Labor Camp Program Is Held Success

Closmg of Bahamian Quarters at Brookfield Ends Experiment

Wampsall, Oct. 20.—With the closing of the Bahamas Labor Camp at Mosquito Hill, Brookfield, last week, another experiment in providing farm labor help was brought to a successful close, according to Lynn Bookhout, county agricultural agent. This camp was maintained from about July 20 until about Oct 1. With approximately 360 laborers imported from the Island of Bahamas and under the direction of the Supervision of the War Food Administration.

The Federal Camp was organized by the Madison County Agricultural Defense Committee during the winter months and was assigned shortly before the Bahamas laborers arrived. The camp was granted only after intensive red tape work by the Farm Bureau offices. The functions of the committee of the above committee that a smaller number of Bahamians were maintained in the camp for part of October, with silage corn and potato harvest.

The Bahamian laborers were used principally to help harvest the bean snap crop and it is estimated that about 129,000 bushels of snap beans were picked up this group was also employed on snap beans the group left satisfactory comments from a large number of farmers for other work well done, such as digging potatoes, handling silage corn, cutting cabbage, working in the hay fields, pulling weeds and other numerous tasks.

In commenting on the service provided farmers say that this group certainly helped save a large acreage of crops that otherwise would have gone to waste. According to the farmers concerned, there is another group that should receive honorable mention in helping harvest the current year's crops. They refer principally to that group of loyal citizens from Brooklyn College.

It is reliably estimated that the students occupied the number of rooms in the barracks which were housed at Morrisville Agricultural School picked no less than 20,000 bushels of peas and was made available through the cooperation of Brooklyn College, the Morrisville Agricultural School, and the N. Y. S. Educational System. They were housed at Morrisville where they also attended classes from about mid-summer until after Labor Day.

According to what information can be learned the loss of Madison County's educational facilities was not diminished 1943 than in previous years because of the lack of labor. Credit for this cannot be attributed to any one individual or any group of individuals, according to Bookhout, but because it was the result of the efforts of a large number.