

Term of agreement -	Fourth Agreement	Fifth Agreement
Beginning	April 1, 1943	April 1, 1944
End	March 31, 1944	March 31, 1945
Quantity contracted for -- Total Cases (48 one-lb-tins to a case)	300,000	300,000
Total Quantity shipped -- cases	300,828	
Pounds of milk required to manufacture evaporated milk according to contract	40,500,000	40,500,000

EGGS

Before the war egg shipments to the United Kingdom totalled little more than 1,000,000 dozen annually. From September, 1939, to May, 1940, eggs were exported by private Canadian exporters to private British importers. In May, 1940, the British Ministry of Food became the sole importer, and on April 15, 1941, control of all Canadian exports was assumed by the Special Products Board operating under the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Early in 1942 all exports of eggs to the United Kingdom were changed from shell eggs to dried egg powder. In this form substantial saving in shipping space can be made, and eggs will keep for much longer periods. In the spring of 1941 contracts were entered into which called for the shipment of 13,800,000 dozen, half as fresh eggs and the remainder to be stored for shipment in the autumn. Subsequent contracts were entered into for an additional 23,100,000 dozen for shipment from December 1, 1941, to May 1, 1942. All shipments since February, 1942, have been made in dried form, for which the installation and operation of the necessary processing machinery was required.

A new egg contract has been negotiated with the British Ministry of Food, calling for 7,500 long tons of dried egg powder a year - equivalent to 48,000,000 dozen shell eggs for two years.

Domestic consumption of eggs has increased during the war, to some extent due to the short supplies of beef and pork products, the adoption of meatless Tuesdays in public eating places (now temporarily suspended) and the increased purchasing power of consumers.

The 1944 production objective for eggs has been established at 367,500,000 dozen, or an increase of 10% over 1943. Production will be increased or maintained in all provinces in 1944.

One of the remarkable developments, along with increased production, has been the expansion in egg inspection. In 1943, 1,858,174 cases were inspected as compared with only 387,818 cases in 1939.

FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

The North American deciduous fruit crop in 1943 was the smallest for many years.

Grapes and citrus fruits were the only crops of which the supply was anything like normal.

The ceiling price on fresh fruit cut off some supplies that would otherwise have come to Canada from the United States but which, because of much higher prices, it has become impossible to import and sell under the Canadian ceiling.