

them for necessary fertilizer, of which there was a shortage of 10,000 tons. It would be necessary to guarantee farmers a supply by April 1st. As to seed, he would like to have money enough to buy 25 or 30 carloads as a reserve. If they could sell seed oats at \$1.25 he could guarantee an increased acreage of 30 per cent. Nova Scotia representatives quoted \$50,000 as the amount they desired to spend on increased production.

Hon. J. F. Tweeddale, of New Brunswick, said that labour, seed and fertilizer, were the main points of consideration. The Government had purchased 50,000 bushels of seed oats. Out of 15 counties, 11 had accepted the Government's offer to finance the seed supply.

One Million May Starve.

Dr. J. W. Robertson said there were two things needed: organization at headquarters in each province, especially for increased production, over and above the regular Agricultural Department staff and a thorough organization among the farmers themselves, running through from the Provincial Department to the counties and the townships. It should be the business of the local organizations to enlist leading farmers to put the facts of the food situation before their neighbours, and to see that each had sufficient seed, fertilizer and help. "If we don't get the farmers alive to the situation, half our effort will be lost," he said. "We have come to a crisis. Money is a secondary consideration. If you leave the organization incomplete, we will miss the opportunity this spring and thousands of acres will remain unsown. We should conscript the spare time of every man available for war service on the farms. In Quebec, for example, a small committee in each district could secure an increase of 25 per cent in production, which would mean doubling Quebec's surplus."

"Unless we can get more food now, we will go under," said Dr. Robertson, "and one million people will starve. That is my conviction, and I know as much about the situation, perhaps, as any one."

Mr. Thomson, at the close of the meeting, asked that each representative submit his recommendations in writing to be dealt with by the Board and laid before the Government.

The South Vancouver Horticultural Association has decided to adopt for a slogan for 1918, "Vegetables Galore," and to make vegetable production a special feature of the year's work.

SPADE AND HOE TO BEFRIEND THE RIFLE AND THE BAYONET.

(From a statement by the British
Ministry of Food.)

War is making bare the world's cupboards; the granaries are being emptied, the flocks thinned, the herds butchered, the mines scraped. War is making everything dear except human life; the destructive monster is consuming more food essentials than it is producing. Want follows hard in the wake of the chariot wheels of Mars, and the whole world is threatened with hunger, the menace of which will become greater with the prolongation of hostilities. Victory will go to the combatants who are best fed and nourished. The food question is now paramount. Food production is as essential to victory as food saving. . . . The spade and the hoe must befriend the rifle and the bayonet.

CONSERVATION PUBLICITY.

Retail Merchants are Co-operating with New Section of Food Board.

The Co-Operative Conservation Publicity Section of the Canada Food Board, under the chairmanship of Mr. F. W. Stewart of Montreal, was created to work with the retail merchants throughout Canada, to secure their co-operation in educating the people in conservation, elimination of waste and stimulation of garden cultivation and home production of food.

The retail merchants in all parts of Canada have shown every willingness to do all that they can in this educational campaign.

CLERGY ANXIOUS TO HELP.

Pastoral Letters sent out by some Bishops to the Clergy.

The Clergy of Canada, of all denominations, are promising to do everything in their power to promote the work of food conservation and production.

In a number of cases the Bishops are sending out pastoral letters to their clergy. Archbishop Matheson, Primate of all Canada, has promised his fullest support to the work of the Canada Food Board.

The Cardinals and Bishops of the Roman Catholic Church have also been written to and the replies from them are most gratifying.