

UNITED KINGDOM STILL WORKING UNDER MANY WAR-TIME RESTRICTIONS

Sugar and Butter Are Now Rationed—Regulations on Meat
Only Recently Removed—Consumption of Liquor is
Rigidly Under the Old Rules.

London, Nov. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—The end of one year of peace finds the United Kingdom still working under many of the war-time restrictions affecting ordinary living conditions, although large numbers of the orders have been rescinded and others have been modified.

So far as food is concerned, only sugar and butter are now rationed. The regulations regarding the amount of meat which might be purchased were removed only a few days ago, about one year after the close of the war. The consumption of liquor, however, is being held down rigidly under the old rules. Necessities still rationed, which vitally concern the home, include coal, gas and electricity. The shortage of fuel has been causing considerable hardship both to the individual and to industry.

The Ministry of Food has found it advisable to continue the maximum prices, both wholesale and retail, which it fixed for a considerable number of necessities.

Apart from the matter of food and fuel, the Board of Trade is maintaining control of the exportation and importation of a long list of articles. The ban has been removed from some goods, but this has been mainly in the case of things importation of which had been forbidden and which the country found itself short of.

Removal of restrictions on most of the food necessities has not solved the living problem of the masses, however. There is still a great shortage of many things, and, moreover, summer, have now mounted to about where they were at the signing of the armistice.

The increase is attributed partly to the world scarcity of necessities, and partly to the augmented demand from the recently belligerent countries, and partly to inflated currency and adverse foreign exchanges. The last named have had a pronounced effect on prices, and it is the belief of economic experts that food cannot be made much cheaper until these are adjusted, even though there is an increase in production.

The butter ration is placed at one and one-half ounces for each person per week. This refers to the imported product only, there being no restriction on the use of home-made butter. As a matter of fact, virtually no butter is being made in the United Kingdom these days, so that the consumer has to depend upon margarine and foreign butter.

The reason there is so little home produced butter on the market is that the retail price, approximately 60 cents a pound, bears no relation to the actual cost of butter to the farmer. This month farmers can sell milk at 64 cents a gallon, and it takes 2 1/2 gallons of milk to produce a pound of butter. If English butter were selling at its true economic value it would be about \$1.24 per pound.

Until recently the sugar ration was twelve ounces for each person per week, but, owing to the shortage, this allowance has been decreased to eight ounces, and is expected to remain at that mark for many months. The amount allowed to the confectionery and sweet trades has been reduced by 25 per cent, and a further reduction is expected with the new year.

Butchers' meat was rationed until a few days ago, each person being allowed forty cents' worth per week. In consequence of the receipt recently of a large supply of mutton and lamb from Australia and New Zealand it was found possible to remove all rationing restrictions, and the Food Ministry has expressed the hope that people will relieve the food situation by eating more meat, which is welcome advice for England.

Despite the small ration, only about 50 per cent of the meat allowance was being demanded by ticket holders each week. This was due either to a change of taste since the beginning of the war or to the high cost. Whenever a butcher had a balance of meat left over at the week-end he was permitted to sell it to any one of his customers, irrespective of whether they had already had their ration or not. In this way some people were able to exceed the amount provided for by their permits.

The sale of beer and spirits is still restricted in quantity, and the strength of both beer and whiskey is much below the pre-war average. As a result, it is said, there has been an increase in sobriety. Whiskey is present about thirty per cent, under pre-war.

Alcoholic drinks can only be purchased between noon and 2.30 p. m., and between 6 and 10 o'clock at night.

The Food Ministry still fixes wholesale prices for a number of other commodities, and the Ministry is the actual purchaser and distributor of cheese, bacon, ham, lard, dried fruits,

bread, butter, cocoa powder, condensed milk and canned fish. The fixing of the maximum price, it must be noted, does not prevent the sale of goods for a sum below that amount, and in many cases foodstuffs are being vendued much below the limit fixed by law.

The Ministry is believed to be the largest in the world. Its annual expenditure is about \$1,000,000,000. The object of the department is not to make a profit, but in transactions of this kind it is impossible to make both sides of the account balance. The actual figures are not yet available, but it is expected that the profit this year will not exceed \$2,500,000. Last year there was a profit of about \$35,000,000, the whole of which was expended during the summer in supplying certain articles of food below their cost price. Thus the profit does not enrich the treasury but goes entirely for the benefit of the consumer.

The maximum coal ration was and still is fixed at five tons for the individual consumer for the year beginning July 1, 1919. Gas and electricity are restricted accordingly. Business is also under restrictions. It is provided that the Board of Trade may issue special permits for the use of coal, gas or electricity beyond the ration, if it is deemed an absolute necessity.

PARROTS THAT KILL SHEEP.

Sheep raising in New Zealand is threatened with a calamity from an unexpected source—a parrot that attacks full-grown sheep and with claws and beak literally tears its unfortunate victim to pieces.

This bird of destruction is called the kea. It is smaller than an English rook, says a New Zealand correspondent of the London Times, and has the brilliant, semi-metallic sheen of many other colonial birds. Beneath the wings are flame-colored patches. The body is compact and very muscular, but most of the power seems to be centered in the neck, the curved, cutting beak and the strong tearing talons.

The claws will dig into flesh as if it were butter, and one sweep of the beak of a bird that I thought was dead has cut clean across a pair of heavy cord breeches. The kea's flight is as swift as that of a wind-driven pheasant, and it can jump into the air and be off before its screech is ended. But let no mistake be made: the kea is not a sporting bird in any sense—it is treated as a vermin and shot on sight.

Strangely enough, the kea is not a wary bird; it sometimes lets human beings approach it closely and has even been known to enter dwelling houses and gardens. Frequently keas will stand by in apparent stupidity when their mates are being killed.

Thirty-five years ago this parrot was seen only in the high country of Otago, and the mountain shepherds of the Hawkdun had a legend then of one that killed a sheep. It came north with the herds, and at the time the Mackenzie country was opened it was charged with mysterious killings of sheep that took place more and more frequently. Twenty-five years ago it was seen on St. James and St. Helena, but was unknown on the plain or on the hill station forty miles away.

Today it has been seen in Blenheim; it ventures to the plains and flies shrieking over Hanmer Springs. At one point by the public road, between Culverden and Hanmer, it slew seventy sheep in a night. Where I was working at Christmas, 1917, it killed seven big Corriedale rams—the strongest sheep in the world—between dusk and dawn, within one hundred yards of the homestead windows.

In some parts of the country small bounties were paid for the keas, but the birds did their work so secretly that the sheep raisers were slow to suspect them. Meanwhile the keas increased in numbers and laid heavier toll, and finally the evidence against the winged terror became overwhelming. The farmers and settlers began to destroy the pest, but more and more keas came, and now there is urgent need that the government of New Zealand take drastic measures if the sheep of the country are to be saved.

It is a curious fact that very little is known about the habits of the kea. When and where it nests is a mystery. There is no record of young birds being seen with the ones that attack the sheep.

Designing Woman

Newlywed—You never call me pet names no wunner you want some thing. Before we married I was different.

Mrs. Newlywed—Oh no, it wasn't. Before marriage I called you pet names because I wanted you.



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Captain Al Waddell relates a weird experience he encountered "over there." It was during meat, and the orderly officer, glancing down the long table, demanded if there were any complaints about the food.

Private Jones rose slowly and extended his cup.

"Taste this, sir," he said. The officer took a sip, hesitated a

moment and said scathingly: "Very excellent soup, I call it." "Yes, sir," agreed Jones, "but the corporal says it's tea, and the cook served it as coffee, and just now I found a toothbrush in it, sir."

A BIT OF A FACER A man, says the Weekly Telegraph, complained of the conduct of his son.

He related to a friend all the young man's escapades.

"You should speak to him with firmness and recall him to his duty," said the friend.

"I have of course; but he pays not the least attention to what I say. He listens only to the advice of fools. I wish you would talk to him."

Christmas Price List!

All Goods Guaranteed to be First Quality. If Not Satisfactory, Money Will be Cheerfully Refunded.

RAISINS	DATES AND FIGS	NUTS
Small pkg. Seeded Raisins 15c.	Fancy Currants 28c. pkg.	Shelled Walnuts, 78c. and 95c. per lb.
Full size pkg. Seeded Raisins 18c. and 20c.	Cooking Figs 30c. per lb.	Shelled Almonds 67c.
Small pkg. Sunmaid Seedless Raisins, 20c.	Box Figs 16c.	Shelled Filberts 59c.
Large pkg. Sunmaid Seedless Raisins, 22c.	Dates From 20c. up	Shelled Peanuts 38c.
	4 Crown Camel Brand Layer Figs, 37c. lb.	Best Mixed Nuts 34c.

If You Want to Have Good Luck With Your Christmas Cake and Mince-meat, Buy Your Extracts and Spices From the 2 Barkers, Ltd.

FLOUR	SUGAR
1 lb. Citron, Lemon and Orange Peel, Only 45c.	10 lbs. Best Granulated, with orders, \$1.18
24 lb. bag Royal Household \$1.52	100 lbs. Best Granulated, with orders, \$11.90
24 lb. bag Royal Household \$1.52	Cut Loaf Sugar 16c. per lb.
Black Basket and Cluster Raisins at Lowest Prices.	

CONFECTIONERY
Mixed Candy Only 15c. lb.
Choice Mixed Candy 20c.
Barker's Cut Mixed 25c.
Xmas Mixed Candy Only 30c.
40c. Grain Mixture Only 30c.

Crystallized Cherries, Ginger, Pineapple and Assorted Fruit at Lowest Prices.

BEST QUALITY CANNED GOODS			
Pumpkins, large cans, Only	10c.	Brunswick Sardines, 7c.	Belmont Baked Beans, 12c.
Pears Only	17c.	Best Sardines, 17c.	Libby's Baked Beans, small, 12c.
Corn, 17c.	17c.	Norwegian Sardines, 30c.	Libby's Baked Beans, medium, 17c.
Tomatoes, large cans, 17c.	17c.	Deviled Sardines, 10c.	Libby's Baked Beans, large, 25c.
Beets, 19c.	19c.	Kipper Herring, 15c.	Baked Beans with tomato sauce, 27c.
Shrimps, 21c.	21c.	1 lb. tin Corn Beef, 34c.	Hillside Pineapple, 2's, 30c.
Lobsters, 31c.	31c.	2 lb. tin Corn Beef, 65c.	Libby's Peas, 2's, 40c.
Salmon, 1 1/2 lb. tins, 14c.	14c.	Libby's Soup, 2 for 25c.	Libby's Peaches, 2's, 60c.
Salmon, 1 lb. tins, Whiteheads, 23c.	23c.	Clover Condensed Milk, 16c.	Libby's Cherries, 2's, 60c.
Salmon, 1 lb. tins, Heather, 28c.	28c.	Mayflower Milk, 17c.	Libby's Apricots, 2's, 39c.
Best Salmon, 1 lb. tins, 12c.	12c.	St. Charles Milk, 12c.	Biscuits, 19c.
Clams, per can, 15c.	15c.	Lobster Paste, 1 1/2 lb. cans, 20c.	Rosedale Peaches, 2's, 32c.

TEA	COFFEE
Orange Pekoe, Only 45c. per lb.	Santos Fresh Ground, 47c.
Good Blend, Only 53c. per lb.	Marricabo Fresh Ground, 53c.
Best Blend Peerless, Only 60c.	Best Blend, 54c.

MISCELLANEOUS		
10 lbs. Good Onions Only 50c.	Good Butter, 55c. lb.	5 rolls Toilet Paper, 25c.
2 pkgs. Shredded Wheat, 24c.	Pure Lard, 33c. lb.	Mince-meat, From 14c. pkg. up
3 1/2 lbs. Buckwheat, 24c.	3 lb. tin Lard, 97c.	Best Pure Jam, 16 oz. Glass Only 37c.
4 lbs. Best Oatmeal, 25c.	5 lb. tin Lard, \$1.59	Pure Fruit Jam, 2 Tumblers for 25c.
2 bottles Worcester, 24c.	1 lb. block Shortening, 31c.	Pure Fruit Jam, 12 oz. For 23c.
4 bars Imperial Soap, 25c.	3 lb. tin Shortening, 91c.	Pure Fruit Jam, 4 lb. pail 67c.
3 bars Sunlight Soap, 25c.	5 lb. tin Shortening, \$1.52	16 oz. Orange Marmalade 28c.
3 bars Comfort Soap, 25c.	2 pkgs. Corn Flakes, 38c. lb.	4 lb. pail Orange Marmalade, 90c.
Washing Powder, Only 5c. lb.	Extracts Lemon or Vanilla, .3 for 25c.	Ginger, Pineapple, Leming, Marmalade
Venetian Bath Soap, 2 for 23c.	Best Extracts Lem. or Van., 25c. bot	20 oz. bottle Pickles, For 25c.
Scott's Scouring Powder, Only 7c.	1 lb. tin Coleman's Baking Powder, 30c.	Davies' Pickles, Only 10c. bottle
McLaren's Jelly Powder, 11c.	Carrots, 40c. pk.	Sultana Stove Polish, 10c.
Beets, 40c. pk.	Turnips, 25c. pk.	6 pkgs. Cow Brand Soda, 23c.
	Apples, 30c. pk. up	Macaroni, 12c. pkg.

A FEW PRICES FROM OUR UPSTAIRS DEPARTMENT

Dolls, From 15c. up	Regular 75c. Goods for 50c.	Books, From 5c. up
Regular 25c. Toys, For 15c.	Regular \$1.00 Goods for 75c.	Bound Books, From 15c. up
Regular 50c. Toys, For 25c.	Regular \$1.25 Goods for \$1.00	Boy Scout Books, From 15c. up
Jardiners, From 25c. up	Regular \$1.50 to 2.00 Goods 1.25	Large Alger, 27c.
Cheese Dishes, From 40c. up	For \$1.25 to \$1.50	A Large Variety of Girls' and Boys' Books, From 25c. up
Meat Platters, From 30c. up	Regular 2.50 to \$4.00 Goods 2.00	Games, From 5c. up
25c. Christmas Stocking, 15c.	For \$2.00 to \$3.00	Genuine Teddy Bears, From 75c. up
50c. Christmas Stocking, 25c.	Assortment of Dolls from 75c. to \$4.50	

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