

7. FOOD CONTROL.

The office of Food Controller was created in Canada in June, 1917. In February, 1918, the powers and duties of the Controller were vested in the Canada Food Board, which was then established.

The function of the Food Board was generally to secure the largest possible supply of food to the fighting forces of the Allies and to the civil population in Europe by means of increased production and conservation of food in Canada.

Increased Production.—Early in 1918 steps were taken to add to the production of Canadian farms. Over 1,100 farm tractors were bought and resold to farmers at cost price. These were distributed as follows:

British Columbia.....	21
Alberta.....	334
Saskatchewan.....	382
Manitoba.....	149
Ontario.....	203
Quebec.....	9
New Brunswick.....	5
Nova Scotia.....	14
Prince Edward Island.....	6
	1,123

Under a plan which was called the "Soldiers of the Soil," 14,685 boys between the ages of 15 and 19 were enrolled and 11,952 of these were placed on farms in Canada in 1918.

The following figures show the increase of the acreage of the principal crops:—

	1917 Acres	1918 Acres
Wheat.....	14,755,850	17,353,902
Oats.....	13,313,400	14,790,336
Barley.....	2,392,200	3,153,811
Rye.....	211,880	555,294
Mixed grains.....	497,326	1,068,120

These were much larger than the areas of the crops before the war.