

ALLIES NEED MUCH WHEAT.

Greatest Deficiency in Production has Occurred in France.

Mr. T. K. Doherty, Commissioner for Canada of the International Institute, estimates that the wheat production of the world for 1917 is about 93,000,000 bushels less than last year and about 414,000,000 bushels, or over 10 per cent less than the pre-war average.

The European and Mediterranean countries, both neutral and Allied, which depend largely on the outside world for their supplies are Denmark, France, Greece, Italy, Holland, Norway, Portugal, Cyprus and Malta, Spain, Sweden, Great Britain, Ireland, Egypt, Tunis, Switzerland and Belgium. These countries produced 570,087,000 bushels of wheat in 1917 as against 706,073,000 bushels in 1916 and an average of 782,791,000 bushels in the five pre-war years, a decrease of 135,186,000 bushels or 19.2 per cent from 1916 and of 211,904,000, or 27 per cent from the pre-war average. The greatest deficiency exists in France, where the 1917 crop is 172,669,000 bushels less than the average production of 317,639,000 bushels for five years before the war.

BENEFIT OF THE CANVASS.

Co-operation of Housewives Secured by Work in Seaforth.

Mr. F. G. Neelin, Secretary of the Seaforth Food Production Association, in a letter to the Food Controller, states that the ladies of the Red Cross Society and the War Auxiliary of Seaforth have completed the household canvass and distribution of food pledge cards. Very few refusals were received. The result, he writes, has been "a thorough unification of war interest and spirit of co-operation among the housewives of the community."

WITHOUT ONE CENT OF REWARD.

A Canadian Press report of the meeting in Stratford last Friday, when addresses were delivered by Sir Robert Borden and Mr. N. W. Rowell, says that a heckler who tried to embarrass Mr. Rowell with interruptions about the Food Controller, "got little sympathy from the audience and ready answers from the speaker." Those present applauded Mr. Rowell's statement that Mr. Hanna is giving his services without one cent of reward.

CANADIAN PRICES LOWER.

Comparison with those of the United States is Informing.

A comparison of Canadian and United States retail prices of certain foodstuffs for October has been made by the United States Food Administration. The United States price for round steak is 105 per cent of the Canadian price. Pork chops and bacon, are cheaper in Canada. The American price of good quality fresh fish is 127 per cent of the Canadian price. Milk is 110 per cent. Lard and butter are practically the same price on the average for the two countries, but the Canadian consumer is paying less for cheese. Bread is very much cheaper in Canada, the United States price being 1.47 times as much as that in the Dominion. In rolled oats, too, the Canadian purchaser buys much more cheaply. Other food commodities on which the average Canadian retail price is lower than the average American retail price are: rice, canned tomatoes, canned peas, dry beans, prunes, tea, and potatoes. In buying potatoes the United States consumer gets no more for \$1.57 than does the Canadian consumer for an expenditure of \$1. The American consumer has an advantage in new laid eggs, canned corn, and granulated sugar but the only food commodity in the list which he buys very much more cheaply is coffee, of which the United States price is 77 per cent of the Canadian.

"SIGNED, SEALED, SETTLED."

Dr. Helen MacMurchy Answers Protest at Women's Meeting.

At the recent convention of the Ontario Women's Institutes, in reply to a protest against the use of grain for the distillation of liquor, Dr. Helen MacMurchy said:—

"Just now let us settle that matter for all time. On November 2 an Order in Council was passed on the recommendation of the Food Controller, requiring that on and after December 1 of this year no grain of any kind and no substance that can be used for food shall be used in Canada for the distillation of potable liquors. NOW THIS ORDER IS PASSED, IS PART OF THE LAW OF CANADA TO BE ADMINISTERED AS ANY OTHER LAW. LET US GET IT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS IS SIGNED, SEALED AND SETTLED."