

MILLERS' PROFITS LIMITED.

Following his declared policy of refusing to permit middlemen handling food products to take excessive profits, the Food Controller has announced that the net profits of Canadian millers will be limited to a maximum average of 25 cents on the milling of sufficient wheat to make a barrel of flour of 196 pounds and the offals produced in connection with such milling. An arrangement to this effect was made by Mr. Hanna as the outcome of several conferences with representatives of all branches of the milling trade.

Every mill with a capacity of 100 barrels of flour or more per day must take out a license from the Food Controller. The licensing will be optional with mills with a capacity between 50 and 100 barrels per day. Every licensed establishment must submit each month a detailed sworn statement of costs of manufacture and profits on sales. Failure to comply with any of the regulations may result in suspension or cancellation of license.

The Food Controller will select and approve three standard grades of flour and all licensed mills will be required to manufacture and sell one or more of these standard grades. One will be a flour made from Manitoba spring wheat; the second will be a blended flour from a mixture of Manitoba spring wheat and Ontario winter wheat; while the third will be made entirely from winter wheat. These standard grades will be of first-class quality, suited to all purposes, and will have the additional advantage of representing the highest percentage extraction from the wheat that will give a wholesome loaf of bread. In this way there will be a saving in wheat because a larger proportion of the wheat berry will be utilized for human consumption.

For each of the standard grades a maximum cash price will be set from time to time. Such prices will be f.o.b. cars on track at point of delivery or the equivalent at point of origin. After October 5 when the announcement was made by the Food Controller, mills were not permitted to make any contract of sale for delivery at a longer period than 30 days ahead. Mr. W. Sanford Evans has been appointed by Mr. Hanna to supervise the carrying out of the arrangement with the millers and a special committee of the latter has been named to act in an advisory capacity to the Food Controller and on be-

half of the mills. It is expected that sufficient information will be in hand for the Food Controller to name the prices for the three standard grades of flour by November 1.

The mills will be permitted to manufacture their regular brands of flour, consisting of higher or lower quality than the standard grades, but such manufacture will be subject to the same general provisions as to profits.

At the conferences with the millers, the Food Controller intimated that he was considering the advisability of taking action in the interests of the public to restrict the sale of flour and other cereals in small packages. He was of the opinion that the small sack or package trade involved a needless waste and enhancement of cost to the consumer and that unless the purchaser wanted a large sack he would purchase more advantageously in bulk. In this way the expenses of handling and distribution which are paid by the consumer, would be reduced.

Those present at the conference with Mr. Hanna were: Mr. W. A. Black, Ogilvie Flour Mills Co., Montreal (Chairman); Messrs R. N. Price and N. C. Sinclair, representing the Empire Flour Mills Co., St. Thomas; Mr. W. T. Moore, Georgian Bay Milling Co., Meaford; Mr. J. R. Ness, Toronto; Mr. J. L. Hamilton, Ottawa, representing the Quaker Oats Co.; Mr. W. W. Hutchinson, Lake of the Woods Milling Co., Montreal; General A. E. Labelle, St. Lawrence Flour Mills Co., Montreal; Messrs. N. H. Stevens and S. S. Stevens, the Canada Flour Mills Co., Chatham; Messrs. W. H. Taylor and George A. Gray, of the T. H. Taylor Co., Chatham; Mr. L. Goldie, of the James Goldie Co., Guelph; Mr. J. E. Macfarlane, of Toronto, representing the Western Canada Flour Mills Co., Mr. D. A. Campbell, of the Campbell Flour Mills Co., Toronto; Mr. C. B. Watts, Toronto, Secretary of the Dominion Millers' Association; Senator H. W. Richardson, Kingston; Mr. W. Sanford Evans, Ottawa; Dr. R. Magill, of Winnipeg, chairman of the Board of Grain Supervisors for Canada; and Mr. J. Stewart, Winnipeg, head of the Wheat Export Company in Canada.

The special committee of the millers consists of General Labelle and Messrs. Black, Hutchinson, Macfarlane, Campbell, Goldie, Moore, Watts, Gray and Sinclair.