

Canadian Food Bulletin

No. 8.

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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 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.

EVERY ONE A FARMER: A CALL TO THE CITIES.

IN the labor force represented by people in cities, towns and villages is the principal hope of any large increase in the production of food in Canada in 1918. There must be readjustment between producers and non-producers if the present dangerous situation is to be relieved. The Canadian farmer today is doing his utmost. Even the inducement of higher prices would not result in much greater production, because greater production is for him a physical impossibility under present conditions of labor scarcity. The dwellers in cities and towns must now do their part. The need of food is indeed grave and now is the time when plans must be made for the coming season.

Cultivation of Back Yards and Vacant Lots.

Every back yard should be used for the cultivation of fruit and vegetables. Suburban areas should be utilized for food production. Much could be done by individual households if people only realize the desperate seriousness of the situation and the fact that every ounce of food is a necessary and important contribution in the fight against defeat. Hundreds of thousands of men and women, boys and girls could spare a short time each day to cultivate a garden and thus to grow food which would release other food commodities for shipment overseas. The staffs of industrial establishments, both office and factory, could do much by organizing clubs to cultivate vacant areas near their own places of employment or vacant lots elsewhere in the municipality. Girl Guides and Boy Scouts could also make a real contribution towards relief of the situation. In this way a large part of the requirements of cities and towns, in so far as vegetables are concerned, would be supplied by back yard and vacant lot cultivation, so that market gardeners could use their land in part for grain crops.

City cultivation received a very important stimulus last year. Amateur gardeners will be more efficient this season and splendid results should be obtained if the people will understand that every vegetable and every ounce of other food which they can produce from city land frees labor and developed land for the production of grain for export to the Allied armies and peoples.

Market Gardener Must Grow Grain.

The market gardener would do well to plan during the coming season to devote part of his land to grain. It is quite probable that there will be as much profit for him in growing oats, or even wheat, as in raising cabbages or similar vegetable crops. It is important that he appreciate the real significance to him of back yard gardening and vacant lot cultivation schemes. Our cities are gradually working towards the time when a large part of their requirements of perishable vegetables will be provided from city land. The market gardener must adjust his operations to this changing situation.

The people of the cities must do more than cultivate back yards and vacant lots. The farmer looks to them for active assistance to overcome, in so far as may be possible, the labor shortage. There are many thousands of men in cities and towns who are not eligible for military service but who could do very necessary war work on a farm. The call comes to these men to consider their individual responsibility. There are men now engaged in occupations which are not essential to the prosecution of the war, who could,

and should, be on farms, helping to avert possible famine and thus upholding the Allied cause. There are thousands of school teachers, university students and high school boys who could, with advantage to themselves and their country, spend their summer holidays in actual productive work in the country. Last year many young women did important work and spent an enjoyable holiday picking fruit. The need will be much greater during the present year.

Increasing Difficulties for the Small Middleman.

There are thousands of small traders, storekeepers, etc., men with some agricultural experience, who should consider what the world food shortage will mean to them as individuals. It is certain that the supply of food will be short and prices high at least until 1920. If the war continues, the scarcity will be more acute and the period of the shortage prolonged. Even the possibility of hunger must not be allowed to divert the Allied nations from their determination to win a conclusive victory and to save future generations from the constant menace of Prussian militarism. Food shortage means increasing difficulties for the small middleman and the man engaged in work other than that which is of direct necessity in connection with the war. The economic pressure upon the unnecessary middleman is certain to increase in severity. Many of these men would do well to consider whether they would not be serving their own best interests, as well as the best interests of their country, by becoming producers of food, by going on to the land and growing the food for which they would be assured a very high price for some years at least.

"Fight or Farm" Must be this Year's Motto.

The present situation demands thorough organization of the labor in the cities, towns and villages of the Dominion. The farmers and the farmers' wives and the boys and girls in rural municipalities will put forth their utmost effort in 1918 to produce the greatest possible amount of food, but the increase by their work is strictly limited by physical endurance. The people who are now non-producers must make up for the labor shortage. There must be thorough organization of the free labor of our cities. Tens of thousands more city people must become producers of food. Unless this be done the situation will become increasingly serious and the consequences may be disastrous. There is an individual responsibility resting upon every city resident. The Canadian people responded splendidly to the call for men to fight. Another call has come to those at home to support the fighters. This call, too, is an individual one to every man and to every woman to do his or her utmost. "Fight or Farm" should be our motto this year. If those who cannot fight refuse to farm, the alternative will be actual hunger, and perhaps starvation among the women and children of the Allied nations and much distress even in the cities of our own Dominion.

HOUSEWIVES OF QUEBEC.

Pledge card campaign is contemplated by them.

Mrs. Jean Muldrew spoke before the Housewives' League in the City of Quebec on Friday of this week, in response to the request of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture for the Province. The Housewives' League of Quebec is actively engaged in helping the Food Controller and has in contemplation a campaign for pledging the householders to economy in foods needed for export. The meeting was called that the food situation might be fully explained before the campaign was undertaken.

HOW HOTELS COULD HELP.

Potatoes should be served more freely to save wheat.

Mr. P. Q. Foy, Editor of the Daily Market Report, testifying in New York before the Federal Food Board, said: "I suggest that every hotel and restaurant proprietor in the country serve at least three potatoes with each meal. The result is obvious. The consumption of bread will diminish and more wheat will be saved." Mr. Foy added that his study of food consumption in hotels disclosed that the average person was inclined to eat all the potatoes served and leave bread.

EATING MORE FISH NOW.

Reports from dealers show enormous increase in sales.

The Food Controller's Office has recently received some interesting reports from large fish dealers, which show that there was an enormous increase in the consumption of fish in Canada during the latter part of 1917 as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The returns already received indicate that the use of fish in the Dominion has been increased in the aggregate by hundreds of tons. The dealers are unanimous in giving to the Food Controller most of the credit for this increase. Moreover, much fish that formerly was wasted is now being marketed and the demand is steadily growing.

Sales More than Doubled.

One large firm reports sales of 74,898 pounds of lake fish during October, November and December, 1917, as compared to 32,047 pounds during the corresponding three months of 1916, an increase of 42,851 pounds. Sales of sea fish by this company for the same period in 1917 totalled 155,310 pounds as against 107,139 pounds during the last three months of 1916, an increase of 48,171 pounds.

A large Toronto house reports an increase of 80 per cent in fish sales for the period of July to November, 1917, as compared with sales for the corresponding period of 1916.

A Montreal fish company reports sales of 135,537 pounds of fresh and frozen fish during the last three months of 1917 as compared with 119,812 pounds for the corresponding period of the previous year; an increase of 15,725 pounds.

Only Small Increase in Price.

A statement prepared by another large wholesale and commission dealer in fish shows that while his sales of cod and haddock have been very largely increased during the past year there has been practically no advance in price. The slight advance of price of these two varieties of fish, comparing July to December of 1917 with the corresponding periods 1916, was in no case more than one cent per pound and at the close of December was only one-half cent per pound.

A western Ontario Packing Company reports its sales of haddock practically doubled, with very large sales of herring this year, whereas practically no sales of this fish were made last year.

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WORLD FOOD SITUATION

IS INCREASINGLY GRAVE.

The food situation in the Allied countries of western Europe is graver than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war. Information has been received by the Food Controller which shows that the utmost effort must be made to increase spring acreage and to secure a much larger production of bread grains in 1918 than was done in 1917. Mr. Hoover has already pointed out that if ships have to be sent to more distant countries to carry foodstuffs to Europe, fewer ships will be available to carry soldiers and supplies from this continent, with a result that the continued participation of the United States and Canada in the war will be greatly hampered.

The situation has been thoroughly canvassed, and among those who have studied it, there is unanimous agreement that the only solution of the food problem is greater production in North America. In this connection it is especially important that the spring acreage sown in bread grains should be as large as it can possibly be made.

Every person who can possibly produce food must do so, no matter how small his or her contribution may be. Those who cannot produce food, can at least conserve it. The utmost economy is imperative. The situation today is critical and the world is rapidly approaching that condition when price will not be the most important question, but when even the people of Canada may be glad to eat any food which they can obtain.

The successful prosecution of the war by the Allies will depend to a very large extent upon the extent of food production and food conservation this year by the people of North America.

A large Toronto retail organization reports its sales of fish for the last three months of 1917 to have been valued at more than \$21,000 as compared with \$17,720 and \$9,580 for the corresponding period of 1916 and 1915 respectively.

Another Ontario Company reports that its sales of fresh and frozen fish during the last three months of 1917 amounted to 1,020,882 pounds as compared to 786,433 pounds for the last three months of 1916. Meanwhile its sales of salt and smoked fish increased from 149,281 pounds to 186,263 pounds.

One producing fish company operating on the Atlantic coast reports that the weekly shipments from one of its nine branches are now approximately 85,000 pounds. By far the larger part of these shipments consists of cod and haddock, the consumption of which has been greatly stimulated by the work of the fish committee. The company in question has branches at different points in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, and the aggregate weekly shipments are very large.

MORE FISH FOR THE WEST.

Mr. G. Frank Beer, of the Food Controller's Office, Chairman of the Fish Committee, has returned from the West where he was making arrangements, in conjunction with Mr. J. D. McGregor, Western Representative of the Food Controller, for extensive fish distribution at reasonable prices.

The western fisheries are now under the supervision of Mr. McGregor. Arrangements have been made by which co-operative farmers' associations will be supplied with carloads of fish at one cent advance per pound over the price paid to fishermen plus the cost of boxes and transportation. This means that an abundance of fish will be available for these associations at from 30 to 80 per cent lower cost than formerly. It is expected that a hundred carloads of fish will be ordered immediately under this arrangement and all dealers have been notified that Canadian requirements must receive first consideration.

One Winnipeg fish company has agreed to supply any quantity of fish to consumers in the country at the following prices, f.o.b. (no charge for boxes): Whitefish, 12½ cents; trout, 12½ cents; pickerel, 12½ cents; jackfish, 9 cents; tullibees, 9 cents.

This will enable farmers to buy their supply of fish in Winnipeg at a much lower figure than the former ruling price.

The Fish Committee will provide for the entire needs of the Canadian fishermen as regards salt.

No further licenses will be issued to itinerant fish dealers until further notice. This order was made necessary by continued violations of the Food Controller's regulations.

ASK FOR FROZEN FISH.

Prejudice Against it is Due to Improper handling in homes.

The Food Controller, through the Fish Committee of his Office, is endeavouring to encourage increased use in Canada of frozen fish. This effort is part of the larger campaign to increase consumption of all kinds of fish in order to release beef, bacon and other meats for export to the Allies.

An increased demand for frozen fish should result in the decrease in market price as an abundant supply available. Many people have a prejudice against frozen fish simply because they do not understand the proper method of handling it. Whatever may have been the practice in the past, the present method of freezing fish shortly after they are caught prevents deterioration and the fish is delivered to the consumer in ideal condition.

To prepare frozen fish for cooking it should be put in cold water and left there for several hours in order that frost may be entirely thawed from it. It will then be in practically the same condition as before it was frozen. Many people make the mistake of pouring hot, or even boiling water, on frozen fish in order to thaw it. This has the result of breaking down the tissues and leaving the fish in a flabby condition which makes it undesirable for cooking.

Mr. H. B. Short, Manager of the Digby Branch of the Maritime Fish Corporation, has been visiting the Office of the Food Controller and conferring with the members of the Fish Committee. He tells something of the activities of the fishermen in Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia, and states that he would like to see them pursuing their industry during the winter months next year. At present 75 ships with something like 1,500 men are idle in Lunenburg County. This represents an enormous wastage of fish which might readily be sold in a frozen condition all over the country. According to his estimate the use of a carload of frozen fish releases six tons of meat for the men overseas. The educational campaign is being vigorously pursued in the Maritime Provinces and the use of frozen fish is advocated. According to Mr. Short the fishing industry suffered greatly last winter because of the shortage of salt. Only about a quarter of the total catch in Nova Scotia is marketed in its fresh state. The Food Controller is trying to make arrangements, through the Shipping Board, for adequate shipments of salt this year from Italy, Spain and Portugal. A coarser variety is brought from the West Indies but most dealers prefer the Mediterranean product.

SUGAR—OR SOLDIERS?

In a comprehensive review of the sugar situation, Mr. Herbert Hoover, United States Food Administrator points out that before the war England received approximately 1,400,000 long tons per annum from Germany and neighbouring sources. France produced about 750,000 long tons of beet sugar and exported 50,000 tons. The French production in 1917 fell to 210,000 long tons. Before the war Italy produced about 210,000 long tons and imported almost none. Thus Great Britain, France and Italy were under necessity either to secure 1,925,000 tons from West and East Indian sources to maintain normal consumption or to reduce such consumption to this extent by home economies. The East Indian sugar requires about three times the length of voyage and therefore three times the amount of tonnage to bring from that source compared to the West Indies.

Allies Have Done their Utmost.

Mr. Hoover explained that while drastic measures have been taken to enforce conservation of sugar by the civilian population of the Allies, the consumption of soldiers is necessarily far above normal. In August the British Government reduced the household sugar ration to a basis of 24 pounds per annum per person, and in September the French Government reduced the household ration to 13.2 pounds and at the same time place further restrictions upon use in manufacture. In August the French Government found itself unable to maintain even this ration from their supplies and appealed to the American Government for exports. These were granted, and it was agreed should be continued up to 100,000 tons. The American household ration at this time was at least 55 pounds per annum per person.

By reason of the car shortage in the United States some 30,000 tons of sugar intended for France had to be distributed in the Northeastern States, the United States authorities proposing to help the Allies from Gulf ports or Cuba. They have not been able to do so, although, as Mr. Hoover says, the Allied situation is to-day more critical than ever. Mr. Hoover states that in face of the crucial situation in England and France and the obvious shortage of sugar on this continent any discouragement to the campaign for conservation is a positive disaster.

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No Surplus Supplies Left.

In his report Mr. Hoover says: "There is not to-day, nor have there been any supplies available which have not been brought into distribution. Statements that there have been, or will be ample supplies of sugar available are wrong and opposed to every fact in the situation It is our stern duty to feed the Allies, to maintain their health and strength at any cost to ourselves. There has not been, nor will be, as we see it, enough sugar for even their present meagre and depressing ration unless they send ships to remote markets for it.

Soldiers or Sugar—Which?

"If we in our greed and gluttony force them either to further reduce their ration or to send these ships we will have done damage to our abilities to win this war. To-day the number of soldiers we can send to France is limited by the ships we have available. If we send the ships to Java for 250,000 tons of sugar next year to piece out their ration we will have necessitated employment of the equivalent of eleven extra ships for one year. This in our present situation is the measure of transport and maintenance of 150,000 to 200,000 men in France."

Allies Must Go to Java?

Mr. Hoover concludes with the following: "I submit herewith a statement of our views as to the sugar supplies for ourselves and the Allies next year. You will observe that it entails the transport of 250,000 tons of sugar for the Allies from Java, if the American public is to have its normal supply. Such transport will diminish our ability to send soldiers to France by 200,000 men. If, however, the American public will diminish their consumption by ten per cent to fifteen per cent, or if the Cuban crops are larger than we anticipate, this disaster of transport necessity can be averted.

This statement while written as an appeal to the people of the United States, applies with equal force to the people of Canada.

WORK IS BEING APPRECIATED.

Rev. Canon Woodcock, Trinity Rectory, Brockville, in a recent letter to the Food Controller says: "Your work is most satisfactory and as it is more and more known it is appreciated in proportion."

CREDIT TO MR. HANNA.

For the Increased Consumption of Fish, says Prof. Prince.

Professor E. E. Prince, Dominion Fish Commissioner, speaking before the May Court Club in Ottawa recently, gave the credit to Mr. Hanna for the fact that more fish is being sold in the Dominion to-day than ever before. Even so, the consumption could be easily trebled, he said. Of the thousands of lakes in Canada those that have no fish could be numbered on the hands. The purity and coldness of the waters are responsible for the fine quality of fish, which is unsurpassed in any country in the world.

He pointed out that the annual value of the fisheries in Canada to-day approximated \$40,000,000. The total annual catch reached nearly 1,140,000,000 pounds and would afford every man, woman and child 140 pounds per year. At present from 60 to 75 per cent of our fish are being exported to the United States. There was a great opening now for Canadians to handle and market fish so that adequate supplies might be procurable. More economical methods should be adopted to stop the present waste and to make fuller use of fish by-products.

There are 100,000 different kinds of fish in the rivers and lakes of the world, said Professor Prince, and Canada has 600 varieties. Of these 50 are in use, though three times that number are excellent for food. Not more than 12 or 15 kinds are really popular. Forty fish are thrown away for one that is used. Some of the most delicious varieties are treated with contempt simply because of unfortunate prejudice, due to their names. He laid particular emphasis on the herring supply which surpasses that of Britain or Norway, yet which is not drawn upon as it should be.

The general use of frozen fish was earnestly advocated by the commissioner, who said that scientific experiments had shown that frozen fish retained its freshness and remained in good condition for six months and, sometimes, even for a year. It was just as good as fresh fish for all practical purposes and frequently better.

MORE HOGS FOR MANITOBA.

Mr. J. H. Evans, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, has estimated that the hog production of the province this year will be increased by 250,000 animals, as a result of the campaign for increased production of swine.

SAVING IN THE HOTELS.

Much More Fish being Used as Substitute for Meat.

Mr. F. W. Mossop, who has been visiting hotels and restaurants in Montreal in connection with the enforcement of the Food Controller's regulations, has forwarded a report on his work. Mr. Mossop says that among the better class hotels and restaurants he has found a very marked variation in saving of beef, bacon and white flour. The manager of one of the largest hotels there says that he is using about ten per cent less beef and bacon and ten to fifteen per cent more fish. He is serving special war bread, which means considerable saving in white flour. The manager of another of the larger hotels states that his use of beef and bacon has been reduced by forty per cent, while thirty per cent more fish is being served. Special graham rolls are served at all meals as substitutes for white bread. The other better class hotels and restaurants report an average saving of about twenty-five per cent in beef and bacon, with a corresponding increase in the use of fish.

All the hotels visited are using very much more poultry than formerly. The cheaper eating places in some cases were not observing the food regulations. Mr. Mossop made it plain to them that strict observance of the law would be required and that further violations would be dealt with severely.

**NOW SAVING BEEFSTEAK AND HAM.
One Company Reports Beef Consumption
Reduced to One-third.**

The Canadian Manager of Bowles Lunch, Limited, in a letter to the Food Controller covering the saving in certain food commodities in the Company's five branches in Canada says:—

"Our consumption of ham is fully one-half less than it was a year ago. We have eliminated beef stew and now serve beef only in a chopped steak sandwich with the result that we are only serving one-third as much beef as we were a year ago. We have met with a large measure of success in substituting corn muffins for wheat flour products. There has also been a noticeable increase in the sale of oatmeal."

Arrangements are being discussed whereby the co-operation of the Lumbermen's Associations throughout Canada will be secured in promoting the work of conservation and production.

LOWER COST TO PUBLIC.

Very Great Benefits from Regulation of Package Cereal Trade.

Benefits amounting in the aggregate to many thousands of dollars have been secured for the public and substitution on a large scale of corn, barley, etc., for wheat has been effected by the Food Controller's regulations governing the sale of cereal products in packages. The prohibition of the sale of such products in original packages of less than twenty pounds, and the refusal to issue licenses if the price charged to the consumer be out of proper proportion to the cost of the raw material have kept the price of these products from advancing despite the increase in the cost of most of the cereals in bulk. There can be no doubt that had it not been for the attitude taken by the Food Controller the price of many of the package cereals on the market would have been increased—in some cases by as much as five cents per package.

More for the Same Money.

A large number of applications for licenses have been refused or action delayed, pending changes by the manufacturers to comply with the Food Controller's regulations. One firm selling a cereal product in two-pound packages has agreed to increase the net weight of the contents from two to two and one-half pounds, leaving the selling price the same, as a result of the Food Controller's ruling that the price charged to the consumer was out of proper proportion to the cost of the product in bulk and his refusal to issue a license until a satisfactory readjustment was made. The difference will be made up by some reduction in the cost of the package and other selling expenses. Moreover, this firm has announced its intention to substitute 20 per cent barley thus reducing its use of wheat by this amount.

Products Available in Bulk.

A number of manufacturers have entirely changed their plans and have decided to stop the sale of cereal specialties in small packages for the period of the war. They will continue to sell in packages of twenty pounds or more and the contents will be sold in smaller lots in bulk by retail dealers. Another company which has been manufacturing a 90 per cent wheat product has agreed to substitute 33 per cent corn and increase the contents of the packages from ten to twelve ounces without any increase in price. This will be made possible by doing away with the wax wrapper and re-

ducing package and general selling expense. In the case of another product the manufacturer substituting all corn for wheat which was formerly 95 per cent of the preparation and is increasing the net weight of the package, thus reducing the cost per pound to the consumer.

In the case of a number of package specialties it has been found that the public were being charged a price which, in the opinion of the Food Controller, is too high. The Food Controller is insisting that the cost of packages must only represent a small part of the selling price. High advertising expenses, too, will not be considered as a justifiable cause for an excessive price.

Net Weight to be Guaranteed.

Very important advantages are promised to the consumer by reason of the requirement that the weight of the net contents must be legibly stamped on each package. It has been found that in many cases there is a wide difference in the contents of packages of the same size. Under the new regulations, however, the manufacturers will be required to guarantee that the package contains at least the amount printed upon it.

There is reason, also, to believe that purchase of cereal products in bulk has been stimulated by the Report of the Special Committee of the Food Controller's Office. The Report emphasized that even at today's prices, which are closer to the bulk prices than they were before the war, cereals in bulk are still cheaper to the consumer than those sold in packages.

SELECTING SEED POTATOES.

Care should be taken in the selection of good seed potatoes for the coming season. Some of the crop failures last year were due to the use of poor seed. It is also desirable that there should be some uniformity in the variety of potatoes planted. Mixed consignments are not in favour with the dealers or consumers.

Mr. A. D. Wilson, State Food Administrator for Minnesota, stated recently that farmers must expect a loss on their potatoes this year and must market their product even below the cost of production. This is made necessary by the large surplus. He suggested that potatoes of poorer quality which would not bring a fair price on the market be used to fatten hogs.

MUST UNLOAD PROMPTLY.

Food Controller takes action to prevent unnecessary delay.

An Order in Council has been passed upon the recommendation of the Food Controller to prevent unnecessary delay in the unloading or re-shipment of food or food products in freight cars. It provides that no freight car containing such products shall be allowed to remain under load at its destination for more than four days after notice of its arrival has been given by the railway company to the consignee. When any such car is detained for a longer period the railway company is required to notify the Food Controller.

Similarly the Food Controller must be notified if any freight car containing food is held at any railway point for a furtherance order for more than one day after the arrival of the car.

If a car remains under load at its destination for more than four days or has been held more than one day for a furtherance order, the Food Controller is authorized to give written notice requiring the unloading or issuance of a furtherance order within two days. At the expiration of this period the food, if not unloaded or re-shipped, will be sold by the Food Controller.

The Food Controller is also authorized to forbid the acceptance by the railway companies, without his written permission, of food from any shipper whose goods have been seized and sold. For failure to comply with the provisions of the Order a penalty is provided of a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both fine and imprisonment.

CAMPAIGN SAVES A LIFE.

Such is Belief of a Farmer Living Near Halifax.

There is one man in Halifax to-day who believes that he owes his life to the campaign for increased production of hogs. Professor M. Cumming, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Nova Scotia, writes in to the effect that he was approached by a man on the street who told him that he lived on a farm outside of Halifax and that it had been his intention to go into the city as usual on the morning of the disaster. He had bought some pigs the day before, however, and he had to stay at home to attend to them.

UNFAIR TO THE SOLDIER.

Why a Food Slogan is not used on Postal Matter in Canada.

A number of correspondents have suggested the use of a food slogan as a cancellation mark on Canadian letters and postcards. Some of them have sent a copy of the United States cancellation slogan, "Food will win the war, don't waste it."

The Office of the Food Controller took up this question with the Canadian Post Office Department as long ago as September 24th, and was informed that advice had been received from Great Britain that letters addressed to Canadian prisoners of war in Germany were being detained by the German authorities and not delivered, if such letters bore any patriotic cancellation advertising. More recently, when the United States food slogan appeared on postal matter, a letter was sent to the Deputy Postmaster General inquiring whether the difficulty had been overcome. His reply is in part as follows:—

"No change has been made in this regard, and the United States will find that such letters, if addressed to their prisoners in Germany, will not be delivered, and this Department has notified the American Government to this effect. There is no change and the German authorities refuse absolutely to deliver any such letters. It was, therefore, decided by the Government not to allow them to go through the mails."

MAY IMPORT FAT MESS PORK.

The United States embargo against the exportation of pork and pork products to Canada has been modified to the extent that licenses will now be granted for the shipment of fat mess pork in limited quantities for lumber camp use in the Dominion. Such licenses will be issued by the War Trade Board only upon the approval of the Food Controller for Canada.

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS ON FARMS.

Dr. A. H. Abbott, Secretary of the Organization of Resources Committee of Ontario, in a recent letter, says:—

"The results of our experience for the past two years in Ontario show that High School boys are a success on the farm, and we feel sure that many more can be secured this year than were secured last, if the work be undertaken at once in the proper way."

A TERRIBLE POSSIBILITY.

Sir Edmund Walker says the Danger of Famine is Very Real.

"Difficult as the problem may be, we must produce more, and we must eat less, otherwise some of those who are dearest to us across the sea must starve and we may lose our chance of dictating a peace, the nature of which shall be a guarantee that our children shall not have to fight again for those liberties which are now in jeopardy."—*Sir Edmund Walker.*

Sir Edmund Walker, President of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, speaking at the annual meeting of the shareholders on January 8th, said in part:—

"One of the most valuable foods for the soldier is bacon. He can apparently do more fighting on it than on anything else. . . If we fail in producing greater quantities of bacon than ever before, we shall fail in our duty to the soldiers. In this country we have been occupied in an effort to place the blame for the high price of an article, which, beyond any doubt, we ought not to consume in large quantities just now, and we have apparently forgotten that the price has gone up mainly because bacon is vital to carrying on the war and that if we do anything to lessen the efforts of the producers, the price will certainly be much higher next year than it is now. IN ENGLAND WELL-TO-DO PEOPLE ARE STANDING IN LINE FOR THEIR FOOD SUPPLIES, AND THEY, AT LEAST, ARE LEARNING THAT THE TALK OF FAMINE IS NOT A STORY TO FRIGHTEN CHILDREN WITH, BUT A TERRIBLE POSSIBILITY. The harvests have not been plentiful and the danger is as real as the menace of the submarines.

"Nothing in the end is to be gained by

blaming the Premier or the Food Controller, the provision dealer or the farmer, for high prices which are not merely a result of the war but a result of war requirements so peremptory that the question of cost almost disappears. The conditions arising out of the war are at the bottom of most of our troubles. We have been told that we should save money. It is even more necessary that we should eat less, again not so much that we need to save for ourselves, but because **IF WE DO NOT EAT LESS OTHERS ACROSS THE SEA MUST GO HUNGRY.**

"If we have men, money and food we shall win. If we fail in any of these we may lose. Individual tests, particularly in hotels and restaurants, show that very large savings can be made wherever the effort is made to that end, but the difficulty is to make advice, or even regulations of the Food Controller, effective in a country which produces food largely in excess of its own requirements and where economy in the use of food is thought to be evidence of a mean and sordid disposition. It is not, however, enough that we should eat less but that we should as far as possible replace some article of food, especially white bread and bacon, with others."

A TEST OF CITIZENSHIP.

War Diet Means a Changed Diet Regardless of the Cost.

The Winnipeg Tribune, discussing Food Saving, says editorially: "The primary duty is to save those things that are needed by our soldiers, such as bacon, sugar and wheat flour. The goods which we must substitute may cost as much, or even more, but in order to attend to the primary needs of the men at the front we must forego much of the food to which we have been long accustomed. A war diet may mean increased cost or it may not, but it does mean a changed diet. We should use more substitutes, not because these things are cheaper, but because wheat is needed for export. We should eat more fish, fruit and

game, not because of its market price, but because beef and pork are needed in Europe. The first duty of Canadian citizenship is to produce as much as possible and to consume as little as possible of those things so essential to our enemies across the seas

"The man who is unwilling to accept a different diet in order to spare wheat, sugar, and bacon is disloyal to British citizenship and adds so much more to the social burden. In other words, he adds to the cost of the conflict and lengthens out the struggle as surely as does any German whose rifle has added to the length of the casualty list. Conservation is not merely a public question. It is more: it is a personal matter and no one can escape the duty and responsibility."

POTATO PRICES LIMITED.

Food Controller Warns Dealers they must not go Higher.

Higher prices for potatoes than those now prevailing will not be permitted. The Food Controller has sent notification to this effect to all wholesale handlers, stating that any attempt to secure higher prices will be dealt with promptly. If retail dealers should attempt to charge an unreasonable profit on potatoes the Food Controller is prepared to fix the margin of profit and, if necessary, to set maximum prices.

A recent survey of the potato situation by the Food Controller's Office indicates that there is still a large supply of potatoes in the hands of growers and dealers to meet a continuous and heavy demand until the 1918 crop will be available. A special effort to keep the public plentifully supplied at reasonable prices is necessary in order that no part of the large crop of the past season be wasted. Nothing can be gained by withholding supplies from the market because the Food Controller's announcement makes it impossible for farmers to secure higher prices later in the season.

Even at the present time the trend of the market is towards lower prices, notwithstanding the recent severe weather which has made the movement of potatoes difficult. In order to prevent possible loss later in the season, the winter movement of potatoes must, therefore, be stimulated by every possible means. No effort should be spared to bring within easy reach of every family in the Dominion all the potatoes which they can eat.

Surplus of Six Million Bushels.

At the present time there is a total surplus in Canada over normal consumption of about 6,000,000 bushels of potatoes made up as follows:

Nova Scotia surplus	2,000,000
Prince Edward Island surplus..	2,500,000
New Brunswick surplus	2,500,000
Western Provinces surplus	1,000,000
Total	8,000,000
Quebec shortage	2,000,000

leaving a balance of 6,000,000 bushels as total surplus for Canada.

Danger of Glut in the Spring.

Ontario is just about self supporting. It will thus be seen that every Province except Quebec has sufficient potatoes to ensure supplies during the winter if they are not

held for increased prices. If they are withheld from the market it would necessarily mean a glut in the spring and consequent waste of a considerable part of the surplus. It is for this reason that the Food Controller has decided that the prices will not be allowed to advance beyond those now obtaining.

By a steady and abundant supply of potatoes being placed on the market from the present time until the 1918 crop is available, the best interests of both consumers and producers will be served and the waste of any large part of the crop will be prevented.

FOR SEED POTATOES.

Far-reaching policy for Ontario has been outlined.

The Advisory Potato Council of Ontario has prepared plans looking to the development in Northern Ontario of a great seed-producing industry and educational propaganda to promote the use in older Ontario of Northern-grown seed. Steps are said to have been taken already to secure from New Brunswick several carloads of high-class seed for distribution among growers.

The salient features of the plan as outlined in newspaper reports are:

Potato growing by the Ontario Government of a large scale on the provincial farms at Fort William and Burwash, New Liskeard and Monteith, to secure high-class seed for distribution among Northern farmers as a foundation for great seed-potato industry.

Distribution in the North at cost, less freight of high-class standard seed potatoes from New Brunswick.

Distribution to 1,000 farmers in older Ontario of seed grown in New Brunswick, Northern Ontario and older Ontario, for experimental purposes.

Co-ordination of all experimental work with staff of inspectors to ensure production only of disease-free seed potatoes.

FEED FOR CANADIAN FARMERS.

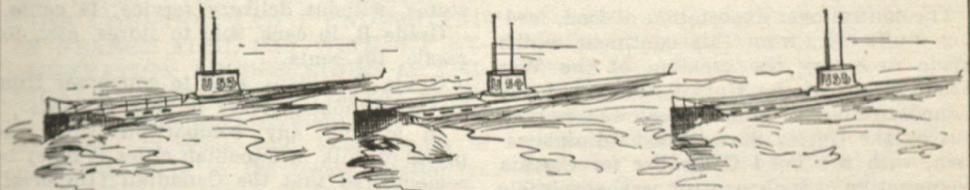
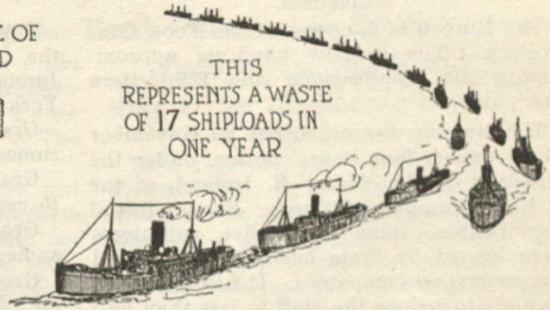
As a result of measures initiated by the Food Controller applications for licenses for the exportation to the United States of 6,640 tons of bran and shorts have been refused and this amount of feed has been diverted to help to meet the requirements of Canadian farmers.

SAVE THE BREAD :-



WASTED
ONCE A DAY BY 8,000,000 PEOPLE
IN CANADA - BY THROWING AWAY
THE CRUSTS - THE LEFT-OVERS - THE
SLICE UNNECESSARILY EATEN

THIS
REPRESENTS A WASTE
OF 17 SHIPLOADS IN
ONE YEAR



*THIS WASTE ADDS THREE OF THE MOST MODERN
SUBMARINES TO THE GERMAN NAVY.*

"I am a Slice of Bread.

"I measure three inches by two-and-a-half, and my thickness is half-an-inch.

"My weight is exactly one ounce.

"I am wasted once a day by 8,000,000 people in Canada.

"I am 'the bit left over'; the slice eaten absent-mindedly when really I wasn't needed; I am the waste crust.

"If you collected me and my companions for a whole week you would find that we amounted to 1,750 tons of good bread—WASTED.

"Seventeen shiploads of good bread wasted every year by the people of Canada—more than 3 German submarines could sink—even if they had good luck.

"When you throw me away or waste me you are adding three of the most effective submarines to the German Navy."

STOP ALL WASTE.

(Adapted from a pamphlet issued by the National War Savings Committee, London, England.)

SAVING IN COST OF MILK.

A news despatch from Chatham, Ont., says:

"The establishment of milk depots in many parts of the city by the Mechanics' and Workmen's Board of Trade has resulted in the price of the commodity being reduced in the centre of the city to 8 cents a quart and in the outlying districts to nine cents. The depots have been established in grocery stores and by doing away with the cost of delivery the Board has found it possible to effect a material saving to the consumer."

FILMS ARE "BOOKED UP SOLID."

The Motion Picture Committee of the Food Controller's Office reports that food conservation films are "booked up solid" until early in March.

"The theatre managers and owners are all giving the heartiest co-operation" writes a member of the committee.

Motion picture slides with food conservation messages have been prepared and will be distributed within the next couple of weeks to all motion picture theatres in Canada.

HAVE MANY APPLICATIONS.

Review of the Work of the Bureau of Licenses.

The Bureau of Licenses of the Food Controller's Office is now handling approximately 100 applications and 250 letters every day.

The Bureau was organized on November 16 on twenty-four hours' notice, under the direction of Mr. Walter E. Ireland, of the T. Eaton Company, Toronto. For the initial organization, some twenty-five volunteers were loaned by large business houses and transportation companies. It has now been possible to reduce the staff to less than half that number.

The control over exportation of food, feeding stuff, etc., from this continent which made necessary the creation of the War Trade Board of the United States and the Canadian Bureau of Licenses, was worked out by the United States Food Administration, with the Food Controller for Canada co-operating. Such control was absolutely necessary in the interests of the Allied nations and in order to protect the public of this continent against the drain of essential foodstuffs. The Bureau of Licenses has also been able to secure modification or removal of a number of embargoes placed by the United States authorities against the exportation of certain commodities to Canada. Representations as to the needs of Canada have been made to the War Trade Board by officers of the Bureau of Licenses and other representatives of the Food Controller's Office, and the results have been remarkably gratifying.

FOR PRODUCTION OF SEED.

The Government of British Columbia and the Provincial University are co-operating in a programme to increase greatly the production of seed in that Province. The work is being taken up energetically by the Provincial authorities and by Dr. Westbrook, who is President of the University, and also Chairman of the British Columbia Branch of the National Committee on Food Resources.

Already nine acres at the University are growing choice seed and as a result of work already done, Commissioner Clark, of the Dominion Committee on Conservation, has recommended to the Federal Department of Agriculture that all the work of seed producing be centred in British Columbia. The land in the vicinity of Victoria has long been recognized as one of the most suitable seed-producing sections in the world.

MILK CHEAPER IN CANADA.

Consumers in New York City Pay Higher Prices for Smaller Measure.

The Federal Milk Commission has fixed the following prices to be charged during January by the distributors of milk in New York City.

Grade A, quart bottles, delivered to consumer, 17 cents.

Grade B, in quart bottles, to consumer, 15 cents.

Grade B, in pint bottles, delivered to consumer, 9 cents.

Grade B, in quart bottles, sold to store, etc., for resale, 13½ cents.

Grade B, in quart bottles, sold from stores, without delivery service, 14 cents.

Grade B, in cans, sold to stores, etc., for resale, 10½ cents.

Grade B in cans, sold to consumer from stores, without delivery service, 11 cents.

In making any comparison with the prices of milk in Canadian cities it must be remembered that the Canadian (Imperial) quart is one-fifth larger than the wine quart which is the standard in the United States.

TO SAVE SPACE IN CARS.

Communication from the Food Controller to railway companies.

The following communication has been sent from the Food Controller to the railway companies: "In order to alleviate the car shortage I would be strongly in favour of urging upon the shippers and railways of Canada that instructions be issued to all agents that such foodstuffs, and commodities as grain, salt, sugar, apples, potatoes, etc., be not accepted unless loaded to the full cubical or weight carrying capacity of the car. This, I feel, would tend to conserve the cars and move the maximum quantity of foodstuffs.

"I trust your association will be able to adopt this recommendation as quickly as possible."

MINING MEN ASKED TO HELP.

The Food Controller has written to the Secretary of the Canadian Mining Institute, Mr. H. Mortimer Lamb, appealing for the support of the mining men of Canada in the campaign for increased production of hogs and increased use of frozen fish in such camps.

The Regina Board of Trade is making inquiries into the suggestion that city by-laws on keeping pigs be modified and the secretary is preparing a report on the subject.

WITH GRAVE ANXIETY.

Lord Rhondda says the Food Situation is Critical.

A message from Lord Rhondda made public by the United States Food Administration concludes with these words: "I view the situation with grave anxiety." The message reads in part:

"I have repeatedly said in public and private that there is no reason for immediate alarm although there is every reason for strict economy. These statements in some instances have been twisted into a declaration that there is plenty of food in England and France. **THE FOOD POSITION IN THIS COUNTRY, AND I UNDERSTAND IN FRANCE ALSO, CAN WITHOUT EXAGGERATION BE DESCRIBED AS CRITICAL AND ANXIOUS.** I am now unable to avoid compulsory regulation. I fear it will have to come with long queues of people awaiting in the severe weather in practically every town in England for the daily necessities of life."

Cable despatches report that compulsory rationing will be started in England immediately, with meats the first commodity to be put under control. Distribution of butter and margarine will be taken in hand next and other foods will be added as they become scarcer.

A recent cablegram from the French Government stated that the wheat crop had been requisitioned and that the bread ration would be cut to allow only seven ounces of bread daily to all persons except the very poor and those doing hard manual labor. In Italy, conditions are not as good perhaps as in either England or France.

WHAT WE CAN GET.

Food Controller points out gravity of food situation.

In a recent address, Hon. W. J. Hanna said: "The very best judgment of the men best qualified to know what the situation actually is, points to the startling fact that inside of four months or five at most the world's food supply will be reaching a place where it will not be what we want but what we can get. What we can accomplish by conservation in Canada is of course a very small item in the face of the world scarcity. But we believe that by inculcating a spirit of conservation we will be inculcating a spirit that will be instrumental in ensuring increased production."

LESSONS IN PRICE FIXING.

Some of the Considerations which must be taken into Account.

In a recent article in The New York Tribune, Mr. Garet Garrett, a financial writer of recognized standing, discussed the question of price fixing. He said in part: "You can fix prices successfully enough provided you have the power and the means, on the one hand, to compel the producer to produce and sell, and, on the other hand, to regulate the consumer's demands. The practice has been fumbling, not only in this country but in others during the war, even in Germany. There was set up a Food Administration which fixed the price of wheat, and that worked fairly well because the price was satisfactory to the farmer. The handling of other food products worked not so well. There was created a Fuel Administration which fixed the price of coal and that was almost disastrous, because the price compelled a lot of small high-cost mines to shut up. Other boards fixed other prices as for steel and copper and many industrial materials.

"Price fixing is but one term of a problem, the complexities of which are endless. The problem itself is how the Government can command the production and distribution of commodities in such a manner as to supply the wants of war without entailing unnecessary hardships amongst the civil population

"You may fix the price at which the farmers shall sell their produce but if they refuse to plant they cannot be made to plant, and if, having grown the stuff they refuse to sell it at the price fixed, they cannot be made to sell it, because it would take the whole National Army to make the Government's mandate effective. They found this out in Germany. The Imperial German Government could command the farmers to bring in their produce, but the Imperial German Government could not go and get it, as the farmers well knew. Therefore, the price had to be a pleasing one."

WILL CAN WHALE MEAT.

At least one plant is to be constructed on the British Columbia coast for the canning of whale meat. Additional canneries may be established.

DOGS AND SHEEP-RAISING.**Local Legislation is Suggested for Protection of Flocks.**

The United States Department of Agriculture has been interesting itself in the question of sheep-raising in New England where numerous pastures which formerly supported flocks of sheep and lambs are now deserted and are becoming overgrown with weeds and bushes. The explanation is that sheep-killing dogs are now so numerous that no flock of sheep is safe from their attacks unless surrounded by a dog-proof bulwark.

The Department says: "If the farmers of New England could be assured that their sheep would be allowed to feed unmolested at the present day, numerous flocks would quickly be purchased. They have excellent pasturage for sheep during the summer months and would willingly make provision for their care during the winter. The prices which wool, mutton, and lamb now command are sufficiently remunerative to justify any one who is the possessor of idle grassland in New England in purchasing a flock of sheep. But some local legislation will first be necessary which will recognize the fact that a vagrant dog is a menace to the progress of the community and providing a penalty for those who insist upon owning dogs without keeping them under proper restraint. Dogs should not be allowed to wander away from their owner's premises or leave their owner's control, as otherwise they will become a public nuisance. The owner should be held financially responsible for the damage done by his dog, because of the wanton destruction of the wool and meat that are so greatly needed in the present times of war scarcity."

The situation in many parts of the Maritime Province of Canada is similar in this regard to that in New England. In view of the vital importance of securing increased production of food animals, municipalities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and perhaps in some of the other provinces where dogs are a menace to sheep-raising, would do well to consider some such action as that suggested.

The question is of course entirely outside the jurisdiction of the Food Controller, and action, if taken, must be taken by the Provincial Governments.

The manufacture of cattle feed and other products from fish offal was successfully demonstrated last year by Mr. J. B. Feilding, Barrie, Ont., under the auspices of the Commission of Conservation.

SAFETY LEAGUE BULLETINS.**Provincial Organization is Aiding in Food Conservation Effort.**

The Ontario Safety League is co-operating with the Food Controller and has issued a number of special bulletins emphasizing the necessity of conservation. One of these is in the form of small poster with the wording:—

FOOD.

Buy it carefully.
Cook it well.
Eat what you need.
Save what you can.

Another points out that one-half cup of milk, if wasted daily by each family in Canada, would mean 125,000 quarts wasted each day, or 45,625,000 quarts wasted each year. Valued at five cents per quart, this waste would amount to \$6,250 per day, or \$2,281,250 per year. This would be equivalent to a good 100-acre farm thrown away each day.

The bulletin states that it would require 20,833 cows to produce this one-half cup of milk per family and that it would require 2,833 men to milk these cows each day. Left-over or sour milk can be used for cooking. "Stop all the waste" is the final injunction.

CHURCH PLEDGES HELP.**Calgary Congregation will do utmost to Relieve Food Shortage.**

As a result of the letter recently sent to the clergymen throughout Canada by the Food Controller, a resolution was passed by the congregation of Wesley Methodist Church, Calgary, pledging members to do their utmost to make food available for export to the Allies. The resolution after referring to the message from the Food Controller read:—

"Be it therefore resolved by the congregation of Wesley Methodist Church, Calgary, assembled on December 23, 1917, that with a sense of gratitude to Divine Providence for the great blessings which our country enjoys and with a firm determination to support to the end the cause of the allies in the present crisis, the members of this congregation cheerfully undertake to do their utmost by economy and otherwise so to regulate their lives and mode of living as to spare for export for the use of those in need the food suitable and required for that purpose; and further pledge themselves to support and assist the [Food] Controller in any and all reasonable measures which he may take to secure the desired end."

TO UTILIZE GAME SUPPLY.

Restrictions might be Relaxed on Account of Food Shortage.

The Venison Supply Committee, appointed by the British Ministry of Food, succeeded in increasing by more than 30 per cent above the average of pre-war seasons, the number of deer killed during the season of 1916-17. Lord Rhondda recently attended a meeting of the Committee at which he expressed his approval of the work already accomplished and his desire that the Committee should continue its efforts in the interests of the national food supply. He pointed out the importance of providing as much venison as possible as a substitute for beef and mutton among all classes of consumers.

In many parts of Canada there are large numbers of deer, caribou and other animals suitable for food, which are protected at the present time by Provincial legislation. In view of the critical condition in regard to food supply and the necessity of sending from this country every ounce of exportable meat, the question may well be raised whether some temporary relaxing of these game restrictions should not be made, in order that all available substitutes might be utilized to relieve the needs of the Allies by releasing additional quantities of Canadian beef and bacon from domestic consumption.

Under date of August 14, 1917, the Food Controller wrote to the several Provincial Governments suggesting special regulations during the hunting season that would allow of a larger quantity of game being taken and sold for food than has been obtained in the past. More recently a letter was received from British Columbia in which the writer said: "We have certain game laws in this province which are excellent under normal conditions and which allow the hunting and killing of a certain number of deer but forbid the sale of same. My suggestion is that this law be changed for a time and that men be encouraged to hunt and to bring in the venison by allowing it to be sold. If a sufficient supply and the supply is abundant could be placed on the market, perhaps it would help to save beef, etc., and would allow young beef stock to grow bigger before being killed for food. Many men have killed deer and have only saved 'choice cuts' rather than go to the heavy labour of packing the animal out, whereas if they knew they could sell the carcass it would be worth their while to carry it out even a long way.

In winter many a farmer has time to go hunting for a day or so and I believe a temporary alteration in the game law respecting the hunting of deer and sale of the carcasses, would result in an increase of meat supplies and a consequent saving of beef."

Revision of the game laws is distinctly under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments and correspondence in regard to the matter should be addressed directly to the Provincial Departments.

SHORTAGE IS MORE ACUTE.

Bread Ration in France has to be Reduced Again.

Information received at the Food Controller's Office indicates that the shortage of wheat in France is becoming more and more alarming each week. A further reduction of twenty per cent in the bread ration will soon become imperative, according to M. Maurice Long, Minister for General Requisitioning of France. The manufacture and consumption of pastry regarded as a luxury has been entirely prohibited since January 1 except on Sundays and holidays.

In Denmark a reduction of the wheat ration is anticipated. The cereal harvest, according to final figures, is only about 62,000,000 bushels, which is 20,000,000 bushels less than in 1916 and about 10,000,000 less than was estimated in the summer when the people were put on bread rations.

The food situation in Switzerland is extremely serious. A new ration, far below the consumption even in many of the countries at war, has been ordered. The new regulations allow only one and one-half pounds of sugar per month. The bread ration is only one-half pound a day and butter ration one-fifth of a pound per month.

"It will still and always be possible for any Canadian who is asked to do a patriotic thing to find some other Canadian who fails. Shall we then all refuse until we are unanimously patriotic? If so we shall all be traitors together. Better do the thing that should be done by us individually and then we shall have the greater right to demand further action by our representatives in office."—The Vancouver Province.

GOOD WORK IN MONTREAL.

Women's Food Economy Committee is Enthusiastic in Efforts.

The Women's Food Economy Committee of Montreal, organized at the initiation of the Local Council of Women last September, has been progressive and successful in promoting the cause of food conservation. The intention was that the committee should be representative of all women's societies doing public work. Mrs. Huntley Drummond was appointed Chairman and Mrs. V. V. Henderson, Organizing Secretary. They approached groups of women in all quarters of the city and had the French section of the community canvassed by the Federation National through its President, Madame Gerin Lajoie. Their work has been aided by the Montreal Housewives' League and the Domestic Science teachers of Macdonald College.

Members of the committee approached something like 3,000 women and found them receptive, interested and, in the main, ready to co-operate. They gave talks and demonstrations and distributed literature. They asked several of the companies where lunch is served to use war bread instead of white bread. With the same end in view, they requested all societies in the habit of serving afternoon tea to give it up for the duration of the war. The Women's Canadian Club in Montreal immediately complied with this request. Other smaller organizations and church societies also have eliminated the "tea hour" and where refreshments are necessary there has been a disposition to change the old order of things and to have real war-time refreshments.

A house-to-house campaign begins the week of January 20, when the ministers will be asked to co-operate by giving food conservation sermons throughout the city. Six hundred women are ready to devote their time and energies to this campaign.

BOYS' PIG CLUBS SUCCESSFUL.

Boys' pig clubs have made pure bred pigs common in parts of the Southern States where formerly a well-bred hog was scarcely known. Thousands of pure-bred pigs have been distributed among the boys with excellent results. Members of the boys' pig clubs have received very considerable profits for their work.

Several hundred applications from dealers in fresh fruits and vegetables for licenses have already been received. These are being dealt with promptly by the Fruit and Vegetable Committee of the Food Controller's Office.

CANADA'S PRIMARY DUTY.

Must Send Food to Ward off Starvation in Europe.

Hon. W. J. Hanna, Food Controller, addressing the Men's Association of Zion Methodist Church, Toronto, on January 8, declared that his primary duty was not price-fixing of foods for consumption in Canada but that of taking every possible means to relieve the desperate food shortage in Europe. Upon the success of his effort in Canada and a similar effort in the United States the result of the war itself might yet depend. "That duty must be done irrespective of what it costs us, and it must be done even if some other duties have to be disregarded.

"From the first I have been preaching 'save wheat, save beef, save bacon,' and I am still preaching that doctrine. Use substitutes even although they cost more. We owe it to the men at the front and the people across the water."

By saving 20 per cent of the normal consumption of wheat, Canada and the United States were expected to send 220,000,000 bushels of wheat to Europe out of the 1917 crop. This would not save Europe from hunger, but it would save the people from starvation, said Mr. Hanna.

Greater production would have to be undertaken in 1918. Increased production of hogs was already under way. In 1918, it would be necessary to raise 250,000,000 bushels more wheat in Canada.

"You ask what the Food Controller has done," said Mr. Hanna in conclusion. "I have told you some of the things he has done. Now I think it is a fair question for each one of you to ask yourself, 'What have I done, what am I doing, to alleviate the desperate situation confronting us in Europe.'"

STORE MORE NATURAL ICE.

An increased quantity of natural ice will probably be required in the spring, summer and fall this year by dairymen and other dealers in perishable food products because the supply of artificial ice may be much reduced. Such reduction is anticipated in view of the greatly increased demand for ammonia, which is a by-product in connection with the production of illuminating gas, and also on account of the coal shortage which may reduce the supplies available for the operations of artificial ice plants. By storing a plentiful supply of natural ice this winter a very important economy will be effected, and an ample amount of ice will be available for the warm weather.

FOR GREATER PRODUCTION

What is being done in the several provinces of Canada.

ALBERTA.

From Mr. H. A. Craig, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Alberta, comes the following: "This Department has arranged with various points throughout the Province, beginning February 4, special short courses of two days duration on seed selection, soil preparation and increased production of grain and feed crops, with special emphasizes on wheat. A special campaign for increased production of hogs is being carried on. Meetings are being held and breeding sows have been purchased to be sold to farmers later on at cost."

MANITOBA.

Mr. J. H. Evans, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, telegraphs:

"Eighteen conferences have been held throughout this province in connection with hog production and general enthusiasm in the campaign has been shown. We anticipate an increase of 250,000 hogs during the coming season. Feed is being ordered through the Department of Agriculture here. Numerous males and females have been placed with farmers. Over 200 sows have been purchased and bred at the provincial institutions."

NOVA SCOTIA.

Professor M. Cumming, Secretary for Agriculture for Nova Scotia sends the following: "The Development of Agricultural Resources Committee of Nova Scotia has endeavoured to make sure of supplies of fertilizers. Details of the arrangements will be announced later. The Provincial Government is also guaranteeing seed firms against loss on surplus left over of inspected seed, wheat and oats ordered in car load lots. This action is taken to ensure an abundant supply of first quality seed. Several food production bulletins are being prepared and extensive series of meetings being arranged."

ONTARIO.

Mr. W. B. Roadhouse, Deputy Minister of Agriculture in Ontario, states: "The Ontario Department of Agriculture has under advisement several plans with a view to securing a maximum production during the coming season. We expect that they will be ready for announcement in a short time."

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Hon. M. McKinnon, Commissioner of Agriculture for Prince Edward Island, states: "We have completed arrangements by which we can supply brood sows and feed to farmers who will undertake to increase hog production. Other plans are under consideration but have not yet been completed."

QUEBEC.

Mr. J. A. Grenier, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Quebec, reports that the greater production campaign in that Province is progressing favourably.

SASKATCHEWAN.

Mr. F. H. Auld, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Saskatchewan has sent the following: "Special appeals have been made by this Department to the Councils of both urban and rural municipalities for their assistance in connection with organization for food production. The urban Councils have been asked to see that vacant lots are used for the maximum production of vegetables, poultry and pork and the rural Councils to organize a special Agricultural Committee to marshal all their resources for food production."

WORK OF MR. MCGREGOR.

Important Questions being taken up by Western Representative.

Mr. J. D. McGregor, western representative of the Food Controller, telegraphed the following summarized report of his work to date:—

"My office here was opened on December 20th. Some time was taken up with organization work. There has been a large demand for bran, shorts, and screenings for hog feed and there has been considerable difficulty in obtaining the same, but we are doing our best to keep up with the demand. The question of fish supply is being given careful attention and several meetings have been held with those interested. Mr. G. Frank Beer, Chairman of the Fish Committee of the Food Controller's Office, Ottawa, was present at some of the meetings, giving valuable assistance. The Winnipeg mill question is also being given close attention and a special committee has been appointed to look into and report on this matter."

"KEEP-A-PIG" CAMPAIGN.**Victoria and Vancouver have Amended Municipal By-laws.**

The city councils of Victoria and Vancouver have repealed their by-laws prohibiting the keeping of pigs within the limits of the municipalities. Applications for permission to keep pigs within the city boundaries must be approved by the Medical Health Officer. A considerable number of such applications have already been received.

Dr. Underhill, Medical Health Officer of Vancouver, said recently: "A pig can be kept as clean as a racehorse if his owner wants to keep him that way." He explained that the odor popularly associated with the keeping of pigs is often caused by the swill when it is being boiled. By proper care this nuisance can be eliminated.

A movement to keep a pig has already gained quite a hold in some parts of the suburbs of Victoria.

Mr. W. E. Scott, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia, has written to all the municipalities in the province urging the advisability of amending any by-laws which now prohibit the keeping of hogs within municipal limits.

EARLY PREPARATION URGED.**So that farmers may produce maximum crops this year.**

The Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, has issued a leaflet appealing for early preparation for the forthcoming increased production campaign. It is pointed out that greater production of food supplies than ever is essential now, for field crops are not only required to meet immediate human needs, but increased production of hogs, dairy products and beef are dependent upon such crops.

Foresight and early preparation are advocated. It is estimated that insect pests destroy annually from 10 to 25 per cent of all crops grown and farmers are reminded that they had better secure their insecticides before Spring if possible. The sudden demand for large quantities during the season when the insects are most active causes a serious shortage and sends the prices soaring. All spraying machinery should be thoroughly overhauled, cleaned and oiled in readiness for use. It is pointed out that this timely preparation will mean not only the saving of time but, eventually, the saving of crops.

FLAX SEED IS NEEDED.**Canadian Farmers have a Profitable Market in Ireland.**

Owing to the disturbance of war, Ireland this year will have great difficulty in securing flax seed and the linen industry, upon which the north of Ireland so largely depends, is likely to be seriously affected unless Canadian fibre flax seed can be produced and shipped to the flax growers this year. It is estimated that Ireland requires 195,000 bushels of flax seed. Previous to the war, that country secured two-thirds of its supply from Russia, principally from the Riga and Pernau districts. A small quantity was supplied by Yorkshire and the balance came from Holland. This year Ireland finds herself 104,000 bushels of flax seed short. Some 20,000 bushels have been supplied from Canada, which is a new development, as the Irish growers were accustomed only to Russian, Dutch and Yorkshire seed which had been tested by experience. The Irish Department of Agriculture in 1916, however, tested Canadian flax seed in comparison with Russian, Dutch, Irish, Yorkshire and Minnesota seed and found that the Canadian variety stood well up with the best flax seed produced.

In 1917, Canada had 7,173 acres in flax and shipped over 22,000 bushels of flax to Ireland, the price being \$4.50 per bushel as compared to \$2.50 before the war. For 1918, Canadian flax growers are expected to put at least 12,000 acres into fibre-producing flax. Farmers in sections where fibre producing flax can be grown, such as in south-western Ontario, parts of Quebec, Nova Scotia and British Columbia are urged to pay more than ordinary attention to this crop during the season of 1918 as, apart from its own seed supply, Ireland will chiefly depend upon this country for 1919, the Dutch Government having ordered the flax lands to be more largely used for food crops.

FOOD KEPT FROM THE ENEMY.**By control which has been established over exports.**

As a result of the prohibition of exportation from this continent, except under license, of food, feed, etc., it is believed that Germany is now effectually blockaded against supplies of these commodities from outside sources, according to cable advices. All such shipments leaving the United States must be licensed by the Washington authorities, while shipments from Canada must be approved by the Food Controller.

NEWS OF PROVINCIAL BODIES.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Dean L. S. Klinck, Secretary of the British Columbia Branch of the National Committee on Food Resources, has sent the following report: "Miss Olive E. Hayes has been engaged to act as provincial demonstrator in war time economy. Arrangements have been about completed by Mr. Gibson for the organization of classes of provincial explainers as requested by Dr. Robertson."

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Dr. W. C. Kierstead, Secretary of the New Brunswick Branch of the National Committee on Food Resources, telegraphs: "We are assisting the Department of Agriculture in a campaign for greater production, especially of wheat. This month we are visiting the County Councils at their annual sessions soliciting their co-operation with the Provincial Government in the financing and distributing of seed grains. The work of conservation is being carried forward along the lines already established."

QUEBEC.

Mrs. Henderson, Organizing Secretary of the Women's Food Economy Committee of Montreal, telegraphed the following report: "The plans for our Household Pledge Campaign in Montreal provide for sermons in the Churches on Sunday, January 20th. The Church Societies will form units bringing in their own pledge cards. The city is divided into electoral wards with fifty organizations to make home canvass in these wards for ten days. We shall also have publicity in the newspapers and a publicity committee is arranging for the schools to be addressed during the campaign."

QUEBEC'S WHEAT CROP.

Two million bushels more than normal harvest last year.

Prof. James Murray, of Macdonald College, says:—

"To meet the needs of her population Quebec requires over 11,000,000 bushels of wheat per year. In normal times she grows less than two million bushels and imports the balance from other parts of Canada,—mainly the Prairie Provinces. Last year, through a notable increase in acreage she harvested nearly two million bushels more than usual and thus released for export to Europe a like quantity of western-grown

wheat. There is immediate need for a still greater expansion in the wheat acreage. It can be done without seriously interfering with any farmer's calculations,—those who have been growing no wheat may well grow from two to five acres and those who already produce five acres might grow seven or eight. Concerted action on the part of Quebec's 150,000 farmers is all that is required."

ORGANIZATION IN TWEED.

Mr. C. S. Bootes, Secretary of the Food Economy Committee, Tweed, Ont., has sent an interesting report to the Food Controller. The Tweed committee was organized following an address by Mrs. Muldrew, Domestic Science Expert of the Food Controller's Office. Mr. Bootes asks for certain literature and continues:—

"I have received information from the Fish Committee and have already got in touch with one of the distributors and expect to have a regular supply coming in very shortly.

"We have also started a campaign for the use of brown bread two days a week. Mrs. Muldrew's visit has already borne fruit and the committee is working splendidly. We propose to inaugurate a progressive educational campaign with a house-to-house canvass and are confident that most of the citizens of Tweed will willingly do their part."

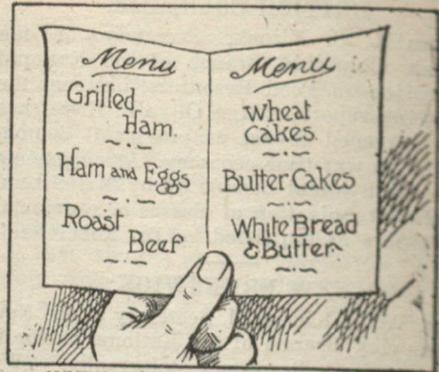
MEETINGS WITH BAKERS.

Professor Harcourt has just returned from a tour of the West where he held conferences with the bakers of the various centres and surrounding territory. His itinerary included Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Winnipeg. Everywhere he went, he found that the bakers were willing to co-operate with the Food Controller in every possible way. In some instances they had been experimenting by mixing the flour of other grains with wheat flour and the results had been satisfactory. The general opinion among the bakers was that a good quality of bread could be made with ten or fifteen per cent of the flour of other grains taking the place of wheat flour. Professor Harcourt leaves almost immediately for a tour of the Eastern Provinces and will meet the bakers of St. John's on January 14th, those of Halifax on the 16th, and those of Montreal on the 21st.

WHEN FOOD IS WASTED.



WHEN TOO MUCH IS SERVED AT ONE MEAL



WHEN WHEAT FLOUR, BEEF AND BACON ARE USED RATHER THAN NON-EXPORTABLE SUBSTITUTES



WHEN FOOD IS ALLOWED TO SPOIL IN THE HOME



WHEN FOOD WHICH COULD BE EATEN IS THROWN INTO THE GARBAGE PAIL



WHEN FOOD IS CARELESSLY PARED OR TRIMMED



WHEN FOOD IS CARELESSLY OR IMPROPERLY COOKED

FOOD IS WASTED WHEN THE BEST POSSIBLE USE FOR THE WINNING OF THE WAR IS NOT MADE OF EVERY PARTICLE OF IT