

Mail Contract

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on Friday, the fifteenth day of March, 1918, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years. Six times per week on the Mildmay No. 3 Rural Route from the 1st of April, 1918. Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Mildmay, Formosa and Greenwood, and at the office of the Post Office Inspector, London.

Chas. E. H. Fisher,
Post Office Inspector,
P. O. Dept., Can., Mail Service Branch,
Ottawa, 1st of February, 1918.

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Chas. E. H. Fisher,
Post Office Inspector,
Post Office Department, Canada, Mail
Service Branch, Ottawa, 1st Feb. 1918

Dissolution of Partnership.

The partnership firm of Christ Weiler & Son doing business heretofore in the village of Formosa as Saw Millers and Lumber Merchants has this day been dissolved. Mr. Christ Weiler, the senior partner of said firm retiring from business.

The business will hereafter be carried on by a new firm composed of Valentine Weiler & Philip Weiler.
All accounts due to the firm of Christ Weiler & Son have been taken over for collection by the new firm and are to be paid to them by March 1st, 1918, while all claims and accounts due by a party against C. Weiler & Son are to be presented to the new firm for payment on or before March 1st, 1918.

The firm of C. Weiler & Son hereby express their thanks for the patronage and goodwill enjoyed by them from the public and the new firm solicits the same consideration. Dated at Formosa the 29th of January A. D. 1918.
Christ Weiler,
Valentine Weiler.

Modern Epitaphs.

Here lies Luke Ebenzer Quinn,
He skated where the ice was thin.
Bill Jones passed out amid regrets,
He tried to stay, but—cigarettes.
A long farewell to Maggie Lou,
She went out in a frail canoe.
This man went in a racing car,
It hit a brick and there you are.
Lem Binkshas quit this earthly life,
He made some faces at his wife.

For Short Sermons.

Tertius in Toronto Globe.
An editorial in Christian Guardian asks how long a speaker should take to deliver an ordinary sermon or address, and it quotes Mr. W. J. Bryan, who said that some time ago when he was speaking at Havard, he asked the Chairman how much time he could have. The answer was: "There is no limit, but recently we went over the records of all the speakers we have had, and we found that none of them said anything after the first twenty minutes." A typical western American who used to drill for oil said that "if a speaker cannot strike 'fire' in twenty minutes he ought to go and bore somewhere else. To the same effect a well-known English clergyman once told some students that a sermon should last from twenty to thirty minutes, and that every minute taken over the thirty really destroyed the effect of every five minutes before the twenty. It is sometimes said that the less opportunity a man has for preparation beforehand the longer his speech or sermon is likely to be. There is no doubt that a man can say very much more than he often imagines possible in twenty to twenty-five minutes. Another American has aptly described a man who preaches too lengthy sermons as "lacking in terminal facilities."

Growers of sugar beets who were alarmed by reports regarding scarcity of seed, have been advised that they need not worry. The Dominion Sugar Company, which controls the factories at Wallaceburg, Chatham and Kitchener, purchased seed enough last year from Russia and Italy to meet the requirements of growers for three years. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 acres of sugar beets will be planted in Essex, Lambton and Kent this year.

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SPECIAL—We will also send you free a package (value 15c) of our choice

Butterfly Flower

This is one of the airiest and daintiest flowers imaginable, especially adapted to bordering beds of tall flowers and those of a heavier growth. The seeds germinate quickly and come into bloom in a few weeks from sowing. The flower is so large as to completely obscure the foliage, making the plant a veritable pyramid of the most delicate and charming bloom. The Butterfly Flower make admirable pot plants for the house in late winter and early spring. For this purpose sow in the autumn.

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Why There is a Shortage of Coal.

Phairson Macpherson was a Scotchman. Also he was a coal merchant. Also he was in love. His lassie was a sensible lass, and she knew him to be the richest man in town. But she wanted to be sure that he had come by all his money honestly before she decided to marry him.

"Hoo is it that ye quote the lowest prices in the town, and make reductions on them for your freens, and yet ye make such enormous profits?" she asked.

"Weel it's this way, explained Phairson in an undertone. "An' ye'll no be tellin' anyone about it. Will ye? Ye see I knock off two shillings a ton because a customer is a frien' o' mine and then I knock off two hundred weight a ton because I'm a frien' o' his."

Plenty of Credit.

Mr. Butterworth, the grocer, was looking over the credit sales slips one day. Suddenly he called to the new clerk:

"Did you give George Callahan credit?"

"Sure," said the clerk. "I—"

"Didn't I tell you to get a report on any and every man asking for credit?"

"Why, I did," retorted the clerk, who was an earnest young fellow. "I did get a report. The agency said he owed money to every grocer in town, and, of course, if his credit was that good I knew that you would like to have him open an account here!"

Robert Oswald Knaggs, a former resident of Owen Sound, was given five years sentence with hard labor in the Alberta penitentiary at Edmonton on the charge of evading the Military Service Act. In company with a man named Kinsel he refused to report for service. The latter is supposed to be a member of the International Workers of the World, an extreme socialist organization. A brother of Knaggs went overseas and was wounded early in the war.

The question frequently presents itself: "Why should Canadians be depending so largely upon the coal mines of the United States while we have an abundant supply of fuel at our very doors?" Is it not time the Federal Government, with all the scientific forces at its disposal, threw itself into the solution of the fuel problem in this country. Coal, peat, lignite and transportation need attention just now as well as agricultural pursuits, and the problem should largely be solved the coming summer.

Tractors For Farmers.

With a view to encouraging the production of larger crops in 1918 the Dominion Government has bought 1000 Ford tractors, at cost, it is said, and any farmer in the country who wishes to secure one of the machines may have one at cost, plus the freight. It is thought that they will average about \$800. The government has also secured an option on another one-thousand of the tractors, to be bought outright, we suppose if the demand warrants.

The tractors were thoroughly tested before the purchase was made and they were pronounced thoroughly satisfactory. They are designed to handle a two-furrow plow, and have a plowing speed of 2½ miles per hour. When all goes well they will turn over eight acres in ten hours. They will use either gasoline or coal-oil, and of the latter will use ¾ gal. per acre.

The Ford factories are at present engaged upon an order of some thousands of the new tractors for the British Government. Mr. Ford has for some time been very enthusiastic about the production of this machine, and looks upon it as likely to be one of the great factories in winning the war—so much faith has he in it as a food producer.

The statement is made that our government bought the tractors at "cost"; and if this is not a confusion with the idea that they are to be sold to farmers at cost, it would indicate that Mr. Ford is applying his patriotism in a very practical way, or perhaps it is a shrewd stroke in business, Mr. Ford expecting that each of these 2000 machines will be a demonstration of their efficiency. We believe, however, that the statement was made some time ago that it was Mr. Ford's intention to supply the British Government with his farm tractors at cost. As to the making of money he likely is satisfied with the twenty-five million dollars per year which he derives from the building of "Fords."

The Food Controller Says.

Rationing is a subject that is receiving much newspaper attention in Canada at present. It is a thing that is as new to us in theory and practise as war was three years and a half ago. That must be the only excuse for some things which are written. The general assumption is that rationing can be carried out, just as some people thought price-fixing could, by a mere wave of a magic pen. When it is remembered, however, that Canada's seven and a half million people are scattered over an area greater than Europe the question at once arises: "Who is to see to the carrying out of the rationing scheme?" For rations mean that each family would be under an obligation not to eat more on any day or in any week than a certain set amount of particular foods.

It would not be hard to make a rule that so much bread should be used by each person at a meal. But how many million police would be wanted to attend to the execution of the order? Even the making of orders that would be fair in a large city as compared with a country home offers difficulties little thought of. In the Maritime Provinces fish is plentiful and comparatively cheap as in the west are wheat and beef. But more fish is not needed "at the front" to anything like the same extent that beef and wheat most urgently are wanted.

What rationing plan could ignore the "customs of the country"? Yet immediately here a discrepancy arises. One prescribes the use of beef and wheat in Canada by decree but its incidence would be unequal from the first. There is, however, one way in which the food saving could be made which is the whole end and object of rationing. It is by a voluntary pledge of each home. In three words this is nothing else than by unremitting patriotic saving of the food-stuffs that are known to be wanted by the Allies. No amount of talking can make up for this. It is not a legal question at all but a moral one, is no better way for the present in which those who cannot go to the trenches can actually help in the fight in Europe for moral uprightness and pure ideals of life than in practising in each home at all times of the day that honest carefulness to avoid waste which would have to be done under compulsory rationing scheme.

In a way this as a new factor which hitherto it has not been possible to utilize. The Canadian woman is here especially indicated to aid. So far women work in the Dominion has had to do with Red Cross and similar works of mercy. This opens out the field enormously. Every woman who saves bread and pork products is in fact and deed wielding an unseen weapon in the war as truly as her sisters behind the trenches are in caring for the broken and the maimed.

Mr. A. H. Musgrove, M. P. P. has been appointed Post-master at Wingham, a position for which it is said, he has been in line for some time. As Mr. Musgrove is a capable man, he will make a good post-master, and no one will begrudge him the appointment. It will, however, necessitate his resignation of the seat in the Legislature, making an opening for a new man at the next election.

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Delay Inadvisable.

W. F. O'Connor, K. C., cost of living commissioner of the ministry of labor, has spoken again in connection with cold storages, and this time he makes the definite charge that butter and eggs are being held in unjustifiable quantities, and that their price is much higher than it has any right to be. More serious still is his statement that within a few weeks these large holdings will become unfit for human consumption.

The commissioner hopes that his report will be sufficient to lead to an immediate unloading of the stocks at reasonable prices, but adds that if it does not they should be seized and sold before they become useless.

If the time which must elapse before rotting begins is as short as seems evident, the wisdom of any delay to see whether the companies will take the hint is to be doubted. It seems to the consumer that it would be safer and more in the interests of the people at large that

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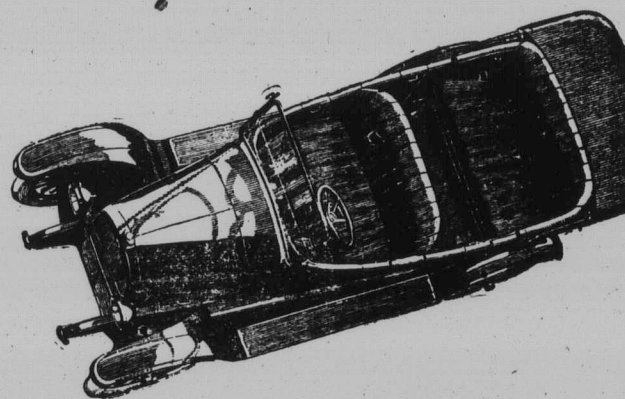
J. M. Fischer

Agent - Mildmay

seizure be made now, and a salutary lesson taught those whose greed for gain has swamped any patriotism they may have possessed. Every egg or pound of butter which goes bad is a reproach, not only to the cold storage man, but to the authorities who have the power to force its sale while it is good for food.

D. A. Campbell, Southwold township, has discovered a peat bog on his farm. The bog, which covers about six acres, was discovered accidentally when a tree fell over. The peat is said to be of splendid quality and can be readily lighted with a little paper in a grate or stove. A small chunk will burn for twelve hours and thrown a fairly good heat. Extensive peat bogs are said to exist in Southwold and Dunwich, but have never been developed.

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