HOTEL QUESTION IS MATTER OF IMPORTANCE TO TRAVELLERS

Believed Hotels in Province Charge Too Much for Service Rendered—Dominion Association Issue Circular to Commercial Travellers—Charges Remain at War-Time Rate —R. S. Sime Gives View on Present Conditions.

The hotel question is a burning one at the present time in the Maritime Provinces, and the Journal representative, has obtained the views of some of the travelling men on the subject. For some time, there has been a feeling among a large number of the travelling men and wholesale merchants that a number of the hotels in the province were charging too much for the service rendered, and it was time prices were coming down. The Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association has taken the matter up, and they contend that the high prices of the hotels, fixed during the peak in war time, are a big factor in the cost of doing business, and should be reduced along with freight rates and transportation charges.

Important Chart.

They have prepared a chart, showing that hotels have benefitted the most, by the reductions which have taken place in the cost of commodities, than any other business and have issued the following circular on this subject:—

"Canadian hotel charges for rooms or meals are still practically at the "sky-high" point reached during the War, notwithstanding the fact that drastic reductions have occurred in wholesale prices of nearly every line of hotel supplies. The following comparative reductions are quoted by way of example:

Beef	45 p. c.
Chicken	30 "
Coffee	30 "
Cooking fats	70 "
Butter	35 "
Eggs	55 "
Fruits	50 "
Flour	45 "
Lard	50 "
Lamb	40 "
Prunes	50 "
Soap	25 "
Sugar	65 "
Tea	25 "
Potatoes	85 "
Kitchen utensils	25 "
Plumbing fixtures	20 "
Paint, varnish, etc.	25 "
Carpets, etc.	25 "
Table linens	30 "
Cotton tablecloths	40 "
Napkins	40 "
Pillow cases	40 "
Bed sheets	50 "
Blankets	40 "
Bed mattresses	25 "
Bed springs	20 "
Towels	12 "
Furniture	30 "
Stationery	30 "
Table china	25 "
Table glassware	15 "
Table silverplated ware	15 "
Table sterlingware	40 "
Labour-average	30 "

"The cost of hotel upkeep has largely decreased during the past year, but hotel charges generally to commercial travellers show no relief. The Transportation Companies have announced two reductions in rates this year. Why should not hotels show an immediate decrease in their present unnecessarily high charges If hotels would co-operate with others concerned in doing their share to reduce cost of selling goods, not only commercial travellers but the general public would gain by such action, as it would probably result in a further reduction in prices of certain commodities.

"Kindly give this matter all due publicity. Talk it over with hotel proprietors and managers with whom you are coming into contact."

The Chief Sinners.

A prominent local traveller, when seen by the Journal man, endorsed everything in the circular. Coming down to local conditions, he said the hotels in the smaller towns were the chief sinners. The prices in the larger centres were not so much out of the way, for there service was given for the money, but in the smaller places, where nothing in the way of modern conveniences were provided, the price was practically the same.

This gentleman claimed there should be some provincial legislation governing hotels, and all should be compelled to register, and to give a specified minimum of service to the public, whom they were supposed to serve. This question of hotel accommodation had become so acute in this province, that certain wholesale houses were considering the advisability of having their travellers take private rooms in certain of the towns, where at present they were not sure of a place to stay when they arrived.

The charge for hacks, to and from the stations, was another matter touched on by this gentleman, who pointed out that the charge of 50 cents was too much, and that many of the "boys" were walking, rather than pay what they considered an exorbitant fare. This could not be charged to meanness, he said, for they were not spending their money, but that of the firm, but was purely a protest against this charge.

A Traveller's Views.

When interviewed by the Journal reporter regarding hotels, R. S. Sime, whose wanderings have compelled him to visit hotels from the Atlantic to the Pacific in Canada, Main to California in the United States, as well as several hotels overseas—some good, some fair, some indifferent—expressed himself as being strong in favor of the modern hotel, and gave the reporter the following reasons to substantiate his claims:—

"The travelling public judge a city, or town, largely by its hotel accommodation.

"A modern hotel is a most valuable asset to any community.

"Comfortable hotels attract conventions, both male and female, thereby obtaining for the city valuable advertising which is hard to estimate in dollars and cents.

"Today, a modern hotel means tourist and automobile trade; the latter is largely made up of the well-to-do of both sex, whose hotel bill is likely to be the small item of their expenditure while in a city. The ladies who go to make up these parties are sure to visit stores in quest of something different, and are likely to leave considerable sums with the local merchant. These ladies demand clean, comfortable, as well as modern hotel accommodation.

"A modern hotel sends its patrons to their business, or pleasure, well slept, well groomed, and well fed. This must be conducive to a successful and pleasant day."

Continuing, Mr. Sime said: "Personally, I am strongly for the modern hotel with its well kept and sanitary beds and baths, its clean linen, its bright lights, its pretty and attractive dining room, its good, well-served food. Who, I ask, is not?

"I believe before a city can be a real city, it must have modern hotel accommodation.

"But," interrupted the scribe, "I spoke of cheaper hotels. "Well," went on Mr. Sime, smilingly, "if this condition can be brought about cheaply, so much the better."

Illiterate Russian Peasants Are Not Easy To Deceive

Kazan, July 5—The Russian peasant upon intimate contact, has been found to be not so illiterate or so stupid as it has been the habit to represent him. While he may not always be able to read, he possesses a natural shrewdness and intelligence which stand him in good stead. A practical common sense is often a good substitute for book learning.

American Relief Administration workers have had much to do with the Russian peasant in their various activities in these lands, and have come to regard him with respect.

"How is it," one of the Russian interpreters was asked, "that although these peasant cannot read and write they seem to be able to make accurate computations, and to master the intricacies of the Russian currency? They seem to understand perfectly even the new bank notes in which those marked 100 rubles equal those put out last year which were worth 1,000,000.

"They appreciate the value of stupidity," was the answer. "They like to appear simple, more simple than they are. It is partly a pose with them, but it has its practical side, too. They appear guileless and manage to drive a good bargain because their very gullelessness allays the suspicion of the person with whom they are dealing.

"I hand them a 1,000,000 ruble note. 'What is this?' they ask. I tell them that it is a million. They accept it. But try handing them a 100,000 ruble note and say that it is a million. They will shake their heads. You may point out that it has many ciphers following the figure. They will not accept it. 'But,' you persist, 'you cannot read, why do you think I am lying to you.' 'But I have never seen that sort of a million before,' they answer and they will not take it.

"You take a paper to a peasant to be signed. He looks at it and asks what it is all about. You read it to him. He nods but protests that he cannot write. 'Let someone else write my name on it,' he says and later he may repudiate the agreement, saying that he never signed it and did not even know what it contained.

"I believe that many of them who can both read and write are careful to conceal that knowledge, believing that it will be to their advantage to do so. They are not so stupid as they appear."

Bowls Out Fresh Plot To Restore Austrian Throne

League of Cavaliers Involved in Pro-Hapsburg Conspiracy.

Vienna, July 30—An expose was made yesterday of a secret monarchist organization recently formed in Vienna and romantcally called the "League of Cavaliers." The leaders are reported to be Count Heynigg and Prince Lichtenstein. The latter is the ruler of a Lilliputian principality on the Swiss-Austrian border and the owner of one of the finest palaces and the best art collection in Vienna.

It develops that the organization is in touch with other monarchist groups in Bavaria and Hungary and also with a similar organization in Czecho-Slovakia which is led by Prince Lichtenstein and which carries on a pro-hapsburg propaganda in the discontented Slovakian area. The Vienna organization included ex-officers and many members of the old aristocracy.

TWO STEAMERS SANK IN CANAL OF SOULANGES

Both Were Loaded With Grain Enroute from Ontario Ports to Montreal.

Ogdensburgh, N. Y., July 30—The steel steamship Winona of the Canada Steamship Lines, enroute from Port Arthur to Montreal with 75,000 bushels of wheat, sank in the Soulanges Canal, early yesterday morning, aid was sent from Prescott, Ont. The wooden tow barge Melrose, of the Vicennes McNaughton line of Montreal bound from Port Colborne to Montreal, with 50,000 bushels of wheat, sank in the lift-lock at Cardinal, Ont., Friday.

Cargoes of both ships were considerably damaged.

KING'S ADVENTURES INCOGNITO IN PARIS

Paris, July 28.—Dressed in a business suit of sober black, a quiet, unobtrusive little yellow-skinned man has been a constant visitor recently to the museums of art, painting and sculpture in the French capital.

Few people recognized Khai Dinh, Far East potentate, Emperor of Annam, Indo-China, who adorned in flowing robes of silk, his hair decorated with gold lace, the Red and Yellow Order of the Dragon of Annam on his breast almost hidden by a large plaque of pure gold set with huge diamonds, was seen in the Presidential box at Longchamp on the day of the Grand-Prix.

A few years ago no one in his capital of Hue was permitted to stand erect before the Emperor or look him squarely in the eyes, yet in the museums elbowed tourists pushed him about and elbowed him out of the way when he stood too long before a work of art.

One of the first questions Khai-Dinh asked after he had been installed in the Ministry of Colonies, his home while in Paris, was: "Where is there a first-class tailor in town?" A representative of a leading Paristan tailoring firm called, but the Emperor found his clothes too gaudy and requested him to return with blue, brown and black samples. The Emperor ordered six suits of the more sober patterns. His official robes show practically all the colors of the rainbow.

A great lover of art, Khai-Dinh has had the entire row of palaces used as the residence of royalty in Hue practically remodelled, both inside and outside, since his accession to the throne in 1916. His visits to the monuments of Paris have been made especially for the purpose of finding a plan for the reconstruction of the tomb of his ancestor Dong-Khanh, the founder of the dynasty, 20 centuries ago.

A strict follower of the doctrine of Confucius, Khai-Dinh's respect for the memory of his ancestors amounts to religion, and the mausoleum which he intends erecting to Dong-Khanh will be one of the purest examples of far east architecture known. Alexandre Marcel, official architect of the French Government, is collaborating in the drawing up of the plan, and the Emperor has made several calls upon the architect, suggesting modifications and ideas.

Khai-Dinh has given much trouble to the secret service men entrusted by the French Government with the task of protecting his sacred person. He slips in and out of museums, attended only by a few of his entourage, all dressed in the European fashion, and several times he has eluded their vigilance.

Khai-Dinh, before he was allowed to travel incognito in Paris, was the guest at several official functions, including many dinners and luncheons. He was present at all in full regalia, but toward the end of his official stay, he evinced some impatience and an earnest desire to enter upon private life. To one of the last invitations to a dinner, the Emperor replied:

"Yes, I'll go providing there are no speeches."

The Emperor will leave for Hue in August, but the heir to the throne, Vingh-Ty, aged nine, will remain in Paris, where French tutors will teach him French literature and western civilization and fit him for the high place he is to occupy one day at Hue, one of the fundamental requirements of which is that he be a friend of France and a student of French culture.

Just Grew Like Topsy.

The expansion of London is in some important matters rather like natural growth than construction according to plan. Its method of government is unsystematic and has many curious inconsistencies. The machinery of its daily life is of a strange diversity in operation and control. The explanation is, of course, that the existing administration and mechanism of London are the result of the survival of the fittest of innumerable devices invented through a span of a thousand years.

Cheering Her Up

Young Wife—"Oh, I am so miserable; my husband has been out all the evening, and I haven't the faintest idea where he is."

Experienced Friend—"My dear, you mustn't worry. You would probably be twice as miserable if you did know."

Obituary

Mrs. William H. Keltie

Many friends in the city, will regret to hear of the death of Mrs William H. Keltie, which took place in this city on Saturday night after a lengthy illness.

Mrs. Keltie was the widow of the late Mr. William Keltie, late of the Customs department of this city and daughter of the late John and Hester Robertson of North End, city. She leaves to mourn one sister, Mrs. M. E. Mason, of Newark, New Jersey.

The funeral will take place from the residence of R. S. Ritchie, 9 Peter St. on Tuesday at 2.30 o'clock.

Funerals

The funeral of Mrs. Mary J. Roberts was held yesterday afternoon from her late residence, Fair Vale. Service was conducted at 2 o'clock by Rev. Canon Daniel and interment was made in Fernhill. The floral offerings were many and beautiful.

The funeral of Miss Elizabeth M. Kee was held yesterday afternoon from the residence of F. A. Kee, 182 St. James street. Service was conducted at 2 o'clock by Rev. H.A. Cody. The numerous floral offerings testified to the esteem in which the deceased lady had been held. Interment was in Fernhill.

Died

KETCHUM—Entered into rest on Sunday, July 30, at East Riverside. George W. Ketchum.
Notice of funeral later.

KELTIE—In this city, on July 29, 1922 Charlott Amelia, widow of the late Mr. William H. Keltie, and daughter of the late John and Hester Robertson, of North End, (City), aged 79 years. Leaving to mourn one sister, Mrs. M. E. Mason, of Newark, New Jersey.
Funeral from the residence of R. S. Ritchie 9 Peters St., Tuesday, at 2.30 o'clock.

Chinese General Christian Convert

Commands Respect of His Troops and Is Real Leader of Men.

New York, July 30.—A personal picture of General Feng Yuh-siang, known as the Christian general in the forces of Wu Pei-Fu, is contained in a letter from Bishop F. R. Graves of Shanghai which has been received here by Protestant Episcopal leaders. Bishop Graves is said to have known General Feng for a number of years.

"Feng has been elevated to the governorship of Honan province," writes Bishop Graves, "and it is characteristic of him that when he attended a big reception recently in his honor he rode to the Y. M. C. A. hall on a bicycle with a few unarmed attendants, instead of being surrounded by the customary mounted cavalcade. His first Sunday as governor found General Geng attending a joint service of all the Christian denominations in Kaifeng at the Shend Kung Hui, or Episcopal Church. Here the Christion general preached a sermon from the text: 'To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin.'

"He appropriated out of his private funds a sum sufficient to care for the beggars who infested the city until employment could be obtained for them, at the same time announcing that those who wouldn't work for a living must leave Honan."

Feng, according to Episcopal missionaries, became a convert to Christianity 11 years ago when, attacked by a disease which native physicians declared incurable, he was restored to health by the missionaries of a Christian medical missionary. Thousands of his soldiers have embraced the religious faith of their leader and victory on the field is frequently followed by a service of thanksgiving of a Christian character which is led by General Feng himself, it is reported.

"General Feng is somewhat of a Cromwell in his religious ideas," Bishop Graves said, "but there is no question at all of his sincerity. He shares hard conditions with his men."

FRANCE FRESHENS UP NAPOLEON'S LAST HOME

Paris, July 28—The French government having been persuaded to allot [illegible]000 for the purpose, Napoleon's last home, on the Island of St. Helena is to have a new coat of paint. It needs it, for the last coat was spread on eight years ago.

The old house at Longwood, is under the care of the French Minister of Domain. He it was who induced the government to make the financial allotment. The new coloring will be exactly as in Napoleon's time, light grey for the house itself, with the shuters, cornices and doors in olive green and dark brown.

HERE'S HOW MARGARET PETIT GAINED HER FAMOUS GRACE



By MARGARET PETIT

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No training teaches such absolute control as dancing—classic dancing not the ball-room variety.

Correct breathing and arm exercises also should be a part of every woman's program, night and morning.

Let your arms hang free from your shoulders and place the hands side by side, palms inward and thumbs interlaced in front of you. Raise the hands straight over your head, inhaling a deep breath. Hold your arms free while you count five. Then slowly lower them while you exhale.

Dancing, running and kicking have value because they exercise the muscles in the legs.

woman holds her broom properly. woman holds her broom properly. Walking upstairs is recommended as a flesh reducer.

When dressing and undressing, practice walking on your tiptoes—excellent for your feet and ankles.

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