

22-Ounce Loaf for Ten Cents, Hoover Aims to Establish.

Washington, D. C.—The whole country has been asking what the food administration has accomplished since its organization, why it is that prices to the consumer have not been reduced and what, therefore, has been achieved in addition to smaller portions on the hotel menus.

Prices still are steadily rising. The householders are asked to waste less and observe certain meatless and wheatless days, but although the ostensible purpose of the food administration is to conserve the resources of the country and lower prices the public has been given scarcely any information about the accomplishment of the first purpose, and has complained about the failure of the second.

After a careful inquiry among the officials of the food administration, The Inquirer's Washington correspondent is privileged to give the following statement of what has been accomplished already, what the food administrator expects to accomplish and what probably cannot be accomplished.

A gradual but complete elimination of speculation in foodstuffs, control by licenses of all the bakeries of the country and a general stabilizing of the prices of all food products are the principal aims of the United States Food Administration at present.

Of greatest interest to the average American family at this time is the prospect of a 20 or 22-ounce loaf of bread for ten cents. This is what Mr. Hoover and his associates hope to bring about as soon as the baking industry of the country is brought fairly under the control of the food administration.

There are about 30,000 bakeries in the United States. About 30 per cent., or approximately 9,000, bake 70 per cent. of the bread sold. These are the bakeries which operate more than one oven. Already they are licensed and are required to make regular reports to the commission on the cost of production. As soon as a sufficient number of these reports have been received to permit the commission to form an estimate of the cost of production, a standard loaf of bread will be determined upon and all the large bakeries will put it on the market.

By degrees the smaller bakeries, operating but one oven and representing 70 per cent. of the trade, but only 30 per cent. of the production, will also be licensed.

In looking into the bread question the commission found it difficult to fix prices for the smaller bakeries, but it expects to do so after a while when the general wheat situation is stabilized.

The standard loaf planned by the commission after conference with the big bakeries will be, as stated, a 20 or a 22-ounce loaf. The loaf will have a crease down the middle so it can be broken in half and the 10 or 12-ounce half will be sold for five cents.

That food prices will go down is not expected by the commission. In fact, it is well established that prices rarely go down in war time. On the contrary they always show a steady rise, seldom reaching the apex until toward the end of war or a year or so after its end. This not only of food prices, but of all other prices.

During the Civil war prices rose continually and the commission has figures on that period which are interesting. For instance, the high water mark in prices of beef, hogs or lard was not reached until 1865, the year the war ended. The following year saw the top prices on bacon, ham, flour, butter and cheese.

In 1867, two years after the war ended, wheat and milk reached their topmost prices. The year following saw the highest prices on eggs, potatoes and beans.

The price raising of that day was due almost entirely to speculation. Corners in food commodities were almost impossible at that time. Now it is totally different, and was speculation allowed there is no limit to which prices might not go. But the food administration has not hesitated to be politely frank on that question and an attempt at cornering now might lead to years of quiet life inside penitentiary walls for he who attempted a corner.

The food administration is well pleased with the wheat situation. We have made certain pledges to our Allies on this score and they will be kept. In fact the Allies are depending upon us to furnish them with wheat and the food administration sees no reason why the agreement cannot be carried out.

So far as actual accomplishment is concerned, the stopping of speculation in wheat is the greatest thing the food administration has done. In May, when Herbert Hoover was appointed, flour sold for \$17 a barrel. Now it ranges between \$10 and \$11 a barrel.

A survey of the slaughter houses of the country by the administration shows that the beef situation is good. In normal times bull calves are a drug with dairy farms and are usually killed at birth. Now the stock yards are receiving a plentiful supply of bull calves for veal and the killing at birth has been stopped.

The big corn crop means that the supply of hogs, which is off this year, will increase. Agents of the administration have been among the farmers and urged upon them the necessity of saving their brood sows. Ordinarily when the price of hogs goes high farmers prefer to sell a 300-pound brood sow for fifty or sixty dollars rather than breed her. This year, however, they will pay more attention to breeding and as hog breeding is expected to be large. It takes less than a year to breed and raise hogs for the market.

The sugar question bothered the administration seriously several weeks back, but that is now rapidly improving. The check on speculation and the stabilizing of prices served to

bring out the sugar that the small growers were hoarding.

In Cuba the administration arranged with the Cuban government to lend the railroads money. In return this government saw to it that certain supplies needed by the Cubans were sent to them promptly from the United States. The result is that there will be no delay this year in the movement of the Cuban sugar crop.

"We are looking for stabilization now more than the reduction in prices," said an official of the Food Administration. "In war times it is better to have stability than anything else. As prices go up, wages climb with them and when the consumers know that everything is stable and that a shortage is not likely, they are not apt to worry. It is the worry over wild rumors of shortage that causes panics and hoarding. This year we are aiming to prevent and we feel that it is better to do it without disturbing general business conditions any more than is natural in the abnormal times that always go along with war."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Day of Prayer for Success in Arms.

A Proclamation by the President of the United States:

Whereas, the Congress of the United States by a concurrent resolution adopted on the fourth day of the present month of October, in view of the entrance of our nation into the vast and awful war which now afflicts the greater part of the world, has requested me to set apart by official proclamation a day upon which our people should be called upon to offer concerted prayer to Almighty God for His divine aid in the successes of our arms; and

Whereas, it behooves a great free people, nurtured as we have been in the eternal principles of justice and of right, a nation which has sought from the earliest days of its existence to be obedient to the Divine teachings which have inspired it in the exercise of its liberties, to turn always to the supreme Master and cast themselves in faith at His feet, praying for His aid and succor in every hour of trial, to the end that the great aims to which our fathers dedicated our power as a people may not perish among men, but be always asserted and defended, with fresh ardor and devotion and, through the divine blessing, set at last upon enduring foundations for the benefit of all the free peoples of the earth.

Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, gladly responding to the wish expressed by the Congress, do appoint October 28th, being the last Sunday of the present month, as a day of supplication and prayer for all the people of the nation, earnestly exhorting all my countrymen to observe the appointed day, according to their several faiths, in solemn prayer that God's blessings may rest upon the high task which is laid upon us, to the end that the cause for which we give our lives and treasure may triumph and our efforts be blessed with high achievement.

"Movie" Exhibitors are Patriotic.

The United States Civil Service Commission has received an expression of the patriotism of practically all the exhibitors of motion pictures in the United States. The government is in need of thousands of typewriter operators and stenographers of both sexes for war work in Washington, and through its 3,000 local boards of examiners in that many cities, the Commission requested the owners and managers of motion picture theatres to allow free of charge an announcement on their screens of this need of the government. The refusals were so few as to be negligible. Not more than a hundred of the 20,000 odd exhibitors who were approached declined to render to the people the service asked. Even these can not be charged with disloyalty; most of them held decided views as to their duty to their patrons who pay for entertainment only. The only criticism of the government came from three exhibitors who declined on the ground that it was proposed to place a tax on motion picture tickets. One owner asked remuneration in the sum of 25 cents a week, and another stipulated that he was to be relieved of any responsibility for damage to the slides furnished by the government. The slides cost less than ten cents apiece. Almost without exception the "movie" men were not only willing, but were even eager to serve the government in the manner requested. This hearty response from 20,000 business men representative of every part of the country has a striking significance. It is interesting to note in this connection that the estimated daily attendance at motion picture shows in the United States is ten million. This allows an average of 500 for each house.

Italy Wins World Honors in Aeroplane Building.

While attention has been focused upon the aeronautical progress made by the British, French, and Germans, Italy seems to have forged ahead unobserved and captured the honors as the builder of the world's premier aircraft. Popular Mechanics Magazine for November says information from apparently reliable sources indicates that the Italians now possess not only the fastest, but also the largest and best climbing aeroplanes in existence. Their success has been due to the perfection of extraordinary engines capable of producing from 500 to 700 hp. These motors are making possible the construction of planes that are larger than have heretofore been feasible. There is now being built in Italy a machine that will be driven by motors producing 3,000 hp. It is expected to carry 50 persons.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman".

CASTORIA
Bears the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. In use for over thirty years, and The Kind You Have Always Bought.

"Rout the Rat."

"Rout the rat" is a new slogan proposed by the Food Supply Department of the Pennsylvania committee of Public Safety.

There is just as much—perhaps more need for routing the rat than for "swatting the fly." Flies transmit disease. Rats not only spread disease but leave a costly trail of destruction.

Probably 200,000 men in the United States are devoting their energies and time to feeding rats. Of this number 150,000 are farmers who are giving their farms, agricultural implements and other equipment to supply the foodstuffs annually consumed by rats.

This striking illustration is given by Edward W. Nelson, chief of the United States Biological Survey to point out the menace by rodents at a time when every ounce of food is vital. Writing in the Geographic Magazine, Prof. Nelson declares that the actual money loss caused each year by rats is \$200,000,000.

Pennsylvania by pro rata as one of forty-eight States would contribute 4000 men to this rat-feeding army. But as Pennsylvania in productive energy contributes more than one forty-eighth of the national total it follows that the efforts of many more than 4000 Pennsylvania workers go to waste by way of the rat-hole.

Statistics are at hand to illustrate the damage done by rat-feeding. In Iowa one farmer lost 500 bushels of corn out of a crib containing 2000 bushels. The Virginia Commissioner of Health says that in parts of his State rats have destroyed 75 per cent. of the poultry and 10 per cent. of growing crops. A large milling company in Louisville, Ky., estimates that rats cause a loss of \$3000 a year to sacks alone, not to speak of the huge damage done to the contents.

Experts in Great Britain have figured that a single rat in one year does damage to the extent of \$1.80. The average is \$1.20 in Denmark and \$1 in France. In the United States the loss is higher.

The rat population is enormous. They have from three to twelve litters a year each containing from six to twelve young. One reason why rats have multiplied and have extended their ravages is because the average farmer or business man or householder accepts them as a necessary evil and refuses to fight them seriously.

Winter is a good time to go after the rats. Their holes and hiding places can be located and their sources of food supply ascertained. Rats need shelter and they must eat or they cannot exist. It is a great sight better to starve out the rats than to catch or poison them although both these measures should be carried on at the same time.

Cribs, bins, any place where food is stored should be made rat-proof. The work must be done thoroughly and the cause of the infestation recognized by communities. The best results have been obtained when bodies of men and women co-operated to create public interest in anti-rat campaigns.

As a general rule the measures for extermination of rats should provide for these things:

A campaign of trapping and poisoning; rat-proofing of old buildings and those now under construction by means of wire mesh and cement; removal of harboring places such as old sheds, piles of trash, old lumber, wooden sidewalks and garbage dumps; screening or enclosing of all garbage and waste upon which rats may feed; rat-proofing and frequent inspection of market places and public buildings.

Where Submarines Go Out.

There are two ways of getting into the Atlantic ocean from German ports. One is through the English Channel, which has been blocked since the beginning of the war; the other is through the North Sea which English naval strategy has thus far failed to close.

The narrowest outlet of the northern route is between the Orkney Islands and the coast of Norway, a distance of 240 miles. But the depth of water at this point is such that submarines may easily dive below any mine or net system that might be stretched across the wide neck of the bottle here.

South of this line the water becomes shallower, and mine or net laying becomes effective from Flamborough Head directly across to the coast of Jutland, passing over the famous Dogger bank, with from 60 to 120 feet of water, to the shallower depths over the Jutland bank. Below that point there is more shoal water, with frequent banks and ridges and flats which have to be carefully avoided by mariners, and which make submarine operation difficult.

The problem, then, lies in the eastern part of the North Sea, where particularly deep water—100 to 500 feet—off the coast of Norway affords passage for the submarines. German U-boats easily pass from the Baltic through the Cattagat—an international waterway—into the deep water found just off the Skaw at the tip of Denmark, and thus into the North Sea, hugging the shores of Norway all the way.

A stopper in the Cattagat would solve the problem, and the feat is not impossible, although England would be greatly aided by the neutrality of Norway and Denmark.

Since under present conditions an actual blockade is impossible, the evil has been reduced by canalizing it. In other words, the navy is forcing the U-boats to take certain narrow and difficult channels, and keeping as close a watch as possible over these routes. But they cannot stretch nets deep enough to block the only exit remaining to Germany. Perhaps the "new device" which American inventors hope will eliminate the U-boat as a factor in the war has to do with an effective stopper for this outlet.—Syracuse Post Standard.

Even a Nod.

Even a nod from a person who is esteemed is of more force than a thousand arguments or studied sentences from others.—Plutarch.

—He is indeed a benefactor who raises two pigs where only one pig was raised before.

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On our Fine Coffees at 25c, 28c, 30c, 35c and 40c, there has been no change in price on quality of goods and no change in the price of TEAS. Rice has not advanced in price and can be used largely as a substitute for potatoes. All of these goods are costing us more than formerly but we are doing our best to Hold Down the Lid on high prices, hoping for a more favorable market in the near future.

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The Shoe Store for the Poor Man.
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The Caloric Pipeless Furnace

is doing the work.—Read the following testimonial from one who has tried it:

THE POTTER-HOY HARDWARE CO.,
Bellefonte, Penna.,

GENTLEMEN:

The Patented Caloric Pipeless Furnace which I had installed in my home in December of last year, gave us excellent satisfaction throughout the long cold winter. There are five large rooms that we heated, together with open halls, both down stairs and up. The Caloric kept the whole house warm and comfortable at all times. One of the surprising advantages of this Caloric Furnace is its economy in operation. The total cost of the fuel which we used through the winter amounted to only \$21.50. It saved lots of labor also because with this furnace it is only necessary to give it attention three times a day, morning, noon and night, when we banked the fire.

The Caloric is especially valuable during the fall and spring months when a little fire is required at both morning and night. Within ten minutes after the fire is started, we can heat up two of our largest rooms down stairs and a small quantity of fuel goes a long way.

Our cellar is kept perfectly cool and we store our apples and potatoes in a bin within five feet of the furnace. There are no pipes to radiate heat as is the case with other types of warm air furnaces. We can recommend the Caloric Pipeless Furnace to any one who expects to change their system of heating. We would not go back to the use of stoves because the Caloric accomplishes far better results at less expense.

Yours very truly,

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