

FOR MORE HOG PRODUCTS.

Quebec has Splendid Opportunities for Greater Production.

Prof. H. Barton, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Macdonald College, Quebec, has issued a statement in reference to increased hog production. He says in part:—

"There is a world shortage in meat. The shortage is serious and is definitely affecting the requirements for the allied armies. The one meat most needed and that can most effectively meet the situation is pork. Pork will supply bacon and fat, two vital commodities in war requirements.

"The Province of Quebec registered its only decrease in live stock production since 1911 in hogs. Every other class of live stock increased in that period. Yet Quebec among the provinces has one of the best opportunities for increasing hog production. It is officially conceded that Quebec and Alberta have the two best opportunities. Quebec now possesses one-quarter of the Dominion's hog, while Ontario, not any better situated for hog production, possesses over one-half. Montreal is one of the best hog markets in the world. There is just as much raw material in Quebec as any where else; just as big a place can be made for hogs on the average farm of Quebec as in any other province; and the farmers of Quebec can feed and raise hogs just as capably and just as profitably as any other people.

"No appeal need accompany this information. It is a patriotic duty and a business undertaking to double the hog output of this province. The time to begin is now and the way to begin is by breeding at least one extra sow within the next few weeks. There will be a demand for pigs next spring."

ANONYMOUS CIRCULARS.

Food Controller Reassures Legitimate Dealers in Foodstuffs.

The Food Controller warns manufacturers, wholesale dealers and retail dealers handling food commodities against anonymous letters. Several unsigned circulars marked "confidential" and containing statements which are not only disturbing to the trade but are untrue as well, have been received by merchants throughout Canada. The Food Controller wishes it to be understood that no regulations which will embarrass any legitimate business will be adopted by him unless absolutely necessary to protect the public.

NOTES ON PRODUCTION.

Items About the Situation in Canada and in Europe.

A wheat crop for 1918 of 12,000,000 bushels—the amount which the province consumes each year—is the standard set by the Minister of Agriculture for Quebec in the Speech from the Throne, at the opening of the Legislative Council and Assembly on December 5. Last year more than 5,000,000 bushels of wheat were raised in the province from an acreage which was four times as large as that of 1911. In 1905 the wheat raised in Quebec was only about 1,000,000 bushels. There was also a marked increase this year in oats, barley and rye.

The United States Department of Agriculture is urging a fifteen per cent increase in the production of pork for 1918 and has appealed to individual farmers to do all that they can to aid.

Dr. G. C. Creelman, Commissioner of Agriculture for Ontario, has expressed the opinion that from other than regular farm labourers, the best promise of help for the farmers comes from the High School boys. He suggested that girls of the cities in many cases should go out to assist the farmers' wives in their housework.

Final figures for the cereal harvest of Denmark show a total of roundly 62,000,000 bushels, which is 20,000,000 bushels less than in 1916, and some 10,000,000 bushels less than was reckoned in the summer, when the authorities fixed the bread ration. It is probable that the bread ration will be reduced.

The food situation is becoming worse in Switzerland, and the people are now on rations. The bread ration has been fixed at 250 grammes (about half a pound) a day per person; the sugar ration is fixed at 750 grammes (about a pound and a half) per month; and the butter ration at 100 grammes (about one-fifth of a pound) per month.

M. Maurice Long, Minister for General Revictualling of France, indicated recently that as a result of the shortage of wheat the bread ration would have to be reduced by 20 per cent. The manufacture and consumption of pastry will be entirely suppressed from January 1, except on Sundays and holidays.

"Soldiers must be fed, no matter how those they leave behind have to restrain their appetites. The alternative may be failure through famine."—The Montreal Gazette.