Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, - - - Proprietor
H. A. WINTER, B.A., - - Editor

MONDAY, April 23rd, 1917.

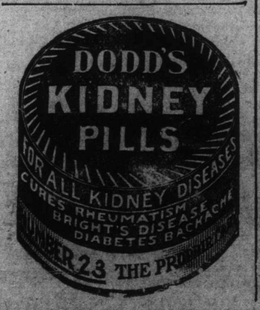
THE FOOD QUESTION.

Now that the Government have yielded to the popular demand and taken the first step towards meeting the food crisis that is rapidly approaching us, the moment is opportune to consider the question more particularly than we have done. Nothing has reached us concerning the Commission just appointed beyond the fact of its appointment, but we are glad to learn from the Daily News that its scope will not be limited to a mere inquiry into food prices. Had this been the case, no result whatever could have been expected; and if any to-day imagine that these gentlemen can, as if by the wave of a wand, cut any of these prices down, we tell them at once that they are deluding themselves. What the Commission can and should do is to inform those who suffer from these prices how it is in their power to control them and keep them down, and also—what is infinitely more important—make more secure the supply of food. As long as the local price of staple foods, such as flour, keeps, as it has done, consistently below the market prices abroad, it is obvious that no improvement in prices can be made to the country in general. This is not, as it might seem, inconsistent with our previous observations on the subject. Profits have been made by many dealers of which we cannot approve, but it is undeniable that they have been possible owing to the large stocks carried, and that if these had not been so large we should have had to keep pace with the foreign market and so have suffered from even higher prices. Our point is, that this carrying of large stocks is one of the causes that contribute to the high prices and is itself only possible through the large local demand. That brings us to the crux of the whole matter. Our people must cut down their demand for flour and for many other things. If they will not do this voluntarily, it will soon be the duty of the Government to compel them to do it.

Why are they making such desperate efforts in the United Kingdom to increase their home production? The immediate answer will be, because of the lack of tonnage and the submarine menace. That is true, but only half the truth. If the authorities in England knew that there was a sufficient supply somewhere, they would not be ploughing up parks and lawns and cutting down priceless trees as they are doing. Conversely, if, with the supply what it is, they had twice the tonnage available, they would still be doing what they are. It is because they know that there is a world shortage of potatoes and of wheat that they are taking these drastic steps. That shortage affects us, as it affects everyone, and must be met in the same way. We must reduce our consumption of these articles and greatly increase our production of others. Every possible acre must be put under cultivation. We must eat more vegetables and more fish. We must put ourselves as nearly in the position of a self-supporting country as is humanly possible. If this is not done, the prospect that faces us for the coming autumn and winter is one which we do not like to contemplate.

We consume here the enormous quantity of about a barrel and half of flour per head of population. This cannot continue under present conditions. Merely for hygienic reasons it has always had objections which are only too patent. Much the same thing applies to salt meats. If every housewife would reflect that every time she is able to refrain from baking bread or using flour in another way she is helping both to conserve the supply of flour and to keep down its price, an instant and grateful effect would be apparent. The alternative is compulsory rationing, and we can see it coming if the people do not wake up. It may soon be a question, not of the price of flour, but whether there will be any flour at all.

There is one other point. It is a great mistake to imagine that this question is unaffected by matters which appear to lie outside it. We have no patience at all with the popular outcry against the high price of necessities when so much money is being wasted on luxuries. This waste has been denied, but we have only to draw attention to the large amount of luxuries imported and consumed here to prove our contention. Chocolates and other confections, all kinds of expensive groceries and other unnecessary things are consumed in great quantities, and the extravagance is not confined to eatables. When will the ordinary man realize that waste on luxuries sends up the price of necessities, waste, it usually is, by one who selfishly thinks that he can afford it, and a resulting burden upon the poor who cannot. It is notorious that there never was before so much money in Newfoundland,, never a time when its products fetched such prices, never, despite the war, so much prosperity. How much of that money is being saved, and how much wasted? These are questions which the Commission would do well to bring within the range of their inquiries.



Probably Prisoners of War in Germany.

Mr. P. E. Outerbridge received the subjoined cable yesterday from his father, Sir Joseph Outerbridge, at London:—

"Think very probable Norman prisoner. Reported continued fighting after wounded arm. After taking objective several hundred surrounded and probably numerous prisoners. This unofficial."

Sir Joseph's message inferentially says that "Ours" attained their objective and were counter-attacked and partly surrounded, hence the belief is that several of the Newfoundlanders including Lieut. Norman Outerbridge, reported missing, have been taken prisoners. There is a certain amount of consolation in the information to hand, although it is unofficial.

New Departure in Local Fishery.

It is understood that our local fishermen will do very little fish curing this summer, owing to the fact that two large fresh fish corporations will be buying up all the "green" fish they can get. If a suitable price is offered for cod after coming from the grounds in all probability scarcely any of our fishermen will trouble about "making" fish this season. The sequence to this new departure in the fish business is that although the use of salt will be reduced to a minimum, yet labour in the handling of fish in and around St. John's will be killed.

Here and There.

FORESTRY BATTALION. — Only 30 young men have been accepted for the Forrestry Battalion so far.

DIED AT HOSPITAL.—Mr. James Lambe, a well-known teamster of Freshwater Road, died at the General Hospital yesterday.

Fairbanks Brass Globe and Angle Valves to be had at BOWRING BROS., Ltd., Hardware Dept.—feb6,tf

A CORRECTION.—In the list of Donations of Curios for St. Dunstan's Bazaar, published in Saturday's paper, "Miss E. T. M. Smith" should read "Miss Ethel Le M. Smith."

The Star of the Sea R. R. and B. Committee are holding a Card Tournament in their rooms on Monday night, April 23rd, in aid of a worthy cause. Many handsome prizes offering.—1i

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE. — The Citizens' Committee will meet in the Board of Trade Rooms to-night sharp at 8 o'clock when the sections dealing with pensions and the duties of Council officials will be discussed.

(Under the distinguished patronage of Lady Davidson and the Misses Diana and Daphne Davidson.)

C.C.C. Children's Fancy Dress Ball

IN THE

C.C.C. NEW HALL, Saturday Next, April 28th,

FROM 4 TO 7.

Music by the C. C. C. Band. Tickets **50c.** No. Reserved Spectators' Gallery, **50c.**, at the Atlantic Bookstore on Tuesday. Beautiful prizes for the best costumes for girls and boys. The following ladies have kindly consented to act as a committee to manage the affair: Mesdames Conroy, Parker, Bradshaw, Bearns, Hutton, Mitchell, Brownrigg, Cox, Cleary, Clift; Misses Bremner, Kent and Bulley. apr23,1i

"Our Men Fought Splendidly."

[No. 1073.]
Telegram from Sir Edward Morris.
(Received 20 April, 1917.)
The Governor of Newfoundland,
St. John's:

Our unofficial reports point to heavy casualties for our Regiment in relation to action of which you have had notice from Record Office. Have seen the men at Wandsworth Hospital, all doing well, but nothing in yet as to names or number of casualties. All reports agree our men fought splendidly and died like heroes.

Kindly convey my deepest sympathy with relatives of those who have fallen.

(Sgd.) E. P. MORRIS.

Turkeys and Chicken at ELLIS'.

Local Merchantman

Leaves Her Bones in the Waters of the Harbour.

The schooner Mary and Mildred, Capt. Williams, reached port at two o'clock this morning with a cargo of salt, after a lengthy passage from Cadiz. The vessel struck a pan of ice off Cape Spear last evening and punched a hole, about six inches long in the starboard bow. She began to leak, but the working of the pumps kept her free until she was safely docked. About 5 a.m., the pumps became choked with salt so that the inrush of water gained headway, flooding the vessel, which gradually began to settle down in the water and sink. At 8 o'clock she parted her moorings and went to bottom, after carrying away a considerable portion of Davey's wharf. The crew only saved their belongings, but the fittings of the vessel and the Captain's nautical instruments were not.

With both the salt and tonnage question being so acute at the present juncture the sinking of the Mary and Mildred is a serious loss. We understand an effort will be made to refloat the submerged vessel as soon as the salt cargo is gone out of her. Mr. G. C. Fearn owns the vessel.

McMurdo's Store News

MONDAY, April 23rd, 1917.

Figsen is a very effective, though essentially mild laxative, and is put up for sale in a convenient form. A Figsen taken at night will prevent constipation, relieve biliousness and headache, and keep the stomach and bowels in good order. To those who suffer from constipation, and the stomach troubles of which it is the fruitful parent, will do well to use a Figsen occasionally. Price 10 and 25 cts. a tin.

Do not forget that we have a good stock of Diamond Dyes—for wool and cotton—in most of the popular shades. Price 10c. a pkg.

Here and There.

Turkeys and Chicken at ELLIS'.

PERSONAL.—Mr. F. Burrows, Manager of the N. S. Steel and Coal Co., Ltd., Bell Island, arrived in the city this morning.

STOMACH TROUBLES. — Stafford's Prescription "A" cures Indigestion and Dyspepsia. Price 25 and 50c. bottle. Postage 5 and 10c. extra.

BURIN DISTRICT FUND.— The following amounts were received at this office on Saturday: Thomas Peel, $5.00; Mrs. Thos. Peel, $2.50.

Stafford's Liniment cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia and all Aches and Pains.

A CHARMED LIFE.—Relatives of Sergt. Charles Parsons of the signalling corps, Newfoundland Regiment, received a message from him yesterday saying he had come through the last engagement with "Ours" without a scratch. Charlie has been with the Regiment in every engagement they have taken part in at Gallipoli and France and came through without injury.

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURES DISTEMPER.

In Aid of "Blighty."

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week the Women's Association of St. Mary's Church are holding a Sale of Work in Botwood Hall. Part of the proceeds will be in aid of "Blighty," a soldiers' paper published at the front for the benefit of the men in the firing line. An appeal has been issued in the Old Country for funds to help the soldiers paper going, and the good ladies of St. Mary's Association are desirous of giving "Blighty" a helping hand. On Thursday night a concert will be given.

India Admitted to Conference.

April 21, 1917.

Dear Sir,

The following message has been to-day received by His Excellency the Governor from the Secretary of State, who requested that the same be given publication, and I shall be glad if you will kindly insert it in your issue of Monday next.

Yours truly,
J. R. BENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

Editor Evening Telegram.

[No. 1078.]
Code Telegram from Secretary of State (Recd. 21 April, 1917.)
My despatch 21st September 1070.

Following resolutions passed unanimously at Meeting Imperial Conference, April 13th.

That the Imperial War Conference desires to place on record its view that the resolution of the Imperial Conference of April 20th, 1907 should be modified to permit of India being fully represented at all future Imperial Conferences and that the necessary steps should be taken to secure the assent of the various Governments in order that the next Imperial Conference may be summoned and constituted accordingly.

Fresh Fillets and Fresh Kippers at ELLIS'.

Disgraceful Conduct.

The disgraceful conduct of a number of young boys and girls who congregate at the entrance of Cochrane Street Church Sunday School off Bannerman Street, is anything but creditable to a civilized community. Last year at a considerable expense the trustees of the church were instrumental in having a row of valuable shrubs planted at the entrance to the Sunday School, also a very pretty green sward, which added much to the beauty of the sacred edifice. A number of the trees have been uprooted and broken in a shameful manner, while the green has been defaced by the boots of the thoughtless youngsters running over it. Two valuable windows, a duplicate of which cannot be purchased in this country, have been broken, the required glass having to be imported from Montreal. The matter has been handed over to the police who will hold the parents responsible should further damage be inflicted.

Fresh Smelts and Fresh Haddies at ELLIS'.

Copy of Cablegram.

London, April 22, 1917.

Colonial Secretary, St. John's.

Association Visiting Committee report condition of following men in hospitals.

Progressing Favorably—1614 Adey, 2201 Abbott, 1831 Bishop, 2947 Burton, 2931 Bursey, 2168 Christian, 1027 Dodd, 2057 Davis, 2556 Hearn, 19 Hennebury, 77 Lacey, 1582 Murcell, 2028 Moore, 1730 Michelin, 1454 Northcott, 2303 Oke, 1061 Ryan, 2016 Read, 1763 Sullivan, 2456 Squires, 2638 Stone, 21 Tilley, 152 Voisey.

Improving—1984 Brown, 2752 Hussey, 2977 Hodder, 1605 Hann, 47 Maddigan, 1701 Oliphant, 2512 Osmond, 1776 Thomas.

Slight Improvement—1855 Walters.

REEVE.

FISH AT ST. MARY'S.—The first fish for the season was taken at St. Mary's on April 20th by Albert Young, an old resident of the settlement.

Sir Robert Bond the Only Man.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—Notwithstanding the all absorbing interest in the recent favorable war developments within the past ten days, one cannot but observe the steadily increasing signs of unrest in political circles now that the time for the opening of the Legislature approaches, and what is of more consequence, when the question of a general election in the coming fall comes near for consideration. As is usual of course in such cases, the local papers that have so far touched upon this subject agree to differ, and until the Premier returns these questions must necessarily remain with the future to determine. Even in the great Dominion near us amidst the whole hearted loyalty of the people in the pursuit of the war, party politics is manifesting itself in a more marked degree than in any period since the opening of the war, and if one could judge from some of the party papers, Sir Wilfred Laurier and Sir Robert Borden will soon again be in the public arena as of yore with drawn swords. This may all mean that the general consensus of opinion that the end of the war is near at hand, is growing stronger, and that it is well for us to be prepared when peace comes to be in a position to resume our "business as usual." These thoughts naturally lead one to consider what our position will be in public matters. That there will be a change in the Government of the Colony when an opportunity offers, I don't think anyone at present doubts, and everything points to the fact that the present effete and incompetent administration is on its deathbed. If, then, we are to have a change, don't you think it worthy of our serious thought that we should consider what that change is to be, and that we should guard against the possibility of the change bringing about a condition of affairs, making confusion worse confounded. For three years past at least Mr. Coaker has been the active leader of a party in the country in opposition to the present Government, and the papers that can influence or control have been incessant in their denunciations of the flagrant corruption, demoralization and dishonesty of the Morris Government. So far, in my opinion, he has served his country well, but I am afraid that my approval of his policy must stop there. It is an open secret now that within the past year this same Mr. Coaker and his friends were, on two separate occasions if not more, in secret negotiations with the leaders of the Morris Government for a coalition of the two parties, and that these negotiations failed only because they could not agree on the question of the distribution of the spoils of office. The negotiations for a coalition between Coaker and Morris were in actual progress while at the same time the Coaker paper was teeming with abuse and condemnation of the Morris Government. It is not now a question of confidence in the Morris administration, for that has long ceased to exist as far as the general public are concerned, but I think we may well ask ourselves what confidence can be placed in a man who aspires to lead a party, and who at the outset of his career has acted as Mr. Coaker has done in these recent negotiations. What is the value of his condemnation or his approval of any public question? How can he condemn Sir Edward Morris or any of his followers when he can be met with the reply from them at any moment that he was ready to become one of their party if he had only received enough from them in return? Mr. Bennett, the acting Premier, is reported as having said at some recent public gathering, that the next two years of government in this colony would tax the best ability in the country, and most people will fully endorse that opinion, and it is therefore of paramount importance that when the change in the administration takes place, we take care to see that the Government of the Colony is in safe hands. In the present very cloudy political atmosphere about us there is, in my opinion, only one man in sight on the political horizon in whom we can put our trust for a secure, honest and clean Government, and the electorate will be wise if they can induce Sir Robert Bond to once more put his hand to the helm.

Yours truly,
ELECTOR.

St. John's, April 23rd, 1917.

FREE TO ALL SUFFERERS

If you feel "CUT OF SORTS" "RUN DOWN" "OUT THE BULLS" SUFFER from KIDNEY, BLADDER, NERVOUS DISEASES, CHRONIC WEAKNESS, ULCERS, SKIN ERUPTIONS, PILES, write for FREE INSTRUCTIVE MEDICAL BOOK ON these diseases and WONDERFUL CURES effected by THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY, No. 1 No. 2 No. 3 T. TERAPION and decide for yourself if it is the remedy for YOUR OWN ailment. No follow up circulars. Send stamp address envelope to DR. LECLERC MED. CO. HAVERSTOCK RD. HAMPSTEAD LONDON, ENG. TERAPION [illegible] CHEMISTS

TO ATTEND CONFERENCE.— The Rev. Dr. John Line, formerly Pastor of Wesley Church, but now Professor at Mount Allison University, Sackville, N.B., will be among the notable visitors to attend the Methodist Conference in June next.

Fresh Arrivals.

English Manila Rope.	English Oakum.
Resin Pitch.	Wilmington Pitch.
Wilmington Tar.	Coal Tar Cutch.
Stream Anchors.	Banking Anchors.
Lloyd's Fast Chains.	Ordinary Chains.
Sheet Lead.	Octagon Steel.
Mariners' Compasses.	Ships' Side Lamps.
Ships' Pumps.	Patent Logs.
Aneroid Barometers.	Patent Grominets.
Trap Cords.	Ignition Batteries.
Galvanized Sail Fittings	Ammeters.
	Motor Oils and Grease.

PAINTS, OILS and VARNISHES.

G. KNOWLING

ap19,3i,th,m,f

5c. The Crescent Picture Palace. 5c.

EVERY AFTERNOON 2.15—EVERY NIGHT 7.15.

Presenting Harry Beaumont and Gertrude Glover in

"His Little Wife,"

A 3 reel Essanay feature.

"FORD CANADIAN MONTHLY"—Canada's best topical film. To-day's issue is very interesting.

Burns and Stull as "Pokes and Jabbs" in "STRICTLY BUSINESS"—A lively film comedy.

PROFESSOR McCARTHY playing the Newest and Best Music—Drums and Effects.

Rossley's British Theatre.

(Under the distinguished patronage and presence of His Excellency Governor Davidson and Lady Davidson and many prominent citizens.)

A Monster Benefit Performance

will take place **Wednesday, April 25th,** in aid of Wounded Soldiers and Sailors' New Convalescent Home, Waterford Hall.

A capital entertainment will be provided, will top all previous efforts.

KEEP WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25TH, IN MIND. HELP THE GOOD CAUSE. DETAILS LATER.

Fall and Winter Suitings and Overcoatings made in the MAUNDER Style.

If you can't find what you want come here. Our Serges are guaranteed dyes, and very reasonable in price.

Samples, style sheets and measuring forms sent to any address.

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