

of cocoa. This is a matter of preference; Canadians generally prefer tea to coffee, while the opposite is true in the United States. It may be said, however, that there is no real shortage of the beverages in either country.

Demands on Canadian Food Production are many. In the five and a half years Canada has been at war they have grown increasingly heavier. The farmers of Canada have done an excellent job. Since 1939 several hundred thousand men and women have left Canadian farms to enter the armed services and war plants or essential civilian industries. Despite this the over-all volume of farm production has increased considerably. The 1944 figure showed an increase of 36% over that of 1939. This achievement in production is the result of more efficient farming (better seed selection and breeding methods, more efficient production and feeding routines), over-all government planning of production, the incentives of fair prices and ready markets, favorable weather conditions and most of all, a tremendous increase in the amount of hard work by farmers and their families in the face of shortages of machinery and of transportation and other difficulties.

A comparison of 1944 production figures with the average in the five pre-war years 1935-39 shows considerable increases in all the main food items except creamery butter, as follows:

	1944 (% difference from 1935-39)
Meats	71
Eggs	68
Grains	57
Fruits and Vegetables	22
Total milk	13
Cheese	47
Fluid milk	38
Concentrated milk products	20 (approximately)
Creamery butter	- 3 (approximately)

In 1938 the gross value of agricultural production was \$1,056,980,000. By 1943 it had risen to \$2,248,906,000 (revised preliminary figure). The total value in 1944 will approximate \$2,500,000,000. Cash farm income has advanced from \$664,300,000 in 1938 to \$1,751,700,000 in 1944, an increase of 164%.

The picture in fisheries is similar. The primary fishing industry has lost more than 10,000 of its most active workers, chiefly to the armed forces and the merchant marine. It has also given up much of its best equipment in boats and vessels to direct war use with the navy. Despite these handicaps fisheries have fully maintained or even increased slightly the volume of production. Total fish production in 1944 was about 1,100,000,000 pounds landed weight, or about 600,000,000 pounds dressed weight. This is 10% to 15% increase over the average for 1935-39.