

Famine and World-Hunger Are on Our Threshold!

"in the nation's honour, heed!
Acquit yourselves like men.
As workers on the land, do your
duty with all your strength!"

—LLOYD-GEORGE.

The Crisis

France, England and Italy in peace times did not depend upon America but on Russia, Roumania and Bulgaria for most of their breadstuffs. With these sources closed the crisis of the hour demands that we see that our soldiers and the Motherland are fed.

Everyone in Great Britain has been put on limited rations; meat is prohibited one day a week and the making of cakes and pastry has been stopped. Further restrictions are anticipated.

Bread has gone to 28c. per four-pound loaf in England, for the first time since the Crimean War.

Lord Devonport, British Food Comptroller, proposes taking authority to search the houses of Great Britain to prevent food hoarding.

Forty million men, less the casualties, are now on active service.

Twenty million men and women are supporting them by service in other war activities.

In the last analysis, the land is bearing this burden.

One million tons of food-carrying ships have been torpedoed since February 1st, 1917.

Germany's hope for victory is in the starvation of Britain through the submarine.

Canada's sons will have died in vain if hunger compels the Motherland's surrender.

The land is waiting—the plough is ready—will we make the plough mightier than the sword?

Will we help the acres to save the flag?

World-Hunger Stares Us in the Face

David Lubin, representative of the United States to the International Institute of Agriculture—maintained by forty Governments—reports officially to Washington, that the food grains of the world, on March 31st, 1917, showed a shortage of 150,000,000 bushels below the amount necessary to feed the world until August, 1917. He declares it is beyond question that unless a greater acreage is put to crop in 1917 there will be WORLD-HUNGER before the 1918 crop is harvested.

The failure of the grain crop in the Argentine Republic, which is ordinarily a great grain-exporting nation, resulted in an embargo being placed, in March, 1917, upon the export of grains from that country to avert local famine.

The United States Department of Agriculture, in its official report, announces the condition of the fall wheat crop (which is two-thirds of their total wheat crop) on April 1st, 1917, to be the poorest ever recorded, and predicts a yield of 244,000,000 bushels below the crop of 1915. The 1916 crop was poor. Even with favorable weather, the wheat crop of the United States is likely to be the smallest in thirty-five years, not more than 65 per cent. of the normal crop.

Under date of April 10th, Ogden Armour, executive head of Armour & Company, one of the world's largest dealers in food products, stated that unless the United States wishes to walk deliberately into a catastrophe, the best brains of the country, under Government supervision, must immediately devise means of increasing and conserving food supplies. Armour urged the cultivation of every available acre. The food shortage, he said, is worldwide. European production is cut in half, the Argentine



ONTARIO

Republic has suffered droughts. Canada and the United States must wake up!

People are starving to-day in Belgium, in Serbia, in Poland, in Armenia, in many quarters of the globe.

Famine conditions are becoming more wide-spread every day.

On these alarming food conditions becoming known, President Wilson immediately appointed a Food Comptroller for the United States. He selected Herbert C. Hoover, to whom the world is indebted as Chairman of the International Belgium Relief Commission for his personal direction of the distribution of food among the starving Belgians.

Mr. Hoover is already urging sacrifice and food restrictions, for, as he states, "The war will probably last another year and we shall have all we can do to supply the necessary food to carry our Allies through with their full fighting stamina."

The Problem for Ontario

The land under cultivation in Ontario in 1916 was 365,000 acres less than in 1915.

Consider how much LESS Ontario produced in 1916 than she raised in 1915:

	Acres.	Bushels.	1916 Acres.	DECREASE Bushels.
Fall Wheat—				
1916	704,867	14,942,050	105,315	9,794,961
1915	811,185	24,737,011		
Barley and Oats—				
1916	529,886	12,388,969	24,432	7,504,160
1915	552,318	19,893,129		
Peas and Beans—				
1916	95,542	1,243,979	31,401	799,070
1915	126,943	2,043,049		
Corn—				
1916	258,332	12,717,072	51,441	9,043,424
1915	309,773	21,760,496		
Potatoes and Carrots—				
1916	139,523	7,408,429	34,411	5,858,594
1915	173,934	13,267,023		
Mangel-Wurzels and Turnips—				
1916	42,793	9,756,015	8,906	15,600,303
1915	50,799	25,356,323		

Other crops show as critical decline.

Reports from Ontario on the condition of fall wheat for 1917 are decidedly discouraging.

As there is an average of not more than one man on each hundred acres of farm land in Ontario, the prospects indicate even a still smaller acreage under cultivation in 1917 unless extra labor is supplied.



—Photo from London (Eng.). Bystander
A FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL AT WORK
Miss Alexandra Smith, one of the thousands of British women workers on the land. She recently won an All Comers' Champion prize for plowing