

INTER-OFFICE MEMO

TO: Mr. Jones

FROM: Mrs. Cooke

Bennington College
June 15, 1945

Re: Food

In checking with New York City this day by telephone I have secured the following information about the meat situation. The W.P.B., as you no doubt know, has ordered all wholesalers to deliver all meat and poultry first to hospitals. Mr. George Schaefer who sits on the N. Y. Board tells me that they do not have meat and poultry in most of the best and well-known houses to deliver to hospitals much less to institutions such as ours. He said that if I wanted to make a trip to New York, I no doubt could buy chickens at 75¢ to \$1.00 a pound and prices comparable for meats. Most of this merchandise is not safe for consumption and is of course being sold above ceiling prices, and I would not consider buying this type of merchandise. Therefore the picture is no meat or poultry until after the first of September in any quantity.

What I propose to do during the four weeks the College will be closed is to serve breakfast to our kitchen employees and luncheon to the kitchen employees and office staff - the luncheon to be soup, salad, rolls, no butter, ice cream and very little sugar for iced drinks. In this way I can conserve what little butter and sugar we will have left at the close of this semester.

I trust you understand I am doing my best under very trying conditions and that you will agree with this policy for the four weeks after graduation. By using wisely what I now have left of meat, I feel we can get through the next few weeks.

This note is meant only as a guidance for you in case you should hear any criticism of our Dining Halls operation. I know you understand and I am grateful for your understanding of the situation but feel you should have the facts in case the students return in August and find still no meat on their tables and begin to ask questions.