

Two Food Items:

Issue of Fruit Juice and Cod Liver Oil for Young Children

From 8th December onwards the Ministry of Food will make available supplies of fruit juice (blackcurrant syrup and puree, and later orange juice) and cod liver oil compound for all children born after 1st January, 1940.

To begin with the supplies will be issued free, but the scheme, which is in some respects experimental, will be reviewed before the end of March 1942, and a charge may thereafter be made to parents.

The aim of this scheme is to ensure that the development of young children shall not suffer from any inadequacy in the daily intake of Vitamins A and C owing to the difficulties of war-time feeding. The fruit juice will take the place of fresh orange juice which was as widely given to infants before the war, but of which supplies cannot be guaranteed in present circumstances.

Children over two do not need this special provision of fruit juice because an ordinary diet containing potatoes and fresh vegetables will provide all the vitamin C which they require. It is hoped that the issue of cod liver oil compound may be extended to all holders of the green Child's Ration Book shortly after the introduction of the scheme.

The Ministry of Health is co-operating in the distribution by making the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres available as issuing points. Full particulars as to how to obtain the fruit juice and Cod Liver Oil will be announced towards the end of this month.

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ORANGES FOR CHILDREN

From today, November 11, supplies of oranges for holders of the Child's Ration Book (R.B.2) will be available in shops in the following counties:- Devon, Cornwall, Somerset, Wiltshire, Gloucester, Hereford and South Worcester.

The supplies are sufficient for the issue of 1 lb. per head to each holder of the Child's Ration Book. Retailers are required to reserve supplies for holders of this book for one week.