

16. WOMEN'S LAND ARMY

Farmers who are short of labour and cannot meet their requirements through the Employment Exchanges may want to employ Women's Land Army labour. Any farmer who wishes to do this should ask his local Employment Exchange to put him into touch with the Women's Land Army Committee for his county, or the Committee's representative in his locality. His local branch of the National Farmers' Union will also be able to help him to get into touch with the Women's Land Army Committee for the county. The main purpose of the Women's Land Army is to provide a special force of mobile workers, who will be available to go to any part of the country where their services may be required.

The minimum weekly wage to members of the Women's Land Army of 18 years of age and over is 28s. for a week of up to 48 hours, and for those under 18 years of age 22s. 6d. for a similar week. This weekly wage must be paid in all cases where full-time services are being provided. If a week of more than 48 hours is worked, overtime must be paid, and this should be at not less than 7d. an hour for women of 18 and over, and 6d. an hour for girls under 18.

Out of her wages the Women's Land Army member will pay for her own board and lodging, but where this is provided by the farmer who employs her, he may not deduct from her wage more than 14s. per week to cover board and lodging if she is 18 years of age or over, or 12s. 6d. if she is under 18.

In all cases the above rates apply subject to any over-riding requirements of the Agricultural Wages Board Orders. In any county, therefore, where the minimum wage, or the overtime rates, or the net cash wage payable under an Agriculture Wages Board Order for the county are higher than the Land Army rates, the county rate must be paid.