

## THE NEWS RECORD

(Established in 1878)  
The News-Record is published every afternoon (holidays and Sundays excepted) at 49 West King St., Kitchener, Ont., by its proprietor, The News-Record Limited.  
The subscription price \$1.00 a year when paid in advance and \$5.00 per annum when not so paid.  
By mail to any address in Canada, or the United States \$3.00 per annum in advance.  
Advertising rates furnished on application.

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Winning the War  
or  
Forgetting the War

### THE COST OF MILK DISTRIBUTION.

Having investigated the subject of milk distribution the Canadian Milk Commission is convinced that the price of milk to the consumers could be materially lowered were there fewer distributors.

It uses the word "spread" to designate the difference between the price paid to the farmer and the price paid by the consumer.

The information gathered shows that cities having the largest numbers of distributors pay the highest prices. And conversely the fewer the distributors the lower the price.

In the majority of cities in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime provinces, the spread is 5 cents per quart. In British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, it is 5 1/2 cents.

To visualize the toll which an excessive number of distributors pay in the price of milk, it uses Toronto and Ottawa as examples.

Toronto has 90 distributors and the spread is 5 cents. Ottawa, where 75 per cent. of its milk distribution is in the hands of one company, the distribution is done on a spread of 3 1/2 cents.

The manager of the largest Ottawa firm of milk vendors asserts that were there but a single delivery system in his city, the spread could be reduced to 3 cents.

With the cost of milk, when received from the dairymen, being practically alike in both cities, it is safe to conclude that the large number of dealers in Toronto as compared to the few in Ottawa, results in the consumers of Toronto paying 2 cents per quart more spread for the privilege of having milk retailed by their old-fashioned and costly system.

Looking over our own two centres, it will be seen that the cost of distributing milk could be lowered.

Each vendor has to maintain a rig or rigs, which may deliver milk to only three or four houses on a street and consumes much time in covering a route. Two or three other competing milkmen go over the same ground and make a few calls on a given street.

Were one such milk wagon to supply all the houses on a street or a number of streets, the two municipalities would be more quickly served and at less cost, while the milk distributors would still receive a reasonable recompense for his services.

The Milk Commission while not adopting any plan to bring about re-organization and consolidation of milk delivery in cities and towns, presents a concrete example, and lays stress upon it. This concrete example is called the "Regina plan."

It is not municipal ownership but has governmental supervision.

For a period of years, dating back to 1901, Regina citizens paid 12 1/2 cents for milk from September 1st, to May 1st., and 10 cents for the remaining four months.

In 1913, it was finally agreed that if a company were organized under the joint stock companies' Act, and the necessary finances arranged by the shareholders, the provincial department of agriculture would take over the management and supervision of the business, with the understanding that such management and supervision would be withdrawn if the company at any time wished to assume the responsibility.

It was agreed that interest not exceeding 8 per cent. per annum on the investment should be allowed to the shareholders, and if the growth of the business required additional buildings for equipment, this revenue might be applied to cover that cost.

## Hard to Drop Meat?

All depends on what you eat as a substitute. It is a good time to study "food value." You may be eating the wrong foods, the foods that cost most and give the least nutriment. Shredded Wheat Biscuits contains more real, body-building nutriment, pound for pound, than meat, eggs or potatoes and costs much less. Two of these Biscuits with milk and a little fruit make a nourishing meal at a cost of a few cents. Make Shredded Wheat your "meat." A satisfying breakfast on which to start the day's work. It is ready-cooked and ready-to-eat. Made in Canada.

When the company began there were two milk distributing companies in Regina and several producers who were selling milk direct to the consumers. Under the new plan, one company handled and distributed all the milk.

When the single company began operations in 1913 the price paid by the consumer was 12 1/2 cents per quart. The new company continued this price until it had placed things in good running. In the winter of 1914 it reduced the price to 11 cents per quart. This price prevailed for a period of four months, as against 12 1/2 cents which was in effect for eight months.

The new summer price was 10 cents for a period of eight months, as against 10 cents for a period of four months.

In the winters of 1915 and 1916 the same prices prevailed. Even under war conditions and with the cost of feed much higher the people of Regina are not paying more for their milk than they did in 1913.

The Regina plan besides maintaining the cost of milk at pre-war prices through the lowering of distribution costs has seen an improvement in the quality of the milk sold.

The system further provides that, after allowing dividends not exceeding 8 per cent. on the investment and providing for depreciation and legitimate reserve, any balance remaining should be given the producers in the form of a final payment.

In 1916 over \$4,000 was distributed in this way among the shippers, payment being on the basis of 5 cents a pound for butter fat for their year's supply.

To encourage the production of clean milk from tuberculosis-free herds the management has provided that at the end of the year the following bonus will be paid when conditions stated have been complied with:

1. Payment of 2 cents a pound of butter fat on season's supply of milk to any shipper who obtains a score of 75 points or over upon inspection made by the city health department.

2. Payments of 3 cents a pound of butter fat on the season's supply of milk to any shipper who presents a certificate from a qualified veterinarian showing that his herd has been tested during the year and that there were no reactors.

The Milk Commission prepared a table showing the savings which could be effected in seventeen of the largest cities of Canada by the employment of the Regina plan or a modification of it, which will place the distribution of milk into the hands of one company instead of many individual persons or firms.

This while guaranteeing a reasonable return upon the milkmen's investments.

Daily consumption.

Quebec ..... 19,677

Montreal ..... 117,620

St. John ..... 10,627

Halifax ..... 11,654

Toronto ..... 94,134

Hamilton ..... 20,492

London ..... 11,575

Ottawa ..... 21,735

Winnipeg ..... 4,555

Regina ..... 40,750

Saskatoon ..... 5,551

Moosjauw ..... 4,293

Calgary ..... 14,128

Edmonton ..... 13,461

Vancouver ..... 25,100

Victoria ..... 7,915

Total ..... 429,455

This city and Waterloo having a population one-half of that of London, Ont., could, in the adoption of the plan outlined, save \$21,124 per year to their citizens.

Were all the milk tenders to consolidate their businesses it might be thought that it would create a monopoly. This is prevented by having governmental supervision, so as to ensure reasonable prices to the farmer; a reasonable recompense to the milkman and a fair price to the consumer.

The plan is worthy of careful consideration on the part of the milk dealer and public.

### BY THE WAY.

The bank clearings in this city for the week ending Dec. 27, totalled \$585,063. This is an increase of 33.1 per cent. over the same week of 1916.

Acting on the ground that the Halifax disaster was an act of war and the nation indirectly responsible, the Government will be requested to make good the stricken city's losses.

There surely cannot be any large sum of money hoarded in people's stockings when the November statement shows that the chartered banks of Canada had \$1,008,657,236 on deposits in their Savings departments.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association was on record as not being opposed to an increase in freight rates providing that such increases be considered strictly as a war measure, to be determined by a limited period, to be determined by the Railway Board; and the increase to be employed to provide an adequate service.

There has been a slight easing up in the scarcity of raw and refined sugar, so far as the Canadian refiners are concerned. Shipments of raw sugar continue to come into this country at the hands of the International Commission. Recently it appeared that sugar would become as rare as fine gold.

W.B. Ritchie B.C., former law partner of Sir Robert Borden has died suddenly in Vancouver.

Gen. Bliss is to be recalled to active duty and reappointed chief of the United States general staff.

## A Former Local G.T.R. Man Makes Good in West

Mr. H. O. Ober of Sask. Visits Here

"Conditions in the West are prosperous. I certainly would not prefer to come back," said H. O. Ober of Saskatoon, Sask., to the Record.

Mr. Ober is one of the city's young men who a number of years ago gave up the duties of G.T.R. railway agent at Peterburg and went West to seek a better field on the prairies. And he has made good. His friends will recall that years ago he was operator at the local G.T.R. station. For two years he was night operator and subsequently he became day operator here. And later he was appointed agent at the G.T.R. station at Peterburg. After four years service at the last named post he resigned and went to Alberta, where he took over a homestead. In his new field he has been highly successful. Beginning with \$1500 on a quarter-section he reaped the benefit from his attention to grain growing and mixed farming until to-day, when he is cultivating a section, namely 640 acres.

Part of the land is devoted to grain growing and part to stock raising, hay and mixed farming. Forty-five head of cattle and eleven horses are part of live stock.

Yields in 1916 and 1917

As to the crops Mr. Ober in speaking to the Record said: "This year my grain averaged 21 bushels to the acre. This is a fair average. In 1916 there was an unusually good crop, and my average was 50 bushels to the acre. In that year also I had an average of 100 bushels of oats to the acre. My total yield in 1916 was 11,000 bushels as compared to 6200 bushels this year. And I had more land this year than last. The difference is due to the bigger yield in 1916. I had a good hay crop. Fifty acres brought \$845 at the stack and this was only half the crop I had. We received \$18 a ton for alfalfa."

Mr. Ober said he had one man helping and also his two boys. A threshing outfit is also possessed by him. He threshed his crop required about five days. "Of course we use more men averages about \$4.50 a day and board. We used the threshing outfit about seventeen days altogether but these days were not all confined to our own farm."

No Irrigation for Grain Growing

Mr. Ober has had experience in irrigation. One quarter of his section is irrigated and the other three quarters is dry land. The whole comprising a section one mile square. The irrigated land is used for hay growing and pasture purposes, and the dry land for grain growing.

"It's all right. I've found it successful. But I wouldn't want irrigated land for grain growing because after irrigating your land in a dry season you face the probability of the wet soil freezing later in the season and thus damaging your crop. But it's all right for pasture and growing hay."

"How is the land selling at present?" the Record asked Mr. Ober.

Many Americans Buying

"There is quite a lively exchange of land. The demand is good. There are quite a number of Americans coming in and buying farms. In our district about ninety per cent. of the farming people are Americans. They are a fine class of people and it is a pleasure to be associated with them. They are a free people, everybody for himself in so far that each man his own business, but they are sociable and entertaining. Few Homesteads Left

"Land is selling at about \$20 to \$40 an acre for the dry sections, while \$40 to \$80 an acre is paid for irrigated land. But few homesteads are left, except in the Peace River District. One inducement that is offered is that by the C.P.R. who sell land along their lines, one allow you twenty years to pay, but annual interest at six per cent. must be paid the first annual instalment on principal not having to be paid until after the third year.

"How much money would a person have to have to day to take over and operate a homestead? I suppose he'd have to have more than the \$1000 of a few years ago?"

"Oh, that depends on the land. It's true he'd have to have more than the man who started several years ago. On the average perhaps \$2000."

\$4.75 for Coal

"How are conditions in the West generally?"

"Oh, favorable. I believe living is cheaper here than here. For example we get coal at \$4.75 a ton. We are near the mines at Lethbridge, which is 10 miles from our post office, Coaldale. Of course those who have to get their coal shipped to a longer distance must and do pay more than \$4.75. I like the West and I certainly would not care to come back here permanently. We have cold weather but we don't mind it. It seems strange to come here and feel the cold you have here."

Mr. Ober with Mrs. Ober and his family attended the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the wedding of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Casper Ober, city, yesterday. They will be here for a short time, during which they will also visit relatives of Mrs. M. Ober in Clinton.

## Most Grateful Woman in Town

"The Way Tanlac Helped Me Is Simple Wonderful," Says Mrs. Edwards

"I feel so happy over what Tanlac did for me I just want to tell everybody about it," said Mrs. Florence Edwards, a resident of Buttonwood avenue, Mt. Dennis Toronto.

"Several weeks ago," continued Mrs. Edwards, "I contracted a severe pain that settled in my side. In a little while my left side, arm and shoulder began to throb and ache till I suffered agonies from rheumatism. The trouble got worse and worse till finally my arm and shoulder were so stiff it almost killed me to bend over and I actually was unable to put on my shoes. My shoulder hurt so I couldn't rest and sometimes for two whole nights I wasn't able to sleep a wink. My side like a sharp knife was sticking in it and I was so weak and helpless I just had to give up my housework, for hardly an hour passed over my head that I wasn't miserable the whole time."

"Just as soon as I started taking Tanlac I began to feel better and the pain seemed to be leaving me. I am now on my second bottle and already that awful pain in my side is entirely gone and I am feeling better all over. My arm and shoulder are entirely free from rheumatism and I can now do all my housework as well as I ever could. The way Tanlac has relieved me of that awful rheumatism is simply wonderful and it has made me the most grateful woman in town."

Rheumatism is not only one of the most prevalent, but one of the most painful and difficult to treat of all present day diseases. When the digestive organ and bowels are not working properly, and the kidneys become clogged up, the whole system becomes deranged and saturated with uric acid poisons and other impurities which accumulate in the joints and other parts of the body and produce the condition known as rheumatism.

Tanlac is a powerful reconstructive tonic and quickly overcomes this condition by acting directly on the vital organs, toning them up and enabling them to perform their proper functions, so that the impurities are soon eliminated from the system in a natural way. Liniments and external applications as a general thing only afford temporary relief. Tanlac is a constitutional treatment and gets right at the root of the trouble by removing the cause.

Tanlac is sold in Kitchener by E.O. Ritz & Co., in Galt by R.W. Maikham, in Hespeler by Jno. R. Phin, in New Hamburg by W.H. Boulton, in Milbank by R.B. Hamilton, in West Montrose by A.E. Richert & Co., in Preston by H.L. Frick.

Amsterdam, Dec. 30.—News has reached here that the kaiser on Thursday last surrendered to the Chancellor of the Empire his constitutional right to make peace. Inasmuch as the Germans claim the chancellor holds office by will of the Reichstag's majority, the news, if correct, is of far-reaching importance.

Advices from Berlin say that the German people are greatly depressed by the disclosure to treat seriously the German peace terms as presented by Czernin to the Bolsheviks. A tremendous reaction has set in among the German people as each day brings nearer the prospect of a war of exhaustion with the United States and Britain—the very thing which the Berlin Government was most anxious to avoid. Through a great offensive planned for the west front, it is still the hope of Berlin, it is said, to convince the people that America will not take part in hostilities on a scale that will affect the outcome of the war. Hence the stand taken is most depressing to the Teuton masses who are beginning to realize that the victories already won are likely to avail them nothing if both America and Britain set their teeth for a finish struggle.

Fear Power of U.S.

The statement in the dispatch that the German Emperor has surrendered his constitutional right to conclude peace is the first news to this effect to reach this country. There has been no intimation either of any definite surrender of the emperor's power by the emperor, nor did the announcement indicate that the chancellor's authority on a general peace. The American dispatch indicates that the emperor's surrender was due to fear of the war power of the United States. President Wilson's insistence on a democratization of the German Empire has evidently made a deep impression in the official and Parliamentary circles of the German Empire. As it interprets the situation, it would appear that the emperor's delegation of a part of his power to a chancellor who came into office under the wing of a Reichstag majority is an attempt to avert American sentiment.

Defeat of Pan-Germans.

The fact that the German chancellor is empowered to conclude a general peace on democratic lines gives added significance to the Brest-Litovsk negotiations. It emphasizes the defeat of the Pan-Germans and the victory of the more moderate parties in Germany. Its significance lies in the proof it offers of increasing weariness through the German Empire.

It would appear from the Amsterdam dispatch that the German people have failed to grasp the full significance of the statements of President Wilson that it is impossible to deal with a Government that makes a practice of breaking treaties, of promoting plots and intrigues among friendly nations and otherwise following the policies of Kaiser William.

Of course, there has been no change in the German constitution which authorizes the Kaiser to make war and peace. Any power conferred on Von Hertling is a voluntary matter and presumably could be withdrawn at will. A change in the constitution limiting the powers of the kaiser, might be regarded at Washington as a real reform.

13 Enemy Planes Sent Down

ONE HUNDRED BOMBS DROPPED ON LILLE BY HAIG'S AIRMEN

London, Dec. 30.—An official statement regarding aviation issued tonight reads:

"Our airplanes dropped over bombs on three enemy aerodromes north of Lille. Seven hostile machines, four of which fell inside lines, were brought down by our planes; two others were driven out of control, while four others shot down by our guns, three falling within our lines. Three of our machines are missing."

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# Blankets and Comforters

Warm Blankets and Comforters are in good demand and we are fortunate in having a good supply just now when these furnishings are much needed. Many of these are selling at prices much under regular prices this week.

### COMFORTERS

MCINTOCK'S SPECIAL Down Comforters of the best quality of imported stock at practically old prices, which cannot be repeated. We are offering special prices \$5.50 \$6.50 \$7.50 \$8.50 \$10.50 \$12.00 \$13.50 \$14.00 to..... \$20.00

WOOL FILLED COMFORTERS of the best imported stocks to suit any taste colors you may require in all sizes and colors at moderate prices, \$3.50 \$4.50 \$5.00 \$6.00 and ..... \$8.50

COTTON FILLED COMFORTERS of the good neat designs in all sizes at very moderate prices to suit any purse, special \$1.50 \$2.00 \$2.25 \$2.50 to \$4.00

FEATHER PILLOWS at special prices for quick sale at per pair \$1.75 \$2.50 \$3.00 \$3.50 \$4.50 and ..... \$5.50

CUSHION FORMS filled with Russian Down in all sizes at each 55c 60c 65c 75c 85c to ..... 90c

### SPECIAL VALUES IN BLANKETS

10 pair Scotch Wool Blankets, extra heavy blankets, large size, pink and blue borders, whipped single, splendid values, per pair ..... \$14.00

25 pair Wool Blankets in the different makes, English, Scotch and Canadian, at a year ago prices in all the weight and sizes, 5, 7, 8 and 9 pound blankets thoroughly scoured soft finish, pink and blue borders whipped single at per pair \$12.50 \$11.00 and ..... \$10.00

10 pair only all wool Blankets, extra special values, large size blanket, well finished pink and blue borders, whipped single, at per pair \$11.00, for ..... \$9.75

Crib wool Blankets 36x50 colored border, silk bound, same color as border, can be had single blanket, made from fine quality wool, each ..... \$2.00

Fancy colored Blankets in pink and blue, Teddy Bear, Bow Knot, Bunny, Pepee cat, Land, in 30x40, 36x50, good washing colors at 85c and ..... \$1.25

Lang Bros. Limited Phone 476

## How German People View Peace Effort

DISAPPOINTED THAT ALLIES DO NOT ASSENT.

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