

people were urged to live well within the scale. Under the compulsory scale even this has not in all districts been attained, though this difficulty may be due to the newness of the methods of distribution.

On February 26 the British Food Ministry cabled to the Canada Food Board:

"Compulsory rationing of meat, butter or margarine and fats came into force yesterday throughout London and the Home Counties. Fourteen million people are now restricted to about 1½ pounds of meat, 4 ounces of butter or margarine and one-half pound of sugar per week. By March 25 compulsory rationing of these foodstuffs will be universal in the United Kingdom."

These amounts represent a drastic reduction from the schedule of voluntary rationing under the pledge of the League of National Safety. During January the Ministry of Food issued a memorandum showing the estimated beef and mutton supplies which would be available for the civilian population of the United Kingdom in 1918. It revealed deficiencies of nearly 30 per cent compared with 1916-17 and almost 45 per cent compared with 1913-14. Consumption of these meats had been at the rate of 150,000 tons a month in the year preceding the war. In 1916-17 the quantity had dropped to 120,000 tons, and the total available supplies in sight for 1918 are not more than 88,000 tons a month. The memorandum emphasized the dependence of Great Britain on North American sources because of the shortage of shipping to make the long Australasian voyage and the lack of refrigerator cargo-space through the necessary diversion of some such shipping for the use of France and Italy.

THE LINK WITH AGRICULTURE.

Closely allied with Food Control, indeed essentially, a part of its anticipatory concern, is agricultural production. No one can regard food supplies without asking "What of the next crop?" England's encouragement of agriculture has been more efficacious than that of any other country, according to The American Food Journal. The Corn Production Bill of April, 1917, guaranteed to grain farmers a sliding
