

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

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

Extension Service

Orono, Maine

April 16, 1945

TO: County Agents & Farm Labor Assistants

RE: Portland Farm Labor Recruitment & Placement Procedure

Proposal

Defense work in the Portland area is being curtailed, therefore, there is a possibility of securing some farm workers in that area. The numbers are indefinite and will depend upon the number of orders obtained from farmers, the wages and facilities offered and upon the speed with which referrals are cleared in the various counties. This project is designed to encourage farmers and workers to make contacts direct and to provide this contact service where needed.

Recruitment in the Portland area will start April 18. Each county should decide what part it wishes to take in securing and forwarding orders for consideration.

The procedure to be followed by the Portland office is as follows:

Recruitment

Press, radio, and printed posters will be used to inform defense workers that essential farm employment is available. Workers will be urged to contact farmers whom they know to obtain jobs. Those workers who want information about job opportunities will be invited to call at the Portland Farm Labor office.

Orders

The Portland Farm Labor Office will accept from all county farm labor offices farmers requests for workers. Requests from farmers should be recorded on a "Request Card" (Exhibit I) in two copies, one of which should be forwarded to the Portland Office and one kept for the county file. These cards should be completely filled out and should be forwarded in the next mail after they are received. Orders received prior to April 24 should be telephoned to the Portland Farm Labor Office between 3:30 and 5:00 P.M. on the day received (see attached directory). When doing this be ready to dictate rapidly the information contained on the "Request Card" that you are forwarding. After April 25 telephoning of requests should not be necessary unless they are particularly urgent.

The publicity that county offices direct to farmers should urge them to contact workers who have left their community and are known to be in non-farm employment in the Portland area. Farmers requesting that workers be referred to them should appreciate that whether their request results in their obtaining a worker or not will depend upon the attractiveness of the position and facilities offered, the wage, and their willingness to act quickly when a referral is made.

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Referrals

When a worker wishing referral to farm work contacts the Portland Office inquiry will be made as to where he is now employed. If he is unemployed or employed in non-farm work inquiry will be made as to the portion of the state to which he wishes to go. He will then be shown the "Request Cards" from that county or locality and asked to indicate the three jobs, in the order of preference, to which he wishes referral.

An "Application Card" (see exhibit II) will be prepared for each worker in two copies with his choices indicated on the back. If these choices involve more than one county additional cards will be made and forwarded by the Portland office to all counties involved. However, in those cases where workers have indicated a preference for jobs in several counties no contact with the employer should be made by the county offices until notified by the Portland office that prior positions requested have been eliminated. If choices are all in one county the employers should be contacted in the order shown until the worker has been placed.

Applications for employment in your county will be phoned to you each afternoon by the Portland Office and your clerk should be ready to record them quickly on an "Application Card". Copies of the "Application Card" will also be forwarded by the Portland Office to the counties involved, in the next mail after the worker has made his request for referral. Authority to initiate a second or third choice placement preceded by a first choice involving another county will be handled by phone and by written notice in the same manner as soon as the Portland Office has been notified that prior choices have not cleared.

Contacting Farmers

Referrals made by the Portland Office should be immediately phoned by the County Office to the prospective farmer-employer. Information regarding the worker supplied by the "Application Card" should be explained. The farmer should be told that he is being given one day (24 hours) in which to contact this worker and to reach a decision regarding him. Thus it is very important that the farmer understand correctly the workers name, address, phone number, and the time of day when he can be reached by phone. A person to person call on evening rates should be suggested where practical. In some instances the farmer may wish to wire the worker asking him to phone the farmer person to person collect. The farmer should be asked to phone the results of this direct contact to his county office. This should be entered on your copy of the "Application Card" which you received from Portland and have on file.

If after 24 hours the farmer has not attempted to contact the worker, or, if the worker was contacted but not hired, or, if you question whether negotiations will lead to the immediate hiring of this worker, you should inform the farmer that you are contacting the employer indicated as the next choice, if in your county, or if not in your county that you are informing the Portland Office that the worker is available for placement elsewhere.

A report should be forwarded to the Portland Office not later than the last mail for each day indicating the status of each referral not definitely terminated. If you are talking with the Portland Office by phone this should also be explained although a call need not be made for this purpose. The report to Portland should be made on approximately a 3 x 5 card, using a separate card for each worker.

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Contacting Farmers (continued)

Sample of Card

DAILY REFERRAL REPORT

Worker's
Name _____ No _____

Now Referred to: _____
(Farmer's Name) (Address)

Present status of referral _____

Recommendation to Portland Office _____

County Reporting _____ Date _____

A copy of this should be retained for your file attached to the respective "Application Card". Cases should be considered pending only 24 hours per employer or unless you have reason to believe a placement will result if further time is allowed. In all instances in which a daily report of pending placements are not received at Portland in the time required for them to reach there by mail that office will make such additional referrals of these unreported workers to other counties as the cases warrant.

A county should not consider a case closed until the worker is on the job, although daily reports are not necessary after the Portland Office has been informed that the worker has been placed or that he cannot be placed with the employers selected. If the employer reports that the worker has been hired and is to arrive at some later date the county office should within a few days after that date inquire whether the worker is on the job and record this fact on the "Application Card" and on the "Request Card". It is very important that you accurately record on the "Application Card" the complete action taken on each case as this is your record of these cases and it may be necessary to refer to these cards later. Show date and time where application was first received from Portland, when referred to each employer, when acted on by employer, and results. The daily reports will indicate the progress made.

Your copy of the farmers "Request Card" should show who was referred to him, the date, and the results.

Requests not filled by the first referral will be held open at the Portland Office. However, if in your opinion they cannot for any reason be filled you should, after giving them a try, notify the farmer that it is doubtful if we can be successful in getting him help from this source unless certain changes are made. You should forward to Portland only requests that have some possibility of being filled or if they later appear hopeless notify Portland so further time and effort will not be wasted.

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Checking Applicants

The Portland Office will where feasible or upon request check applicants by phone to determine what action has been taken, the results and reasons. Workers who are not sincere in their request for employment or obviously are not suitable, or who are for other reasons unlikely to be satisfactory will not be referred after this fact becomes apparent.

Information Supplied Applicants

Enclosed is a copy of a statement that will be given to each worker applying for employment. This statement and the accompanying ~~has~~ ^{letter} been submitted to and approved by the State Directors of both War Manpower Commission and Selective Service.

Reports on Contacts Made Direct by Farmers

It is hoped that many farmers and workers will make their contacts direct without needing a referral service and this should be a major objective of the local publicity given this project. There is no way in which the extent of this action can be measured. However, if you learn of placements of this type which are a result of the publicity we have given this program please record the name and address of the employer and worker on a "Request Card". No further detail is necessary. When the project is terminated it will be of interest to be able to report the number of these cases as a measure of the projects accomplishments. Do not feel obligated to hunt out all of such cases or to supply details.

Conclusion

The success of this program depends upon the interest and cooperation of workers and farmers, both of which are unknowns until the project is tried. To make it successful it must also include effective publicity both in the counties and in the Portland area. In the handling of referrals by the various Farm Labor Offices there must be strict adherence to the procedures explained. If these procedures require modifications inform the State Office or the Portland Office of the desired changes but do not put them in operation unless authorized by one of these offices.

A small supply of the cards referred to have been included. If more are needed request them from the state office.

If in the handling of county farmer publicity you wish to expend funds for paid ads, radio time, etc., decide what you wish to do and if the cost exceeds \$25.00 call Mr. Lord or myself at the State Office for approval.

Please study the procedure with your clerk as much of the detail can be her responsibility.

Who to Call

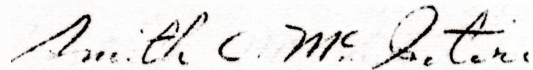
Attached is a directory of Farm Labor personnel, offices and telephone numbers. When calling the Portland office during the hours 8:30 to 12:00 and 1:30 to 5:00 regarding this project use a station-to-station call because the

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phone will be answered by someone who can supply the desired information. The office will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. including Saturday afternoons. If calling at a time other than the hours indicated for station-to-station calls you should call person-to-person and ask for either Mr. Brofee or Mrs. Lawrence.

Very truly yours,



Smith C. McIntire
State Supervisor
Emergency Farm Labor

SCM:ML

Enclosures

Penalty

MAINE EXTENSION SERVICE
FARM LABOR PROGRAM

APPLICATION CARD

OFFICE _____
INTERVIEWER _____
DATE INTERVIEWED _____

(FOR APPLICANTS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

APPLICANT'S NAME		ONE PARENT'S NAME	
ADDRESS	TO REACH BY PHONE CALL:	ADDRESS	TO REACH BY PHONE CALL:
NAME OF LAST EMPLOYER		DESCRIBE WORK PERFORMED	
ADDRESS			
DATE ENDED	DURATION		
NAME OF LAST FARM EMPLOYER		DESCRIBE WORK PERFORMED	
ADDRESS			
DATE ENDED	DURATION		

APPLICANT'S DESIRE REGARDING
KIND OF WORK:

WAGES			FACILITIES		DURATION	
APPLICANT'S			GRADE SCHOOL		HIGH SCHOOL	
AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	EDUCATION: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8		1 2 3 4	
MARITAL STATUS: { SINGLE _____ WIDOWED _____ MARRIED _____ SEPARATED _____			NUMBER CHILDREN _____	AGES _____	WILL YOU LIVE AWAY FROM HOME YES _____ NO _____	
					COLLEGE 1 2 3 4 WILL YOU MOVE YOUR FAMILY YES _____ NO _____	
					DRAFT CLASS _____ BOARD DO YOU HAVE A DRIVER'S LICENSE YES _____ NO _____ A LICENSED CAR YES _____ NO _____	

REFERRAL RECORD

AVAILABLE WORKER FILE CODE	FARMER	DATE			COMMENT	PLACED WORKER FILE
		REF'D	START	FNSHD		
	NAME					
	ADDRESS					
	TO REACH BY PHONE, CALL					
	NAME					
	ADDRESS					
	TO REACH BY PHONE, CALL					
	NAME					
	ADDRESS					
	TO REACH BY PHONE, CALL					
	NAME					
	ADDRESS					
	TO REACH BY PHONE, CALL					
	NAME					
	ADDRESS					
	TO REACH BY PHONE, CALL					

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

MAINE EXTENSION SERVICE
FARM LABOR PROGRAM

REQUEST CARD

OFFICE _____

INTERVIEWER _____

DATE WORKERS WANTED _____

FARMER _____

DATE _____

INTERVIEWER _____

RECEIVED _____

NUMBER WORKERS WANTED _____

ADDRESS _____

FILLED _____

HOW REACHED
BY PHONE _____

REPORT _____

TYPE OF WORKERS ACCEPTABLE

MEN _____ WOMEN _____

BOYS _____ GIRLS _____

VFV _____ WLA _____

OPTIONAL _____

WORK TO (SPECIFY JOBS, TYPES AND NUMBERS OF LIVESTOCK, OR KIND AND ACRES OF CROPS)
BE DONE: _____

HOW LONG WILL JOB LAST? _____

WILL FARMER PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION? YES _____ NO _____
IF YES, AT WHAT POINT AND HOUR WILL HE MEET WORKERS? _____

RATE OF PAY _____

DIRECTIONS FOR GETTING TO FARM _____

HOURS OF WORK _____

MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST _____ DINNER _____ SUPPER _____

PROVISIONS FOR HOUSING _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION _____

MAINE EXTENSION SERVICE
FARM LABOR PROGRAM

REQUEST CARD

OFFICE _____

INTERVIEWER _____

DATE WORKERS WANTED _____

FARMER _____

DATE _____

INTERVIEWER _____

RECEIVED _____

NUMBER WORKERS WANTED _____

ADDRESS _____

FILLED _____

HOW REACHED
BY PHONE _____

REPORT _____

TYPE OF WORKERS ACCEPTABLE

MEN _____ WOMEN _____

BOYS _____ GIRLS _____

VFV _____ WLA _____

OPTIONAL _____

WORK TO (SPECIFY JOBS, TYPES AND NUMBERS OF LIVESTOCK, OR KIND AND ACRES OF CROPS)
BE DONE: _____

HOW LONG WILL JOB LAST? _____

WILL FARMER PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION? YES _____ NO _____
IF YES, AT WHAT POINT AND HOUR WILL HE MEET WORKERS? _____

RATE OF PAY _____

DIRECTIONS FOR GETTING TO FARM _____

HOURS OF WORK _____

MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST _____ DINNER _____ SUPPER _____

PROVISIONS FOR HOUSING _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION _____

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
STATE OF MAINE

College of Agriculture of the
University of Maine and the
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Cooperating

Extension Service

Orono, Maine
April 16, 1945

Mr. Paul E. Jones
State Manpower Director
221 Water Street
Augusta, Maine

Dear Mr. Jones:

A short while ago I discussed with you the possibility of the Farm Labor Program recruiting farm workers in the Portland area, starting about the middle of April. The proposal was suggested on the assumption that employment in defense work in that area is being curtailed. At that time you expressed the opinion that such recruitment would appear to be feasible.

It is now my plan to initiate this program early next week. I wish to explain it briefly so that you may offer such suggestions as to you seem desirable in order to protect the interests of the War Manpower commission.

Starting next week, Farm Labor Offices in the various counties will give information to farmers that a potential supply of workers may be available at Portland. This information will attempt to

1. Urge the farmer to act at once.
2. Suggest that he make direct contact with persons who originally left his community to work in the Portland area.
3. Order workers through his county Farm Labor Office if he is not making his contact direct.

In those cases in which orders are placed with the various county Farm Labor Offices, these will be immediately forwarded to the Portland Farm Labor Office in the Chapman Building.

In the Portland area the recruitment will be initiated through publicity by press, radio, and through the use of posters. This publicity will

1. Emphasize the fact that good farm jobs are available.
2. Suggest the advantages of farm employment especially lower living costs, greater employment security, and less crowded living conditions.

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3. Encourage workers to immediately contact farmers with whom they are acquainted. ,
4. Invite workers wanting farm job information to call at the Portland Farm Labor Office.

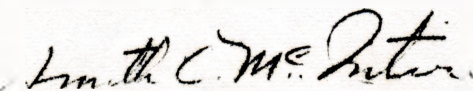
To those workers who call at the office will be explained the jobs available in the areas to which they wish to go. They will select one or more jobs considered satisfactory. The employers of the jobs selected will be notified daily by phone through their county Farm Labor Offices. The employers will be given information as to how the prospective worker can be contacted by phone. He will be given one day in which to make his contacts with the worker. Each day all referrals of the day before will be checked by the county offices contacting the employer. If the worker has not been hired, if negotiations with him are not still under way, or if the employer has not attempted to contact the worker, the Portland Farm Labor Office will be so notified. The worker will then be referred to other jobs selected by him or called and invited to make other selections.

Each worker applying for farm employment will be given a statement suggesting

1. That he contact the War Manpower office for a statement of availability.
2. That if he is under 38 years old he notify his selective service board of any change of address. If present classification includes the letters 2A or 2B he should request a determination from his local board that it is in the best interest of the war effort for him to leave the employment for which he is deferred to accept the position offered him.

It is hoped that this project will help direct potential farm workers to farm areas and employers most seriously needing workers. It seems probable that the number of workers referred will be small perhaps not more than 100 but even this would be most worthwhile in terms of its influence on farm employment and food production.

Very truly yours,



Smith C. McIntire
State Farm Labor Supervisor

SCM::r/F

TO PERSONS WISHING TO AID IN FOOD PRODUCTION BY ACCEPTING ESSENTIAL FARM
EMPLOYMENT

The following information is supplied in order that you may be assured of the procedures to be followed in going from your present employment into farm work.

If Now Employed

If you are now employed and wish to go into farm work, you should inform your employer of this fact and request him to give you a statement of availability. If he is unwilling to give you such a statement, you should contact the War Manpower Office serving the area in which you are employed and request that it provide this statement.

The regulations do not require you to obtain this statement from either your former employer or the War Manpower Office when you are going from industrial to farm employment. However, it is the procedure that should be followed if you are now employed.

If under 38 Years Old

If under 38 years old, notify your selective service board of any change of address.

If your present classification contains the letters 2A or 2B, you should request a determination by your local board that it is in the best interest of the war effort for you to leave the employment for which you ~~would be~~ deferred to accept the new position offered.

The Farm Labor Office has given your name and directions for reaching you by phone to the farmer, whose employment you have selected, and he is expected to call you to make detailed arrangements within a day or two.

When this man calls and you have decided as to whether or not you are going to accept this position, please notify the Farm Labor Office at once.

RECRUITING CAMPAIGN - UNEMPLOYED INDUSTRIAL WORKERS
SOUTHERN MAINE

1. Advertising

Intensive campaign based on radio and press announcements. Starting in all centers of recruitment on Tuesday, September 4 and continuing through September 12.

Spot announcements on radio - two a day, one near noon and the other between 5 and 7 P.M. These announcements 100 words or less. Classified ads in newspapers - two columns wide and 4 inches long or so. Probable cost of such advertising per city - approximately \$250. In Maine this advertising campaign will be carried on in Portland area only.

2. Conditions of Employment

(a) Work Agreements - All workers recruited will sign Form EFL 25, "Work Agreement", which is the same as will be used for all imported interstate workers, and will apply to workers recruited in Maine. These work agreements (EFL 25) should be executed in two copies. One copy for the worker and one to be retained by recruiter.

(b) Transportation - All workers recruited for potato harvest work will receive free transportation from the area of recruitment to the potato area and return providing such workers live up to the conditions of the work agreement.

(c) Placement - All workers receiving transportation and signing work agreements would be placed with farmers who have signed employment agreements with the Maine Extension Service. This means that all transported workers will be placed by farm labor officials and subject to such control on movements is exercised over all imported workers.

3. Signing up Workers

The Maine Extension Service will maintain offices in area of recruitment. All potential workers applying at these offices and interested in potato harvest work will be:

- a. Be given a mimeographed statement of the nature of the work to be done.
- b. Complete all black spaces on recruitment record card. The top card will be detached and bottom two cards retained by the worker.
- c. Sign work agreement in two copies.
- d. Told to report on a certain date, at a definite time for transportation to the potato areas. This will be in the form of a written record on the back of worker's identification card.

4. Transportation

Special buses will be chartered starting as of September 10. These buses will move straight through to the potato area. If less than bus loads are assembled at one time, transportation may need to be arranged via Extension Transportation Requests.

5. Assignments

All assignments will be made after arrival of workers in the potato area. As soon as a move starts from originating area, the area of placement will be called by 'phone and told of the number of workers enroute to the section called. The only information passed along to the area of use would be: a) size of group enroute b) number by sexes c) number of groups and size of groups.

6. Recruiting Personnel

Arrangements for publicity and transportation will be under the direction of W.S. Rowe, County Agent, Portland. Actual contact work between recruits and farm labor program will be under the direction of Amos A. Hawkes for the Portland area, C. L. Stevens for the York County area, and Ernest L. Additon for the Lewiston-Auburn area. Extra personnel may be hired as needed.

EARN GOOD MONEY
PICKING POTATOES

3000

Workers needed by Sept. 16
To pick potatoes
in
Aroostook

Free Transportation Provided
To Potato Areas and Return

APPLY TO:

Farm Labor Offices

Portland Sanford Lewiston

Room 23 Bank Bldg. P.O. Bldg.
Chapman Bldg.
477 Congress St.

RADIO SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS
PORTLAND AREA RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

Spot One

Have you ever lived in Aroostook County? Why not go back to the old home town and help them dig potatoes this fall? Farmers are paying 17 cents a barrel for picking, or 14 cents a barrel with board and room. The picking season will begin September 10 and last for about six weeks. Three thousand more workers are needed to harvest the crop. Your transportation will be paid from anywhere in Southern Maine to Aroostook and return. For further particulars call at the Farm Labor Office in the Chapman Building at 477 Congress Street, Portland.

Spot Two

Three thousand additional workers are needed for the Aroostook potato harvest. Aroostook potato growers are paying 14 cents a barrel for picking potatoes and furnishing board and room, or 17 cents a barrel without room and board. The work will begin September 10 and continue until about October 25. Workers living in the Portland area and other sections of Southern Maine will receive free transportation to and from Aroostook County points. For full information about jobs for the potato harvest call at the Farm Labor Office, in the Chapman Building at 477 Congress Street, Portland.

Spot Three

Are you out of work just now and waiting for that new reconversion job to turn up? Then why not spend the next six weeks in Northern Maine and help harvest Maine's bumper potato crop? Three thousand more workers are needed to get the big crop under cover before freezing weather late in October. The pay is excellent, the work is healthful, and you will have your transportation paid from Portland to Arcostook County points and return. For further information about work in the potato fields call at the Farm Labor Office in the Chapman Building, 477 Congress Street, Portland.

Spot Four

You can't get rich quick picking potatoes in Aroostook, but you can earn good money for the next four or six weeks helping the Aroostook growers harvest their potato crop. Sign up for a job harvesting potatoes and you will get a free ride to Aroostook and back home again as well as good wages while at work in the potato fields. For more information call at the nearest Farm Labor Office. They are located in the Chapman Building, Portland; the Bank Building, Sanford; and the Post Office Building, Lewiston.

Spot Five

Are you planning on buying one of those splendid postwar radios we have been hearing so much about? Why not earn the money for it during the next four weeks by picking potatoes in Aroostook County? Farmers will pay you 14 cents a barrel and board you, or 17 cents a barrel and you may board yourself. Your transportation will be paid to Aroostook and back home again. 'Phone Portland 3-5990 right now, or call at Room 23 in the Chapman Building at 477 Congress Street, and the people at the Farm Labor Office there will tell you the whole story.

Spot Six

Are you one of the men who were laid off when work stopped on war contracts in the shipyards? Why loaf around when you can get a good paying job in Arcostock for the next four or six weeks? 'PHone the Farm Labor Office at 477 Congress Street right now and ask them about this opportunity to see Maine's big potato empire and earn good money at the same time. The labor people will pay your transportation to Arocs-took and back and assure you a job when you get there. That 'phone number is Portland 3-5990; I repeat - Portland 3-5990.

Spot Seven

Wanted ! At once! A chance to give free rides to three thousand men to Aroostook and back! Yes, there's a string tied to this announcement. If you want the free ride you will have to sign up to work from four to six weeks harvesting Aroostook's sixty million bushel potato crop. But you will get your free ride from Southern Maine to Aroostook and good wages while you work. Want to go? Then call at the Farm Labor Office, in the Chapman Building, 477 Congress Street, Portland, or in the Bank Building, Sanford, or in the Post Office Building, Lewiston.

Spot Eight

Why sit around waiting for something to turn up when you can earn good money this fall picking potatoes in Aroostook County? They need three thousand more men up there so there's a chance for you. And just think, they are paying 17 cents a barrel for picking potatoes. For further information, and to learn how you can get a trip to Aroostook with transportation paid, call at once at the Farm Labor Office, Room 23, Chapman Building, 477 Congress Street, Portland, or phone Portland 3-5990. Yes that's the number, Portland 3-5990. Call and make an appointment.

Spot Nine

Attention! Former Arcostook residents.
Here's a chance to get your way paid back home and to earn good money while you are there. Remember what they used to pay for picking potatoes? Well, farmers are paying 17 cents a barrel this fall. Remember how many you used to pick in a day? Easy to figure how much you can earn in four to six weeks, isn't it? You get free transportation to Arcostook and back, too. Looks good, doesn't it? For particulars 'phone the Farm Labor Office. Here are the numbers:
Portland - 3-5990; Sanford - 3410; Lewiston - 550.

Spot Ten

Mr. War Worker! Do you want a job to tide you over until that peacetime job opens up? Then why not go to Aroostook and work in the potato fields from about September 10 to October 25? You will get your way paid to Aroostook and back home again, and can earn good wages while you are there. For further particulars call at or 'phone the Farm Labor Office nearest you. There are offices in Sanford, Lewiston, and Portland; the Portland Farm Labor Office is in the Chapman Building at 477 Congress Street.

Spot Eleven

Defense workers - here is a wonderful opportunity for you to visit your old home town, renew old acquaintances and at the same time spend a month or so in healthful outdoor work helping to harvest Aroostook's 60 million bushel potato crop. Three thousand workers are urgently needed. Wages will be good and transportation will be paid to potato areas and return. Call at one of the following Farm Labor Offices, 477 Congress Street, Portland; Bank Building, Sanford; or Post Office Building, Lewiston.

TABLE I

Summary - Potato Recruiting

<u>Sent by Bus</u>		<u>Bus No.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Absent</u>	
						-	<u>Female</u>
September 10		1	25	4	7		
		2	28	5	4		
" 11		3	27	5	4		
		4	28	3	5		
" 12		5	19	8	7		
		6	21	2	11		2
" 17		7	17	3	15		1
		8	25	5	8		
" 18		9	26	2	13		1
		10	30	2	7		
" 19		11	17	1	4		1
TOTALS		11	263	40	85		5

Sent by Train

September 7	4	2	
" 8	9		3
" 18	5		
" 21	22	2	2
" 22	17	1	3
" 23	6	2	2
" 24	1		2
TOTALS	64	7	12

Recruited but furnished own
transportation:

September 17 10
13 3

Recruited but later
cancelled: 17

TOTAL

13

17

Total Recruitment

506

454 Males - 52 Females

" Absent or Cancelled

119

114 " - 5 "

Total Recruits sent

387

340

47

Code

No. 1812

RECRUITMENT RECORD CARD

(Recruiter should fill in all black spaces)

Name..... Age..... Sex..... Draft.....

Address..... State..... Tel. No.....

Next of Kin.....

Address..... State.....

Accompanied by (indicate relationship if any and group leader)

Placement Preference:.....

Assigned to:..... (Town) (Date)

Transferred to:..... (Town) (Date)

Date Home.....

This part detached and kept by recruiter

Code

No. 1812

WORKER'S IDENTIFICATION CARD

Name..... Age.....

Sex..... Draft.....

Address..... State.....

Next of Kin.....

Address.....

Keep this card with you at all times

Bring your Ration Book with you

No. 1812

Railroad Ticket

Not good if
detached

Code

No. 1812

LOCAL RECORD CARD

Name..... Age..... Sex..... Draft.....

Address..... State..... Tel. No.....

Next of Kin..... P.O.....

Address.....

Placement Preference:.....

Assigned to:..... (Town) (Date)

Transferred to:..... (Town) (Date)

Date Home.....

POTATO HARVEST WORKERS - 1945

77

Employer's Name and Address

Potato farmers in Waldo, Penobscot, Piscataquis and Aroostock Counties. Referrals should be made to Maine Agricultural Extension Service, Farm Labor Program. The individuals prepared to make placements are:

1. Amos Hawkes, Farm Labor Office, Room 23, Chapman Arcade, 477 Congress Street, Portland, Maine. Tel. 3-5990

The above office will make referrals to the following offices and arrange other details. Workers who wish to can contact these other offices direct or any farm labor offices for further details.

2. Farm Labor Office, Belfast, Maine. Tel. 549
3. Carlyle R. Johnson, 16 Central St., Bangor, Maine Tel. 3403
4. Arnold Gellerson, P.O. Bldg., Dover-Foxcroft, Maine Tel. 320
5. Archer Scribner, Masonic Building, Houlton, Maine Tel. 3395
6. Lloyd Sinclair, P.O. Building, Presque Isle, Maine Tel. 22331
7. Carl Worthley, Farm Bureau Office, Fort Kent, Maine Tel. 146

Duration of Work

Starting about September 10 and lasting to about October 20.

Rate of Pay

Minimum rates guaranteed. Piecework 13 cents per barrel plus board and room or 16 cents with board and room supplied at a charge of \$10. per week. All workers must be willing to pick although other work will be available for men. Minimum rate non-picking work is \$1.00 per hour with board and room at \$10. per week.

Hours of Work

Variable but generally from 7 A.M. to 6 P.M.

Type and Number of Workers Needed

1. Number - Any number up to 3000 can be placed.
2. Sex - Either men or women can be placed.
3. Age Range - Desirable age range is from 16 to 55. Boys under 16 and girls under 18 accepted only if accompanied by parents or others responsible for them.
4. Marital Status - Immaterial. Limited number of family groups acceptable. Families including several workers or willing to board other workers are particularly desired.
5. Citizenship - Immaterial.
6. Experience, Education and Training Requirements - None

Transportation

Transportation will be provided without cost to workers from the place of recruitment to the potato area and return.

Type of Work

All classes of labor are needed to assist in the potato harvest. Essentially the harvest operation consists of digging the crop by machine which leaves the potatoes exposed on the surface of the ground. These potatoes are picked up by hand and placed in baskets. The filled baskets are dumped into barrels. A barrel holds approximately 170 to 180 pounds of potatoes. These filled barrels are lifted onto truck bodies, and the loaded trucks take the potatoes to potato warehouses where the potatoes are dumped into bins for storage. The following classes of labor are needed:

1. Pickers - Paid on piece work basis. Job consisting of picking potatoes off the ground, filling baskets, and dumping baskets into barrels. Usually a higher rate (one cent per barrel) is paid for picking if loading is expected. Largest number of jobs available in this operation.
2. Truck Drivers - Driving trucks in field to haul potatoes to storage. Duties consist of driving truck, assisting in loading, and unloading truck. Prerequisites - driver's license, physical ability to lift and handle barrels of potatoes rapidly. Number jobs sufficient to utilize all experienced applicants.
3. Tractor Drivers - Operating tractor with digger or trailer equipment attached. Number of jobs limited but can utilize all experienced applicants.
4. Warehousemen - Receiving potatoes, moving them into storage, and managing warehouse. Prerequisites - ability to handle full barrels of potatoes rapidly. Number jobs sufficient to utilize all experienced applicants.

Living Conditions

Workers from metropolitan Maine areas who obtain employment on the potato harvest ordinarily will be furnished room and board by the farmer employer. In some cases groups of workers desiring to board themselves will be furnished living facilities (house, fuel, cooking facilities, beds and bedding). An effort will be made to so handle the placement of individuals and groups that their desires regarding housing are recognized.

Prepared by Maine Extension Service

8/25/45

REPORT ON RECRUITING FOR AROOSTOOK POTATO HARVEST
IN THE PORTLAND AREA

Recruitment of potato pickers begun in the Portland area on September 4, 1945. One female registra and one man was added to the Portland office personnel to handle the work of registering the recruits and to serve as an escort on the special busses to Aroostook.

An extensive advertising campaign was used to stimulate interest throughout the area. Radio stations WGAN and WCSH carried 100-word spot announcements daily between 7:00 and 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 and 7:00 P.M. Local newspapers also ran advertisements in both morning and evening editions. (See appendix for publicity copies).

Wednesday, September 5, Mr. Libby from the state office arrived to assist in recruiting. His closer connection with the Aroostook situation made possible the presentation of a clear picture of the entire potato picking problem to recruits.

Thirty recruits were signed the first day, September 4. The first shipment left Union Station by special busses on September 10. Mr. Rowe, County Agent, accompanied the two busses as the farm labor escort. Two more bus loads followed the next day, September 11. Other busses followed on September 12, 17, 18 and 19. All workers recruited after September 19 were transported by train.

Extension Farm Labor transported 303 by bus, 71 by train and 13 furnished their own transportation. Train transportation was necessary during the latter part of the movement as rate of recruitment decreased and it was not possible to make large groups for bus loads without delaying shipment. Prompt shipment of recruits was necessary in order to hold them to their contracts.

The recruitment, placement, and administration of workers for this harvest period could be facilitated by a more adequate placement and supervision system in Aroostook County, closer estimates of need, adequate housing and uniform wage schedules. Workers prefer to receive a standard rate per barrel which would include board and room.

Files of workers should be maintained in the Portland office so that if this recruitment is to proceed another year, non-producers could be eliminated; thus saving transportation on individuals who are not potato pickers.

In summary of Portland recruitment 506 people were recruited, of which 454 were males and 52 females. Of this number 119 failed to appear for transportation; 387 individuals were placed (340 males and 47 females). All of these were transported on farm labor funds except 13 who furnished their own transportation. Many were experienced pickers, (about 25%). A majority were former shipyard workers, about one in four were from other states, a few were veterans and a number were boys under eighteen years of age. A summary of the work accomplished by this and similar groups is being made and will be reported later.

RECRUITMENT IN THE LEWISTON AREA

The publicity released in Portland stimulated some response in other localities. It was decided to limit the free transportation to Portland and Lewiston because there was a need for agricultural workers in other localities. A total of 144 workers were accepted from Lewiston and were combined with workers being moved from Portland. This made a total movement of 531 workers.