

THE DAILY MAIL

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THE BUTTER SHORTAGE.

Commenting on the price of butter and eggs in that town, the Amherst, N. S., News has this to say:

"The hope of the consumer for some lessening in his cost of living this summer has been rudely upset in the sky-rocketing now being witnessed in connection with the price of butter. A few weeks ago butter showed some sympathy with eggs in the downward movement, and reductions of from five to fifteen cents a pound were recorded in various places. There seemed some reason to hope that an average price of fifty cents would become fairly general throughout the country. Last week, however, the price of creamery butter went to 70 cents per pound, and we were told at one of the stores that some qualities of dairy butter have been selling at 75 cents per pound during the week. There was no explanation of the price, but we were given a statement by one of the dealers that creamery butter cost the firm 65 cents at the shipping place and that they had to pay the express charges as well. If this is correct, it is clear that the retail dealer is not making any particular profit on the sale in Amherst. But it doesn't make the fact any the less unpalatable, and it is particularly annoying at this time when consumers thought they had a right to look for some lightening of their load instead of having it added to in this unconscionable manner. There are some lines of goods where an increase of price need not affect the consumer very much, because he can easily do without them; but bread and butter and eggs are staples and butterless bread is next to no bread at all. It may be the law of supply and demand that is at work sending the price of butter to record heights, but behind this law, or working in its shadow, one may be sure that there is someone making a handsome profit and gloating over the prospect of making even more. The war, which was to give us cleaner civilization, has certainly failed so far as giving us a selling conscience free from the taint of extortionate greed."

In this connection it might be said that Dr. McFaul, Cost of Living Commissioner, is preparing a report for the Minister of Labor on the butter situation. It is understood that the report will show not only that there is a world shortage of butter, but that there is an actual shortage in Canada. The normal consumption of butter in the Dominion is 5,000,000 pounds a week, and yet in the cold storage plants, according to their latest reports, there was only about a third of this quantity, or sufficient for ten days. The only solution he can see of the situation is an embargo on the export of butter, which, of course, would force down the price. He is not prepared to make this recommendation, nor it is believed that the government would take such drastic action.

POINTS OF ORDER.

Says the Chatham World:
 "Mr. Rainsford, Clerk, and Mr. Diblee, Clerk Assistant, used to keep the Legislature in the dignified paths of parliamentary procedure, but they have been succeeded by new men who evidently know no more than the members themselves."

For several years prior to 1917 the late Clerk and Clerk Assistant had a worthy assistant in the person of the genial Commodore Stewart, who represented Northumberland for a term. In his strenuous efforts to keep the Legislature and the government of the day in the straight and narrow path, the Commodore's eyesight went back on him and much to the regret of his friends he was compelled to withdraw from the House. He failed to survive the next election, consequently the Speaker and clerks have since been compelled to worry along without his valuable assistance. Perhaps, in future some arrangement might be made by which decisions on points of order might be made inoperative until the Speaker and clerks have had op-

portunity to consult the editorial columns of the Chatham World.

St. John Times: The Standard appears to think that the Foster government needs a bookkeeper. It may be so. Premier Foster and his colleagues show a lamentable lack of ability to cook the public accounts as was done in the patriotic potato case; and they have never been able to find a man who could go out among the lumbermen with a notebook and pencil and add \$100,000 to the party fund. Neither have they ever been so sure of themselves as financiers that they could toss \$20,000 packages carelessly around, or pick up \$32,000 overnight. In short, they have much to learn from the friends of the Standard in matters relating to high finance.

Journal of Commerce: Federal legislation on prohibition will be brought down in the House of Commons shortly after the Easter vacation. In the meantime the government is considering the situation which has arisen in view of the heavy majority in Quebec in favor of light beer and wines. How the legislation will meet the situation remains yet to be determined, but little doubt is generally felt that there will be some relaxation of the strict prohibition of manufacture and importation now in effect under Dominion Order-in-Council.

Lieut. Col. A. Hamilton Gault, D. S. O., who returned in command of the Princess Pats, has had a most wonderful war record. He recruited and equipped the battalion in the early days of the war, went overseas as second in command, went through the thick of the fighting with his battalion, was wounded three times, on one occasion losing a leg, but returned to the fight and led his battalion into Mons. Col. Gault is a Montrealeur by birth, a member of the well known firm of Gault Bros., and is deservedly popular.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE
 "My bonnie flies over the ocean."
 How soon?
 Hope springs eternal until the returns are all in.

There is always a doctor that some doctor believes in.
 Only a few Germans will reach Paris—and they won't parade.

After all, Budapest is only one of the pests in Hungary.

An ideal that looks good in print may become all muddled up in practice.

The comfort some women find in prayer other women find in a cup of tea.

It's all right to give free advice, but don't lose your temper if it isn't followed.

Domestic note: Son's favorite pie appears on the table oftener than father's favorite.

Drunkenness is now punishable by death in Budapest. That's where "never again" comes true.

Children begin by telling the truth, but unfortunately it doesn't take their parents long to break them of the habit.

Former Crown Prince Frederick William says he is not an idiot—but he doesn't say what he is, if anything.

A married man always lives in constant dread that somebody is going to invite him to do something that he wants to do but his wife won't let him.

Bill Hohenzollern may plead whippers as an alibi. He could claim that the man who started the war didn't have any.

CANADIANS GET THE M.M.

London, April 25.—The undermentioned Canadians have been gazetted for the Military Medal:
 Private A. Boudreau, 85th; Sergeant B. E. Boushey, 85th; Captain A. G. Luck, 26th; Corp. McKay, 85th; Private A. McLeod, 25th; Private J. R. Smith, 85th; Private A. V. Cox, 85th.

Returning from South
 Mr. Robert FitzRandolph who has been at Pinehurst, North Carolina, playing golf and watching the competition in which several St. John players figured is expected to return to Fredericton about May 1st.

K. of C. Delegation from St. John
 A large delegation of Knights of Columbus is expected to arrive from St. John Saturday to take part in the meeting of Fredericton Council, Knights of Columbus, No. 1942, which will be held Sunday. A number of Boston Knights also are expected. A special train will come from St. John,

C. N. R. FREIGHT MATTERS WERE TALKED OVER

Mr. H. E. Weldon, Assistant Freight Traffic Manager, Before Board of Trade Committee.

The Transportation Committee of the Board of Trade and the wholesale shippers of this city conferred at the Board of Trade rooms yesterday afternoon with Mr. H. E. Weldon, Assistant Freight Traffic Manager of the C. N. R. Among those present were J. D. Palmer, C. F. Chestnut, J. S. Neill, W. G. Clark, Fred B. Edgecombe, W. R. Belyea, J. T. Jennings, G. W. Hodge and H. R. Babbitt.

The different speakers brought up matters in connection with the despatch of freight from this city over the C. N. R. and asked for improvements. Other matters were discussed in connection with freight and the speakers all expressed themselves as having high opinions of the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. R. Z. Walker and that the officers were courteous and obliging but that an increase in the staff would be beneficial. The matter of exhibition freight for the Fredericton Exhibition was referred to by the Chairman and Mr. Weldon in his reply stated that he knew of no changes in the customary regulations but would look into the matter and advise. He further stated that the matters under consideration would be discussed with Asst. Supt. R. Z. Walker and he had no doubt that more satisfactory arrangements would be reached.

STRIKE AT LIMERICK MAY SOON END

Limerick, April 24.—The strike committee announced late this evening its decision that the workers would not need permits to resume work Friday, but called on "those whose daily occupation requires military permits, to continue to refuse to accept this sign of subjugation and slavery, being the decision of a special Irish trades union congress to be called immediately." The committee also appealed to all Irishmen and all lovers of freedom throughout the world to provide funds to enable the men to continue against "military tyranny." The crowd to which the announcement was made accepted the decision cheerfully, but obviously regard it as a compromise intended to allow the committee to yield without complete surrender. It is generally anticipated that the city will soon return to normal conditions.

Mayor O'Mara in the course of a statement tonight said: "At a conference with the Bishop of Limerick today we decided that the continuance of the strike would mean great hardships for the workers and the city generally. We called on General Griffin, commander of the troops, and he decided to allow the employers to issue passes to their employees through the military lines and to give reasonable facilities for their passage."

BIDDEFORD STRIKE OVER

Biddeford, Maine, April 24.—The strike of textile operatives here which began February 2 was ended today by vote of the union. The mills were re-opened last week after a shut-down of eleven weeks, and a large number of operatives returned to work with the understanding that the time for beginning a 48-hour week would be considered later.

Mrs. W. D. Gunter returned yesterday from a trip to New York.

Mr. and Mrs. William Walker returned to their home in this city on Wednesday after spending the winter in Florida.

LOCAL NEWS

Out of Danger Today.
 Mr. Ernest Dorcas, of Stanley, who was taken to the Victoria Hospital yesterday, is resting easily and has been declared out of danger, having passed a very comfortable night. Mr. Dorcas was injured at Napadoggan when he was making up a train.

Free Use of Trotting Park.
 Judge Limerick and Mr. A. J. Wheeler waited on the Fredericton Trotting Park Association last evening on behalf of the boys of the city, to obtain the use of the Fredericton Trotting Park for the boys as an athletic field this year. The Park Association very generously agreed to let the boys have the use of the field at no expense to them.

Speeding Case Heard
 Byron Ross appeared in the police court this morning charged with exceeding the speed limit in a motor car. He defended the case J. B. Dickson appearing for him. The case was adjourned until Tuesday when witnesses on both sides will be heard. The offense is alleged to have taken place on Charlotte Street.

House Cleaning Time is Here

We have a good range of Oilcloths, Linoleums, Curtains, Curtain Materials, Furniture Coverings, Cretonne Coverings Blinds, etc. etc.

We would be pleased to have you call and examine the goods and prices.

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WANTED—Girl for general housework. Apply to Mrs. F. T. Thomas, 238 Waterloo Row.

HUNGARIANS TRYING FOR AN ARMISTICE

Berlin, April 25.—The Lokal Anzeiger's Vienna correspondent says the Hungarian Soviet government has requested the Entente mission to send delegates to Budapest to negotiate an armistice with the Roumanians.

Col. Cunningham, representing the Allies, after communicating with the authorities in Paris, says the newspaper, has had the Hungarian government in formed that the Entente was ready to conclude an armistice, and immediately suspend the advance of its troops if the Soviet government would abdicate and a new government representative of all the bourgeois parties was formed and all the decrees of the Soviet government were withdrawn.

PROBING THE CHARGES MADE BY MR. DEWART

Toronto, April 24.—At the investigation of the charges made by Mr. H. H. Dewart against the Ontario License Department before Commissioner Sir William Meredith today, Walter Duncan, president of Duncan's Detective agency, declared that Chief License Inspector J. A. Ayearst had shared in moneys paid by his department to Detectives Solomon and Hinch when they were alleged to be devoting their whole time to the matter.

Duncan claimed that he had engaged the two men on that if he had had any idea that they were still drawing their salaries from the Ontario government he would have dismissed both of them.

Louis Moneghan, counsel for Mr. Ayearst, submitted Duncan to a grueling cross-examination.

Returned Home
 Mrs. John M. Wiley, who has been visiting her daughter Mrs. W. E. Cooper at Kansas City and Dr. and Mrs. Atherton at San Diego, Cal., returned home at noon today.

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