

Canada was admitted to full membership on the Combined Food Board of the United Kingdom and the United States on October 29, 1943. The Board is concerned with the most expeditious use of the food supplies available to the United Nations. Canada was represented on the various committees of the Board since it was first established in June, 1942, and will now have a voice in policy decisions. The Board consists of:

Claude R. Wickard, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Chairman
Marvin Jones, U. S. War Food Administrator
R. H. Brand, Chairman of the British Supply Council
Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Canadian Minister of Agriculture

By order-in-council of March 15, 1943, the Canadian Section of the Joint Agricultural Committee of Canada and the United States was established to keep wartime agricultural and food production and distribution in Canada and the United States under continuing review, in the light of civilian needs, requirements for the war effort, and relief in liberated areas. Consumer food requirements in the two countries are discussed under the general principle that restrictions of consumption or rationing of similar food products impose equal sacrifices on the people of the two countries. Reports and recommendations of the committee go to Canadian Agriculture Minister Gardiner and to the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Claude R. Wickard.

The first committee meeting, held in March, 1943, reached an agreement whereby the United States undertook to purchase the Canadian surplus of dried beans after domestic and United Kingdom requirements had been met, and to encourage production in Canada of at least 100,000 acres. The United States agreed to make available crushing facilities for the flaxseed crop and guaranteed the sale of Canada's exportable surplus. Arrangements were made for the sale of Canadian feed grains to the United States and plans for an expansion of the acreage to be devoted to such crops in 1943 were reviewed. Possibilities of relieving the difficult transportation problem were also considered.

The second committee meeting, held in October, 1943, again gave special attention to present and prospective feed supplies in relation to the production of meat, dairy and poultry products. The decline in the United States feed reserves and the need for increased output in 1944 to avoid drastic curtailment in live stock production were among matters discussed. Special consideration was given to the United States program for increased wheat production next year. The decline in stocks of this grain brought about by withdrawals for live stock feeding and for the production of industrial alcohol necessitated plans for an expansion program. The Canadian situation was reviewed in the light of these developments.

Means of further expanding the production of oil seeds, peas, beans and other crops were also considered in line with available farming resources in the two countries.

Members, Canadian Section:

Dr. G. S. H. Barton, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Chairman
A. M. Shaw, Director Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture
R. S. Hamer, Director of Production Service, Department of Agriculture
K. W. Taylor, Foods Coordinator, Wartime Prices and Trade Board