

GOOD WORK IN MONTREAL.

Women's Food Economy Committee is Enthusiastic in Efforts.

The Women's Food Economy Committee of Montreal, organized at the initiation of the Local Council of Women last September, has been progressive and successful in promoting the cause of food conservation. The intention was that the committee should be representative of all women's societies doing public work. Mrs. Huntley Drummond was appointed Chairman and Mrs. V. V. Henderson, Organizing Secretary. They approached groups of women in all quarters of the city and had the French section of the community canvassed by the Federation National through its President, Madame Gerin Lajoie. Their work has been aided by the Montreal Housewives' League and the Domestic Science teachers of Macdonald College.

Members of the committee approached something like 3,000 women and found them receptive, interested and, in the main, ready to co-operate. They gave talks and demonstrations and distributed literature. They asked several of the companies where lunch is served to use war bread instead of white bread. With the same end in view, they requested all societies in the habit of serving afternoon tea to give it up for the duration of the war. The Women's Canadian Club in Montreal immediately complied with this request. Other smaller organizations and church societies also have eliminated the "tea hour" and where refreshments are necessary there has been a disposition to change the old order of things and to have real war-time refreshments.

A house-to-house campaign begins the week of January 20, when the ministers will be asked to co-operate by giving food conservation sermons throughout the city. Six hundred women are ready to devote their time and energies to this campaign.

BOYS' PIG CLUBS SUCCESSFUL.

Boys' pig clubs have made pure bred pigs common in parts of the Southern States where formerly a well-bred hog was scarcely known. Thousands of pure-bred pigs have been distributed among the boys with excellent results. Members of the boys' pig clubs have received very considerable profits for their work.

Several hundred applications from dealers in fresh fruits and vegetables for licenses have already been received. These are being dealt with promptly by the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of the Food Controller's Office.

CANADA'S PRIMARY DUTY.

Must Send Food to Ward off Starvation in Europe.

Hon. W. J. Hanna, Food Controller, addressing the Men's Association of Zion Methodist Church, Toronto, on January 8, declared that his primary duty was not price-fixing of foods for consumption in Canada but that of taking every possible means to relieve the desperate food shortage in Europe. Upon the success of his effort in Canada and a similar effort in the United States the result of the war itself might yet depend. "That duty must be done irrespective of what it costs us, and it must be done even if some other duties have to be disregarded."

"From the first I have been preaching 'save wheat, save beef, save bacon,' and I am still preaching that doctrine. Use substitutes even although they cost more. We owe it to the men at the front and the people across the water."

By saving 20 per cent of the normal consumption of wheat, Canada and the United States were expected to send 220,000,000 bushels of wheat to Europe out of the 1917 crop. This would not save Europe from hunger, but it would save the people from starvation, said Mr. Hanna.

Greater production would have to be undertaken in 1918. Increased production of hogs was already under way. In 1918, it would be necessary to raise 250,000,000 bushels more wheat in Canada.

"You ask what the Food Controller has done," said Mr. Hanna in conclusion. "I have told you some of the things he has done. Now I think it is a fair question for each one of you to ask yourself, 'What have I done, what am I doing, to alleviate the desperate situation confronting us in Europe.'"

STORE MORE NATURAL ICE.

An increased quantity of natural ice will probably be required in the spring, summer and fall this year by dairymen and other dealers in perishable food products because the supply of artificial ice may be much reduced. Such reduction is anticipated in view of the greatly increased demand for ammonia, which is a by-product in connection with the production of illuminating gas, and also on account of the coal shortage which may reduce the supplies available for the operations of artificial ice plants. By storing a plentiful supply of natural ice this winter a very important economy will be effected, and an ample amount of ice will be available for the warm weather.