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FOOD FROM CANADA

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Principal Commodities Exported

The following table shows the principal exports to all countries for the calendar years 1939 to 1945, inclusive, and a breakdown of what was sent to the United Kingdom and the United States, in quantity and dollar value (units and dollars in millions). These figures include any shipments made by the Mutual Aid Board or through the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration:

Commodity	To United Kingdom		To United States		To All Countries		
	(units and dollars in millions)						
	\$	unit	\$	unit	\$	unit	
<u>GRAINS AND GRAIN PRODUCTS</u>							
Wheat.....	bu.	676.059	668.578	643.580	582.440	1606.7	1482.5
Wheat flour.....	bbl.	195.130	39.326	6.044	1.696	387.5	74.9
Barley.....	bu.	4.426	9.291	109.019	120.904	118.220	137.172
Oats.....	bu.	5.810	12.464	155.260	248.105	171.265	277.520
Rye.....	bu.	.101	.114	23.433	27.061	26.046	29.337
Rice.....	lbs.	-	-	.163	6.979	.201	7.845
Oatmeal and rolled oats.	cwt.	15.336	3.907	1.703	.363	23.779	5.616
Beans.....	bu.	5.016	1.958	.430	.188	6.300	2.540
Cereal foods prepared (no given quantity)....		5.327	-	1.385	-	9.169	-
Macaroni, spaghetti and vermicelli.....	lbs.	1.506	29.433	.012	.106	3.024	50.525
Other grains.....	bu.	1.019	.225	.861	.223	4.580	1.652
<u>MEATS</u>							
Bacon and hams.....	cwt.	625.029	32.150	.541	.019	630.503	32.347
Beef.....	cwt.	55.652	2.837	1.052	.067	66.495	3.434
Mutton and lamb.....	cwt.	2.005	.085	-	-	2.730	.117
Pork.....	cwt.	5.399	.259	2.722	.157	16.153	1.034
Poultry.....	lbs.	1.416	5.316	7.013	24.234	10.124	34.825
Canned meats.....	lbs.	19.248	77.025	.605	1.777	42.331	179.707
<u>DAIRY PRODUCTS AND EGGS</u>							
Butter.....	cwt.	5.270	.182	.013	.0006	12.065	.365
Cheese.....	cwt.	142.670	7.933	2.873	.151	150.213	8.278
Condensed milk.....	cwt.	.053	.007	-	-	10.948	.944
Evaporated milk.....	cwt.	4.870	.659	.453	.052	24.243	2.849
Powdered milk, whole and skim.....	cwt.	1.630	.090	.530	.023	9.128	.380
Eggs in shell.....	doz.	24.163	71.541	.215	.718	27.291	79.546
Eggs, dried.....	lbs.	70.295	64.556	.399	.480	70.860	65.176

FOOD FROM CANADA

Food has been called a weapon of war. It is increasingly apparent that food is an even more powerful weapon in the struggle to keep the world at peace.

Lester B. Pearson, Canadian Ambassador to the United States and head of the Canadian delegation to the UNRRA conference which opened at Atlantic City, New Jersey, on March 15, 1946, stressed this point at one of the council sessions. "The implications of failure to meet the present emergency are so terrifying," he said, "that only the most heroic efforts on all our parts will be of any real help. These efforts will require the laying aside of every consideration except that of human need."

The contribution made by the great food productive capacity of Canada toward the war potential of the United Nations could, perhaps, be assessed on a military basis. The contribution which Canadian food will make in the post-war years cannot be estimated, but it will undoubtedly have a great influence.

During the war Canada was a strong, working member of the United Nations. In every field, particularly that of food, Canada was able to contribute much to the victorious alliance. Canada is now taking other steps to aid its wartime allies and to ship Canadian food to a hungry world.

The War Record

Canada is a country of comparatively few people - approximately 12,000,000; yet in area it is one of the largest countries in the world. Until the last two or three decades Canada was predominantly an agricultural country, and it remains a country of wide prairies in the midwest, rich farmlands in the east and far west. Canada produces more food than it can consume. Therefore it is a food-exporting country.

Markets, however, have not always been available for Canada's exportable food surplus. What Canada could really do in the way of producing food for export was an unknown quantity until World War II. Throughout the war years 1,000,000 Canadian farmers performed prodigies of production to supply essential foodstuffs to the allies.

Total Exports by Main Groups

The following table shows the total dollar value of exports of Canadian food by main groups during the calendar years 1939 to 1945, inclusive:

	To <u>United Kingdom</u>	To <u>United States</u>	To <u>All Countries</u>
(Millions of Dollars)			
Grains and grain products....	910.567	987.308	2,416.825
Meats.....	716.848	14.034	785.106
Dairy Products and eggs.....	248.952	4.844	306.444
Fish.....	99.285	197.785	352.725
Fruits.....	23.617	26.518	58.127
Vegetables.....	18.570	24.645	65.132
Other vegetable food products (excluding grain, fruits and vegetables).....	5.277	14.665	52.709

The food production record set by Canada during the war years was the result of close co-operation between federal and provincial governments and farmers. Early in the war the federal government adopted the policy of keeping farmers informed of its plans. Each year officials of the federal Department of Agriculture met with officials of the provincial departments and farmers' representatives to discuss production objectives. The demands being made on Canada by its allies were outlined, and the responsibilities of meeting these demands were discussed. Every effort was made to put all the factors concerning production before the farmer himself. These conferences were so successful that they are now being continued into peacetime.

In the fishing industry, all arrangements for carrying out United Nations plans or agreements regarding supplies of fish were made in consultation with appropriate representative bodies in the industry. In some cases special advisory committees were set up from among members of the industry.

Farm Manpower

Farm labour agreements were signed with the federal government in every province. These provided for united action by the federal government and each province in the recruiting, transporting and placing of farm workers, together with measures designed to make the best use of existing labour in agriculture.

Prior to the war there was a surplus of labour on Canadian farms; but almost from the beginning of the war large numbers of young men and women left the farms to go into the armed services and industry. Those left on the land were obliged to work longer and harder than ever before. By April 1, 1945, the number of males working on Canadian farms was only 1,000,000 compared with 1,210,000 on April 1, 1939. Early in 1942 farm workers were exempted from compulsory military service.

Because the harvest period occurred at different times of the year in various provinces, farm excursions were organized to move farm workers to areas of greatest essential need. The federal government undertook to pay the cost of transporting farm workers from one province to another; the cost of moving farm workers within the provinces was shared equally between the federal government and the provinces concerned.

Prisoners of war, internees and conscientious objectors were also employed as farm labour.

Farm Machinery

The farmer's task was further complicated by the difficulty of obtaining new machinery. Manufacturers of farm equipment had switched their plants at the outset of war to the more immediate task of munitions production. The manufacture of new machinery was restricted in October, 1942, but this was offset somewhat by increased quantities of replacement parts.

Although Canada produces farm machinery, the allocation to Canadians during the war was under the control of the Agricultural Machinery Committee of the Combined Food Board and the Combined Production and Resources Board (members of which are the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada).

Subsidies

Subsidies in one form or another have had a part in the Canadian agricultural program since early in the war. They have been used to prevent a rise in food prices to the consumer and to encourage production of needed products. This was particularly true in the case of dairy products; to direct supplies into desired lines of dairy production subsidies are used. A subsidy is paid on the butterfat used in the manufacture of butter and on milk used for the manufacture of cheese and concentrated whole and skim milk products.

COMMODITY	To United Kingdom		To United States		To All Countries	
	\$	unit	\$	unit	\$	unit
FISH						
Salmon, canned, pickled and fresh... cwt.	66.858	3.353	3.111	.122	81.824	4.380
Herring, canned, pickled and smoked.. cwt.	16.587	1.729	6.797	.717	40.407	4.226
Herring, fresh and frozen cwt.	-	-	9.181	4.387	9.193	4.391
Cod, dried, salted and smoked cwt.	.721	.054	15.649	1.405	27.541	2.511
Cod fresh and frozen cwt.	.153	.018	2.390	.271	2.562	.292
Haddock, dried and smoked cwt.	.026	.002	.528	.036	.684	.0549
Haddock, fresh and frozen cwt.	.010	.001	.948	.145	.958	.147
Lobster, canned and fresh cwt.	.956	.023	39.515	1.064	41.026	1.098
Sardines cwt.	.017	.001	.226	.012	4.004	.383
Halibut fresh and frozen cwt.	1.876	.123	5.298	.339	7.204	.465
FRUITS						
Apples, fresh..... bbl.	11.363	3.033	7.996	1.408	23.124	5.185
" dried and canned..... lbs.	5.331	91.115	.228	2.714	6.359	101.119
Peaches, canned lbs.	.500	6.587	.002	.019	1.046	11.989
Pears, canned lbs.	2.103	31.269	-	-	2.610	36.357
Other fruits, canned and preserved lbs.	1.141	11.594	.145	2.608	2.034	19.872
Fruit juices and syrops gal.	1.526	3.310	.351	.513	2.409	4.240
VEGETABLES						
Potatoes bu.	-	-	9.468	8.055	14.008	11.955
Onions bu.	.014	.016	.025	.013	1.166	.800
Turnips bu.	-	-	12.631	20.792	12.783	20.994
Dried vegetables (From Jan. 1/40) ... lbs.	6.625	15.964	.025	.041	12.339	29.359
Peas, canned lbs.	.052	.841	.137	1.529	1.043	14.808
Tomato juice lbs.	.322	6.183	.0004	.007	.933	16.579
Tomatoes, canned lbs.	2.737	68.480	.590	12.642	3.901	92.692
Tomato paste and soup lbs.	4.730	92.886	.160	2.116	5.580	102.778
Beans, canned lbs.	2.239	48.339	.005	.072	3.742	70.130
Other vegetables, canned lbs.	.238	2.940	.464	8.081	2.696	34.770

One task in particular engaged the attention of Canadian agriculture during the early 1940's - supplying food to the United Kingdom. At one stage of the war (in 1944) Canada was supplying 10% of the United Kingdom egg supply; 25% of its cheese; 35% of its canned fish and 52% of its wheat. Throughout the war years Canada supplied 72% of the United Kingdom bacon ration.

In the three crop years ended July 31, 1946, Canada will have made a record shipment of about 1,000,000,000 bushels of wheat - about 1,000,000 bushels each working day.

Meat

For several years before the war Canada had promoted the development of hog production on a sound basis. This enabled overseas shipments to be increased sharply almost as soon as the United Kingdom entered the war. The needs of the United Kingdom were such that the British Ministry of Food entered into a contract with Canada in 1939 for as much bacon as could be exported. Under similar contracts, from 1940 to 1945, inclusive, Canada shipped to Britain more than 3,000,000,000 pounds of bacon.

First known as the Bacon Board, the Meat Board was established in Canada December 20, 1939. This board has been particularly active in the negotiation of contracts with the British Ministry of Food and the supervision of the fulfilment of commitments. Other contracts handled by the board include ones with Belgium, France, the Netherlands and UNRRA. It arranges for the processing, storage and transportation of meats and meat products and regulates marketing to the extent necessary to ensure the maintenance of the volume of exports needed to meet the agreements.

Production of bacon was not increased without considerable difficulty within Canada. Western farmers were growing tremendous quantities of wheat for export, but the quantity of coarse grains being grown was inadequate to meet the requirements of farmers raising livestock. Therefore farmers in the west had to be encouraged to grow more coarse grains and less wheat. The Canadian government assisted by paying the cost of transporting the feed grains to the areas where required.

Canadian beef production increased from about 743,000,000 pounds in 1942 to better than 1,000,000,000 pounds in 1945. Exports to the United Kingdom have grown from nothing at the start of the war to more than 200,000,000 pounds in 1945.

For almost the first time Canada began in 1945 to produce enough lamb to permit exports to the United Kingdom.

During 1946 it is expected that Canada will export close to 700,000,000 pounds of meat to the United Kingdom and UNRRA.

The United Kingdom is prepared to purchase from Canada maximum supplies of bacon and hams in 1946, 1947 and 1948. The 1946 contract will be extended to provide a minimum of 350,000,000 pounds in 1947 and 400,000,000 pounds in 1948.

Dairy Products and Eggs

Feed grains are essential to farmers raising cattle and poultry. Neither eastern Canada (an area of intensive production) nor British Columbia grows enough grain to feed the large numbers of livestock raised. Consequently the federal government followed a similar procedure as in the case of hogs by paying freight rates on grains shipped to areas producing dairy products.

Exports of cheese have grown from more than 93,000,000 pounds in 1940 to the 1945 and 1946 levels of 125,000,000 pounds. The production of eggs has also increased from 235,000,000 dozen in 1942 to more than 378,000,000 dozen in 1945, while exports to the United Kingdom during the same period increased by more than 100% from 37,000,000 dozen to almost 90,000,000 dozen.

During 1946 Canada has committed itself to export 125,000,000 pounds of cheese, some 800,000 cases of evaporated milk and 100,000,000 dozen eggs.

To handle all arrangements for the export of cheese and other dairy products required, particularly by the British Ministry of Food, a Dairy Products Board was established in Canada May 23, 1940.

Subsidies are also paid on fluid milk for human consumption where necessary to ensure an adequate supply. In the fishing industry the construction of certain types of fishing vessels was subsidized to offset the effect of the diversions made of these craft to the navy.

Consumer Rationing

Consumer rationing was necessary in order to ensure equitable distribution of certain basic foods within Canada. It was also essential in order to meet commitments to the United Kingdom and the needs of the armed forces. The Wartime Prices and Trade Board was made responsible for rationing of food and for holding down consumer prices.

Such commodities as sugar, tea, coffee and butter were rationed in 1942. The next year meat and preserves were added to the ration list, and a priority plan was adopted which, by the use of ration coupons, enabled the consumption of evaporated milk to be restricted to essential users. Tea and coffee were taken off the ration list in September, 1944. Rationing of meat was temporarily suspended at the end of February, 1944, and reintroduced on September 10, 1945. It was reintroduced in order to make the fullest possible contribution to the needs of the United Kingdom and the continent of Europe. A public opinion poll taken in September, 1945, by the Canadian Institute of Public Opinion, indicated the willingness of Canadians to accept rationing in order to feed war-devastated populations. Seven of every 10 persons polled approved of meat rationing on a stricter basis. In addition to meat, at the present time Canadians are rationed on butter, sugar and preserves.

Grain

During the war years the farmers of the Canadian prairies outdid themselves in the production of grain. Canadian farms have produced enough wheat for Canadians and for the normal bread requirements of another 80,000,000 people. In 1942 and 1943 record breaking crops were produced. By the end of July, 1946, Canada will have shipped all of the wheat accumulated in its elevators during the war years.

Wheat has always been the traditional crop of the Canadian west, and during most of the war wheat was heavily in surplus in Canada. Because of Canada's pre-eminence as one of the world's great wheat producers, Canadians are likely to think of agriculture in terms of wheat; but in this field, as in the rest of Canadian agriculture, production during the war was planned to meet the demands made by the allies.

One of the biggest factors in grain production was the matter of transportation. Between 1940 and 1943, when the Mediterranean was either closed or risky for allied shipping, and when heavy military movements were under way, economy of shipping space was of utmost importance. This applied to land transportation as well. Heavy movements of munitions and raw materials were continually taking place throughout Canada and the United States.

In addition, the United Kingdom, the chief recipient of Canadian food, was more in need of meat than flour or wheat. For this reason the Canadian government set out to change the traditional growing pattern of the prairies out of wheat into coarse grains, which could be fed to livestock.

In 1941 the government inaugurated a wheat acreage reduction program under which bonuses were paid to farmers to take acreage out of wheat and use it for summer fallow or for coarse grain production. Accordingly the acreage sown to wheat declined appreciably in the years prior to 1944.

In the autumn of 1941 another policy was introduced. The shortage of feed grains in eastern Canada appeared likely to hamper increased production of livestock. To meet this difficulty the federal government undertook to pay freight rates on feed grain moved from the Prairie Provinces to eastern Canada or to British Columbia.

Mutual Aid

During the war Canada adopted various methods of making the goods of war available to the United Nations. Through Mutual Aid which began in September, 1943, the Canadian government ensured that the products of its war potential moved steadily to its allies. Mutual Aid contracts were signed with the chief allies to supply the goods without payment.

The United States has received no assistance from Canada under Mutual Aid; neither has Canada received any lend-lease for itself from the United States.

The Mutual Aid appropriation expired at the end of the 1945-6 fiscal year (March 31, 1946). At the end of the war Canada set up other means to continue to move supplies to nations throughout the world that were not in a position to pay for the goods they needed. Under the export credit system the following amounts have been made available:

France	\$242,500,000
Belgium	25,000,000
Czechoslovakia	19,000,000
Netherlands East Indies	15,000,000
Norway	13,000,000
U.S.S.R.	3,000,000
China	60,000,000
Netherlands	<u>125,000,000</u>
Total	<u>\$502,500,000</u>

An agreement was signed on March 6, 1946, to provide a credit of \$1,250,000,000 to the United Kingdom. It bears an interest rate of 2% from January 1, 1951, and will be repayable thereafter in 50 annual instalments.

Canada has tentatively agreed to grant Belgium an additional \$75,000,000 and promised an additional \$50,000,000 to the Netherlands East Indies and \$17,000,000 to Norway. This makes an additional total commitment of \$142,000,000.

The following table shows the primary food products exported under Mutual Aid from May, 1943, to September, 1945:

Estimated figures only

		QUANTITY	MILLIONS OF DOLLARS
<u>United Kingdom</u>			
Fish	ton	15,744)	15.224
	cases	939,010)	
	lbs	5,110,317)	
Wheat	bu.	134,017,073	152.973
Flour	bags	14,658,015	50.610
Bacon	lbs	800,832,130*	157.339
Other meats	lbs	169,597,713*	14.350
Cheese	lbs	149,488,361	30.936
Butter	lbs	7,048,506	2.994
Milk, evaporated	drums	12,318	1.484
	cases	17,822	.095
Eggs, dried and shell	lbs	23,687,292)	20.059
	cases	538,521)	
Dehydrated vegetables	lbs	16,656,007	4.946

To arrange for the shipment of eggs, poultry and other food items such as fruit and vegetables for which provision had not already been made, a Special Products Board was set up in Canada on April 15, 1941. This board has authority to regulate the export of such products, to require their delivery at seaboard and to store them when necessary.

Fisheries

During the war the fishing industry in Canada suffered a 10% reduction in its labour force, chiefly to the armed forces and the merchant marine. Some of the most efficient types of vessels used in Canada's fishing industry were turned over to direct war use with the navy, further complicating the fishermen's task to keep production levels high. Despite these handicaps Canadian fishermen slightly increased their volume of production. Large quantities of certain types of fish were almost entirely earmarked for export. Canada supplied under contract with the British Ministry of Food, from 1941 to March 31, 1945, 588,822,000 pounds of fish food products, valued at \$103,632,000. Nearly 305,000,000 pounds consisted of canned salmon and nearly 226,250,000 pounds consisted of canned herring. Other products were, in order of volume, frozen fish, salted fish and canned sardines.

From 1941 onward virtually all production of canned fresh herring, a large part of which comes from Canada's Pacific coast, was made available to the British Ministry of Food. In British Columbia the annual canned herring production was increased by more than 2,500% to meet the British Ministry of Food needs. The pre-war output in British Columbia was small - in 1936, the year of greatest herring pack in the immediate pre-war period, it was slightly less than 52,000 cases - the wartime high in the province was nearly 1,538,000 cases.

After 1941, the year in which formal agreements were made between Canada and the United Kingdom, the larger part of Canada's Pacific canned salmon was made available to the British Ministry of Food. In 1942 all of the output was sent except a relatively small quantity set aside for the armed services and Red Cross purposes, and in each of the following years the bulk of the pack.

Under agreements operative in 1943-5, Canada supplied large quantities of frozen fillets and halibut to the British Ministry of Food. Shipments in 1945 were 21,000,000 pounds, in round figures, and in the three years about 54,250,000 pounds.

Under a Combined Food Board program for meeting an acute shortage which had developed in salted fish, a staple protein food in Caribbean and Mediterranean areas, Canada shipped in the 1943-45 period 80,100,000 pounds (dried weight) valued at approximately \$12,000,000. Included in these shipments, which under the program were allocated to specified markets, were 1,100,000 pounds for Greek relief and 2,300,000 pounds for UNRRA.

Under plans approved by Canada's Food Requirements Committee, pickled fish amounting to 91,500,000 pounds was shipped to various designated areas during 1943-45. In the same period 15,300,000 pounds of smoked herring bloaters were shipped under another allocation arrangement approved by the committee.

After a decision by the Combined Food Board (1944) to allocate the total canned fish production of Canada and the United States, and the exportable surpluses of certain other countries, an aggregate quantity of 146,700,000 pounds was distributed by Canada from the fish cannery output for the production year 1944-5 (July, 1944, to the end of June, 1945). Allocations from the Canadian output for the production year 1945-46 totalled 174,500,000 pounds. More than half of these allocations, representing shipments of 92,300,000 pounds, have already been met.

Total canned fish distribution to December 31, 1945, from the combined output of the two production years was 239,000,000 pounds. Of this quantity 49,400,000 pounds went into Canadian civilian use, 5,200,000 pounds to the Canadian armed forces and Red Cross, and 152,500,000 pounds were supplied to British food authorities. UNRRA received 20,400,000 pounds. Exports to the United States and elsewhere accounted for 11,500,000 pounds.

Following are some facts relating to the major food items which Canada contributes for relief:

Canned Meat - During 1945 approximately 75,000,000 pounds of canned meat was sent to UNRRA for distribution to Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albania, Ukraine and Byelorussia, the value of which was \$17,250,000.

Wheat and Flour - From the beginning of relief shipments to December 31, 1945, the following amounts have been shipped through UNRRA:

	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Value</u>
Wheat.....	16,150,000	bu.	\$26,916,000
Flour.....	54,000	long tons	4,224,000
Rolled oats.....	200	long tons	20,000
Farina.....	750	long tons	53,000
			<hr/>
Total value.....			\$31,213,000

During the last half of 1945 Canada exported some 240,000 tons of wheat and 29,000 tons of wheat flour overseas for distribution by UNRRA among such food-deficient countries as Greece, Albania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Poland, Rumania, Italy, the Philippines and China.

Fish - The following amounts of fish have been shipped by the Canadian Export Board on behalf of UNRRA (up to and including December 31, 1945):

	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Value</u>
Canned fish.....	109,654	cases	\$2,086,784.58
Pickled fish.....	18,393	bbls.	587,089.59
Cured fish.....	4,427,997	lbs.	501,811.06
			<hr/>
Total value.....			\$3,175,685.23

Dairy Products - During 1945 the following quantities of milk were sent to UNRRA from Canada:

	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Value</u>
Whole milk, powdered.....	160,000	lbs	45,600
Skim milk, powdered.....	605,000	lbs	69,575
Evaporated Milk..... (48 lbs to case)	25,000	cases	120,250
			<hr/>
Total value.....			\$235,425

In addition the following miscellaneous foodstuffs have been sent to UNRRA from Canada (up to and including December 31, 1945):

	<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Value</u>
Macaroni and spaghetti.....	2,792,910	lbs	\$200,082.00
Cocoa powder.....	794,420	lbs	90,914.68
Cod liver oil.....	659,435	gals.	172,272.76
Filchard oil.....	6,584,355	lbs	508,663.20
Canned peas.....	500	cases	1,270.00
Canned beans.....	1,200,000	lbs	65,562.50
			<hr/>
Total value.....			\$1,038,963.12

cont'd.		QUANTITY	MILLIONS OF DOLLARS
<u>U.S.S.R.</u>			
Wheat	tons	83,529	3.861
Flour	tons	285,082	22.865
Rolled oats	tons	9,672	.813
Lard	tons	9,892	2.657
Alfalfa and brome grass	tons	545	.564
<u>New Zealand</u>			
Wheat	bu.	2,404,194	5.671
<u>Australia</u>			
Canned fish and fish oils (quantity not available)			.654
<u>France</u>			
Wheat	bu.	4,686,000	7.845
Flour	tons	5,498	.244
Farm products	tons	51	.606
<u>India</u>			
Wheat	bu.	4,389,023	5.671
<u>British West Indies</u>			
Flour	bags	1,895,802	5.575

* For period beginning March 31, 1944, to September 1, 1945, only.

Military Relief

During the invasion period, relief supplies of food to liberated countries were made available under military jurisdiction. The financing and procurement in Canada of such supplies were handled by the Mutual Aid Board. The Canadian share was roughly proportionate to Canada's participation in the invasion as measured by an estimate of the number of troops engaged.

UNRRA

Canada has supported UNRRA since its inauguration. It was among the earliest nations to implement its financial contribution.

Canada has also undertaken certain independent projects in international relief. Since August, 1942, nearly 20,000 tons of wheat a month have been going to Greece as a gift of the Canadian people, an amount sufficient to keep alive almost half the population of that country. To February 28, 1946, a total of \$12,633,331 had been appropriated by the Canadian government for these wheat shipments.

During 1944 Canada made a gift of 100,000 tons of wheat to India to help alleviate famine in Bengal province.

In line with an agreement made in 1942 among the big wheat producing nations, Canada is a contributor with the United Kingdom, the United States and the Argentine to an international wheat relief pool. A pool of 100,000,000 bushels of wheat was established for relief purposes, with the United States contributing 50,000,000 bushels, the United Kingdom and Canada 25,000,000 each. Argentina also offered to contribute some 200,000 tons of wheat to the pool.

8. Wheat for distilling is being reduced by 50% on the basis of amounts used in 1945.
9. Special arrangements are being made to encourage immediate marketing of wheat stored on farms.

"If productive efforts are maintained and the above additional measures vigorously supported, the people of Canada, producers and consumers alike, will make available the utmost quantity of food that a nation of 12,000,000 people can produce to help meet the needs of people in less fortunate parts of the world," Mr. King said.

In the House of Commons at Ottawa on March 25 Trade and Commerce Minister MacKinnon announced the measures to be taken by the government to facilitate immediate deliveries of wheat now being held by western farmers.

Grain growers in western Canada who have been holding wheat on their farms to equalize incomes in their income tax returns in case they ran into a crop failure, will be able for three months beginning April 1 to deliver their wheat to the elevators and accept payment for it any time in 1946, 1947 or 1948. Under the option such a farmer may deliver his wheat at once and still have the advantage of showing it in his income tax return in whichever year it would be most advantageous to him.

The need for every last bushel of wheat for overseas shipment is so urgent the government has decided on this income tax option to encourage sales of the wheat being held. It is hoped that this measure will produce an additional wheat supply of 25,000,000 bushels to help in meeting the present food situation.

More Cereals Made Available

Prime Minister King announced on April 19 that it has been found possible for Canada to make available to needy countries at once a further 5,000,000 bushels of oats and approximately 2,500,000 bushels of lower grade wheat which has been held in reserve for feeding purposes. This amount is over and above the scheduled program for export deliveries.

"At the same time," Mr. King said, "the Canadian government has proposed to the government of the United States that both countries should cancel all commercial export permits for flour except such exports as can be justified on the basis of urgent needs. In cases where the urgency of present needs cannot be satisfactorily established, the flour could be diverted to those areas where immediate needs were known to be great. Preliminary examination suggests that such action would result in a sizeable addition to the stream of supplies now going forward with all speed to the neediest countries."

COMBINED FOOD BOARD

Since October, 1943, Canada has been a full participating member of the Combined Food Board. The Board was set up in July, 1942, by the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States to plan and expedite the utilization of the food resources of the United Nations.

On December 10, 1945, it was decided among the three governments to maintain the Combined Food Board until the end of June, 1946. The Combined Production and Resources Board and the Combined Raw Materials Board were to be terminated on December 31, 1945.

A statement by Prime Minister King on March 17, 1946, indicated the importance of the continuation of the Combined Food Board to an even later date in order to assist in the distribution of supplies in the present world food shortage. Mr. King said that Canada "has encouraged and seen with approval that the Combined Food Board is to be kept in being until December 31, 1946. The shortage of food is of such dimensions that it can be met only as a world problem by combined machinery."

GOVERNMENT ACTION IN PRESENT WORLD FOOD SHORTAGE

The Canadian government foresaw the present world food shortage. It has patterned its production program in the past to help meet it.

In outlining the Canadian government's food export and conservation program on March 17, 1946, Prime Minister Mackenzie King said "the government has been giving continuous and careful consideration to the extremely serious shortage of food in the world today. Long before the end of the war it was realized that the close of hostilities would not automatically be followed by an increase in food supplies. It was known that the problems of providing food for liberated areas would continue to be substantial until agriculture in these areas had resumed a more normal and stable condition... Since a food shortage had been foreseen and major preparations had been made by Canada to help meet it, adjustments and improvements within the pattern of action already taken constitute the only practical way of increasing immediate and effective help in meeting the urgent and pressing need. All practicable means are being or will be taken to make available for export the maximum supply of foodstuffs."

Mr. King further stated that "in proportion to our population Canada has exported, to meet the needs of the world over the past few years, more food than any other nation... The efforts of Canadian food producers did not relax with the end of the war. We have sought to maintain and even to increase exports. Care has to be taken that further expansion in any one field of production does not hamper our output of other necessary foodstuffs which we are exporting in large quantities. We would not be assisting the world situation by concentration on great additional increases of wheat acreage and thereby reducing the production of coarse grains needed for feed purposes. Coarse grains are already in relatively short supply. Further curtailment would restrict our livestock program.

"In view of the present high level of production, the possibility of further increase in our efforts is subject to definite limitations. Nevertheless even small savings, when added together, will amount to substantial relief. One pound of flour will keep a person alive for a day. An additional 10,000,000 bushels of wheat from Canada would maintain life for 15,000,000 people for a month."

In addition to maintaining the already large food export program, Mr. King's proposals to the Canadian people may be summarized as follows:

1. Farmers are urged to plan their production to obtain the maximum yield of foodstuffs over the next four years.
2. A publicity campaign to encourage saving by consumers in the use of wheat and wheat products and to encourage home gardens has been undertaken.
3. The reduction of inventories of wheat and wheat products is encouraged.
4. Regulations affecting bulk shipments of flour and feed are modified.
5. Priorities for rail transport of wheat for export have been established.
6. Increased quantities of oats and No. 4 wheat are to be made available for export if possible.
7. Wheat available for domestic milling is being reduced by 10% on the basis of 1945 purchases.

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