

MR. HOOVER LIMITS WHEAT CONSUMPTION.

Sharp Reduction of White Flour Ordered on Ground of "Military Necessity."

So great has become the war need for saving wheat and wheat products that it is now placed in the category of a "military necessity". The food administration Saturday issued a complete revision of the wheat schedule. The new basis is one and one-half pounds of wheat weekly per person in America. This is declared essential if this country is to meet the war demands. As part of the new plan the food administration has ordered that the percentage of wheat flour substitutes in "Victory" bread be increased on April 14 from 20 per cent to 25 per cent.

Here is Hoover's Order.
The new order was received Saturday. The telegram outlining the new wheat program follows:

"If we were to furnish the allies with the necessary proportion of wheat to maintain their war bread from now until the next harvest—and this is a military necessity—we must reduce our monthly consumption to 21,000,000 bushels a month, as against our normal consumption of about 42,000,000, or 50 per cent of our normal consumption, reserving a margin for distributing to the army and for special cases. This leaves for general consumption approximately one and one-half pounds of wheat products weekly per person.

"Many of our consumers are dependent upon baker's bread. Such bread must be durable and, therefore, requires a larger proportion of wheat products than cereal breads baked in the household. Our army and navy require a full allowance. The well-to-do in our population can make greater sacrifices in the consumption of wheat products than can the poor. In addition our population in the agricultural districts, where the other cereals are abundant, are more skilled in the preparation of breads from these other cereals than the crowded city and industrial populations.

"With improved transportation conditions we now have available a surplus of potatoes. We also have in the spring months a surplus of milk, and we have ample corn and oats for human consumption. The drain on rye and barley as substitutes has already greatly exhausted the supply of these grains. To effect the needed saving of wheat we are wholly dependent upon the voluntary assistance of the American people, and we ask that the following rules shall be observed.

New Rules Issued.
"First—Householders to use not to exceed a total of one and one-half pounds per week of wheat products per person.

"This means using not more than one and three-fourths pounds of Victory bread containing the required percentage of substitutes, and not more than one half pound of cooking flour, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes and wheat breakfast cereals all combined.

"Second—Public eating places and clubs to observe two wheatless days per week, Monday and Wednesday, as at present.

"In addition thereto, not to serve to any one guest at any one meal an aggregate of bread, rolls, macaroni, crackers, pastry, pies, cakes and wheat breakfast cereals containing a total of more than two ounces of wheat flour; no wheat products to be served unless specifically ordered; public eating establishments not to buy more than 6 pounds of wheat products for each 50 meals served, thus conforming with the limitations requested of the householders.

Restrict Flour Sales.
"Third—Retailers to sell not more than one-eighth of a barrel of flour to any town consumer at any one time and not more than one quarter of a barrel to any country consumer at any one time, and in no case to sell wheat products without the sale of an equal weight of other cereals.

"Fourth—We ask the bakers and grocers to reduce the volume of Victory bread they sell by delivering the three-quarter pound loaf where one pound was sold before, and corresponding proportions in other weights.
"We also ask bakers not to increase the amount of their wheat flour purchases beyond 70 per cent of the average monthly amount purchased in the four months prior to March 1.

No Limit to Other Cereals.
"Fifth—Manufacturers using wheat products for non-food purposes should cease such use entirely.

"Sixth—There is no limit upon the use of other cereals, flour and meals, corn, barley, buckwheat, potato flour, etc.

"Many families throughout the land are now using no wheat products whatever except a very small amount for cooking purposes, and are doing so in perfect health and satisfaction. There is no reason why all the American people who are able to cook in their own households can not subsist perfectly well with the use of less wheat products than one and one-half pounds a week, and we especially ask the well-to-do households in the country to follow this additional program in order that we may provide the necessary marginal supplies for those parts of the community less able to adapt themselves to so large a proportion of substitutes in order that we shall be able to make the wheat exports that are absolutely demanded of us to maintain the civil

population and soldiers of the allies and our own army.

Relief at Harvest Promised.
"We propose to supplement the voluntary cooperation of the public by a further limitation of distribution and we shall place at once restrictions on distribution which will be adjusted from time to time to secure as nearly equitable distribution as possible. With the arrival of harvest we should be able to relax such restrictions. Until then we ask the necessary patience sacrifice and cooperation of the distributing trades."

Beat the Submarine in the U.S.

Sir Erick Geddes, British first lord of the admiralty, told the house of commons Wednesday that the amount of tonnage sunk by submarines in the last 12 months was 6,000,000 instead of 9,500,000 as the Germans claim. The cabled report of his speech fails to make clear whether he was speaking of British losses only, of sinkings of allied ships, or combined losses of allied and neutral vessels. As it has been pretty definitely settled in the judgment of other authorities that a total cost of about 7,000,000 tons was sunk in 1917, it seems probable that Sir Eric was speaking of allied losses only.

These figures, however, are in terms of net tons, while our shipping board when speaking of shipbuilding in the United States, is talking in terms of dead weight tons, and it takes two dead weight tons to equal one net ton. When our shipbuilding program was launched several months ago, over-confident expectations were held out that the United States would build 6,000,000 tons in 1918. It is now apparent, though, that we shall not meet that expectation, and it is probable that this year's construction will not exceed 3,000,000 dead weight tons or 1,500,000 net tons, or one fourth of the tonnage sunk the past year as reported by the British first lord.

Undoubtedly Germany is making grossly exaggerated claims, but the situation is still serious and emphasizes the necessity of speeding up shipbuilding in the yards of the United States. The enemy is sinking ships that are needed to transport food and other supplies to our armies in France, to the armies of our allies, and to the civilian population of Great Britain, France and Italy that are supporting the allied armies at the front. Men or employers who refuse arbitration and bring on strikes in the shipyards and the industries that supply materials for ships but play the kaiser's game. Workmen who hold down their output and deliver a grudging, stingy day's work, are slackers and untrue to the men who must do the fighting in France.—Spokesman Review.

Pat Scanlan and Wood Alcohol.

"Don't you know," said P. H. Scanlan of the Milwaukee road last evening at the Thornton, "that the ingenuity of the American is adapting himself to the conditions that confront or surround him is well known? During the late Spanish-American war, when the American soldiers were camped at and around Tampa Fla., awaiting transports that never came to take them to Cuba, a bright one among the bunch of regulars scouting through the country discovered a process for converting the hitherto worthless pine of that district into charcoal equal in quality to that made of hard wood. The pine is put into an air-tight retort from which there is no outlet save from a worm at one end. It is then subjected to an intense heat, and about two gallons of non-poisonous alcohol are distilled from each cord of wood, enough to pay for the making of the charcoal.

"The effect of this discovery will doubtless be far reaching. A man will soon be able to saw off a cocktail from the leg of a table, and instead of seeing a man between the acts he may keep his seat and get full on the tooth picks he carries in his pockets. On his return home from the theatre a cocktail could be carved from the broom handle and the man without a home would be able to get comfort of that sort even out of the worst kind of board. These will be cold days for the cigar store Indian. In Butte he would have to be clad in medieval armor. However, every man could be his own bartender and summary laws of the most azure kind could not restrain a man from chopping up the bureau in order to properly entertain a crowd of congenial cronies. The only drawback new discernible is that every man with a wooden leg would be in danger of having it amputated about four times a minute. Every day would be Arbor day and timber claims would flourish like a green bay tree. Besides all this, by grafting a milking stool and a slip from a Connecticut nutmeg tree on a sugar maple an experienced man fully aware of the great 'graft' in prospect could secure the finest brand of milk punch. And again—but what Scanlan started to say was that the Milwaukee Pioneer Limited was still doing a very fair business, thank you.—Anacanda Standard.

Chicago's millionaire rag man is dead. Wealth and poverty touched elbows at his funeral. It has been his practice to help financially many a poor fellow to get on his feet. The rag man was a Russian named Jaffe. When Jaffe landed in Chicago at the age of 18 he had 85 cents, and was glad to get a job at \$5 a week, then he went into the rag business.



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