

A WORD FOR MOTHERS

It is a grave mistake for mothers to neglect their aches and pains and suffer in silence—this only leads to chronic sickness and often shortens life.

Hygiene is tiring; if your nerves are exhausted, if you feel languid, weary or depressed, you should know that Scott's Emulsion overcomes just such conditions. It possesses in concentrated form the very elements to invigorate the blood, strengthen the tissues, nourish the nerves and build strength.

Scott's is strengthening thousands of mothers—and will help you. Try it. Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont.

THE OBSERVER

Prof. H. Stevens, Editor and Managing Director.
Advertising Rates made known on application.
Published by The Observer Limited
Halifax, New Brunswick

Terms of Subscription: The OBSERVER is \$1.00 per year, payable in advance. The paper will be sent to subscribers until it is ordered stopped, but each subscriber will be notified when the time to which he has paid is reached.

Vol. VII. DEC. 5, 1915 No. 25

EXPLANATIONS WILL KEEP HIM BUSY

B. F. Smith replies to F. B. Carvell's letter by offering him \$18 per ton for 15,000 tons of hay delivered at St. John. This, he says, would mean \$13 per ton to the farmer. Mr. Carvell charged that Mr. Smith's company was only offering \$12 to the farmer, at which rate they will get a profit of \$5 per ton. If Mr. Carvell is correct as to the profit when the farmer gets \$12, then the profit to the company, if the farmer gets \$13, would still be \$4 per ton, or \$60,000 on 15,000 tons. This would be a very fat profit. Mr. Smith makes no reply whatever to Mr. Carvell's charge of excessive profits made on last year's hay shipments. Deprived of the Standard's large headlines Mr. Smith's explanations will doubtless need some more explaining when Mr. Carvell's reply is received.

B. F. Smith should now insist upon an inquiry into the matter of the patriotic potatoes. His friend the farmer does not live by hay alone.—St. John Times.

SOLDIERS ARRIVE AT WOODSTOCK

Woodstock, N. B., Nov.—At 10.30 on Saturday night a crowd gathered at the C. P. R. station to welcome William Sutton, the first of our wounded soldiers to reach home. He was taken by auto to his hotel and many visitors called during the evening and Sunday. Mr. Sutton left here with the first Canadian contingent and on his arrival in England, having had 20 years training in the English army before coming to Woodstock, he was immediately drafted to the Princess Pals regiment and fought at Mons, as well as in others battles. He was poisoned with German gas at Ypres. He has been suffering much from the action of gas on his lungs and will probably not be able to return to the firing line.

At 5 o'clock this morning D Company of the 104th Battalion arrived in Woodstock, 283 in number and are now occupying their cosy quarters in the armory.

Addresses of welcome were made by Mayor Sutton, F. B. Carvell, M. P., Donald Munro, M. L. A., and T. C. L. Ketchum, after which cheers were given for the soldiers. Major Laughlin, the officer commanding, replied briefly to the soldiers cheering for the citizens after which, headed by the Woodstock band, the soldiers were escorted to the armory.

Operatives for the St. John lumber mills are apparently scarce. Last week D. H. Nixon was called upon to recruit a gang of men to assist in the operation of Fleming & Rogers' mill at Grand Bay. He sent a crew of ten down on Monday's express.



THE ALLEGED HAY SCANDAL

Farmers Getting Only Half the Money the Government Pays

The following letter addressed to the farmers of Carleton and Victoria appeared last week in the Sentinel and Victoria Observer. It has created something of a sensation. Subjoined to Mr. Carvell's letter we give one by Mr. Smith in reply. The end is not yet. A controversy is started that the public will watch with eager interest.

Mr. Carvell will reply to Mr. Smith in The Victoria Observer.

Woodstock, N. B., Nov. 24, 1915.
To the Farmers of the Counties of Carleton and Victoria:

As your representative in Parliament, I feel it my duty to lay before you the facts in connection with the treatment which you are receiving at the hands of the Dominion Government, and Mr. B. F. Smith, its representative in this portion of New Brunswick, over the hay situation.

When the European war broke out in 1914, the British Government at once asked the Canadian Government to act as its representative in purchasing hay for the use of the army, and in due course of time the Atlantic Hay Company, of which Mr. Smith was an active member, received a contract for 7,000 tons of compressed hay delivered in St. John, for which they received \$24.50 per ton.

The government then made another contract, at the special request of Hon. Mr. Hazen, with Messrs. Kennealy & Wetmore at \$21.50 per ton, or \$3.00 less than Mr. Smith's company was receiving. Messrs. Kennealy & Wetmore did no pressing themselves, and bought no hay from you or anybody representing you, but made a contract with Phillips, Estey & Co., and the McCain Produce Co. at Florenceville, at \$20.50 per ton for the compressed hay, delivered in St. John. I understand that the McCain Co. finally made a contract with another party, but under the same conditions.

These two companies purchased the hay from you, paid the pressing in your barns, paid the freight to St. John, and compressed the hay for the price named, and of course the price which they could pay to you fixed the price which Mr. Smith did pay.

You received \$11 to \$12 per ton, and later in the season for a few lots, a slightly higher price.

It costs these companies \$1.25 a ton to press it in your barns, and an average of about \$1.75 to deliver it in St. John as freight. The cost of compressing would be about \$3.00 per ton, thus leaving them \$2.50 a ton with which to purchase their machinery and pay their profits, which would not be unreasonable. As the price was established by these companies, Mr. Smith purchased the hay at the same price, and would have his reasonable profit at \$2.60 per ton, plus \$4.00 per ton which he received for the hay delivered, more than these companies, or a profit of from \$6.00 to \$6.50 per ton. On 7,000 tons he received a profit out of your business of between \$40,000 and \$45,000.

During the last session of Parliament, I attempted to discuss this matter and ventilate it, but at the request of Sir Robert Borden I allowed it to stand on two occasions as he wanted to get further information before answering. The opportunity never came, and therefore I was debarred from making the matter public at the time. However, I went to the Acting Minister of Agriculture and laid the matter before him, and promised that if this was not rectified during the coming year he certainly would hear from me in no uncertain terms and he assured me that the matter was absolutely unfair, and would not be repeated.

I now find that Mr. Smith's Co., has the sole contract for compressing hay in New Brunswick for the coming year, at \$23 a ton, delivered in St. John.

About a month ago he informed one hay dealer in this County, whose name can be produced if necessary, that he was going to offer for hay \$12 a ton to the farmer in his barn, unpressed, and the price which he paid would establish the price for hay in these Counties, during the coming winter.

A few days ago another hay merchant approached him for the purpose of selling hay to him and he was told he could only purchase from him on the basis of \$12.00 in the farmer's barn, unpressed, and stated that if the New Brunswick farmers wouldn't sell for that price, he could obtain it in Nova Scotia.

Now let us figure it up and see what Mr. Smith is making out of you under present conditions, assuming he pays you \$12 per ton, \$1.25 for pressing in your barns, and \$1.75 freight to St. John, and \$3.00 for compressing, which is a good price, and I will agree to compress all of his hay at that price in the town of Woodstock, if he will give me the contract for doing so, and make money out of it at that, and you have \$18.00 as the cost of this hay to Mr. Smith delivered to the Government in St. John. On this he is receiving \$5.00 per ton profit.

Do you consider this a fair deal, and do you think the Department has carried out its pledge that the scandalous conditions of affairs existing last year would be remedied this? To make it worse this year, Mr. Smith's Company are the only persons having a contract.

It is variously stated at from 15,000 to 30,000 tons, but at the smaller amount it leaves \$75,000 profit for handling your business, or at least \$45,000, more than he would be entitled to under the most generous treatment imaginable in times of National stress, when every member of the community is called upon to do his share, more than his share, towards helping out the Empire in this life and death struggle.

It is very patent that you are deliberately prevented from receiving a fair price for your article, and you need all you can get out of it this year to pay your bills, or the British Government, which Mr. Smith and his friends profess to love so dearly, are being mulcted of \$45,000, which they ought not to be compelled to pay.

When I am discussing this hay question, I am doing so with absolute knowledge of what I am talking about, as I was interested in a Company during the South African war which compressed hay at McAdam Junction, and I know what it costs to compress it, and I also know what would be a reasonable profit to the man who does the business, and I have no hesitation in saying that \$45,000 is away below the actual amount being paid for this hay to Mr. Smith's Company, more than should be paid to him on the basis of the price which he is paying to you.

I have given you the facts and trust that those of you who have influence with Conservative party will get busy immediately and see that Mr. Smith is compelled to pay you a fair amount for your product, or that he is compelled to treat the British Government with some degree of fairness.

Perhaps I am able to take more than the interest of a representative in this matter. I also am a farmer, having disposed of a large amount of hay last year, and

have a much larger amount this year to be disposed of, and on the basis of the 2 years taken together, I feel that either I have or will lose personally at least \$600, which I should have received, or the British Government has paid that amount more than it should have been compelled to pay. What is true of my case, is true in the case of every one of my constituents, either to a greater or less degree, who is making his living with the sweat of his brow by farming. I trust something will be done, and done quickly in order to give us all something like the rights to which we are entitled from the Government.

It seems incomprehensible that a Government of this country, acting as the trustee for the British Government, under the present terrible conditions, will so manipulate things that one of its political friends in New Brunswick can compel you to sell your hay to him for \$12.00 per ton, when if you will take any daily paper, you will find the price of Number 2 hay in Montreal to be \$17.50 per ton, delivered in Montreal loose pressed, as it is done in the farmer's barn. If you subtract from that \$1.25 for pressing, and say \$1.75 for freight, which is more than the average freight from the point of production to the City of Montreal, you have \$14.50 net as the price to the Quebec farmer, where there is competition, whereas with no competition, you are told to take \$12.00 or the hay will be bought in Nova Scotia.

True, Mr. Smith may say to sell our hay elsewhere, but knows very well that of the quality of hay such as we produce, only a certain percentage under ordinary conditions is marketable elsewhere than to the Government, and therefore as he stated, he is to fix the price, and what is worse last year the hay which was rejected in Woodstock and for which you received a very small price, was taken to St. John and compressed, and sent to France (Flanders) with which to feed the horses that are helping to fight our battles.

Think over these matters, and let us see if something can't be done to obtain justice.

Sincerely yours,
F. B. Carvell.

This is Mr. Smith's reply:

Fredericton, Nov. 27, 1915.
F. B. Carvell, Esq., Woodstock.
Dear Sir:—My attention has been called to a letter which appears in this week's issue of the Carleton Sentinel, and which has been copied by the St. John Times and Telegraph, in which you charge that the hay company in which I am interested are not giving the farmers of Carleton and Victoria a price in line with that we are receiving from the Department, and the profits made by our company are excessive. To sum up your contention, you say our company get \$23 per ton for hay compressed in the war bale at West St. John. At the same time you furnish figures according to your calculations, to show that the cost of this hay so compressed would not exceed \$18 per ton at vessel side, West St. John, which shows an actual profit to our company of \$5 per ton. You also say that you are a farmer and know what you are talking about.

I have just been in communication with our company at West St. John and I am pleased to say that they have authorized me to make you the following offer:

We will pay you \$18 per ton for 15,000 tons of loose pressed hay
(Continued on third page)



Practical Gifts for Men!

This is the year when practical Christmas gifts will be in order. At this store the selection of

Useful Gifts for Men and Boys

is very easy. Nothing more acceptable for Father, Brother or Sweetheart than a Tie, Gloves, Arm Bands, Garters, Real Good Collar Buttons, Hose, Suspenders, Cap, Sweater—a big array of articles, all of which are as pleasing as useful.

John McLaughlan Co., Ltd

59c Hot Water Bags

The first lot went like hot cakes, but more will be in soon. These will stand the most severe test and were made to retail at \$1.25 to \$1.50. Don't fail to get one or more. A good idea would be to phone, call or write and have us reserve one or two for you.

Estey & Curtis Company, Limited

Wholesale and Retail Druggists

Agents British & Canadian Underwriters of Norwich
Eng.; Westchester Fire Ins. Co. of N. Y.
Montreal and Canadian Fire Ins. Co. of Montreal; Anglo-American Fire Insurance Co. of Montreal; British Crown Ins. Corp. of London.

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But you can buy from us at the Old Price while our present stock lasts

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Cotton Blankets, 10/4, 11/4, 12/4, at Low Prices

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We sell the famous D & A Corsets, 50c to \$3.00 per pair

Rubbers of all kinds and sizes.

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GROCERIES—A full line of new goods just arrived.

At Baird's

Ladies!

Think well of the grocer who handles

PURITY FLOUR

More Bread and Better Bread