

(b) *From the Thirty Years' War to the Present.*

As a result of the Thirty Years' War, the regulations which had been adopted for the control of traffic in food stuffs as well as so many other of the conquests of civilization were lost. In this connection it is instructive to read a letter of Johann Georg, published at Annaburg, February 13, 1654:

"To the Rentkammervorwalter at Naumburg. Faithful Friend,—Since I have been dutifully informed that in the majority of the cities of our principality there is a lack of slaughter houses and abattoirs, that part of them have been ruined and destroyed by war, but that in the majority of places they have not been rebuilt, therefore, it is said that there is much improper and corrupt practice with regard to food animals, much injustice and self-seeking. It is suspected also that there is extensive fraud in the estimation of the price of meat. We can not overlook this any longer, since abattoirs and slaughter houses should pay a certain annual tax to the cities, and this has not occurred in the cities of Naumburg and Zeitz up to the present time.

"Therefore, we command you by the authority of this letter to lay this matter before the councils of the cities and to ascertain from them whether they intend to institute and erect slaughter houses and how soon."

In a second rescript of July 15, 1654, it is ordered "to buy or rent at least one slaughter house, since many less prosperous and small cities and localities have made a beginning in the erection of such structures."

There were but few other ordinances which had reference to traffic in meat. An edict of the council at Aachen of April 8, 1664, fixed the price for different kinds of meat, forbade the sale of cow meat as steer meat, and prescribed that "since horned and other food animals (as, unfortunately, is well known) sometimes die, no such diseased or infected animals shall be slaughtered, sold, or held for sale, and all unclean and foul-smelling meat" shall be excluded from the market.

Moreover, the slaughter ordinances in Rostock, 1699, should be mentioned, in which the slaughter and sale of animals which had been bitten by dogs was forbidden. Furthermore, it was forbidden that mangy, dropsical sheep, or those affected with pox, or which had defects in the internal organs, should be brought to slaughter or offered for sale. Likewise the sale of measly hogs was forbidden.

A second general ordinance was passed in Mecklenburg concerning meat inspection in 1710. According to this ordinance, regularly appointed inspectors in cities were required to see that no butchers slaughtered or sold any unsound animals. In case