

# JAMAICA HELP TAKES UP SHORTAGE IN WAR PLANTS

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The critical labor shortage in Syracuse “must” plants manufacturing equipment needed on the battlefronts will be partly relieved through the use of additional Jamaican labor, it was revealed today.

The U. S. Hoffman Machinery Company which needs 100 workers for its 155-mm shell plant in Greenway Avenue will fill part of the gap with Jamaican workers, Archie W. Bennett, works manager said today.

Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, in Syracuse, Saturday, revealed that 800 male workers are urgently needed in Syracuse “must” plants and 5,000 workers to man all jobs available in essential Syracuse manufacturing industry.

Approximately 40 Jamaicans, brought to this country originally as agricultural workers, will be used at the Hoffman plant, Bennett said.

Arrangements for bringing the laborers here were started at a conference Thomas J. Corcoran, War Manpower Commission area director, yesterday afternoon, and plans for housing the men are being made by the United States Employment Service of the WMC. It isn't certain when they will arrive.

Eighty-three Jamaicans housed at the Army Air Base now are employed in Syracuse plants, 58 by Oberdorfer Brass Company, and 25 by the Iroquois China Company.

They came from 18,000 Jamaicans brought to this country through arrangements made with the British government, to work on farms. Arrangements have since been made to allow them to work in industrial plants.

Living quarters and board are provided by the employer. Twenty-5 percent of the employe's [*sic*] wages are retained by the British government for use of his family or to be given to him when he returns.

The employer is bound by three contracts – with the American Government, the British government and the employe [*sic*].