

An Open Letter To the Reeve and Councillors of Jarvis

Have your citizens organized to increase food production?

If they have not yet done so, We, the Organization of Resources Committee, earnestly ask you to call them together in a Mass Meeting, and lay before them the necessity of immediate and vigorous efforts—the food situation is critical.

It may astonish you to learn that in 1917 Ontario did not grow enough wheat for its own needs. Consequently every Ontario farmer whose land is suitable, has been urged to sow 5 acres more spring wheat this year so that Ontario's demand for wheat shall not be met at the expense of that portion of the Western crop that should more rightfully be shipped overseas.

For this same reason every householder who has a garden or a piece of vacant land is being urged to grow vegetables, because the more vegetables that are grown and eaten in Ontario the less wheat and meat there will be consumed, and, that being so, the Ontario wheat crop should then be sufficient to feed our own people, and leave more Western wheat and other foods available for export.

By intelligent effort, in the cultivation of his own back garden, or from the cultivation of a nearby piece of land, the average citizen can grow, this summer, enough vegetables to support his family through the next winter. And remember, if food restrictions are enforced next winter, a supply of vegetables in the cellar will be very desirable.

If you already have an unofficial or semi-official organization to stimulate food production, so much the better. That will give you the basis for a comprehensive committee.

A plan that has been adopted in many places is here outlined. You should adapt it to the needs of your own community.

1. A General Committee should be formed, representing every important interest of the community.
2. The work should be done by sub-committees. The following list is sufficiently comprehensive for the largest places. You should adapt it to your own community.
 - (a) A sub-committee on Finance. The Organization of Resources Committee is willing to help local branches financially with publicity, public meetings and organization.
 - (b) A Publicity Committee to place local problems properly before the people, supplementing the larger work of the province-wide publicity, by securing pledges, sending out circular letters, arranging for addresses in churches, schools, motion-picture houses, etc., and by supplying local papers with news items.
 - (c) A sub-committee on Vacant Lot and Back-Yard Gardening to include representatives from horticultural societies, school teachers, etc.
 - (d) A sub-committee on Farm Labour, composed of employers of labour, representatives of organized labour, war veterans, etc. Labour is the key to the food production problem. All boy, girl, part-time and vacation labour should be enlisted. Make sure that sufficient labour is ready to meet any demands made by your farming community. This labour should be placed on farms locally through the Agricultural Representatives or the Government Employment Bureau.
 - (e) A Farm Lands sub-committee, composed of groups of men to cultivate larger tracts of vacant land in the vicinity of cities, towns and villages. Flax growing is profitable and suitable—flax seed and fibre are much needed.
 - (f) A sub-committee on Schools, to enlist all school-children of sufficient age to work either in home gardens, community gardens, school gardens, or on farms.
 - (g) A sub-committee of women on Conservation to deal with the problems of food-saving in the homes; the more broadly representative it is of women's activities the better. Existing women's organizations should not be interfered with, but since conservation is one of the greatest problems, there should be a women's committee in each community to deal with this problem alone.
3. An Executive Committee should be appointed, to include the chairman of the general committee and the chairmen of the sub-committees. This committee should meet frequently.
4. A Secretary to the committee should be chosen, for his knowledge of the situation, who would be free to devote considerable time to the work.

Lack of food threatens the battle-line and we must deal with the situation.

TO THE INDIVIDUAL CITIZEN

If you have not yet decided to plant a vegetable garden make up your mind to do so now. You will not regret it. There is still lots of time. Potatoes and beans may be planted up to June 1st and these are the best substitutes for wheat and meat.

For good, practical advice upon how to lay out and cultivate a Vegetable Garden, write for a free copy of the booklet entitled: "A Vegetable Garden for Every Home." This has been prepared by the Ontario Department of Agriculture for the guidance of citizens who will respond to this call for increased production.

Send for copy now. Mail the coupon below:

<p>Mail This Coupon NOW</p>	<p>Organization of Resources Committee, Parliament Buildings, Toronto</p> <p>Dear Sirs:</p> <p>Please send me a copy of your booklet "A Vegetable Garden for Every Home."</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p>
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