

Hard Vrocht Grun Project

Work, Food and Poverty in Wartime



BUNDLE 1



Supported by
The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Bundle 1

THE WAR RATIONS MAN,

Mr. Maconochie Leaves Fortune of £390,984.

Mr. Archibald White Maconochie, late Managing Director of the firm that supplied the army during the war with the ration of tinned meat and vegetables known as "Maconochie" left estate valued at £309,984 with net personality £107,985.

After bequests to his wife and family the testator declares "that my sons shall be educated with the idea of providing for their future by their own industry, and the gifts to them are upon the condition that, if they are physically and mentally capable of so doing, they apply themselves diligently either to the business of Maconochie Bros or some other honourable calling."

Any child who shall adopt the Roman Catholic faith is to forfeit his share under the will and in lieu thereof is to receive an annuity of £100.

Mr. Maconochie lived at Codham Hall, Kent and Porchester Gate, Bayswater. He died on February 13, aged 71.



Bundle 1



Photograph of Australian Troops with Western Front Grown Vegetables and Maconochie Joke



Bundle 1

The Declaration of War was posted up on the Town Cross in Saltoun Square. Many thought it would be over by Christmas.

The fishing ended there and then, and John Ewen paid us what we were due. As they nailed up the shutters on the fishworkers' huts they were nailing the shutters on a golden age. My father, at the age of 56, joined the navy the following day with my brother Andrew.

..I got a job down in Lowestoft with Kirsten and Margaret, learning to kipper at Stirk's. . We could no longer take a walk around town at night, the shop windows were now in total darkness. Everything was blacked out. A wife on the street shouted to us to take shelter as the 'Zepps' were over. We didn't know what 'Zepps' were but we very soon found out ! A pub called the Norfolk at the end of London Road was bombed and some civilian folk were killed.

We all went home for Hogmanay but travelling was a nightmare in the blackout. Our apprentice coopers "Curly" Crawford and "Scrow" Dingwell joined the army. We had embroidered cards from them a few weeks before they died in the Flanders mud.

Bread and flour became very scarce in 1915 and pressure was put on the Government to control the production of drink. Lloyd George was very worried about feeding the nation and almost got the Government to pass total prohibition.

..Rationing was enforced as food became more scarce. Each week we were allowed a half pound of sugar, 2 ounces of tea, 2 ounces of cheese, 5 ounces of butter or margarine, a shilling's worth of butcher's meat, a bar of washing soap and a bar of face soap. Folk were so undernourished it was no wonder that bad flu broke out at the end of the War.

We had intended to return to Lowestoft but had to register for work of national importance. Food production was in that class. ..Kirsten and I were given the choice between work at the munitions factory or Keiller's Foods in Dundee. We plumped for the latter. ..Dundee was a completely new experience for the people of the North East fishing and farming communities. We saw a lot of bow legged undernourished bairns.. and many families lived in just one or two rooms.

Extract from *A Stranger on the Bars* by Christian Watt Marshall pp93 - 95

7 September 1914. National Scheme for Relief of Distress occasioned by the War... Read circular-letter from the Local Government Board date of 14 August on this subject, in which the Board state that an Advisory Committee has been appointed to advise on the measures necessary to deal with any distress that may arise in Scotland in consequence of the war, that local committees were also being formed to consider the needs of the localities and co-ordinate the distribution of such relief as may be required, that these local committees would have the distribution of the National Relief Fund inaugurated by the Prince of Wales, and that it is of great importance,, with a view to enabling the Committees to discriminate readily between the applicants for aid and in order to prevent overlapping, that there should be close cooperation between them and the Poor Law authorities it was reported that the Chairman, Mr Clark, Mr Hendry and the Clerk of the Council were serving on the local committees and that the Clerk of the Council was also acting along with the Town Clerk as Joint Secretary to the Committee.

Cultivation of Garden Produce. Submitted communications form the Board of Agriculture and the Local Government Board of Date 24th and 27th August.

Assistance to wives of Soldiers and Sailors.-Read circular from the Local Government Board of Date 28th August as to the help available for the wives and other relatives of soldiers and sailors including territorials.

High Price of Provisions. Read letter from the general Board of Control for Scotland of date 17th August intimating that in certain districts of the country where work has more or less ceased some guardians, owing to the want of money and the high price of provisions have been finding it difficult to provide adequately for the maintenance of the patients under their charge and asking that enquiry be made to ensure that none of the Council's patients are so situated. The meeting decided that there is no such difficulty so far as the Councils' patients are concerned.

Minutes of Fraserburgh Parish Council

Bundle 1

4 BUCHAN OBSERVER SPECIAL ARMISTICE EDITION, MONDAY, 11th November, 1918.

ALTHOUGH
It is difficult to still carry on with everything so scarce, you will
Still get the best value and selection
AT
F. W. BERRY
11 Rose Street,
PETERHEAD.
Telephone 164.

WAR-TIME ECONOMY
TEA IS VERY SCARCE.
COFFEE
IS CHEAP AND PLENTIFUL.
AT
JOHNSTON'S
FRUITERER,
Marischal Street.
Try our Blends from 1/6 to 2/6 per lb.

COAL RATIONING.

SAVE THE COAL
— save 12-18% Grates of every description supplied and fitted to existing Grates. Fire Bricks, Coal Savers, and Pale Bottoms fitted to Ranges and Grates. Estimates given.
A. L. WILLIAMSON,
16 ROSE STREET, PETERHEAD.

Second-Hand Furnishings & Storage.
ANDERSON BROS.
HOLD A VARIED STOCK OF
SECOND-HAND GOODS.
Any quantity of Furnishings bought for cash, or in exchange for New Goods.
STORAGE.
We have fine accommodation for storing quantities of Household Goods.
TERMS MODERATE.
ANDERSON BROS.,
5, 7, & 9 Merchant St.,
PETERHEAD.

MOTOR CARS
FOR HIRE BY DAY, WEEK, OR MONTH.
TERMS MODERATE.
CAN BE HAD OPEN OR CLOSE.
J. CLUBB,
HORSEHIRER,
MAUD.

JOHN FERGUSON
REGISTERED PLUMBER,
COPPERSMITH, BRASS FOUNDER,
ELECTRIC, HYDRAULIC, AND
SANITARY ENGINEER.
5 BROAD STREET
PETERHEAD.

Don't be in the Dark!
GET AN ELECTRIC POCKET LAMP.

IMMENSE SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM.

PRICES FROM 2/- TO 12/6.

REFILL BATTERIES IN STOCK FOR ALL KINDS OF ELECTRIC LAMPS.
We specialise in Electric Appliances. All Lamps and Refills are tested with proper apparatus before leaving the shop, and their full voltage guaranteed.
Agent for the "EVER READY" Batteries and Specialities.

GEORGE ROBERTSON,
CYCLE AGENT, KIRK ST

It's Worth Something
To feel on sure ground about daily supplies; to know for certain that everything is right—Foodstuffs, Footwear, Furniture, Furnishings, Etc., Etc. in a word,
To be
assured that the Raw Material is procured from reliable sources, and that everybody engaged in the manufacture and distribution work under the very best conditions. Such points are of vital importance to every person having the general welfare of their fellow men and women at heart. You have now a golden opportunity of
Doing Your Bit
in the battle for improved conditions all round, which should be
To-Day.
Join the Local Branch of the S.C.W.S., Ltd.,
7 ERROLL STREET,
Peterhead.

Seigel's SYRUP
MOTHER AND CHILD
THE WORLD-FAMOUS REMEDY FOR
CROUP AND INDIGESTION
ANDERSON BROTHERS,
HOUSE FURNISHERS.
We beg to announce delivery of our New Season's Stock of
BABY CARRIAGES AND GO CARS
These we were fortunate in securing before recent heavy advances, and can offer at Most Reasonable Prices.
We have also on hand a Fresh Delivery of
PIANOS & AMERICAN ORGANS
Which we can offer to advantage while they last.
We invite anyone contemplating Furnishing in whole or part, to walk through and examine our spacious stock of Hall, Dining-Room, Drawing-Room, and Bedroom Furniture. Specialities in Fumed Oak.
We show the Finest Assortment of Linoleums in the North of Scotland—over 100 designs—and can suit any taste.
Special Clearing Lines in Seamless Axminster Carpets—all sizes.
WHOLESALE and RETAIL,
5, 7, and 9 MERCHANT ST., PETERHEAD.

When Knitting Jerseys
For our Men on the sea, use
SEAFIELD NAVY FINGERINGS.
They combine Fineness, Softness, Warmth, and Wearing Qualities. We guarantee the Fastness of our NAVY, and in these days of dyestuff difficulties this is a consideration of the utmost value.
Ask for SEAFIELD BLACK and KHAKI—each the Very Best.
All the leading Drapers keep them.
ROBERT LAIDLAW & SONS,
Seafield Mills, Keith.

The Palace,
Hanover Street
Starring and Expensive Engagement of—
BELTON AND OSBORNE,
AND A PIANO.
A Comedian and a Vocalist, in an Entertainment of Bright Songs and Humorous Interludes.
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday—
Pride and the Man,
Five-Act Film.
The Seven Pearls,
Episode Four. AMID THE CLOUDS
Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—
The Scarlet Car,
Five Acts. A Thriller
CHARLIE CHAPLIN
in
THE PAWNSHOP,
Two-Reel Comedy.

AUBREY'S PAVILION
Music Hall.
TO-NIGHT AND TO-MORROW—
The Secret Woman,
5 Acts.
GERARD'S
Fours Years in Germany
Part 4.
The Tell Tale Shirt,
2-Reel Triangle Comedy.
THURSDAY TO SATURDAY—
Great Song Picture—
If Thou Wer't Blind
5 Acts.
Featuring **DEN WEESTER.**
2-Reel Sunshine Comedy—
Shadows of her Pest

TO OBTAIN Supplies of JAM,
After 3rd November you must be registered with a Retailer. You are free to register where you like. If you have any difficulty in getting supplies, bring your own Ration Books and register with us.
George Duncan & Sons,
Licensed Jam Manufacturers,
21 MARISCHAL STREET,
PETERHEAD.
Ample stocks. Good variety. Best quality.
Tobacco and Cigarettes
"DUTY FREE"
TO OUR SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.
Full particulars at—
SINCLAIR'S TOBACCO STORE,
15 Queen Street, Peterhead.

TO FARMERS, Stockbreeders, & Others
SIMPSON'S VETERINARY - MEDICINES
Have merited a high reputation for Fifty Years. Farmers and others who have had disappointments with other makes are solicited to give them a trial.
BEST QUALITY. MODERATE PRICES.
Messages received for Veterinary Surgeon
J. SIMPSON,
CHEMIST PETERHEAD

Buchan Observer,
11 November 1918

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Minutes of Meeting of Food Control Sub Committee held in the Council Room on Friday 19th October 1917 at 4³⁰ o'clock p.m.

Present.

Provost Gray, Bailie Rae and Mr. McIntyre, Dean of Guild Duquid, Councillors Thomson, Ross, Thomson, Macman, Strathdee, Mr. Duthie, Mr. Campbell and William McDonald Jr.

The Provost presiding said, they as a Food Control Sub Committee had been called together that night to consider the retail prices of milk presently being charged on the Burgh to consumers. Their first duty was to discuss the matter with the local Retailers who were asked to be present for that purpose and thereafter to decide on Retail Prices, to be recommended to be charged which would appear to them, as a Committee, to be put to both producers and consumers.

The following Retailers, who are also Producers appeared at the meeting viz: Mr. Burgess, Mr. Farquhar, Messrs Murray, Scott, Nicol, Chalmers and Hay. Information was asked as to cost of production and margin of profit required to enable the Committee to recommend a retail rate. No definite information was however, elicited. General statements only, as to increased prices charged for cows and feeding stuffs, were made, and that some cows give more milk and some less than others. A Retail Price of 1/6 per Imperial Gallon was put forward by the Committee as a reasonable figure, considering there was no delivery in the Burgh. With that price, four of the Retailers were perfectly satisfied, five others wanted 2/- but ultimately came down to 1/9 per Imperial Gallon. Considering that keep for cattle is much more plentiful this year, and that there is no delivery of milk in Portsoy.

Portsoy Town Council Minutes concerning coal and food control, 19 October 1917 (part 1)

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Portsoy, the Committee decided after due deliberation to recommend a flat rate of 1/6 per Imperial Gallon, to be charged from now up to end of March, 1918. It was elicited from the Retailers present that 8/- per gallon was the free war price.

X X The meeting as Local Authority proceeded to deal with Retail Coal Prices which were then fixed as under-noted and Schedules of prices sent to the Banffshire Journal Ltd; and Banffshire Reporter, Portsoy, for advertisement viz:- as follows:-

Price of Coal.

The Town Council of Portsoy, under powers conferred on them by the Retail Coal Prices Order 1917, hereby announces that the following Schedule of Prices has been drawn up by them (after consultation with Representatives of the Local Coal Merchants as to their costs) as the maximum prices chargeable for the sale of coal by retail for domestic purposes in the Burgh of Portsoy.

	1st selected	Seconds
Sale of 1 ton or more in bulk or in bags.		
(a) Delivered into bellas per ton.	£ 1 14 -	1 11 -
(b) Delivered at entrance per ton.	1 13 6	1 10 6
Sale of 2 cwt. or less at shops.		
per cwt.	£ - 1 9 2	1 8
56 lbs.	- - 11	- - 10
28 lbs.	- - 5 1/2	- - 5
14 lbs.	- - 3	- - 2 1/2
7 lbs.	- - 1 1/2	- - 1 1/2
Sale to consumers at merchants' Depots.		
or Wharves or Railway Sidings per £	£	
ton.	1 11 10	1 8 10
per cwt.	1 5 1/2	1 4 1/2
56 lbs.	- - 10 1/2	- - 9 1/2
28 lbs.	- - 5 1/2	- - 5
14		

Portsoy Town Council Minutes concerning coal and food control, 19 October 1917 (part 2)

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The Provost presided.

The Clerk intimated that he had communicated to the Executive Officer, Banff, the decision arrived at by the committee at its meeting on 19th October last, recommending that the flat rate of 1/6 per imperial gallon to the end of March 1918, should be the price at which milk sellers within the jurisdiction of the sub committee, should sell milk and had received the following letter, with copy advertisement from him in reply.

Council Chambers,
Banff 31st Oct. 1917.

Dear Sir, Milk Prices.

Referring to your letter of 20th inst I now send you copy of advertisement which I have instructed in the Banffshire Reporter for Saturday, 3rd November 1917. You will no doubt take steps to notify the various milk sellers in Portsoy for their particular information.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) John Tough.

County of Banff,
Food Control.

The maximum retail price of milk at dairies within the Burgh of Portsoy has been fixed at 1/6 per imperial gallon from 5th November 1917 to 31st March 1918.

All milk must be sold by imperial gallon or approved fractional parts thereof.

(Signed) John Tough, Executive Officer

The Clerk intimated that a copy of the advertisement had been sent to each of the milk sellers in Portsoy, and that they had protested against the price fixed and read the following protest sent by them to the Executive Officer at Banff.

1 Seafield Terrace, Portsoy

November 5th 1917.

Dear Sir, Received prices today regarding milk, which has been

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been fixed at 1/6 per imperial gallon by the local committee. We as milk sellers protest against the price fixed as insufficient to meet the high prices of cows, food etc. also expenditure with wages being advanced etc.

The least we can take to supply the town is 1/9 per gallon and the customers are pleased to have it at that price stated, owing to the scarcity at this season. We undersigned.

(Signed) J. Burgess, L. Farquhar, Maggie Smith, James Mc Murray, James Nicol, George Taylor.

After consideration and discussion in the course of which the Inspector reported on his personal interviews with the milk sellers, on whom he had called. Mr^s Duthie moved that the prices previously fixed be adhered to and that a report be sent to the Food Controller of the statement made by the milk sellers to the Inspector. Councillor Ross seconded. Bailie Mc Intyre proposed the following amendment, that a compromise be effected with the milk sellers. Mr^s Campbell seconded.

On the motion and amendment being put to the vote the Chairman declared the motion carried by 8 votes for the motion, against 2 for the amendment. Bailie Mc Intyre reported that the standard measures per week would be sent him on the following day and it was decided to wait until the following Monday before taking steps to enforce the milk sellers to comply with the fixed rate of 1/6 per Imperial gallon.

William Gray Provost

Minute of Adjourned or Special Meeting
of Town Council held in the Council Room
on Thursday 15th November 1917 at 8 o'clock

Present

Portsoy Town Council Minutes concerning control of milk prices, 15 November 1917 (part 2)

Bundle 1

War-Time Cookery.

Those who attended the demonstrations of war-time economical cookery which were held in the Mackie Academy, on Tuesday and Wednesday were genuinely surprised at the achievements of science in this connection. Some of the methods were perhaps a little elaborate to be adopted with any degree of success in the ordinary man's household; but that so many really excellent dishes could be produced on such a modest dipping into the domestic purse was a revelation to most of us. Even the first-class housewife who prides herself — and pardonably so — on the excellence of her household economy must have felt that the art of thrifty, yet wholesome, cooking has been adapted to the shortages of the times with remarkable success. The question comes to be, however, will the supply of the materials recommended hold out under the increased demand, and, if it does, will the prices remain at their present level?

Extension of Food Rationing.

It has now been definitely decided by the Food authorities to extend the Scheme of rationing at present in force with regard to sugar, and this week forms of application for food cards have been distributed in the burgh. These forms are quite simple, and householders should find no difficulty in filling them up properly. It should be carefully noted, however, that all lodgers, domestic servants, visitors, etc., who cannot be classed as permanent members of a family should make an application at once to the Local Food Office for one of these forms. Unless that is done a food card cannot be issued to these persons. The food card application forms must all reach the Local Food Office before the 11th of this month. The Scheme which is expected to be in force by the 18th of March will include butter, margarine and tea, although it is fully expected that it will be further extended at a later date. An article which gives all details with regard to the Scheme will be found on page 4 of the present issue.

An Interested Court.

It is well known that there is such a good

Mearns Leader 8 February 1918

Food Rationing in the Mearns.

DETAILS OF COMING SCHEME.

That there will be a system of rationing instituted in connection with the distribution of articles of food other than sugar is tolerably certain, and we are obliged to the Executive Officer of the County Food Control Committee (Mr R. B. Murdoch) for the following details re the scheme which will be introduced. We would advise our readers to cut the article out and keep it conveniently situated for future reference:—

The area within which the Scheme will be operative embraces the whole of Scotland. The articles of Food to be included in the Scheme are meantime Butter and (or) Margarine and Tea, but provision is made by which at least two additional foodstuffs can be included under it by the issue of a direction and without the issue of further cards.

It is expected that the Scheme will be in operation by 18th March, 1918.

Each household will receive a form of application. The form is very similar to the original Sugar Card Application and the householder must enter thereon the name, etc., of all persons permanently resident in his household and post it to the Local Food Office. The age of all those under 18 is necessary for any extension of the rationing scheme, for meat especially.

Domestic Servants, Lodgers, etc., and other persons who are temporary members of households must apply to the Food Office for an Individual Form of Application.

These forms after being returned to and checked at the Local Food Office will constitute a Food Register and a Food Card will be issued for (1) each household application and (2) each individual application. The individual application form and card will be printed on a different colour of paper from that of the household.

The holder of a Food Card will take the Card to the retailer with whom it is desired to register for any foodstuff and the retailer will detach and retain the portion of the card relating to the foodstuffs, and hand back the remaining portion to the customer. Free choice of retailer will be allowed and retailers must not canvas for customers. A customer will not be allowed to transfer his registration within the district of his own Committee except with their consent. Provision will be made for the transfer of a customer's registration between retailers in different areas.

The customer must produce the card to his retailer on every purchase of an article to which it relates. The retailer upon each sale of a rationed article must cancel the appropriate space of the card with an indelible mark. The purchase of a week's ration after the end of the week will be forbidden except in so far as this is allowed by the Local Food Office in any special case or class of case.

In the case of households or individuals coming into the area where this Scheme is in operation from an area where the Scheme is not in operation a Food Card will be issued on application to the Food Office.

The cases of soldiers on leave, etc., will be dealt with by the issue of emergency cards appropriate to the particular case.

Persons removing from an area in which this Food Scheme is in operation will lodge their Food Card with the Executive Officer of either their old or new area.

TIME TABLE.

Household and Individual Forms commence to be delivered 28th January.

All Forms to be returned to Local Food Office 11th February.

All Cards to be issued 25th February.

Applications for Authorities to be issued to Retailers, etc., 4th March.

Applications for Authorities to be returned to Food Office, 9th March.

Authorities issued, 18th March.

to use Meat Cards.

MEAT RATIONING ORDER, 1918.

After April 7th, no person will be able to buy meat or a meat meal except on a Meat Card.

KINDS OF MEAT CARDS.

There are two kinds of regular Meat Card — the Meat Card (proper) and the Child's Meat Card. Children are to receive the ordinary ration of meat, and each coupon of the Child's Meat Card may, therefore, be used to buy only half as much meat as a coupon of the Meat Card Proper. Children's Cards have been issued to children under 10 years of age, but arrangements will be made very shortly for enabling every child who had reached the age of 6 on 1st March, 1918, to be given an Adult Meat Card. There will also be Supplementary Ration Cards for heavy workers, and Traders' Meat Cards for other special cases.

MEANING OF THE COUPONS ON THE CARDS.

The cards allow meat to be bought for the holder whose name has been entered upon them, or for other persons of the same households, up to fixed amounts in successive weeks. In order that more than the fixed amount may not be bought on any card, the Meat Cards have detachable coupons, which must be detached by the seller when the purchase is made, and coupons are numbered to show the week which they are valid. Each week ends on a Saturday at midnight, but the coupons for any party of car week are available for use on the Wednesday in the week following. For example, coupons numbered 7 are available between Sunday, April 7th, and Wednesday, April 10th. This period of 11 days is called the coupon period. Coupon No. 7, Wednesday, April 17th, No. 8, April 24th, No. 9, May 1st, No. 10, May 8th, No. 11, May 15th, No. 12, May 22nd, No. 13, May 29th, No. 14, June 5th, No. 15, June 12th, No. 16, June 19th, No. 17, June 26th, No. 18, July 3rd, No. 19, July 10th, No. 20, week ending midnight or Saturday, July 13th.

REGISTRATION AND FILLING UP OF CARDS.

In order to buy beef or mutton on a Meat Card the holder must be registered with a retailer for this purpose. The holder should take it as soon as it is received to his usual butcher. The butcher must make the proper entries upon it and attach and keep the counterfoil. This will not prevent its being used at other shops for buying other kinds of meat or meat meals. Up to Saturday, May 4th, you can buy bacon or ham from any bacon retailer, but after that date you will not be able to buy bacon and ham unless you have registered with the bacon retailer you select before Saturday, April 13th, by taking to his shop your Meat Card. Posters will be exhibited at bacon retailers' shops and elsewhere explaining what you have to do.

HOW TO BUY ON CARDS IN SHOPS.

Beef or Mutton. — No shop will be allowed to sell you beef or mutton except the shop at which you are registered. The shop at which you are registered is the only shop at which you can buy beef or mutton on a Meat Card; the shopkeeper will then cancel coupons corresponding to the amount of your purchase, and the coupon period in which it takes place.

Until May 5th the butcher with whom you are registered is allowed to give you his butcher's meat on three out of the four coupons each week. Each coupon on an adult's card permits the holder to spend 5 lb on beef or mutton. After May 5th you may use only two out of the four coupons each week for buying beef or mutton.

Pork and Offal. — You may buy Pork or Offal from any butcher. Each coupon on an adult's card permits you to spend 5 lb on pork or on tongues, kidneys, or skirt, or 10 lb on edible offal other than tongues, kidneys, or skirt.

Until May 5th you may use three of the four coupons weekly on buying butcher's meat, including pork, offal, and suet. After May 5th you may use only two out of the four coupons weekly on buying butcher's meat, including pork.

Bacon and Ham. — Until May 5th you may use any of your coupons for buying bacon and ham at any shop. One coupon on an adult's card entitles you to buy 5 lb of uncooked bacon and ham with bone or without bone.

After May 5th you may not buy bacon and ham except from the shopkeeper with whom your card is registered for bacon and ham.

Other Meat. — If you have not used all four coupons for butcher's meat, bacon and ham, there will be one or more coupons left. You may use these coupons for buying any other kind of meat, such as poultry, game, rabbits, cooked or tinned meats, etc., at any shop you please. You must, however, produce Meat Cards for the Coupons to be detached. Every shop selling such kinds of meat will be compelled to display a poster showing exactly what weights of different kinds of meat correspond to one coupon.

HOW TO OBTAIN MEAT MEALS ON CARDS.

For coupons to be detached. If therefore you have already used all your coupons for buying meat, you cannot obtain meat meals. The proprietor is not bound to supply you with any special weight of meat, but when he comes to account to his Food Office for the meat he has used he will have to produce one coupon for every 5 oz. of uncooked butcher's meat and pork he has used, and similarly with other kinds of meat. The restaurant may require you to give up only half a coupon for a meat meal, but it will then naturally not supply so much meat as for a whole coupon.

FOOD.

In the best interests of the Nation and the Empire it has been necessary to have a Ministry of Food and to appoint a Food Controller.

Control the distribution RATION PAPERS and FOOD CARDS are necessary and must be KEPT.

Extract from Official Instructions for use of Ration Papers or Cards—

"A Coupon must be handed to the Retailer upon the purchase of the corresponding ration." "A Ration Paper and Food Card "Must be PRESERVED with the greatest care, since if it is LOST or DESTROYED it WILL NOT BE REPLACED, except upon the strictest evidence."

The best and the most convenient way to have them secure and not to lose them is to have a neat case to put them in.

"Rhonda" FOOD CARD CASE

IS JUST WHAT YOU WANT. The price is 6d. What comfort and what security for 6d.!

"Splendid Value" when the price of all material and production are so high. GET ONE AND TRY THEM.

PRICE 6d. EACH.

TO BE HAD FROM

D. G. McLAREN, PRINTER AND STATIONER, 57 Barclay Street, Stonehaven, AND 132 High Street, Laurencekirk.

Kincardine Food Committee.

FIXING OF SUMMER MILK PRICES.

A meeting of Kincardineshire Food Control Committee was held on Saturday—Mr James Mowat, the chairman, presiding. A letter was submitted from the secretary of Kincardineshire Butchers' Association making application to have alterations made on the maximum prices of the retail meat schedule. After considerable discussion, it was moved by the chairman, and seconded by Mr John Moir, that the matter be left over in the meantime. The maximum retail prices to be fixed for milk for the summer months were under consideration. It was decided to make no alteration this month, but for May the prices will be 1d. June 1s 4d, July 1s 8d, August 1s 8d and September 1s 8d. The meeting had before them the Fish Control Order, and it was moved that no alteration be made in the meantime. A report was brought in by the inspector of an alleged waste of potatoes by a person in the south of the county, and it was decided to send a warning. A letter was read from Mr W. Low, Johnshaven, stating that a sub-committee had been formed. This was approved. A conversation took place on the question of sugar for jam making, the opinion of the committee being that a protest should be made against the system of the scheme, and that any person who applied for sugar for jam making should have it. On the motion of Mr J. Moir, it was agreed to protest against the increase to be paid by the Government for potatoes.

Cattle Trade in the Mearns.

LAURENCEKIRK, Monday. — The Kincardineshire Auction Mart, Ltd., had 133 fat and 50 store cattle, 6 milk cows, 4 young calves, 73 fat sheep, 4 fat and 18 young pigs at their weekly sale here to-day. Fat cattle were a grand show and mostly first grade. Fat pigs and sheep at controlled prices. Young pigs still very dear. Store cattle were a grand show and met a good demand. Milk were rather stiffer sell. Young calves met a good trade. Fat bullocks to £47 10s 3d; heifers to £36 17s 3d; fat cows to £45 10s; bulls to £33 18s 10d; store cattle to £17 17s 6d to £27 10s; milk cows to £40 fat pigs to £10 10s 7d; young pigs to £3 16s;

Mearns Leader 8 February 1918

Mearns Leader 12 April 1918

Bundle 1

MEDICATED SUGAR FOR BEES.

The Secretary to the Food Controller (Capt. Bathurst), replying to Sir W. Essex (L—Stafford), in the House of Commons, said the Board of Agriculture had arranged to grant a quantity of medicated sugar for the purpose of feeding bees in the United Kingdom. The sugar would only be available in the form of bee candy, and its proper use would be safeguarded by medication, under the advice of the bee experts of the Board of Agriculture. Its manufacture and sale had been undertaken by Pascal and Sons, Ltd., Blackfriars, to whom all applications should be addressed.

Stonehaven Journal, 4 January 1917

SAVING THE BEES.

FIFTY TONS OF CANDY FOR WINTER FOOD.

At the last moment the Royal Commission on Sugar Supplies has saved Britain's bees from starvation by allotting 50 tons of sugar for their winter consumption. They are to have it in the form of pink candy. Ever since the autumn, bees have been getting thin to emaciation. No living creatures have felt the sugar shortage more acutely.

The candy is stained pink, so as to designate the purpose for which it is to be used. Hitherto, it has been white—very like coconut ice, beloved of children, without the nut. This year is has been medicated with bacterol, an antiseptic compound which renders the sugar unfit for human consumption, and is a prevenzative against "Isle of Wight Disease," among bees. It is being made by Messrs James Pascall, Ltd., 100 Blackfriars Road London, and sold at 4s 7d for five 1 lb. cakes. Any profit is to be handed over to a charity selected by the Board of Agriculture.

Stonehaven Journal

✧ ✧ ✧ ✧

Fetteresso Public School is to be shut for a week from Friday first for the potato lifting. Preliminary meetings in connection with the evening continuation classes were held this week at Cairnhill, Cookney and Netherley Schools, when it is understood that there were good attendances of prospective pupils forward, and it was agreed to go with the classes.

Stonehaven Journal, 18 October 1918

Special Meeting 20th March 1917.

The council having resumed consideration of proposed arrangements for extending cultivation in the Parish with a view to increasing the production of food there was submitted a copy of a hand bill inviting applicants fro plots of ground to send in their names to the Clerk of the Council not later than 14th inst. Which had been widely publicised in the district as well as replies received from various landlords as to their willingness to give suitable ground for the aforesaid purpose to approved applicants.

It was further stated that no applications for plots had been received and the meeting accordingly resolved to take no further action in the matter, and instructed the clerk to inform the Secretary of the Agricultural Executive Committee for the County of this decision and the grounds thereof.

Bundle 1

THE MEARNS LEADER.

Economic Cookery Recipes.

SWEET POTATO PUDDING.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. cooked potatoes, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. flour, 1 oz. sugar and syrup, little mixed spice, 1 oz. dripping or margarine, $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. baking powder, 2 oz. dates or raisins, pinch of salt, 1 dried egg or liquid egg.

Method.—Beat fat and sugar to a cream in a warm basin. Add egg and beat well in. Mix flour, potatoes and baking powder together, add to basin and mix lightly. Add salt, egg and fruit. Have a stiff consistency. Place in a greased basin and steam $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 hours.

BEETROOT JAM.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. red jam (any kind), 1 large beetroot (weighing about 1 lb.), 1 oz. sago, 1 pint water.

Method.—Cook beetroot. (Wash, wrap in paper, place in a baking tin and bake in a moderate oven till soft). Remove skin, and either pound or mince beetroot. Boil sago and water till clear and syrupy. Add beetroot and jam and boil for a few minutes. Pour into jars.

DUMPLINGS WITH STEWED APPLES.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. dried apples, or 2 lbs. fresh apples.

Method.—Wash apples and if liked soak (for stewed apples only). Put in pan and cover well with cold water. Allow to boil and when boiling add suet dumplings. Cook $\frac{3}{4}$ hours. If necessary add more water. When ready, dish apples on a hot ashet and place dumplings round.

OATMEAL SAUSAGES.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. oatmeal, 1 oz. fat, $\frac{1}{2}$ onion (chopped), pepper and salt, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint stock water, or both, 2 oz. cooked meat, good teasp. vinegar.

Method.—Proceed as for oatmeal stuffing. Add meat (chopped or minced) and bind well together. Add vinegar at side of pan, allow to boil and then mix into other ingredients. Season and allow to cool a little. Place on a floured board. Divide into equal portions and form into sausages. Coat with a mixture of flour and ground rice (equal parts). Fry into shallow fat. Drain and dish on a hot ashet. (Breakfast, supper, or with potatoes for dinner).

Mearns Leader 10 May 1918

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1918.

Economic Cookery Recipes.

POTAO SUET PASTRY.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. flour, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. cooked potatoes, $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. baking powder, cold water if necessary, 2 oz. of suet, or 1 oz. suet and 1 oz. of nuts.

Method.—Mix flour, baking powder and potatoes. Add suet chopped and mix to a stiff dough using water if necessary.

RICE AND CHEESE PIE.

Ingredients.—2 oz. cooked rice, 1 oz. grated cheese, little sauce or milk, pepper and salt, potato short paste.

Method.—Mix rice and cheese together and add sauce and seasoning. Line pie-dish or tin with potato short paste. Prick foot and place in mixture (level with top of tin). Cover with a lid. Trim and decorate. Make a hole in centre. Bake in moderate oven 30-40 minutes.

SHORTBREAD.

Ingredients.—Quantity of ingredients as for potato short paste, and 1 oz. of sugar.

Method.—Knead sugar in along with flour. Roll out $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Cut into biscuits or fingers and bake in a moderate oven.

POTATOES AND CHEESE.

(Supper Dish).

Ingredients.—1 lb. potatoes, 2 oz. cheese, few slices of onion, $\frac{1}{2}$ pint water, pepper and salt.

Method.—Pare potatoes and cut in slices $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Grate or chop cheese. Place slices (thin) of onion in bottom of casserole or pie-dish. Add potatoes and cheese in alternate layers, having cheese on top. Add water, cover pie-dish and bake in oven $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs. Five minutes before ready, remove cover and allow cheese to brown. Serve hot.

POTATO SHORT PASTE.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. cooked potatoes, 2-3 oz. fat, 3 oz. flour, 2 oz. ground rice, $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. baking powder, pinch salt.

Method.—Place potatoes and fat in a basin and beat till white and creamy. Add ground rice. Place flour on a board with baking powder and pinch of salt. Turn out mixture in basin and work the two together. If necessary add a little moisture.

Mearns Leader 24 May 1918

Economic Cookery Recipes

CARROTS AS A VEGETABLE.

Scrape carrots and cut into slices $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Place a very little fat, and melt it. Put in the carrots, sprinkle with salt, and cook gently 15-20 minutes.

CABBAGE AND RICE.

Ingredients.—1 medium sized cabbage, 2 ozs. whole rice, 1 tablespoon chopped onion $\frac{1}{2}$ oz fat, $1\frac{1}{2}$ teacups water, seasoning.

Method.—Wash cabbage and soak in salt and water, then shred it. melt fat in a pan add onion, and cook for a few minutes. Add cabbage, sprinkle with salt, put on the lid and cook for 10 minutes.

Wash rice, add to the pan with the water and allow the whole to cook until the rice has absorbed the water, about 20 minutes, season and pile on a hot dish.

STUFFED POTATOES.

Choose large potatoes of uniform size. Wash and scrub them. Bake in a tin with a little dripping until soft when pierced. Cut off a piece lengthwise, and remove the inside mix this up with a little milk and melted fat. Add a little minced meat, of fish, etc., and seasoning. Replace into the skins, reheat and serve hot.

BROWN SPONGE PUDDING.

Ingredients.—2 ozs. white maize flour, 2 ozs. oatflour or fine oatmeal, 2 ozs. semolina, 2 ozs. nuts or fat, 2 tablesp. treacle or syrup, 1 teasp. baking soda, 1 teasp. cinnamon, $\frac{1}{2}$ teasp. ground ginger, $1\frac{1}{2}$ gills water.

Method.—Put the fat (chopped) or nuts, water and syrup into a pan and bring to the boil. Mix the remainder of the ingredients in a basin, pour on the boiling mixture and mix well. Put into a greased basin and steam for $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 hours.

POTATO AND APPLE PUDDING.

Ingredients.— $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. mashed potato, 1 lb. fresh apples or 2 ozs. dried apples, 1 dried or fresh egg, $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. dripping or margarine, flavouring, sugar or syrup to taste.

Method.—Stew the apples and then sieve them. To this add the margarine (warmed) the potatoes, sugar and flavouring, mix in the egg. Pour into a greased pie-dish and bake in a moderate oven 30 minutes.

Mearns Leader 26 April 1918

Hard Vrocht Grun Project

Bundle 1

Hours - Saturdays, 9 to 12.

County Weights & Measures Office,
27, Lodge Walk,
Aberdeen, 2nd July, 1917.

Draft reply to enquiries from British War Savings Committee.

- (1) There is no evidence of any shortage of Bread, Flour or Meal but there is a decided shortage of sugar; very few families in the poorer and middle classes being able to procure the ration of 8 lbs per person per week as laid down by the Food Controller.
- (2) They can get small quantities of all the essential foods mentioned with the exception of Potatoes & sugar.
- (3) Yes. If Bread see General Observations.
- (4) There has been a big enrichment in fancy bread owing to the Baking Order but it is questionable whether the same can be said about loaf bread. Potatoes being unobtainable bread has been and is being used largely as a substitute.
- (5) Not mentioned. This question requires consideration.

General Observations.

The only evidence of waste of food has been received from Bakers. They maintain that the loaves baked with the Government 81% flour at present being mixed known as the 91 per cent flour which is further diluted by mixing with flour extracted from Maize, Barley, Rice, Oats etc, will not keep in hot weather and numbers of loaves with the consent of Sanitary Officers have had to be given to pigs. Porkmen going to sea for a few days also complain bitterly about the same thing and have been compelled to throw overboard large quantities.

Letter from the Aberdeen County Inspector of Weights and Measures to the Aberdeen County Clerk regarding food shortages in Aberdeenshire, 2 July 1917 (page 1)

Hours - Saturdays, 9 to 12.

County Weights & Measures Office,
27, Lodge Walk,
Aberdeen, 1917

(2)

No corroborative evidence has been received regarding this but there is no reason to doubt this statement. Another batch contained 2 "batches" of loaves, each batch containing from 26 to 30 dozen loaves which were absolutely ruined in the baking. They were offered to the poorer classes in the town at 7th each but even at this price they could not be sold. They were eventually taken by the baker to a few of his former customers and given to the hens.

It has been strongly urged that the Government ought to revert to the previous grade of flour known as 76 per cent and also to reduce the amount of flours abstracted from maize etc, which are at present being added.

D. Williams
Inspector of Weights & Measures.

William Morrison Esq.
County Clerk

Letter from the Aberdeen County Inspector of Weights and Measures to the Aberdeen County Clerk regarding food shortages in Aberdeenshire, 2 July 1917 (page 2)

THOMAS MACKIE, F.S.A.A.,
INCORPORATED ACCOUNTANT,
CLERK.

County Clerks Office,
31 MAY 1917
ABERDEEN

School Board Office,
Peterhead 30th May, 1917.

Dear Sir,

PETERHEAD (BURGH) SCHOOL BOARD.
Food Economy Campaign.

I am directed to send you the annexed Excerpt from Minute of Meeting of the Board of date 17th instant.

Yours faithfully,
Thomas Mackie

Wm. Morrison, Esq.,
Clerk to the County
Committee, Aberdeen.

Clerk to the Board.

EXCERPT from Minute above referred to:-

Letter was read from the Rector reporting that as instructed at the Meeting of the Board held on 3rd instant he had made provisional arrangements for relieving Mrs. Wilson, Principle Teacher of Domestic Science, from her duties at the Academy for the remainder of the session, if necessary, in order that her services may be available in connection with the Food Economy Campaign which is being entered upon in Aberdeen and the Northern Counties on the initiation of the Scottish War Savings Committee with the approval of Lord Devenport, the Food Controller; he also enclosed letter from Miss J.G. Crawford, H.M. Inspector of Cookery, &c., to Dr. George Smith, Director of Studies, Aberdeen, stating that she does not think it would be quite fair to allow Miss Webster, the student in Domestic Science who is presently taking her continuous practice in that subject at Peterhead Academy, to teach apart from Mrs. Wilson's direct supervision, and that the proposal to utilize Miss Webster's services cannot, therefore, be entertained. The Board expressed surprise at Miss Crawford's attitude in regard to the proposed temporary appointment of Miss Webster, and instructed the Clerk to bring the matter under the notice of the Department, Director of Studies, and County Committee.

Letter from the Peterhead Burgh School Board to the Aberdeen County Clerk regarding the transfer of teaching staff to the Food Economy Campaign, 30 May 1917

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "VETO," GLASGOW. TELEPHONE NO. 368 DOUGLAS.

President
MR. HON. LORD HOWLAND.

Vice-Presidents
RIGHT HON. LORD KINROSS, D.L.
MR. WILLIAM BULLOCK, BART., LL.D.
MR. SAMUEL CHISHOLM, BART., LL.D.
MR. JOHN M. McCALLUM, M.P.
MR. Wm. WOODROUSSE, BART.
MR. HON. MR. JOSEPH P. MACLAY, BART.
MR. FORESTER-PATRICK, Esq., J.P.

Chairman of Executive
H. ELLIOT TIDBALL.

Hon. Treasurer
W. S. DOBSON.

Hon. Secretary
H. A. BIRD.

Secretary
W. A. ALLISON.

SCOTTISH
Permissive Bill & Temperance Association.

County Clerks Office
25 APR 1917
ABERDEEN

Offices—256 WEST GEORGE STREET
Glasgow, April 24th, 1917.

To the
Clerk of Aberdeen County Council.

Dear Sir,

I am desired by the Executive to present compliments and to ask your council at its first meeting to consider the advisability of appealing to His Majesty's Government, by Memorial or resolution, to safeguard the food supplies of the people by immediately suspending the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors during the period of the War and the time of demobilisation.

The Convention of Royal Burghs at its meeting in Edinburgh last month adopted by an overwhelming majority such a resolution and many public bodies have signified their approval of this policy.

The Executive are strongly of opinion that if the Great Councils of Scotland would take similar action it would have great weight with the Government. They are also convinced that such a step would have the whole-hearted support of the householders in urban areas whose incomes are limited and who are suffering seriously from the present unfortunate economic War conditions.

The situation as regards food supplies is becoming more and more critical and it is incumbent upon all public representative bodies to encourage the Government to prevent needless privations and hardship. A suggested form of resolution is annexed and the Executive will be pleased to hear that your Council have adopted it and forwarded copies to the Members of the Government and the Food Controller.

I am,
Yours faithfully,

W. J. Allison Secy.

Circular Letter from the Scottish Permissive Bill and Temperance Association about suspending the manufacture and sale of alcoholic drinks in order to preserve grain supplies during time of War, 24 April 1917

Hard Vrocht Grun Project

Bundle 1

William Murison Esq.
County Buildings
Aberdeen

REV. R. GOODWILLIE
18 OCT 1918
STRICHEN, N.B.
ABERDEEN

Dear Mr. Murison,
17th October, 1918.

I tender you my heartiest thanks for the trouble you have taken and the help you have procured for poor Helen McCombie. She is indeed a poor creature, and her child is sickly and in a pining condition. I got Dr Trail to take up the case of her child and shall see to it that she is not charged for his attendance. I have very much appreciated the careful attention you have given to every case about which I have had occasion to trouble you. I am confident your best reward is the consciousness that you have relieved people in some distress.

It looks as if we were now in sight of the end of the Great War, and we shall all be very much relieved and gladdened when a just and permanent peace has been obtained among the nations.

May I trouble you further by asking your opinion and advice in regard to a matter of Food Supply, with which you are closely connected? As you probably know, I have in addition to the glebe here a small holding of 26 acres of rented land which has been cultivated by the minister here for upwards of a century.

When instructions were given to grow grain as largely as possible to ensure our food supply, my plots were all in grass and I at once broke them up, and they have done well. Now, however, if the food supply were not so urgent, I would in the ordinary course grow turnips or other roots; but if there is still great need for grain, my ground would easily carry another oat crop without requiring special cleaning.

I am appealing to you therefore for guidance as to whether in the interests of our national well-being I should take oats or roots from the ground next year, and I shall be obliged if you will kindly inform me whether in your opinion the former or the latter appears to be the more urgent.

Excuse me for all the trouble I am giving you, and believe me

Yours sincerely
R. Goodwillie

Letter from Rev. R. Goodwillie in Strichen to the Aberdeen County Clerk asking for advice on the most appropriate crops to grow for the War effort on his small holding, 17 October 1918

Any further communication should be addressed to—
THE UNDER-SECRETARY FOR SCOTLAND,
and the following Number should be quoted:—
1251.
CIRCULAR No. 1251.
25478 AH/115.
County Clerks Office
31 JUL 1918
ABERDEEN
SCOTTISH OFFICE, WHITEHALL, S.W. 1.
30th July, 1918.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary for Scotland to say that he is informed that the Deputy Director of Labour Supply, Scottish Region Headquarters, Ministry of National Service is addressing a letter to local authorities requesting them if practicable to release temporarily men in their employment who have had experience in agriculture or similar work in order that they may assist in getting in the harvest. At the present time it is unnecessary to emphasize the importance of securing as much outside assistance as can possibly be given for this purpose and the Secretary for Scotland trusts that every effort will be made to meet the request of the Deputy Director of Labour Supply.

This letter may be taken as a general sanction to the employment of the police on harvest work on the understanding that while so employed they remain under the control of the Chief Constable and that he has the first call on them. The Chief Constable may in the Secretary for Scotland's opinion properly certify work of this nature as "approved service" in terms of Section 4 of the Police (Scotland) Act 1890, and the police authority will be justified in regarding it as police duty in terms of Sections 1 and 2 of the same Act.

I am to add that if a Constable is so employed he should receive his police pay as usual, subject to the usual rateable deductions for pension purposes. Any wage for his agricultural work should be paid by the employer to the police authority, who will no doubt have regard, in disposing of any surplus over the police pay, to the terms of Section 16 (1) (d) of the Police (Scotland) Act, 1890.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

The County Clerk.
The Town Clerk.

Circular letter from the Scottish Office regarding the release of men employed by local authorities to assist in harvest work, 30 July 1918

Telephone: Central 4122.
Telegrams: "Naikity, Cent., London."

Any reply should be addressed to—
THE DIRECTOR,
NATIONAL KITCHENS DIVISION,
and refer to No.

MINISTRY OF FOOD,
4, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

County Clerks Office
24 JUL 1918
ABERDEEN

E.C. 4.
July 22nd, 1918.

Sir,

NATIONAL KITCHENS.

Adverting to previous circular communications on the subject of the establishment of National Kitchens, the Minister of Food desires to remind Local Authorities in Scotland of the powers conferred upon them by Order dated February 1918, and to request their early and earnest consideration of the matter. Over 500 National Kitchens have so far been inaugurated and the results have fully justified their introduction. That National Kitchens can be made self-supporting, if they are conceived on proper business lines has been fully proved and the national circumstances bearing on the supply and distribution of food make it specially necessary that Local Authorities should, as a matter of immediate concern not only to their constituents but in the national interests avail themselves of the powers granted to them. The rationing of coal and gas in Scotland adds to the desirability and urgency for Local Authorities acting in this matter, and I am to express the hope that your Local Authority will, at the earliest possible moment take the whole matter into their careful consideration. It has been abundantly proved that great national good can be secured through the agency of National Kitchens and the Minister of Food makes a strong appeal to Local Authorities to extend and develop this important branch of the Food Control arrangements in their respective Districts.

The experience which has been gained in those districts where National Kitchens have been established will be most helpful to Local Authorities and all necessary advice and assistance will be readily and willingly made available by the Department who are in a position through their experts, to advise on technical matters relating to the

Circular letter from the Director of National Kitchens making the case for Local Authorities to set up communal kitchens to contribute to the War effort, 22 July 1918

ABERDEEN
SCOTTISH OFFICE, WHITEHALL, S.W. 1.
30th July, 1918.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary for Scotland to say that he is informed that the Deputy Director of Labour Supply, Scottish Region Headquarters, Ministry of National Service is addressing a letter to local authorities requesting them if practicable to release temporarily men in their employment who have had experience in agriculture or similar work in order that they may assist in getting in the harvest. At the present time it is unnecessary to emphasize the importance of securing as much outside assistance as can possibly be given for this purpose and the Secretary for Scotland trusts that every effort will be made to meet the request of the Deputy Director of Labour Supply.

Extract from circular letter from Scottish Office regarding the release of Servicemen for harvest work, 30 July 1918

Hard Vrocht Grun Project

Bundle 1

County Clerk's Office
31 JUL 1918
ABERDEEN

MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SERVICE,
Scottish Headquarters,
Royal (Dick) College,
Summerhall,
EDINBURGH.

29th July 1918.

William Murison, Esq.,
County Clerk,
ABERDEEN.

Sir,

You are no doubt aware that in consequence of the decision of the Army Council that no soldier labour is this year to be available to assist in the corn harvest that a serious position has arisen in Scotland. It is clear that immediate steps require to be taken to reinforce agricultural labour if the harvest is to be secured. The position has for some time been, and is at present engaging the full attention of the Labour Supply Officials of the Ministry at Scottish Headquarters, and steps have already been taken towards supplementing the serious shortage.

I beg to enclose for the immediate consideration of your Authority a summary of a letter which has been issued by the Ministry of National Service in London to various Local and Police Authorities County and Municipal Corporations in England.

The undertaking of the Ministry of National Service therein mentioned is applicable also in Scotland, and it is earnestly hoped that, if possible, men in the employment of the Authorities mentioned who can be dispensed with for a short time may be rendered available in order to assist in this urgent work.

The names and addresses of the Local Sub-Commissioners in the 14 Agricultural Districts of Scotland are appended to this letter, and it is requested that you will communicate what you can do in this matter to the Sub-Commissioner in charge of your District.

I am addressing a copy of this letter to each of the Chief Constables and Town and County Clerks in Scotland.

The Scottish Office has been communicated with in regard to this letter, and the Secretary for Scotland has been invited to back the appeal which is now being made.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Alex. MacCune
Deputy Director of Labour Supply,
Scottish Region.

County Clerk's Office
31 JUL 1918
ABERDEEN

SUMMARY OF LETTER REFERRED TO:

The letter referred to above was issued by this Ministry Headquarters in London upon 2nd July 1918 to various Corporations and Police & Local Authorities in England.

It drew attention to the importance of moving by every means the very large acreage which is under crop this year; and, with that object, of obtaining the services of every available man. The hope therefore was expressed that all Corporations, and Police and Local Authorities, who had men in their employment not absolutely indispensable would free such men for a limited time for employment in the harvest field.

To prevent these public bodies being losers by the temporary diversion of their employees to this urgent national work the Ministry of National Service was prepared - and in the case of public bodies and Authorities in Scotland it is prepared:-

- (1) To make a grant to the Corporation to the extent of the difference between the wage earned in agricultural work, and the wage paid by the Corporation;
- (2) To refund to the Corporation any expenses incurred in regard to granting an allowance to a man in cases where his board and lodging is not provided by his agricultural employer, such allowance not to exceed 15/- a week, due regard being had to the variations in prices in localities.
- (3) The Ministry will refund any expenses incurred by the Corporation in railway fares, 2nd class, and public conveyances, taking an employee to and from a farm at the beginning and end of his job. No other railway warrants will be issued, and no further expenses and charges will be admissible.

County Clerk's Office
31 JUL 1918
ABERDEEN

NATIONAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT (Scottish Region)
List of Sub-Commissioners for Agriculture.

District No.	Area.	Name.	Address.
1.	Ayr & Wigtown.	John Howie.	58 Alloway Street, Ayr
2.	Dumfries & Kirkcudbright.	J. Maxwell Gray.	15 Bank Street, Dumfries
3.	Roxburgh, Berwick & Selkirk.	C. J. Stoddart.	Ellerslie, Melrose.
4.	Lothians & Peebles.	R. Barclay Alison.	90 Princes Street, Edinburgh.
5.	Leith & Dumbarton.	W. E. Whyte.	County Buildings, 140 Ingram Street, Glasgow
6.	Renfrew, Bute & Southern Argyllshire, including Islay & Jura.	Robert Dunlop.	156 St. Vincent Street Glasgow.
7.	Stirling, West Perth & Clackmannan.	J. W. Burns.	61 High Street, Falkirk
8.	Fife & Kinross.	Beilie Mackie.	19 North Street, Leven
9.	East Perth & Forfar.	Benj. Main.	1 King Edward Street, Perth.
10.	Aberdeen & Mearns.	A. Sands.	8 Golden Square, Aberdeen.
11.	Banff, Elgin & Nairn.	L. F. Davidson.	York House, Cullen.
12.	Inverness, Ross & Cromarty.	Geo. F. Sinclair.	4 Tulloch Street, Dingwall.
13.	Sutherland, Caithness, Orkney & Shetland Islands.	J. Storer Clouston.	Smoo Grove House, Orkney.
14.	Northern Argyllshire & Western Islands, including Mull & Skye.	W. E. Malcolm.	66 High Street, Fort William.

Scottish Office letter re councils labour for harvest 30 July 1918