

Although delivery of the wheat was delayed because of shipping shortages, this commitment has now been completed.

Canada is a contributor with the United Kingdom, the United States and the Argentine to an international wheat relief pool following an agreement made in 1942 between the big wheat buying and selling nations. A pool of 100,000,000 bushels of wheat was established for relief uses, with the United States contributing 50,000,000 bushels, the United Kingdom and Canada 25,000,000 each. Argentina also offered to contribute some 200,000 tons of wheat to the pool.

So far as continuing and even extending food controls and rationing into the post-war, Canadians show the same willingness as Americans to put up with these wartime restrictions in order to help the liberated peoples of Europe. A series of half a dozen opinion polls during the last 12 months returned an answer of about 71% in favour of continuing and even extending rationing and controls if it should be necessary for a few years after the war's end; and the other people polled did not all vote "no"; the polls indicated an average of 6% or 7% "undecided."

Prisoners of War Parcels -- Through the Canadian Red Cross Canada is shipping parcels to prisoners of war at the rate of 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 yearly or about 140,000 a week. Each of these parcels contains approximately 11 pounds of food, including butter, sugar, tea, dried fruit, chocolate, powdered milk, cheese canned meat and fish. The amount of butter sent in these parcels in one year is equal to more than one week's ration for the entire population of Canada. Every Canadian prisoner of war, and most British prisoners of war in Europe, get one parcel a week; and a proportion of parcels is set aside for delivery to other allied prisoners of war. No allocation of food carries a higher priority than this.

Overseas Canteens -- The Canadian fighter is well fed, but canteens are also maintained where he can get small extras such as biscuits, chewing gum etc. Quantities of chocolate bars, canned fruits, vegetables and meats, pickles, sauces and similar minor luxuries are going overseas each month, chiefly to Canadians but also to other allied soldiers.

Newfoundland and the British West Indies -- To make the best use of shipping Canada has assumed a much larger share of the requirements of Newfoundland and British West Indies for the foods they cannot produce themselves. While these amounts are not large in comparison with other demands, they are one more strain on Canada's food resources.

Ships' Stores -- Since the outbreak of war Canada has undertaken another important task, that of completely victualling the huge armadas of merchant ships that are constantly assembling in and departing from its ports. All these ships (more than 100 a week) are victualled not only for their outgoing trip but also for their return voyage in order to relieve the country of destination of the burden of supplying them with food. Moreover, each ship as it leaves is victualled for the longest possible voyage, for frequently ships are re-routed to more distant ports after they have sailed. This victualling job has to be done speedily. Large quantities of food have to be put on board many ships on short notice. This has called for a highly efficient organization and the supply of tremendous quantities of food to the ports. Ships' stores are taken from retained stock set aside for the purpose and not from domestic civilian supplies.

Requirements are based on a strict per man per day scale, and every requisition from a ship's master must be approved before delivery. Goods are checked on board ship at irregular intervals at all ports, and an accounting of all surplus goods is required if a ship returns to Canada before the expiry date of its last storing period. Because of this close check-up there is little chance of Canadian ships' stores