

storing of large quantities of pork during the season of heavy runs for later processing and shipment in the off-peak periods, but it taxed severely the capacities of the meat-packing establishments.

In addition to bacon, the Meat Board handled the export of other meats and in the latter part of 1943 a beef agreement was negotiated with the British authorities which resulted in the shipment of about 70,000,000 lb. up to September, 1944. During this period small quantities of lamb were also exported to the United Kingdom. Later, an agreement for 1944-45 was signed involving the shipment of all surplus beef and, despite strong pressure for the opening of the United States market to Canadian cattle, it was decided to confine these shipments to the British market.

While meat production in Canada during the War surpassed all previous records, the tremendous demands of the British market, the requirements of the Armed Forces and the increased home consumption necessitated the imposition of meat rationing, first in 1943 and again in 1945.

During 1945 the marketings of hogs totalled 5,900,000 head, cattle 1,720,000 head, and sheep and lambs 1,200,000 head. In 1946 some increase is looked for in hog production while cattle marketings are expected to remain at about the same figure with a slight reduction in the production of sheep and lambs.

Dairy Products.—Canadian dairy products have made an impressive contribution to the war effort. During the year 1939, total milk production in Canada was estimated at slightly less than 16,000,000 lb. This figure was increased progressively throughout the war period until a production of 17,600,000 lb. was attained during 1945. In the early days of the War, cheddar cheese and evaporated milk were among the items which the United Kingdom requested in greater than peacetime quantities. The first agreement (May, 1940) covering cheese called for deliveries of 78,400,000 lb. in the period ended Nov. 30, 1940, but the British market agreed to take such additional quantities as might be available so that shipments reached a total of almost 89,600,000 lb. During the summer of 1941, drought in Eastern Canada curtailed cheese production in the early part of the season but by restricting the amount of cheese going on the domestic market, shipments of 112,000,000 lb. of the season's production were made possible. The 1943 cheese agreement involved a quantity of 125,000,000 lb. and in 1944 the contract called for 150,000,000 lb.; while shipments fell slightly short of this 1944 figure, exports of butter to the extent of 7,000,000 lb. helped to make up the shortage in the cheese contract. For two years ending Mar. 31, 1947, Canada has undertaken to ship 125,000,000 lb. annually.

Shipments of concentrated milk products were made to the United Kingdom during each of the war years. Evaporated milk was one of the few items asked for by the United Kingdom in the early part of the War. An agreement for 1940 called for shipments of 300,000 cases and this was later increased by another 150,000 cases. Contract quantities were increased in each of the years ended Mar. 31, 1942 and 1943 but in 1944 they were reduced to about 300,000 cases; a similar amount was provided for the following year. While meeting the United Kingdom's requirements of concentrated milk products, Canada was able to look after other established markets within the Empire and elsewhere.