

kitchen grease is disposed of by sale under arrangements approved by the chief salvage officer.

The next recommendation was that some system should be devised whereby the quality of meat furnished could be passed on by government inspectors prior to the carcass being cut up.

The action taken was this. The question of the inspection of beef at packing houses by Department of Agriculture inspectors to ascertain whether it conformed with the specifications of contract prior to its distribution to the supply depots was under consideration at the time the subcommittee considered this matter of meat inspection. In the spring and early summer of 1941 a system was adopted whereby all beef, destined for the army supply depots inspected at point of origin and found in accordance with departmental specifications was stamped with a Department of National Defence prick stamp which designated that, at the time of inspection, the beef was in accordance with government specifications. This inspection, however, does not in any way relieve the officers of any of their responsibility; they make their own inspection when the beef arrives at their supply depots and, if judged by them to be below contract specifications, their duty is immediately to reject such beef, regardless of the fact that it may carry the stamp of the agriculture inspector referred to above.

Mr. TUSTIN: How many times has beef been rejected?

Mr. RALSTON: I am sorry I cannot say. Does the hon. member mean in a month?

Mr. TUSTIN: Yes, and in Canada.

Mr. RALSTON: The subcommittee recommended that consideration be given to possible changes in the ration to meet the needs of flying personnel in the air force.

I can say that there is a standing committee on nutrition, which was mentioned the other night. That committee is headed by Doctor Hunter of Toronto and has been meeting. I know that lately a new diet scale has been issued and approved. The first meeting was held in Ottawa on January 26, and I know several meetings have been held since. As a matter of fact, the recommendations of the committee have been approved.

Then there was a recommendation from the subcommittee that each branch of the service appoint one officer or board of officers to be responsible for salvage, and that all personnel of the armed forces be made salvage-conscious, particularly quartermasters and supply officers.

Periodic inspections were recommended to be made of all stores, and such as are no longer serviceable in any branch of the services are to be turned over to the civilian board for disposal.

The action taken has been that an army salvage and disposal board has been created, with district representatives. All salvageable material including packing boxes, jute sacks, crates, cartons, bags of various kinds, waste-paper, et cetera are collected and disposed of on instructions of this board. Records of sales, such as recoverable invoices, et cetera, are maintained by the district supply and transport officer, or the camp supply and transport officer, as the case may be, who submits to the army salvage and disposal board such reports as are required from time to time by that board.

The subcommittee recommended that arrangements be completed for the transfer of waste oils from the air force to the army for reclaiming.

I may say that that was the subject of a return made to the house the other day. The hon. member asked whether any steps had been taken toward the reclamation of oil used in the army. The answer for the army was that oil reclaimers have been installed at Debert, Sussex, Ottawa, Camp Borden and London, Ontario. So far the operational output has been able to handle only waste oils from army supplies. It has not handled transmission greases and heavier lubricants. The organization of these reclaiming plants is now being carried out to increase their capacity to handle larger quantities of waste oil and, therefore, to be in a position to reclaim air force oils for army requirements up to the quantities the army can use, wherever freight, transport and other charges make it economical to do so.

I may say that I know personally that steps have been taken in connection with that matter. The master-general of the ordnance has had it under consideration. I am not so sure that those reclaiming stations or mechanical installations will be increased. We have under consideration another plan upon which I shall not now enlarge. It is a commercial plan which, it seems to me, will perhaps be more useful, in that it does not call for the expert personnel which are required in these reclaiming installations. That is to say, in the present instance the army has to turn aside from its regular job of training men for the army, and train them in the collection and careful preservation and segregation of the various oils used. I was amazed by the reclamation apparatus installed in these stations. From conversation with those who ought to know I have found that labora-