

FOOD BANK'S NOT A FROST.

You wouldn't think it was a bank at first sight. But it is; for food only. Malcolm Warrell had the idea, knowing that many of his Berkshire neighbours would like to deposit poultry, game, mutton and beef, to be kept in cold storage and drawn out by a new sort of cheque. Anything received over the counter is taken to the strong-room; not the usual kind full of money, but a refrigerated vault, where it's forty below freezing. Most of the folk about here are either farmers or landowners, only too glad to have the storage problem taken over by someone else. The bank will accept poultry, etc., dead or alive, and where necessary prepare it for cold storage. When the customer wants it he (or she) writes a cheque, and that's that.

As fast as some draw out, others pay in. Any risk of reappearing as sausage, a dog has to take.

As with all national savings there'll be heavy withdrawals just now. Beautifully dressed lobster, for example. Also decked out for Christmas, a fine salmon trout. Quite a bank. Wonder if they'd consider an overdraft; say, a dozen turkeys, or a side of beef?