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WHY CANADA MUST PRODUCE MORE FOOD,

The dangers of the food shortage and the necessity of the greatest possible production by Canada this year are emphasized by the following facts:—

Lord Rhondda says: "The Allied larder is dangerously empty but we are carrying on in the resolute belief that we can rely on the people of North America to prevent our food supplies from becoming so diminished as to imperil the issue for which we are all fighting."

Sir William Goode, Secretary of the British Ministry of Food, in a recent address said: "Few people have yet grasped the fundamental fact that Great Britain still relies on the United States and Canada for sixty-five per cent of her essential food-stuffs. Unless we can get this food, or nearly all of it, we shall peter out."

Viscount Milner, member of the War Cabinet, speaking at Plymouth this week, said that the Allies were fighting for their lives and the very existence of the free nations of Western Europe. It was no longer a question of destroying Prussian militarism, but whether Prussian militarism would destroy the Allies and dominate Europe and part of Asia.

Mr. Herbert Hoover, United States Food Administrator, in a statement just issued, says that cereal exports to the Allies from this continent are 45,000,000 bushels short of the amounts promised, while meat exports are also very far behind the quantities which it had been planned to send and upon which the Allies were counting.

Even a short interruption in the supplies from this continent, upon which the Allies are now dependent for their daily bread and for most of their essential food supplies, would cause famine conditions. Reserve stocks of wheat and meat have practically disappeared. On a recent date France had only three days' supply of wheat and flour for her civilian population.

The following table shows how the standard crops of France have been reduced from pre-war production by reason of the lack of fertilizer and the diversion of men and horses to war work:—

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Wheat crop reduced. | 53.3 per cent. |
| Potato crop reduced. | 53.1 " |
| Sugar beet crop reduced. | 67.9 " |

Figures compiled some months ago by the French authorities showed how the herds of live stock have been depleted:—

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Cattle reduced by. | 16.5 per cent. |
| Sheep " | 36.6 " |
| Hogs " | 40.2 " |

Lack of feedingstuffs and the shortage of meat have necessitated a much further reduction during the last six months.

Canada has been supplying only the following percentages of the Allies' import requirements:—

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Beef. | 2.23 per cent. |
| Pork products. | 8.55 " |
| Butter. | 1.40 " |