

PREMIERS IN CONFERENCE.

Production Campaign for 1918 Inaugurated at Ottawa.

At the conference between the Government and the Provincial Premiers held in Ottawa on February 15 and 16 the subjects of increasing Canada's output of food products and obtaining adequate farm labour were considered. The necessity for greater production was explained clearly and unreservedly. The objects aimed at in the campaign were specifically set forth in a memorandum submitted by Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture: (1) To plant this spring every acre possible of wheat, oats, barley and rye; (2) To bring into cultivation every acre possible of new land for crop in 1919; (3) To increase cattle, hogs and sheep to the greatest possible extent; (4) To secure cultivation of gardens and vacant lots in town and cities with a view to raising the maximum amount of vegetables; (5) To encourage every household, in small towns and villages, to raise one pig through the season, with a view to utilizing all garbage for food.

Mr. Crerar pointed out that the greatest effort for increased production must be in the growing of wheat. At the same time rye, barley and even oats could be used to supplement the use of wheat in Europe and measures should be taken to increase the production of these cereals, having regard to the suitability of the soil, he declared. The Minister of Agriculture dealt also with the necessity of increased stock raising, not only to meet immediate food requirements but because of the demand that would be made on Canadian breeding stock to replace the losses in Europe.

Plans were outlined for co-operative measures between the federal and provincial authorities to enroll agricultural helpers in every city, town and village of Canada. Every agency is to be employed to make available the labour necessary to ensure maximum production.

AID IN MARKETING FISH.

The Department of Marine and Fisheries will pay two-thirds of the transportation charges on fish other than salmon, halibut and sablefish to points in British Columbia. This proportion of the charges is already being borne in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The consumption of fish in Tweed, Ont., now amounts to an average of one pound per person per week.

SAVING THE VEGETABLES.

Onion and Carrot Campaign in Two Cities is Splendid Success.

In order to prevent waste of the large stocks of carrots and onions in storage in Toronto and Hamilton and in the territory immediately adjacent, the Canada Food Board has been able to secure the co-operation of the local wholesale dealers, the newspapers and retail dealers in a campaign to increase consumption of these products. The campaign has met with splendid success. During the first three days one departmental store in Toronto disposed of no less than 150 tons of these vegetables and large sales are reported by other dealers. The produce houses estimate their sales during the first week at more than 3,000 bags of onions and nearly the same number of bags of carrots.

The Canada Food Board made it plain that this special effort to encourage consumption of the large surplus stocks must not be made an excuse to advance prices by the dealers and that any attempt to increase prices would be considered a violation of the Canada Food Board's instructions to the licensed dealers and would result in heavy penalties. Many of the dealers have been selling below cost but they realize the advantage to themselves of marketing these vegetables freely at prices which would encourage larger consumption. Moreover, the Canada Food Board's announcement that regulations were being prepared to penalize waste was a factor in bringing these supplies on to the market.

The Motion Picture Distribution Committee, co-operating with the Food Board, prepared slides and distributed them to all the motion picture theatres.

There are still large surplus stocks remaining but the success of the campaign during the first week makes it reasonably certain that, with continued co-operation on the part of the interests named, waste will be prevented. The saving of wheat, meat and other food which would be affected by increased use of these vegetables in Toronto and Hamilton will be very large.

USING FISH IN LUMBER CAMP.

The Fritz-Stormont Lumber Co., Limited, of Hudson Bay Junction, Sask., replying to a letter from the Canada Food Board urging the use of fish in lumber camps, state that they are feeding their men fish three or four times a week and will endeavour to increase the amount from time to time. They find that the use of fish in the camp saves a large quantity of beef.