

THE EXAMPLE OF FRANCE.

Women, Young and Aged are all Helping to Produce Food.

Major J. I. Hart, speaking at a food conservation meeting in Orillia, Ont., emphasized that the people of France who were not in the fighting lines were all raising food. The women, he said, were doing most of the work, and the children had ceased to go to school so that they might help. He had seen children hardly big enough to walk, gathering manure on the roads. Even the babies of France were working. In the fields all the work was largely done by women. There were large garden plots outside the French towns to which the people resorted. The extra hour of daylight effected by the daylight saving scheme was used for work in the gardens. Everybody was helping to produce the greatest possible amount of food.

DESPERATE NEED OF FOOD.

Available Supplies not Sufficient to Maintain Entire Italian Army.

Information reaching the Italian embassy in Washington indicates that the Italian army and civilians are in desperate need of food. It is said that only one-third of the Italian army of 3,000,000 men is now being maintained on the battle lines, the official explanation being that there is not sufficient food to feed more and that there is also shortage of other supplies. On the other hand, the strong Austrian army facing the Italians is said to have received recently large supplies from Russia.

In order to maintain the morale of the Italians, as well as that of the other allied nations, there is an ever-increasing responsibility upon this continent to send greater quantities of essential foods. This can be done only by the most rigorous economies with wheat products, meat, and fats.

BUYING ARGENTINA WHEAT.

The acting Trade Commissioner at Buenos Aires has reported to the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce details of the agreement for the purchase and export before November 1, 1918, by the British and French Governments of 2,500,000 tons of cereals at minimum prices of \$1.45 per bushel for wheat and 46 cents per bushel for oats. The Argentine Government is financing the purchases up to \$200,000,000 in gold.

"PEACE WITHOUT PLENTY."

Food Situation Would Only be Made Worse by German Competition.

Sir William Goode, of the British Ministry of Food, speaking recently in London, said that Great Britain would face much more severe food shortage if she should decide to make with Germany "a tired peace". He continued: "I chose the topic, 'peace without plenty,' because of the wide-spread idea that with peace the scarcity of food would automatically disappear.

Sir William Goode pointed out that even if Russia were able to feed herself there would be at the conclusion of peace 200,000,000 people in Europe clamoring for food.

SOLDIERS SHARING THEIR FOOD.

"We are slow in Canada to realize the serious nature of the food situation. But when we hear, for instance, that some of the Canadian men in France, have been sending their parcels of food, received from Canada, back to people in England, we can surely grasp the fact that we who are at home must go without something."—An Exchange.

BRITISH MEAT SUPPLIES LOW.

The extent of the meat shortage in Great Britain is indicated by the latest British market reports, which show that the amount of home-grown meat marketed in England has decreased from 227,000,000 pounds weekly in 1916 to 55,000,000 pounds weekly since January 1, 1918. The number of cattle reaching the market has decreased 65 per cent, sheep 40 per cent, and hogs 68 per cent.

WHY BACON SUPPLY IS SHORT.

The demands of the British army for bacon were 50 per cent more in 1917 than in 1916. A scarcity of bacon is due to short imports and the reduction in the home supply of bacon. In pre-war times 70 per cent of British requirements of bacon were imported from abroad, mostly from Scandinavia. Now Great Britain is dependent for such bacon on North America.

SOLDIERS' RATIONS REDUCED.

A despatch from Washington, dated March 28th, says: "Shortage of wheat in France has become so serious that the bread ration of the French soldiers has been reduced, according to official advices received here. The Food Administration is endeavouring to collect wheat to rush abroad."