

# War Food Communique No. 1

MEAT RATIONING TO BEGIN ON OR ABOUT FEBRUARY 1, 1943.

You are called to action in the Nation-wide Meat campaign.

This is a message you are asked to carry to your neighbors:

## FOOD IS A WEAPON OF WAR!

In spite of the fact our meat supply is the greatest in history, it will not be enough to meet the needs of our armed forces both at home and abroad, the needs of our fighting Allies, and the total civilian demands.

Facing these facts, the Food Requirements Committee of The War Production Board has determined that the amount of meat going to civilians must be restricted. Accordingly, deliveries from packers to civilian outlets were restricted as of October 1, 1942, in anticipation of rationing at a later date. However, rationing machinery requires several months. In the meantime, we are asked voluntarily to share the meat so that all citizens will be able to get fair portion.

This is essential now and will also prepare the homemaker for actual rationing. We must see that our meat supplies last throughout the year. It has been calculated that the fair share of meat for each able-bodied person over 12 years of age is 2½ pounds per person per week (for each child under 6, ¾ pound per week, and for each child 6 to 12, 1½ pounds per week is allowed). That includes all meals eaten at home, in somebody else's home, or in a restaurant.

Meat to be shared includes all retail cuts from pork, beef, veal, lamb, and mutton carcasses, sausage, and canned meats made from these limited meats. It is figured "bone in" and "fat on".

Your Government is asking you to help instruct and guide civilians to hold their consumption to their allotted share voluntarily.

The program is not one that calls on everyone to cut the use of meat. It calls for reduction only by those who have been accustomed to eating more than 2½ pounds per person per week. No one expects families who are consuming below that amount to cut their consumption.

## The why of sharing.

1. **IT IS PATRIOTIC TO SHARE.**—Our Fighting men must have meat; they come first. Our fighting Allies—who now have much less meat than will be provided for us—must also have meat. Self-discipline by civilians, staying within the allowance set, will provide the meat for Number One war needs.

2. **IT IS FAIR TO SHARE.**—Unless people who can go early to the store and the public dining place hold down their purchases, those who come late in the day or the meal period will find no meat. Many of the housewives in war work cannot get to the meat shop until the end of the day. It is unfair to ask workers to bear the whole brunt of sharing with our fighting men and our Allies. It is fair for all to share and share alike.

3. **IT IS WISE TO SHARE.**—By limiting our consumption of meat now we can be sure that we will have an adequate supply of meat to last us throughout the year.

## What the family is to do.

For Housewives the problem is one for individual solution.

Families who are accustomed to using more than 2½ pounds of meat per person per week may prefer:

1. A meatless day;
2. Meatless meals;
3. Reduced portions served at several or all meals of the week; or
4. Combinations of these methods.

They will take care to:

1. Get the most from the meat they buy, and fight seen and unseen wastes all the way from the butcher's block to the table.
2. Learn to stretch meat flavor by combining small quantities of meat with other foods.
3. Be open-minded about different cuts of meat and learn the best uses for each cut the market offers.
4. Use more of the meats not included in the sharing program—the Variety meats such as kidney, tongue, sweetbreads, liver, or brains; the tails and feet. Fish and poultry also are not restricted.
5. Call on eggs, cheese, peanuts, dry beans, soybeans. Like meat, these foods make a good basis for stick-to-the-ribs dishes.

A family which regularly consumes no more than 2½ pounds of meat per person will still find interesting the suggestions as to alternative and supplement foods.

**WILL YOU HELP !!!**

**Madison Civilian Defense Council.**