

Canadian Food Bulletin

No. 6.

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The Canadian Food Bulletin is published under authority of the Food Controller, for the information of official organizations co-operating in the work of food control, and of other bodies or individuals interested. The information published in The Bulletin is carefully prepared to ensure accuracy of all statements so that it may be a permanent and useful record of the work of the Food Control organization in Canada. It is suggested that persons on the regular mailing list of The Bulletin should file their copies for reference purposes. Communications in regard to items appearing in The Bulletin and all reports for publication should be addressed to Educational Department of the Food Controller's Office, Ottawa.

THE PRICES OF FOOD IN CANADA

By W. J. Hanna, K.C.

Food Controller for Canada.

As Food Controller, I cannot change the fact of the world shortage. I cannot, by decree, overcome the tremendous deficiency of wheat in the Allied countries or supply the war demand from empty granaries. But I can, and I will, do all in my power to prevent speculation, to ensure equitable distribution of essential food supplies and to limit middlemen's profits to a reasonable compensation for necessary services. My office is now engaged in a general plan of licensing, which will enable us to regulate the trade in food commodities at all stages between the producer and the consumer. No hardship will be imposed upon the legitimate dealer, but we shall force out the speculator and the parasite. The interests of the consumer shall be protected in every possible way. Already we have licensed the milling and packing industries and have gained effective control over the refining and distribution of sugar. As a result, the price of sugar in Canada did not run up to 20 cents per pound as it did in New York City before the United States Food Administration was in a position to regulate the charge to dealers and to the public. We are now applying the license system—with the power of regulation which that system gives us—to wholesale dealers in fish, fruit and vegetables, to the grocery trade and to manufacturers of package cereals. We are prepared to regulate profits, wherever necessary. In the case of the packing houses this already has been done. We have worked out a plan for regulating the cost of milk distribution by limiting the spread between producer and consumer. We have secured control, also, by our export license system in conjunction with a similar system in the United States, over all supplies of exportable food and feeding stuff and are prepared to use that control in the interests of our own people and the Allies. Above all, we are working, along with the Departments of Agriculture and all other available agencies, to secure an increased supply of food products, because only greater production can provide the full measure of relief from the pressing food problems of to-day.

It is important that the people should understand the fundamental causes of present high prices of food commodities. The world demand for food has suddenly undergone a tremendous increase, while the world supply—or that portion of the world supply which is accessible and available to meet the enlarged world demand—has been reduced with equal suddenness. Surplus stocks have been exhausted and greatly curtailed production forces are endeavouring to meet abnormal consumption requirements. Under peace conditions, when the balance of demand and supply is disturbed, either a rise in prices curtails consumption and stimulates production, or a fall in prices encourages increased consumption while restricting production. But during war time, such readjustment is difficult, if not impossible. The consumption demand of the soldiers cannot be much reduced. High and rising prices do curtail civilian consumption and stimulate production, but the production agencies are limited and, even

under the spur of increased profits, they are incapable of meeting the demand. Such conditions, unless relief can be provided, must result in an increasingly acute shortage and lead, eventually, to famine.

Such approximately is the situation in the world to-day. With the farming populations reduced by millions of producers and the number of non-producers and abnormal consumers tremendously swollen, high prices are only a natural, inescapable consequence of a world condition. It is unfair, therefore, to compare prices to-day with those before the war and to blame the Government or the Food Controller or anyone else for the advance. Rather, prices should be compared under prevailing conditions in different countries. Real wages, being the amount of food, clothing and other goods which money wages will buy, determine the welfare of the wage-earning population. Judged on this basis, Canadians are absolutely the most fortunate people in the world to-day.

In proportion to wages, prices of food are lower in Canada than in any other country. Official figures have been published in *The Bulletin*, showing that food prices here are much lower than in Europe and considerably lower than in the United States. This is the case, because our Canadian cities and towns are smaller and closer to the sources of supply—because Canadian consumers actually are closer to the land than the people of any other country. We are prosperous as a result of war orders and, at the same time, we buy our food cheaper than other countries, because we pay less for freight and distribution charges. Production is the crux of the food problem. Twenty years ago in Canada there were three people on the land raising foodstuff to every two who lived in cities and towns. To-day that proportion is just reversed. Is it any wonder that food is scarce and prices high? The remedy is obvious—become a producer. It is true that Canada is better off in this respect than other countries at the present time, but even Canada has been getting away from the land.

The only possible way in which Canada could escape the consequences of the world shortage of food would be to stop exportation and to fatten on our own surplus production, while the rest of the world starved. To do so would involve repudiation of our obligations to the Allies and would make us contemptible in the eyes of all the world.

TO MAINTAIN PRODUCTION.

Government Takes Steps to Retain Necessary Workers on Farms.

The following statement has been issued by the Government:—

“The attention of the Minister of Agriculture has been drawn to a number of instances where some of the Exemption Tribunals have evidently misinterpreted the instructions of the Militia Council respecting the drafting of men for overseas service and have refused exemption to men who are absolutely needed to continue the operation of farms and the production of foodstuffs. The matter has been considered by the Government and an Order in Council passed as follows:

“His Excellency the Governor General in Council, upon the recommendation of the Acting Minister of Agriculture, and under and by virtue of the provisions of the War Measures Act, 1914, and the Military Service Act, 1917, authorizes the Minister of Agriculture to appoint a representative of the Department of Agriculture in such counties or districts in any province of Canada as he may determine:

“(1) To attend the sittings of the Tribunals appointed under the Military Service Act to guard the national interest in connection with the production of foodstuffs.

“(2) To appeal from the decision of the Tribunals in any case where, in his opinion, the Tribunal has not given due weight to the urgency of maintaining our food supplies.

“(3) To investigate and report upon appeals or applications for exemption where the ground of appeal or application is that the party seeking exemption should in the national interest be retained in food production rather than enrolled in the Expeditionary Force.

“The Minister of Agriculture has been looking into the matter very thoroughly for some days, and from information which has been received by him he believes that some of the Exemption Tribunals have failed to give due weight to the urgency of maintaining our food supply. It has therefore been decided, on the recommendation of the Minister of Agriculture, that immediate action should be taken to prevent reduction of output of foodstuffs and disorganization of work upon the farms.”

SOME PRACTICAL RESULTS.

A Few of the Food Controller's Recent Activities.

As a result of the Order in Council placing feeding stuff under embargo for export, except under license from the Food Controller, no less than 140 carloads of bran and shorts, which would otherwise have been exported to the United States, were made available in a single week for Canadian farmers. This action was made possible through the co-operation, with the Food Controller, of the Feed Branch of the Federal Department of Agriculture and the Provincial Departments of Agriculture. The refusal of a license, if it can be proved that the feed could be sold for the same price in Canada as in the United States, will be an important factor in providing an adequate supply for farmers who have responded to the call for increased production of hogs.

As a result of representations to the United States authorities made by the Office of the Food Controller for Canada, an order was issued releasing the cottonseed oil which had been held up at the international boundary en route to Canada, and an adequate supply has been ensured for Canadian requirements for the next six months.

The Bureau of Licenses of the Food Controller's Office has dealt with nearly 3,000 applications for export licenses during the past two weeks.

Three hundred licenses to import oleomargarine and two licenses to manufacture oleomargarine became effective on Monday of this week. Some delay was caused owing to the embargo by the United States on the exportation of oleomargarine to Canada, but this difficulty was overcome by negotiation between the Food Controller's office and the United States authorities. As a result, oleomargarine is now available to the Canadian consumer, under strict regulations which protect both the purchaser of oleomargarine and the Canadian dairy farmer. This action on the part of the Food Controller has brought other animal fats in wholesome form within the reach of many people who could not buy butter at its present price. The Canadian producer is protected by the almost unlimited demand for butter for export.

Mr. C. W. Baxter, representing the Food Controller, with a staff of several officials from the Fruit Branch of the Department of Agriculture, has been in Charlottetown, P.E.I., this week in connection with the transportation of potatoes from Prince Edward Island to consuming centres in Ontario and Quebec. A large number of island cars have been lined and equipped with heaters by the Canadian Government Railways, and will be distributed over the island for the purpose of carrying potatoes to Port Borden. On arrival, the potatoes will be loaded into mainland cars, which have also been lined and equipped with heaters. As soon as five or more cars are ready, they will be at once conveyed across from the island on the Canadian Government ferry, and attached to a through train to points in Central Canada.

Mr. Hayes, General Manager of the Canadian Government railways, is doing everything in his power to perfect transportation. Unfortunately, Prince Edward Island has just experienced one of the most severe snowstorms that has prevailed there for years, and traffic on the island railway is at a standstill. In some cases the snow is piled as high as the top of the cars. The road, however, is being cleared, and it is expected that in a few days, a steady movement of potatoes from the island will go forward. These train loads of potatoes will be accompanied by representatives of the Fruit Branch, who will see that fires are kept on, and that the potatoes are kept from freezing.

Regulations have been prepared and adopted to govern the manufacture and importation of cereals in packages of less weight than 20 pounds. Application forms will be sent out at once.

Preliminary steps have been taken to curtail the use of cane sugar in the manufacture of candies. Manufacturers have been informed of the necessity for saving such sugar and are now endeavouring to adjust their business to the requirements of the situation.

As the Food Bulletin is going to press, the Food Controller has received telegraphic advice from a representative of his office,

who has been in Washington, stating that he delivered personally to the War Trade Board Mr. Hoover's order releasing 750,000 pounds of oleomargarine for exportation to Canada. Other licenses will be issued by the United States authorities, so that there should be no further difficulty with regard to the supply from across the international boundary. In making this announcement the Food Controller stated that the embargo which delayed the importation of oleomargarine was not imposed by his office, but by the War Trade Board of the United States. Representatives of the Food Controller have been doing their utmost to secure removal of the embargo and their efforts have met with complete success. Latest advices from the Allied countries, and particularly from Great Britain, show a steadily increasing demand for butter far exceeding the available supply, so that Canadian dairymen have absolutely nothing to fear by reason of the appearance of oleomargarine on the Canadian market.

The Food Controller's regulations in regard to public eating places is being enforced with increasing strictness. Mr. F. W. Mossop, acting under instructions from the Food Controller, has visited the hotels and restaurants of Montreal in connection with enforcement of the law. He has reported that through ignorance a number of restaurant proprietors have been serving ham sandwiches on Tuesdays and Fridays. One large hotel, also, was found to be serving ham on these days. Some few cases occurred in which the non-observance of regulations was deliberate. These will be summarily dealt with. Mr. Mossop is arranging for a meeting of restaurant and hotel proprietors for the purpose of explaining fully the Food Controller's regulations.

The consumption of cane sugar in Canada has been reduced as a result of the measures taken by the Food Controller to control the trade and his appeals to the public to economize. Information has been received showing co-operation of many women's organizations and other bodies with the Food Controller in promoting such conservation.

Increasing consumption of fish in all parts of the Dominion is shown by reports received by the Food Controller's Office from dealers and from other sources. Negotiations looking to the marketing of other varieties of Pacific Coast fish in Western Canada to make up the deficiency of halibut and salmon have progressed with every prospect of success.

MORE FISH FOR PRAIRIES.

Committee Hopes to Prevent Waste in the Pacific Fisheries.

Mr. John P. Babcock, Assistant Commissioner of Fisheries for British Columbia and advisory member representing the Pacific Coast on the Fish Committee of the Food Controller's Office, was in conference with the Committee in Ottawa recently. Under the present practice of the halibut fisheries it is estimated that forty per cent of the total catch consists of gray, ling, and red cod, flounders, soles and herring. Halibut and black cod (sable fish) alone are being marketed. The other fish, although of high food value, are too soft to be handled without special care, and on the long halibut fishing trips, which last from eleven to sixteen days, they are generally shaken off the hooks and thrown back into the sea.

Mr. Babcock has been negotiating with the Deep Sea Fishermen's Union and the wholesale dealers in fish with a view to arranging a supply and a market in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, where these fish, which up to the present have not been utilized, may be retailed at a popular price. The Federal Government has agreed to pay two-thirds of the transportation charges for all shipments whether in carload lots or otherwise, and it is hoped, through the efforts of the dealers, that the people of the Prairies may become familiar with these varieties of Pacific fish and a demand which will be created will ensure a market.

Last October 1,680,000 pounds of halibut were landed at Prince Rupert. It is estimated that the fishermen wasted 1,000,000 pounds of other edible fish through the difficulty of handling them and the lack of market for the unfamiliar varieties. The Fish Committee hopes to prevent this waste by developing a market in the Prairie Provinces.

HE SERVED BEEF AT TWO MEALS.

The management of a Toronto restaurant was fined \$25 for infringement of the Order in Council prohibiting the serving of beef at more than one meal on the same day. The evidence of two plainclothes policemen was that they had been served with roast beef for lunch and steak for dinner on the same day. In imposing the fine the magistrate called attention to the fact that the maximum penalty for such disregard of the Order was \$100.

PUBLIC TO BE PROTECTED.

Trade in Package Cereals to be Under Regulation.

Licenses would be issued by the Food Controller permitting the manufacture and importation of cereal foods in packages of less weight than 20 pounds, under certain regulations. Dealers, other than those manufacturing or importing package cereals, will be exempted from the provisions of the Order in Council of October 19. The regulations have been prepared with a view to protecting the public against excessive prices for such foods, and particularly to making substitutes for wheat available as cheaply as possible.

Together with this announcement, the Food Controller made public the report of the Special Committee appointed by him to investigate the trade in package cereals. The Committee consists of:—Mr. R. Harcourt, Professor of Chemistry, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph (Chairman), Dr. A. McGill, Dominion Analyst; Mr. P. B. Tustin, Chief of the Food and Dairy Division, Winnipeg; and Mr. W. S. Lecky, War Purchasing Commission.

The regulations prepared by the Committee require that all packages of cereals of less than twenty pounds weight must bear the license number of the commodity in question. Prices at which package cereal foods are sold to the public must not exceed an amount allowing only a reasonable profit on the cost of such cereals in bulk, plus the cost of containers. The cost of containers must be only a small proportion of the total price of the cereals sold in packages. Use of coupons, premiums, prizes, presents, or similar inducements to purchase must be discontinued in connection with the package cereals trade. Provision is made for examination of manufacturers' books with a view to ensuring against excessive prices.

The Committee's report states that before the war profits derived from the package trade in cereal foods were considerably larger than those ruling to-day. Many package goods, the Committee found, are now sold at practically cost and two cases of selling at a slight loss are recorded. The report emphasizes the wide variation in the food value of various package preparations. For instance, 1,000 energy units when obtained from one food cost 4.41 cents, while the same number of calories when obtained from another food cost 21.93 cents. The contention of the manufacturers that package

cereals are as cheap to the consumer as those sold in bulk was not substantiated. At present, owing to war conditions, the prices approximate more than formerly for package and bulk goods. The Committee does not condemn the sale of cereals in package as undesirable or excessive in price, as convenience of handling has to be considered, but they point out that the consumer may buy in bulk more cheaply than in packages. The difference in quality of the bulk and package products is considered negligible.

For cooked products, the Committee found that the package sealed at the factory was the proper method of marketing, provided the selling were under regulations that safeguarded the public.

Application forms will be sent out soon and licenses will issue promptly when the requirements have been complied with and applications are approved. A small license fee will be charged.

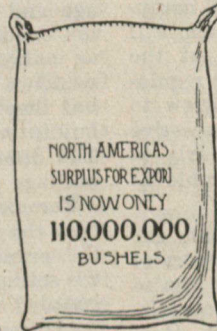
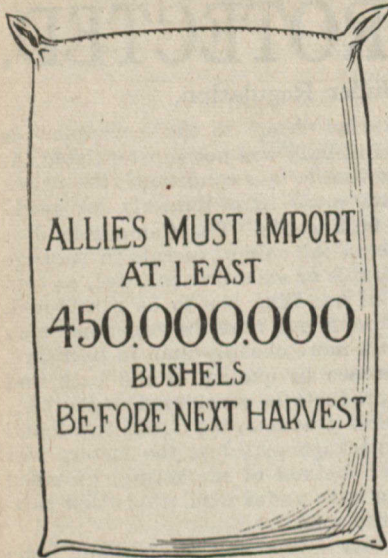
UNIFORM HOURS NAMED.

Restaurant Keepers Called Together to Fix Meal Times.

Following the lead of the Crown Attorney and the Chief of Police in the city of Ottawa, acting upon the Food Controller's suggestion, several meetings of restaurant keepers have been held in various cities, and uniform hours for the serving of beef and bacon under the Food Controller's regulations have been agreed upon. Under the Order in Council, beef and bacon may be served in public eating places once a day only, except on Tuesdays and Fridays, when their use is entirely prohibited. No hours of the day being specified, complaint arose from certain restaurant keepers who were conscientiously keeping the law, that they were losing trade because of lack of uniformity and, in some cases, by competitors' disregard of the regulations.

Ottawa hours having been made uniform this difficulty was locally overcome, bacon being reserved for breakfast and beef for the noonday meal.

At Hamilton, similarly, a meeting was called by Mr. G. F. Washington, K.C., County Crown Attorney, and the hours were fixed by agreement as follow: Bacon to be served from 5.30 a.m. until 10.30 a.m., beef from 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m., every day except Tuesday and Friday, and at no other time.



**SAVE THE WHEAT
TO FEED THE SOLDIERS**

A meeting called by County Crown Attorney William Carnew, at Belleville, was sparsely attended by the restaurant men and was enlarged to a later date.

Mr. H. M. P. de Roche, of Melville, Saskatchewan, also called a meeting and fixed hours to suit the circumstances of a railway point, where many meals are served at night to trainmen.

It is expected that uniform hours will be similarly agreed upon in each municipality after meetings of those interested have been called by the local authorities.

THE VANISHING PACKAGE.

From the Chicago Journal.

The increase in the cost of living is driving out "package" and "wrapped" goods, and bringing back the days of bulk purchases in the simplest possible containers. Bread is an example. The Food Administration does not prohibit the wrapping of bread, but does discourage it. A little while ago the wrapper was a first-class advertisement as well as a help toward cleanliness. Now it is likely to be looked upon as a nuisance, or at best an expense. In France, when one buys a four-pound loaf, the storekeeper ties a 10-inch strip of paper around its middle to serve as a handle. We have not come to that point yet, but we are on the way, and what is true of the bread covering is even more true of the elaborate—and expensive—containers which have been devised to keep dust out of other foods.

ONE RESTAURANT'S SAVING. Suggestions for the Public Eating Places of This Country.

Following is a specimen of a card published every week by a large restaurant in Boston, Mass.

FOOD CONSERVATION.

This Restaurant is doing all it can to co-operate with the Food Administration in the saving of those articles of food of which the supply is limited. Following this policy we recently saved in one week, as compared with the corresponding week last year:

1,371 pounds Meat.
50 pounds Bacon.
414 pounds Sugar.
152 pounds Butter.

If every restaurant, every hotel and every household did as well there would be no shortage of these foods for the soldiers.

PLEDGE THEIR SUPPORT.

The following resolution was passed at a massed meeting in Brandon, Manitoba, under the auspices of the Local Council of Women: "At this largely attended meeting of the citizens of Brandon, it is unanimously resolved that we express our confidence in the Food Controller in his very difficult task and that we pledge ourselves to support him in every way we can and to do our best to carry out the food conservation rules issued by him."

BAKERS WILL CO-OPERATE.

MR. HANNA'S MESSAGE TO THE BAKERS.

The United States to-day has not a bushel of wheat available for export, if allowance be made for domestic requirements on the basis of normal consumption. Canada's exportable supply of wheat on this date does not exceed 110,000,000 bushels. Before the next crop the Allies will require from North America, the Argentine Republic and Australia at least 450,000,000 bushels. It is most urgent, therefore, that we ask the bakers of Canada to consider by what means we can save the greatest possible amount of wheat from normal consumption during the next six months.

Although there are upwards of 110,000,000 bushels of available wheat in the Argentine Republic, and about 150,000,000 bushels in Australia, yet the great distances from Europe to these countries, considered in connection with the scarcity of tonnage, leave the Allies practically dependent upon the United States and Canada for wheat during the next three or four months. The United States Food Administration hopes to be able to save from normal consumption in that country 100,000,000 out of the 500,000,000 bushels that would ordinarily be required. Every effort possible will be made to secure this reduction. Canadians must do everything in their power to reduce home consumption of wheat products, and to increase the use of substitutes.

The bakers of Canada are co-operating with the Food Controller in an effort to bring about a saving in the consumption of wheat flour in the Dominion, so that larger quantities may be released for export to the Allies overseas. At the annual meeting of the Ontario Bread and Cake Manufacturers' Association in Toronto last week, Professor R. Harcourt, Head of the Department of Chemistry, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, represented the Food Controller. He read a message from Mr. Hanna to the Association, urging upon the delegates the necessity of considering by what means the consumption of wheat in this country might be reduced. The bakers expressed their willingness to do anything in their power to help in the attainment of the Food Controller's objects, the question was discussed in some detail, and a committee was appointed to draft resolutions outlining the views of the Association.

Professor Harcourt has sent to the Food Controller a report on the meeting in which he says: "If the bakers in other parts of the Dominion are as anxious to co-operate as those in Ontario there should be little difficulty in forming regulations which would encourage, or even make necessary, the use of certain wheat flour substitutes."

Professor Harcourt exhibited samples of war bread loaves, each consisting of 90 per cent wheat flour and 10 per cent of some other cereal, barley, corn, buckwheat or oat flour. These "war bread" samples were not dark in colour, but in every case resembled closely the ordinary wheat loaf.

This being the case, he pointed out that a good quality of bread could be made by mixing with the wheat flour 10 or 15 per cent of flour from other grains. He stated that 25 per cent of barley flour and 75 per cent of wheat flour made a very satisfactory loaf. The general use of such a loaf would release a large amount of wheat for shipment overseas. There was a big crop of barley and bread made from part barley flour was practically as nutritious as bread from wheat flour alone. Furthermore, he said, if only 10 per cent of other flours than wheat was used we would have a better bread than we could obtain by using an 80 per cent instead of a 70 per cent extraction of the wheat berry, and at the same time the farmers would have an abundant supply of the wheat by-products such as shorts and bran.

The question of standardization of flour, which is being considered by the millers' committee, was also discussed. Other suggestions were made with a view to economy in the use of food materials which are most urgently required by the Allies.

Dr. A. M. Young, Mayor of Saskatoon, telegraphed to the Food Controller last week, stating that he and Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Chairman of the Alberta Branch of the National Committee on Food Resources had met with the bakers, who agreed to co-operate fully with the Food Controller in any measures which may be necessary to limit the use of white flour or sugar, in bread-making.

PRICES CHEAPER HERE.

Food Controller Quotes Authoritative Figures in Comparison.

That food prices in Canada were lower than in the United States except in four minor instances and lower than in Great Britain despite frequent irresponsible statements to the contrary, was the emphatic announcement of Hon. W. J. Hanna, Food Controller, addressing the May Court Club in the city of Ottawa on December 4. Mr. Hanna also startled his hearers by announcing that the United States has not a bushel of wheat for export over and above normal consumption requirements.

"Why is Canadian bacon cheaper in Great Britain than in Canada?" asked Mr. Hanna. "It is for this reason, and this reason only: it is because it isn't! That is to say, bacon is not cheaper in Great Britain. It costs more in England than in Canada by the amount of the cost of the transportation from this country to Great Britain."

He quoted average figures from the National Food Bulletin, issued by Lord Rhondda, Britain's Food Controller, as follows:

	Canadian	British	Difference.
Milk	10½	14	35½ p.c.
Eggs	51	85	66½ p.c.
Bacon	42	57	36 p.c.
Round steak	28½	52½	85 p.c.
Oatmeal	6½	10	54 p.c.

Similarly he quoted a large number of prices of leading commodities to show that the assertion that food costs consumers more in Canada than in the United States was absolutely wrong.

The figures are average prices for October, 1917:

	Canadian	American	Difference.
Potatoes	1.74	2.71	56 p.c.
Bread . . . . .	.07	.11	57 p.c.
Bacon . . . . .	.43	.48	12 p.c.
Beef . . . . .	.29	.30	5 p.c.
Butter . . . . .	.50	.51	2 p.c.
Rolled Oats . . . . .	.07	.09	28 p.c.
Rice . . . . .	.09	.11	21 p.c.
Fish . . . . .	.18	.23	27 p.c.
Cheese . . . . .	.30	.35	16 p.c.
Milk . . . . .	.11	.12	9 p.c.

In four cases were American foods prices lower, namely:

	Canadian	American
Lard . . . . .	.32	.31
Sugar . . . . .	.11	.10
Eggs . . . . .	.54	.49
Coffee . . . . .	.40	.31

"It may startle you," said Mr. Hanna, "if I tell you there is not to-day in

the United States one bushel of exportable wheat, allowing for a normal consumption. Between now and next harvest it will be necessary to deliver on the other side of the Atlantic 450,000,000 to 500,000,000 bushels of wheat. The amount of wheat in the United States is only 500,000,000 bushels, which is no more than the 100,000,000 people of the United States would eat before the next harvest. Mr. Hoover has set himself to save 100,000,000 bushels out of normal consumption. That means a saving for every man, woman and child of one-fifth the amount of flour he or she usually consumes.

"In Canada, we have to-day from 100,000,000 to 110,000,000 bushels of exportable wheat. If the United States can save twenty per cent and we can save twenty per cent, it will leave about 220,000,000 bushels to send across to our armies and our Allies. It is important that 220,000,000 bushels get across the Atlantic within the next four or five months. It is unlikely that Argentine wheat will find its way across until the new ships building in the United States are ready, and so the people of the United States and Canada are asked to liberate one-fifth of their normal supply of wheat or flour."

SOLDIERS MUST BE FED.

Mr. Hanna Says the Situation is Desperate—Plain Talk Needed.

The New York Herald published recently an interview with Hon. Mr. Hanna, in the course of which the Food Controller for Canada stated that unless every village, city and person in both the United States and this country practised strict economy for the next three months, the Allies and soldiers in France would suffer from want of wheat.

"The men who take advantage of the present shortage should be pilloried by the press," Mr. Hanna declared.

"The situation as to food is desperate and calls for plain talk. Tell the people the true state of affairs and they will respond, I feel sure. The facts of this situation call for the conservation of wheat, beef, bacon, fats—conservation to the limit. It is not so much the question of the price of food, as that food shall go forward to save the men at the front.

"The men at the front are dependent on the United States and Canada to feed them. They must be fed regardless of the cost to the people here."

OLEOMARGARINE LICENSES

Consumer and the Dairy Farmer are Both Well Protected.

Arrangements have been made for the export of oleomargarine from the United States to points in Canada and the product is now on sale. Licenses to import or to manufacture in Canada became operative on Monday, December 10. Three hundred licenses to import were issued by the Veterinary Director-General under the Order in Council passed at the instance of the Food Controller, but up to date only two firms, have been granted licenses to manufacture in Canada. Many applications for manufacturers' licenses were received, but on investigation by the Veterinary Director-General's Department proposed factory and other conditions were not such as to warrant licensing for the manufacture of oleomargarine.

The regulations regarding the manufacture in Canada of oleomargarine are strict, so that the highest hygienic standard will be imperative in the factories. There must be no possible "contamination from objectionable odors from packing houses, fertiliser houses or other sources" and all machinery must be "modern and capable of easy and efficient cleaning."

Similarly in the imported article the Canadian regulations demand the strictest adherence to cleanliness in manufacture. No oleomargarine can be imported unless made under Government inspection in the land of origin, and the name and address of the maker must be printed on each package. No substitute for what is strictly known in the trade as "oleomargarine" can be imported or made in Canada, and the word "oleomargarine" must be printed on each package and label in large type, so as to prevent the possibility of oleomargarine being sold as anything else.

The Canadian regulations, therefore, protect the consumer and the dairy farmer in a way unsurpassed in any other country in the world, as they were framed to give the assurance to buyers that they were getting a wholesome product, and yet absolutely to protect dairy products from unfair competition through fraudulent practices.

The date on which licenses became effective was so arranged that all provinces were on the same business footing. Before the licenses could be issued a great deal of preliminary work was necessary. Detailed regulations were drafted by representatives

of the Food Controller's Office and the Office of the Veterinary Director General of the Department of Agriculture. These had to be printed and distributed, and the machinery for the supervision of the manufacture and importation had to be provided. Much work was also involved in the final approval of the cartons and wrappers for the oleomargarine.

Numerous inquiries were received at the Food Controller's Office and the Office of the Veterinary Director General for licenses to sell oleomargarine. Most of these came from small grocers and country stores, and the Food Controller thinks it well to repeat that no license to sell by retail is needed. The only persons requiring a license are those manufacturing or importing from abroad.

TO RELAX RESTRICTION.

Suggestions Made to Rotary Club of Ottawa.

Speaking at the luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club at Ottawa on December 10, Mr. S. E. Todd, Chief of Staff in the Food Controller's office, suggested that restrictive municipal regulations prohibiting the rearing of poultry and pigs in cities and towns might well give place now to constructive amendments looking towards an increase in the war-time food supply. In many municipalities no serious inconvenience would be occasioned to warrant objection being sustained in view of the world food shortage and the imperative need of supplies.

Mr. Todd cited the cities of Germany, where 4,000,000 pigs are being fattened, as compared with a total hog population in Canada of 3,500,000.

Referring to the price of milk in Canada, Mr. Todd pointed to the vast demand for evaporated and powdered milk in Europe since the war.

"Where our pre-war exports of condensed milk were 4,405,000 pounds, they have been 15,750,000 pounds in 1916-17. Similarly with butter. Before the war our net exports were nothing, while our net imports amounted to 2,000,000 pounds. In 1916-17 our net exports have been 7,000,000 pounds," he said.

These and similar facts explained the rise in food prices in Canada. But compared with other countries, Mr. Todd quoted figures to show that Canadian prices were lower.

THEY ARE HANDLING RIFLES.

Reason why the Allied Countries are Short of Food.

In a recent address to a deputation of English agriculturists, Right Hon. David Lloyd George said that unless it were possible to supply with food the population behind the lines, as well as the soldiers at the front, the prospects of winning the war were remote. His remarks are applicable to the Canadian farmers as well as to those whom he was addressing. He said in part:

"Our apprehension is attributable to the fact that the available stock of food in the world is less than, I will not say it has ever been, but less than it has been for years and years. In France the cereal resources are considerably less than they have ever been. The same thing applies to Italy; because when a very large proportion of the agricultural population are on the fighting front naturally cultivation suffers. Australia is almost ruled out as a means of supplying these deficiencies because of the enormous mileage. Therefore we must use our shipping to ply between ports which will not occupy such a long time in the voyage." (This is the geographic advantage that Canadian farmers have over the rest in the Empire.)

"The enemy is not going to starve us; but that is not enough. We have got to produce such a quantity of food that we need not go into the American market and snatch the food out of the mouths of our Allies. If the Allies are short it is because the farmer is handling a rifle to defend his country, instead of the plough. The drain upon us is great; the drain upon French agriculture is much greater and I want you to bear this in mind.

"If the farmer thinks of one thing, his country's need, and the fact that Britain's strength, Britain's power and Britain's glory will be added to by the contribution which he makes on his farm, I believe that by the end of the year he will have won a triumph for agriculture which will be one of the greatest ever placed to his credit, and through agriculture he will have helped to win such a triumph for this Empire as will make it, great as it is to-day, greater than it ever has been—the pride of all its sons, the terror of all its foes, and the hope of all those who are downtrodden and oppressed throughout the world."

Mr. Sidney Webb, the English Economist, whose knowledge of the food situation is generally recognized, declares that next year the world shortage of wheat will be felt in every country.

NO COSTLY FURNISHINGS.

Such Allegations of Extravagance are Deliberately Untrue.

Since the Food Controller's organization moved to the Victoria Memorial Museum it has been using the desks and other equipment previously used by the Government members. Not one additional piece of office furniture has been bought or borrowed, with the exception of a few typewriter desks. Two or three ordinary office desks, supplied by the Public Works Department, were transferred from the old offices. Not a rug has been purchased nor a piece of matting or carpet changed. The only expense incurred has been an item of less than \$10 for the lettering of cardboard signs for the several offices.

The creation of a Bureau of Licenses was absolutely imperative, on account of the prohibition of exportation of foodstuffs from Canada except under license. This made necessary the addition of 22 persons to the staff, but the total staff of the Food Controller, including a considerable number of unpaid helpers, is less than 100, as compared with a staff of more than 1,600 persons in the offices of the United States Food Administration at Washington.

HOW MINERS CAN HELP.

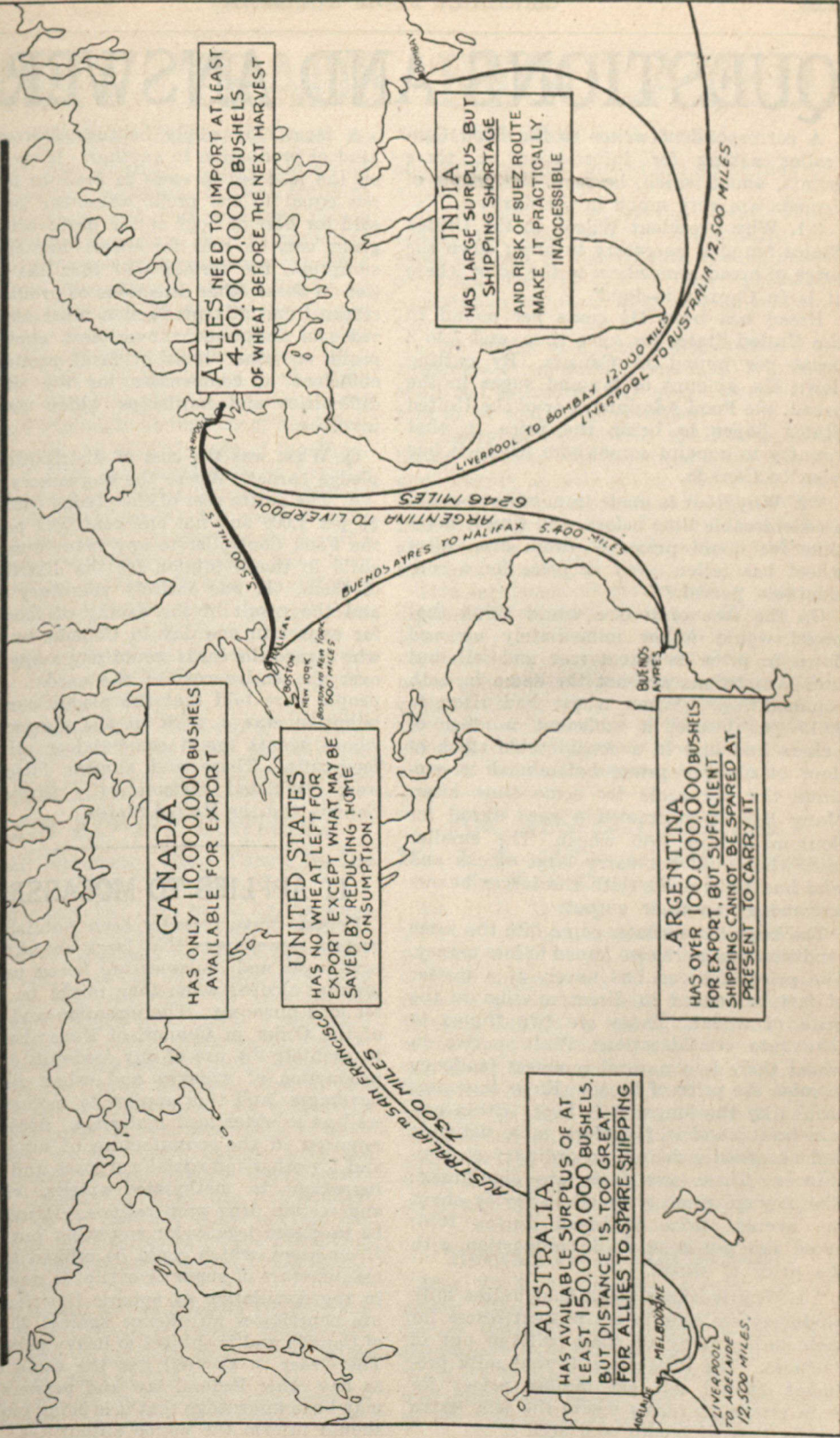
They Will be Urged to Breed Hogs and Produce Much Bacon.

No householders in Canada are better situated to begin and extend the breeding of hogs than are the miners settled in the various mining districts of Canada. The Food Controller proposes to request mine managers throughout the Dominion to stimulate in every practicable way the pig raising campaign in mining camps. If one householding miner out of every ten could be induced to feed one or two brood sows, the possible crop of saleable bacon at the end of the war would amount to between 20,000,000 pounds, and 25,000,000 pounds. In addition to enlarging Canada's export trade, the whole movement would aid considerably to the income of wage-earners.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Persons who do not receive The Canadian Food Bulletin regularly because of inadequacy of address are asked to send their full postal addresses to the Educational Department, Food Controller's Office, Ottawa.

Why we must use Substitutes for Wheat and Wheat Flour.



CANADA
HAS ONLY 110,000,000 BUSHELS AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT

UNITED STATES
HAS NO WHEAT LEFT FOR EXPORT EXCEPT WHAT MAY BE SAVED BY REDUCING HOME CONSUMPTION.

AUSTRALIA
HAS AVAILABLE SURPLUS OF AT LEAST 150,000,000 BUSHELS, BUT DISTANCE IS TOO GREAT FOR ALLIES TO SPARE SHIPPING.

ARGENTINA
HAS OVER 100,000,000 BUSHELS FOR EXPORT, BUT SUFFICIENT SHIPPING CANNOT BE SPARED AT PRESENT TO CARRY IT.

ALLIES NEED TO IMPORT AT LEAST 450,000,000 BUSHELS OF WHEAT BEFORE THE NEXT HARVEST

INDIA
HAS LARGE SURPLUS BUT SHIPPING SHORTAGE AND RISK OF SUEZ ROUTE MAKE IT PRACTICALLY INACCESSIBLE.

AUSTRALIA TO SAN FRANCISCO 7,300 MILES

BOSTON 800 MILES
NEW YORK 600 MILES
BUENOS AIRES TO NEW YORK 600 MILES

BUENOS AIRES TO HALIFAX 4,400 MILES

ARGENTINA TO LIVERPOOL 6,246 MILES

LIVERPOOL TO BOMBAY 12,000 MILES

LIVERPOOL TO AUSTRALIA 12,500 MILES

MELBOURNE
LIVERPOOL TO ADELAIDE 12,500 MILES

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

A correspondent writes to the Food Controller asking for information on three points, about which, he says, the people of Canada are very much in the dark:—

"1. Why President Wilson in the United States found it necessary to bring down the price of bread somewhere to the point where it is in Canada to-day?"

Bread has been 11½ cents per pound in the United States for some time, and 7 to 8 cents per pound in Canada. By cutting down the amount of fat and sugar in the bread, the Food Administrator of the United States hopes to bring the price in that country to a point somewhere where it has been in Canada.

"2. Why flour is made from wheat bought a considerable time before, and why it takes time for bread prices to drop, even after wheat has fallen away in price for a considerable period?"

On the face of it one would think that bread would follow immediately up and down in price as wheat rose and fell, but trade conditions are not the same in both commodities. When wheat had risen to \$3.15 per bushel a sufficient number of bakers had laid in a considerable stock of flour at cheaper prices beforehand to continue the old scale for some time after. Many bakers contracted a year ahead for flour made from 1916 wheat. The smaller men who could not carry large stocks and who had to compete with the larger bakers lost money on their output.

The large bakers later came into the same condition and were also forced to lose money. The price of bread has never, as a matter of fact, advanced in direct relation to the price of wheat. There are two things to take into consideration: With a rise in wheat there is a natural business tendency to raise the price of bread. Flour increases in quality the longer it is kept, within certain limits, and is, therefore, more valuable and necessarily dearer, in ordinary circumstances. These two facts are significant: The average price of bread to-day is about the average price of bread during 1916; bread has not gone up in proportion with the price of wheat.

"3. Why it comes about that unless milk producers are able to get present prices for their milk, many of them will go out of business. The impression is that milk producers should not get famine prices for grain grown on farms where the only extra cost is that of labour and seed?"

A farm may easily be turned from one kind of production to another. If the profit on the feed fed to cows to produce milk is not equal to the profit when the grain is sold for beef or hogs or the profit when the grain can be sold for direct human consumption, the farmer will turn his attention in these other directions of profit. The return from milk production must also provide an inducement over and above the profit on other lines of farm production, sufficient to compensate for the unusual difficulties and hardships which dairying involves.

Q. What was the cost of distributing the pledge cards? Where the canvassers paid?

A. The entire cost of the pledge cards was \$5 per 1,000 and not one cent was paid by the Food Controller to any man, woman or child in the Dominion for the distribution of them. It was entirely voluntary work; and the result of the saving of foodstuffs for export in one day in Canada by those who signed the cards would pay many times over the entire cost of the cards. Many people were told that the pledge card distribution was a trick of the Government whose agents would commandeer all their foodstuffs. These and similar falsehoods were circulated systematically throughout Canada and the United States.

IT APPLIES TO MOLASSES.

Reports have recently been published in certain newspapers that large quantities of raw sugar and molasses are being used in making alcohol when they might be saved for food purposes. The intention and effect of the Order in Council of November 2 is to prohibit the use of any foodstuff for the production of whiskey and other distilled beverages, and this applies to molasses as well as to other food materials. Alcohol is required in the manufacture of munitions and for other industrial purposes and is an ingredient in methylated spirits, vinegar and certain drug preparations. It may not be produced legally for any other purposes. If molasses, which could be refined for the manufacture of sugar or syrup, is now used in the distillation of potable liquors, such use constitutes an offence against the law of Canada and is subject to heavy penalties. The Order in Council has the same effect as any other Federal law and persons who may have knowledge that it is being violated should inform the police authorities.

FRUIT TRADE REGULATED.

Wholesale Dealers in Fruit and Vegetables Must be Licensed.

On and after February 1, 1918, no person or firm dealing, wholesale, in fresh fruits or fresh vegetables, either at producing points or in distributing centres, shall be permitted to operate without a license from the Food Controller. Any attempt at speculation, or the taking of undue profits by any license holder, may result in the immediate suspension or cancellation of such license. Such is the effect of an Order issued by the Food Controller upon the recommendation of the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of his Office.

As a result of a careful study of the distribution of fruit and vegetables in Canada, and after conferences with representatives of the wholesale trade, the dealers have been divided into a number of classes and sub-classes, and their operations have been made subject to the following regulations:

1. No license holder shall charge more than a reasonable profit or commission, or make any contract for future delivery or store in order to acquire speculative profits from a raising market.

2. No license holder shall sell to any other license holder of a like class and division except on a split profit or split commission,

and only one such sale of the goods may be made.

3. No holder of a broker's license shall charge any brokerage or commission on goods shipped to him for sale, if such goods are transferred by him to any wholesale commission merchant to be sold on commission.

4. No holder of a commission packer's or a wholesale commission merchant's license shall sell to himself any goods received by him to be sold on commission.

5. Every license holder shall keep such books, invoices, vouchers and other papers and records as will enable the Food Controller or any person by him thereto authorized to verify any report or statement that such license holder is required to make to the Food Controller.

This regulation of the wholesale trade is expected to result in the more efficient and less costly distribution of fresh fruit and vegetables, to eliminate speculation, and to protect the legitimate dealers against unfair competition by those employing improper methods. A license fee of \$10 or \$20 will be charged, depending upon the class or subclass in which the applicant belongs.

FOOD EXPORT CONTROL.

Another Necessary Step Taken by the Food Controller.

Another step has been taken by the Food Controller for Canada to secure absolute control over all shipments from this country of food stuff, feeding stuff, fats, oils, soap fertilizers, etc. An Order in Council has been passed which now makes it necessary for shippers to obtain licenses for the exportation of these commodities, when consigned to the United Kingdom, British possessions and Protectorates. By a previous Order such exports were prohibited to other countries, except under license from the Food Controller. All exports from Canada or the United States of the commodities enumerated in Customs Memorandum No. 2147-B are now controlled by the Food Controller for Canada and the War Trade Board, Washington.

Licenses will not be granted for re-exportation from Canada of United States beef, pork or oils, or products made from United States beef, pork or oils.

Eggs, potatoes and turnips have been removed from the list of prohibited exports.

FOR WESTERN CANADA.

Mr. J. D. McGregor Will Represent the Food Controller There.

Mr. J. D. McGregor, Western Representative of the Food Controller, left for Winnipeg this week, where he will undertake the creation immediately of an organization to promote production and conservation in Western Canada, to supervise the operation of the Food Controller's regulations west of the Great Lakes and to advise the Food Controller in regard to matters of special interest to the Western Provinces. The co-operation of all the Provincial Governments in the West has been pledged and there is every prospect that the work will meet with a very large measure of success.

THANKS FOOD CONTROLLER.

Mrs. W. V. Davies, Secretary of the Advisory Board of Women's Institutes of British Columbia has written to the Food Controller thanking him on behalf of the Women's Institutes for the Order in Council prohibiting the use of any food substance in the distillation of potable liquors.

STORY IS ENTIRELY UNTRUE.

North Bay Woman Says that She was Wrongly Reported.

Hon. W. J. Hanna, Food Controller, is using all available means in an effort to trace to its source the deliberate lie which has been persistently circulated in all parts of the Dominion to the effect that somebody saw him order a meal costing \$4 or more in a railroad dining car. The falsehood is being used in an effort to discredit the Food Controller Mrs. Souter, of North Bay, who was reported as having definite knowledge of the alleged facts, has admitted that she was wrongly reported.

The Toronto Daily Star, in a report of a meeting in the interests of the Independent Liberal candidate for North Toronto, stated that Mrs. Souter, President of the Liberal Association of North Bay, "scored Food Controller Hanna and his 'economy' policy, stating that a friend of her's had followed him into a dining car to see if he practiced what he preached and found that Hon. Mr. Hanna's supper cost \$4.20." Similar reports were published in other newspapers.

This story, with various modifications to make it appear more circumstantial, has been widely circulated and the Food Controller has denied it, as an absolute falsehood, both through the newspapers and in The Food Bulletin. This was the first time, however, that anybody had claimed definite knowledge of the alleged facts. Accordingly, Mr. Hanna telegraphed to Mrs. Souter denying the statement and asking for the name of Mrs. Souter's informant and details of the time and place where the meal was supposed to have been ordered. The following message was received in reply to Mr. Hanna's telegram:

North Bay, Dec. 12.

Hon. W. J. Hanna,
Ottawa.

Was wrongly reported in 'Star'. Have written correction.

(Signed.) M. SOUTER.

Mr. Hanna also telegraphed to the Chief of Police in North Bay asking him to interview Mrs. Souter and obtain the name of her informant. The reply reads: "Mrs. Souter claims to have been wrongly reported in saying that a friend told her but should have been reported as saying that a friend had said that a lady in the dining car with you said your dinner cost \$4.20.

Mrs. Souter has written you to Ottawa to that effect.

(Signed.) "CHIEF OF POLICE."

Mrs. Souter declined to give the Chief of Police the name of her informant. Mr. Hanna has telegraphed to the Chief of Police of Sudbury, where Mrs. Souter is speaking, asking him to insist upon obtaining the name if Mrs. Souter knows it, or a statement from Mrs. Souter that she does not know the name.

Mr. Hanna stated he did not eat any such meal and that there is no foundation whatever for the story.

SAVING BREAD FOR ALLIES.

Mr. Hoover Tells What Wheat 'Conservation Means.

Mr. Herbert Hoover, United States Food Administrator, in a recent statement pointed out that a record crop of 3,250,000,000 bushels of corn was just beginning to come on the market. By January 15, he said, the crop should be moving freely and at a reasonable price. He predicted that such movement would bring "fundamental economic relief." For three months, he said, there had been a shortage which practically amounted to a corn famine.

Mr. Hoover said that the Administration was trying not so much to regulate prices but the profit that was made.

"The fatal mistake in Europe," Mr. Hoover continued, was that a rush was made to the retailers to fix maximum prices without regard to cost and as a result retailers were put out of business.

Referring to the world shortage of wheat, he said: "The wheat we export from December 1 on will be the direct amount that the people save out of their bread, for we have shipped our surplus. This means literally that every one who saves a slice of bread is giving a slice of bread to our Allies."

Mr. Hoover stated that there were 9,000,000 fewer hogs in the United States than a year ago.

"If those who continue to live in comparative comfort at home are not willing to deprive themselves of quite essential foods, then our bravest men died in vain."
—Lord Rhondda.

LATEST HOTEL RETURNS.

Savings of Beef and Bacon Maintained and Increased.

Returns showing the saving during November of beef, bacon and white flour and the increased consumption of substitutes for these foods in public eating places throughout Canada are as yet incomplete, but enough hotels have already reported to warrant the statement that the saving effected during October has been maintained and in some cases increased. Partial returns from Calgary, Fredericton, N.B., Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec and Toronto show that the per capita consumption for November of bacon and ham in the hotels reporting was reduced to 43.03 per cent of the consumption for the corresponding month of 1916—a saving of 56.97 per cent. In beef, the per capita consumption was 60.15 per cent of the rate of November, 1916—a reduction of practically 40 per cent. An increase of 21 per cent in the per capita consumption of fish is shown. The figures in regard to the consumption of white flour are not so easy of analysis, because many of the hotels purchase bread, rolls and sometimes pastry in addition to the flour used in their own bakeries. There has undoubtedly been a saving, ranging apparently between 10 and 20 per cent.

In Calgary, one large hotel reports a saving of close to 20 per cent in white flour, with an increased use of substitutes. Cornmeal is being introduced but the consumption is comparatively small. The consumption of bacon was reduced from the 1,435 pounds used in November of last year to 578 pounds. Considerably more than a ton of beef was saved in this hotel, as compared with the consumption one year ago, but the use of pork has greatly increased. Fortunately, this greater consumption of pork does not apply, according to the reports received, to many other cities. Four hundred pounds more fish were served than in November of last year.

In Fredericton, N.B., the per capita consumption of beef in one hotel was reduced to 76.3 per cent of that for November 1916, while the reduction in the case of bacon and ham was 36 per cent. To make possible this saving, more poultry and fish were served. Practically no saving, however, was shown in the use of white flour.

One Montreal hotel reports its per capita consumption of bacon and ham cut in two and a reduction of 17 per cent in the use of beef. The feature of its return outside of

the good showing on bacon and ham, was an increase of 46 per cent in the consumption of fish. It also showed a saving of 300 pounds in white flour. Consumption of cornmeal had been doubled. The use of all meats had been curtailed, such reduction being made up by serving more fish, poultry and game.

An Ottawa hotel reported savings of more than 3,300 pounds of beef and more than a ton of bacon, ham and fresh pork, as compared with November of last year. It used over 30 per cent more fish, cutting its per capita consumption of bacon to 25 per cent of last November's figures and, in the case of beef, to 38.3 per cent. There was also a large saving in white flour.

The per capita consumption of bacon and ham in a large Quebec City establishment was reported as only 35.85 per cent of that a year ago, while the use of beef had been curtailed by 40 per cent. The saving in white flour was small, while fish was not being used to the same extent as in some other cities. A tendency towards increased use of cornmeal and oatmeal was noted.

Reports from Toronto indicate a reduction of at least one-half in the consumption of beef, bacon and ham and an increase of about 20 per cent in the use of fish.

In the next issue of the Food Bulletin, a more comprehensive analysis of the returns from public eating places will be printed.

BEEF AND BACON SAVING.

Allies Requirements Being Partially Met—Further Economies Needed.

The saving of beef and bacon effected in Canada by the Food Controller's regulation of public eating places and the voluntary, patriotic reduction in the consumption of these commodities in the homes, together with the measures taken by the Food Administration of the United States to secure similar economies there, are providing reserves of meat, which, as Mr. Hoover has stated, "now enable us at least partially to fulfill our duties to the Allies in this respect." There is, however, imperative need of still greater economies in the use of beef and bacon in order to meet even the minimum requirements overseas.

DEPENDENT UPON SAVING.

Mr. Hoover Tells Why Conservation is Absolutely Vital.

The following statement has been issued by Mr. Herbert Hoover, Food Administrator of the United States, in answer to protests that the appeals made by the Administration called for unnecessary sacrifices. It shows that the exports of wheat from the United States are now limited to the amount which can be saved by the people of the country by curtailment of domestic consumption and the use of substitutes. When the United States forces overseas are increased, that country will have a further drain upon its food resources to maintain supplies for its soldiers and the obligation resting upon Canada to provide the greatest possible quantities of those commodities most needed overseas will be even greater than at present. Mr. Hoover says:—

"As to wheat, we (i.e. the United States) have already exported the whole of the surplus of the 1917 harvest, over and above the normal demands of our own population. It is necessary, therefore, for the Food Administration to restrict the export of wheat, so as to retain in the United States sufficient supplies to carry our own people until the next harvest. Therefore, all exports of wheat from now forward are limited entirely to the volume of the saving made by the American people in their consumption of wheat and wheat products. We are continuing wheat shipments for December as far as our situation allows, but even with all the conservation made we are still unable to load over 400,000 tons of foodstuffs urgently required by the Allies during the month of December alone."

SINFUL WASTE OF FOOD.

Dr. Shutt Commends the Work of the Food Controller.

Dr. F. T. Shutt, of the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, speaking recently of the work of the Food Controller, mentioned the difficulties attendant on it and expressed his belief that careful and trustworthy attention was being given to the problem of food control. He added that there was in Canada a sinful waste of food thrown into the garbage cans and pointed out that milk at current prices was only half as expensive as a food as steak was, because of its greater proportion of protein and fats and that there was one-third more nourishment in cheese than in steak of the same weight.

COLLEGES ARE HELPING.

Need of Conserving Food and Using Substitutes is Emphasized.

Schools of household science throughout Canada are co-operating with the Food Controller in promoting conservation and the substitution of other foods for those most needed overseas. The plan followed at the Household Science Department of Macdonald College, St. Anne de Bellevue, Que., is an example. In the bulletin issued from the College it is stated:

"In practically all lectures and classes the question is kept before the students' mind as to how the knowledge they are gaining may be used to serve the country. In Nutrition, for example, there is an added impetus to learn food values so that the question of substitution may be dealt with more intelligently. In Cookery again, the principles underlying all cooking are taught as usual, but now the ways of using 'substitutes' are especially emphasized. Lessons in 'Meat Substitutes,' 'War Breads,' muffins and biscuits made by the substitution of other cereals for part of the white flour are given. In the Practice House-keeping Apartment, where the students take turns in 'keeping house,' we try to carry out practically the requests that have been made of the people of Canada. Fish, beans and other substitutes replace beef and other meats two days a week. Whole wheat or oatmeal bread, muffins or biscuits made from Graham flour, cornmeal or some other wheat substitute are used as often as practicable. Soups are thickened with barley, rice or vegetables so that bread is not 'dietetically' needed with them."

THE SLAUGHTER OF CALVES.

Prof. Day Says Prohibition Would Cause Much Waste.

Professor George E. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College, speaking at the Directors' Luncheon in connection with the Provincial Winter Fair at Guelph said that there was one crop that seldom fails us, and of which we have a superabundance this year—the crop of fallacies. One of these fallacies was seen, he stated, in the suggested prohibition of the slaughter of calves. Most of the calves slaughtered are the progeny of dairy ancestry, calves such as years ago were knocked on the head as soon as born. To prohibit the marketing of these would simply force resort to the old practice, and the country would be out so much veal.

TO PRODUCE MORE HOGS.

Splendid Efforts Being Made in all Parts of the Dominion.

Financial arrangements, now effective, have been made by the Dominion Government and the Allied Purchasing Commission which will prevent a recurrence of any market congestion of hogs.

So admirably are farmers throughout Canada responding to the call for greater production of hogs and so loyally are they co-operating to this end with the Food Controller and the Departments of Agriculture that already compared with last year's breeding a fifty per cent increase for twenty-five per cent increase throughout the four provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

The slogan for Canada should be: "Make a hog buy your next Victory Bond."

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has established a Feed Stuff Division, under Mr. Allan, and by the co-operation of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture throughout Canada it is hoped to get a speedy and economical system whereby feed will be distributed to farmers at the lowest cost of handling on a cash basis.

Mr. J. D. McGregor, Western Representative of the Food Controller, on returning to Ottawa last week gave an encouraging report of prospects. He attended many meetings from Winnipeg to Vancouver.

Campaigns have been inaugurated in every province of the Dominion, and public men, farmers' associations and others are co-operating splendidly in the effort which is vitally necessary if the Allies are to be supplied with the meat which is so urgently required. Following are summarized reports from all of the provinces:

ALBERTA.

The Department of Agriculture has arranged for greater production through the agricultural societies. The Department will purchase immediately six hundred breeding sows. Many of these will be re-sold to farmers at cost.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

A publicity campaign has been started urging farmers to increase hog production as a national duty.

MANITOBA.

A conference was held in Winnipeg of over a hundred delegates, representing all the agricultural associations in the Province.

The Swine Breeders' Association, at their own expense, are putting a man in the field to urge upon the farmers the importance of breeding more hogs.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Provincial Government is organizing a campaign. Good results are expected.

NOVA SCOTIA.

A publicity campaign on hog production has been organized through 275 agricultural societies. Government institutions and many farmers are increasing their stock of pigs.

ONTARIO.

A conference in each county and township was held, and a canvass of individual farmers is now proceeding. Large quantities of literature are being distributed. Inquiries indicate a keen interest. A very considerable increase in production is assured.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

At a series of agricultural meetings, which began on December 3, and which will continue through the winter, the care of brood sows and the economical feeding of brood pigs will be featured.

QUEBEC.

A special meeting of representatives of agricultural schools, clergy and farmers to start a provincial campaign, was held and it is anticipated that the result will be a greatly increased production for 1918. Sixty lecturers already have been secured.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Farmers are responding splendidly. The Legislature unanimously adopted a resolution urging greater production. The Agricultural Department is arranging to purchase young sows in the stockyards and sell them at cost. Sows to be bred before shipping will be assembled and mated with pure bred sires. The Department is urging urban municipal councils to amend by-laws to permit householders keeping pigs.

FOR MORE HOG PRODUCTS.

Quebec has Splendid Opportunities for Greater Production.

Prof. H. Barton, head of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Macdonald College, Quebec, has issued a statement in reference to increased hog production. He says in part:—

"There is a world shortage in meat. The shortage is serious and is definitely affecting the requirements for the allied armies. The one meat most needed and that can most effectively meet the situation is pork. Pork will supply bacon and fat, two vital commodities in war requirements.

"The Province of Quebec registered its only decrease in live stock production since 1911 in hogs. Every other class of live stock increased in that period. Yet Quebec among the provinces has one of the best opportunities for increasing hog production. It is officially conceded that Quebec and Alberta have the two best opportunities. Quebec now possesses one-quarter of the Dominion's hog, while Ontario, not any better situated for hog production, possesses over one-half. Montreal is one of the best hog markets in the world. There is just as much raw material in Quebec as any where else; just as big a place can be made for hogs on the average farm of Quebec as in any other province; and the farmers of Quebec can feed and raise hogs just as capably and just as profitably as any other people.

"No appeal need accompany this information. It is a patriotic duty and a business undertaking to double the hog output of this province. The time to begin is now and the way to begin is by breeding at least one extra sow within the next few weeks. There will be a demand for pigs next spring."

ANONYMOUS CIRCULARS.

Food Controller Reassures Legitimate Dealers in Foodstuffs.

The Food Controller warns manufacturers, wholesale dealers and retail dealers handling food commodities against anonymous letters. Several unsigned circulars marked "confidential" and containing statements which are not only disturbing to the trade but are untrue as well, have been received by merchants throughout Canada. The Food Controller wishes it to be understood that no regulations which will embarrass any legitimate business will be adopted by him unless absolutely necessary to protect the public.

NOTES ON PRODUCTION.

Items About the Situation in Canada and in Europe.

A wheat crop for 1918 of 12,000,000 bushels—the amount which the province consumes each year—is the standard set by the Minister of Agriculture for Quebec in the Speech from the Throne, at the opening of the Legislative Council and Assembly on December 5. Last year more than 5,000,000 bushels of wheat were raised in the province from an acreage which was four times as large as that of 1911. In 1905 the wheat raised in Quebec was only about 1,000,000 bushels. There was also a marked increase this year in oats, barley and rye.

The United States Department of Agriculture is urging a fifteen per cent increase in the production of pork for 1918 and has appealed to individual farmers to do all that they can to aid.

Dr. G. C. Creelman, Commissioner of Agriculture for Ontario, has expressed the opinion that from other than regular farm labourers, the best promise of help for the farmers comes from the High School boys. He suggested that girls of the cities in many cases should go out to assist the farmers' wives in their housework.

Final figures for the cereal harvest of Denmark show a total of roundly 62,000,000 bushels, which is 20,000,000 bushels less than in 1916, and some 10,000,000 bushels less than was reckoned in the summer, when the authorities fixed the bread ration. It is probable that the bread ration will be reduced.

The food situation is becoming worse in Switzerland, and the people are now on rations. The bread ration has been fixed at 250 grammes (about half a pound) a day per person; the sugar ration is fixed at 750 grammes (about a pound and a half) per month; and the butter ration at 100 grammes (about one-fifth of a pound) per month.

M. Maurice Long, Minister for General Revictualling of France, indicated recently that as a result of the shortage of wheat the bread ration would have to be reduced by 20 per cent. The manufacture and consumption of pastry will be entirely suppressed from January 1, except on Sundays and holidays.

"Soldiers must be fed, no matter how those they leave behind have to restrain their appetites. The alternative may be failure through famine."—The Montreal Gazette.

FAST AS PASSENGER TRAIN.

Campaign for Increased Fish Consumption Brings Results.

Mr. C. Frank Beer and Mr. R. Y. Eaton, members of the Fish Committee of the Food Controller's office, recently addressed the Womens' Press Club of Toronto and reviewed what had been done to increase the consumption of fish in Canada in order that more meat might be available for export to the Allies. Mr. Eaton stated that the demand for fish had been greatly increased. He said that the special semi-weekly fish train from the Atlantic coast to Montreal was as fast as a passenger train and was just what the fish dealers pleaded for in vain before the fish campaign increased business so that it was practicable to inaugurate such a service. Mr. Eaton also dealt with the necessity for better organization of the fish industry in order to avoid the tremendous waste which occurs under present conditions.

SCREENINGS FOR FARMERS.

Large Supply of Feed for Livestock Now Assured.

Hon. T. A. Crerar, Minister of Agriculture, has completed an agreement with a number of terminal elevators whereby the Department will purchase all screenings of the standard of a sample submitted to the minister, at \$35 per con. The Chief Grain Inspector will provide inspection.

A cargo of screenings will be moved at once to lake port elevators, and immediately following the close of navigation, 100,000 tons of these screenings will be held at terminal elevators at lake ports to meet possible demands from Western Canada.

Provincial Departments of Agriculture will handle orders for screenings, and Mr. B. J. Allen, the newly-appointed head of the Bureau of Feed Purchase and Distribution, will direct the distribution, under Mr. H. S. Arkell, Acting Live Stock Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Licenses will not be approved by the Food Controller for the export of standard screenings, but licenses will be issued for the export of refuse screenings when application is accompanied by a certificate from the Board of Grain Commissioners.

This action will do much to promote the campaign for increased production of hogs, by ensuring for the farmers a larger supply of feed.

NOTES FROM PROVINCES.

MANITOBA.

The women of Manitoba are taking up with enthusiasm the suggestions for food conservation. Several meetings have been held and the lady "explainers" in the campaign report that they are being well received everywhere. Mrs. A. Cade, Women's Canadian Club; Mrs. Charles Little, I.O.D.E.; Mrs. Arthur Rogers, Central Battalion Auxiliary; and Mrs. A. A. Perry, Local Council of Women, have been appointed to undertake an educational campaign on food conservation and the work has been subdivided between committees for the city and province. Letters and literature on food conservation have been sent to clergymen throughout the province asking for their co-operation. Several meetings have been voluntarily arranged, Prof. J. B. Reynolds reports, by Grain Growers' associations, the Home Economics Society and other bodies. There is a demand for good speakers.

TO SAVE WHEAT FLOUR.

By Utilizing Other Flours as Partial Substitute in Bread.

Steps have been taken by the Food Controller with a view to arranging for the use of flour from corn, rye, barley, oats, etc., as a partial substitute for wheat flour in making a standard war loaf. Prof. R. Harcourt, Head of the Department of Chemistry of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, left this week for the West where he will consult with the bakers in a number of western cities.

A STRIKING COMPARISON.

Canadians Eating Nearly 7 Times as Much Sugar as People of France.

Figures recently compiled by the United States show that whereas the monthly per capita consumption of sugar in Canada and the United States is 7.4 pounds, the people of France are on rations of 1.1 pounds, while the monthly ration in Germany is only .77 pounds. Similarly with meat, the per capita monthly consumption of meat in Canada and the United States in 1916-17 was 12.5 pounds, as compared with 8.5 pounds in France and 2.2 pounds in Germany.

CANADA'S PART IN THE WAR.

The Canadian people have refused nothing that was needed for the successful prosecution of the war.

Men were called for and more than 400,000 crossed the Atlantic to fight with the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Many thousands more joined Imperial units and thousands of Canadians are serving with the Royal Navy and still other thousands with the Flying Corps.

The call came for munitions. Canada surprised herself, the Empire and the world by her great production of munitions of various kinds and the rapid organization of factories to increase such output.

Money was needed. Millions of dollars beyond the expectation of any one were subscribed to Government war loans. Millions more were raised for Patriotic Fund and Red Cross purposes.

More ships were required. Shipyards on the Atlantic, the Pacific and the Great Lakes are to-day engaged in the construction of vessels.

Conservation of food became necessary and the people of Canada are conserving food. It is difficult to change our habits but it is being done. Wheat is being saved by the use of corn and other cereals. Pork and beef are being saved by the increased consumption of fish. Much has already been done and the effort is becoming more general and the results more gratifying.

The call has now been sounded for increased production of food. The need is very great if the Allies are to be given the support from this country which they require. With all the accessible reserves of food now exhausted, and a grave shortage in the present supply to meet the demands before the next harvest, the situation calls for a tremendous effort.

The outlook for production of foodstuffs in Europe next year is distinctly unfavourable. France has been dependent upon intensive cultivation of land, which in turn has required an abundant use of fertilizers, but since the beginning of the war the available supply of fertilizers in Europe has dwindled, and the land of France has deteriorated until to-day it is incapable of large production. The 1917 cereal harvest in France was less than half that of a normal pre-war year. In Great Britain, much new land has been brought under cultivation by the aid of tractors, which have also been used to some extent in France, but there is little prospect of much improvement in production in Europe while the shipping shortage prevents the transportation from overseas of nitrates, phosphates and other fertilizing supplies. Indeed, the Allies must be prepared for even poorer crops in 1918 than those of the current year.

Canadians have not failed in their response to the other calls, nor will they fail in this great responsibility of helping to feed the Allies by increasing production. No longer is it a question of doing our bit. Each and every one of us must do his or her utmost to produce and conserve food. Let us send the message to the battle front, "Trust Canada," and then put forth all our powers to make good that promise by producing every possible ounce of food.