

People Pay Through Nose For Necessities of Life

Food Controller Hanna Says He Cannot Fix Prices Without Ruining the Middlemen--The Wage Earners Must Stand the Scorching--Bacon Higher in Canada Than in the U. S.--Flavelle Getting Back the Money Contributed to the Boodle Fuud in 1911.

(By H. F. Gadsby.)

Ottawa, Oct. 6. — The general opinion at the capital is that Food Controller Hanna is a clear thinker, but not a prompt doer. What the public wants is somebody who will fix prices, not a temporizer who feeds us from time to time with beautifully worded essays on the Duty of Starvation.

Food Controller Hanna's latest statement is that he cannot fix the prices of the staple articles of food without ruining a host of middlemen in every village, town, city and hamlet in Canada. This is an exaggeration. The middlemen will stand a little ruining. They use the war as an excuse for making the people pay through the nose for the necessities of life. Their interest in the war is a means of getting rich quick. They are in no hurry to have it end. Food Controller Hanna doesn't want to ruin

these gentlemen, who could be docked of fifty per cent. of their profits and still have a fat thing. He prefers to ruin the large army of consumers, the toilers in shops and factories, at counters and office desks, the wage-earners who do not share in this artificial war prosperity which Big Business is now enjoying. Food Controller Hanna's idea is that these are the people who ought to suffer.

The Main Factors.

Food Controller Hanna's high analytical mind finds that seven main factors govern the present prices of food. These seven main factors Mr. Hanna places before the public in his usual crisp way and puts up as good a case as can be expected of a man who seeks to make the worse appear the better reason. The Food Controller has stated the premises correctly but his conclusions are all wrong. His seven main factors are no news to the public at large. All Food Controller Hanna has done as a clear thinker is to make them a little clearer. Logic, misapplied at that, is not what the people ask from Mr. Hanna—not logic but action. Little thanks are due to Mr. Hanna for telling us seven things that we knew quite well before. What Food Controller Hanna is asked to do is to remedy a condition, not inform us it exists. All the logic that Food Controller Hanna has in his system is no answer to the fact that bacon sells for thirty-eight cents a pound in Detroit and fifty-five cents a pound in Toronto, which is Sir Joseph Flavelle's home town.

Unrestrained Competition.

Food Controller Hanna mentions as one of the seven factors the unrestrained competition between the great foreign buyers of food stuffs in our markets. This factor has already been investigated by the Trades and Labor Congress, which has suggested from time to time that the army needs be met first, the home needs be met second, and that then the surplus shall be available for export. It should not be the privilege of the food profiteer who squeezes the home market in times of peace to desert it for a more

remunerative market in times of war. In return for his fat graft in normal times he has a duty to sell the public what they need at reasonable prices in time of crisis.

What Should Be Done.

A competent Department of Agriculture at Ottawa would know to the last pound what was the production of Canada, and would regulate its disposal equally among those who have claims being taken in the order of their importance. A competent Department of Agriculture would see to it that the surplus production in one province was available in another where shortage exists. If it was mind-ing its own business, one of its first duties would be to equalize the distribution throughout Canada and put the kibosh on No. 3 of Food Controller Hanna's objections to doing anything about it. But the Department of Agriculture, which has as its minister a fox-trotter, a golfer and a social butterfly, seems to have overlooked this little matter. As for the Borden Government generally it has the C.N.R. deal to pull off, which aims to loot the country of \$200,000,000 and it can't afford the time to put a little pep into the Hon. Mr. Burrell and his associates.

Food Controller Hanna mentions very briefly both in his text and in his exposition of the subject, the food speculator. Sir Joseph Flavelle, the chief friend and backer of the Borden Government, the man who gave a million dollars to the Tory campaign fund in 1911, with the full assurance of getting it back a hundredfold, out of the bacon and egg eaters of Canada—Sir Joseph Flavelle is the archetype of the food speculator. In him stand up all the qualities that make the food speculator the biggest hog on earth. Sir Joseph not only collects two profits on the bacon he sells to the British army, and what is equivalent to four profits on the bacon he sells to us poor people at home, but he hides his Canadian profits away as "rest funds" and his English profits as "commissions" and dodges the war tax in both countries.

Sir Joseph is a food speculator. He is not only a food speculator in Canada, but a food speculator in England. And he does it all under the shelter of the Borden Government, Finance Minister White being his man Friday, and letting him dodge what taxes he pleases. To curry favor with the great man, Finance Minister White only the other day did all he could to take the tax off the war profiteer and put it on the little fellow who is earning three thousand dollars a year and having a hard time to keep his head above water. Sir Joseph is not only a food speculator in two continents, but rumor has it that he is a munition speculator both in Canada and the United States, where he gets his bit in several companies which have him as a sleeping partner. Sir Joseph, his bank and his trust company are also interested in the C.N.R. deal, the object of which is to make Canada pay two hundred million dollars more for a railway which it owns already. This is one of the reasons why the Borden Government goes on stacking the cards in order to win the election. It has got to get back to see the thing through.

Food Controller Hanna promises to issue statements from time to time giving further reasons why he doesn't dare to disturb present prices. Evidently Food Controller Hanna believes in the east wind as a nourishing diet. At any rate that is all Canada has got from him so far or has any chance of getting from him in the future.

The Fuel Question.

Fuel control is another joke. A hard winter is approaching. The rich people bought their coal at bottom prices in April. The coal companies, fostering an artificial scarcity, tell the poor people that they can't deliver coal now and that when they do it will be at top prices. There is more coal available in this North American continent now than there ever was, but that doesn't make any difference to the coal profiteers. Everybody's doing it, and they are going to have their share of the swag. Fuel Controller McGrath, though animated by the highest motives, has done nothing at all to alleviate the situation. One wonders if Canada wouldn't get more action from a Fuel Controller whose relations are not in the coal business.

Slants of Humor

SONG OF THE "SKIRT."

(Apologies to T. Hood.)
Knit, knit, knit!
Mary and Susie and Gert,
All the women with needles and yarn,
Knitting the soldier a shirt!
With fingers weary and worn,
Proudly they sit and knit,
It may be a jacket or sock,
It may be a muffler or mitt;
But all sing the song of the shirt,
Mother and sister and wife,
Sweetheart and aunt—they sit and they chant,
Knitting away for dear life.
"Knt, knit, knit!"
Our feelings you never must hurt;
It may look like a sock or a mitt,
But we'll have you know it's a shirt!"

ANATOMICALLY SPEAKING.

(Bloomington Ind., Telephone.)
Mrs. Ira C. Batman, who in a fall broke both bones on the ankle of her leg while in Michigan, is getting along nicely.

DISTRESSING AND UNCOMMON.

(Montour Falls, N. Y., Press.)
Helen Scanlon, one of our new Cost Department employees, had a most fortunate escape from serious injury last week, when she alighted from the trolley car backwards and fell on her own responsibility; the company not being liable.

HINTS.

I hear the flapjack flap its wings,
In glee the genial sausage squeals,
The maple syrup sweetly sings,
In joy let us kick up our heels!

SMIFF! SMIFF!

(Stevens Point Journal.)
A receptacle for the storage of garbage was stolen from outside the rear door some time last evening or early this morning. The police are on the scent.

WILLING TO HELP.

(McHenry Plain Dealer.)
If the party taking the press-to-life tank off of my car last Friday night can't afford to keep up expenses on his automobile, if he will let me know I will help him. —Jacob R. Justen.

The Germans have been importing large quantities of pork from Roumania. In order to get it through Austria without the hungry Austrians getting it first, they put the pigs in coffins and labelled them as "German heroes," sent back from the front.

A dandelion measuring 30 inches in diameter is said to have been found at Mascoma, N. H.

You don't like the cheap tea you are using. Do you?



Before the war so increased the cost of living, many people used to drink better tea than they are now using.

Perhaps, this is true in your case?

Of course, you are not drinking poor tea because you like it, but because you think it necessary to save money.

But are you really saving anything?

Cheap, common teas only make about 150 cups to the pound. You are lucky if you can stretch them out to 185 or 200.

On the other hand, Red Rose Tea easily makes 250 cups. It goes further because of its fine quality, consisting chiefly of Assam teas, the richest and strongest in the world.

You may almost doubt if so many cups of tea can be made from a pound of even such good tea as Red Rose, but you can readily prove the economy of Red Rose without waiting for a package to be used up. Just use a few leaves less of Red Rose for a brewing than you use of common tea—the result we are sure will please and surprise you.

**Kept Good
by the
Sealed
Package**



T. H. Estabrooks Co., Limited
St. John, Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton

**Red Rose Coffee is as
generously good as Red Rose Tea**

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years

Always bears
the
Signature of *W. D. Hoag*

HUN PLOTTERS UNDER ARREST

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

New York, Oct. 11. — Three men charged with conspiring to blow up ships in New York harbor in 1916, were arrested here last night by members of the bomb squad. The prisoners are Eugene Riester, 62 years of age, a restaurant proprietor; Joseph Zeffer, 37 years of age, and Walter Unda, 30 years of age, a lithographer. Unda never had been naturalized. The others are American citizens.

The conspiracy in which the three men were involved, according to the police, was responsible for the destruction by bombs and fires of \$5,000,000 worth of ships and cargoes.

CHINA PROMISES ALLIES SUPPORT

(Canadian Press direct wire.)

Peking, Oct. 11.—The Chinese government, replying to the representatives of the Entente Allies concerning China's entry into the war, thanks the Allies for their postponement of the Boxer indemnity, the revision of the Boxer protocol, and the revision of the customs tariff.

China promises to give facilities for united support for the Allies and for the recruiting of skilled labor. She will observe the strictest control of enemy subjects, will prohibit any possible trading with the enemy and permit posts vacated in the government service to be filled by the Allies.

The reply says internal disturbances will be quelled, thus allowing Allied commerce to proceed without interruption. Enemy shipping, according to the reply, can be rechartered from the present charterers, but enemy concessions must be controlled by China.

Hundreds of women are being trained for telegraph service by the Sante Fe Railroad Company.

Imperial Beef, Iron and Wine

When you are tired, fatigued or over-nervous, IMPERIAL BEEF IRON AND WINE is the best tonic. It will quiet your nerves, strengthen you physically and give you the vivacity that comes of perfect health. IMPERIAL BEEF IRON AND WINE is a nerve food and a body builder. There is nothing "just as good." Price 75 cents.

C. Fred Chestnut
572 QUEEN STREET.

The Quality
Drug Store



**Enlist
Your Kitchen
in the War!**

"The kitchen must help as well as the workshop and the trenches"

Mr. Lloyd George has said it!

What does he mean?

He means you must know and practice real thrift—make every dollar you spend on food serve your family and your country. Banish those things which are wasteful and substitute real foods.

Lovers of tea and coffee must realize that these beverages are in no sense of the word food, but merely pleasant, slightly stimulating drinks, which, by the way, are soaring in price!

Thrift Suggests Serving Cocoa

It is a scientific fact that a cup of Cowan's Perfection Brand Cocoa contains more actual food value than a cup of beef extract, bouillon, or chicken soup.

Economies like Cowan's Cocoa render the diet more delightful, while saving money. And the saving effected in household expenses will enable you to help win the war another way—by Purchasing War Certificates!

For \$21.50 you can buy at your nearest bank or

Post office a War Savings Certificate for which in 3 years' time the Government will refund \$25.00.

Remember every food economy you practice helps to defend the brave boys at the front.

Cowan's Perfection Brand Cocoa can be purchased from all good dealers throughout Canada. Economy also suggests your choice of Cowan's Maple Buds, Queen's Dessert, or Milk Chocolate Bars as the ever welcome confections.

Ask for Cowan's ACTIVE SERVICE Chocolate; just what our soldiers in the trenches appreciate. Specially manufactured to meet their needs.

COWAN'S COCOA
"Perfection Brand"
MADE IN CANADA