

PREVENTING WASTE OF FOOD.

Surplus of Apples and Potatoes Reduced by the Canada Food Board.

The Anti-Waste and Anti-Hoarding Order and other efforts by the Canada Food Board have been responsible in large measure, for the reduction in the surplus of apples and potatoes throughout Canada, with the consequent moderation in price which has resulted from the freer marketing of these products. The order, with its heavy penalties, applies to farmers, dealers and others who fail to market potatoes, apples or other food in time to get them into consumption before they spoil.

The reduction in holdings was brought about despite the fact that dealers were obliged to dispose of their stocks in many cases at a considerable loss, because they had held their apples too long.

Reports showed that the reduction at Winnipeg was not as large as it should have been and after satisfying itself that immediate marketing was necessary to prevent waste, the Food Board ordered the storage houses to put on the market at once all apples "of varieties that will not keep for a long period."

The Food Board is constantly protecting legitimate interests of both producers and consumers. Recently acceptance of delivery was refused in the case of six cars of potatoes consigned to Toronto from the New Brunswick Potato Exchange. Since these cars were shipped the price had broken. The Food Board arranged by telegraph for and examination by an Inspector of the Dominion Fruit Branch, and upon receiving his report instructed the consignees to accept shipment.

A large number of cases have occurred when consignees refused, for various reasons, to accept delivery. These have been promptly adjusted and where there was danger of waste instructions have been issued for immediate marketing. Two carloads of foodstuffs were recently put on the market at Regina, under instructions of the Canada Food Board, after a dispute had arisen and delivery had been refused. The waste which has been prevented in this way has been very large.

"CASH AND CARRY" PRICES SAVE.

An analysis of "Cash and Carry" prices and "Credit and Delivery" prices has been made by the United States Food Administration, and it was found that the "Credit and Delivery" prices were higher by 5 per cent or more on the majority of the commodities selected.

FISH SUPPLY IS AVAILABLE. CONSUMPTION IS WAR DUTY.

In order to make possible increased consumption of fish in Canada, thus securing increased exportable supplies of meat and wheat, the British Admiralty has released trawlers from mine-sweeping for fishing service off the coasts of this country and has diverted flax from the manufacture of aeroplane wings to the making of fish nets. Now that the supply of fish is available at moderate prices, if the people of Canada do not respond the sacrifices will be in vain.

WHEN YOU BUY POTATOES.

Bag Must Weigh Ninety Pounds Under Inspection and Sale Act.

Under the Dominion Inspection and Sale Act as amended in 1914, a bushel of potatoes must weigh 60 pounds; a peck must weigh 15 pounds; and a gallon 7½ pounds. A bag of potatoes must weigh 90 pounds, and a barrel must contain 165 pounds of potatoes. This applies also in Quebec where a bag now is legally 90 pounds, although 80 pounds was formerly the legal weight in that province. Any person who buys a bag of potatoes and receives less than 90 pounds may invoke the penalties provided by the Act—for the first offence, a fine not exceeding \$25 and for each subsequent offence a fine of not less than \$50, with imprisonment in default of payment.

FLAX-SEED FOR THE FARMERS.

The British Government has secured a supply of Japanese Flax Seed which is being distributed free to farmers in Canada on condition that the same quantity be returned after the harvest. For the surplus the Imperial authorities will pay \$4.50 per bushel for No. 1 grade seed.

TO CULTIVATE RAILWAY LANDS.

The Dominion Atlantic railway offered all available land along its right of way last year to any of the employees who cared to cultivate it and the same arrangement has been made for 1918, with the addition that, in Kentville, N.S., the land suitable for cultivation, totalling 9½ acres, has been placed at the disposal of the employees and any of the citizens of Kentville, free of charge. The company has also agreed to plow such land without cost to the applicant.