliver _____ war prisoners to my farm in
_____ starting on _____ for a period of
about _____ working days.

This farm can be reached as follows:

I herewith agree to keep such records as are required and to pay on demand to the Association for the work done at the rate of 15 cents per barrel for all potatoes picked or at the rate of 80 cents per hour for day wages. It is also agreed that if the county wage committee determines that wages for free labor in my area are above these levels that I will pay for the work done at schedules determined to be prevailing.

It is understood that this is a tentative order and becomes effective only if and when details for using prisoners of war are completed. It is further understood that a deposit or other conditions may be required from me before prisoners can be assigned.

(Signature)

(Address)

(Phone No.)

Witness

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

Grower Agreement for Prisoners of War

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this day of 1944, between the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Maine, located at Houlton, Maine, hereinafter called the "Association," and.....

(Grower's Name and Address)

hereinafter called the "Grower," WITNESSETH:

In consideration of the fees charged and other mutual considerations named herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Association agrees:

- (a) To arrange with the Army to make war prisoners available as agricultural workers.
- (b) To accept order from the Grower in its discretion for war prisoners to the extent that the Army makes prisoners available.
- (c) To transport prisoners from the prison camp to the Grower's farm, or other point mutually acceptable, except that the Association may in its discretion authorize or require the Grower to transport his workers.
- (d) To bill the Grower and collect for transportation and for work done by prisoners.

2. The Grower agrees:

- (a) To hire.....prisoners for a period of about.....working days, starting.....
(No.) (Date)
ending.....
(Date)
- (b) To pay the Association therefor, weekly or on demand, for work done at the following rates:
15¢ per barrel picked or 70¢ per hour for work other than picking, or the prevailing wage as determined by the County Wage Committee.
- (c) To pay to the Association upon signing this contract the following amounts:
1. A membership fee of \$10 for 1944.
2. A \$20 deposit for each prisoner, this deposit to be credited to the Grower's final settlement for transportation and prisoner labor.
- (d) To furnish daily, on forms provided by the Association, such reports of work done by prisoners as may be required by the Association or the Army.
- (e) Grower, by the execution of this agreement, becomes a member of this Association and agrees to be bound by its by-laws, rules, and regulations as the same may from time to time be in effect.

3. Either party hereto may terminate this agreement by notifying the other party in writing at least three days prior to the desired date of termination, provided that such termination shall not be construed to relieve a withdrawing member from any liability incurred by him prior to such withdrawal, and provided further that the Association may in its discretion terminate this agreement without notice for non-payment by the Grower as provided above.

Membership Fee Received \$.....

SIGNED,.....
(Grower)

Deposit Received \$.....

Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association

by.....

by.....

(Make checks payable to—

Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Assoc.)

Its.....duly authorized.

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

Grower Agreement for Prisoners of War

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this _____ day of _____ 1944, between the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Maine, located at Houlton, Maine, hereinafter called the "Association", and _____, hereinafter called the "Grower", WITNESSETH:
(Grower's Name and Add.)

In consideration of the fees charged and other mutual considerations named herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. The Association agrees:

- (a) To arrange with the Army to make war prisoners available as agricultural workers.
- (b) To accept order from the Grower in its discretion for war prisoners to the extent that the Army makes prisoners available.
- (c) To transport prisoners from the prison camp to the Grower's farm or other point mutually acceptable, except that the Association may in its discretion authorize or require the Grower to transport his workers.

2. The Grower agrees:

- (a) To hire _____ prisoners for a period of about _____ working days, starting _____ No. _____ ending _____ (date) (date).
- (b) To pay the Association therefor, weekly or on demand, for work done at the prevailing rates and determined by the County Wage Committee, and for transportation and administrative charges at \$ _____ per prisoner per week or fraction thereof.
- (c) To pay to the Association upon signing this contract the following amounts:
 - 1. A membership fee of \$10 for 1944
 - 2. A \$20 deposit for each prisoner, this deposit to be credited to the Grower's final settlement for transportation and prisoner labor.
- (d) To furnish daily, on forms provided by the Association, such reports of work done by prisoners as may be required by the Association or the Army.

(e) Grower, by the execution of this agreement, becomes a member of this Association and agrees to be bound by its by-laws, rules, and regulations as the same may from time to time be in effect.

3. Either party hereto may terminate this agreement by notifying the other party in writing at least three days prior to the desired date of termination, provided that such termination shall not be construed to relieve a withdrawing member from any liability incurred by him prior to such withdrawal, and provided further that the Association may in its discretion terminate this agreement without notice for non-payment by the Grower as provided above.

Membership Fee Received \$ _____

Signed _____
(Grower)

Deposit Received \$ _____

Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Assoc.

By _____

By _____

(Make checks payable to -
Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Assoc.)

Its _____ duly authorized.

Acres of Potatoes _____

Tel. Number _____

4 copies TV

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

College of Agriculture of The
University of Maine, The
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Cooperating

Extension Service

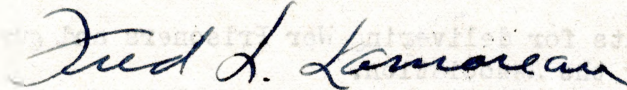
Dear

For your information and guidance the following instructions to growers using War Prisoners are as follows:

1. Growers will contract with the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, Houlton, Maine, for use of prisoners for picking, picking and loading, and warehouse work.
2. Arrangements for delivering War Prisoners and guards to growers are to be made by the Association.
3. Any instructions given or rules laid down by the Association or Army from time to time must be followed by those growers who are using Prisoners of War. Failure to comply may result in withdrawal of prisoners.
4. Prisoners will work as a group and each group will be identified by a number.
5. Each grower will submit daily to the guard on a form furnished by the Association a report of the total number of barrels picked or hours worked by prisoner group for that day. This report is to be signed by the farmer, the guard, and checked by the prisoner spokesman. The farmer will keep a duplicate to serve as his itemized bill.
6. Transportation and other costs for War Prisoners will be charged the grower by the Association at the rate of \$2.50 per prisoner per calendar week or fraction thereof from the time the grower starts using prisoners until his crop is dug or as long as he continues to use POW's.
7. Picking rates and warehouse rates for prisoner labor will be the same as the prevailing wage in the same area for free labor as determined from time to time by the County Wage Committee.
8. Growers will figure their prisoner payroll, including transportation, weekly for the week ending Friday night and see that the pay reaches the Association office, Market Square, Houlton, Maine, on or before Tuesday of the following week. Failure to comply will result in withdrawal of the prisoners from the grower's employ. The Association office will be open Saturday nights until 8:30 p.m.
9. Part barrels are to be left in the field until the following day. All full barrels are to be counted and reported on the day picked.

10. Farmers will furnish simply constructed pit latrines in the field for prisoners' use.
11. Directions and orders can be given prisoner crews the same as local help. No civilian will talk with a prisoner unless he is directing their work. The Army will attempt to see that there is at least one English speaking prisoner in each group.
12. It is not advisable to use civilian and prisoner picking crews in the same field.
13. Growers must comply with the transportation schedule set up by the Association. Prisoners will leave the field on a definite schedule.
14. All foods and liquids will be furnished by the Army and transported by Army vehicles, if necessary.

Very truly yours,



Fred L. Lamoreau
Area Farm Labor Assistant

FLL:mlb

Make checkes payable to Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Assoc.

Address - Market Square, Houlton, Maine

Tel. - Houlton 2262

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GUIDANCE TO GROWERS

USING WAR PRISONERS

1. Growers will contract with the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, Houlton, Maine, for use of prisoners for picking, picking and loading, and warehouse work.
2. Arrangements for delivering War Prisoners and guards to growers are to be made by the Association.
3. Any instructions given or rules laid down by the Association or Army from time to time must be followed by those growers who are using Prisoners of War. Failure to comply may result in withdrawal of prisoners.
4. Prisoners will work as a group and each group will be identified by a number.
5. Each Grower will submit daily to the guard on a form furnished by the Association a report of the total number of barrels picked or hours worked by prisoner group for that day. This report is to be signed by the farmer, the guard and checked by the prisoner spokesman. The farmer will keep a duplicate to serve as his itemized bill.
6. Transportation and other costs for War Prisoners will be charged the Grower by the Association at the rate of \$2.50 per prisoner per calendar week or fraction thereof from the time the grower starts using prisoners until his crop is dug or as long as he continues to use P.O.W.'s.
7. Picking rates and warehouse rates for prisoner labor will be the same as the prevailing wage in the same area for free labor as determined from time to time by the County Wage Committee.
8. Growers will figure their prisoner payroll, including transportation, on a calendar week and see that the pay reaches the Association office, Market Square, Houlton, Maine, on or before Tuesday of the following week. Failure to comply will result in withdrawal of the prisoners from the Grower's employ. The Association office will be open Saturday nights until 8:30 P.M.
9. All full barrels are to be counted and reported on the day picked.
10. Work-week ends Friday nights, Saturday is counted in the next week. Make checks payable to the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, and be sure they are in Houlton not later than the following Tuesday.
11. If you haven't started using prisoners yet, be sure to let us know a day or so ahead. We have to send a list to the Army of the number of prisoners wanted the following day.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

College of Agriculture of the
University of Maine, The
U.S. Department of Agriculture
And County Farm Bureau
Cooperating

Extension Service

To Growers Using Prisoners of War:

Enclosed is a copy of instructions issued by the Army about the handling of Prisoners of War.

If you haven't started using prisoners yet, be sure to let us know a day or so ahead. We have to send a list to the Army of the number of prisoners wanted the following day.

Enclosed is a sample copy of the daily report which is to be sent back by the guard each day, made out as we want it.

If your prisoners are just picking, enter the total number of barrels picked for the day in the first column.

If your prisoners are picking and loading, enter the total number of barrels picked for the day in the second column, even though the prisoners did not finish loading all they picked.

Sincerely yours,
/s/

Fred L. Lamoreau
Area Farm Labor Assistant

FILE:MLB

P. S. Work-week ends Friday nights, Saturday is counted in the next week. Make checks payable to Arcostock Farm Bureau Labor Association and be sure they are in Houlton not later than the following Tuesday.

FLL

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CONTRACTOR
UNDER CONTRACT FOR PRISONER OF WAR LABOR

The treatment and employment of prisoners of war are governed by an international treaty called the Geneva Convention. The United States Government is bound to follow the terms of this treaty. It is also important to do so, and to treat enemy prisoners fairly, in order to avoid reprisals against American Prisoners held by enemy countries. As a contractor using prisoner of war labor you have agreed and are required to obey the provisions of the Geneva Convention. You have also agreed and are required to comply with War Department security regulations relative to prisoners of war. The following instructions have been prepared for your guidance:

1. In case of any escape or unwarranted conduct on the part of any prisoner of war, you should inform the guard detail commander in charge of the prisoners, who is responsible for their conduct. You should make your telephone available to him so that he may phone the camp commander at any time.
2. You should not fraternize with prisoners of war or allow third persons to do so. If you fraternize with them, and there is an escape, your action might tend to make it appear you had helped in the escape. Helping a prisoner of war to escape is a serious criminal offense.
3. In addition to precautions taken by the guards, you should exercise every reasonable care that prisoners of war do not escape from your premises. You should cooperate fully with the military authorities and guards in the matter of taking steps to avoid escapes.
4. You should not allow prisoners to wear clothing other than that issued by the War Department. Their clothing has been marked to identify them as prisoners of war. Do not give them old hats or coats to wear.
5. You should fully occupy the time of the prisoners. If a situation arises where they cannot work, notify the guard detail commander so the prisoners can be returned to camp instead of being idle around your premises.
6. All prisoner of war mail, even to persons in the United States, must be censored. Therefore it is very important that you cooperate fully with the guard detail commander in preventing any prisoner from mailing letters, cards or packages from your premises, and in preventing third persons who might smuggle mail from mixing with the prisoners. Prisoners must not make telephone calls or send cables or telegrams. You should report to the guard detail commander any violations of this rule.
7. The guard detail commander is responsible that only authorized newspaper reporters, news photographers or newsreel cameramen attempt to secure information or photograph the prisoners of war. You must cooperate with the guard in this respect. You yourself should not give out any publicity regarding the prisoners of war.

Instructions to the Contractor (continued)

8. You do not need workmen's compensation insurance for the benefit of the prisoners of war performing work under your contract. This matter is covered by War Department regulations.

9. Your civilian employees and others who may come in contact with the prisoners of war in the performance of the contract should be informed of these instructions and should be enjoined to carry them out.

10. The War Department expects your cooperation in these matters so that the prisoner of war labor program will be successful. Failure on your part to follow these instructions, and other instructions given you by the military authorities, may result in cancellation of the contract and refusal of the War Department to furnish prisoner of war labor to you in the future.

11. The Government reserves the right to supplement or change these instructions. These instructions do not in any way modify or limit your obligations under the contract.

Exhibit V

DATE _____

HOULTON, MAINE

TO: Extension Farm Labor Program, Dr.

In Account with _____

For transportation of _____ War Prisoners from _____
to _____ inclusive. _____

APPROVED

RECEIVED PAYMENT

BY: _____

BY: _____

TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this _____ day of _____ 1944, by and between the Extension Farm Labor Program, an agency of the Maine Extension Service duly established in Maine, and located at Orono, Maine, hereinafter called the "Program", and _____ of _____ hereinafter called the "Trucker", witnesseth:

1. The Trucker agrees:

- a. To have available during twelve hours a day for six days a week _____ truck and driver for said truck satisfactory to the Army, to be used for the transport of Prisoners of War and their guards, as the Program directs, for so long as the Program may need the services during the potato harvesting season of 1944 in the county of Aroostook, or for so long as the Prisoners of War are available for this work, whichever is the shorter period.
- b. To abide by the driving regulations and the regulations concerning the transportation and delivery of Prisoners of War, as established by the Army.
- c. To provide property and liability insurance satisfactory to the Army, on said truck transporting Prisoners of War and their guards.
- d. That any transportation of Prisoners of War which may be done before or after the twelve hour day of the six day week shall be considered to have been done within the twelve hours, and no additional compensation shall be demanded therefor.
- e. To have said truck and driver available during any twelve hours of the six day week, for use in any emergency which may arise in the farming operations, as directed by said Program.
- f. To forfeit one day's truck hire for every day that transportation of War Prisoners is not performed in a manner satisfactory to the Program or the Army, except that said Trucker shall not be held accountable for unsatisfactory performance due to the breakdown of the truck or other cause beyond the control of the Trucker.

2. The Program agrees:

- a. To pay said Trucker \$ _____ for six days a week, payable weekly.

3. Either party hereto may terminate this agreement by notifying the other party in writing six days prior to the desired date of termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have set their hands the day and year first above written.

Trucker

EMERGENCY FARM LABOR PROGRAM

By _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING TRANSPORTATION
IN
PRISONERS OF WAR

1. Any vehicle transporting War Prisoners must satisfy requirements set up by the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association and the Army.
2. Mechanical condition of the transportation vehicle must pass Army inspection.
3. If the transporting vehicle is a truck, it must be equipped with canvas, tight side boards, securely fastened. Three bench seats at least 10" wide, running the length of the truck. The truck body must be approximately 7½' by 14' so that thirty (30) prisoners with guards can be transported, seated, without overloading or overcrowding. The truck must have a tail board or be securely roped in the rear.
4. The prisoners will be transported from the prisoner of war compound in the morning on a definite schedule set up by the Association. Most vehicles will move out of the compound at 5:30 a.m. Each transporting vehicle will be numbered and will load prisoners in the compound at a particular station at a particular, set time.
5. Prisoners will be picked up at the field on a definite schedule and returned to the compound before 5:30 each night.
6. Drivers will always drive carefully and at a safe rate of speed when loaded, not to exceed the limit of 35 miles per hour, set up by the Army.
7. Drivers will come to a complete stop before crossing railway crossings.
8. If vehicle is a truck, two Army guards will ride in the cab with the driver.

(Exhibit VIC)

EXTENSION FARM LABOR PROGRAM
RELEASE OF TRANSPORTATION

In consideration of \$ _____ for final settlement the undersigned releases
the Extension Farm Labor Program as of this date from all obligation in connection
with the Transportation Agreement between the Trucker and the Extension Farm Labor
Program dated _____ 1944.

This release applies to truck No. _____.

License No. _____.

Dated: Houlton, Maine

_____, 1944.

Signed: _____
(Trucker)

Witness: _____

Diagram of Loading
Stations

Ground for
Assembling POW'S

50	
49	
48	
47	
46	
45	
44	
43	
42	
41	
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39	
38	
37	
36	
35	
34	
33	
32	
31	
30	
29	
28	
27	
26	

11 Ft.

~~Ground for~~
Assembling POW'S

25	
24	
23	
22	
21	
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

VIIb

College of Agriculture of The
University of Maine, The
U. S. Department of Agriculture
And County Farm Bureau
Cooperating

Extension Service

Houlton, Maine
October 24, 1944

Dear

Beginning Monday, October 30, if you are still using prisoners for picking, it will be necessary for you to make your own arrangements for transportation. The trucks already under contract to the Association for transporting prisoners will be released as of Saturday, October 28. Most of these trucks will still be available, and since they are equipped to satisfy Army standards, it might be advisable for you to make arrangements with the truck already hauling your prisoners. You would pay the trucker directly for transportation and pay the association only for the potatoes picked by the prisoners.

If we can help in obtaining one of these trucks for you, let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Fred L. Lamoreau
Area Farm Labor Assistant

FLL:mlb

Employer

Address

Day of
Week Month Year

O. K.d. by

Accepted by

Employer's Official Representative

Army Guard

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

(Exhibit VIIb)

College of Agriculture of The
University of Maine, and The
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Cooperating

Extension Service

To Growers:

Daily Reports--Prisoner Labor

If your prisoner labor crew is loading for you, be sure to record the total number they pick and load in the column headed "barrels picked and loaded", the second column. This total should include the total barrels picked even though the crew doesn't get all of them loaded before they leave.

The Army receives these daily reports first, and when a report shows, for example, 219 picked and 200 loaded, the Army calls it 219 picked and loaded and makes out its bill accordingly. You lose 1¢ a barrel on all barrels left unloaded.

Try to plan it so that your crew will be pretty well caught up before they leave.

Have your report show the total barrels in the proper column-- but not in both columns.

Sincerely yours,

Fred L. Lamoreau
Area Farm Labor Assistant

No. 159

Exhibit VIIC

Date	No. Men	Bbls. Picked	Total to Date
Sept. 11	10	239	239 pl
12	10	140	379 pl
13	10	177 p	556
14	10	245 p	801
15	10	314	1115
16	10	263 p	1378

↑ 10 20 30 40 50 60 70
 TYPIST PLEASE NOTE - THIS SCALE CORRESPONDS TO TYPEWRITER (PICA) SCALE - SET PAPER GUIDES SO THAT CARD SCALE WILL REGISTER WITH MACHINE SCALE WHEN CARD IS THROWN INTO WRITING POSITION. START LINEY FUDGE (A) POINT FROM LEFT EDGE OF CARD. USE OTHER POINTS AS CALLED FOR.

Exhibit VIIC

Membership Fee Paid - \$10.00

Date	Item	Debit	Credit	Balance
1944				
Sept 5	Deposit		200.00	200.00
11	Transportation	25.00		65.24
11	Labor	38.24		
12	"	22.40		85.64
13	"	28.32		113.96
14	"	36.75		150.71
16	"	47.10		197.81
19	Check		99.15	98.66

Grower's Name _____

Address _____

No. _____

ARROSTOCK FARM BUREAU
LABOR ASSOCIATION

Houlton, Maine

November 3, 1944

Farmer No. 118

Dear Sir:

The following is a summary to date of your account:

DATE	NO. P.O.W.	NO. BBLs.	LABOR
Sept. 18	10	221	33.15
19	10	234	35.10
20	10	231	34.65
20	9	250	40.00
21	21	399	59.85
		<u>13121</u>	<u>2012.25</u>

Note:

Details from period September 22 to October 27 omitted from this exhibit.

	Total Labor		2012.25
Sept. 22	Transp.	41.20	
29	"	46.40	
Oct. 6	"	46.00	
" 13	"	50.00	
" 21	"	72.50	
" 28	"	66.50	
		<u>322.60</u>	<u>322.60</u>
	Total labor and transportation		<u>2334.85</u>

Sept 25	Check	282.95	
Oct 2	"	368.22	
9	"	566.58	
16	"	311.08	
23	Credit Dept	200.00	
23	Check	341.06	
28	"	75.00	
		<u>2144.89</u>	<u>2144.89</u>
	Balance Due Association		<u>189.94</u>

Deposit Bal.	200.00
Due Assn.	189.04
Due you	<u>10.06</u>

Sincerely yours,

Fred L. Lamoreau, Manager

TEL. 2261
2262

IXb
MARKET SQUARE
RICHARDS BLOCK

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

HOULTON, MAINE

ACCOUNT WITH _____

DATE _____

Deposit paid in

Balance of grower's account

Refund due grower

Check #

Approved: _____

Received payment

for grower

AROOSTOOK FARM BUREAU LABOR ASSOCIATION

HOULTON, MAINE

Houlton, Maine
October 24, 1944

Dear

This letter is to bring to your attention the work of the boys guarding the Prisoners of War during the potato harvest. Most of them have done their job well and with little complaint. They have put in long hours and served on Army Pay. Most of them have seen service overseas and know what it is like over there. Without their services the prisoners could not have been put in the field and many potatoes would not have been dug.

Don't you think it would be advisable for the farmers who used war prisoners to do some little thing to show their appreciation for the service the guards rendered? It might be a supper for the whole group. It might be something to put into their recreation hall, such as games, books or magazines.

If you will donate soon any small amount you wish to the Aroostook Farm Bureau Labor Association, we will see that it enters a fund which will be turned over to the Army Chaplain at the Prisoner of War Compound to be used as he sees fit in obtaining something for the guards that will help relieve the monotony of guard duty. It would be a fine gesture by the growers in Aroostook, and I know it would be appreciated by the Army officers and guards who have done a swell job.

Mail your donation or drop in and leave it at the office in Houlton.

Sincerely yours,

Fred L. Lamoreau
Manager

FLL:mlb

