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FARM WAGES IN CANADA

Ottawa, February 16, 1943.- The Dominion Bureau of Statistics issues today a bulletin giving the average rates of wages paid to male hired help on farms as at January 15. Average wage rates are shown on the basis of rates paid with board provided by the employer, and without board. The figures included in this report were provided by farm correspondents located in all provinces of Canada. Since the collection of these data was commenced during 1940, no comparable figures for previous years are available.

Farm Wage Rates, January 15, 1941, 1942 and 1943

Rates of wages paid to hired help on farms showed substantial increases at January 15, 1943 over those paid at the same date of 1942 and 1941. Rates of wages during the winter period are normally somewhat lower than those paid during the harvest season. The average rate of wages paid to male help hired by the day when the operator provided the board was \$2.02 at January 1, 1943 as compared with \$1.53 at the same date of 1942. At August 15, 1942 the rate for the same class of labour was \$3.50 per day. In the case of men hired by the month the rate at January 15, 1943 with board averaged \$40.85 per month as compared with \$30.26 at the same date a year previously. The August 15, 1942 rate for this class of labour was \$46.82. Wage rates increased sharply in all provinces and were highest in British Columbia. Many correspondents referred to the great difficulty in securing farm labour and in many cases it was reported that labour could not be secured at any price.

Table 1.- Average Wages of Male Farm Help per Day
as at January 15, 1941, 1942 and 1943

| | With Board | | | Without Board | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|
| | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| Prince Edward Island | 1.11 | 1.30 | 1.64 | 1.64 | 2.00 | 2.18 |
| Nova Scotia | 1.30 | 1.62 | 2.24 | 1.78 | 2.26 | 2.89 |
| New Brunswick | 1.47 | 1.81 | 2.19 | 2.00 | 2.41 | 2.80 |
| Quebec | 1.16 | 1.53 | 1.95 | 1.68 | 2.11 | 2.63 |
| Ontario | 1.47 | 1.93 | 2.36 | 2.05 | 2.57 | 3.16 |
| Manitoba | 1.05 | 1.25 | 1.82 | 1.52 | 1.90 | 2.59 |
| Saskatchewan | 1.11 | 1.14 | 1.72 | 1.59 | 1.71 | 2.39 |
| Alberta | 1.21 | 1.40 | 2.04 | 1.87 | 2.18 | 2.76 |
| British Columbia | 1.54 | 1.98 | 2.50 | 2.32 | 2.78 | 3.62 |
| CANADA | 1.24 | 1.53 | 2.02 | 1.80 | 2.20 | 2.79 |

Table 2.- Average Wages of Male Farm Help per Month
as at January 15, 1941, 1942 and 1943

| | With Board | | | Without Board | | |
|----------------------------|------------|-------|-------|---------------|-------|-------|
| | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| Prince Edward Island | 20.70 | 25.94 | 32.60 | 33.86 | 39.18 | 48.16 |
| Nova Scotia | 27.76 | 35.94 | 50.73 | 43.58 | 51.85 | 69.10 |
| New Brunswick | 34.13 | 41.36 | 51.05 | 48.56 | 57.79 | 67.21 |
| Quebec | 24.98 | 34.28 | 43.91 | 37.76 | 50.25 | 61.55 |
| Ontario | 27.52 | 37.82 | 46.16 | 42.47 | 54.76 | 64.95 |
| Manitoba | 18.06 | 25.50 | 35.27 | 31.09 | 41.78 | 55.17 |
| Saskatchewan | 18.56 | 22.30 | 33.80 | 32.87 | 39.45 | 55.06 |
| Alberta | 22.53 | 28.82 | 42.49 | 38.98 | 48.86 | 65.04 |
| British Columbia | 25.77 | 33.68 | 52.88 | 44.56 | 56.34 | 76.16 |
| CANADA | 22.65 | 30.26 | 40.85 | 38.11 | 49.18 | 61.76 |

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