

CO-OPERATIVE NOTES.

Co-operators and War.

It is of interest at this time to know how the co-operators of Great Britain are faring at the hands of their great wholesale organizations. The "Co-operative News," in its issue of August 8th, reports the situation at the central wholesale depot at Manchester:—

"Inquiries made at Baldson street towards the end of last week elicited the fact that in regard to sugar and flour the wholesale society was very favourably placed, and that it was in a position to let societies have supplies on terms which, under the circumstances, were exceptional. Outside millers, for instance, went up—or, rather, they sent up the price of their flour—very considerably, in some cases by as much as 10s, and even 13s, a sack. The Wholesale Society, not being the self-contained organization co-operators could make it, had no alternative to following suit; but its price last week never reached anything like what it was outside. . . . The head of the department which supplies societies with canned goods, bacon and hams informed the writer that all orders received up to the present had been dealt with, and produced figures to show that the societies had received supplies at prices which were considerably less than those ruling outside."

The British military authorities have placed large orders with the English Wholesale Society for food supplies, service boots and hospital furniture.

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In an editorial entitled "Why Any Co-operative Panic?" the "News" says: "During this crisis co-operative societies will be as safe as the Bank of England. . . . Organized as it is, and with the two wealthy wholesale societies behind it, there is probably no movement in the country which will be able to pass through the present trial of the nation more successfully than ours."

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In war, as in peace, the co-operative movement is a tower of strength to any nation. What is needed in Canada is a larger number of retail distributive co-operative societies, which will ensure the success of the wholesale department, which is now being planned by the Co-operative Union.

The Ottawa Store.

The business of the Ottawa store for the first five months of the present fiscal year, that is, from April to August, inclusive, is \$24,400, an increase of \$5,000 over the same period last year. Let our slogan be \$75,000 of business for this year. Each co-operator in the service should be a missionary to bring others into the profit-sharing fold.