

The farmers of North America are in a better position than those of any other wheat producing section of the globe to contribute to the food needs of the armies of Europe. A given tonnage of shipping can carry over twice as much grain from America as from Argentina and three times as much as from Australia or New Zealand. It is vital at this juncture and will continue vital to the end of the war that shipping be employed on the routes where it can be used to greatest advantage. One of the most effective ways to conserve shipping is to provide as large a proportion as possible of the food requirements of the Allies from Canada.

I would like you to understand the situation, and leave it with you to do all you can to make sure that every bit of food that can be saved for the Allies and the armies is being saved; and that every pound and bushel of food that can be produced in Manitoba will be produced. I pray that the Almighty may give you health, and strength of body, mind and soul for your heavy tasks and that he may crown your labors by the blessing of a good harvest.

### **First Aid for the Peasant Farmers of our Allies**

And now may I turn your thoughts for a few minutes to the plight of brother farmers in the devastated regions of our Allies, who have lost everything by the dreadful processes of war? Canadians and more particularly Canadian farmers, have been asked to contribute to the British Agricultural Relief of the Allies Fund. A representative Committee has charge of the campaign in Canada. His Excellency, the Governor-General is patron. The Right Honorable Sir Robert Borden and the Right Honorable Sir Wilfred Laurier are Honorary Presidents.

A Provincial Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. C. Henders, with Mr. J. H. Evans, acting Deputy Minister of Agriculture, as Secretary-Treasurer, has charge of the campaign in this province. Associated with them are other men of worthy public spirit.

The farmers of Canada are being invited to regard February as the **Relief month for brother farmers in the devastated regions**. The object is to provide seeds, agricultural machinery, live-stock, etc., to help the peasant farmers whose farms have been devastated by war and wanton destruction by the enemy, to make a fresh start.

By the kind co-operation of the various banks, the managers of the branches of chartered banks will receive contributions and forward them to the Honorary Treasurer of your Provincial Committee.

We all sympathise deeply with those on whom has fallen much more than their share of the losses and havoc of war. In some places the land is torn beyond any possible recovery into use for growing crops. The farmers of the whole British Empire want to help these brother farmers to get on their feet as soon as they get back possession of their farms. Their houses and machinery have been destroyed. They have nothing left with which to begin farming again. We, on the other hand, have lost nothing as farmers through the war; but in some cases have made money because of the increase in prices. We ought to help our stricken brethren as soon as the enemy is pushed out of their countries. We want to do that for several reasons. The object is humane and we are a humane people. They are our allies, our neighbors and our friends. We want to help them for the sake of the good name of Canada. It would be a good thing, in our international relations, to have it known that our grain growers gave something, that every dairyman in Canada gave something, a good thing to have it known that our live-stock men gave something, that our poultry-men and fruit-growers have given something, and above all that our countrywomen have remembered their sisters whose farm homes have to be re-established out of ruins. We want for Canada a place among the nations, on behalf of our farmers, which will be in keeping with what our sons and brothers have done and won on the fields of battle.