



ONTARIO
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

September, 1918.

A WORD FOR 1919.

TO THE FARMERS OF ONTARIO, GREETING:

With the harvest of 1918 almost safely gathered, it is not too soon to consider plans for 1919.

On the whole the crop season of 1918 has been a season of few regrets - can we make 1919 still better?

Let there be no misunderstanding - the need still exists. We have all learned with gratitude of the improvement in the food situation as it affects our allies overseas. This is due to the hard work and skill of the men and women on the land on this continent and in allied countries, to the daring of the men who guard the seas and to the blessings of Providence. It means that the danger that the war might be lost through lack of food is passed, but we may be sure that the production and conservation of foodstuffs is still essential in a high degree until the war is finally won. Situated as we are geographically Ontario should therefore maintain the splendid record already achieved and produce all staple food-stuffs to the very limit of our resources and our labor supply.

Wheat will continue to be first in the world's demands, but there will also be a strong call for other staple crops as well as for live stock and live stock products - pork, beef, mutton, wool, cheese, butter, poultry.

I would like to especially emphasize the importance of developing our breeding stock. Already representatives of European countries have been in this Province studying the prospect of securing suitable purebred animals to replenish the flocks and herds of Europe after the war. The best information available goes to show that even in neutral European countries live stock holdings in some lines at least are not more than 40 per cent of the number carried before the war. Foundation stock will be sought on this continent and Ontario breeders should be in a position to meet some of the demand. Quality will be a first essential.

Plan now for 1919 and with the spirit which is bringing victories at the front "Carry On."

Parliament Buildings,
Toronto.

Geo. S. Henry
Minister of Agriculture.