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The London Advertiser Printing Co.,
Limited.

LONDON, TUESDAY, APRIL 15.

THE COST OF LIVING.

The Dominion Government has issued a large volume of statistics, the third of an annual series, bearing on a subject that affects every person, viz.: the high cost of living. This volume refers more especially to wholesale prices, which, we are informed, have advanced 9 per cent. during the past year. Retail prices have not made quite as high a jump; but the report intimates that "a weekly family budget worked out at average prices, cost \$12.24 in 1910, \$12.89 in 1911, and \$13.63 in 1912." This brings prices higher than they have been before in a generation.

It is not necessary just here to enter into a careful review of the great mass of information presented in this report. It is, of course, valuable; but to the parties interested it is not very profitable. The housekeeper whose grocery bill has been growing under-stands the conditions; the workman, whose dinner pail requires more money to fill it, does not need a table of statistics to impress it on his mind. Every person is fully aware of the fact that the cost of living has increased, and whether that increase has been 9 per cent. or 9.5 per cent. is not the point that is worrying him. What he wants to know is the cause, and above all the remedy. Unfortunately, the Government's report is of little value in this direction.

Is it possible to throw any light on this subject? There are certain conditions which we know affect the cost of living. In the first place, all restrictions on trade make living more expensive. Everything that comes between the buyer and the seller makes the retail price of the article higher. Whether the extra money goes into the hands of several middlemen, or the customs officer, is immaterial. It is so much more added to the original value, and must be ultimately paid by the consumer.

Then whatever tends to monopoly has a tendency to raise prices. Special legislative privileges to any class, combines, trusts, all have their effect in varying degrees. There is a growing and perhaps inevitable tendency to concentration in industry, and, theoretically, production on a larger scale should reduce the cost; but in practice this advantage seldom goes to consumers. The combinations as a rule use their power to extort inordinate profits. It may be impossible, even undesirable, to go back to the old competitive conditions, but it is imperative that monopolies or semi-monopolies shall be controlled for the protection of the public.

Personal extravagance does not actually increase the cost of what is purchased, but it is an important element in the sum total of one's expenditure. Men now think in dollars where they used to think in dimes. Too many people indulge in luxuries that their incomes do not justify, and too many people squander the necessities they really need. But that is a personal fault for which comes a personal punishment. The victim is himself to blame, and the remedy is in his own hands.

But while there are causes which can be remedied, there are some not so easily reached. Money is of less value than it used to be. Gold, which is the monetary standard of most nations, is being mined in much larger quantities. Last year the production amounted in round figures to \$470,000,000. There is a close relation between supply and value. A gold dollar will not buy as much today as it would ten years ago.

While the output of gold has increased, credit has increased, banking facilities are greater, the total amount of trade possible on the basis of a given amount of gold reserve is much greater. The political economist who adopts what is called the "quantity theory of money," tells us that the purchasing power of money varies in proportion to its quantity. He would summarize the effect of his theory in relation to the cost of living by words like these: "The general level of prices is equal to the quantity of money (currency and credit) in existence, multiplied by its velocity of circulation, and divided by the total quantity of goods bought and sold."

If, then, these be the principal elements in the increased cost of living, the available remedies are simple; that is to say, simple in themselves, but very far from simple in bringing them into operation. Legislation against oppressive tariffs; improved methods of production; closer relations between producer and consumer; economy in social and domestic transactions—these may be of some effect in bringing about a better ratio between the individual's income and his expenditure. Perhaps nothing will bring down the cost of living to the standard of by-gone days. For the value of

money as a purchasing medium, whether of labor or of the products of labor, has gone down, and there is no likelihood of any considerable reduction of the supply or output of gold in the measurable future.

"NO CONSIDERATION."

When the City of London bill was before the Legislature in committee of the whole, Mr. Elliott, West Middlesex, asserted that the clauses empowering the municipality to control, equip and operate the London and Port Stanley Railway might conflict with the Dominion Railway Act.

The chairman, Mr. Lucas, said he "had not given this phase of the matter consideration, but thought the bill was within reasonable limits, and the clauses should pass." The bill now stands for a third reading.

The point raised by Mr. Elliott was well taken. The L. and P. S. R. is a Dominion railway, over which the Province has no jurisdiction. Only the Dominion Parliament can give authority to operate a Dominion road. A Dominion act of 1903 also says that no further charge against the L. and P. S. R. shall be created until existing debentures are paid. This act is entirely ignored in the City of London bill, which provides for the raising of another \$700,000 to be spent on the road. Yet the chairman of the private bills committee, and of the committee of the whole House, Mr. Lucas, a cabinet minister, and a lawyer, confesses that he has given no consideration to the matter. Furthermore, he refuses consideration, and drives the clauses through.

The position of the city of London with respect to the London and Port Stanley Railway will be untenable, unless it is regularized by the Dominion Parliament, and it may find that grave questions as to the propriety of the city's conduct will be raised at Ottawa if the matter is carried there.

A RECORD OF DELAY.

The law's delay is no slower than Sir James Whitney's administration. Although the Opposition has expressed its willingness to protract the present session in order to get a compensation bill passed, the Premier once again defers action.

The truth is, Sir James is the born enemy of reform. He has little conception of the common man's right, as against established custom, privilege and property interests. The plan outlined by Sir William Meredith is too radical for Sir James, and he wants time to frame a measure that will seem to grant the workman his deserts, while cunningly withholding some important points.

He proposes "to do nothing hasty." All will believe him. No one ever charged him with being hasty. "Let us sleep upon it" was the saying of a great Austrian reactionist to every reform advocated. Go away and let me sleep, said Sir James for three years (1907-1910), and brushed off Labor, which buzzed about his head, seeking a revised workmen's compensation law. Then for over a year more, until the election of 1911, a commissioner kept watch over the master's slumber, and stood Labor off. Now, after another year and a half, the commissioner is allowed to make a report, which the Premier, rubbing his eyes, rejects. "Take it away; too radical; young men like this Sir William are too bold. I'll have to settle the matter myself. Give me another six months or a year and I'll evolve a bill myself that will be a model to—"

(Yawns and snores off again.)
Mr. Rowell fights hard to have a settlement of this question now. Six years have elapsed with their toll of loss and suffering to thousands of homes. Another year's delay is intolerable to think of. Mr. Rowell tries to awaken the sluggish imagination of the Premier, to make him see what others see and feel, to goad him into action on this all-important matter of the conservation of men, women, and children.

Contrast Sir James as a life conserver with the efforts made and expense incurred by the steamship lines, without delay, to forestall a repetition of the Titanic accident. They did not potter around for seven years and then want more time lest they do anything "hasty."

Mr. Rowell will have the backing of the Province in his effort after expedition in the passing of a fair and modern compensation act, that will work without the legal difficulties which hamper the poor man under the present law. Stick to him, keep him to it, Mr. Rowell. Make it the act of 1913, instead of goodness knows when.

Carl Hagenbeck has gone to the happy hunting ground.

"Chechez la femme" has become thoroughly Anglicized. Wherever there is trouble in the old land now they look for a suffragette.

Mr. Lucas' confession that he gave no consideration to the city of London bill, is thoroughly characteristic of the slipshod methods of the Whitney Government.

There have been gold mine prospects more glittering than this electrification scheme. Not all, however, are so patiently self-contradicting in large detail.

Perhaps the members of the arson squad among the British suffragettes may be recommended as honor-keepers on one ground. They are experienced in getting up early and lighting the fire.

Mr. Borden's "emergency" embraces two or three factors, holding treacherous Nationalists in line, pile-driving through a Russian closure, and minding Mr. Rogers' eye. The three things are in ascending order of merit.

Adam Beck would not cross the street to become Premier of Ontario or Premier of Canada. Mr. Beck has no political ambition other than the ambition to associate his name with the glory of blessings won for the people—Toronto Telegram.

The Telegram's faculty for hero-worship sometimes makes it ridiculous.

Our local contemporary argues that the payment of \$20,000 to the city by the Pere Marquette and Michigan Central for running rights over the L. and P. S. R., would be more profitable than gross receipts of \$80,000 derived by a city road for carrying Pere Marquette and Michigan Central freight. What railway could survive if its operating expenses were 75 per cent. of its gross receipts?

APPROPRIATE.

[Puck.]
The Son (proudly)—I am going to have my college diploma framed. Where would you advise me to hang it?

The Father (grimly)—Put it up alongside that beautifully embossed mining-stock certificate of mine.

MUST CHEW THE PILL.

[Houston Post.]

"Is there any way you can suggest, by which we can cure her of her infatuation for him?"
"Oh, yes, that's easy. 'Just—'"
"I mean without letting her marry him?"
"Not that I know of."

WISE SAW REFUTED.

[Life.]

Mrs. Vastie Rich (sentimentally)—Longfellow says, "We can not buy with gold the old associations."
Vastie Rich—Don't you believe it, my dear. When I was in politics I found that cash would purchase the ancientest organization on earth."

YOUTH'S AGITATIONS.

[By Matthew Arnold.]

When I shall be divorced, some ten years hence,
From this poor present self which I am now,
When youth has done its tedious vain expense
Of passions that forever ebb and flow;
Shall I not joy youth's heats are left behind,
Ah, no! for then I shall begin to find
A thousand virtues in this hated time,
Then I shall wish its agitations back,
And all its thwarting currents of desire.

Then I shall praise the heat which then I lack,
And call this hurrying fever, generous fire,
And sigh that one thing only has been lent
To youth and age in common—discontent.

ENGLAND'S BREAKFAST.

[New York Herald.]

It is reported from London that a recent attempt to produce grapefruit as a breakfast food has failed, and that a heavy importation of those delicacies has caused such a slump in the market that costermongers are selling them from barrows for a penny apiece.

This will surprise no one who has ever lived in England. That country has known many changes during the last few years. Castle lines have been obliterated; the silk hat is no longer an object of reverent worship; actors have been knighted and hands introduced into restaurants. But the breakfast table is the last ditch of British conservatism. The Englishman eats bacon and eggs 365 mornings in the year and welcomes leap year because it enables him to indulge in that delightful dish 366 times.

The monarchy may be abolished and the House of Lords deprived of its prerogatives, but the English breakfast will remain as it was in the days of the Conqueror. Grapefruit will never have a place in it.

DRAWING THE LINE.

[Tit-Bits.]

Father—Mabel, you might give that young man who comes to see you in the evenings a message.
Mabel (blushing)—Yes, father.
Father—Tell him that we've got no objection to him running up the gas bills, but we'd rather he didn't carry away the morning paper when he leaves.

NOBLE BOY.

[Yorker's Statesman.]

"You ate all your own cake and Mabel's too, Tommy?" said the mother.
"Yes'm," replied Tommy.
"You'll be sick, child."
"Well, mother, you see if anybody was going to be sick I didn't want to be Mabel."

A THOUGHT HERE.

[Boston Transcript.]

Gibbs—It costs more to live than it did a hundred years ago.
Dibs—All the same, I wouldn't like to be one of those who lived then.

THE USUAL KIND.

[Harper's Weekly.]

"How fast is your car, Jimson?" asked Harkaway.
"Well," said Jimson, "it keeps about six months ahead of my income, generally."

CANADA'S CIVIC CRUDENESS.

[Canadian Courier.]

Last week, I heard an illustrated lecture by Professor Anderson, of the University of Toronto, on the cities of Vienna and Munich, and I realized as never before, how crude Canadian cities are. There is a tendency for one to be trenchant and critical of one's own country, but I was in danger of being complacent until I saw Professor Anderson's selection of maps and pictures.

As compared with the cities of Europe, Canadian and United States cities are decidedly crude, fantastic and unkempt. They are crude, because badly planned, because there is such a conglomeration of styles of architecture, and because there are no public buildings worthy of the name. Toronto has only one public building, the Arts Building of the University of Toronto, which would be looked at twice by one familiar with the architectural beauty and near-perfection of the public buildings of Vienna or Munich. American cities are fantastic because they put fifteen story buildings in the midst of four and five story buildings, and put a Corinthian front on a bank building which sits between a three-story saloon and a one-story barber shop. They are unkempt because our squares are bare of ornamentation, our parks are mere open spaces and our streets are misdecorated with telegraph, telephone and electric light poles.

Too many citizens regard the city as a place to make money, not as an artistic home for generation after generation of progressive and enlightened people. In brief, Canadian cities bear the evidence of our lack of an intelligent and unselfish civic spirit.

A Novel of Newspaper Life

[By Special Arrangement With the Winnipeg Telegram.]

Novels dealing with newspaper life become more and more numerous.

Enoch Wentworth was a New York Journalist. We read that "he seated himself before the desk, cleared off the blotter, laid out a heap of copy paper, filled the ink-well, and adjusted a new pen. He leaned his head upon his hand for a few minutes and his listless eyes fell upon a calendar. He discovered that it bore the dates of March instead of April. He tore off the record of weeks which had passed and dropped it into the waste basket. The pen rested listlessly between his fingers. When he tried to write with it the ink had dried. He did not dip it into the bottle again." The fact of the matter was that Enoch was going through the journalistic doldrums—that is, he couldn't churn up any inspiration, an experience with which every writer is familiar. But Enoch was not trying to write a police court story or an account of a fashionable wedding. He was doing his best to write a play. He had invented a plot, but somehow or other the dialogue wouldn't come. All his life this prominent newspaper man had been fired with the ambition to write a dramatic work, but in him, he did not have the spark of genius, the creative instinct.

And it was this consuming ambition which brought Enoch into the pages of a novel, entitled, "The Fate of Enoch Wentworth," by Isabel Gordon Curtis (McClelland & Goodchild, Toronto).

Enoch had a great friend, Andrew Merri, a comic actor, who was possessed of great ability, but had no ambition. Every once in a while Merry would disappear, perhaps in the height of an engagement, would go to pieces because of his dissipated habits, and would be brought back to work and soberness by the efforts of his steady friend Enoch. Now, it chanced that at a poker game one evening, or rather in the early morning, Wentworth and Andrew played for a document which the loser was to sign. It was a curious favor, that of Wentworth, as may be seen from the wording of the agreement:

"I hereby pledge myself to you until death, or ever bidding—to obey your every demand to the extent of my physical and mental ability—you to furnish me with support."

Andrew lost the game and signed the document. Neither man thought anything of it at the time, but Wentworth preserved the paper. Later on Andrew fell in love with Dorcas, Enoch's high-souled sister. This put ambition into Enoch and he went away and did what he had been trying to do for years—he wrote a play, full of emotion, full of thrills, full of snappy dialogue. When he read it over to Wentworth the latter was green with envy. Then in a moment of weakness, he remembered the bond. The temptation was too great, and he fell. To Andrew's surprise, dismay and disgust, Wentworth commanded him to hand over the manuscript to him and to promise never to divulge the secret of the friendship. He was to produce with Andrew and Dorcas as stars, how it captured New York by storm, and how Wentworth, after acting like a villain for a whole season, was reconciled to Andrew and was engaged to Dorcas.

There are improbabilities, it is true—for instance, "tis a fine pipe dream that a poor actor could toss off that play, but, never mind, the story is interesting.

RECOVERY OF PONTIFF

RESTS WITH HIMSELF

Is a Difficult Patient to Deal With, Declare His Physicians.

[Canadian Press.]

Rome, April 15.—Prof. Ettore Marchisani, the pope's physician, said today:

"The illness of the Pope is now taking its normal course. The patient was much better during the hours of the forenoon after his night's rest. He had had a slight setback late yesterday afternoon when his temperature rose slightly.

"If it is possible to induce Pope Pius to follow the orders of his medical advisers, the amelioration in his condition will bring with it a revival of strength.

"In other words, the recovery of the Pope is chiefly in his own hands. 'The Pope is a most difficult patient to deal with. While apparently giving in to the recommendations of his physicians, the moment he feels slightly better he insists on having his own way, saying: 'I command here.'"

THIS SUFFRAGETTE MAY

BE OF UNSOUND MIND

Annie Bell Carried a Revolver and Threatened to Shoot If Interfered With.

[Canadian Press.]

London, April 15.—Annie Bell, the suffragette who was arrested outside Holloway Jail on the night of April 9 during the imprisonment of Mrs. Pankhurst, and found to be in the possession of a revolver, was brought up again in the police court today and further remanded without bail in order that physicians may make a report as to the state of her mind. The police magistrate said he doubted her sanity.

When she was first brought up at the police court, Miss Bell told the magistrate that she carried a revolver for self-protection, but with the full intention of using it if personal violence were offered to her. She said: "If any man had interfered with me I would have shot him."

Boys Who Loitered on

Street Corners Appear

Before Police Court

[Canadian Press.]

Roland Rusk, a blacksmith, was wanted in police court this morning to answer a charge of breach of the wife maintenance act. When his name was called he did not appear, so the magistrate, after having Detective Down swear that he served him with a summons, directed the court clerk to have his arrest be issued.

Five young lads, the oldest not 18, appeared charged with loitering in the vicinity of Adelaide and Trafalgar streets and using bad language on the night of April 8.

Several complaints of rowdiness in that section had been registered with the police by the residents, and Constable McRoberts was sent to investigate.

He claimed that the boys did some loud talking and used bad language, but only one boy admitted swearing. After receiving a promise from each of the lads to stay away from the corners after dark, the court allowed them to go.

Edward Bugler did not take out his teamster's license when he should have, and as a result it cost him \$5 cents extra for summons to police court this morning.

Thomas Wilkins committed a breach of the traffic bylaw and paid \$2.

Kills His Children

and Shoots Himself

[Canadian Press.]

Fitchburg, Mass., April 14.—Ernest Moschner, aged 33, murdered his four children and then killed himself by shooting, at his home on Rollstone street today. Continued ill-health made the man temporarily insane, the police believe. Moschner's wife, upon returning from work, discovered the bodies of her children and husband with wet holes in their heads. The murdered children are Elsie, aged 12; Myrtle, aged 11; Norman, aged 8; and Ernest, aged 6.

DEATH IN MILK

Poisonous Weeds Cause Death of Children, Near Kingston.

[Canadian Press.]

Kingston, April 15.—Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brouseau, of Plevna, in North

SHILOH
quickly stops coughs, cures colds, and heals the throat and lungs. 25 cents.

A Message From a Woman to Women

Every Woman Should Take

"Fruit-a-lives"

Lakelet, Ont., May 12, 1911.

"Kindly publish this letter of mine if you think it will benefit other women who might be afflicted with the diseases I have had in the past, but am now, thanks to 'Fruit-a-lives', completely cured of. It is my firm belief that every woman should take 'Fruit-a-lives' if she wants to keep herself in good health.

"Before taking 'Fruit-a-lives' I was constantly troubled with what is commonly known as 'Nerves' or severe Nervousness. This Nervousness brought on the most violent attacks of Sick Headache, for which I was constantly taking doctors' medicine without any permanent relief. Constipation was also a source of great trouble to me and for which the doctors said: 'I would have to take medicine all my life', but 'Fruit-a-lives' banished all these troubles and now I am a well woman.

"Mrs. FRED GADKE." Fifty cents a box, 6 for \$2.50—trial size, 25c. At dealers or sent prepaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

Frontenac, suffered the loss by death of their two children, a girl of two and a half years, and an infant son of four months. It is thought that their deaths were caused by milk from a cow which ate poisonous weeds. The children died within a few hours of each other, and there was a double funeral in the little village on Monday.

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The Blow Almost

Killed Little Hanka

[Canadian Press.]

Montreal, April 15.—Little Hanka Etrepain, a hard-working Polish domestic servant, was nearly washed dishes last night when a messenger handed her a telegram. She read it and fainted. When she was revived she read the telegram and fainted again. Her employers, at 109 Colonial avenue, took the message away from her then and read it themselves. They nearly fainted, too, for the cable

terribly informed Hanka that she was the heiress to \$425,000 from relatives in Russia.

Tired and Weak

Nerves Exhausted

The feelings of fatigue and languor which overcome so many people at this season of the year tell of the exhausted condition of the nerves.

It is impossible to keep up the action of the heart and the vitality of the nerves when the blood is thin and watery, and this is why nearly everybody needs tonic treatment in the spring.

Some of the symptoms are restlessness, purposeless activity, insomnia, absent-mindedness, tired gait, lack of ambition and enthusiasm, headache and neuralgic pains, dyspepsia and feelings of languor and depression.

Monotony of work and mental overstrain or worry sap the nervous system, as does also the strenuousness of modern life, whether in the business or social world.

More and more men and women are obliged to seek the assistance of such concentrated foods as Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to restore vitality to the tired and worn-out nerves.

Such treatment is necessary, because diseases of the nerves do not right themselves. As nerve force runs low the digestive system fails to extract the necessary nutrition from the food. Dr. Chase's Nerve Food supplies in condensed form the ingredients required, and restores health.

A little patience is necessary in treating diseases of the nerves, and rest helps to restore strength. You can be sure of lasting beneficial results when you use.

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food

Fifty Cents a box, six for \$2.50, at all dealers, or Edmanston, Bates & Co Limited, Toronto.

CHAPMAN'S

ALTERATION SALE

ALL NEW GOODS: THE ALTERATION SALE IS THE MOST INTERESTING BARGAIN OCCASION.

LINGERIE WAISTS

99 dozen White Lingerie Waists now on sale—A brand new purchase.

Actual Values \$1.50 to \$3—the Greatest Waist Values That Have Been Offered in London. **98c**

1,188 Beautiful White Waists in this purchase. All the newest styles, made of fine batiste and lawn, in at least a dozen different styles, including high and low neck effects, ¾ sleeves and back