

An analysis of broken field crates resulted in the construction of a new type field crate. The new crate is simple and cheap to construct and eliminates many of the weaknesses found in the old type crate.

The number of workers observed in harvesting crews varied from 15 to 123. Following the practice of working across the rows behind a push-knife, a crew of 30 workers was the optimum size. The best size was not as distinct for crews using the hand-knife method, but the smaller crews were usually the faster.

Some firms followed the practice of using several crews in the same field. Such practice meant the loss of a large amount of manpower if the crews had to change fields during the day.

Field managers of large organizations should plan their cutting schedule well in advance so that the fewest workers are moved during the working day.

The "key" men responsible for the output of harvesting crews are the foremen. Foremen who take part in originating revised procedures of work take keen interest in putting such procedures into practice.

## II — PACKING METHODS

All celery washhouses in Florida are built on the same general pattern. The plant capacity is adjusted by varying the number and to a lesser extent the length of packing chains.

Of 18 washhouses studied, 13 followed the practice of dumping celery from the crate on a dumping table and thence to the stripping chain, while five plants followed the practice of having workers place the celery stalks, one at a time, directly on the stripping chain.

The hours of labor required to move 10,000 stalks into and out of temporary storage varied from 0.8 to 2.8 hours. The volume of business had a pronounced effect on the rate of accomplishment of these unloaders. Firms operating three or four chains used 1.1 hours per 10,000 stalks, compared with 2.0 hours for firms operating from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 chains. One way small firms could overcome this disadvantage would be to use detachable trailers in place of the conventional truck.

The method of dumping celery on the stripping chain required about 58 less man-hours per acre than the method of placing individual stalks on the chain one at a time. There is some question about the quality of work done between the two methods. Of the celery handled by the dumping method, 18