MORE SHEEP NEEDED.

Enormous Increase in Price of Wool and Mutton.

The Federal Department of Agriculture is co-operating with the Food Controller in a general campaign for increased production of food animals. At the present time special emphasis is being put on the necessity of greater production of hogs, but there is also a very real need for more sheep.

"There never has been in generations such a demand for all kinds of breeding stock in Canada in east and west," said Mr. H. S. Arkell, Acting Live Stock Commissioner of Canada. "All surplus wool and sheep stocks, the world over, have been consumed, and we are now depending, from season to season, on the annual wool production which is entirely unable to meet the requirements. Substitutes such as cotton are being used more and more to help out the supply of wool. In Canada, our production is increasing to some extent, and we are aiming at a steadily increasing production. For some years our average crop of wool has been 12,000,000 pounds per year. Our reports for this year are encouraging, but undoubtedly our production will be away below both our capabilities and the world's requirements from us.

"The high prices for lamb, mutton and wool especially during the last 6 or 9 months, have been reasons for more attention being given to sheep raising, especially in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta. The increase in the number of sheep in all Canada this year amounted to 300,000, head, or 15 per cent.

As evidence of the increased value of sheep and wool, brought about by the war, the following prices are quoted by Mr. Arkell:

Wool:—

1914 .. ..16c. to 25c. a pound
1917 .. ..60c. to 65. a pound

Mutton, live weight:—

1914 .. ..5c to 7c.
1917 .. .. 14c. to 18c.

OLEOMARGARINE REGULATIONS.

The Food Controller, in co-operation with the Veterinary Director-General, has prepared additional regulations governing the manufacture of oleomargarine in Canada and its importation, and licenses will be issued from the office of the Veterinary Director-General, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, so as to be effective on and after December 10.

CONTROL PACKERS' PROFITS.

Official Announcement of the Government's Plan.

Official announcement was made this week as follows:

"In carrying out the policy of the Union Government as announced by the Prime Minister shortly after its formation, it has been decided to establish effective control over all packing houses in Canada.

"The control of profits shall be as follows:

"1. No packer shall be entitled to a profit to more than 2 per cent. of his total annual turnover, that is his total sales during any one year.

"2. If the two per cent on annual turnover exceeds 7 per cent on the actual capital invested in the business, the profits shall be further restricted as follows:

"(a) Up to seven per cent on capital the packer may retain the profits.

"(b) If the profits exceed seven per cent and do not exceed fifteen per cent one half of the profits in excess of seven per cent shall belong to the packer and one-half to the Government.

"(c) All profits in excess of fifteen per cent, shall belong to the Government.

"Suitable regulations shall be made to ensure the carrying out of this policy.

"The above is fulfilment of a plan which has been in course of preparation for some time and announced at Winnipeg on October 22."

HOTELS EFFECT SAVING.

Regulations Governing Public Eating Places Effective.

The Food Controller's office has issued cards to about fifty of the leading hotels and restaurants throughout Canada, with blanks to be filled in, showing the saving effected by the white flour, beef and bacon regu'ations, which went into effect on September 15 last. As in the case of the comparison between the amounts of these commodities used the month before these rules were in force and the amounts for the month after, showed a great saving, so do the figures for October, 1917, show a great economy in these staples both over September last and over October a year ago. In the case of bacon, incomplete returns show a saving of 39 per cent over September, 1917, and of 41 per cent over October, 1916