

TO ENSURE FISH SUPPLY.

Meeting in Ottawa Approves Several Important Plans.

Representatives of the Fish Committee of the Office of the Food Controller for Canada were in conference this week with the Fish Committee of the United States Food Administration, considering certain questions in regard to regulation of the fishing industry in inland waters.

The conference followed a meeting in Ottawa which was attended by representatives of the fishing industry on the lakes of Western and Central Canada. Plans were discussed whereby it is hoped to provide larger supplies of inland waters fish for the Canadian consumers at reasonable prices. The meeting considered the complaint of Canadian retailers and consumers that nearly all of the Canadian-caught lake fish was going to the United States, and that the price paid in Canada was based on the price paid in the export market.

The representatives present approved the proposal that all fishermen, producers, distributors and retailers should be licensed by the Food Controller. They also agreed that the Canadian trade should be fairly treated, and promised that Canadian dealers would be given an opportunity to secure enough fish to meet the requirements of the home market. It was proposed that permits should be required for the export of winter-caught Western fish, and that prices should be regulated by the Food Controller in order to avoid an undue rise in prices.

A draft schedule of prices for Western winter-caught fish was prepared. Any action which may be taken in regard to regulation of the price of such fish must be international in its application.

At the meeting in Ottawa were present: Messrs. W. Douglas of Winnipeg, J. W. Simpson of Selkirk, Captain W. Robinson of Selkirk, and Hon. Hugh Armstrong of Portage la Prairie, representing the wholesalers and producers of Manitoba and Saskatchewan; Mr. Walter S. Campbell, President of the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Fisheries Association, Edmonton, representing the Alberta producers; Mr. John Bowman, representing the Head of the Lakes producers, Port Arthur; Mr. A. S. Finlay and Mr. B. Crewe, representing the Lake Erie producers; Mr. F. T. James of Toronto, representing Ontario wholesalers; Mr. P. W. Smithers, of the Booth Company, Chicago; and Mr. C. C. Robbins, of C. C. Robbins, Inc. Chicago.

"EVERY KNOCK A BOOST."

Food Question is Featured at Women's Institute Convention.

The Eastern Ontario Women's Institutes were in convention in Ottawa last week, and the main topic for discussion in each session was the food question. Mrs. Adam Shortt, in giving the address of welcome, laid stress on the seriousness of the situation, and gave a brief account of the world shortage. At the evening session Dr. James W. Robertson outlined the situation, as he knew it, in France and England, and made an earnest appeal to the women to use every effort to help the Empire in this food crisis.

Mrs. Jean Muldrew also addressed the convention, and gave a clear statement of the aims of the Food Controller, and of the work that he had been able to accomplish. Mrs. Muldrew dealt with the difficulties encountered, and the criticism in connection with the Food Controller's work, and showed wherein such criticism was unjust. She urged the women to keep their eyes fixed on the real goal, and emphasized the gravity of the European situation to the women in the war zone, if the American and Canadian women failed them now.

"The Food Controller has been criticized because the regulations in the case of public eating places were not applied to private houses as well," said Mrs. Muldrew. "We have no machinery for enforcing this law on private individuals. To attempt to enforce it would have necessitated a system of espionage detestable to the Canadian people. England, the United States and Canada have adopted essentially similar methods, and have asked the people to ration themselves voluntarily, knowing well that if they cannot appeal to the honour and loyalty of the citizens, the case is lost from the beginning. Every knock for your Food Controller is a boost for the Kaiser."

Mrs. Muldrew declared that by reason of improved shipping facilities secured at the initiative of the Food Controller every reliable dealer who is ready to pay cash for fish, can obtain shipments either from the Ontario Government, or by purchasing through the agencies which handle fish from the Atlantic.

Three members of the Fruit and Vegetable Committee have been in Prince Edward Island this week studying the potato situation with a view to facilitating the marketing of the surplus crop.