
Summary:

Professor KAKINUMA recommends that even crickets and grasshoppers be pulverized and rationed as food. He states that malnutrition is due to undernourishment quantitatively as well as qualitatively. In the present war it was first noticed amongst Japanese soldiers on the Chinese front, who showed signs of dysentery, had fever attacks, and grew thin. They were first treated for dysentery, malaria and tuberculosis. Then malnutrition was recognized.

Malnutrition further causes atrophy of the organs, swelling of the limbs, general fatigue and eventually causes death. Cases of sickness due to malnutrition were noticed in the Tokyo Imperial University Hospital ward two years ago, and an increase was noticed during April and May of last year; conditions this spring could not be ascertained due to air raids. A patient of malnutrition will, in some instances, go to the pantry at night to steal food, but it will do him no good, as his condition will not allow digestion. Malnutrition cannot be combated by giving a person only one good meal a day. The present system of rationing; issuing only sweet potatoes for ten days, and the next ten days only beans, will not erase malnutrition.

The professor declares he has subsisted on government rations only, and as a result lost weight from 20 Kans to 10 Kans (75 kilos to 66 kilos) and recently has had dizzy spells. He then suggests that special care he taken to increase the albumen content in rationing, as a measure to combat malnutrition. Albumen is contained in marrow bone and sardines. Any fish head or bone will do. He suggests that even grasshoppers, crickets and locusts be pulverized and rationed in order to combat malnutrition.


Summary:

Seeing a picture of General Tojo in the Omori War Criminals Prison, the first thought may be: "Look at him, eating a big fish, much better than our food!"

Recently, the Food Department of Tokyo received a petition from the inmates of the detention camp for better food. According to this petition, the inmates at first received foreign food from the American Occupation Forces, but, since 3 October, the food changed to Japanese food. This food was considered by the inmates as "Bad beyond endurance!" They wish to have "Foreign food, as before, with occasional Japanese meal from outside!"