

with representatives of provincial governments and farm organizations to formulate programs. New contracts calling for expanded shipments to the United Kingdom were made, and where the price arrangement with the British Ministry of Food was considered insufficient to produce the volume required, the federal government contributed financial assistance in one form or another.

In the main these demands affected only a limited number of products. It was not until 1942 that changes in Canadian food requirements and the food supply situation directed attention to the need for increased production in a much wider range of products.

DEMANDS ON FOOD PRODUCTION

While British requirements were expanding, other drains on the Canadian food supply increased.

Demands on Canadian food production are as follows:

1. Needs of the armed forces and ships' stores.
2. Domestic consumption.
3. Shipments to the United Kingdom and other countries.
4. Prisoners of war parcels.
5. International relief.

FOOD FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Purchases of food for the armed forces in Canada have made increasingly heavy demands on Canadian food production. Principal food commodity purchases for the armed services during 1941, 1942 and 1943 were as follows:

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>	<u>1943</u>
Meats.....	32,500 tons	50,000 tons	52,000 tons
Vegetables.....	57,000 tons	80,000 tons	105,000 tons
Bread.....	25,000 tons	33,000 tons	41,000 tons
Butter.....	5,000 tons	7,000 tons	8,500 tons
Eggs.....	5,800,000 doz.	8,500,000 doz.	19,500,000 doz.
Coffee and tea.....	1,600 tons	2,000 tons	2,500 tons
Evaporated milk.....	6,000 tons	9,000 tons	11,000 tons

Despite the heavy demands on food production from other sources and moderate restrictions on some commodities, total domestic consumption of food in Canada has increased during the war years. This is not surprising for a period when food production as well as the earnings of the population generally have increased.

According to a recent report of the Combined Food Board on food consumption levels in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, Canadian Food levels in 1943 were very close to those in the United States, while food supplies reaching the average British citizen were less than those in the other two countries.

The pre-war diets of the three countries were similar in commodity composition and nutritive value, although the United States had appreciably more dairy products, poultry, eggs and fruit than the United Kingdom and much more fruit and vegetables than Canada.

The following table compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shows the Canadian wartime increase in food consumption:

SUMMARY OF PER CAPITA SUPPLIES OF FOOD MOVING