

Each passenger car was allowed a basic category "AA" ration book. Those eligible, who could prove their need of a special category, were allowed extra coupons for their vocational needs. Two cars in the same category did not necessarily receive the same allowance. Some owners in a special category might be allowed only a portion of a special ration book, others might be granted two or more books or portions of books, according to their proven needs. Motorcycles, commercial vehicles and water-craft were also provided with gasoline under various categories.

*Meat.*—Rationing of meat was inaugurated in 1943 both because of developing shortages and because it was necessary to set a limit upon what was consumed in Canada in order to make sufficient quantities available to the United Kingdom. Unusually heavy marketings of live stock, combined with a shortage of storage and shipping space, led to the suspension of meat rationing on Mar. 1, 1944. While record production of live stock made it possible to continue suspension throughout the year, the machinery for rationing is being retained for prompt re-introduction if necessary.

*Tea and Coffee.*—Owing to improved shipping conditions, the tea and coffee ration was increased by 40 p.c. on May 1, 1944, each coupon being made good for either 4 oz. of tea or 16 oz. of coffee and two coupons becoming valid each month. The continued favourable outlook and the substantial stock position led to the termination of rationing on Sept. 19, 1944. Limitations on the serving of tea and coffee by restaurants were cancelled, but because of restricted cream and sugar supply, regulations as to servings of cream and sugar remained in force. When rationing began, in 1942, the consumption of tea had dropped off severely and of coffee only slightly but, since rationing was lifted, the consumption of tea has increased at an equal rate to that of coffee. By the end of the year the monthly consumption of tea had almost reached the 1939-41 level, but the consumption of coffee was considerably higher than that average.

*Butter.*—Increased requirements of fluid milk for domestic consumption and of cheese for shipment to the United Kingdom resulted in a reduction in domestic butter supplies during 1944. Because of the shortage, the validity of one coupon was postponed in March, 1944. However, with production still lagging in the peak period (the summer) it was not feasible to continue the full 8 oz. ration and it was found necessary to reduce the ration for the last seven months of the year by postponing the validity of one coupon every eight weeks, bringing the ration to about 7 oz. a week. In December, it was announced that one coupon would be postponed every four weeks during the first part of 1945, making an over-all ration of about 6 oz. per week. This was raised to 7 oz. in March, 1945, due to a slight improvement in stocks.

*Sugar.*—The sugar supply situation remained tight throughout 1944 but no change was made either in the half-pound ration allowed to ration-book holders or in allocations to industrial users. In December, it was announced that for the first quarter of 1945 industrial users (with some exceptions) and restaurants, etc., would be cut from 80 p.c. to 70 p.c. of their 1941 usage. The ration to consumers will also be slightly reduced during 1945 by having two coupons come due each calendar month instead of every four weeks.

The 1944 canning sugar ration was very much simplified. Instead of the 1943 scheme by which householders made special application to their local ration boards, every ration-book holder was given the right to buy 10 lb. of sugar for canning with