

necessary to supply himself and his family with food. High wages can mean nothing to him if every cent of increase in pay is offset or more than offset by an increase in the price of food. The salaried official is in the same position. To enable all branches of construction, manufacture, and trade, to find a level where a fair wage to Labor and a reasonable rate of return on invested capital may be paid, and prices and charges at the same time reduced, there must come some reduction in the cost of food which will be the outcome of a larger production <sup>or supply</sup> of production at a lessened cost.

Kind of production as  
important as quantity

Now note this point, which is all important. Food, in one way or another, is always related to the land. Something has to be grown or raised before there can be any increase in the quantity of food. It may be grain for flour or cereals or bread; it may be hogs for bacon, or lard or ham; it may be cattle for milk or cheese or beef; it may be fruit or vegetables, fresh, ~~dried~~ dried, preserved, or canned - whatever it is, so long as it partakes of the nature of food, it goes back to some form of agricultural or horticultural development. Now what does this mean? It means that only as agriculture in all its branches flourishes can we hope to find any real solution of the problem of the high cost of living. It is not enough to say that there must be increase in the quantity of production. The kind of production is just as important as the quantity, and the kind of production which, above all others, the world is calling out for to-day is food. During the War, it was first more men, then it was more munitions, then it was more ships, then more food. More food it has remained and is likely to remain for many years to come. It was starvation that, in the last analysis, ~~enough~~ <sup>enough</sup> the Germans and Austrians to their knees, and starvation means the absence of food.

If this be true, is it not time to ask ourselves, how promises it, with our supplies of food? Canada is a great agricultural country. We have land available for cultivation and use, on a scale, relative to our population, unequalled by any other country in the world. How have we proceeded?