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The Cost of Living Branch reports to the Hon. T. W. Crothers, Minster of Labour, as follows, concerning food in cold storage:-

Reports form the cold storage companies for June lat, indicate and increase in quantity in Store of Butter, Eggs, Pork, Mutton, Lamb, and Fish; and a decrease in the quantity of Cheese, Beef and Fowl, compared with May 1st, of this year.

STORAGE

COLD

As compared with June 1st, 1917, we have more Butter in store, more Beef, and more fish. We have less Cheese, Eggs, Pork products and fowl than a year ago. The most striking comparison is in the case of beef, of which we have 111. 72% more than on June 1st, 1917. Since the Parchasing Commission of the Allies is fully aware of this fact, and we have the statement of these gentleman to the effect that a large proportion of this stock is already under contract to them, we find no grounds for any charge of hoarding.

The most striking feature recently in the market situation of storage products has been the great rise in the price of beef. There has been a general rise in all beef products throughout the Dominion, but the west, starting from Fort Arthur and Fort William, has suffered the worst. Naturally the consuming public has resented the rise very much.

The matter has been carefully investigated with the view to detecting profiteering, and while the merchants in some localities have apparently used the general rise in prices to cover an undue increase, we have not been able to find any evidence that the general increase throughout the country was due to unlawful action on the part of the meat packers. The increase is general throughout the whole of North America, and is fully as marked in the case of live cattle as in the case of meat. On ascertaining these facts, we might have stopped, for this office has no jurisdiction over this farmers, but we have been able to go farther and have found, that the increased price is due entirely to the mar situation: particularly to the fact that the Purchasers of the United States Army and Purchasing Commission of the other Allies, have considered that the increased price to the farmer was necessary to stimulate the production of more beef on the farms. The necessity arcse on the demands of shipping facilities to place the United States Army in France, with the consequent lack of ships to bring as much meat as formerly from South America.

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The necessity has arisen for North America to provide a larger proportion of beef, and it was not thought possible to do this at the former price. The increase was given more to stimulate production in the future than to hasten selling in the present. The result has been that the price of live cattle went up in all markets several cents, and that the wholesale price of the best meat by the carcaes rose accordingly.

It is impossible to make an exact statement for the country as a whole, but the evidence available indicates that the rise was most evident in the price of live animals and in the retail price. Apparently, if any of the dealers have taken advantage of the situation to raise the price unduly, it is the retailers.

This is probably due in part at least, to the fact that the wholesalers have large stocks on hand, on which they are not allowed by the Ganada Food Board to advance there prices. It is now unlawful for wholesale dealers to make more than a cortain limited percentage of profit on his meats, no matter what change may come over the market. It is noteworthy that wholesale prices of beef have advanced very much more in the United States than they have in Canada.

In the United States the most eased cost of the carcass has been taken up mostly by added charges for the cheaper cuts with consequent added burdens upon the labour classes. The evidence shows that such was not the case in general in Canada, but that the best cuts were advanced as much as the common cutsl

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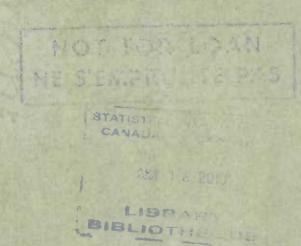
SATEMENT OF FOOD OF CONTINS IN CANADA, JUNE 1, 1918, AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, MAY 1, 1918, AND WITH THE SAME MONTH OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

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The amount of food commodities in storage June 1st, 1918, were:-

2,251,673 pounds Butter 2.966,997 pounds Cheene 8.422.588 domen Eggs Beef (fresh & pickled) 19.333.470 pounds Pork (fresh & pickled) 21,218,944 pounds 14,721,221 pounds Bacon, Ham & Smoked Meats 1.507.824 pounds Mutton & Lamb 16,154,305 pounds Fish all varieties 904.075 pounds Fowl all varieties

The preceding figures cover only goods reported as held in storage. To estimate the quantity of any such goods available from cold storage companies for consumption and export, add about ten per cent to represent goods in transit and cortain comparitvely insignificant quantities unreported.



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Goods owned by firms reporting June 1st, 1918, who also have reported June 1st, 1917, show the following comparisons:-

	June 18t. 1917	. June 1st. 191	18. Increase	Decrease.
Butter	1,469,781	1,639,260	14.93%	
Cheese	3,102,210	2,190,098		29.41%
Eggs	6,558,873	5,911,113		10.02%
Beef (fresh & pickled)	0,125,422	17,203,918	111.72%	
Park (fresh & pickled)	31,829,362	29,458,903		7.45%
Bacon, Ham & Smoked Meats	18,557,039	13,113,987		29.35%
Matton & Lamb	1,466,731	679,596		53.67%
Fish all varieties	8,857,154	9,265,535	4.61%	
Fowl all varieties	3,542,344	770,072		78.27%

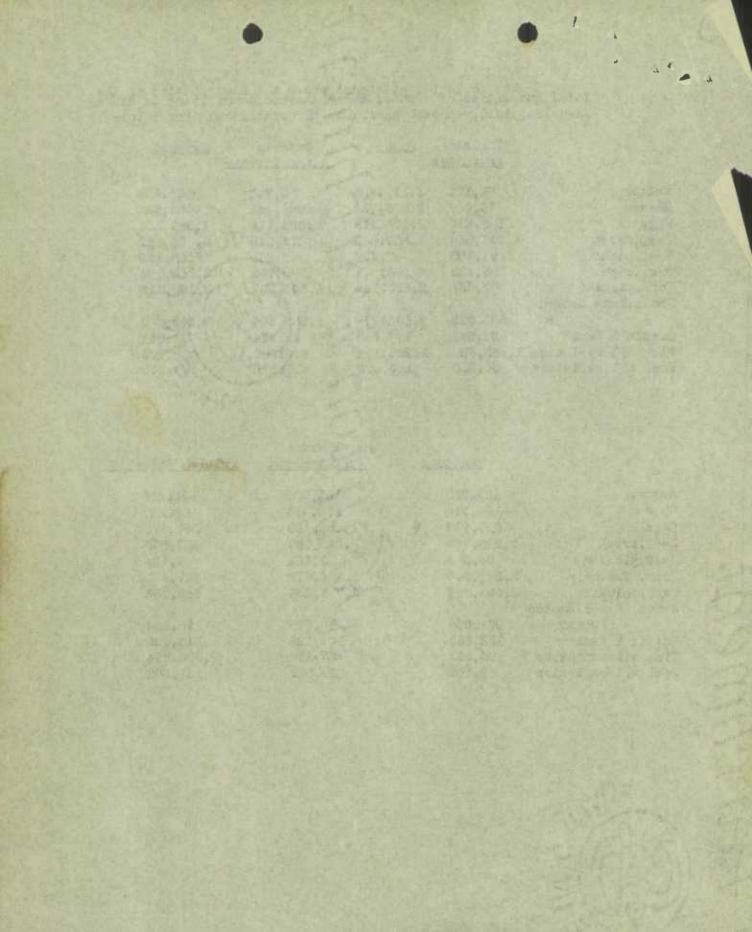
Comparison of holdings of May 1st, 1918, with June 1st, 1918.

CONSIGNATION	<u></u>	JUNE 1st	INGRAASE.	DECREASE
Datter	1,182,211	2,251,673	90.46%	
Cheese	3,141,771	2,968,997		5.55%
Eggs	3,766,997	8,422,588	123.58%	
Beef (fresh & pickled)	21,592,408	19,333,470		10.47%
Pork (fresh & pickled)	27,235,400	31,218,944	14.62%	
Bacon, Ham & Smoked Meats	13,279,961	14,721,221	10.85%	
Matten & Lamb	1,449,655	1,507,824	4.01%	
Fish all varieties	15,534,326	16,154,305	3.99%	
Ford all varieties	1,640,150	904,075		44.88%

total quantities of each of the mentioned commodities in store June 1st. 1918, reported according to established districts:-

	Mari time	Quabeo	Ontario Hims Toronto	Toronto
.attor	32,172	1,119,821	233,732	423,658
Choose	79,049	1,595,738	406,741	498,962
3	136,235	2,371,129	1,686,115	1.389.280
Bef, fresh	1,247,884	1,620,030	272,868	6,585,622
Beer, pickled	91,400	47,199	53,535	335,152
Pork, from	55,125	396,318	795,762	2,086,796
Pork, pickled	503,084	2,388,165	1,344,597	8,103,112
Bacon, Hamal Smoked		See Halls A		
Mesto	608,225	2.602473	2,903,804	7,145,740
Mutton & Lond	520,596	273,659	23,714	90,541
Fish all varieties	1,988,639	1,226,192	840,286	489.763
Towl 11 veriation	54,000	180,392	335,172	190,875

	Manitoba	Alberton Beskatchewan	Eritich Columbia
Butter	189,215	151,839	101,236
Thomas	144,844	173,394	68,269
Tes.	699,927	1,252,429	887,475
Beef, fresh	3,225,925	5,285,169	537,506
Beef, pickled	34,053	9,403	7,924
Fork, fresh	2,227,440	3,604,750	447,631
Tork, pickled Smoked	3,034,899	5,789,238	642,032
Houts	971,808	410,807	78,364
Mutton & Lamb	152,688	143,428	313,198
Fish all varieties	886,898	727.613	9,995,894
Towl all variation	40,188	00,059	61,382



MARTTIME PROVINCES

	1217	1918	Degresse	Increase
Butter Choose Eggs Beef Pork	17,264 4,205 82,956 105,936 153,923	15,332 36,409 45,973 202,212 307,219	4.62	765.85 107.87 99.59
Bacon, Ham & Smoked Meats Mutton & Lamb Fish all varieties Fowl all varieties	711,058 13,215 2,053,976 16,835	604,367 11.983 1,164,758 11,819	15.01 9.32 43.30 29.80	

QUESEC

Butter Cheese Rggs Beef Fork	718,509 2,517,494 1,971,345 622,784 1,278,307	793,227 1,255,734 1,609,249 970,356 1,904,917	50.12 18.37	10.39 55.80 49.01
Bacon, Ham & Smoked Meats Mutton & Lamb Fish all Varioties Fowl all varieties	2,471,758 263,900 51,918 768,528	1,224,940 171,299 51,996 144,739	50.45 35.09 81.17	.15

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COMPARISONS BY DISTRICTS JUNE 101; 1917 & 1913.

OBTARIO.

	1917	1918	Decrease	Increase.
Butter	216,314	201,253	6.97	
Cheese	235,860	249,953		5.97
Eggs	1,821,563	1,289,348	29.22	
Beef	206,521	283,146		37.10
Rock	3,213,582	2,106,585	34.45	
Bacon, Ham & Smokedq		THE RESERVE TO SERVE THE RESERVE THE RESER		
Mea to	2,996,380	2,896,979	3.32	
Mutton & Lamb	35,908	10,298	28.67	
Fish all varieties	88.994	138,393		55.50
Fowl all varieties	1,107,373	323,694	70.78	
	TOIRON	PO		
Butter	275,056	399,790		45.34
Cheese	190,199	362,364		90.51
Eggs	1,027,571	1,202,428		17.01
Beef	4,104,807	6,969,943		69.79
Pork	10.901,183	9,609,763	12.68	
Bacon, Ham & Smoked				
Meats	10,749,620	7,119,326	33.78	
Mutton & Lamb	579,280	68,487	88.88	
Fish all varieties	80,127	194,607		142,87
Powl all varieties	486,808	186,577	61,68	A TO SHARE THE
	MANITO	BA		
Butter	52,208	85,208		63.20
Cheese	35,809	115,311		223.82
Eggs	655,761	575,472	12.25	
Beef	477,663	2,472,394		417.60
Pork	3,764,334	5,249,298		39.44
Bacon, Ham & Smeked		THE PERSON		
Mests	1,285,582	985,487	23.35	
Mutton & Lamb	358,939	153,720	57.18	
Fish all varieties	542,338	881,520		62.54
Fowl all varieties	435,277	31,367	92.80	

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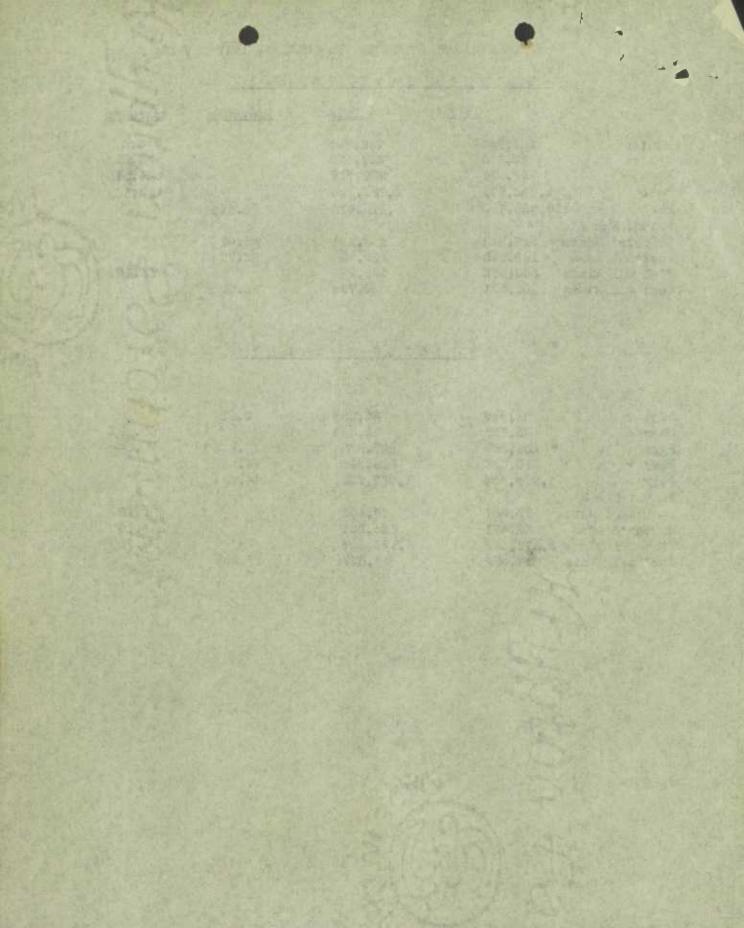
COMPARISONS OF DISTRICTS JUNCLEY, 1917 & 1918.

ALBORTAS SAUKATCENAAN

	1917	1918	Decrause	Incresse
Butter	103,840	108,593		4.57
Cheese	92,110	127,475		38.39
R. Co	725,374	900,718		24.51
Beef 1	.992,678	5,771,520		169.63,5
	.558,480	9,198,418	12.89%	
Bacon, Ram &	DARKERS IN PLAN			
Smoked Meats	311,312	233,296	25.07	
Mutton & Lamb	180,998	139,758	22.79	
Fish all kinds	360,352	659,824		88.10%
Fowl all kinds	506,521	22,799	95.51	

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Butter 86,590 Cheese 26,733 Egg 286,303	84,857 42,852 287,925	2.01	60.29
Beef 615,033 Pork 1,959,553 Bacon, Rem &	516,347 1,082,703	16.05 44.75	
Snowed Moute 73,687 Nutton & Limb 34,491 Fish all Rinds 5,679,449 Fowl all sinds 221,002	77,466 124,051 6,174,437 49,077	77.60%	5.18 251.66 8.71



Consdian Supplies of Produce in Sold Storage.

The Cost of Living Branch of the Department of Indoor makes the following report to the Honourable Minister of Labour concerning goods in cold storage throughout the Dominion.

The stocks of ment in storage this month above a decrease compared with the proceeding month. This is especially true in boof and is doubtless due very largely to oversess shipment. A Comparison here with last year, judging from the limited list of fixes reporting them, indicate a somewhat larger supply on hand than a year ago. The quantities in each case, however, are small. In the case of pork products, all smalls bedata indicate smaller supplies than last July.

a natural thing, since this is the time in the year in which we lay by supplies of these articles. Unfortunately, this increase above last south does not give as great a supply as our stocks of last summer. In the case of fish we have a substantial increase above last and at the same time more than last year.

The stock of the following firms is not in this month's statement:-

Lookeport Cold Storage, Lookeport, R. S.

Booth Fisheries Co., St. Andrews, F. A.

Cumma Limited. Mentreal, Que.

James Fish Co., Torandam Co., Regina, Bask.

Edmonton Cold Storage Co., Edmonton, Alta.

Calgary Storage & Cartage Co., Calgary, Alta.



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