

sumed with a good square hot meal. Such a condition of affairs incapacitated a man for even ordinary efficiency.

To meet the war office demands to "speed up" the delivery of munitions and war supplies generally, it was necessary to see to the welfare of the employees in every particular. That "extra output of energy necessarily depends at least in part on improved quality and increased quantity of food," was the verdict of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops in England. Prior to 1914 only a few of the larger factories had canteens. The great majority were without canteens, or even mess-rooms where the men could get their cold lunch heated. With the coming of the war the difficulty of feeding the vast armies of men and women workers became a problem calling for immediate solution and both the State and private firms were anxious to promote an increase of the efficiency, contentment and well-being of their employees. A committee was appointed by the Central Board of Control, London, and in 1915 a report from them emphasized the need for mess-rooms and canteens in the yards where the employees could get good meals in comfort without resorting to the public houses. The Industrial Canteen Movement was the outcome of this situation, and it was started