

THE WAR AND THE FOOD CRISIS

“WORDS cannot be found too strong to express the gravity of the food situation in Great Britain, France and Italy. The truth is that the people in these countries have reached the end of their food reserves, and are to-day living on the verge of starvation. Unless Canada and the United States materially increase their production and reduce their consumption of essential foods, Great Britain and her Allies may be compelled to accept a German peace.

“The quantity of food which Canada can release for export during this present year may determine the issue as to whether defeat or victory will attend the Allied arms. Canada may play a decisive part in the war in 1918 by the work which is done in her fields and gardens, just as she played a decisive part in 1915 by the stand of her men at St. Julien, and since then, in many other glorious victories.”

DR. ALBERT H. ABBOTT,

*Secretary Provincial Organization
of Resources Committee.*

THE CALL

The critical conditions herein described call for a supreme effort. The Lieutenant Governor by a special Proclamation has urged all County Councils in Ontario to meet and consider ways and means to assist in maximum production of essential food-stuffs. Every clergyman in Ontario is asked to tell, from his pulpit, the facts of the food situation, as it affects the Allied cause. Township Councils of Ontario are asked to confer shortly with the object of having each farmer sow at least an extra five acres of wheat and raise more hogs. This united effort will call for additional farm help which must, unfortunately, be secured largely in the cities and towns.

Under these grave conditions—when Great Britain and her Allies are on the verge of starvation—on those of us who cannot carry arms, who cannot join the fighting men in France, an undoubted responsibility rests. Ordinary considerations will be swept aside, as even longer working hours and smaller wages for a few weeks or months, are small sacrifices compared with those of the soldiers in France. *You are urged to seriously consider whether you cannot give service this spring and summer in what Lloyd George calls "Our Second Line of Defence"—Greater Food Production.*

Men, with farming knowledge, are most urgently needed now to help in seeding time, if only for a few weeks. Inexperienced men and boys can help later in haying and harvest. *Is this not your opportunity to serve the cause for which men are daily giving their lives?*

FARM AND CITY WAGES

Although service on the farm at this time makes strong patriotic appeal to every right-thinking man, work on the farm, in ordinary times, is not without its attractions, in increased health and happiness. Life in the open air and freedom from many of the cities' cares and expenses in these difficult times is aiding "the call of the land." The farmer, too, is rising splendidly to the needs of the hour, and is offering wages equal and even better than are given in many city occupations.

Married men by the year, when living with farmer, get from \$45 to \$50 per month, board, summer or annual fuel, milk, etc. Single, experienced farm hands are getting from \$35 to \$45 for eight months and, of course, a higher rate for the harvest; men of little experience are offered wages running from \$25 up, according to strength. To make fair comparison with city conditions please deduct your board bill from your present wage. Boys receive from \$15 to \$30 per month, and in some cases more, if fully experienced.

That there would be financial sacrifice on the part of certain expert mechanics is true, but what about our soldier boys at \$1.10 a day? Surely for our own, or humanity's sake, we will "do our bit," especially when no sacrifice of life is involved.

THE DEMAND FOR FARM HELP

Applications for help are pouring in from all directions, many farmers declaring that a great part of the land must go to waste if aid is not forthcoming. It is calculated that we must find 300 to 500 men and boys in London ready to go on short notice, as seeding time is at hand, if London is to do its share.

This appeal is addressed for serious consideration of:

First—The man who has knowledge of farming to go either for the whole season or at least for seeding and, perhaps, for harvest.

Second—Intelligent inexperienced men who are ready to do their best in the present crisis.

Third—Boys, who as "Soldiers of the Soil," will be doing a service second only to the work in the trenches.

Don't dismiss the matter from your mind without making inquiry. The thought that you failed to do your utmost in this critical time may be an unpleasant companion in the years to come. Applications are being received daily by MR. H. TUTT, ONTARIO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT BUREAU, 108 Dundas, corner of Talbot Street. Come in and talk it over. Open evenings, 7 to 9 p.m., except Saturday.