What is Food Control?

WHAT IS FOOD CONTROL, this new knowledge forced on Man by war? It is the most appalling undertaking the collective world has had. It is the fight against World Famine.

ł

Food Control is no more "fixing" prices for the masses than it is spoon-feeding for the individual. Price-fixing is a small, often only an insignificant, part of its ramifications. Food Control in its last terms is food production, food possession, food distribution and food allotment by the State. That is what it has come to in all but name in France, in England and in Italy. It came, perhaps less democratically, in Germany and Austria-Hungary many months ago. In its international aspect, Food Control now means, or will shortly mean, the finding of food for between 400,000,000 and 500,000,000 people three times a day for seven days a week as long as the war lasts, and as long afterwards as may be requisite to restore, all over the world, the disturbed means of distribution-a period put at anywhere between one and three harvests.

CONTROL IS NOT WAND-WAVING

With the cobwebs off our eyes so that we understand that Food Control is not wand-waving about "fixing" prices, something else comes into sight. It is that Food Control is everywhere an utterly new knowledge for man. Like aerial flight and undersea navigation, it was known theoretically before the war. Each of these new practical sciences may be continued for peace purposes when the last echo of belligerency has died. "And the greatest of these" is Food Control. It may be, indeed, one of the inexplicable compensations for so much suffering today that Food Control, started chiefly through the vile driving purpose of war, may, in the future, help to right those dire inequalities of poverty and destitution by teaching a better, a fairer, a wiser distribution of foodstuffs.

66910