

terials after the war. In "Der Welthandel," of Bremen, recently appeared a long article, explaining that Germany would need, first, material for spinning, hides and skins, high-grade ores, rubber, oil kernels, animal fats, fodder, cocoa, tea, tobacco, etc. Cotton, wool and copper especially are badly needed, since nearly all civilian Germany has, for a year or two, been dressed in cloth made from paper yarn, and every article containing copper, even the roofs of the churches, has been seized for munitions. The "Vossische Zeitung" speaks frankly:—

"By cutting off textiles, the Anglo-Saxons will harm us in our clothing and comfort, but if they succeed in depriving us of raw oleaginous products, or hampering our supply, then they will be attacking the sources of our existence.

"The ruin of our candle, soap, fat, oil and varnish industries would not be the worst consequence. The residues from oleaginous plants, as cattle food, play a preponderating part in our farming. From these our oil industry obtained 800,000 tons of vegetable oils, while 900,000 tons were transformed from pulp into cattle fodder. It is no mere fanciful statement that if, after the war, we obtain practically no more oleaginous products from the English colonies, then we lose over 70 per cent. of colza and rape seed imports, 45 per cent. of our poppy imports, 50 per cent. of our ground nut imports, and nearly 30 per cent. of our sesame imports. We would not get more than 10 per cent. of our previous palm kernel supply, and we should lose 45 per cent. of our copra imports. Fibrous materials and oleaginous fruits are by far the most important for us, and after that comes copper."

Having such a wealth of raw materials of every kind, especially tropical products, the Entente nations may contemplate without uneasiness any prospect of an economic war with Germany and its dependents. In fact, the larger concern among the Allies must be the arranging of a policy among themselves for the distribution of the surplus stocks of materials. The recent Imperial War Conference in London, and the Colonial Conference as well, considered at great length the position of the British Empire in the matter of raw materials. Some important decisions were adopted, according to intimations from high authority. Probably as a result of these the British Government announced its decision to begin a policy of preference to products of the Dominions entering the United Kingdom. The Empire Governments have to consider, first, how the special resources of the Empire shall be used to build up the various sections of it—and particularly the Mother Country; second, how such Allies as France and Italy may get their full share of materials; third, how arrangements will be made with outside nations for such needed ma-

terials for industry. Apart from the United States, perhaps, the British Empire has a dominating part in the production of raw materials. It produces two-thirds of the finer wools for export, practically all the jute, most of the rubber, most of the tin, most of the nickel, most of the hemp. It produces about a fourth of the cotton and a large proportion of the tropical oils. Even the United States is dependent in many respects upon it.

It is obvious that much of the Empire's policy regarding raw materials must depend on whether it is necessary to combat Germany economically. In any event, we shall see allied doors closed to German goods for a long time out of sheer individual repugnance toward them. German goods will find a small market in Britain and in the Dominions, in France, Belgium, Italy, and probably the United States. But, as a wheel within the wheel, the policy of a self-contained and mutually co-operative Empire must be upheld as a foremost condition for after the war. We must not forget that the Motherland will be more badly exhausted than ever before in her history. The safety of the Empire depends on her recuperation to her former leading position. The various Dominions will be tempted to exploit their resources for the highest bidder, and to put their individual gain before co-operation. The important thing is that the Empire statesmen shall understand the great purpose of a closer trade connection between the various parts of the Empire. The resources of the Dominions should first be offered to the Motherland at fair market value. The building up of cheap sea transport between its various parts must be an Empire concern. Cheap cable communication, a new system of exchanging information and ideas and reciprocal trade concessions wherever possible will be needed.

To arrange all this without giving any of the Allies cause for offence, or causing any to feel that it is discriminated against, will need a bold, yet delicate hand. We must not forget that the United States, with its great new resources, will be in possession of an immense merchant marine. Legitimate trade concern bids Britain and the Dominions, once the war is out of the way, to hustle most energetically to recover lost ground. The proper direction of exports of Empire raw material should feed the British merchant marine and enable it to recover from its losses by the submarine. President Wilson has expressed his hope of "the removal, as far as possible, of all economic barriers and the establishment of an equality of trade conditions among all nations consenting to the peace and associating themselves for its maintenance." That is good policy, but it does not debar legitimate effort for the construction of a stronger Empire, economically, by internal preferences and special connections, having due regard for the claims of those associated with the Empire in the grand struggle to save civilization from the horror of Prussian triumph."

Dealers and others who may be ambitious in regard to this year's crop of potatoes and apples have been warned by the Canada Food Board against speculation. "In negotiations for the purchase or sale of apples, potatoes or other roots, due consideration should be given to the possibility of some action being taken by this board," declares their recent statement.

The consumption of Atlantic fish in Ontario for the first six months of 1918 was 500 per cent. over that of last year. In the western provinces the consumption of Pacific fish has also been vastly increased since the war, but Canadian fish consumption is still far short of the one pound per week standard recommended by the Canada Food Board in order to conserve meat supplies.

New sugar regulations have been put into effect by the Canada Food Board by which restaurants are limited to two pounds of sugar for every ninety meals served, while soda fountains and ice cream establishments are restricted to 25 per cent. of the average monthly amount of sugar used during 1917. The various manufacturers using sugar have also been subjected to revised regulations.

Hon. Geo. S. Henry minister of agriculture for Ontario, reports an increased area of 260,000 acres over 1917. The spring wheat crop was more than doubled with a yield of 22.7 bushels to the acre, the highest in the history of the province. A total of 127,000,000 bushels of oats was raised in Ontario. Helpers are now needed for the September clean-up and preparations for getting in the fall wheat.