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The Daily Herald

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 R. R. HINDMARCH

1918 AND THE FOOD SITUATION.

What will the historian say about the year on which the world soon will enter? We may be sure the food situation will bulk voluminously in his chronicles, and it may receive more prominence than even the progress of the war. The withdrawal of 30,000,000 men from the productive pursuits of peace; the destruction of shipping; the reduction and, in some cases, the paralysis of land transportation, have created a world shortage of basic commodities such as has not existed since the Middle Ages. To meet that emergency there must be a world readjustment of habits and customs. This process already has gone on among the belligerent countries in Europe where the exigencies and consequences of war are most thoroughly realized. How far will it be possible to convince the non-European peoples of the gravity of the outlook, of the need of food conservation and economy?

This continent is expected to play a decisive part in the defence of civilization against the famine menace just as it will play a decisive part in the military campaign against the common enemy in arms. It is expected to furnish its less favored Allies, who have borne the chief burden of the war for three years, with their most pressing food needs. For instance, Great Britain, France, Italy and their smaller associates will need at least 450,000,000 bushels of wheat before the next harvest. That is their irreducible minimum. Canada has an exportable surplus of 110,000,000 bushels on the basis of normal consumption of the United States has been. But by strict economy and substitution of other cereals it is hoped that this Dominion will be able to export much more than 110,000,000 bushels, while the United States by similar means is expected to create a large surplus for this purpose. If the shipping situation were easier it would be possible to utilize the surpluses of Argentina, Australia and India, but at best only a fraction of this supply will be available. The largest part of the demand must be met by improvising, economy and self-sacrifice on this continent.

Bacon is another urgent requirement abroad. North America must raise more hogs and consume less bacon. In this the Governments must become an active factor. They must see that feed for hogs must be obtained by those raising the animals at reasonable prices, and that substitutes for bacon shall be available to the public on the cheapest possible terms. Canada's fisheries should play an important part in meat substitution, but whether they will do so will depend upon the price of fish on the retail market. It is useless to pass regulations governing the price to be paid to fishermen, to the cold storage and the express companies and leave the price of the retail-

gar. In Great Britain the per capita consumption, which before the war was 16 1-3 pounds per year has been reduced to 26 pounds a year or an ounce per day. In France the sugar ration is one and one-tenth pounds per person per month. In the United States and Canada the per capita consumption of sugar is seven and seven-tenths pounds per month. The Canadian public is asked to reduce its per capita consumption to seven ounces per week, and if this is done the total saving would be 56,000,000 ounces per week. If the American reduction were the same the total saving would be 770,000,000 ounces per week. If the Canadian and American per capita consumption were cut in two the saving would be 450,000,000 pounds per month, and even then they would be using more sugar than their Allies now consume.

Canada and the United States are at war, but they are better off in regard to food supply and other commodities than even the European neutrals, and the difference would be more pronounced than it is if they were organized for war as completely as their overseas Allies, and subject to the same discipline and restrictions. If they had to treble their supplies of food and other necessities for Europe the effort would not produce, except in a very minor aspect, conditions of living approximating those which exist in Great Britain, France and Italy.

NOT ALLOWED TO ENTER RUSSIA

Stockholm, Dec. 28.—An American diplomatic courier on his way to Petrograd has been refused admission to Russia on the grounds his passport had not been signed by M. Borovskiy, Bolshevik minister. Stockholm. This is the first time that a regular courier pass has not been honored. It is assumed here that the Bolsheviks hope this way to exert pressure and compel the indirect recognition of the Government by the States.

VINOVA'S LOSS CONFIRMED
 New York, Dec. 29.—Officials of the Cunard line here today confirmed previously published reports of the sinking by a German submarine of the steamship Vinovia off the British Isles.



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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, IN PROBATE.

In the Matter of the Estate of Charles Weirich, deceased, and in the matter of the "Administration Act." TAKE NOTICE that by order of His Honour C. H. Barker made on the 24th day of December, A. D. 1917. I was duly appointed administrator of the estate of Charles Weirich, deceased, late of Parksville, Vancouver Island, in the Province of British Columbia. All parties having claims against said estate are hereby requested to mail or deliver same to Stanley M. C. Smith, official administrator, Nanaimo, B. C., on or before the 31st day of January, 1918, a full and correct statement (duly verified by statutory declaration), showing their name, occupation and address, and the amount and particulars of their claim and the nature of the security, if any, held by them.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after said date I shall proceed to distribute said estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to claims of which I shall have due notice. AND all parties indebted to said estate are hereby required to pay me their indebtedness forthwith. Dated at Nanaimo, B. C., this 24th day of December, 1917. S. M. C. SMITH, 55-56, Official Administrator.

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