

CANADIAN PROCEDURE - 1945

I Probable 1945 Situation

Tentatively and unofficially it appears that the following situation exists insofar as Canadians for the 1945 potato harvest are concerned:

- A. Source of Workers - That section of the Province of Quebec between the Maine border and the St. Lawrence River will be the source of supply.
- B. Quota of Workers - Probably 1000 males over 14 years of age and 500 women and youth may be allowed to enter Maine.
- C. Ports of Entry - Clearance to Canadian workers will be made through the following ports: Ft. Kent/ Claire; Madawaska/ Edmundston; Jackman/ Armstrong; and Van Buren/ St. Leonards.
- D. Period of Entry - The border will be open from Sept. 10 to Sept. 30, 1945, to allow clearance of workers.
- E. Period of Employment - Workers entering Maine will be allowed to remain from the time of entrance to not later than October 31, 1945.

II Allocation of Quota

Inasmuch as more orders for workers are anticipated than will be available under expected quotas, it is necessary to establish a system for the allocation of these workers.

A. Allocation by Areas - Canadians will be used in general to fill orders only in the following sections of the potato area: (1) Northern Aroostook County south to and including Easton, Presque Isle, Mapleton, and Ashland. (2) Penobscot, Somerset, Waldo, and Piscataquis Counties.

B. Allocation of Quotas to Farmers - Farmers who file orders and sign the regular employment agreements prior to August 17 will be given first claim to Canadians.

If total farmer orders exceed the number of available Canadians, the number of workers allocated a particular farmer will be in the same ratio as the total orders are to the total quota. That is, for example, if a total of 2000 farmer orders for Canadian men are received and the total quota of men is 1500, each individual order would be cut by about one quarter.

However, in no case can orders be considered for more than one male for each ten (10) acres of potatoes but with three (3) males allowed for acreages of less than 25 but more than ten acres. The quota for a farmer will be determined by dividing the total acreage to be harvested by ten and taking the nearest whole number. It should be emphasized that this is the maximum number of males which will be recognized as an acceptable order and that in many cases it will be necessary to substitute women for men in the allocation of workers. There is no established quota for children under 14 or women. Soon after August 17, farmers will be notified of the definite quota of workers (men, women, and youth) allocated to them. This notification will be on Canadian Worker Allocation forms which will serve to identify the farmer to placement and clearance officials.

III Recruitment

A. By Extension Service Personnel - Personnel of the Extension Service will cooperate with and assist Canadian Selective Service, Canadian Agronomes, and other Canadian agencies to the fullest extent in presenting to Canadian workers a picture of the situation in the potato areas of Maine and to assist in the advance compilation of such clearance documents as are required by Canadian and United States officials.

Tantatively a crew of four French speaking men from Northern Maine will be available to spend such time in Quebec as is necessary and desirable. This crew would be under the direction of Mr. Robert Violette of Van Buren, Maine.

Insofar as possible and within the limitations established by Canadian authorities this crew should assist in the advance preparation of all documents required for clearance.

B. Recruitment by Farmer - Farmers may enter the Province of Quebec, interview possible workers, and encourage such recruits to obtain advance clearance. It should be recognized that the success of farmer recruiting is dependent upon the following:

1. The farmer submitting an order and signed contract with his local Farm Labor Representative prior to August 17.
2. The farmer obtaining clearance for all workers recruited while clearance consists of the individual workers (a) registering with their agronome to obtain the Production Committee's permission (Form A) to leave Canada, (b) to inform Agronome of the farmer for whom they have agreed to work, (c) to complete other forms made available by the agronome.
3. The farmer informing his local farm labor representative prior to Sept. 5 of the names and addresses of individual workers recruited, the port and probable date of entry. No individual recruitment made after this date will be recognized by Extension placement officials, and absolutely no selection of workers at point of clearance can be allowed.
4. The farmer furnishing or making other arrangements for the transportation of workers from their home to the Port of Exit and from the Port of Entry to the farm.
5. The farmer should recognize that orders for individual workers will be limited to these workers until such time as the farmer notifies his farm labor representative that any other Canadian workers would be acceptable.

IV Clearance

A. Documents - Canadian workers, before entering Maine for labor in the potato harvest, must have the following official documents completed:

1. Canadian Selective Service Form A
2. Canadian Selective Service Labor Exit Permit
3. U. S. Immigration Form I-100

A procedure is herewith suggested by which these documents might be secured with a minimum of difficulty.

At Time of Recruitment - C.S.S. Form A, prepared in cooperation with Agronome and application made for Labor Exit Permit and U.S. Form I-100. Workers applying for permission to enter Maine for the potato harvest would state their port of exit from Canada, the probable date of their entrance into Maine, and the farmer, if any, for whom they have agreed to work.

This information would be forwarded to the proper offices for completion of Canadian Labor Exit Permit and U. S. Immigration Form I-100.

Workers would apply at this office and secure their proper documents for clearance into U. S.

At Time of Entrance Into U.S. - Canadians who seek entrance into U.S. without having obtained prior clearance would appear at the Port of Exit with Form A. completed and information to complete other forms. These workers would be cleared by essentially the same procedure as was used in 1944.

B. Personnel - The Maine Extension Service, at the request of Canadian officials, would maintain during the entire period of clearance (Sept. 10-30 incl.) an adequate office force in Claire, Edmundston, St. Leonards, and Armstrong. This staff would place themselves at the disposal of Canadian Selective Service to expedite the clearance of workers.

Assignment and Transportation of Workers

1. It is hoped that many farmers will recruit and transport their own workers to the port of entry and from the border to the farm.

2. Farmers who have recruited their own workers will inform the Extension officials of the names and addresses of their workers, the expected date of

clearance and port of entry.

3. Farmers who have not recruited their own workers will be assigned free workers as they are cleared.

4. (a) Each day Extension shall attempt to place workers with farmers who have requested workers for that day and are at the port ready to receive them.

(b) Workers in excess of above shall be placed (1) with farmers having orders who have not notified Extension five days previously, (2) with other farmers who need workers and have orders placed.

5. Transportation from ports of entry to the farm will be by the farmers in those cases where farmers have recruited workers.

6. In those cases where transportation cannot be furnished by the farmer, arrangements for transportation will be taken care of by the Office of Labor. It is likely that workers entering through Jackman will need to be transported to distribution centers for placement. For Canadians entering through Jackman for placement in Aroostook a special procedure needs to be developed.

7. Return transportation from the farm to the border will be arranged at the discretion of the Office of Labor.