

**Memorial to Prime Minister.**

**Servants Protest Proposed Salary Reduction.**

It has been learnt that a reduction in the salaries of the servants in this Colony is contemplated by the Government. This proposition requested you, Mr. Prime Minister, to hear their views. The necessities of the Civil Servants are the great hardship which must be shouldered by any reduction of salaries as now contemplated.

As a matter of history that from the institution of Responsible Government up to the present time we have paid the lowest salaries of any Colony in the Empire. The salaries set in 1857 continued without any change until 1895, when in that year there was a reduction of 10 per cent. continued to 1903 and was never paid to the servants from whom wages were taken. With few exceptions there was no change in the salaries until 1918, although there had been a large increase in the cost of living. In 1914 the salaries were increased by 10 per cent. and in 1918 by 25 per cent. In 1919 the salaries were increased by 25 per cent. and in 1920 by 25 per cent. In 1921 the salaries were increased by 25 per cent. and in 1921 by 25 per cent.

General work .16c per hour  
Barrowing, etc. .18c per hour

General work .24c per hour  
Barrowing, etc. .26c per hour

General work .35c per hour  
Barrowing, etc. .42c per hour

General work .47c per hour  
Barrowing, etc. .54c per hour

It will be seen that the Laborer had an increase of wages between 1914 and 1921 of over 100 per cent. Although the Civil Service for years used for an equitable adjustment of their salaries, no general advance was made until 1917-18, when the advance was by a scale which was not by the majority of the Civil Servants to be unfair. It ranged as follows:

Salaries \$100 and under . . . . .50%  
Salaries 200 and under . . . . .50%  
Salaries 300 and under . . . . .35%  
Salaries 400 and under . . . . .25%  
Salaries 500 and under . . . . .10%  
Salaries 600 and under . . . . .14%  
Salaries 700 and under . . . . .7%  
Salaries 800 and under . . . . .5%  
Salaries 1,000 and over . . . . .5%

In 1919-20 a further advance was made of 25% all round and in 1920-21 salaries under \$1,000 . . . . .30%  
Salaries under 2,000 . . . . .20%  
Salaries over 2,000 and over . . . . .15%

In the advance had been a general one of 25% all round it is not fair and equitable to make an advance of 25% in many cases it has not gone up 25%.

In 1914 the Salaries of the Civil Servants were not adequate to provide for the living expenses of the family; they were in debt in almost every case. If salaries as they now are to be reduced, as is proposed by the Government, it will be a further step towards a basis very little better than that which obtained in 1914. The reduction of the Civil Servants' salaries will be much worse than in 1914.

When prices come down this year, a general item of household expenses will still be practically double what they were in 1914. For instance, butter was about \$7 per ton in 1914; it is now \$12 per ton. Flour was \$4 per barrel in 1914; it will be \$8 per barrel in 1921. It will be \$12 to \$14 cents this year. Meat was 22c in 1914; and it is now 40c. Milk was 10c a quart in 1914; and it will be 20c a quart of milk. Potatoes were \$1.30 in 1914; they are \$3.00 now. Clothing was \$1.00 in 1914; it is now \$3.00 to \$4.00. Rent today is double what it was in 1914. Tradesmen's accounts are three times today what they were in 1914, and so on. That is, supposing the cost of living to be reduced, as is proposed by the Government, it will be a further step towards a basis very little better than that which obtained in 1914.

It is argued that because the servant will have to accept one-third the price of his produce, that the Civil Servant will suffer in company with the merchant. This argument would apply if the Civil Servants had been given 100 per cent for their services as were the merchant; but they were not given more than an average of about 50 per cent although the cost of living has gone up so immensely. The increased value of fish enabled the fishermen to meet the increased cost and still have money over; but the increased cost to the Civil Servant could not meet with the increase of salary.

It is stated that the employees of the firms on Water Street will be reduced in salary; but so far as can be ascertained the firms that have reduced have cut only 10 per cent. These employees have an advantage over the Civil Servants in that they get their goods from the firm in some cases at cost, in other cases at cost price with a 10 per cent added, and in every case they get a reduction of expenses which meant really an addition to their salaries. Bonuses are usually paid to employees at the end of the year. The general average of the salaries paid by the Mercantile Firms is higher than the general average of salaries in the Civil Service.

The basis of salary to Civil Servants in Canada is at least 20% higher than the basis in Newfoundland. The cost of living in Canada is also less than the cost of living in Newfoundland.

During the war the Canadian Government gave their officials a War Bonus in addition to salary. Now that the war is over, they are reducing the amount of the War Bonus according as the cost of living comes down. When conditions approach normal the War Bonus will disappear and the salary remain as it was, that is at least 50 per cent higher than in Newfoundland.

# LOOK TO THIS STORE

As the Economy Store for your shopping at all times. Look to it at this particular Season as the sure means of direct savings on all purchases of

## SPRING NEEDS

LOOK TO IT THIS WEEK-END

For some of the very best offers for years. Prices have certainly been squeezed to make this a record week for shoppers here--COME!

### Needfuls from the Smallware Section

- Military Hair Brushes, each . . . . .20c
- Dressing Combs, Black & White . . . . .20c
- Motorists' Goggles, Large . . . . .15c
- Straw Hat Dye, assorted shades . . . . .20c
- Hair Wavers, quick and safe . . . . .15c
- Cuticura Talcum, best; tin . . . . .35c
- Machine Oil, pure; bot. . . . .10c
- Olive Oil, pure quality . . . . .25c
- Stearate of Zinc, excellent quality, 20c
- Wash Cloths, White Turkish . . . . .15c
- Castile Soap, high grade; cake . . . . .20c
- Bay Rum Toilet Soap, pure . . . . .25c
- New Neckties, fashionable . . . . .45c
- White Dressing for canvas goods . . . . .15c
- Toothing Powders, 6 in packet . . . . .15c
- Headache Powders, 6 in packet . . . . .15c
- Mending Woods, Black, Tan and White; slip . . . . .7c
- Moth Balls, for preserving furs . . . . .12c
- Straw Hat Cleaner, tube . . . . .5c
- Hat Elastics, ready for hat . . . . .5c

### WHITE PIQUES

The best of quality White Piques in assorted colors. You know how pretty these look as Summer Skirts and their serviceability. Note our price for this sale:

Regular \$1.20 Yard for 60c.

### CHILDREN'S LINEN DRESSES

Plain Linen Dresses in shades of Sage, Peach, Pink, Green and Rose; cross-over effect with large bow and roll collar; others buttoned front, belt and pockets, trimmed white; to fit 6 to 12 years. Regular \$7.00.

Friday, Sat. & Mon., \$3.98

### WHITE JEAN

This has a real soft finish and is sure to give you service made up into Middys, Dresses or Wash Skirts.

Special the Yard 49c.

# -FRIDAY, SATURDAY and MONDAY-

### LET US HELP YOU WITH WHITE SHEETINGS

WHITE SHEETINGS—72 inch Twilled English Sheetings; strong family sheetings that we have specially reduced for this week's sale. Reg. \$1.60 yard. Friday, Sat. & Mon. \$1.29

PLAIN SHEETINGS—90 inch plain White English Sheetings; superior quality. See this splendid value. Reg. \$2.50 yard. Friday, Saturday & Monday, \$1.59

CURTAIN LACES—See these inexpensive White Curtain Laces; very strong make, and some neat patterns to pick from. Regular 80c. yard. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .45c

SHELVINGS—White and Fancy Oil Cloth Shelvings; scalloped edge, fancy border, 12 inches wide. Friday, Sat. & Mon. yard . . . . .14c

WHITE FOWLS—Extra full size and real good quality; all White Turkish. Reg. \$1.50 each. Friday, Saturday and Monday \$1.25

### For Every Member of the Family REPUTABLE HOSIERY Sale Priced

MEN'S SOCKS—Lightweight Cashmere Ankle Socks for spring and summer wear. Reg. 50c. pair. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .25c

CHILDREN'S HOSIERY—Black and Tan Cotton Hose in the smaller sizes; plain finish. Special to clear. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .14c

BOYS' BLACK HOSE—Double knee, fast Black, stout ribbed Hosiery for sturdy boys; assorted sizes. Reg. 75c and 80c. pair. Special 49c. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .49c

LADIES' WHITE COTTON HOSE—Buy these by all means; they offer you extra good value, also reasonable and reasonable in price. Friday, Saturday and Monday, pair . . . . .18c

LADIES' PLAIN HOSIERY—Plain Black or Tan Summer Lisle Hosiery, seamless finish. Our Special Friday, Sat. & Monday . . . . .59c

CHILDREN'S SANDALS—Coloured Top Socks with White Leg, assorted mixtures. Special 44c. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .44c



### Some Very Excellent Values in Spring Footwear

WOMEN'S LACED BOOTS—Fine Vici Kid Laced Boots with White Kid tops; spool heel, pointed toe. Regular \$7.00. Friday, Saturday \$4.49 and Monday . . . . .

WOMEN'S BROWN BOOTS—Tidy fitting Summer Shoes, comfortable and durable; odd sizes in incomplete lines. \$5.00 regular. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .\$3.49

INFANTS' BOOTS—Sizes 3, 4 and 6 only, in a fine Dongola Kid, with cloth tops; comfort shape. Regular \$1.50. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .\$1.19

CHILDREN'S SANDALS—Tan Leather Barefoot Sandals, heavy attached soles; they wear like iron; white laces. Reg. \$2.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .\$2.19

### Money-Saving Prices on Pillow Cases, Shams, etc.

BOLSTER CASES—English Bolster Cases, good quality, lined, buttoned; value for \$1.10 each. Friday, Saturday & 95c. Monday . . . . .

PILLOW CASES—Strong and Vicuña English Pillow Cases, brand new stock; linen buttoned end. Special Friday, Saturday and Mon. 55c. each . . . . .

PILLOW SHAMS—Good looking Shams, showing hemstitched frill border and prettily embroidered corners; full size. Reg. \$1.10. Friday, 94c. Saturday & Monday . . . . .

LAUNDRY BAGS—Nice convenient size for individual use. Put one in each bedroom; strong Linen Crash make; embroidered front. Special Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday 90c. . . . .

BATTENBURG TABLE COVERS—Large Circular Cloths, with part Linen and Battenburg Lace centre; flanked with a deep lace of same. Reg. \$3.50. Friday, Saturday & Mon. \$2.69 . . . . .

### PRETTY CURTAININGS Are not Expensive Here Friday, Sat. and Monday

36 INCH ART MUSLINS—Cream grounds, neat fancy spray in assorted colours and pretty wide floral borders. Reg. 44c. yard. Friday, Sat. & Monday . . . . .

CREAM LACE CURTAINS—32 pairs of Cream Lace Curtains in two and a half yard sizes. Reg. \$2.00 pair. Friday, Saturday and Monday \$1.39

ART MUSLINS—Neat little patterns in single width Art Muslins, white fancy centre and bordered. Friday, Saturday & Monday, yard . . . . .17c

CURTAIN LACES—60 inch White Nottingham Curtain Laces; new patterns; scalloped edge. Reg. \$1.00 yard. Fri., Sat., & Mon. . . . .75c.

### To Complete Your Spring Outfit--LISLE and SILK GLOVES

LADIES' SILK GLOVES—Double tipped Queen Quality Silk Gloves, warranted not to wear out at the finger ends; shades of assorted Greys, Fonceo, Palm Beach, Champagne and Brown. 2 Domb wrist. Reg. \$1.90. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .98c.

LADIES' LISLE GLOVES—Superior quality for wear, and all the most wanted shades among them, such as Greys, Tan, Brown, Pastille, Black and White. Reg. \$1.25. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .98c.

### Boys' Sailor "Billy Boy" Caps, etc. Shirt Waists

ROYAL NAVAL style, in washable White Flannel, detachable collar, smart looking for little fellows. Reg. \$1.50. Friday, Sat. \$1.25

BOYS' ELASTIC BELTS—Extra strong Elastic Cricket Belts, with silvered metal fastening; assorted mixtures. Friday, Saturday & Mon. \$1.50

BOYS' CRICKET SHIRTS—Cream Flannel Cricket Shirts, with collar and pocket. These are quality Shirts for little boys for Sunday wear; sports wear. Reg. \$2.40. Fri., Sat., & Mon. to clear \$1.40

### THE CALL OF THE NEW SEASON --NEW SPRING HATS They're Here



All our New Hats for Ladies, Children and Misses Now on Display

CHILDREN'S UNDERSKIRTS—White Lawn Underskirts with body; skirt embroidered and trimmed with fine tucks; sizes to fit 6 to 12 years. Reg. \$1.20. Friday, Sat. & Mon. . . . .89c.

LACE VEST AND COLLARS—Suitable for Costumes, Dresses or Waists, filled with insertion in Cream or White. Reg. \$1.70. Friday, Saturday and Mon. \$1.49

DRESS SHIELDS—Lightweight Dress Shields, linen covered; small, medium and large sizes. Regular values to 25c. pair. Friday, Sat. & Mon. . . . .9c.

LADIES' UNDERPANTS—Fine Ribbed White Jersey Knickers, wide legged, open, lace trimmed; sizes 36 to 44. Reg. 90c. value. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .78c.

\$15.00 Ladies' Coat Dresses, \$6.98

Suitable for house or street wear in mixed tones Black and White, Plaid and Brown and White Plaid; they show collar and revers, girde and pockets, trimmed with soft buttons; lined to waist; also a few Costume Coat and Skirts with belt. Regular values to \$15.00. Friday, Saturday and Monday . . . . .\$6.98

MIDDYS AND JUMPERS—A lovely show of Children's, Misses' and Ladies' Middys and Jumpers; some in-trill White with Crimson collar and cuffs, lined front and pocket; others in Coloured Linen and Voles; embroidered and belted; round neck, short sleeves. Reg. \$4.25. Friday, Saturday & Monday \$2.98



### MEN'S Particular Own Spring Needs

MEN'S SPRING CAPS—We show a small assortment of Tweed Caps in plaid or one-colored crowns; Silk lined and unlined; any mixture you could wish you will find here. Reg. up to \$2.50. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .\$1.85

MEN'S SOFT COLLARS—The new shape, deep point front, in pretty White Hair Cord. This is the popular shape to-day; all sizes. Special Fri., Sat., & Monday . . . . .32c.

WHITE BEACH DUCK COATS—For Stewards, Butchers, Bakers, Barbers or Clerks; excellent quality and beautifully made; patch pockets, detachable buttons; assorted sizes. Special, Fri., Sat., & Monday . . . . .\$3.85

MEN'S UNDERWEAR—\$3.00 value, beautiful soft natural wool finish; the smaller sizes have gone; from 40 inch up on sale this week near the half-price mark; Shirts or Pants, Fri. \$2.20, Sat. & Monday, ea. . . . .

MEN'S BALBRIGGAN UNDERWEAR—All sizes in fine grade Egyptian Balbriggan Underwear; long sleeve Shirts and long Pants. Reg. \$1.00 a garment. Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday . . . . .75c.

SUSPENDERS—Men's Shirley President Braces, put up in holiday packet. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .65c.

MEN'S GAITHERS—Sure Grip Hair Hose Supports, in assorted shades of elastic; reliable make. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .45c.

MEN'S SILK SOCKS—Parasilk Socks are superior Socks for wear; shades of Navy, Champagne, Brown and Grey. Try a pair. Reg. \$1.00. Fri., Sat., & Mon. . . . .90c.

Men's Extra Large SHIRTS

For the real large men, we have a new line of good-looking Soft Negligee Shirts in sizes up to 17, 17 1/2 and 18 inch neck; pretty striped patterns; soft cut. Friday, Saturday & Monday . . . . .\$4.60

### Special Discount of 25 PER CENT. OFF Boys' Long Pants Suits

These bring sizes to fit from 13 to 17 years; 3-Piece Suits in best English Tweeds, long pants style, cuff buttons. Worthy Suits in every way. Prices range from \$17.00 to \$30.00

### The Position of the Food Control Board.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir—A contemptible and utterly untrue allegation is made in the Daily News this morning that the Food Board has acted in an underhand and unfair manner in disposing of the balance of Sugar on hand after May 20th.

On May 2nd, over two weeks ago, a circular was sent to all the Sugar dealers as follows:

"The Food Control Board will have between 2,500 and 2,800 barrels of Sugar to dispose of on May 20th. This is offered to the trade in lots of 50 barrels or over for immediate delivery at ten and a half cents per pound, duty paid."

"This price will hold for immediate acceptance and the trade are asked to apply at once for their requirements."

"This price will not be affected by any tariff changes."

NFLD. FOOD CONTROL BOARD. (Immediate delivery meant delivery after May 20th).

As a matter of fact the stock remaining is about 2,500 barrels, owing to decreased consumption since May 2nd. Some firms responded at once with orders, but most of them did nothing, evidently waiting to see if they could import Sugar at a lower price. This price of 10 1/2 cents was the cost landed at the Food Control Board Sugar. Some firms made tentative offers below this price, but the Food Board would not accept any lower price. Eventually one firm bought what remained unsold. Yesterday other firms, apparently just waking to the fact that after all, the Food Board Sugar may not "hang fire," applied for sugar but had to be told that all the stock had been disposed of.

The transaction was open and above board. The circular reproduced above was copied in the newspapers, and so became public property. Each and every firm had an equal chance. If they did not avail themselves of the offer it was entirely their own fault. It is evident that the criticism of the Food Board is inspired by vindictiveness rather than a spirit of fair dealing, and this latest charge, just as unfounded as all are, represents a change from Government control to the "jungle" of free trade, in which the business firms are once more in combat with each other.

To repeat? All sugar dealers were offered this sugar. No activity was apparent in the matter for two weeks, and then because the sugar has been bought, some firms now put up a poor mouth as if the Food Board should have looked after their requirements. There is absolutely no doubt whatever that if sugar could be imported at a less price than the Food Board's offer, the sugar owned by the Food Control Board would have been allowed to remain unsold. The sugar business has been returned to the trade in an open, fair and legitimate manner, and it is regrettable that those who did not avail of the opportunity to buy sugar, now turn around and blame the Food Board for not interfering in their business.

Yours truly, ALEX. W. MEWS, Chairman Food Control Board, May 19, 1921.

### McMurdo's Store News.

THURSDAY, May 19th. International Compound Absorbent is useful in cases of bog sprain, lumps, swelling of the knees, inflammation of the tendons, windgalls, cupped elbows, enlarged glands and other like troubles of horses, and is one of the best things of the kind. We offer a few bottles at half price (one dollar) to clear.

The International Honey Tar Foot Remedy is a remarkable foot softener and filler, and a good foot grower. We have a small quantity left which we offer at half price (25 cents) to clear.

"Laugh and grow fat" is an old axiom. We advise the use of a good tonic, named "Brick's Tasteless". Price \$1.00; postage 20c. extra.—apr26.1t

When perhaps your liver is the cause of it all. Stafford's Prescription "A" cleanses the system and will make you "Cheer Up."

DR. F. STAFFORD & SON, Wholesale & Retail Chemists and Druggists, St. John's, Newfoundland.