

CANADA'S FEED SUPPLY.

Farmers must not Depend Chiefly upon Bran and Shorts—Situation Fully Explained

In order to prevent retail dealers taking advantage of the scarcity of bran and shorts to exact excessive profits over the prices fixed by the Food Controller, the latter has ordered that the retail price of bran and shorts, where cash is paid, must not exceed by more than ten cents per bag the cost f.o.b. track at the dealer's station. In cases where purchasers take delivery direct from the car the profit has been limited to a maximum of five cents per bag. An extra charge may be made where credit is given and the bran and shorts delivered from the dealer's store, but this amount must be only a reasonable charge representing the consideration of such services. When the miller sells at the mill in less than carload lots, he is not permitted to add more than five cents per bag of 100 pounds to the price at which he is permitted to sell under the Food Controller's Order of December 17, 1917.

When Purchaser Supplies the Bags.

When the purchaser brings bags to the mill to be filled, the miller must not add more than \$2 per ton to the price at which he is permitted to sell under the Order of December 17. In effect, the miller must not charge more than the fixed Fort William bulk prices, plus or minus freight to or from Fort William, and in addition \$2 per ton as retail charges. For example, suppose that at a point in Eastern Canada the freight from Fort William is \$4.20 per ton. In this case the selling price for bran per ton when the purchaser supplies the bags would be \$24.50 plus \$4.20 plus \$2, a total of \$30.70. The Order applies to all millers and dealers in Canada.

While this action has been taken in order to render available to the farmer all supplies of bran and shorts at the lowest possible cost, the amount obtainable is very limited and farmers must depend mainly upon other feeding stuffs. Prices for livestock are such that, despite the high cost of coarse grains, it is profitable to feed them to food animals.

Price kept from Rapid Advance.

The statement from the Food Controller's Office says that, IF THE PRICE OF BRAN AND SHORTS HAD NOT BEEN FIXED, THESE PRODUCTS WOULD HAVE RISEN IN PRICE TO AN AMOUNT REPRESENTING THEIR FEEDING VALUE COM-

PARED WITH OTHER GRAINS AND FEEDS. But the fixing of the price has only ensured that in so far as these feeds are available they are comparatively cheap: the supply has not been increased thereby.

The present total daily production of bran and shorts by all the mills in Canada is only 84 cars and the supplies of wheat will not enable even this rate of production to be maintained for the balance of the crop year. The total bran and shorts produced in Canada if divided among all the farm livestock in Canada would only give one meal in three weeks. A flour mill of 100 barrels capacity daily manufactures less than two tons of bran and shorts per day which means that a single carload will only be produced every two weeks.

Conserving Feed for Farmers.

The Food Controller has taken measures to reserve for the farmers of the Dominion all by products of grain elevators that are available for stock feed and also feed-wheat, bran and shorts and all such mill feeds. Applications for licenses to export 6,640 tons of bran, shorts and mill feeds, have been refused. Indeed the saving has been very much greater because the mills were definitely informed that licenses would not be issued for the exportation of such products. Feed wheat has all been retained in Canada and more than 2,850 tons of screenings have also been saved from export. Arrangements have been made which will keep the exportation of oats, barley and other feeds to a minimum except for shipments by the Allied nations.

The Food Controller has been in constant communication with the authorities at Washington with a view to expediting shipments of corn into this country for feeding purposes. Arrangements have been made for its entry as soon as means of transportation have been provided. The American corn crop is the greatest in the history of that country but the car shortage, combined with the fact that much of the corn is wet and cannot be shelled until it has had a long period of seasoning, has kept supplies from the market. At least until it is available farmers are advised to use domestic coarse grains for livestock and also to make use of whatever quantities of cottonseed meal, oil cake and gluten meal and mixed feeds are obtainable.