

In this situation Canada, as a major exporter of foods, found it necessary to continue and in some cases to tighten the control of domestic consumption in order to make a maximum export surplus available and to make the best use of restricted imports of such important foods as sugar.

*Meat.*—Rationing of meat, first introduced in 1943, had been lifted in the spring of 1944. In July, 1945, however, it was announced that meat rationing would be re-imposed since it had become apparent that domestic consumption would have to be reduced if export commitments were to be met in the face of the downward trend of hog slaughtering. Control over commercial slaughtering was immediately re-established as part of the machinery of meat rationing and slaughter quotas were set, though in September it was feasible to suspend the quotas on cattle in view of the very heavy marketings.

Meatless Tuesdays and Fridays for restaurants became effective in July and consumer rationing in September. The weekly ration varies from one to three pounds depending upon the type of meat purchased. A change in the ration was made on September 22, when "fancy meats", such as liver and hearts, were removed from the ration in view of the risk of spoilage because of slow sales of these products. Some further adjustments were made in October.

In January, figures were released showing that the annual rate of domestic consumption had been reduced to 136 lb. per person in the last three months of 1945 as compared with 149 lb. for 1944. This was a reduction of about 8½ p.c. as compared with the 12 p.c. cut which had been estimated before the above changes in the ration had been made.

*Butter.*—The butter situation did not ease in 1945. Consumption of fluid milk increased further, at an accelerated pace, and large quantities of milk continued to be required to maintain shipments of cheese to the United Kingdom and evaporated milk to Europe.

The weekly butter ration stood at about 7 oz. per person in March, 1945. At the beginning of 1946, the ration was reduced to 6 oz. and during March and April to 4 oz. per week. At the end of January, quota users, such as restaurants and hotels, were informed that their quotas for the first quarter of 1946 would have to cover the period until the end of April.

*Sugar.*—The pooling of world sugar supplies was continued in 1945 as the need for conservation remained as acute as ever. In the spring, arrangements were made to reduce the gap between United Nations requirements and available supplies and to equalize the annual per capita consumption of the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada at a rate of 70·8 lb. Further ration reductions, therefore, followed the cuts made in the first quarter of the year, when the consumer ration had been reduced slightly from 2 lb. every four weeks to 2 lb. each calendar month. In each of the five months June, July, August, October and December the ration was cut to 1 lb. The 2 lb. allowance was maintained in September to permit a maximum amount of home canning and also in November to allow for Christmas baking. The extra sugar ration for home canning remained unchanged at 10 lb. per person.

Quotas for industrial users were cut in January and again in July so that in the second half of 1945 they stood at the following proportions of 1941 usage: bakers 60 p.c.; biscuit and cereal manufacturers 55 p.c.; others, such as soft drink, confectionery and candy manufacturers, 50 p.c. Allotments to jam and wine manufacturers were also reduced and cuts put into effect for Armed Forces establishments.