

CANADIANS NOT ALONE IN FIGHTING AGAINST THE HIGH COST OF LIVING; U. S. HAS IT TOO

A few weeks ago the frugal housewife who had been battling for months against the high cost of living, awoke one morning to find that four and five cents a pound for the normal price and that bakers were reducing the size of the bread loaf and the morning rolls, says the New York Times. Within the last month there has been another advance of from \$1.50 to \$2 a barrel and Saturday the highest grades of flour were selling at retail for \$11 to \$11.50 a barrel. The average family grade of flour is \$10 a barrel and in small quantities this is selling for 6 to 7 cents a pound. Flour is higher today than at any time since the civil war, when immediately after that conflict, it brought \$15. One of the largest dealers states that all indications pointed to a return of that price within the next few months.

Within the last four weeks potatoes have started to make a new price record. A month ago good potatoes were selling at about \$1 a bushel. Since that time they have gone up more than 100 per cent. Long Island potatoes, which are about the best coming into the New York market, are bringing 60 cents a bushel, which is at the rate of \$2.40 a bushel. Some grocers are charging 70 cents, and when bought in small quantities the housewife pays at the rate of 75 to 80 cents a bushel.

Never before in the history of this country have potatoes been so high. The best Jersey and Maine potatoes are selling at the same prices as the Long Island. Maine has always been famous for high grades, but the crop there has been poorer than formerly, and dealers are now paying the Maine farmers \$2 a bushel for the best kinds. The Long Island and Maine farmers who have had good crops are getting rich on their potatoes, and the Maine farmers are reported to be holding back a large proportion of the crop for a further advance.

"The limit of potato prices has not yet been reached," said the manager of one of the large grocery firms, recently. "While the actual crop is not much less than a year ago the quality is poorer—that is the potatoes are smaller in size. That is due to a large extent to the scarcity of potash for fertilizing, as the price got so high that many of the farmers refused to buy it. The car shortage is coming to the city from great distances. Fortunately, sweet potatoes are plentiful and moderately cheap, and these are showing slightly larger sales."

Unlike flour, which, notwithstanding its high price, continues to be exported at the rate of 1,000,000 bushels a day to Europe, the high price of potatoes has curtailed exportation, and about the only places outside of this country to which they are going are Cuba and Bermuda. It costs about \$2 to \$2.25 to send a barrel of potatoes abroad.

The increase in flour over a year ago represents from \$4 to \$5 a barrel, about 100 per cent. on the higher grades.

Farmers Get the Benefit
"Despite the high cost of flour," said a large dealer, recently, "I regard it as the cheapest article of food today. The average consumption of flour in this country is about a barrel to an individual and although he is paying two cents a pound more than a year ago, he gets more for his money than for any other article of food. We have paid western farmers within the last few weeks \$1.85 for wheat. The farmer is benefiting by the high price, and there is no combination of dealers or middle-men. With our crop about two-thirds of normal, which is still ten million bushels short of the amount actually needed to feed our own population, and yet with Europe drawing us at the rate of 1,000,000 bushels a day, the reason for the high price is plain to see. As long as the European countries are willing to pay a high price for flour prices will remain high, and to keep it in our own country we have got to pay just as high a price."

Sugar has remained about stationary during the last four months. It reached its highest wholesale price on July 12 last, when the best grades of granulated sugar were quoted at 7.65 cents a pound. Saturday it was 7 1/2 cents a pound. At retail it was a cent more while Diamond cube sugar sold from ten to 12 cents a pound retail. A year ago granulated sugar which is now selling for 7 1/2 cents, was 5.55 cents a pound.

New records in American produce prices have also been reached for cabbages, turnips, carrots, and several other of the common vegetables, as well as in cheese and in all pork products. Cabbages have never before been so high. Where one used to get a good head of cabbage for four or five cents, the cost is now from ten to 20 cents. The red cabbage is cheaper. It was quoted in Washington market at 15 cents a head recently, with white cabbage at 18 cents. Last year at this time cabbages were half that price. The high price is not due to exportation, for practically no cabbage is being sent away, but to poor crops. The yield of turnips and carrots has not been as great as usual and yellow turnips, which a year ago were selling in Washington market for 15 cents a half peck, are now bringing 25 cents.

Cheese 100 Per Cent. Higher
Cheese has never been so high in America before. The best grades of full cream American cheese is 100 per cent. higher than a year ago. Prices by the pound range from 30 to 35 cents, as against 18 to 20 cents at this time last year. Even the most com-

mon cheese is now 14 cents a pound, which formerly was plentiful at six to eight cents. Imported cheese is almost impossible to get. No Swiss cheese is coming in owing to an embargo in Switzerland. The Swiss cheese now in use is of domestic make and so is the Camembert. Roquefort cheese is practically out of the market.

All pork products, including all kinds of smoked meats, have gone up from 23 to 25 cents a pound, against new record prices. Smoked ham 17-19 to 19 cents a year ago, and good boiling hams are from 33 to 35 cents, an increase of 10 cents in 12 months. Virginia ham is selling in Washington market at 38 to 40 cents a pound, and hard to get at that. Wholesale prices are paying 35 cents a pound, but it is almost impossible to obtain supplies.

Good bacon is from 26 to 30 cents a pound as against 20 cents a year ago, while the fancy grades, such as the backcut, formerly at 32 cents a pound, has gone up to 45 cents. Tongue got so high a few weeks ago that many of the popular restaurants took it off their bills of fare, and house-holders refused to buy it. As a result there has been a slight reduction, but it is still 35 cents a pound. A year ago it was 20 cents.

The spicy sausage which has come to be regarded as almost a necessity with the winter buckwheat cakes is nearly 50 per cent. higher than a year ago. Good sausage in the market last week was 20 cents a pound, while last year it was 18 cents. Deerfoot sausage has advanced within a year from 23 to 35 cents a pound. One reason for the big advance, as explained by a Washington market dealer, is the high price for all kinds of spices. Everything that goes into the making of a sausage has gone up to almost prohibitive prices, and for one kind of seasoning as high as \$1 a pound is now paid.

There are plenty of apples in the apple markets and they are still moderately cheap, but although it was a good year, especially in the East, prices are following the upward trend and the wholesale market shows an advance of \$1.25 to \$1.50 per barrel over similar grades a year ago. More apples are being shipped to Europe this season than last year and that is one reason for the higher prices. The Virginia crop this year was especially good and some of the best apples now in market are from that state, the York Imperials being one of the best varieties. They are worth from \$4 to \$5 a barrel. The best Baldwin are bringing \$3.50 to \$4 a whole sale. Greenings about the same, and the Ben Davis variety, \$3.50. The shipments to the city from the state have been slow. It is not due to the car shortage, explained a produce dealer, so much as to the scarcity of labor and barrels. As an indication of the scarcity of labor he mentioned that several weeks ago he offered a Vermont farmer \$3 a barrel for the orchard yield of fine Greenings of about 700 barrels. The farmer could not send them to the city because he was unable to get men to pick them and he finally sold them on the trees to an apple dealer for \$1.25 a barrel.

Butter is likely to go up to 50 cents a pound for the best grades in the city before Christmas. That is the price now being paid in many suburban towns. The prevailing price now is 40 to 45 cents. The supply is short, and the quantity in storage is less than a year ago.

Mrs. W. J. McShane.
The death occurred on Thursday night of Mrs. Mary McShane, wife of William J. McShane, at her home, 27 Duke street. Deceased, who had been ill for a long time, was fifty-three years of age and leaves, besides her husband, one son, Frank; one daughter, May; two brothers, Frank and Michael McGowan, and one sister, Miss Kate McGowan, all of Hampton.

QUARTER FUND APPEAL FOR CANADA'S BLINDED SOLDIERS

The appeal that was made last May by Mrs. Philip Warren on behalf of the Canadian soldiers blinded in the war, has resulted in the magnificent sum of \$2,500. The collection was made by means of collecting cards, and the humble sum of a quarter was asked from the generous public, and the idea, proving a popular one, the cards quickly spread all over Canada and into the States. This money has been sent to Sir Arthur Pearson this week to St. Dunstan's Hotel, London, Eng., to be used for the training of Canadians who are sent after their discharge from hospital to St. Dunstan's and remain there until they have been taught to read and write in the Braille type, and are trained in some trade or occupation by which they will be self-supporting. The work began in 1914 with twelve blinded soldiers; today there are over five hundred English, Canadian and Australian soldiers under Sir Arthur Pearson's care, and the number alas, is ever increasing. The success of this appeal was greatly due to the generous efforts and energies of various chapters of the I. O. O. F. E. in Canada, who collected over \$1,000.00. Mrs. Warren hopes to continue this fund as long as the money is needed, and intends to send over instalments of \$500.00 as it is collected, to support the splendid and practical work that Sir Arthur is doing for our blinded boys, and contributions, however small, will always be most gratefully received. The following cable was received by Mrs. Warren from Sir Arthur:

"On behalf of our blinded soldiers I tender heartfelt thanks to all in the Dominion who contributed to the splendid amount which you are re-

mitting. We all send Christmas greetings to Canadians for their generosity."

ARTHUR PEARSON.

The following are the principal donors to the fund.

Chapters of the I. O. O. F. E.

Laurentian, Ottawa, \$200.00

Queen Roadies, Atlin, B. C., 200.00

Municipal, Kingston, Ont., 100.00

Loyalist, St. John, N. B., 84.61

Princess Mary, Victoria, Windsor, Ont., 50.00

St. Thomas, Ont., 50.00

Long Sault, Cornwall, Ont., 50.00

Dufferin, Victoria, B. C., 50.00

Mount Royal, Montreal, 50.00

Nelson, New York, 50.00

Earl of Chatham, Chatham, 46.15

Valcartier, St. John, N. B., 32.00

St. John's Rifles, Montreal, 25.00

Mount Fernie, Fernie, B. C., 25.00

Gallipoli, Vernon, B. C., 15.00

Vendis, Sydney, N. S., 15.00

Fort Malden, Amherstburg, Ont., 10.00

Chateaugay, Toronto, 10.00

Geoffrey Hale Burland, Montreal, 10.00

Strathcona, New York, 2.50

Strathcona, Saginaw, Mich., 85.00

Women's Institute, N. B., 45.85

Y. W. P. A., St. John, N. B., 45.00

Allies' Aid Society, Sussex, 36.50

Women's Canadian Club, St. Stephen, 32.00

Manor House, per Miss Whitaker, 30.75

Country Club, Riverside, per Miss Brock, 28.75

Women's Canadian Club, St. John, N. B., 25.00

Canadian Club, Boston, 15.00

George Harbour and Miss Barbour, 100.00

James F. Robertson, 50.00

Collecting cards, 836.00

New York: Mary Langdon, Clinton, Eagle, do.

Boston, Dec 20—Ard: Sts Canadian, Liverpool, Saginaw, do; Sch Reporter, Ipswich.

Sid Dec 20: Str Mohawk, Eastport and Weymouth, N. S.; Sts Warren B Porter, Rockport, Me; Ervin J Luce, Rockport, Mass.

Eastport, Dec 20—Sid: Sch Chas L Jeffries, Norwalk.

Glochester, Dec 20—Ard: Sch Crescent, N. S., via Portland.

New York, Dec 20—Sid: Schs Chas E Wyman, Perth Amboy for Portland; Maud S, South Amboy for Lubec; Str Canopic, Gibraltar.

Vineyard Haven, Dec 20—Sid: Sch L A Plummer, from Baltimore for St John, N. B.

West Sullivan, Dec 20—Sid: Sch William Biebs, New York.

Portland, Dec 20—Ard: Str Northland, Jones, Liverpool via Halifax; Cornishman, Ingham, Avonmouth, Eng; Lord Strathcona, Chiborn, Sydney, C B; Victoria H, Cardiff, Nov 29 via Norfolk.

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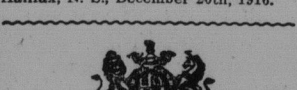
NOTICE TO MARINERS.
Notice is hereby given that a three-masted schooner is reported sunk in St. Mary's Bay, in twenty fathoms of water, four miles southeast off Dartmouth Point, N. S.

J. C. CHESLEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
St. John, N. B., Dec. 22nd, 1916.



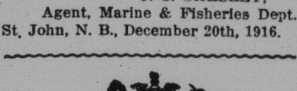
NOTICE TO MARINERS.
Notice is hereby given that Sheet Harbor Gas and Whistling Buoy has gone adrift. Will be replaced as soon as possible.

CHAS. H. HARVEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
Halifax, N. S., December 20th, 1916.



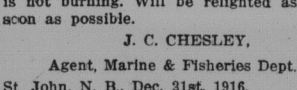
NOTICE TO MARINERS.
If it has been reported that the South West Ledge, Brier Island, gas and whistling Buoy is out of position. Will be replaced as soon as possible.

J. C. CHESLEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
St. John, N. B., December 20th, 1916.



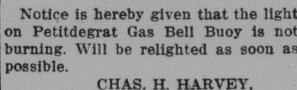
NOTICE TO MARINERS.
Notice is hereby given that the light on Hen and Chickens gas and bell buoy is not burning. Will be relighted as soon as possible.

J. C. CHESLEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
St. John, N. B., Dec. 21st, 1916.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.
Notice is hereby given that the light on Pettigrew Gas Bell Buoy is not burning. Will be relighted as soon as possible.

CHAS. H. HARVEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
Halifax, N. S., December 20th, 1916.



NOTICE TO MARINERS.
Notice is hereby given that the light on Pettigrew Gas Bell Buoy is not burning. Will be relighted as soon as possible.

CHAS. H. HARVEY,
Agent, Marine & Fisheries Dept.
Halifax, N. S