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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
HARRY C. HARPER, COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
DIVISION OF MIGRANT LABOR
1945

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By John G. Sholl, Secretary-Supervisor

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
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Division of Migrant Labor
New Jersey State Department of Labor
By John G. Sholl, Secretary-Supervisor

PREVIEW:

While emphasized by the war, the problem of the migrant workers has been of increasing concern to New Jersey for more than a quarter of a century. Governor Walter E. Edge in his annual message to the State Legislature at the opening of its 1945 session said:

"Workers from many parts of the country have been coming to this State for several years to work on farms at harvest time and more recently to work in canning and processing factories at the peak of seasonal employment.

"There are, at the height of the season, perhaps 15,000 such workers; and while their services are urgently required, our responsibilities in this connection have been neglected.

"The health, sanitary and welfare conditions under which many of these people live, have become deplorable. The State is morally bound to end this condition--not only in the interest of the migrant workers themselves, but in the interest of maintaining this important labor supply, of increasing the quality and efficiency of the workers, and in protecting the standards of community welfare."

Prior to this, the Governor had directed the Post-War Economic Welfare Commission to make a study of the migrant labor situation, with recommendations for more effectively meeting the problem. That Commission conducted an extensive survey and held hearings at which various phases of the situation were exhaustively discussed. The task of coordinating these findings was given to the Princeton Surveys, which drafted the bill finally approved by the Commission.

Even earlier than this, studies had been made of the migrant workers in this state. A legislative commission in 1930 went into the subject, and in 1940 the Tolan Committee in Congress started hearings which continued two years and it made a broad investigation of the entire matter. In connection with such a Congressional tour in this state, a conference of State Department heads on migratory labor was called in 1940, C. George Krueger, Deputy Commissioner of Labor, presided as Chairman.

During the war many thousands of industrial workers flocked into New Jersey from other states. Most of them have been employed in the northern part of the state where the housing shortage has been acute. Some industries have attempted central housing, which in most cases has been found satisfactory, particularly where a manager or superintendent has been employed to supervise the camp or housing.

There have also been set up throughout the state tourist camps where transient workers have parked their trailers. Railroad camps have also been set up near terminal points.

During the summer there is also a flow of thousands of seasonal workers to New Jersey's seashore resorts, and this phase of the problem is also being explored to determine the jurisdiction and responsibility of this Division.

In addition to the canneries and food processing plants, which pack farm crops, New Jersey has also a thriving oyster industry and poultry processing plants in which hundreds of other migrant workers find jobs.

The oyster fleets bring in hundreds of migrants in the spring and during the winter months to fill up their crews for the planting and dredging seasons, and there is also considerable seasonal labor on barges and other craft operating in the waters of the state.

Building, road and bridge construction also is another avenue for these seasonal workers, and this phase of the problem is likely to expand with the development of post-war building and highway programs.

There is general agreement in all quarters that migrant workers are necessary for New Jersey, particularly in agriculture as the state ranks fourth in the United States in the raising of vegetable crops. In the state this year, about 108,000 acres were under cultivation for vegetables. The principal market crops which migrant workers helped gather are: asparagus, 22,500 acres; sweet corn, 22,000 acres; beans, 12,000 acres; tomatoes, 11,500 acres. For the 1944-45 season 89,893 acres were planted in crops for commercial canning, freezing and dehydration.

Since many migrants in normal times work in agriculture and food processing, it is to be noted that the Census Bureau reports that in 1945 there were 27,550 farms in the State. The New Jersey State Department of Agriculture estimated that the total value of farm products in 1944 was \$205,500,000 of which amount \$47,500,000 was for vegetables; \$14,950,000 white potatoes; \$8,600,000 tree fruits; and \$5,600,000 berries.

Migration of seasonal workers to New Jersey may be attributed to these two main factors:

1. The trend in this state to vegetable, fruit and berry growing to supply consumers in the metropolitan centers at both ends of the state.
2. The era of modern transportation which has made it possible for seasonal workers to move across state borders for long distances, with a definite migrant movement having developed from Florida progressively northward along the Eastern seaboard to New Jersey and other states in the path of crop harvests.

Still a third factor could be suggested as a result of the war which brought thousands of internationals and prisoners of war into the state, in addition to the normal flow of migration, for work in industries and railroad camps, as well as in agriculture.

The estimated number of seasonal workers in New Jersey is 20,000, while the State Extension Service this year reports that 6,500 farmers requested 27,000 workers. The Division estimates from data available that there were 18,000 migrants of all types working in the State during the 1945 season.

LEGISLATION: As part of the program of Governor Edge for better labor legislation, the Migrant Labor Bill was introduced on February 5 by Assemblyman Gustave W. Huhn, Essex County, and was designated as Assembly Bill 1143. It was passed by the Legislature March 26, approved by the Governor April 2, and became Chapter 71, P. L. 1945.

This New Jersey act was referred to as the "Magna Charta for Migrants" by then Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

Upon referral of migrant supervision to his Department, Commissioner of Labor Harry C. Harper said:

"Having been hampered for several decades in coping with the migrant labor problem because of lack of legislation, New Jersey has recognized the importance of facing the issue squarely.

"In addition to placing the responsibility for enforcement in my department, the statute embodies new aspects of administration which combined with a broad recognition of the varied factors that are encountered in any method of regulating the employment of migrant labor definitely stamps this as a very progressive piece of legislation."

The act established a Division of Migrant Labor in the Department of Labor, consisting of the Commissioner of Labor and the Migrant Labor Board. This Board comprises five public members and the heads of seven state departments, and has the function of counselling with the Commissioner and passing upon general administrative policies of the Division and approving, prior to issuance, all rules, regulations and procedures.

Governor Edge appointed as public members of the Board:

Mr. Jay C. Garrison, Farmer
Mr. John M. Seabrook, Farmer
Mr. Leon B. Schachter, President
Meat & Cannery Workers Union Local 56
Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, President
N. J. Women's Government Study Council
Rev. Robert D. Smith, Canon of
Social Services of the Protestant
Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

State Department heads, other than Labor, designated as Board members are:

Dr. John H. Bosshard, Commissioner
Department of Education
Mr. Willard H. Allen, Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Dr. Sanford Bates, Commissioner
Department of Institutions & Agencies
Mr. Charles H. Erdman, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Economic Development
Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Superintendent
Department of State Police
Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, Director
Department of Health

Commissioner Harper designated J. Lyman Brown, Deputy Commissioner of Labor and Director of Administration, to act in his stead when the Commissioner is absent from meetings of the Board.

Other alternates are:

Department of Agriculture
William C. Lynn, Administrative Assistant
Department of Economic Development
William T. Vanderlipp, Director
Division of Planning & Engineering
Department of Education
Charles H. Jung, Director
Special Educational Adm. Service
Department of Health
William H. MacDonald, Chief
Bureau of Local Health Administration
Department of Institutions & Agencies
Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director
Division of Medicine

Mr. Garrison was unanimously chosen chairman of the Board, with Miss Alvina Fleisch, Secretary. Commissioner Harper designated Deputy Commissioner Krueger as director and on June 16 appointed John G. Sholl as full-time secretary-supervisor of the Division. Offices were set up at room 410 in the Wallach Building, Broad and State Streets, Trenton.

CODE:

Under authority of Article I, Section 16, of the Migrant Labor Act, the Commissioner of Labor and the Migrant Labor Board authorized the preparation of the code at its meeting on June 14. Chairman Garrison, of the Board, appointed as the committee to draw up the code, John M. Seabrook, Chairman, William H. MacDonald, of the Department of Health, and William T. Vanderlipp, of the Division of Planning and Engineering, Department of Economic Development. This Committee worked in conjunction with Mr. Krueger, engineers of the Department of Labor, and the staff of the Migrant Labor Division in the preparation of the rules and regulations. Exhaustive study was made of the codes of other states particularly those of California, New York and Pennsylvania, and comparisons made with conditions in New Jersey.

Each regulation was considered with reference to its application to conditions in New Jersey, where most of the camps are open only during the warm weather months. In order to make the code adaptable, the original draft was condensed so that the final form covers only five and a half pages.

As a further aid to the small camp operators, a one-page digest of the code was also prepared with a registration form attached, and this has proven to be very popular among the farmers as a time saver. The code was approved by the Board on August 29, 1945. The committee was authorized to make final revisions and the code was officially issued September 15.

Several favorable comments have been received on the New Jersey code from other states which have similar problems to our own in respect to migrant labor. Some of these read:

"You are to be congratulated upon having made a substantial advance in the direction of safe-guarding living conditions for seasonal and migrant workers."

--V. A. Zimmer, Director
Division of Labor Standards
U. S. Department of Labor

"I shall feel very well armed with the type of code you have drawn up in your state, should it be necessary to cope with the same problem here".

--J. Harry Moore, Director
Department of Industrial Relations
State of Ohio

"The Migrant Labor Code and registration form for the State of New Jersey are very interesting."

--George W. Dean, Chairman
Commissioner of Labor
State of Michigan

"This will be helpful to me in giving thought to legislation of this character in the future."

--Forrest H. Shuford, Commissioner
Department of Labor
State of North Carolina

"The general problems of camp maintenance are adequately covered in the digest."

--Bruce Dimmitt, District Sanitary Engineer
State Board of Health
State of Wisconsin

"Summing up the whole problem which your state and ours are trying to solve, I believe that if more states would put in labor codes similar to yours, it would make the job for all of us a little easier."

--Edward A. Brown, Supervisor of Camp Inspection
Division of Housing
State of California

"I have carefully reviewed a copy of the Rules and Regulations for Housing and Sanitation in Migrant Labor Camps of the State of New Jersey. While they appear to be presently satisfactory, I think you will find it necessary, from time to time, to make certain changes due to seasonal conditions and your own local necessities." -- William H. Chestnut, Secretary
Department of Labor
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

"Few if any farmers regreted the money they spend for improving housing. In fact most of them felt that it was good business. For this reason many are planning to go beyond the minimum requirements because they have found that satisfactory housing is one of the best means of combating piracy, shortage of help and dissatisfied workers." -- Dr. T. N. Hurd, Former Director
War Manpower Service
State of New York

Wide distribution is being made of the code through the mail and through farm organizations and other groups. The code has been prepared in mimeographed form before there is a final printing to permit any changes, should the necessity for such become apparent. Arrangements are being made to distribute the short form of the code to more than 10,000 farmers in the state.

CAMPS: Requests of farm organizations for additional labor to speed up food production resulted in the Farm Security Administration establishing central camps in 1942 at Burlington, Swedesboro and Bridgeton.

Establishing of 10 or 12 other Federal camps was halted by the war. These camps are identical and were originally constructed in cabin units for the purpose of housing families. The cost of each camp was around \$49,000 and reports show that the up-keep and repairs during the three-year period exceeded this initial outlay in each camp. The present Federal authority over these camps is the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

These camps have been used mostly for the housing or clearing of internationals, all males and principally Jamaicans. There has also been a large federal housing project at Deerfield, Cumberland County, for workers in a food processing plant. Another federal housing project at Manville, Somerset County, has provided quarters for several hundred seasonal workers employed in three large industries in that area. Inspection of all these camps has revealed that they are operated very satisfactorily in respect to the provisions of the Migrant Labor Act.

Seventeen railroad work camps used largely by Mexicans have also operated in New Jersey during the war.

There have also been some large private camps operated by industries, canneries, and poultry processing plants and fish and shell-fish shippers, and hundreds of the small units on farms throughout the southern section of the state.

Effective aid was given in the war emergency by student labor. Reports of the State Student Council show that a total of 3,093 students contributed 20,932 work days in 1945. The largest use of student labor was made in Gloucester County where 680 were listed, Camden County with 477 and Burlington 470.

In this connection a farm work project was conducted at the Peddie School, Hightstown, during the summer and 144 boys worked for a total of 4,774 days and earned \$14,172.14. The Peddie School was the only place where the boys were quartered for the season, the other student workers all having lived at home and gone to the farms daily for their work.

With the return of the internationals to their homelands, the future of these federally operated camps is uncertain for the 1946 season, although agricultural groups declare that the farm labor problem will doubtless be even more acute for them next season. In this connection our Division requested U. S. Senator H. Alexander Smith to try to learn from the U. S. Department of Agriculture the outlook for camps next year. In reply, Charles F. Brannan, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Agriculture wrote under date of October 18:

"I am inclined to believe that the Federal government should be in position to extend some assistance in this field next year. Therefore, at the present time very careful consideration is being given to the Department's recommendation with respect to an appropriation for continuation of the farm labor program after December 31. Should the Congress see fit to extend the farm labor program in 1946, the centers at Burlington, Swedesboro and Bridgeton will remain in operation next year."

Camp Summary

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Industrial	32
Railroad labor	17
Food processing	10
Federal housing centers	6
Small farm (estimated)	<u>3,193</u>
Total	3,258

Peak number of occupants of large camps ----- 7,931

INTERNATIONALS:

To supplement the large supply of seasonal workers, the government brought to New Jersey in the last three years, thousands of farm and industrial workers from the British West Indies. The Jamaicans have predominated, but there also have been numbers of Barbadians, some Hondurans, and even a few Newfoundlanders. Most of this foreign labor used in agriculture has been quartered in the three federal camps mentioned above, or in farm camps that have met requirements as to proper housing and sanitation.

Total number of internationals used on the farms during the 1945 season was 1700. Thirty-two of the large industries in this state used and quartered on the premises or in nearby camps, large numbers of these internationals during the war period.

After V-J Day, Commissioner Harper announced a policy in conformity with that of Governor Edge, that these internationals should be returned to their homes as rapidly as possible and replaced with domestic workers. He expressed appreciation of industries and farmers of this state for this much needed outside help during the war emergency.

As a result of this publicly expressed policy, and several conferences with the War Manpower Commission, most of these internationals had left the state at the time of this report, and all the rest are expected to be back in their homes before Christmas, with the possible exception of some of the Mexican railroad workers whose contracts do not expire until next February. The same policy has also applied to 2200 German war prisoners, used on farms and in food processing plants.

Placement of these workers has been through the War Manpower Commission, Thomas F. Costello, State Director, and Emergency Farm Labor, N. J. Extension Service, J. C. Taylor, State Supervisor, both of whom have been most cooperative with this Division. U. S. Farm Labor reports show that there were 110,904 man-placements in New Jersey from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1945, as compared with 42,705 in the same period in 1944. This number represents placements and not individuals.

A peak number of internationals employed in New Jersey in 1945 was:

Industry:

Jamaicans	3492
Barbadians	1045
Hondurans	<u>32</u>
	4569

Agriculture:

Jamaicans	1700
Newfoundlanders	<u>79</u>

1779

Railroad Labor:

Mexicans	1911
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Grand total of internationals.....8259

WELFARE:

Always a fertile field for the welfare and social workers, migrant labor in New Jersey presents increasingly challenging prospects. Years of pioneering efforts by a few organizations and individuals deserve recognition.

Effective services have been contributed by Miss Mary Dyckman, Chairman, Child Labor and Migrants Committee of the Consumers League of New Jersey. Arthur J. Edwards, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Child and Migrant Labor of the Middle Atlantic Conference of Christian and Congregational Churches, Canon Robert D. Smith, Executive Secretary of the Department of Social Service of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey, Rev. C. Melville Wright, General Secretary of the N. J. Council of Churches.

The New Jersey Church Committee on Migrant Labor has worked in the larger migrant camps during the war period in connection with the Homes Mission Council of North America, represented in this state by Miss Margaret J. Harris. This committee has sponsored the activities of the staff of 20 or more camp missionaries who have been engaged principally in conducting services and counseling workers, in the large federal housing project at Deerfield and also in the other camps in that area and at Swedesboro, Burlington and Hightstown.

The Division was represented at the annual meeting of the Church Committee at Trenton on September 13, 1945. A tour of the camps was made August 1st, which was "Emancipation Day" for the Jamaicans, by representatives of the New Jersey Church Committee on Migrant Work, and the Secretary-Supervisor of the Migrant Labor Division.

The first meeting of the Institute on Migrant Labor was held at Princeton on June 26 under the sponsorship of the Princeton Surveys and the Industrial Relations Section of Princeton University. This Institute placed most of its emphasis on industrial rather than agricultural migration and a full day was spent on discussion of the problems. Dr. John F. Sly, Secretary of Princeton Surveys, presided and resolutions were adopted for permanent organization. Three members of the Migrant Labor Board in attendance were Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Schachter and Canon Smith. Also present were Miss Fleisch and your Secretary-Supervisor.

A child care center was conducted at Deerfield under the direction of the Civilian Defense Council, which also had several other of these centers throughout the state, but this was the only one directly affecting agricultural workers.

The problem in the future is to extend the services of the Church Committee and the availability of child care to the hundreds of small camps in the rural areas. The same holds also for educational facilities, in which respect more school districts are reported this year to be taking in migrant children under provision of Chapter 91, P. L. 1943, which provides a special state fund to assist with the education of these transients.

A conference was held on this subject at the Division's Office on September 21, and was attended by Mr. Charles H. Jung, Director, Special Educational Adm. Service of the Department of Education, Mr. Durell of this department, and Miss Lazelle Alway representing the National Child Care Labor Committee.

Hundreds of workers from the South and other areas were imported to New Jersey by Federal agencies, which have since ceased to exist, in the early stages of the war, to help speed up food production. Some of them brought large families and it is now the threat that they will become public charges of the state or community. This matter has been referred to A. R. Post, Deputy Director of the Division of Commerce and Municipal Aid, Department of Economic Development. Mr. Post states:

"I believe that we should try to work out some plan that Migrant Labor is not left without supervision and that municipalities should be protected against these families becoming public charges."

HEALTH:

One of the first acts of the new Migrant Labor Division was to confer with Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, Director of Health, and Major Willis C. Hazard, Acting Chief of the Bureau of Industrial Health, relative to the adequacy of preventive and curative health services for occupants in migrant labor camps, and where they are found inadequate to determine ways and means to make them available. Authority for this is found under Section II, Article 1, of our Migrant Labor Act.

This survey was conducted under the direction of Dr. Marie A. Sena, who has presented a 32-page report on her findings among migrants of the rural counties during the summer months. The survey reviews the dental and nursing needs of the migrants, the need of medical assistance and medical indigency, also the availability of hospital facilities, clinics and other medical services. Recommendations contained in the report are under consideration by the State Board of Health as well as the Migrant Labor Board.

A conference was held October 2 at the offices of the Bureau of Industrial Health by the medical director of the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture, at which the Migrant Labor Division was represented.

While the federal government has provided for the medical needs of internationals and out of state migrants, there has been limited provision for domestic seasonal workers, and the conference indicated that the government in the future would supervise the medical care program for migrant camps, or have cooperative units operating camps upon request for same, but would not finance such projects.

Although not included in the Migrant Labor Act, Chapter 102, P. L. 1945 became effective this year in respect to examinations of migrants for venereal diseases. The Migrant Labor Code calls attention to this act under Section 9:3 and stresses the fact that every camp occupant must present a health card to the camp manager or arrange through him for an examination. Our Division has had the fullest cooperation of Henry H. Cowan, of the Bureau of Venereal Disease Control, in keeping us informed as to progress in this work.

PUBLICITY:

In addition to extensive news stories and editorial comments on New Jersey's Migrant Labor Act at the time of its approval, there have been frequent periodic news releases on the activities of the Board and the new Division.

An associated press article on the tour made by the Migrant Labor Board in June was widely published. Farm and Labor publications have also been helpful in spreading the story of the Migrant Labor program and the New Jersey Welfare Council Bulletin carried an article on the work in its September issue.

The Division went on the air for the first time in a broadcast over Station WTM on its Morning Farm Hour, the day before the code went into effect.

Five thousand copies of the Migrant Labor Act were printed and circulated by the Post-War Economic Welfare Commission and the Division has also mailed 590 mimeographed copies. An order is in for 5,000 printed copies of the Act.

INSPECTIONS: Under the provisions of the Migrant Labor Act, Article III, Section 36, inspections could not become effective until September 15, while the code itself provided for an additional 30 days of grace after date of its issue to permit camp operators to study regulations and prepare for compliance. A check-up of industrial labor camps was initiated as early as last May, and recommendations made for improvements of the quarters where they were found to be needed. This inspection was extended during the summer months to the farm areas. Numerous investigations were also made in a pilot survey to gain information in the setting up of the Migrant Labor Code.

In order to give the members of the Board a first hand view of migrant labor camps, Commissioner Harper led a tour of camps June 14. These included the P.R.R. camp at Plainsboro, the Federal camp at Burlington, and the Federal housing center at Deerfield, also a trailer camp and a few small farm camps.

An automobile, now SG 14, was purchased and delivered in July for use of the Board and Division.

Since the code became effective, all food processing, industrial and railroad camps still remaining open have been re-inspected. Inspection has also been made of the federally and privately operated large camps, and federal housing projects where migrants have been quartered. Virtually all of the small farm camps closed about the time the code became effective or shortly thereafter.

Inspection is under way at farms where requests have been made for such, or where conditions were found to require changes before they reopen next season. It is the policy of the Division to have inspectors contact all the operators of camps between now and the time of their reopening next spring, and make recommendations to the owners where changes are found to be needed.

Conferences have been held with potato, fruit and vegetable, and cranberry growers in the rural counties in respect to the workings of the new code and requirements to meet the regulations therein.

At the request of the Migrant Labor Division the State Department of Health conducted its inspections as to sanitation in many of the camps during the summer months. Representatives of the Division have accompanied district health officers on inspection trips in connection with the code survey. Full cooperation has been given by Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, and William H. MacDonald, of the State Department of Health, in this respect.

State Police under Col. Schoeffel, Superintendent, have also been most cooperative with this Division, at whose request it also continued inspections started eight years ago in migrant labor camps. This was especially effective in maintaining order and was helpful to the Division in locating the small camps and in providing other data for our files. Col. Schoeffel also sent the Division periodical reports on patrols and law violations by migrants. The State Police report, while not including all migrants, gives this picture for the season just closed:

Number of farms visited by troopers	--	314
Number of migrants on farms (Central Area)	--	5525
Number of negroes on farms (Souther Area)	--	<u>1412</u>
Total		6937

Negroes	
Males	2638
Females	1994
Children	678

Whites	
Males	120
Females	95

Troopers made 12,800 patrols in the farm area and investigated 496 law violations by migrants, 16 in the Southern area and 481 in the Central Area.

This Division, at this writing, has three inspectors, all returned war veterans.

The first month of official inspections, confined largely to industrial, railroad and food processing plants showed these results:

Inspected	44
Camps found closed	8
Camps approved	22
Camps found deficient	14
Deficiencies noted	35
Warnings issued to operators	14

Farm camps checked in pilot survey - 93

Farm camps, although closed, visited
by inspectors under Section 9D of
Act- 130

MIGRATORY MOVES

1944

Sept. 7 Migrant labor Survey
Started by Post-War Economic Welfare Commission

1945

Jan. 9 Governor Edge urges migrant legislation in
annual message.

Feb. 5 Migrant Labor Bill - A-143 - introduced

Mar. 26 Migrant Labor Bill passed

Apr. 2 Migrant Labor Act approved by Governor Edge
Chapter 71, P. L. 1945.

Apr. 17 Migrant Labor Board organized at call of
Commissioner Harper.

June 16 Migrant Labor Division office set up.

July 19 Health survey of migrants started by Bureau
of Industrial Health, Department of Health,
at request of Migrant Labor Division

Aug. 29 Code approved by Migrant Labor Board

Sept. 15 Migrant Labor Act and code become fully effective

Oct. 15 Inspection of migrant labor camps made general.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

In the organizing of the Migrant Labor Division, your Secretary-Supervisor desires to express his appreciation of the full cooperation of Commissioner Harry C. Harper and his staff, and of Chairman Garrison and the members of the Board, and heads of State Departments; the patient coaching by Mr. Brown and Mr. Krueger; the very helpful preliminary work done by Miss Fleisch; the painstaking work of the Code Committee, composed of Messrs. Seabrook, MacDonald and Vanderlipp; the efficient aid given by Mr. Carl S. Geiges, the Division's first inspector, and the loyalty and untiring services of Miss Sophie Try, office secretary.

Courtesies of the following officials of other states and of federal agencies in furnishing information and data on migrants, codes and inspections and in offering suggestions on same are also hereby acknowledged:

Edward A. Brown, Supervisor of Camp Inspection
Department of Industrial Relations
State of California

Dr. T. N. Hurd, Former Director
Farm Manpower Service
State of New York

Harry N. Haight, Assistant Director
Farm Manpower Service
State of New York

William H. Chestnut, Secretary
Department of Labor and Industry
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

V. A. Zimmer, Director
Division of Labor Standards
Washington, D. C.

Clara M. Bayer, Assistant Director
Division of Labor Standards
Washington, D. C.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT
For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1946
DIVISION OF MIGRANT LABOR
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

By John G. Sholl, Secretary-Supervisor

PIONEERING: Governor Walter E. Edge emphasized the importance of New Jersey doing something about the migrants in his annual message to the State Legislature in 1945. This resulted in the enactment of the State's first Migrant Labor Law, now Chapter 71, P. L. 1945. The act directed the setting up of the Migrant Labor Division in the Department of Labor. Commissioner Harry C. Harper, in accepting this responsibility, said "After being hampered for several decades in coping with migrant labor problems because of lack of legislation, New Jersey has recognized the importance of facing this issue squarely".

Commissioner Harper and Deputy Commissioners J. L. Brown and C. George Krueger, with others of the staff, have given most valuable direction and assistance to the new division in getting it established and working effectively. While some other states, notably California and New York, had been working on the migrant labor problem for several years, New Jersey had no precedent to follow within the state, and had to launch out upon what was largely a pioneering program for the comfort and welfare of its thousands of seasonal workers.

Immediate attention was given to inspection of the large industrial, railroad and food processing camps, of which there were 96 in various parts of the state in the summer of 1945. Most of the industrial camps had closed by the Spring of 1946, with the war emergency over, but the small camps, housing anywhere from two to fifty workers, appear to have increased. There has been a definite back-to-the-farm movement for migrants and the Division estimates, from data so far available, that there are more than 3000 of these small farm camps through the state. A total of 2271 places, known or believed to have camps, have so far been listed, with inspections far from complete.

A survey was conducted by mail and by personal contact through inspectors during the winter and spring to determine prospective needs for seasonal labor for 1946 and the available housing facilities. Inspectors explained the new code to camp operators and made suggestions for changes where improvements in housing were found to be needed. The results of this were apparent when official inspections got underway later and farm leaders expressed their appreciation of the policy of spreading information of the new act and code before tightening down on enforcement.

Post-war adjustments were quite noticeable at the start of the 1946 season. It has been estimated that there were as high as 40,000 migrants in the state when war production was at its peak. This had tapered down to 20,000 at the end of the 1945 season, while the start of 1946 crop-harvesting

indicated that the number of these transient workers was dropping back to the more normal level of 15,000 to 18,000. War-prisoners, who numbered 1900 in 1945 and who were used largely in food growing and processing, had all faded from the picture by June of this year. Section gangs were revived and workers were recruited from the large cities for such of the state's 22 railroad work camps that remained open, to replace the total of 1911 Mexicans in these camps in the last year of the war. The last of the Mexicans left New Jersey in February.

Among the internationals brought in during the war in large numbers, the Jamaicans alone are back for 1946. There are about 1500 of them compared to more than 5000 in 1945 and they are being used only in agriculture. There has also been a scattering of Newfoundlanders and Barbadians. A few hundred Puerto Ricans are being brought in to pick peaches and tomatoes.

The domestic migrant is expected to soon come back into his own and there seems to be general agreement among employers and federal and state agencies that he will be needed in New Jersey for many more seasons. National and regional conferences which are shaping up show that the nation has become "migrant conscious" so that new legislation may be expected from Congress on the subject early in 1947.

MIGRANT LABOR BOARD: Under provisions of the Migrant Labor Act passed by the Legislature March 26, 1945 and approved by the Governor April 2, 1945, the Migrant Labor Board was duly appointed and continued to function during the year. The Act established the Division of Migrant Labor in the Department of Labor, consisting of the Commissioner of Labor and the Migrant Labor Board. This Board comprises five public members and the heads of seven state departments, and has the function of counseling with the Commissioner and passing upon general administrative policies of the Division and approving, prior to issuance, all rules, regulations and procedures.

Meetings of the Board were held on August 29 and November 19, 1945, and April 23, 1946. There were excellent attendances at all the sessions and constructive actions taken are noted in other parts of this report. Minutes of these meetings were prepared by Miss Alvina Fleisch, who was chosen secretary of the Board at its organization meeting.

No changes were made in the personnel of the Board as Governor Edge reappointed Rev. Robert D. Smith, of Shrewsbury, Monmouth County, whose one-year term as a public member of the Board expired in April 1946, for a full five-year term.

Mr. Jay C. Garrison, Salem County farmer, who was chosen as the first chairman of the Board, was re-elected at the re-organization meeting in April. Other public members of the Board appointed by the Governor are:

Mr. John M. Seabrook, Farm Manager, Bridgeton
Mr. Leon B. Schachter, President
Meat & Cannery Workers Union Local 56, Camden
Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, President
N. J. Women's Government Study Council, Belleville

State Department heads, other than labor, designated as Board Members are:

Dr. John H. Bosshard, Commissioner
Department of Education
Mr. Willard H. Allen, Secretary
Department of Agriculture
Mr. Sanford Bates, Commissioner
Department of Institutions & Agencies
Mr. Charles H. Erdman, Jr., Commissioner
Department of Economic Development
Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Superintendent
Department of State Police
Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, Director
Department of Health

Alternates are:

Mr. J. Lyman Brown, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Labor
Mr. William C. Lynn, Administrative Assistant
Department of Agriculture
Mr. William T. Vanderlipp, Director
Division of Planning & Engineering
Department of Economic Development
Mr. Charles H. Jung, Director
Special Educational Adm. Service
Department of Education
Mr. William H. MacDonald, Chief
Bureau of Local Health Administration
Department of Health
Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director
Division of Medicine
Department of Institutions & Agencies

CODE: Operation of the Code, adopted under authority of Article I, Section 16, of the Migrant Labor Act, has shown it to be practical and workable during the first season it has been used in the inspection of migrant labor camps. This code was drafted after exhaustive studies of regulations of other states, with careful thought given to making it applicable to conditions in camps as they are actually found in New Jersey.

Since the large proportion of migrant camps in this state are small ones, occupied only during the warm weather months, the regulations do not go to the extent of those of some of the other states which require all-year-round housing for certain migrant groups. By sharply paring down the original draft, the Code was held to ten sections, setting forth minimum requirements for housing and sanitation and the safety and welfare of migrants and their families.

The Code Committee worked in conjunction with engineers of the Department of Labor and the staff of the Migrant Labor Division. This Committee consisted of John M. Seabrook, Jr., Chairman, Mr. William H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Local Health Administration, State Department of Health, and Mr. William T. Vanderlipp, Director of the Division of Planning and Engineering, Department of Economic Development.

As a result of a disastrous fire in a camp in Windsor Twp., Mercer County, in the spring of 1946, resulting in the deaths of six persons, the Board recommended that further emphasis be placed on fire protection. This has been accomplished by the circulating of a caution notice to all camp operators on fire hazards and the placing of a provision in the Rules to Camp Occupants to guard against fire. It was determined after careful investigation that this particular fire was caused by the father of the family pouring oil into a coal heater to speed up the fire on a chilly morning.

To make it easier for the small camp operators to determine their requirements, a one-page digest of the Code was prepared. This form also includes a registration blank and has proved to be very popular among farmers and other small camp operators because of its time-saving feature.

More than 500 copies of the full code have been distributed and 10,000 copies of the digest were mailed out during the year. In addition, the inspectors have left 2,500 copies of the short code at camps they have visited.

Requests for copies of the act and code have been received from several other states and from various organizations in New Jersey. Five thousand copies of the Act have been printed and are now available to the public.

CAMPS: Every county in the state but one has some kind of a migrant camp. Monmouth County leads the list with 246 camps, with Gloucester County close behind with 215, while Cumberland County has the most large camps with the greatest camp population, in excess of 6000.

Inspections up to June 30, 1946, had not fully covered all the camps, but the reports to that date show:

Camps by Counties

<u>County</u>	<u>Places Listed</u>	<u>Places Visited</u>	<u>Camps Inspected</u>
Atlantic	49	28	28
Bergen	23	3	3
Burlington	176	84	83
Camden	23	14	14
Cape May	9	1	1
Cumberland	205	101	101
Essex	7	3	7
Gloucester	381	337	215
Hudson	11	5	5
Hunterdon	11	0	0
Mercer	242	12	11
Middlesex	295	170	73
Monmouth	464	375	246
Morris	8	0	0
Ocean	59	1	1
Passaic	4	1	1
Salem	279	245	156
Somerset	16	3	3
Sussex	4	1	1
Union	0	0	0
Warren	5	0	0
Totals	2271	1384	949

Three large Federal camps operated by the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture, were continued near Bridgeton, Burlington and Swedesboro. In the summer of 1945, approximately 1700 Jamaican farm workers cleared through them.

In the 1946 season, while there were nearly as many Jamaicans back in New Jersey, the Bridgeton camp alone operated to capacity; the Burlington camp was only partly filled and the Swedesboro camp was designated as a labor receiving center for domestic migrants, to be opened on July 10. This was entirely on an experimental angle to determine the need for such a camp and to what extent it might be used by migrant workers and their families.

Housing problems, which have been so acute in the urban centers, have shown a surprising trend in the rural areas where upwards of 200 new quarters have been provided for migrant workers during the first year of the Division's program. This has been accomplished in spite of the shortage of materials and priority requirement. In addition, there has been considerable remodeling and renovating of old camps.

Camp Summary

<u>Type</u>	<u>No.</u>
Industrial	33
Railroad labor	22
Food processing	31
Federal housing centers	6
Small farm (estimated)	<u>3,193</u>
Total	3,285

Peak number of occupants of large camps----- 7,931

CAMP RULES: To encourage camp occupants to make better use of the improved facilities provided for them by employers, a set of rules was issued this summer by the Migrant Labor Division. Copies of these rules attractively printed in red and black, with figures depicting rules that the campers should follow for their own welfare and good health, have been placed in all camps approved by inspectors. These were prepared by a committee consisting of Mrs. Willette, Canon Smith and Mr. Jung.

(A copy of the Camp Rules is attached)

INSPECTIONS: While there had been many surveys and studies of living conditions of migrants in the past, the new Division discovered very early that the only way to actually know just what the situation was like was to go out and visit the camps, both big and little, and to point out to the camp operators just where improvements were necessary in order to comply with the minimum standards of the migrant labor code.

Since the Act did not become effective in its major provisions until September 15, the 1945 season was virtually over before much inspection work could be done except at the large industrial and food processing camps. So instead of immediately making official inspections, the Division's inspectors were sent out on a survey to get the lay of the land and to acquaint camp operators with the new regulations. To supplement this, 10,000 survey forms and short codes, with camp registration blanks attached, were mailed to farmers who it was thought might have camps.

These survey forms provided information as to the prospective labor needs of the farmers for 1946. The replies, while they fell short of presenting a complete picture, did give a good cross section of seasonal labor requirements in the agricultural districts. Tabulation of forms sent in by 1457 farmers stated a need for a total of 12,338 workers. This information was turned over to the State Extension Service and passed along to county farm agents and placement men.

Official inspections were well underway before the 1946 season started for crop planting and harvesting. Most of the camps visited by the inspectors were still unoccupied and reinspections were made after the workers moved in and as the season advanced to check the conditions in which these places were kept. Upwards of 200 camps were approved on the first inspection but several had to be jacked up later because of the insanitary habits of the occupants.

Under an arrangement with Mr. J. C. Taylor, State Supervisor of the Emergency Farm Labor Extension Service of the State of New Jersey, the inspectors of the Division took over the work previously done by placement men in checking on all housing where Jamaicans or other internationals were to be quartered. This eliminated any duplications of inspections and the policy put employers on their toes to get their camps to meet code requirements in order to obtain workers. Close cooperation of placement men in informing this office where Jamaicans were to be sent and prompt reports by the Division to the County Extension Offices of condition of these camps proved the effectiveness of the plan.

The policy of the Division is to avoid irritating camp operators by a complexity of inspections and to have them clear, as far as possible, through a single agency. There have been occasions, however, for our inspections to be supplemented by those of the State Health Department and of the State Police. In the first season, lists furnished by these two departments helped very much in setting up our files of camps. District health officers continued certain inspections at our request during the summer of 1945, before the Migrant Labor Act went into effect. State Police made 12,800 patrols in the farm areas where there were migrants and visited 314 farms. They reported 5525 of these workers on places they visited in the Central area and 1412 in the Southern area. The troopers investigated 496 law violations involving migrants. Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Superintendent, has cooperated closely with the Division and at our request has had his troopers in 1946 make periodic patrols to the camps to see that good order prevails among the workers. He has issued a standing order to his men to report immediately to this Division any serious accidents or crimes involving migrants.

In deference to Governor Edge's policy of showing consideration to returned veterans of World War II, all full-time inspectors have been chosen from this group. They were given a six weeks' training course in March and April at Jersey City. Through the cooperation of Deputy Commissioner Krueger, the safety inspectors of the Labor Department helped to get the migrant labor inspections rolling. These inspectors made a survey of barges and ports and also of trailer camps in North Jersey to determine the extent of the use of migrants in that area. The Division at present has six of its own inspectors engaged exclusively in the checking of migrant camps. However, the full force of the Labor Department's Safety Engineers is on call in emergencies or for regular inspections outside of districts covered by inspectors of the Migrant Labor Division.

HEALTH: After much study and numerous conferences with State and Federal health officials, the Health Committee of the Board recommended a program for the 1946 season to extend certain medical services to domestic migrants. This action was taken under authority of Article I, Section 11 of the Migrant Labor Act which reads:

"Provision of preventive and curative public health services. The Division through the Department of Health shall make surveys to determine the adequacy of preventive and curative health services available to occupants of migrant labor camps, and where such services are found inadequate, to determine desirable ways and means to make them available. The Commission shall arrange, to the extent of the available appropriations, through the Department of Health for the provision of such supplementary services. Said services may be provided through the use of one or more traveling dispensaries, by a contract with physicians, dentists, hospitals or clinics, or in such other manner as may be recommended by the Department of Health."

Under this program, the Board at its April meeting by official action made available the sum of \$12,000 to the State Department of Health. The schedule as agreed upon provides that public health clinics for migrants be operated at centers in Cumberland, Gloucester and Burlington Counties and also in the tri-county area embracing Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth.

An agreement was made with the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association, Inc., to operate 3 of these clinics near Bridgeton, Swedesboro and Burlington. In addition to this, it was arranged that part of the fund should go directly to the State Department of Health for expanding services at its V.D. clinics operated in the tri-county area and to provide physical examinations and limited medical services for seasonal agricultural workers.

In this respect, New Jersey is the first state along the eastern seaboard to attempt to provide a health program embracing farm migrants in all types of camps. Experience gained from the first season's operation of these migrant health centers should prove very valuable in setting up a permanent program for the future.

The Division and its Health Committee were aided by a survey made during the season of 1945 by the State Health Department at the request of the Migrant Labor Division. This original health study was authorized by Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, State Director of Health, and Major Willis G. Hazard, then Acting Chief of the Bureau of Industrial Health, and was conducted by Dr. Marie A. Sena of the latter bureau. She presented a 32-page report on medical, dental and nursing needs of migrants and also reviewed the availability of hospital facilities, clinics and other medical services for this type of seasonal worker.

Recommendations contained in the report were considered by the State Board of Health and by the Health Committee of the Migrant Labor Board, but it was felt that some of the conditions set forth in the survey, namely the lack of sufficient medical services for migrants, would be considerably relieved by the return to their home communities of many physicians who had been called away by the war with Germany and Japan.

This Division, in conjunction with its Health Committee, conducted further studies along this line through Mrs. Maude H. Fullmer, who was appointed Supervisor of Case Work in the Division in December. Reports of her investigations and conferences are in the files of the Division and have been made the basis, in part, for the program finally determined upon.

There has been continued close cooperation by Dr. Mahaffey and his associates of the State Department of Health with the migrant labor program. Very helpful suggestions have come from Mr. William H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Local Health Administration. At the request of the Division, the district health offices continued to make certain inspections during the season of 1945.

Under arrangements with Mr. MacDonald, the inspectors of the Migrant Labor Division received special instruction in water supplies through Mr. C. W. Blanchard of that department. Further help was also given the Division by the Bureau of Venereal Disease Control. Mr. Henry H. Cowan of that bureau assisted in setting up our files of known migrant labor camps in this state. This Division has reciprocated and stressed the importance of compliance by camp operators and camp occupants with the V. D. Control Act which requires that every out-of-state migrant must present a health card upon his arrival in New Jersey, or submit to a blood test within 30 days.

WELFARE: In following out the directive of the Migrant Labor Act to provide for the well-being of the migrants and their families, the Board and Division have given much consideration to welfare and education for these roving people. Two special committees were set up by the Board, one on health and the other on education. Investigations were conducted by these committees and recommendations were made to the Board on certain phases of the program.

These committees comprise:

Health

Mr. Sanford Bates, Chairman
Mr. Willard H. Allen
Mrs. Lenora B. Willette
Mr. John M. Seabrook, Jr.

Education

Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Chairman
Mr. Charles H. Erdman, Jr.
Mr. Leon B. Schachter
Rev. Robert D. Smith

The activities of the Health Committee are outlined under the "Health" section of this report. The Education Committee held several meetings at the call of its chairman, Col. Schoeffel, and recommended a \$3000 appropriation for a proposed child care center at the Swedesboro Camp. Mrs. Fullmer, who had been in charge of such centers with Civilian Defense during the War, was brought into the Division as supervisor of social work among the migrants. She did considerable investigating and planning before she found it necessary to relinquish her duties in mid-July because of the business transfer of her husband to Connecticut.

Use is being made of two temporary workers engaged by the Division for child care. They will also visit families of migrants on the farms for work with the mothers and children. This arrangement has been made through cooperation of the Home Missions Council of North America, represented by Miss Margaret J. Harris, and the New Jersey Church Committee on Migrant Labor, of which Rev. Albert S. Layton is the field director. These groups have had a staff of workers in the field, with missionaries at the larger camps.

Upon recommendation of the Education Committee, the Board authorized the sending of Mrs. Willette on a tour of southern and western states to observe education methods in migrant camps. She left May 20 and her itinerary included Washington, D. C., Florida, Louisiana, Texas, California and Oregon. A comprehensive report on her findings is scheduled for the August meeting of the Board.

PUBLICITY: The press of the state has been friendly to the program to improve conditions of migrants and there have been numerous news stories and editorial comments during the first year of operation. Periodic news releases of the activity of the Board and Division were sent out to 270 newspapers of the state.

Farm and labor publications have printed several articles on the migrant labor program and assisted in spreading information about the code and the aims of the new Division.

Representatives of the Division appeared on three radio broadcasts over Station WTTM and explained various phases of the migrant program.

Copies of the Camp Rules attracted quite a bit of attention and have been circulated throughout the country.

A copy of the minutes of the first national institute on migrant labor, held at Princeton, June 26, 1945, was received during the summer from Dr. John F. Sly, Secretary of the Princeton Surveys, and placed in the Division's files.

The Division was host to the representatives of the New Jersey Church Committee on Migrant Work, in a tour of the camps on August 1, 1945, which was Emancipation Day for Jamaicans. Your Secretary-Supervisor has been made a member of this Committee.

Mr. Vanderlipp and your Secretary-Supervisor visited the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture in Philadelphia, July 16, 1945, in reference to data on federal camps. We found that it would cost the Migrant Labor Board fully \$50,000 to build and successfully operate a medium-size model camp in New Jersey. Because of this fact and the shortage of building materials, for which there was no desire to compete because of the need for the housing of war veterans and their families, the Board decided to attempt no model camps in the season of 1945 and 1946.

The Division was represented at conferences of the State Student Council whose annual report showed a total of 3,093 boys and girls worked 20,922 days in 1945 to aid food production. The Peddie School was the only place where boys were quartered for the season, as the other student workers all lived at their homes and went back and forth daily to the fields. With the war over, the Peddie project was not continued in 1946.

Talks were given before the Migrant Committee of the Home Missions Council of North America at Buck Hill Falls, Pa.; a panel of the New Jersey League of Women Voters at Newark; the Legislative Forum of the N. J. Federated Women's Groups, Southern District, at Haddonfield; the annual conference of placement men of the Eastern Seaboard Extension Service, at Baltimore, Md.; the Middlesex County Tuberculosis and Health League, at Perth Amboy; and the Monmouth County Organization for Social Service, at Freehold.

Conferences were also held with representatives of the U. S. Department of Labor; U. S. Department of Agriculture; U. S. Employment Service and the National Child Labor Committee; also the N. J. Potato Growers Association and the labor committees of the Boards of Agriculture of Cumberland, Salem and Gloucester Counties; Burlington and Camden Counties; and Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties, along with various employers' groups, including the N. J. Cannery Association.

CONCLUSIONS: The first full season of operation of the Migrant Labor Division has demonstrated that state departments can work together effectively in the migrant labor program. This is implied in the Act which provides for the heads of seven of the state departments to be members of the Board. Commissioner Harper has repeatedly urged distribution of some of the migrant labor funds to these other state agencies and the policy of the Division is to have them function wherever possible and have them correlate their services with the migrant labor program. Such an arrangement seems to be most practical, particularly in the operation of health clinics for migrants.

While the war is over, there is general agreement that the need of migrants will continue for many years because of the very nature of New Jersey's agricultural economy and peak seasonal loads in its canneries and food processing plants, and in certain of its industries. Crop-gathering machinery may change this outlook in some areas, but it must be remembered that the mechanizing of the farms increased the demand for seasonal workers to replace year-round farm hands. Farm leaders say that the human element will long remain an important factor in food production.

Conferences and surveys on a national scale indicate that the rest of the country is being alerted to the migrant problems. Because the migrant flow spreads over state lines, especially along the eastern seaboard, it is anticipated that Congress will consider federal grants for promoting this work, in which case New Jersey's allotment should clear through such an established agency as the Migrant Labor Board, for distribution to other state agencies to the extent that their correlated services may warrant.

Although New Jersey has gotten a head start in this work through its Migrant Labor Act and the establishing of its Board and Division, it has much to learn from some of the other states and must be very much on its toes to keep abreast with developments as the nation-wide migrant labor program unfolds.

Camp Inspections

Inspectors' visits	1,384
Places without camps	429
Camps inspected	945
Camps approved	179
Camps conditionally approved	9
Notices sent to camp operators	511
Hearings on violations	1

Internationals in Camps

Industry:

Jamaicans	3,492
Barbadians	1,045
Hondurans	<u>32</u>
	4,569

Agriculture:

Jamaicans	1,700
Newfoundlanders	<u>79</u>
	1,779

Railroad labor:

Mexicans	<u>1,911</u>
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Grand total of Internationals.....8,259

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
HARRY C. HARPER, COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

DIVISION OF MIGRANT LABOR

For Fiscal Year - July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947

By John G. Sholl, Secretary-Supervisor

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DIVISION OF MIGRANT LABOR
NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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PROGRAM: Try to visualize, if you will, a city of from 15,000 to 18,000 population, larger than either Bridgeton or Rutherford, and each summer spread these people through all the 21 counties of New Jersey, but principally south of the Raritan, away from their own homes and acquaintances and without access to their regular churches, doctors, grocery stores and movies, and you can then see the problems and possibilities of the Migrant Labor Division's program.

If you can also picture these scattered people and upwards of 2,500 of their summer camps--ranging from a million-dollar housing center to a humble cabin for only one or two persons--brought together again in a mythical city where 300 to 400 new housing units have been constructed and many of the other houses repaired, the grounds cleaned up, religious services provided through inter-denominational cooperation, nine health clinics established and a summer school center set up for at least some of the children, then you can comprehend some of the migrant program's accomplishments.

Some of these things are still in prospect as the fiscal year for 1946-47 ends and the main summer activities of the Division start, but the major part of the program, especially in respect to better housing and other improved living conditions for migrants throughout the state, is already well advanced. The Migrant Labor Act was passed in the spring of 1945 and the first year was largely a period of exploration and planning. The season of 1946-47 gave our Division the first opportunity to try out ideas conceived after studies and surveys of the migrant problems.

Inspection statistics for the fiscal year show a total of 4022 visits made to 2485 camps and places listed as camps, not including 30 railroad camps and surveys in 88 hotels. Out of 1559 official inspections completed, 333 camps were approved, 1178 conditionally approved, and 48 disapproved on first visits.

Commissioner Harry C. Harper, his deputies, Mr. Brown and Mr. Krueger, and the entire State Labor Department have continued to give helpful counsel and assistance to this Division. There has also been excellent cooperation by Federal and other State Agencies in the migrant program.

Now that the war is over, a lot of people think there is no longer any need for migrant workers in New Jersey. There is, however, the continued demand for domestic migrants, by which we mean our own American seasonal workers. We had them in large numbers before as well as during the War, and New Jersey apparently is going to need them for several years to come, mostly for the harvesting of its large crops of fruits and vegetables.

Talk about the "full dinner pail", Jersey certainly raises plenty for the worker's lunch box. When one bites into that juicy peach or spicy apple, or salts down that red tomato, it's a pretty safe bet that a migrant picked it. There was a definite swing back to normal in 1946-47 in respect to the types of migrants who came into our borders for crop planting and harvesting or for other kinds of seasonal work. During the War, New Jersey had had its full share of cosmopolitan workers in its expanded migrant camps. The last year saw a definite decrease in the numbers of internationals, particularly Jamaicans and Bahamians, brought into the state for agricultural work, while none at all continued employment in industries as happened during the war.

More local help and workers from nearby large cities were available for farmers' seasonal needs. The flow of negro migrants from the South continued at normal level and there was a new development in the bringing in of Puerto Ricans, particularly in the southern part of the state. A cooperative farm labor camp was set up at Glassboro at the site of a former CCC camp solely for Puerto Ricans. Groups of these workers were transported from their home island by airplanes and they also returned by air at the end of the 1946 season. An increased number started to fly back to the States this spring. Conferences have been held with labor officials of Puerto Rico and it appears that a new source of farm labor has been tapped.

There has also been a trend to on-the-farm-housing. This became evident even while the three Federal camps at Burlington, Swedesboro and Bridgeton were still operating in the summer of 1946. Many of the Jamaicans shifted from the big camps to farm quarters, and both the workers and their employers seemed to be better satisfied with this arrangement. The result was that the Swedesboro and Burlington camps were used mainly as placement centers for these internationals.

As the 1947 season opens, indications are that none of these three Federal camps will be operated by the government, although Mr. J. C. Taylor, State Supervisor, Emergency Farm Labor Extension Service, estimates that 700 or 800 farm workers from the West Indies will return to New Jersey. Reports persist that this is definitely their last season here and that the government will liquidate its camps by the end of 1947 or early in 1948. In anticipation of such a move, the Migrant Labor Division, in cooperation with the State Department of Health, has taken steps to negotiate loans of the better types of Federal camp buildings, with certain equipment and supplies, for use in health clinics for migrants. In this the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association, Inc., have been most cooperative.

Two new and important developments in the migrant labor program have been the inspection of hotels and racetracks, to determine conditions of living quarters and the safety of seasonal workers employed there. More details of these inspections will be found in another section of the report.

BOARD:

Now that it is in the third year of its existence, the Migrant Labor Board has demonstrated the ability of different state departments to cooperate effectively on a project in which they have common interests. Commissioner Harper points out that the Board really consists of a cabinet of seven department chiefs and five public members. While

the Migrant Labor Division is the responsibility of the Commissioner of Labor, he has encouraged full participation and expression of opinions by all members of the Board on policies and plans for developing the migrant labor program in New Jersey.

Such free and open discussions have maintained high interest in the Board meetings as indicated by the continued good attendance by members or alternates. Sessions of the Board were held August 27 and December 10, 1946, also March 18 and June 17, 1947.

Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, of Belleville, a member of the Board, was designated to make a survey and study in the summer of 1946 of the educational, health, transportation, housing facilities and working conditions in camps for migrant labor workers in areas of the South and on the Pacific coast. She also observed state laws and the administrative regulations for the migrant labor camps of other states having similar problems to those of New Jersey. Her itinerary included migrant labor camps in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, California and other states. Mrs. Willette presented an interesting report to the Board upon her return from her extended trip.

Governor Driscoll reappointed Mrs. Willette as a member of the Board for a five-year term in the spring of 1947.

Mr. Jay C. Garrison, Salem County farm leader, was re-elected Chairman for a third term at the June, 1947 meeting.

Other public members of the Board as appointed by the Governor are:

- Mr. John M. Seabrook, Farm Manager, Bridgeton
- Mr. Leon B. Schachter, Business Manager
Meat & Cannery Workers Union Local 56
- Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, President
N. J. Women's Government Study Council
- Rev. Robert D. Smith, Canon of
Social Services of the Protestant
Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey

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Department of Health
Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director
Division of Medicine
Department of Institutions & Agencies

INSPECTIONS: One day this season, an inspector and the Division's supervisor drove to a farm in Central Jersey to show an out-of-the-state visitor the kind of a place that needed improvement. The previous season they had found an old farm house and a barn overflowing with migrant workers and their families. They had recommended changes but the owner had pleaded in 1946 that priorities and shortages prevented his getting needed materials.

When the inspector drove up the farm lane this spring, he and his two companions were surprised to find the farmer busy supervising the construction of a modern barracks.

"Why are you building this new place?" the visitor asked the farmer. Pointing to the inspector and the Division's supervisor, the farmer replied, "Because these fellows were so much in my hair to get better quarters for the workers."

This is merely one of many instances that shows the effectiveness of periodic inspections of camps and the persistent efforts of our inspectors to get unsatisfactory conditions corrected.

The code which was drafted by a special committee of the Board in 1945, has stood up well in actual application to conditions found in the field. Its merit is in its simplicity and the ease with which camp operators can follow the various regulations. This Code Committee has been continued with Mr. Seabrook as chairman and Mr. MacDonald and Mr. Vanderlipp as the other members.

Consideration was given by the Board at its March, 1947 meeting to a suggestion that fees be charged for inspection of migrant camps. After checking on experiences of other states in this respect, particularly California and New York, the Board voted not to make any charge for registration or inspection of migrant farm labor camps.

Some winter-end chores suggested by the Division in letters sent out to 2,200 camp operators included:

Have camp quarters swept out, grounds raked up and rubbish, cans and garbage hauled away or buried. Don't overlook toilets and privies.

Check for any needed repairs to protect your property from weather and to make quarters more livable.

A little paint or whitewash can make even a drab cabin more like a home for your workers.

Farm women can be of real assistance with their ideas as to how to make camps more attractive and comfortable.

Through the good services of Mr. Taylor sets of four different plans for migrant housing have been made available for distribution by this Division. Thirty-eight farmers have so far asked for these plans. An arrangement was also made whereby this Division relieved the Extension Service of all camp inspecting. A provision that no Jamaicans or other workers cleared by the Extension Service would be placed in camps unless housing was approved by this Division gave further impetus to the drive for better living conditions for these workers.

Inspection records show that the inspection staff was increased to ten men in the field this spring. The progress made in registering and checking up on camps during the past year is indicated in comparison with figures for the first season. Inspection visits jumped from 1384 in 1945-46 to 4022 in 1946-47. It is unfortunate that the migrant season is just starting about the time the state's fiscal year ends, so the full picture for the current summer must always be a year behind in the Division's annual report.

Reports on inspections made up to June 30, 1947 showing comparisons with the 1946 season will be found in Table A, on page 12.

HEALTH: Extension of the health program for migrant workers and their families has already been planned for the summer of 1947, based on experiences gained last season when New Jersey was the first state along the entire eastern seaboard to initiate a health program for all types of migrants.

Nine health clinics in strategic centers are contemplated under a program approved by the Board at its March meeting, as compared with seven clinics in 1946-47. The Board also voted to make available for this work the sum of \$15,000, with payments limited to actual services performed, all to be operated by our own State Health Department.

The program for 1946-47 was divided between the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association, Inc., and the Health Department, which had over-all supervision, with a budget of \$9000 for the Seaboard group and \$3000 for state operated clinics. Adjustments in these allotments were made by reason of differences between the loads of cases handled by these two groups.

The Board's committee on Migrant Health consisting of Commissioner Bates, chairman, Secretary of Agriculture Allen, Mr. Seabrook and Mrs. Willette, studied recommendations of the State Department of Health. It met on March 5 and reaffirmed the policy previously approved by the Board, namely, that health services for migrants should be limited to what might be called public health service, the prevention and treatment of communicable diseases and emergency treatment necessary to save life, and that there is still the continued necessity of payment by migrants themselves for health services other than those stipulated above.

In respect to proposed health centers, these sites have been suggested:

Atlantic County ----	Hammonton	- one
Cumberland County --	*Bridgeton area-	two
Gloucester County --	*Swedesboro	--one
	Glassboro	- one
Burlington County --	*Burlington	- one
Monmouth County ---	Freehold - MCOSS	- one
	Inlaystown	- one
Middlesex County ---	Cranbury	- one

* These include clinics in Federal camps.

Dr. Daniel Bergsma reported on the 1946 summer health clinics as follows:

The Atlantic Seaboard Association examined 707 American migrants, including a total of 1,580 clinic visits. The nurses took care of 1,074 patient visits at the clinic and 506 others in the homes of migrants.

No tests were made for tuberculosis. There were 75 tests for venereal diseases and diagnoses were made of three cases of gonorrhea, seven non-infectious syphilitics and one infectious syphilitic among the American migrants. They encountered five pregnancies and one child-birth, one case of which was complicated.

The State Department of Health program in Mercer-Middlesex and Monmouth Counties included the medical examination of 2,407 different migrants, including a total of 3,075 clinic visits.

This group was made up of 1,525 males and 882 females. Of these, 84 were under 10 years of age, 170 were 10-14 years old, and 436 were 15-19 years old. They came from Florida- 1,476; Georgia- 251; Alabama- 78; South Carolina- 78; and from 16 other states plus the District of Columbia.

A total of 429 had a positive blood test for syphilis and 132 were hospitalized for rapid penicillin treatment because they were actually or potentially infectious. A total of 273 were treated with penicillin for gonorrhea and 8 cases of other venereal diseases were diagnosed.

A total of 320 infectious patients were interviewed yielding contact data about 374 persons. A total of 134 were investigated locally. Of these 107 were found and examined. This resulted in the diagnosis of 25 additional syphilitics and 26 additional infections of gonorrhea.

A total of 248 migrants at the clinic in Cranbury were given a dental examination to determine, on a sample basis, the kind and extent of their dental needs. Of these, 192 or 77% were found in need of dental care.

Twenty-two cases of pregnancy were encountered, but only seven delivered during the period of their stay. This is low because there were 21 deliveries the year before.

Migrants were given chest Xrays as follows:

Cranbury	327
Jamesburg	56
Freehold	<u>415</u>
Total	798

Significant findings were made in 19 cases. Of these, seven had tuberculosis with three in the active or probably active form. One other migrant, with far advanced pulmonary tuberculosis, died in the hospital because of repeated uncontrollable hemorrhages.

As a sample study, a small series of stool specimens were examined from Jamaican agricultural workers to learn how much intestinal infection this selected group might have. Hookworm infection was found in 67% of the group examined.

RACETRACKS: Living quarters for seasonal workers at racetracks were also inspected. Horses were getting a better break than the hostlers and stable boys at quarters at some of the tracks because of a quirk in federal priority regulations on building materials.

Commissioner Harper said that he could not understand federal regulations that permitted vast quantities of materials to be used to construct the costly grandstands, stables and other buildings during the period of extreme shortage right after the war and then hedged on other limited materials needed to provide adequate living accommodations for jockeys, grooms, stable boys and other workers at the tracks.

While it is not unusual for a groom or stable boy to sleep near a high strung horse on the eve of a big race, any general practice of quartering workers in vacant stalls is not permitted under the Migrant Labor Code. Except for overcrowding and unfinished quarters, the living conditions for the men at the stables have been improved.

HOTELS: After test surveys in four resorts, an investigation of all hotels in the state to determine living conditions for seasonal help and also possible fire hazards was ordered in March by Commissioner Harper, who directed the Migrant Labor Division to conduct such inspections under authority of the Migrant Labor Act.

Most of New Jersey's hotels are well conducted and have fire protection but deplorable living conditions for waitresses and other workers, and startling fire hazards have been discovered in some of the hotels as the result of spot inspections made during the winter.

The inspection of hotels by the Migrant Labor Division was started as the result of complaints from former migrant women farm workers, who became waitresses, of bad living conditions for the help in certain of these places. An opinion by the Attorney General's Department holds that the Division has authority under the Migrant Labor Act to inspect premises, including hotels, where seasonal workers are quartered by their employers. Most hotel associations and local authorities have welcomed the Division's inspections as a step toward correction of fire hazards for both guests and workers.

While the Migrant Labor Division has not assumed the responsibility for full inspections of fire hazards at resort hotels, it has discovered in the process of checking up on living quarters for workers, some of whom are quartered in basements or attics or upper floors, that too many of the hotels lack adequate safeguards for occupants in case of fires.

While more extended inspections will take in all hotels employing and housing seasonal workers, the results of the surveys made so far in this fiscal year are:

Total number of hotels inspected - 88

Total number of fire safety violations - ~~211~~ - - - - - 262

No fire escapes	10
No fire ropes	12
No metal chains	10
Exits not marked	33
No directional signs	54
No red lights at exits	38
Obstructions of fire escapes	7
No fire hose	8
Fire extinguishers, lacking or faulty	26
Location of extinguishers (not on all floors)	29
No fire alarm system	18
Alarm system not on all floors	17

Total number of sanitary violations - - - - - 70

Lack of general cleanliness in workers' quarters	20
Faulty garbage disposal	26
No separate toilets for different sexes	24

Three inspectors have been assigned to extend the survey to as many as possible of the approximately 1500 hotels in 25 seashore resorts during the coming summer. The full corps of inspectors could be made available for this work during part of the fall and winter months.

WELFARE: After its experiences of the first summer in trying to set up a migrant school center at the Swedesboro Federal Farm Labor Camp, the Board's Education Committee decided on a new move for the 1947 season. The Swedesboro Center could not be carried through because too few migrant families with children stopped at the camp. Two teachers who had been engaged to conduct that center were used to good purpose in making a survey in Mercer and Monmouth Counties as to the number of migrant children in that area and their educational needs. This survey developed the fact that many of these young migrants were sub-standard in their schooling.

On the basis of these findings, the Board at its March meeting approved a plan for a summer school center for children of migrants. This project is to be directed by the State Department of Education, which is to have supervision of all child care centers in the State under a new law effective July 1.

Col. Schoeffel, chairman of the Education Committee, and Mr. Thomas J. Durell, of the Department of Education have diligently directed their efforts to obtain consent for the use of the school building for the summer session.

Miss Myrtle M. Townsend, of Westmont, a helping teacher in Camden County, has been secured through the efforts of Mr. Durell to direct the summer school. Miss Townsend was most enthusiastic in her approach to this project, the first ever to be attempted in New Jersey under sponsorship of the Department of Education and the Migrant Labor Division. She has selected these teachers for her staff: Miss Gussie Turner, Miss Cecil Corson, Miss Gloria Poinsett, Mr. Spencer Robinson,

The Education Committee met with Miss Townsend on May 27 and went over her prospective plans with her. The summer school is to open July 21 and run five days a week to August 30. Arrangements are to be made for school buses to pick up the children and return them to their homes after school. They will be served with a hot lunch at noon. Miss Townsend and her staff are arranging some interesting features for the center.

In addition to this school center, individual camp operators are also planning on some projects of their own. A child care center is in the making at the Orchard Center Camp at the Seabrook Farms. This is being directed by the Home Missions Council. There is also an excellent recreation building and well-developed welfare program at the Seabrook housing center.

Action was taken by the Board at its March meeting in endorsing a bill to extend to the children of migrants the privileges of a public education in New Jersey. This measure, which was drafted after conferences by the Education Committee with representatives of the State Department of Education, was approved by both houses of the State Legislature and signed by Governor Driscoll. It is now Chapter 138, P. L. 1947.

The Home Missions Council and the New Jersey Council of Churches continued their religious activities at camp centers and in the field. Miss Edith E. Lowry and Miss Margaret Harris, along with Rev. Albert S. Layton, State Supervisor of this work for both the 1946 and 1947 seasons, have been most cooperative with the Migrant Labor Division.

A bulletin issued by this Division warned against the practice of tailboard riding by workers while being transported to and from jobs in trucks, following a report that a local worker had been killed and another injured and three migrants also hurt, one of them seriously, when the tailboard gave way on a truck on which they were riding to a fruit orchard near Glassboro in Gloucester County. The Division sent out this caution to 2200 employers and camp operators.

"Thousands of workers are transported to and from their places of work each season in New Jersey, particularly in the rural areas, and every precaution should be used for their safety. A seat on the tailboard seems to be the most popular place for many a rider but it's a danger trap that a sudden jolt on the road may spring at any time. Repeated warnings have been given against this practice but it still persists. For safety sake, truck drivers must lock their tailboards when there are riders. Seats should be provided on long hauls for the comfort of the workers."

PUBLICITY
and

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Increased interest in the New Jersey Migrant Labor program has resulted in numerous inquiries from other states and from organizations and individuals about our activities. There has also been expanded publicity of this work, both inside and outside the state, in the press, farm, labor and welfare periodicals and magazines.

The highlight of publicity for the year was the verbal clash through the newspapers with Congressman Marcantonio, of New York, whose complaints about the Glassboro Farm Labor Camp were answered by this Division. This reply stated that living and working conditions at the Glassboro Camp and, in fact, in most other New Jersey camps, are so much better than those in Congressman Marcantonio's own home district, where Puerto Ricans are crowded into hot and smelly tenements, that his charges could only be attributed to the wild imagination of some worker who was expelled from the camp because he wouldn't work or didn't behave.

Nine press releases to 270 newspapers in the state were sent out by the Division on such topics as health and school centers for migrants, reports of Board meetings, inspections of racetracks and hotels, a winter-end cleanup of camps, and warnings against tailboard riding and traffic hazards for seasonal workers.

Letters were also mailed to 2200 camp operators on cleaning up of camps and also asking for cooperation of both employers and seasonal workers with the joint program of the Migrant Labor Division and the State Department of Health for health clinics and physical examinations of migrants.

Emancipation Day ceremonies for Jamaicans on August 1, at Seabrook Farms, were attended by Mrs. Willette and your secretary-supervisor, and the latter was also a guest at Secretary Allen's annual dinner during Farm Week at Trenton.

Through the courtesy of Extension Service officials at Ithaca, New York, your secretary-supervisor visited several of the cooperative and private migrant camps in a two-day tour of the upper central New York area.

Much information about the work has been given to various groups and organizations throughout the State by Board members and by this office. Speeches on the migrant program were made by your secretary-supervisor before the Tri-State Cannerymen's Association at its annual conference at Baltimore, Maryland; Council of State Governments, in New York; New Jersey State Council of Churches, Migrant Labor Committee; Hoboken Lions' Club; the Old Guard, at Westfield; Hurffville Grange; Monmouth County Organization for Social Service and farm groups in several of the counties.

Conferences were attended at the Offices of the U. S. Department of Labor, at Washington, D. C.; the Northeastern Farm Labor Conference, Extension Service, at Atlantic City; Producers' Association's Migrant Labor Committee for Northeastern States, at Seabrook Farms, two different sessions; State Farm Labor Group at offices of State Farm Bureau, Trenton, and county labor committees at Bridgeton, Woodbury, Mt. Holly, and Hightstown.

Sessions of the Council of Churches committee on migrants were attended at Trenton, Newark, Swedesboro and Asbury Park. There were also conferences between your secretary-supervisor and Mr. C. Raymond Swain, Secretary of the State Board of Tenement House Supervision, on proposed inspection of hotels.

Frequent contacts were made in respect to New Jersey's migrant labor program with Mr. Taylor, State Extension Service; with Mr. Maverick and Mr. Herdt, in the Office of Labor, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Philadelphia; with Dr. Samuel Silver and Mr. Sam Householder of the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Workers' Health Association, Inc., Philadelphia; with Mr. Russell Eldridge of U. S. Employment Service, Trenton; with Col. Schoeffel and the State Police; and with Dr. Mahaffey and his staff in the State Department of Health; and also with other heads of State Departments.

TABLE A

Farm Camps by Counties

<u>County</u>	<u>Places Listed</u>		<u>No. of Visits</u>		<u>No. of Inspections</u>		<u>Approved</u>	<u>Camps- 1946-47</u>	
	<u>1945-46</u>	<u>1946-47</u>	<u>1945-46</u>	<u>1946-47</u>	<u>1945-46</u>	<u>1946-47</u>		<u>Cond.Appr.</u>	<u>Disapproved</u>
Atlantic	49	55	28	105	28	46	6	40	0
Bergen	23	23	3	12	3	2	0	2	0
Burlington	176	230	84	540	83	209	21	183	5
Camden	23	28	14	42	14	22	1	19	2
Cape May	9	27	1	5	1	3	2	1	0
Cumberland	205	231	101	389	101	162	84	78	0
Essex	7	4	3	7	7	4	1	33	0
Gloucester	381	336	337	320	215	209	43	158	8
Hudson	11	5	5	8	5	4	3	1	0
Hunterdon	11	18	0	55	0	14	1	13	0
Mercer	242	269	12	744	11	206	9	186	11
Middlesex	295	292	170	787	73	281	17	274	0
Monmouth	464	484	375	428	246	148	27	107	14
Morris	8	8	0	7	0	1	1	0	0
Ocean	59	127	1	275	1	103	40	58	5
Passaic	4	3	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
Salem	279	320	245	288	156	138	71	64	3
Somerset	16	15	3	9	3	5	5	0	0
Sussex	4	5	1	32	1	2	1	1	0
Union	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warren	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>2271</u>	<u>2485</u>	<u>1384</u>	<u>4022</u>	<u>949</u>	<u>1559</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>1178</u>	<u>48</u>

TABLE B

Railroad Camps by Counties

1946-1947

<u>County</u>	<u>Places Listed</u>	<u>No. of Visits</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Cond. Appr.</u>	<u>Disapproved</u>
Bergen	2	1	1	0	1	0
Burlington	2	2	1	1	0	0
Cumberland	1	2	1	0	1	0
Essex	3	4	3	1	2	0
Hudson	6	6	9	6	3	0
Hunterdon	1	6	4	0	4	0
Mercer	2	7	5	4	1	0
Middlesex	8	13	12	10	2	0
Morris	1	3	1	0	1	0
Passaic	3	3	1	0	1	0
Sussex	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	30	49	39	23	16	0

For the season 1946 - 1947, there were no railroad camps in:

Atlantic
Camden
Cape May
Gloucester
Monmouth
Ocean
Salem
Somerset
Union
Warren

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
HARRY C. HARPER, COMMISSIONER OF LABOR

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
DIVISION OF MIGRANT LABOR
For Fiscal Year - July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948

By John G. Sholl, Secretary-Supervisor

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PROGRESS

"New Jersey is on its way toward solving its migrant labor problem" said Howard Whitman, author of the article "Heartless Harvest" which appeared in Collier's Magazine last fall. Such observation was made by Mr. Whitman after a trip to some of our camps as part of a country-wide tour to study migrants.

"A few states have tried to raise the status of the migrants" he wrote in his article. "New Jersey has done the best job."

This appraisal is quoted in all modesty now at the end of the fourth fiscal year for the Migrant Labor Division. Our program is still far from being perfect, but it does give us encouragement to press forward along the lines that have been developed since the New Jersey Migrant Labor Act became effective April 2, 1945.

The program has continued to expand for the comfort and welfare of thousands of seasonal workers who come here every summer. Some of them work in industrial, railroad and food processing plants but the vast majority of them help with the harvesting of crops from the State's productive fields and orchards. More domestic migrants are coming back. This is in sharp contrast to conditions which prevailed during the war days when thousands of alien workers were brought in to speed production. Six thousand Jamaicans were then in war plants and on farms, 1900 Mexicans in railroad camps, 2000 relocated Japanese-Americans in food processing centers, along with thousands of prisoners of war, in addition to the usual stream of migrants from the South. About 700 Jamaicans were on farms, none in industry during the past year, with the number continuing to diminish. A new development is the importation of Puerto Ricans for farm work in New Jersey.

Actual camps in the state at the end of this fiscal year, June 30, 1948, are listed at 2168. A few hundred others are on the border line of permanent dwellings or are yet to be discovered. The 15,000 to 18,000 farm migrants who enter the borders of New Jersey each summer live in camps which vary from the large ones, that will each house as many as 400 workers, to the modest one-room cabins for single workers or small families. Better housing not only brings better workers but helps farmers meet the competition of city industries for labor.

While the major objective is the providing of better quarters and improved living conditions for the migrants and their families, other important phases of the migrant program are education and health. These have been handled quite effectively with the full cooperation of our State Departments of Education and Health. In fact, this cooperation has been reflected through all state departments, seven of which are represented on the Migrant Labor Board, along with five public members.

Other highlights of the migrant program in New Jersey for the last fiscal year, given in fuller detail on following pages, are here briefly digested:

Inspectors of the Division traveled 78,219 miles in making 6775 stops at camps or in seeking information about migrants.

Eight migrant health clinics served 3086 migrants from 27 different states and treated 1949 cases of various diseases or physical defects.

A survey of 376 hotels in 25 different resorts indicated need for corrections in 1046 specific items of fire safety and housing comforts and sanitation for seasonal employees.

Our Division helped to initiate a move to bring other Atlantic Coast States together in a two-day conference in New York on migrant problems, under the sponsorship of the Council of State Governments.

A school for 68 migrant children, sponsored by the Migrant Labor Board and supervised by the State Department of Education, conducted at Freehold, attracted wide interest as the first of its kind in the country. It elicited much favorable comment and publicity.

Two new projects contemplated for the coming summer are the preparation of exhibits on migrant labor for some of the county fairs and the State Fair at Trenton, also the filming of motion pictures in color of the story of the migrants, their camps, their work, school, clinics and other activities in New Jersey.

Under a directive of the State Employment Service, seasonal workers are recommended only to employers whose camps are declared to be satisfactory by our Division. Such camp approval is also insisted upon by Puerto Rico's Commissioner of Labor for hundreds of his workers sent to New Jersey farms.

Office correspondence included a total of 1681 regular letters dictated and written; 2922 form letters sent out to camp operators; 148 form letters to hotel owners. We also cooperated in the mailing of 23,500 form letters by the State Employment Service in a farm labor survey and 750 health clinic letters by the Department of Health.

Such progress as has been made can only be held and further advance made by periodic inspections. Many camp operators have been responsive to recommendations for improvement of migrant quarters. In the State are several very excellent camps but there are still too many poor ones. Certain camps found to be bad have been closed. Standards are gradually being lifted. Migrants are also being instructed through this Division to make proper use of the housing facilities provided for them by their employers.

ADMINISTRATION

In the administration of our Division, invaluable aid has continued to come from Commissioner Harry C. Harper, his deputies, J. Lyman Brown and C. George Krueger, and the rest of the Labor Department.

Likewise, the suggestions and counsel of the Migrant Labor Board have further assisted in the strengthening and development of our program. Sustained interest of the Board members and alternates was indicated by the good attendance at meetings held October 14, 1947 and May 4 and June 29, 1948.

It is a striking commentary on their loyalty and efficiency that all of the original members of the Board have continued to serve since the migrant work was started. The latest reappointment was that of John M. Seabrook, farm manager, of Bridgeton. Governor Driscoll named him for a five-year term. Jay C. Garrison, Salem County farm leader and Freeholder, was re-elected for a fourth term as Chairman of the Board at the June meeting.

Other public members of the Board, as appointed by the Governor, are: Mr. Leon B. Schachter, Camden, Business Manager of the Meat and Cannery Workers Union Local 56; Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, Belleville, President of the New Jersey Women's Government Study Council; Rev. Robert D. Smith, Somerville, Canon of the Social Services of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey.

State Department heads, other than Labor, designated as Board members are: Dr. John H. Bosshard, Commissioner, Department of Education; Mr. Willard H. Allen, Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Mr. Sanford Bates, Commissioner, Department of Institutions and Agencies; Mr. Charles R. Erdman, Jr., Commissioner, Department of Economic Development; Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Superintendent, Department of State Police; ** Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, Director, Department of Health.

** Replaced by Dr. Daniel S. Bergsma in June, 1948.

Alternates are: Mr. J. Lyman Brown, Deputy Commissioner and Director of Administration, Department of Labor; Mr. William C. Lynn, Administrative Assistant, Department of Agriculture; Mr. William T. Vanderlipp, Director, Division of Planning and Engineering, Department of Economic Development; Mr. Thomas J. Durell, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Education; Mr. William H. MacDonald, Chief, Bureau of Local Health Services, Department of Health; Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director, Division of Medicine, Department of Institutions and Agencies.

Commissioner Bates who served for two years as Chairman of the Board's Health Committee resigned at the June meeting in favor of Dr. Bergsma, newly appointed Commissioner of Health. Other members of the Health Committee are Allen, Seabrook, Willette. Other special Board Committees are: Education, Col. Schoeffel, Chairman, Erdman, Schachter, Smith; Legislative, Mr. Seabrook, Chairman, Smith, Schoeffel, Bates; Budget, Canon Smith, Chairman, Schachter, Mahaffey; Code, Mr. Seabrook, Chairman, MacDonald, Vanderlipp.

INSPECTION

Virtually all known migrant camps have been reached by our inspectors and all major areas of the State are now covered. There are nine of these inspectors, seven of them giving full time in counties where the migrant population is large.

In checking on old and new camps and obtaining information about migrants, these inspectors made a total of 6775 stops during the past year and traveled a total of 78,219 miles. Full data of camp inspections is given in attached table. More careful screening eliminated some of the doubtful camps, while still others were discontinued, including the three large Federal camps in the state. Actual camps listed at the end of the fiscal year number 2168.

The value of regular inspection of all camps has been further demonstrated as this most important phase of our program has developed. This has been reflected in the continued improvement of migrant camps, the erection of more new quarters and the condemning by this Division of some structures no longer fit for human habitation.

One example of this progress is found at the plant of a Central Jersey industry where workers had been housed for eight years in old railroad box cars. Efforts by the industry to obtain a building permit for a new camp failed because of community opposition. After a disastrous fire at the camp last winter, our Division moved in, condemned the camp and helped in obtaining of the desired permit. Today that industry has the finest small camp in the State, well constructed, with large, airy partitioned rooms to accommodate from two to four workers each, heat, electricity, flush toilets and stationary wash stands and in a nearby building are also shower baths.

More and more does the merit of our code, drafted by a special committee of the Board back in 1945, stand out under various tests. This was brought out after a study of the code and inspection forms and a survey of camps conducted for us by the American Public Health Association's Committee on the Hygiene of Housing, authorized by the Board at its October meeting.

Activities of this committee had heretofore been mostly centered upon surveys of urban housing and on city slum clearance projects, so New Jersey has been the first state to benefit by this specialized approach to the problem of housing seasonal workers in rural areas. While this service was limited, Mr. Emil A. Tiboni, of New Haven, Connecticut, Field Secretary of the Committee, came into the state for various conferences and field trips. He also participated in the instruction of inspectors.

Although the Committee's forms used in its urban housing surveys, even after revised to fit rural conditions, were found to be too expansive to be practical for our necessarily quick inspection procedure, it was possible to adapt some of the best features in drafting a new form suitable to our purposes. A copy of this new inspection form is attached to the report.

A two-week training course was conducted for both old and new inspectors in March. In addition to comprehensive training in our own migrant program for these men, our Division received the assistance of other divisions of the State Department of Labor in explaining laws and regulations to the extent that they might apply to migrant workers. Deputy Commissioner Krueger outlined the general functions of the Department as a whole. Other discussions included: workmen's compensation, Deputy Commissioner Daniel J. Spair; child labor, Miss Sidonie Schaeffer; explosives, Mrs. Charlotte Sutton; wages and hours, Edward J. Flynn, Supervisor.

Two days were also given to talks on rural water supplies by John Zemlansky of the State Department of Health, who added a realistic turn to his lectures by a field trip for all inspectors. Henry Cowan also outlined the Health Department's program for clinics and the control of venereal diseases among migrants. Methods used in special investigations were demonstrated by Sgt. J. J. Orzechowski, of the State Police. Placement plans for farm workers were presented by Walter H. Edling, Supervisor of Rural Industries, New Jersey State Employment Service Division. Public relations and proper procedures in conducting inspections were set forth by Nathan Scherer and David Brown, also of the State Employment Service, to finish the training course.

After bringing our inspection staff up to ten men in the field for the summer of 1947, we suffered the loss of four of them in the fall as casualties in Civil Service examination and another through resignation. By deferring replacements until the reopening of the camp season this spring, it was possible to effect a saving of about \$6000 in salaries and travel expenses. All regular inspectors are World War II veterans and are now under Civil Service status.

Present inspectors and their districts are:

Willis F. Davis	-	Middlesex County
Edmund J. Farrell	-	Salem County
Leo J. Forrester	-	Burlington County
Melvin B. Johnson (Investigator)	-	Union, Essex, Hudson, Passaic, Bergen Counties
Joseph VanSyckel Martin	-	Sussex, Warren, Somerset, Morris Hunterdon Cts.
Frederick B. Metler	-	Monmouth County
Lawrence A. Pulewich	-	Mercer County
Leon A. Rennebaum	-	Gloucester & Camden Counties
Kenneth C. Wade	-	Cumberland and Cape May Counties

Three temporary inspectors assigned for the coming summer are:

Morris M. Agress	-	Upper Freehold Twp., Monmouth Ct.
Allen H. Compton	-	Atlantic and Ocean Counties
Clarence M. Perrine	-	Mercer County

Office staff at this time includes:

Miss Sophie Try	-	Office Secretary
Mrs. June B. Smith	-	Typist
Miss Lois C. Purdy	-	Seasonal Typist

HOTELS

This Division blazed the trail in the first wide-scale inspection of resort hotels in New Jersey in respect to fire hazards and suitable quarters for their workers. The findings point to the need of better fire protection and of improvement in the housing for summer workers in many of these places. An estimated 20,000 such seasonal employees have their safety and comfort at stake under prevailing conditions.

Expansion of the hotel survey during the summer of 1947 and the early winter of 1948 took a trained team of our inspectors into 25 different resorts. They checked 376 hotels, or about one-fourth of the total number of seasonal hotels in the state, and reported a total of 1046 specific items where corrections were needed.

Comparisons were possible in one resort where every hotel had been inspected the previous year. Reinspections indicated marked improvement in fire safety and in the structural improvement, and cleanliness of workers' quarters. Whereas in the first year, 332 violations were found, of which 262 represented fire hazards, 234 violations in all were listed the second year. Notices sent out from this office, followed up by second inspections, brought virtually every hotel in this particular resort in line for compliance with the Migrant Labor Code.

Since it appeared that the State Legislature this year would enact legislation for fire inspection of hotels, this Division, already handicapped by the loss of its entire hotel inspection team through Civil Service mortalities, has had to await developments. If another agency is to make these inspections, duplication should be avoided.

LABOR PLACEMENT

In respect to labor placement, the Emergency Farm Labor Extension Service, which performed so well during the war period under the direction of its State Supervisor, J. C. Taylor, was liquidated at the end of 1947. These duties have been taken over by the New Jersey State Employment Service Division. Walter H. Edling, Supervisor of Rural Industries of this state service, has also been most cooperative with this Division.

Along with the passing of the Extension Service's participation in placement came the liquidation of the three large Federal camps at Burlington, Swedesboro and Bridgeton. These camps had been established during the war to house migrants, largely Jamaicans, in the drive to speed up food production. Their continued peace-time need was questionable because of the pronounced trend to on-the-farm-housing.

Approximately 250 building units in these three camps were sold to farm organizations which later auctioned them off to individual farmers with the provisions that they be used as far as possible for the housing of migrants.

Another Federal camp, formerly operated by the JCC in South Glassboro, was acquired by the Gloucester County Board of Agriculture. It has become an important center for the procuring of workers from Puerto Rico and placing them on hundreds of South Jersey farms under a farm cooperative set-up. This effort by farmers to try to solve their own labor was started in 1946 when a few hundred Puerto Ricans were flown in by air from their home island. This number increased to a total of about 700 in the summer of 1947. Estimates for the 1948 season, based upon advance demands for this type of farm worker, indicate that the total number brought in for seasonal farm jobs will exceed 3000.

Out of a total of 23,500 form letters sent out by the N.J.S.E.S. in a farm labor survey, in which our Division cooperated, 1043 replies were turned over to us for checking with our files. These were followed up and it was found that out of the 1043 farms reporting, 834 had no camps, and 133 were already listed in our office. Among the remaining 76 our inspectors found 26 new camps.

HEALTH During the second full season of the migrant health program, eight clinics in five different counties served a total of 3,086 migrants from 27 different states, the Territory of Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Out of this number, 65% were males and 32% were under 20 years of age. The largest number, 1873, came from Florida; 306 from Puerto Rico; 288 from Georgia; and 102 from Virginia, with a scattering from other states.

The program for the summer of 1947 was recommended by the Board's Health Committee, headed by Commissioner Bates as Chairman, and was operated in full by our own State Health Department with the cooperation of Dr. Mahaffey, then Director and Acting Commissioner. He assigned to the migrant health clinics, Dr. Bergsma, who became head of that department in June of this year.

Dr. David Hersh was made director of these clinics, and Miss Arline R. Mansfield, formerly with the Atlantic Seaboard Agricultural Workers Health Association, Inc., was brought into the state to supervise the nurses at the clinics.

Clinic locations were:

Cumberland County	--	Bridgeton area	- two
Gloucester County	--	Swedesboro	- one
	--	Glassboro	- one
Burlington County	--	Mount Holly	- one
Monmouth County	--	Freehold - MCoss-	one
	--	Imlaystown	- one
Middlesex County	--	Cranbury	- one

In addition to the above, a clinic was also operated for a short time at Hammonton.

Dr. Bergsma, in reporting on the 1947 health clinics, said that a total of 1949 cases of various diseases or physical defects were diagnosed among the 3086 migrants examined. He further reported:

"Actually 1,541, or 50%, had no diagnosed disease or physical defect; 1,196, or 39%, had one defect each; 294, or 9%, had two defects each; and 55, or 2%, had three diseases or physical defects diagnosed. The percentage of migrants diagnosed as having one or more diseases or defects by sex and age was studied. In general, with each increasing age group a greater percentage of disease or physical defect was diagnosed and females showed higher percentages than males.

"The diagnoses established by groups of diseases or physical defects by rank, in terms of greatest frequency, were in order, venereal diseases, respiratory, miscellaneous, genito-urinary, cardio-vascular, injuries, gastro intestinal, skin, communicable diseases.

"A total of 76 of this group of migrants were hospitalized for rapid treatment with penicillin for early infectious syphilis. A total of 57 others with gonorrhea, as proven by a positive culture, were treated immediately with one large dose of penicillin, while 216 other persons were given immediate penicillin therapy on the basis of case histories. Contact tracing interviews were conducted in all infectious cases. Prenatal care was given and skin, respiratory and other conditions, including cuts and bruises, were diagnosed and cared for at the migrant health clinics.

"Hospitalization costs were paid for only two migrants during the current season. One Puerto Rican was hospitalized for tuberculosis. Definite evidence exists to show that numerous other migrants received medical care from private physicians for which either the migrant or his employer paid the cost. Certain migrants were also hospitalized at their own expense or that of their employers. Out of 156 children under 15 years of age at two large labor camps, 18 were vaccinated, a total of 64 were given a complete course of diphtheria and pertussis immunizations and 11 others were given booster doses."

The Migrant Labor Division negotiated the purchase of all clinic equipment and supplies remaining in the Federal camps in New Jersey before they were liquidated. In addition to this equipment, which should be sufficient for all needs in our migrant clinics for the coming season, we are also in possession of a clinic trailer which it is proposed shall be used as a mobile unit in the migrant health program. All the supplies and equipment, with an estimated value of more than \$5,000 were sold to us by the Federal Government for \$275.00 and the trailer, valued at more than \$1,000 equipped with heater and refrigerator, for \$300.00, with the understanding that they are to be used for health work among the migrants.

Cost of the migrant health program from July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948, showed actual expenditures totaling \$8871.29. Request was made by the Health Department for an additional allotment of \$4,000, or a total of \$12,871.29 to cover salaries of state personnel, and administration costs for this project. The cost per patient averaged a total of \$4.57 of which \$2.87 came from migrant health funds and \$1.47 from the Department of Health. The cost per clinic visit out of a total of 6063 visits was \$2.32 per patient, out of which \$1.46 came from migrant health funds and 86¢ from the Department of Health.

SCHOOL Realization of the plan to set up a demonstration school for children of migrant farm workers was finally achieved in the summer of 1947. One obstacle after another had to be hurdled before it was accomplished. So it came about that the pattern was laid for the first school of its kind in New Jersey and probably in the country as a whole.

Child care centers and schools for migrants have been conducted in other places but this one was different in that it was made possible through various state agencies working together with the cooperation of local school officials and the community and active participation by county and civic welfare groups and other organizations.

Funds for the school were provided by the State Legislature through the Migrant Labor Board. Since the State Department of Education has supervision over all child care centers, it was asked by our Board to extend such service to the proposed school, to select the director and staff of teachers and to work out other details for its successful operation. The State Department of Health was called upon to make a physical examination of the pupils.

Colonel Schoeffel, head of the State Police and Chairman of our Education Committee, working with other committee members and with Thomas J. Durell, Assistant Commissioner of Education, performed admirably in getting the program set up. All arrangement had been made to start the school at Cranbury where the Board of Education was most friendly, but such community opposition developed that the Committee decided to try elsewhere as it was realized that full accord and support were necessary to make this experiment a success. Mrs. Willette was instrumental in establishing a new contact for us at Freehold where Mr. Lloyd Cassel, Supervising Principal, was very receptive to the idea. Permission was granted by the Board of Education to use the Court Street School Building, situated at the edge of the town, with well-equipped playground and an expanse of lawn. Thus was provided an ideal setting for our first migrant school.

In the selection of a director for the school we were also fortunate in obtaining the services of Miss Myrtle M. Townsend, a helping teacher in Camden County. Her broad experience and her understanding and enthusiastic approach to this particular phase of the migrant problem made the success of the school

assured from the very start. She was ably assisted in the conducting of the school by her staff of teachers, also selected with the aid of Mr. Durell. They included Miss Gloria Poinsett, Monmouth Junction, middle grade; Miss Cecil Corson, Ocean View, primary grade; Spencer Robinson, Madison, upper grade, and Miss Gussie Turner, Summit, nursery. Also assisting were Mrs. Florence Dobyns, R.N., Trenton, a State nurse; Mrs. Walter Kelsey, transportation; Mrs. Viola Lee, school cook, with Mrs. Alethia Gibson, dietician, and Mrs. Lillian B. Ham, janitress. The last three were all from Freehold.

Earlier studies made by this Division had shown that many migrant children are retarded in their education because their families move about so much. So it was decided by the Director and Committee that the school program should be two-fold: (1) to help the children catch up on reading and other fundamental skills, and (2) to provide for better health habits, good use of leisure time and better social relationships. These objectives were explained to parents and employers by Miss Townsend and her staff, who went directly to the camps around Freehold before the school opened.

Because of this approach, the school opened with a good attendance and this held up surprisingly well during the five weeks that classes continued. Attendance was entirely voluntary and 68 children, mostly under 12 years of age, were enrolled. They were transported to and from the school in a regular school bus. Upon their arrival at the school they were served a breakfast of fruit juice, cereal and a half pint of milk each. At noon they ate a well-balanced hot lunch and in mid-afternoon they had fruit juice or ice cream cups and cookies. More than half of the children gained two pounds or more in weight and many of the others a pound or more during the period the school was in session. There was marked improvement at all age levels in habits of eating.

While the major objective of the school in helping the children to catch up to some degree in their elementary training, particularly in reading and number work, was successfully carried out, other benefits were also noted in the director's report. These included personal neatness, keeping classrooms and grounds tidy and clean, sharing of toys, books, food, etc., courtesy learning to tell time and count change, better muscular coordination, encouraging of natural musical talents through folk songs and rhythm bands, reasons and rewards in the crop harvesting occupations of their parents.

"Perhaps the most important accomplishment of the school," Miss Townsend's report concluded, "has been the development of wholesome relationships among the staff members, the parents and teachers, the teachers and children, the older and younger children of various camps, the migrant and town children, and between those in charge of the experiment and the citizens of Freehold who so actively cooperated."

The best endorsement of our school came at the close of the session in the request of local school officials that "if you run the school again next year, Freehold would like to have it back." The Board has approved plans to carry out this request for the summer of 1948. Miss Townsend cannot return because of other duties, but Mrs. Dorothy Jackson, a Mercer County helping teacher of wide experience has accepted the assignment as director.

WELFARE Outstanding work in religious and social service among migrants was again performed by the State Council of Churches, through its migrant committee and in conjunction with the Home Missions Council of North America. They had workers in the Federal and larger private camps and others went directly into the smaller camps on the farms.

Twelve of these workers were in the field during the summer of 1947 under the supervision of Rev. Albert S. Layton, Cape May Court House. They contacted 2600 migrant potato pickers in the Tri-County area. There they were in touch with 85 different camps, conducted Sunday services in 40 of them and set up 35 summer Bible classes under migrant leadership. A child care center was opened in the Bridgeton area and the Council operated there in camps that housed 1500 domestic migrants and 550 Bahamians. In addition to holding services, this group also gave counsel to migrants and provided various recreational activities.

Dr. W. W. Payne, Millville, was chairman of the State Council's migrant committee in 1947 and succeeding him in 1948 is Rev. Theodore Rath, Frenchtown. Miss Edith E. Lowry, Field Secretary, and Mrs. Margaret Harris Eckstrom, Field Representative, represented the Home Missions Council. Your Secretary-Supervisor is a member of the State Council's Committee and has also been invited to serve on the national committee on migrant work of the Home Missions Council. He participated in the dedication of its first mobile unit "Eastern Harvester" for work among migrants along the Eastern Seaboard. These ceremonies were held last fall at the Cuttchogue Camp, near Riverhead, Long Island.

In cooperation with and supplementary to this work, our Division employed two women, both former Southern school teachers, to work among women and children in camps in the Hightstown and Freehold areas. They instructed mothers in child care, nutrition and camp housekeeping and also directed games and recreation for the children.

A center for migrant mothers and their children was established by a Citizens' Committee on Throckmorton Street, Freehold, on weekends, August 9 to September 20, 1947, through the initiative of Mrs. Willette. This committee raised \$100 for the rent of the building and our Division paid for the personnel and turned over some of the surplus food from the school to this project. Various organizations contributed equipment and toys. This Center was supervised by Mrs. Alethia Gibson, assisted by Mrs. Lee. The Board has voted to make \$200 available for the continuance of this center for the 1948 season, under the same arrangement with the Citizens' Committee as last year.

Appreciation is also to be noted of the continued assistance, particularly in the migrant health program, of Mrs. Geraldine Thompson and her Monmouth County Organization for Social Service, Inc. Its nurses helped at the migrant school and clinic at Freehold as well as in the field.

The Red Cross, through its local chapters, also cooperated at migrant health clinics in giving first aid and health talks and showing instructive moving pictures, with further aid also given at the school. A conference with state and local representatives of the Red Cross was held early this season, in conjunction with the Health Department, to plan further activities for the coming summer. Dr. Hersh and Thomas Gramigna, State Relations Officer of the American National Red Cross, headed this conference.

Occasionally at the end of the season a crew may become stranded through some misfortune. Our Division helps such workers contact state and local relief agencies. Such a case developed near Hightstown last fall. The crew leader came into the office and said he needed \$70 to get his crew of ten adults and two children back to Florida as he had had bad luck and his truck had to be repaired. This was arranged through township relief officials. Early this summer this same crew leader again turned up at our office. He said he was looking for the persons who had given him the money some months before to get back home as he wanted to repay them. A policy on migrant relief cases was developed through close contact kept with Albert R. Post, Deputy Director, Commerce and Municipal Aid Division, Department of Economic Development.

Surprisingly few cases came to our attention where migrants applied for aid. In spite of popular conception, not many of these seasonal laborers who entered New Jersey last year were public charges.

PUBLICITY

and

PUBLIC RELATIONS

For the first time representatives of 16 states along or near the Atlantic Coast got together in an inter-state conference on migratory farm labor at the Commodore Hotel, New York, October 30-31, through the sponsorship of the Council of State Governments. Commissioner Harper, Chairman Garrison, Colonel Schoeffel and Leon Schachter, Board members, your Secretary-Supervisor and six other New Jersey officials registered. Importance of the migrant labor problem was emphasized by the attendance of 141 persons. Our Division helped to plan this conference and your Secretary-Supervisor conducted the panel on health and housing. He was also appointed to represent New Jersey on the Continuing Committee, which met at Washington, D.C., February 6, to prepare recommendations on four important phases of migrant program: (1) contacting, informing and placing workers; (2) transportation, with particular reference to licensing of trucks; (3) housing, health, and welfare; (4) child labor, child care and schooling. This Committee has arranged to meet at Atlantic City, July 12-13, and the members are planning to make a tour of some of our migrant camps. Dr. T. N. Hurd, New York, heads this committee, which gives promise of effecting closer cooperation among states in the work with migrants.

Press releases on the migrant program were again sent to 270 newspapers throughout the state. Talks were given before various groups by Board members and the office staff. Canon Smith participated in a panel at the convention of the National Association of Social Service Workers in Atlantic City, and Mrs. Willette spoke before several North Jersey groups. Talks were given by your Secretary-Supervisor before the new State Health Council, the North Hudson Ministerial Association, the Woodbury Kiwanis Club at its annual "Farmers' Night", with attendance also at the annual convention of the New Jersey Farm Bureau, the training school of the State Council of Churches at Hightstown, State Farm Week, and conferences with farm labor committees in Cumberland, Gloucester and Mercer Counties.

Two conferences were held at the Glassboro Farm Labor Camp with Fernando Sierra Berdecia, Commissioner of Labor of Puerto Rico, in reference to standards for recruiting, transportation and housing of farm workers from that island brought into New Jersey for crop harvesting. The Commissioner was also introduced and spoke at the Interstate Conference on Migratory Labor in New York. Through this contact there was developed a better system for health examinations of these Puerto Ricans before they embarked for summer work in this state.

State Police, through Colonel Schoeffel, kept us well informed as to their activities among migrants. They visited several farm camps, helped to keep order and furnished safety patrols for migrant health clinics at Cranbury, Hightstown and Inlaystown. The officers have been most courteous to our inspectors who have frequently stopped in at their stations for information about migrants. The annual report of State Police work among the migrants, by Lt. A. M. Sperling, commanding the Traffic and Education Bureau, as submitted to this Division by Colonel Schoeffel, showed a total of 553 arrests. These included four cases of murder, 396 disorderly cases and 130 motor vehicle violations. The Department received 329 complaints and made 465 investigations.

TABLE A

Camps by Counties
1947 - 1948

<u>County</u>	<u>Actual Camps Listed</u>	<u>Camp Surveys & Visits</u>	<u>Inspections & Reinspections</u>	<u>Camps - 1947-48</u>			<u>Approved on Reinspection</u>
				<u>Approved</u>	<u>Cond. Approved</u>	<u>Disapproved</u>	
Atlantic	68	50	50	5	24	5	16
Bergen	25	20	20	10	8	1	0
Burlington	204	648	492	47	437	8	26
Camden	30	22	22	4	11	2	6
Cape May	27	64	27	7	25	1	7
Cumberland	197	426	191	32	78	2	39
Essex	3	4	4	2	2	0	0
Gloucester	379	653	442	33	256	37	116
Hudson	2	4	4	2	2	0	0
Hunterdon	6	15	0	0	6	0	2
Mercer	147	232	262	16	122	17	107
Middlesex	187	351	223	34	139	5	45
Monmouth	406	648	243	25	186	20	19
Morris	16	19	21	9	7	0	5
Ocean	87	178	128	35	86	7	4
Passaic	17	9	9	4	5	0	0
Salem	347	447	326	36	240	11	39
Somerset	8	8	10	5	7	1	1
Sussex	1	2	2	1	1	0	0
Union	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Warren	9	8	8	5	2	0	1
Totals	2168	3808	2486	312	1640	117	433

TABLE B
Railroad Camps by Counties
1947 - 1948

<u>County</u>	<u>Places Listed</u>	<u>No. of Visits</u>	<u>Inspections & Reinspections</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Cond. Apprv.</u>	<u>Disapproved</u>
Bergen	1	7	3	0	3	0
Essex	2	11	9	4	2	3
Hudson	3	15	7	2	5	0
Hunterdon	1	3	3	0	2	0
Mercer	1	7	5	4	1	0
Middlesex	5	35	19	7	3	2
Passaic	1	4	1	0	1	0
Somerset	1	5	4	1	2	0
Union	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>
Totals	16	93	55	18	23	5
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

TABLE C

SURVEY OF HOTELS IN RESPECT TO FIRE SAFETY AND QUARTERS FOR EMPLOYEES

<u>Resort</u>	<u>Approximate No. of Hotels</u>	<u>Hotels Visited</u>	<u>CORRECTIONS Recommended</u>
Asbury Park	175	50	67
Atlantic City	450	17	41
Avon	10	3	8
Belmar	75	11	45
Beach Haven	13	6	34
Bradley Beach	20	5	6
Bay Head	11	8	7
Forked River	3	3	10
Lavalette	8	1	4
Mantoloking	1	1	3
Highlands	17	16	69
Keansburg	-	7	25
Lakewood	126	110	234
Long Branch	30	27	167
Ocean City	-	17	23
Ocean Grove	150	18	45
Pt. Pleasant	16	7	24
Sea Bright	12	5	38
Sea Girt	8	5	10
Seaside Heights	4	4	14
Seaside Park	6	4	22
Spring Lake	20	13	18
Toms River	5	5	7
West End	16	8	64
Wildwood	200	25	61
Totals	1376	376	1056

Inspection _____
Str. Nos. _____ to _____
Unit Nos. _____ to _____

State of New Jersey
Department of Labor
Harry C. Harper, Commissioner
Inspection Report

Map No. _____
County _____
Township _____

Operator _____ Address: P.O. _____

Locating Data _____

No. Occupants: Legal _____ Actual _____ Men _____ Women _____ Children: 12-16 _____ 1-12 _____
Length of Occupancy: From _____ to _____ Employees No. _____ For _____
Physical Properties: _____

* APP CON DIS	* APP CON DIS	
SITE	QUARTERS	REPAIR
Cleanliness	Cleanliness	Floors
TRASH-GARBAGE	Construction	Walls
Receptacles	FLOOR w c e	Partitions
Disposal	WINDOW AREA	Doors
TOILET pr fl	SLEEPING AREA	Windows
Clean	Ample Space	Screens
Sharing	Bed spacing	Roof
Shelter	Privacy	TYPE BEDS:
Pit Clear	Cross vent.	Wood
Flytight	Mattresses	Metal
Seat cover	COOKING	Canvas
Sep. sexes	Stoves	Capacity
BATHING	Food storage	KITCHEN
Shower	LIGHT el oil	In slp. rm
Stat. Tub	FIRE	Separate
Portable	PROTECTION	STOVES:
Handwashing	DUAL EXIT 2 fl	No.
WATER d dr o	SUPERVISION	Wood
Quantity	REGISTRATION	Oil
Quality	Camp	Other
Cover	Occupants	SINK
	HEALTH CARDS	REFRIG.
	SCREENS	FIRE EQUIP.
	Condition	Barrels
		Buckets
		Water
		Sand
		Exting.
		Pipe Line
		City

Not evd Apr Rep

POLLUTION

INFESTATION

Rats

Vermin

Control

REMARKS:

Signature of Person Interviewed _____
Division of Migrant Labor * Approved () Conditionally () Disapproved ()
John G. Sholl, Sec.-Supvr. Approved
238 E. Hanover St., Trenton 8 Inspector _____ Date _____

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DIVISION OF LABOR
Harry C. Harper, Commissioner

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

BUREAU OF MIGRANT LABOR

Fiscal Year - July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949

By John G. Sholl, Supervisor

NEW PHASES

Changing phases of the migrant labor pattern, from war-time labor shortages to peace-time plentifulness of workers, find New Jersey in a position of advantage, through its migrant labor program, for meeting these sharp shifts in the labor supply.

Better housing for upwards of 15,000 seasonal workers is the result of four years' operation of the Bureau of Migrant Labor. There is still a lot to be done with the migrant problem but this much is certain that no matter where these workers come from, the employers are in a stronger position to attract and hold them through these improved living conditions. Periodic and persistent inspections of thousands of migrant camps throughout the state have brought about this improvement.

In fact, good housing is the key to procuring new workers and it may also be the answer in inducing unemployed industrial labor to take jobs on the farms should there be a severe economic recession. Most of the rural housing is more desirable than city tenements, with the environment also more attractive and food costs decidedly lower.

When the Migrant Labor Act first became effective, the State Extension Service, then active in the placement of thousands of Jamaicans and other alien workers on farms to help boost food production, announced as its policy that it would place such labor only in camps meeting the requirements of our Bureau's Code. This unquestionably was the first big incentive to employers to join in the better housing program. Such a policy has been continued by the State Employment Service, now in charge of placements and cooperating closely with our Bureau. Due to the fact that we have now listed and inspected a total of 1895 camps throughout the state, it is possible for our Bureau to give a prompt answer as to whether or not a camp is approved.

One new phase has been the introduction of the Puerto Ricans into the farm labor scene in our state, which has been entirely at the initiative of the farmers themselves in their efforts to try to work out their own labor problems. More than 3,000 of them were flown in by plane in 1948 after medical examinations and police certification of good conduct. Virtually all of them were flown back at the end of the harvests. Since the Puerto Ricans are coming back again in 1949, some fear has been expressed that they might crowd out local labor. In order that it might keep informed on this and other developments in seasonal rural employment, the Migrant Labor Board at its April meeting authorized Chairman Garrison to appoint a Labor Committee.

When these island workers first started to come here three years ago, their Commissioner of Labor, Fernando Sierra Berdecia, insisted that they must be furnished with quarters inspected and approved by the Bureau of Migrant Labor. The Camp for Puerto Ricans at Glassboro is now operated under the Farm Labor Project of the Gloucester County Board of Agriculture. It is the last remaining of the original Federal camps constructed before or during the last War.

This camp was first built for the CCC and was later used for housing German war prisoners who worked in crop harvests. Two of the war food production camps at Bridgeton and Burlington have been entirely razed, while the third at Swedesboro has been partly dismantled and the remaining buildings serve as an overflow for the Glassboro Camp.

Unchanged has been the flow of southern migrants with even some increases among negro workers both from this source and from neighboring big cities. Nothing has happened, other than reduced acreage quotas and the threat of drought, to disturb the pattern of these southern migrants in the tri-county area, whither they have been coming for the last 30 years, mainly for the harvesting of white potatoes.

Education and health projects have continued to be effective in the broader migrant program sponsored by the Board. Fuller details about these are given in other parts of this report. The measure of the success of the demonstration school is appraised in this editorial from the New York Times:

"It is heartening to learn that, at the conclusion of its second term of operation, the Court Street School for Migrants in Freehold, N. J., is considered a pronounced success. Since it is supposed to be the only school of its kind in the United States, it now may well serve as an example that will be copied elsewhere. Inquiries already have been received from such distant farm centers as Kansas and California. The school's pupils this year have been 65 children ranging in age from 2 to 12 years who have attended classes while their parents have been busy harvesting the potato crop in New Jersey's Monmouth, Middlesex and Mercer Counties.

"Divided into four age groups up to the age of 12, the students were schooled during the summer in reading, writing and arithmetic. But those over 12 were permitted to attend if they expressed a desire to learn. While the state's basic curriculum was used as a guide for instruction, the teaching program was kept flexible enough to serve individual and group needs. Emphasis in the instruction very properly was placed on the special social pattern of the migrant: a "migrant home" was arranged in one classroom.

"One index of the success of the school's work was that students themselves proved most enthusiastic. On some occasions when they missed the school buses the pupils would walk as much as four and one-half miles to classes. The children now have moved on with their parents further north to late harvest fields, or have returned to their homes in Georgia, Florida or South Carolina, with memories of time well spent. The Migrant Labor Division of New Jersey's State Department of Labor and State Department of Education, sponsors of the educational project, have done an excellent job."

HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of the happenings of another year of migrant work, not covered in the routine reports of other sections but which give added interest and color to the program:

Airplanes now transport the majority of the Puerto Ricans who come to New Jersey for farm work. They can leave their home island in the afternoon and start their jobs here the next morning. In about the same time it used to take to make the trip by slow boat, these fast flying, earlier-arriving migrants can earn their plane passage money.

Fire reports show a lessening of hazards in migrant camps. There had been some very bad fires, with loss of life, in previous years but the past season showed beneficial results from this Bureau's intensive fire prevention program, both through bulletins and inspections.

Water supplies are being carefully checked and where there is any question tests are made through the cooperation of William H. MacDonald, Assistant Director, Bureau of Local Health Services, Department of Health.

At the request of Governor Driscoll, we helped set up a new Commission on Displaced Persons this June, with all the various details and correspondence being handled through the Bureau's office. Your Supervisor is serving as Secretary to the new Commission and Mrs. Crain and Mrs. Smith, in addition to the rush of migrant work, are typing a lot of letters and doing other routine work in this worthy cause--all without extra expense to the state. It should be emphasized, however, that the migrants and displaced persons come under entirely separate projects.

The story of the migrants in New Jersey is presented for the first time in motion pictures. These are on color film. The work has been done entirely by our own staff, with borrowed equipment, and the only cost has been for the film rolls and some small supplies. Credit for this goes to Inspector Frederick B. Metler, Monmouth County, who did all the photography and art work, assisted by Inspector Willis F. Davis, Essex County, with other inspectors also cooperating. This reel, which depicts various phases of the migrant program, runs for about half an hour. It will be made available to farm groups, service clubs, churches and welfare agencies and other organizations upon request.

Television has also come into its own for the first time in a migrant camp for the entertainment of the hundreds of Puerto Ricans at Glassboro. The camp management installed a modern set in its recreation hall. The workers thrill at the ball games and boxing matches but are not too enthusiastic over the rest of the programs because they are in English. Most of them speak and understand only Spanish and they turn from the television set to their juke box which grinds out torrid music and songs.

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INSPECTION

Regular inspection of all housing for seasonal workers continues to be the major work of the Bureau, as this best carries out the directives of the Migrant Labor Act. To accomplish this, the Bureau's inspectors set a new record during the past season in traveling a total of 107,260 miles and making 8160 stops, with 3832 visits at camps, 1895 inspections and 812 reinspections.

New inspections are made each season of all camps, regardless of what their rating may have been in previous years. A further policy has been adopted in having as many camps as possible visited by inspectors during the cold weather. Recommendations are then made to the operators as to any changes that may be needed to have the camps fully approved, so that this work can be done in advance of the busy season. Crews are also encouraged to clean the camps before they leave at the end of the summer.

In order to complete the office records as to the types and layouts of camps, the inspectors were briefed during the winter in the making of simple sketches of buildings. This work is largely done while the camps are closed so as not to slow up inspections when the migrants are in quarters. A refresher course for inspectors was also conducted.

Farm camps are by far the most numerous but there are also several large camps at canneries and processing plants, with others at fisheries and oyster shucking centers and still others in some of the industries where seasonal workers are employed. Fifteen railroad camps are also still under frequent inspection.

Definite improvement in the condition of migrant camps generally is noted by the fact that on first inspections this year, a total of 1465 of them were approved, 1336 conditionally approved and 94 disapproved. On reinspections, 273 camps were approved, 495 conditionally approved and 44 disapproved. Thirteen camp owners were cited for hearings, with eight receiving warnings and five cases still pending.

As a follow-up of these inspections, 2538 form letters were sent out by the Bureau to camp operators specifying the changes required under the Code. In addition to this, 1624 other letters on migrant matters were dictated and typed in the office, along with 1439 "winter visit" form letters and 610 notices on the opening of migrant health clinics.

After this Bureau had blazed the trail in hotel inspections, directly in reference to the condition of living quarters for seasonal hotel help, the State Legislature passed a hotel fire-safety act. As a result, our Bureau has marked time on further such inspections until the extent of this new program is determined, but some spot surveys that have been made indicate that this new inspection is limited to fire hazards only and does not go into physical and sanitary conditions in those areas of hotels assigned to the help as living quarters.

Inspectors and their districts were: Hobart R. Cunningham- Ocean County; Willis F. Davis- Mercer and part of Monmouth County; Edmund J. Farrell- Salem County; Leo J. Forrester- Burlington and part of Camden County; Melvin B. Johnson- Union, Essex, Hudson, Passaic and Bergen Counties; Joseph VanSyckel Martin- Sussex, Warren, Somerset, Morris, Middlesex and Hunterdon Counties; Frederick B. Metler- Monmouth County; Leon A. Rennebaum- Gloucester and parts of Camden and Atlantic Counties; Kenneth C. Wade- Cumberland, Cape May and party of Atlantic County.

Two temporary inspectors assigned for summer work were: Morris M. Agress- part of Monmouth County; and Clarence M. Perrine- Mercer and part of Monmouth County.

Office staff at this time includes: Mrs. Sophie Try Crain- office secretary; Mrs. June B. Smith- Clerk typist; and Mrs. Dolores B. Scheibel- seasonal typist.

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ADMINISTRATION

In administration, the outstanding events of the year were the reorganization of the State Department of Labor under the title of Department of Labor and Industry, and the reappointment of Commissioner Harry C. Harper to head this expanded organization.

The legislation providing for reorganization continued in force the Migrant Labor Act and with it the Migrant Labor Board. The only change in our particular setup was that the Migrant Labor Division became a Bureau. This Bureau was placed in the Division of Labor of the enlarged Department. Deputy Commissioner J. Lyman Brown, who has given such helpful counsel in the migrant labor program, directs the Division.

There was continued good attendance at board meetings held on November 23, 1948, and April 5, 1949 and June 7, 1949.

The Board members regretted the passing during the summer of 1948 of Dr. J. Lynn Mahaffey, who as director of the Department of Health, had served for three years on the Board.

The rest of the original personnel of the Board remained unchanged with the reappointment of Leon B. Schachter, Camden, business manager of the Meat & Cannery Workers Union Local 56, by Governor Driscoll. Other public members of the Board as previously appointed by the Governor were: Jay C. Garrison, Salem County farm leader and freeholder who was re-elected Chairman for a fourth term; John M. Seabrook, farm manager, Bridgeton; Mrs. Lenora B. Willette, Belleville, President of the New Jersey Women's Government Study Council; Rev. Robert D. Smith, Somerville, Canon of the Social Services of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey.

State Department heads, other than Labor and Industry, designated as Board members were: Dr. John H. Bosshart, Commissioner, Department of Education; Mr. Willard H. Allen, Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Mr. Sanford Bates, Commissioner, Department of Institutions and Agencies; Mr. Charles R. Erdman, Jr., Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Economic Development; Col. Charles H. Schoeffel, Superintendent, Division of State Police of the Department of Law and Public Safety; and Dr. Daniel Bergsma, Commissioner, Department of Health.

Alternates were: Mr. J. Lyman Brown, Deputy Commissioner of Labor and Industry and Acting Director of the Division of Labor; Mr. William C. Lynn, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Mr. William T. Vanderlipp, Director of Division of Planning and Development, Department of Conservation and Economic Development; Mr. Thomas J. Durell, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Education; Mr. Carl Weigle, Director, Bureau of Preventable Diseases, Department of Health; Dr. Ellen C. Potter, Director, Division of Medicine, Department of Institutions and Agencies.

Special Committees of the Board include: Education, Col. Schoeffel, Chairman, Mr. Erdman, Mr. Schachter and Rev. Smith; Health, Dr. Bergsma, Chairman, Mr. Allen, Mr. Seabrook and Mrs. Willette; Legislative, Mr. Seabrook, Chairman, Rev. Smith, Col. Schoeffel, Commissioner Bates; Budget, Canon Smith, Chairman, Mr. Schachter and Dr. Mahaffey; Code, Mr. Seabrook, Chairman, Mr. William H. MacDonald, Mr. Vanderlipp; Labor, Mr. Allen, Chairman, Mr. Schachter and Mr. Erdman, with Mr. Russell J. Eldridge and Walter Edling as consultants.

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SCHOOL Public interest increased in the demonstration school for children of migrant farm workers, which was conducted for the second season in the summer of 1948 under the joint sponsorship of the Departments of Education and Labor and Industry at the Court Street School, Freehold. Plans have been completed for the third session of the school for the summer of 1949.

Because of the expense involved the program did not attempt to embrace all migrant children in the area, but a group of 65 selected after a survey had been made of 30 migrant camps within a five-mile radius of Freehold. An attempt to operate in another area was not successful because of inability to get permission for the use of school facilities. Once more, Lloyd S. Cassel Supervising Principal, and other Freehold school officials, cooperated most effectively with the Board's Committee on Education, headed by Col. Schoeffel, Superintendent of State Police.

At the request of the Education Committee, the program was again set up and supervised by the State Department of Education through Thomas J. Durell, Assistant Commissioner. Since Miss Myrtle M. Townsend, who had so ably directed the school for the first season, was unable to return because of other educational commitments, Mrs. Dorothy S. Jackson, a Mercer County helping teacher of long experience, was chosen as the new director.

The teachers, all certified, included: Howard B. Waxwood, Jr., principal in a large Princeton school; Miss Helen Hungerford, a Monmouth County helping teacher in charge of special education; Miss Cecil F. Corson, primary teacher in the Ocean View School, Cape May County, and Mrs. Rebecca M. Jenkins, a kindergarten teacher of the Newark public schools. Others who worked with the staff included Mrs. Walter Kelsey, school bus driver; Mrs. Viola Lee, cook, and Mrs. Walter Ham, janitress, these last three all from Freehold.

The enthusiastic and understanding approach to this problem by Mrs. Jackson and her entire staff, with the contributions to the program by state, county and local agencies and other organizations and individuals, made the continued success of the school certain.

The school opened July 19 and continued for six weeks to August 27. Sessions were held five days a week from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with the pupils placed in four groups rather than in grades: upper, middle, primary and nursery.

To try to meet everyday needs of the children in so short a period, emphasis was placed upon instruction in reading, writing and number work. Other objectives were developed through impressing the acceptance of social responsibility, the building of good health habits, a study of foods, the use of money, and discussion of the history of the Freehold area and its agriculture. The children were also shown how to live in normal environment and were taught personal hygiene, good habit formation and speech improvement.

Daily transportation between the farm camps and the school was provided over a route of approximately 12 miles in a regular school bus. Upon arrival at the school, the children were served with a light breakfast of milk and cereal. A mid-day hot meal, equivalent to that approved by state school lunch standards, was also served and the children were given fruit juice or milk and cookies later in the afternoon. They had a treat of ice cream once a week. Benefits of this phase of the program were apparent in the fact that the children showed an average gain of $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds during the six weeks' period. Their eating habits were greatly improved.

Physical examinations conducted by Dr. David Herish, who directed the migrant health program for the State Department of Health, revealed that none of the pupils had any communicable diseases. Since some of the children showed symptoms of undernourishment, Dr. Herish supplied the school with a gallon of cod liver oil. This preliminary screening of health needs also provided opportunity for the parents to secure needed medical care for the children. One boy was found to have defective eyesight and he was a proud youngster indeed when a few days later he received glasses.

In addition to the regular school routine, there were picnics at the school grounds and at Freehold Lake, and a trip to the seashore for the older group. Motion picture films were shown weekly. Those films were obtained from the State Museum and from the Red Cross.

The school continued to attract much attention, particularly among educators and other interested persons, and 187 visits were listed, 23 of which were by migrant parents. The visitors also included Chairman Garrison, Col. Schoeffel, Mrs. Willette and Canon Smith, all members of the Board. A group of migrant children from a neighboring county put on an original play for the entertainment of all of the school groups.

It is pertinent to note that the National Education Association this year cited the school as a pattern for the education of migrant children. Several newspapers carried stories about the school and there was an article about it in the April issue of the SURVEY. The New York Times ran a news story on the project and its editorial has been quoted earlier in this report.

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HEALTH

A venereal disease control program was first initiated for migrants by the State Department of Health in 1939. A more complete preventive health service to the seasonal migrant laborers and their families in the State of New Jersey was inaugurated in 1947 in cooperation with the Migrant Labor Board, and continued in 1948 and 1949.

Dr. Daniel Bergsma, State Commissioner of Health, reported that every person who presented himself at a clinic in 1947 and 1948 was given a physical examination in search of communicable diseases and other harmful defects. The adequacy of the several clinic facilities varied greatly but an attempt was made to render all possible service and, if necessary, advice was given or recommendation was made for further medical care or follow-up.

In previous years the migrants were given an examination for venereal diseases only, followed by weekly treatments for syphilis.

In the organization for migrant health activity, Dr. Hersh was appointed as director in 1947 and continued through 1948 and the spring of 1949. He did excellent work in the field and was ably assisted by Mr. Henry Cowan, who has had long experience in setting up and operating VD clinics. An Advisory Migrant Health Committee, consisting of various specialists on the staff of the State Department of Health, was appointed to help develop policies and rules. Part time personnel was employed as needed in the field.

The Migrant Labor Board determined upon recommendation of the Migrant Health Committee where clinics should be established. Preference was given to locations where buildings were already available. These in 1948 included: Cumberland County: Orchard Center and Gelston Village; Gloucester County: Swedesboro and Glassboro; Atlantic County: Hammonton; Burlington County: Mt. Holly; Monmouth County: Freehold and Imlaystown; Middlesex County: Cranbury.

At each clinic a patient on entering was directed to a clerk. A physical examination card was started with the patient's name, age, sex, marital status, the employer's address, name of the work boss and his home state. He was given a health card which showed that he had appeared at the clinic and had had an examination. A blood test was another procedure also. This examination included physical examination with a search for communicable diseases. Any minor abnormalities found were treated when feasible at the clinic. When the condition warranted prolonged or specialized treatment the patient was referred to a hospital. When early infectious syphilis was found the patient was hospitalized for rapid treatment with penicillin at no cost to the patient or to the migrant health program. Those whose infections were not communicable were advised to seek the services of a physician to complete the cure of the disease.

The State Department of Health through its nutritionist, its sections on Communicable Disease and Maternal and Child Health, and its Bureau of Laboratories, rendered considerable service and supplies without cost. Only full-time field service was charged to the migrant health program.

Cost of the migrant health program for 1948-1949, including salaries, scientific supplies, travel and miscellaneous items was \$10,961.82. This program protects the employer, his family and community as well as the migrant and his family. In New Jersey the migrant agricultural worker is also protected by the State compensation laws.

The Health Committee has recommended for 1949 that the program be continued at Freehold, Cranbury, Imlaystown, Orchard Center and Gelston Village, plus the Glassboro clinic to be operated by the Gloucester County Board of Agriculture as was done last year.

The Committee also suggested that the ideal would be to have a health center in each of these areas. These centers would not be for the migrants alone but should be set up for all the people of the area. At these health centers a composite program could be instituted. It should include diagnostic and preventive health work and be coordinated with medical care for certain communicable diseases and include some health educational programs. A health center should serve as needed for a child care center or for selected social or community planning activities throughout the year.

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WELFARE An expanded interest in the migrant program has been taken by the American Red Cross, the New Jersey Council of Churches acting with the Home Missions Council of North America, Inc., and various other welfare groups and organizations.

The Red Cross, largely through the initiative of Thomas B. Gramigna, its state public relations officer, has made the most marked advance in this respect through the Junior Red Cross in providing clothing, toys and games, school supplies and other articles for our demonstration school for migrant children at Freehold. So generous have been the contributions that there is an oversupply to be passed out to other migrant children by field workers.

The Red Cross began to participate in the work among migrants three years ago through the Health Department clinics, but even earlier than that it had aided individual workers and their families who became stranded or met with some other misfortune. First aid demonstrations and moving pictures on accident prevention and health have been set up at the migrant clinics. Conferences were held this spring by representatives of the Red Cross, State Health Department and the Bureau of Migrant Labor with the object of carrying out this work directly to workers in the fields and camps during the coming summer.

Both the senior and junior chapters in Monmouth County shared effectively in the migrant school planning and operation last summer. Gift boxes were provided for all of the pupils at the closing exercises.

In field work with migrants by the Council of Churches and Home Missions Council, Rev. Theodore A. Rath, Frenchtown, gave general supervision to the program, assisted by Rev. Paul Stauning, Fairton, and Rev. Warren Layton, Matawan, working closely with a cabinet and a larger committee. A staff of eight field workers engaged in this work in 1948.

Many boxes of supplies and clothing were donated for distribution by the field workers of several churches and Sunday schools throughout the state for the 1948 season.

Chairman Rath's report stated:

"Three general geographic areas embrace the major concentration of migratory labor and the scene of activities under this program included: Tri-County area: Mercer, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties; (potato and fruit area) mostly southern negroes; Glassboro Labor Camp area - Puerto Ricans; and the Bridgeton-Salem area (vegetable and fruit area) Jamaicans, Barbadians and southern workers.

"A staff of five workers in the Tri-County section served 84 migrant camps with an estimated population of 1680 negroes of all ages. The staff contacted farmers, crew leaders and migrants. Clothing contributed by church groups was distributed to needy families. The staff worked with parents and children, encouraging order and cleanliness as well as industry, taught games to the children, told stories and established Sunday school classes. Recreation was a strong feature of the program.

"At Glassboro, a total of 3,003 work buttons were issued to Puerto Ricans from April to November. The majority of the men were assigned to farmers who arranged housing for small groups on 500 farms in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. A large group also lived in the camp and went daily to the fields. Administering this group were Rev. Ellis Plyler, returned missionary from Peru and Mrs. Plyler. With his ability to speak fluent Spanish, Mr. Plyler became a valuable leader, counsellor and friend to the men. He conducted worship, ran moving pictures, arranged literary classes, recreational programs and distributed Spanish translations of the Scriptures and Sunday School lesson helps.

"In the Seabrook-Bridgeton area, 200 Jamaicans and Barbadians and 400 negro men, women and children from the Glades area and Pompano, Florida, were served by a staff of three, including a minister and two child care workers, at the Orchard Center, Gelston Village, Eastern, Deerfield and Salem-Woodstown camps. The Child Care Center was conducted while mothers were in the fields picking beans, corn and other crops. A daily clinic with visits by a local physician twice a week helped with health and sanitation problems.

"General supervision and supplies, assistance in recruiting and training the staff and the help of the Eastern Harvester, a mission trailer, also represent the investment of the Home Missions Council in the cooperative program for migrants in New Jersey. "

Two women field workers, Mrs. Gwendolynne A. Blakeley and Miss Anna J. Downing, were employed for the summer by the Bureau to work with migrant families in the Tri-County area. Both of them were college graduates and they assisted in the survey of camps in preparation for the school. They also gave counsel to mothers in the care of their children, encouraged greater tidiness in the camps and otherwise looked after the welfare of the migrant families.

Once again the Monmouth County Organization for Social Service, Inc., rendered a real service to the migrant program, particularly in health activities and in the school project. Through the efforts of its president, Mrs. Geraldine Thompson, a conference of representatives of groups in that county interested in the migrant work has been arranged for during the coming August.

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PUBLICITY
and
PUBLIC RELATIONS

As an outgrowth of the 16-state conference on migrant labor held in New York in 1947, New Jersey was host to the Continuing Committee of the Council of State Governments at a two-day meeting at the Hotel Claridge, Atlantic City, in July. Problems in respect to health cards for migrants, motor and truck license regulations, housing and welfare were discussed. The program included a tour of some of the camps and the food processing plant at the large Seabrook Farms, near Bridgeton, where the party was also entertained at luncheon by the company.

In a later meeting in January, the Continuing Committee sat in at a conference of the National Farm Labor Council attended by State Employment Service representatives from states along the Eastern Seaboard, at Jacksonville, Florida. Here the methods for recruiting and placing seasonal labor were largely emphasized. Following the conference, New Jersey's representatives visited some of the large migrant camps in the Belle Glade district, whence come many of the potato pickers who work here in the Tri-County Area.

Conferences within the state were held during the year with various farm labor committees and other groups and the migrant labor program was further advanced by talks by the Bureau's supervisor and by some of the inspectors and by radio broadcasts. Our new motion picture film was shown for the first time at the annual meeting of the New Jersey Consumers' League in Newark.

The Bureau placed exhibits at the State Fair at Trenton and at the county fairs in Cumberland and Gloucester Counties for the first time.

An example of community cooperation, even beyond the school project, was found in the migrant care centre, conducted for its second season at a house in Throckmorton Street, Freehold, in 1948. This was supervised by a citizens' committee, composed of local pastors, educators, women leaders and other interested persons and it was financed by local service clubs. This Bureau paid the director, Mrs. Wilhemina Williams. The centre was operated on weekends from July 24 to August 29 and there were 81 listings of children cared for while their migrant mothers did their shopping. Mrs. Willette who has taken such an active interest in this work, this spring announced plans for an even more extensive program at a new location. The Board authorized a fund of \$500 to pay a director and two helpers.

Through continued cooperation of Col. Schoeffel and his State Police, the Bureau was kept fully informed as to serious accidents and crimes among migrants. The Troopers assisted in keeping order at health clinics and in policing the camps. All possible courtesies have been extended to our inspectors who have stopped at the stations in search of information about migrants. Lt. A. M. Sperling, of the Records Section, reports that in 1948 there were four murder cases among migrants and one charge of manslaughter by auto. There were also 62 arrests for motor vehicle infractions. Out of a total of 775 arrests reported, 665 were on disorderly charges.

Normal labor needs on the farms seem to be indicated by a survey in the spring of 1949 by our inspectors. They interviewed agricultural agents in all of the counties using migrant labor to get estimates as to prospective acreage plantings for various crops. The only reduction noted is in white potato acreage, resulting from a cut in the Federal quota. Our Bureau had cooperated with the State Employment Service in the mailing of form letters to thousands of farmers in 1948, inquiring as to their labor requirements. The result of SES's first season's operation, after taking over the farm labor placement program from the Extension Service, showed a total of 19,886 such placements in that year.

The SES has placed additional personnel in all its rural offices in 1949 to survey job openings on farms and to try to determine the availability of local workers for such jobs.

Press releases on the work with migrants in New Jersey appeared in the metropolitan press and in several of the state newspapers. The result of such publicity has been a wider interest throughout the state in migrants and their welfare.

MIGRANT CAMPS BY COUNTIES

1949

Latest inspections reveal that there are now migrant camps of some type in every county in New Jersey. The list includes farm, food processing, industrial and railroad camps but does not include quarters for seasonal hotel help.

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>NUMBER OF CAMPS</u>
Atlantic	70
Bergen	22
Burlington	159
Camden	29
Cape May	24
Cumberland	204
Essex	5
Gloucester	389
Hudson	5
Hunterdon	6
Mercer	143
Middlesex	164
Monmouth	235
Morris	16
Ocean	104
Passaic	9
Salem	292
Somerset	9
Sussex	1
Union	3
Warren	6
Total number of camps--	1895

INSPECTION DATA

July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949

Total number of inspections	2707	
Visits for surveys	3832	
Other stops	1621	
Approvals on first inspections		465
Conditional approvals on first inspections		1336
Disapprovals on first inspections		94
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Total		1895

Changes recommended on first inspections:

Cleanliness	559
Toilets	1591
Water	160
Quarters	281
Sleeping	131
Cooking	57
Fire Protection	555
Register	108
Screens	652
Others	202
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Total Items	4296

Approvals on later inspections	273
Conditional approvals on later inspections	475
Disapprovals on later inspections	44
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Total	792

Changes recommended on later inspections:

Cleanliness	129
Toilets	273
Water	35
Quarters	60
Sleeping	28
Cooking	20
Fire Protection	49
Register	28
Screens	100
Others	24
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Total Items	746

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DIVISION OF LABOR
Percy A. Miller, Jr., Commissioner

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

BUREAU OF MIGRANT LABOR

Fiscal Year - July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950
with Five-year Review of Migrant Program

By John G. Sholl, Supervisor