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The Daily Mail

THE WEATHER
Light to moderate winds
fair with not much change in
temperature today and tomor-
row.

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FREDERICTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24, 1921

TWO CENTS PER COPY

COFFIN MAKERS IN THE UNITED STATES HAVE REAPED MILLIONS IN EXTORTIONATE PROFITS

GOVT. TO EXPOSE CONSPIRATORS

Coffins Which Cost \$30 Have Been Sold for \$600—Profiteering Was Begun During the War and is Continued Despite Reduced Costs—The Poor Mulcted Heavily.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 24—Coffin makers and distributors, who have reaped millions of dollars in extortionate profits from the bereaved, are facing imprisonment.

The government has uncovered enough evidence against the conspirators to warrant indictments in a score of large cities. Among the defendants will be undertakers as well as manufacturers.

The Department of Justice has found in a quiet investigation that probably the most vicious form of extortion yet disclosed among profiteers is being practiced systematically by the makers of coffins.

Some of the amazing examples show that in some cities undertakers have not discriminated in their extortions. The charges are that in numerous instances undertakers have cold bloodedly "soaked" the poor in prices so excessive that relatives of the dead have lost their own homes in foreclosures of mortgages by grasping undertakers. Many of these examples have come to light from New York.

Profits Big.

The records show that a large number of undertakers in New York need only two funerals a month to keep in business at a good profit. Officials said that this condition prevails elsewhere and especially in the larger cities.

It is declared that the evidence in hand shows that the leading coffin manufacturers are in a conspiracy to fix prices so unreasonably high and by methods that are completely destructive of competition that prosecutions can be waged successfully in the Federal Courts under the Sherman anti-trust laws.

The frauds are said to be of such magnitude that practically no part of the country is free from the grasping tenacles of the "coffin trust," and bereaved persons contracting for funeral arrangements are literally at the mercy of the "trust" and its affiliated agencies, running all the way down to the undertaker.

The Federal Trade Commission is making an inquiry into the costs of the coffin industry as a supplementary step in the other investigations which are drawing to a close at the Department of Justice. The Department has now enough proof to go before grand juries when the autumn terms of the Federal courts are resumed.

Coffins Sell at \$600

The facts discovered by department investigators has evoked what officials regard as the most shocking sample yet discovered of profiteering, that cannot be justified upon either moral or legal grounds.

Coffins that are manufactured in factories at \$30 are being sold by undertakers for as high as \$600, according to the substantial charges now before the department. Coffins of the inexpensive type, made at a cost of about \$20, are sold and are charged up in funeral accounts at a cost of between \$300 and \$400.

Municipalities Union.

The meeting of the Union of Municipalities held in St. John today is being attended by Warden T. C. Everett, of Kingsclear, Coun. E. H. Allen, of Marysville; Robert Graham, of Prince William and County Solicitor C. D. Richards of this city. These men represent the Municipality of the County of York, and in addition to them Aldermen Frank L. Cooper and George Clark will leave tomorrow morning to attend tomorrow's session. The conference opens today but the majority of the business will be transacted tomorrow.

GUIDES TO HAVE BIG TIME AT MARYSVILLE

Will be Formally Opened at Marysville Tomorrow—Annual Picnic and Tournament.

The annual picnic and tournament of the New Brunswick Guides' Association will be formally opened at Marysville tomorrow. Arrangements have been just about completed and a particularly entertaining program has been arranged for. One of the most interesting displays will be that given by Frank Davis, of the Dominion Arms Co., of Canada, who only last week won the rifle, revolver and shotgun championship of Canada. Demonstrations will be given each day by this professional crack shot, and his exhibition will be particularly interesting to the many in this vicinity who enjoy sport of this nature.

Sheriff Smith, of Yarmouth, N. S., and several other good amateur shots from the same place will be present to take part in the various competitions. There will also be several well known riflemen from St. John who will enter in the open events, it is said.

Tomorrow's programme includes rifle shooting over a 150 yard range and shooting at the running deer targets. These events are open to guides only. Twenty two calibre rifle shooting and trapshooting will also be carried on tomorrow and these events are open to all comers.

In the evening the Fredericton Brass Band will give a concert and there will be speeches by several prominent personages, as well as quartettes and other musical numbers. All the entertainments will be given out of doors.

The baseball game between Marysville and the St. John Commercials in the evening will be one of the features. On Friday the Marysville team plays the Y. M. C. A. team and on Saturday afternoon they will again play the Commercials. Tomorrow's game is scheduled to start at 6.30 daylight saving time.

J. Harold MacMurray, of this city, the Secretary of the New Brunswick Guides Association, has arrangements well in hand and one of the finest displays of prizes to be seen for some time is on exhibition in the up town window of the MacMurray Book and Stationery Company.

AN HONOR FOR BATTENBURG

London, Aug. 24—King George has bestowed a unique honor on his uncle, the Marquis of Milford-Haven, (formerly Prince Louis of Battenburg) by promoting him to be Admiral of the Fleet on the retired list.

There is no previous case of such an advancement of an officer to the highest rank in the navy after the officer's retirement.

The Marquis, who was First Sea Lord of the Admiralty in 1914, when the world war began, resigned after the fleet had been mobilized and distributed for its war service under his direction.

Board of Health Meeting

A joint meeting of the Boards of Health of the Counties of Victoria, Carleton, Sunbury, York and the City of Fredericton was held this morning. The Minister of Health Hon. Dr. Roberts was present. The meeting was held with reference to an improved service of medical inspection in the public schools. The meeting was very harmonious and successful and the Minister presented his views on the subject. It is probable that an improved service will be put in operation at the beginning of the coming school year. The details of this improvement will be announced later.

SEIN FEINERS ARE READY TO RESUME FIGHTING AT THE DROP OF THE HAT

Are Under the Impression That They Can Dictate Terms to Great Britain—The Black and Tans Would Prefer Peace—The Irish Situation Appears to Be Up in the Air.

Dublin, Aug. 24—The Irish Republican army is ready to resume fighting at the drop of the hat. The Black and Tans are not quite so willing. During the week-end a correspondent here saw two typical groups representative of the two sides. The Black and Tans drove to a seaside resort at Bray without uniforms or arms and held a celebration at the bar of a hotel which it would have been sure death to enter without arms last month.

Ten miles away in Enniskerry a typical Irish party of men, women and children gathered at a little cross-roads hotel and sang for all the world to hear, including the local commander of the Royal Irish Constabulary one of the most belligerent Irish Republican army songs "Active Service Means Being on the Run."

"What's the difference when the whole countryside is filled with your friends?" said one Irish Republican army soldier. The Black and Tans on the other hand are revelling in the opportunity to go about without fear of sudden death.

THINK THEY WON THE WAR

This condition of affairs may have an important bearing on the peace prospects. It has already flavored the atmosphere at the Mansion House with the dangerous belief that the Irish Republican army won the war and sits in the attitude of dictating peace to England. The saner leaders however realize the futility of that attitude and as far as can be learned the entire course of their week end conferences was devoted to finding a decent exit from their extreme position.

The extreme willingness of their followers to go to the mat again and fight it out with England still may be an important factor, however, and with these youngsters telling the leaders to "Stand firm", their reply to Premier Lloyd George may be such that neither the present nor any other British Government would be able to accept it, despite the fact that both sides believe that the way out is now perfectly clear if Sinn Fein will only assume that Ireland's nationhood has been implicitly recognized and that a free Ireland is willing to grant to Great Britain certain privileges.

A BASEBALL MEETING AT MARYSVILLE

A baseball meeting was held at Marysville last evening and was attended by the various managers of the clubs and officials of the League.

The chief matter to come before the meeting was with reference to the disposition of the cup offered this season by James S. Neill and Sons. At the time the trophy was presented it was thought by most of the clubs that it would be for the one year only. Recently, however, certain of the clubs are attempting to substantiate a claim that the trophy is a three year one. Nothing definite was done with regard to the matter last evening but the various managers are to talk it over with their teams, and another meeting will be called in the future at which they will report. Should the clubs vote a tie on the matter it will be left to the Executive to decide.

Another matter which was discussed was the claims of officials of the N. B. A. A. A., that certain fees are due before exhibition games can be played by any team of the league. It is stated that sanction will be given by provincial officials for the playing of one game on receipt of the fee of \$3.00. What arouses the curiosity of local officials is the fact that sanction for the playing of two exhibition games can be obtained for the sum of \$5.00, and it is said that a local club has received sanction for the playing of three games for the sum of \$6.00. It is understood that more definite information is to be secured regarding the payment of this money before it will be agreed to.

Have Become Wise.

A hotel clerk says that there is no easy money to be made out of American Tourists this year on the exchange rate. He says the Americans have caught on, and when they arrive in Canada they go to a bank and change their American money for Canadian and pocket the exchange themselves.

WILL BUILD AUTOMOBILES IN CANADA

The Parker Motor Car Co., Limited, headed by Sir Alexander Bertram, of Montreal, is looking over the field for a factory site. Two plants have already been considered, but a decision has not yet been made.

One of the sites is located at Longue Pointe and the other is that of the Canadian Motor and Machine Co. of Quebec City.

According to W. H. Parker, first vice-president of the company, it is proposed to build the Parker Six car and the Parker two ton truck.

"Our idea," said Mr. Parker, "is to put out a car that is built in Canada for Canadians. As soon as possible we want to see to it that every bolt and screw, every casting and die and every bit of work done on this car or any of its parts is strictly Canadian in character and paid for with Canadian money which will stay in Canada."

Mid Week Market.

The mid week market was not large this morning and prices remained at about their usual level. Large quantities of the meats were offered but buying seemed to be slow. There were also fairly large quantities of tomatoes. Prices were as follows:—Butter 40 to 45 cents per pound. Eggs 50 cents per dozen. Veal 8 to 12 cents per pound. Lamb 10 to 20 cents per pound. Mutton 9 to 13 cents per pound. Beef 8 to 10 cents per pound. Chicken 40 cents per pound. Fowl 30 cents per pound. Potatoes \$4.50 per barrel. Turnips \$1.50 per barrel. Green Tomatoes 35 cents per peck. Corn 20 cents per dozen. Yellow Bantam Corn 25 cents per dozen. Cabbage 10 cents per head.

Rumored Engagement.

It is rumored about the city that a popular employee in a downtown grocery and a charming young widow are contemplating matrimony, and that the event is to take place in the very near future.

PREMIER MEIGHEN HAS MADE A DECISION AND WILL ANNOUNCE IT SOME TIME IN SEPTEMBER

DEVON BIRD STILL LEADS IN CONTEST

Lady Devon Has 205 Eggs to Her Credit—Celestial Queen Now in Second Place.

The hens taking part in the egg laying contest at the Fredericton Experimental Station produced 721 eggs last week, the 42nd week of the contest, which is a very creditable showing for this time of year. A pen of Barred Rocks belonging to Miss Helen McEwan of Chatham led the field with 50 eggs. Mr. W. E. B. Tait's Barred Rocks securing second place with 45 and the Elmsville Poultry Club had third place with 43. The next in order were G. E. Wilson, Centreville, Barred Rocks, 42. Mrs. Geo. Danby, North Devon, White Wyandottes, 41. The production of the remaining pens ranged from 39 down to 25.

The total production of the twenty one pens to date is 27,044 eggs, which is thousands ahead of the yield in the contests going on in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec, and clearly proves that New Brunswick has the best laying hens in Eastern Canada.

There were some changes last week in the standing of the highest individual birds, although Lady Devon, a White Wyandotte belonging to Mrs. George Danby, of North Devon, still leads the field with a total of 205 eggs. Last week Princess Pat, another Wyandotte belonging to Mrs. Danby, was tied for second place with Celestial Queen, a Barred Rock hen owned by Allen and Ferguson of this city. Celestial Queen produced 6 eggs during the week, which puts her in second place with a total of 197 eggs. This hen, of course, is the leader among the Barred Rocks competing in the contest. Mrs. Danby has third place with 196, and Barred Rocks owned by D. Mersereau of Rusiagorish, the Invicta Farm of Oromocto and W. E. B. Tait, of Dorchester, are tied for fourth place with 194 each. A Barred Rock in the second Invicta Farm pen and another belonging to A. T. Reid of Rollingdam have 192 eggs each to their credit.

The Invicta Farm first pen still leads in the contest with a total of 1573 eggs, with Mr. Tait's pen second with 1541 and Mrs. Eveleigh's pen third with 1537 eggs. All three pens are composed of Barred Rocks.

BETTER BEER FOR BRITAIN

London, Aug. 24—Experiments are being carried out by the Institute of Brewing with a view to producing beer of better quality.

New varieties of hops are being sought and more than 4000 seedlings are being cultivated and tested for the qualities most desirable—disease resisting power and a higher content of the resinous substances to which beer owes its bitter and pleasant flavour.

Some of the experiments on the effect of fertilisers on the brewing value of the hops will not be completed for several years. In the meantime important tests will probably be begun at the next hop-picking season with four experimental kilns which have been designed to find the ideal conditions for drying hops.

Home From the West.

Miss Eliza Campbell of Kingsclear who has been on an extended trip to the west, returned home on Monday. She attended the meeting of the Federation of Women's Institutes at Edmonton and was reelected to the office of treasurer. Afterwards she visited Calgary, Saskatoon, Vancouver and Victoria. She returned home by the way of the Soo line and visited St. Paul, Minneapolis and St. Thomas. Miss Campbell met many former Frederictonians on her trip.

TO HOLD MEETINGS IN ONTARIO

Ottawa Opinion is That the Government Fears its Fate Too Much to Risk an Election—Brockville Liberals Place Man in Field for Sir Thomas White's Seat.

Ottawa, Aug. 23—Premier Meighen's decision is made. He knows whether the general election will be held shortly or deferred until it has to be held. He will announce his decision at the first of a series of Ontario meetings to be undertaken shortly, probably at Milton, Ont., early in September. Until then no one will know officially what will happen.

Fears Its Fate.

But the opinion in Ottawa circles that the government fears its fate too much to brave the electorate amounts to moral certainty. It is based as well on memories of members losing their indemnities, or specious pleading in the past why the electorate should not be consulted and of the clever casuistry by which Premier Meighen has in the past endeavored to make the worse appear the better cause.

Senator Bradbury's statement in Winnipeg reflects the opinion of a small influential group of senators, cabinet ministers and financial friends who believe in an early election, but the impression given your correspondent in response to inquiries is that it does not represent the decision actually made. It is safe to say that there will not be a general election in the near future.

Brockville Liberals.

Brockville, Ont., Aug. 23—Amasa W. Mallory, of Mallorytown, a leading farmer and cheese manufacturer of Leeds county, today was chosen unanimously by the Liberals of Brockville and Leeds riding in convention as the standard bearer of the Liberal party at the next election.

Names placed in nomination included those of Mr. Mallory, M. B. Holmes, Reeve of Athens; Hon. Geo. P. Graham, A. C. Hardy and James E. McGlade. All retired except Mr. Holmes, and when the ballots were counted it was found Mr. Mallory led by over 200. The nomination was then made unanimous on motion of Mr. Holmes. The convention was called "to nominate a candidate for the next election," and whether it will be a by or general election Mr. Mallory will be the candidate. All of the nominees spoke briefly as did also Fred F. Pardee, M. P., for West Lambton.

Hon. Mr. King to Speak.

Ottawa, Aug. 23—Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberal party, left tonight, accompanied by Andrew Hayden, general secretary of Liberal organization, for Windsor, where on Thursday he will begin a series of meetings covering western Ontario.

Mr. King was to be joined in Toronto by Hon. Dr. H. S. Beland and other speakers who will accompany him on the tour.

At the Gaiety.

House Peters and Jane Novak are featured in The Trail's End, a pictorialization of James Oliver Curwood's novel Isobel, at the Gaiety Wednesday and Thursday. It is a story of life in the far north. Peters has the role of a sergeant of the Northwest Mounted Police, who falls in love with the wife of the man whom he has been ordered to take dead or alive. Tense action is promised in the unfolding of this triangle story.

Enroute Home.

Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Belyea are in the city for a few days the guests of Mrs. Belyea's mother Mrs. Waycott. They are on their way to Edmonton having closed their summer home at Browns Flats.