

At the end of 1944 United States food authorities estimated that in view of probable domestic consumption and exports of meat during 1945, U.S. civilian meat supply would amount to 132 pounds per person during the year; Canada's estimate of her civilian supply was almost identical - 131.9 pounds per year (since the two countries are making every effort to hold their civilian consumption as close to the same level as is practicable). However, on March 17, 1945 the Office of War Information in Washington announced on behalf of U.S. government agencies in the food field that a reduction would be made in the second quarter of 1945 from the amount of meat allocated to U.S. civilian supply amounting to about 12% of the meat available in the first quarter of the year. This brings civilian supply of meat in the United States to a rate of about 115 pounds per person per year. Reaction of the Canadian government to this move has not yet been made clear. However, it should be kept in mind that at the beginning of this year the two governments (and the Combined Food Board, on which both are represented) had expected that the Canadian and the U.S. civilian should get exactly the same amount of meat in 1945, and also that in 1944 the American civilian ate more meat than the Canadian civilian. Caution should be exercised in passing judgment on the basis of a comparison of the Canadian estimated civilian supply for 1945 (which estimate was made in the summer of 1944) with U.S. estimate of civilian meat supply in 1945 as revised during the past few months.

Following are some further U.S.-Canadian meat consumption figures in 1944, taken from the sources mentioned above:

<u>Meat (Dressed weight)</u>	<u>Canada</u>	<u>U.S.</u>
<u>1944</u>		
Beef	61.7	53.0
Veal	11.0	12.0
Lamb and mutton	4.8	6.2
Pork (excluding lard)	61.4	75.8
Chicken	23.7	23.0
Other Poultry (Turkeys, ducks and geese)	3.9	3.1
Eggs	36.2	43.6

These figures indicate that actual meat available for civilian consumption during 1944 was about the same proportionately in both countries. If there was any difference, it was that the United States civilian consumer had a slight edge. But it should be remembered that the distribution of food on such a gigantic scale, and even the gathering of statistics, is a highly complicated business, and a small variation one way or another has little significance.

Canadians ate more beef. Americans ate slightly more veal, lamb and mutton. Americans ate more pork. Both ate about the same amount of chicken and poultry.