

# The News Record

(Established in 1878)  
The News-Record is published every afternoon (holidays and Sunday excepted) at 49 West King St., Kitchener, Ont., by its proprietor, The News Record Limited.  
SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Per week..... 10c  
Per month..... 45c  
Per Year, in advance..... \$5.00  
By mail to any address in Canada or the United States, \$5.00 per annum, invariably in advance.  
Advertising Rates furnished on application.

## THE BUTTER SITUATION

Canada is paying dearly for butter. Consumers are at a loss to understand why these prices have so sharply advanced.

This country has a Cost of Living Commissioner, whose duty it is to investigate and make recommendations concerning the prices of foodstuffs. But his powers end when he has reported. Parliament can then act or lay his suggestions on the table.

Dr. R. J. McFall is filling this position and has made a report on the butter situation. He declares that the price of butter in the United States is being artificially maintained at a high level, notwithstanding that there has been a great increase in the supply. This is interesting but the Cost of Living Commissioner does not tell the public of this country whether Canadian cold storage houses are imitating the bad practice of American storagemen and artificially boosting the price of butter.

Mr. Jacobus, M. P., of Montreal, stated in parliament on April 23 that the Canadian cold storagemen had 48 per cent. greater stocks than they had a year ago, yet prices of butter are the highest in Canada's history.

One of the well-founded complaints made, during the war, by consumers was that while there was justification for increases in the prices of foodstuffs, they were artificially advanced.

It is easy to point out that the cold storage men of the United States are squeezing their public. The Cost of Living Commissioner must have found a similar condition existing in Canada for he deplores the fact that Canada Food Board has ceased its labors and rescinded its orders limiting the quantities of butter which Canadian cold storagemen may hold and the prices they may charge.

Credits will be given him for stating that even though the war has ended there is need for continuing that measure of protection to the public and for recommending that a limit be again placed on the profits which the cold storage houses may exact.

Furthermore, he urges that a measure, limiting profits on butter and all other essential food products, should be rigidly enforced.

Interesting figures are given in his report on the quantity of butter produced in Canada. It amounts to about 200,000,000 pounds per year. During the eleven months of the fiscal year, ending February last, 12,358,996 pounds were exported and 1,486,343 pounds imported.

During the same period, Canada manufactured 8,000,000 pounds and imported from the States, 4,031,612 pounds of oleomargarine. It is obvious that had this substitute not been used, Canada would not have been in a position to export any butter.

Incidentally, it shows that in the matter of butter, Canadians can consume all which its dairymen produce and that this item of agricultural production yields \$100,000,000 per annum. Score another point for the home market.

Although Canada exported only 12,000,000 of the 200,000,000 pounds of butter it produced, the manipulators have succeeded in making the 6 per cent. of the output control the price of the 94 per cent. consumed in Canada. Surely evidence of inflation and profiteering without the slightest handicap.

It has been suggested that Canada put an embargo on the export of butter and continue it until production exceeds the demands of the home market. The Cost of Living Commissioner would not forbid the exportation of butter. Instead he would limit the amount which may be sold to other countries to the quantity which could be spared.

The placing of an embargo on the export of butter might be presently justified, on the ground that it is a period when production falls below demand. But this will only continue for a month or two, until the milk cattle are turned onto the grass.

The consumer desires to see the farmer sell his surplus butter and other products in any market where they can be profitably sold. Hence the disinclination to place a ban on butter exports.

A local business man, who recently returned from Britain, states that living is cheaper there than here. Foodstuffs are conveyed across the Atlantic are sold for less than in the countries where produced. Can there be any other conclusion reached than that through combinations in restraint of trade, the public is being made to pay artificially high prices?

The practical solution of the prices of butter and other essential foods appears to be to control the quantities storage houses may collect in months of plenty and place a limit on the profits they may make in times of scarcity.

## WHY \$11.00 COAL?

American cities, like Buffalo for instance, are being called upon to pay \$11 for anthracite. One would have thought that since New York state rubs elbows with Pennsylvania, its towns would have been able to buy their coal supplies at a cheaper rate than Ontario towns.

Writing of this exorbitant price, the Buffalo News makes several pointed statements:

Not so long ago there was not enough coal mined in this country to keep the family bins filled, and we had consumption sharply regulated by the Federal Government. We even had lightless and heatless days.

Now it happens that an outlet is sought abroad for a surplus of 100,000,000 tons of coal stored in the United States. It must be disposed of, or the miners cannot be kept busy, despite the fact that most of them hold to a four-day week.

All this is highly interesting. But what of the domestic consumers? The consumer can't for the life of him understand why he is called upon to pay \$11 a ton for coal when there is a surplus at the colliers.

The correct answer to this question is that the supply of anthracite is in the hands of a trust. It seems to control the mines, the output and the price. A copper-perturbed combination, law-proof and fool-proof.

Our American cousins are convinced that public ownership is not a desirable thing. That were its coalfields owned by the people, their government might sell coal at a loss, forgetting that the successful management of any undertaking largely depends on the men directing it; and that a public enterprise can secure the services of capable men as readily as private firms. They continue to pay two prices for coal rather than buy and operate the mines themselves.

The mine owners have too perfect a combination. Their extortions may eventually drive the consumers to public ownership. The astonishing part of the situation is that it takes the American public so long to see how to get relief.

## TOWNS ADOPT HOUSING ACT

Thirty-three Ontario municipalities have passed the bylaws necessary to bring them within the Ontario Housing scheme and become entitled to share in the government loan. The plans mapped out by the various centres call for loans aggregating \$8,000,000 and already work has been started at some points.

The town of Ingersoll has gone at the matter vigorously, having purchased a tract of 25 acres in the centre of the town at \$4,000. This can be divided into two hundred 50-foot lots, which can be sold at \$20 each.

The list of municipalities which have passed bylaws is as follows:

Sudbury, Windsor, Sandwich, Fort William, Hepler, Port Dalhousie, Madoc, Galt, St. Catharines, Ingersoll, Port Credit, Oshawa, Sault Ste. Marie, Ford City, Ottawa, New Toronto, Elmira, Neeshing Township, Cochrane, Trenton, Sarnia, Woodstock, Point Edward, Sturgeon Falls, Leamington, Palmerston, Richmond Hill, Perth, London, Whitby, Guelph, Niagara Falls, Listowel.

## BY THE WAY

Freedom of speech is a right which no fairminded Canadian would desire to see abridged, yet there might well be a limit of twenty minutes placed on the majority of speeches made in the commons and legislatures.

Western Canada is pleased over the prospects of finishing seeding by May 10. This is fairly early. A better thing in connection with the situation is that there has been an abundance of moisture this season, more than in any year since 1909.

## Extracts of Exchange

### CUSTOMS TAX AND CLASSES

Toronto Telegram.—"This is but one illustration how the 'prunes and rice' class of consumers are penalized by a tariff which smiles on the grapefruit and orange class."—The Globe.

Great Britain's excise tariff penalized the "prunes and rice" class of consumers with the following tax upon the necessities of every poor man's meal in 1917: Sugar, \$90,000,000. Tea, \$72,000,000. Coffee and cocoa, \$11,000,000. Total British food tax on three items alone, \$173,000,000 in 1917.

## LINK WITH THE PAST

Kingston Standard: J. E. Johnston, of Tweed, made rather a unique find the other morning. He had cut down an old dead apple tree and was sawing it up for wood, when he came across a shoe for an ox, right in the centre of the trunk. Likely it had been placed there in days gone by and the tree had grown over it. It was similar to a horse shoe or is made in two parts, one for each hoof, and the back of the shoe is very broad.

## WAIT A MINUTE

### TO-DAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Princess Juliana, heir to the throne of the Netherlands, born at the Palace of Het Loo, 10 years ago to-day.

William H. Crane, dean of the American stage, born at Leicester, Mass., 74 years ago to-day.

Mrs. Mary Scott Lord Harrison, widow of President Benjamin Harrison, born at Honesdale, Pa., 61 years ago to-day.

Homer S. Cummings, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, born in Chicago, 49 years ago to-day.

Maj. Gen. Henry G. Sharpe, former Quartermaster-General of the U. S. Army, later in command of the Southeastern Department, born at Kingston, N.Y., 61 years ago to-day.

Earl Grey, former secretary of state for foreign affairs in the British Government, born 57 years ago to-day.

Rev. Hugh Latimer Burleson, Protestant Episcopal bishop of South Dakota, born at Northfield, Minn., 54 years ago to-day.

Thetus W. Sims, representative in Congress of the Eighth Tennessee district, born in Wayne County, Tenn., 67 years ago to-day.

John F. Stevens, famous engineer, one of the builders of the Panama Canal, born at West Gardiner, Maine, 66 years ago to-day.

## The Difficulty

"Why don't they arbitrate their differences?"  
"Afraid to."  
"What's the trouble?"  
"Each side knows there is some justice in the claim of the other, and is afraid it will have to concede something."

## Paradoxical Trouble

"Smith is very much out of it."  
"Because his salary is very much out down."—Baltimore American.

## Can't Make Pets of Potatoes

"So you've decided to have a garden this year instead of raising chickens."  
"Yes; we used to get so attached to our fowls we couldn't eat them. One doesn't feel that way about potatoes and onions."

## Cool Treatment

Edith—Did you say Alice treated you really coolly when you called last night?  
Jack—No, but her father did; he let the furnace fire go out.

Margaret L. Cullen, a pretty blonde miss scarcely out of her teens, is Chicago sales agent for one of the big Oklahoma oil companies.

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution will celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of its organization next year.

The annual convention of the Canadian Council of Agriculture held recently in Winnipeg was attended by women delegates, for the first time in the history of the organization.

Election officials in Oklahoma ruled that the new women voters in that State could not accompany their husbands into the polling booth to receive instructions in marking the ballot. The women had little difficulty in learning, however, as evidenced by the fact that the women vote figured conspicuously the results of many of the municipal contests.

## THIN PEOPLE OF KITCHENER

Birto-Phosphate should give you a small, steady increase of firm, healthy flesh each day. It supplies an essential substance to the brain and nerves in the active form in which it normally occurs in the living cells of the body. Birto-Phosphate replaces nerve waste and creates new strength and energy. Sold by A. J. Ross in Kitchener and all good druggists under definite guarantee of results or money back.

## A Child's Tongue Shows if Liver or Bowels Are Active

If Coss, Feverish, Sick, Bilious, Give Fruit Laxative at Once.

Every mother realizes, after giving her child the California Syrup of Figs, that this is their ideal laxative because they love its pleasant taste and it thoroughly cleanses the tender little stomach, liver and bowels without griping.

When cross, irritable, feverish or breathless, with stomach sour, look at the tongue, Mother! If coated, give a teaspoonful of this harmless "fruit-laxative," and in a few hours all the foul, constipated waste, sour bile and undigested food passes out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again. When its little system is full of cold, throat sore, has stomach-ache, diarrhoea, indigestion, colic—remember, a good "inside cleansing" should always be the first treatment given.

Millions of mothers keep "California Syrup of Figs" handy; they know a teaspoonful today saves a sick child to-morrow. Ask your druggist for a bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which has directions for babies, children of all ages and grown-ups printed on the bottle. Beware of counterfeits sold here, so don't be fooled. Get the genuine, made by "California Fig Syrup Company."

## WHEN YOU WAKE UP DRINK GLASS OF HOT WATER

Wash the poisons and toxins from system before putting more food into stomach.

Says inside-bathing makes anyone look and feel clean, sweet and refreshed.

Wash yourself on the inside before breakfast like you do on the outside. This is vastly more important because the skin pores do not absorb impurities into the blood, causing illness, while the bowel pores do.

For every ounce of food and drink taken into the stomach, nearly an ounce of waste material must be carried out of the body. If this waste material is not eliminated day by day it quickly ferments and generates poisons, gases and toxins which are absorbed or sucked into the blood stream, through the lymph ducts which should suck only nourishment to sustain the body.

A splendid health measure is to drink, before breakfast each day, a glass of real hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it, which is a harmless way to wash which should suck only nourishment to sustain the body.

A quartet pound of limestone phosphate costs but very little at the drug store but is sufficient to make anyone an enthusiast on inside-bathing. Men and women who are accustomed to wake up with a dull, aching head or have turned tongue, bad taste, nasty breath, yellow complexion, others who have bilious attacks, acid stomach or constipation are assured of pronounced improvement in both health and appearance shortly.

## Petersburg Events

A delightful evening was spent on Saturday last at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schaefer when about 45 young people gathered, the occasion being a kitchen shower for Mr. Milton Schaefer and Miss Louisa Kocher who are about to sail the seas of matrimony. The evening was spent in games, music and dancing. Miss Norma Wilson gave several kindergarten songs and recitations which she ably rendered. A buffet luncheon was served by the ladies. The party broke up in the wee small hours of the morning. Messrs. George and Adam Lautenslager, Miss Agnes Lautenslager and Miss Edith Wagner spent Sunday in Witley with Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Wagner. Mr. and Mrs. Alf. Stoltz, Miss Minnie Schultz, Mr. Ed. Klein and Mrs. Wm. Lautenslager visited with Mrs. Alex. Stoltz on Sunday. Miss Karla Christiansen returned to Reiers after staying a week at her home near Washington. Mr. Stanley Lautenslager, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Wippler spent Sunday in Kitchener with Miss

No waiting. No trouble. Hot OXO can be prepared in a moment with an Oxo Cube and Hot Water. It makes an ideal winter drink—warming, strengthening and stimulating. A CUBE TO A CUP. Two of 4, 10, 20 & 100 Cubes.

## Women's Raincoats

Special sale of Ladies' and Misses' Waterproof Coats at Bargain Prices. 35 Raincoats worth from \$6.75 to \$10.50 will be sold at decided reductions. Only a limited number but including nearly all sizes. Sale begins tomorrow, Friday.



## 15 Ladies' Raincoats

Made in Merc. Rep. material, belted backs, good styles, in Olive and Tan shades, sizes 16 and 18, also 34 to 40, worth regular \$6.75, for..... \$1.75  
20 Ladies' and Misses' Raincoats, made in guaranteed wool paramette cloth, raglan and set in sleeves, in navy, fawn and black, all sizes, worth \$10.50, for..... \$7.50

Ladies' and Misses' Raincoats, made in fine Tweed Waterproof materials, with large collar, also convertible collars, belt all round, cuff sleeves, special prices \$12.50, \$14.00, \$16.00, to..... \$18.50

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Auto and steamer rugs, a good selection of plaids and plain rugs, finished plain and with fringe, good colors, all wool, special at \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10 to..... \$12.00

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Lillie Wippler who is in the K & W. Hospital. Rev. Duperrill spent Sunday in Elmira. Mr. Nelson Litcher, our school teacher was married to Miss Ada Ramseyer of near Baden on April 23rd.

Born Apr. 23rd. to Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Knipfel a son.

## Franchise Bill Causes Much Dissussion

DIVISION OF OPINION OVER QUESTION AMONG UNIONISTS.

OTTAWA, April 30.—Reported that the new Franchise Act has been finally revised and that over it one of the Liberal ministers may resign are learned to be unfounded. The real facts are that a bill has been drafted for revision, but it has not yet been considered. Presumably it will be left till Premier Borden returns.

There are evidences of divided opinion on the subject. Conservative Unionists were positively all of the disfranchisement in the Westminster Election Act perpetrated for a term of years, a proposal to which certain Liberal ministers and Liberal Unionists from the West object strenuously.

Will Be Cautious. Before the bill is presented to Parliament the caucus will be fully consulted about it, with the outcome a bit uncertain. There will be every effort to avoid the temptation of a break by Western Union Liberals on the question, as with the solid opposition of the Laurier Liberals an embarrassing condition would result from even a partial alliance.

There is likely to be a unanimous about disfranchising deserters and draft evaders and on this matter an announcement in reply to a question on the order paper is expected on Friday.

It is estimated that 1,000 houses could be rented in Winnipeg if available.

We handle Ontario Seed Co. Seeds. Also plants of all kinds.

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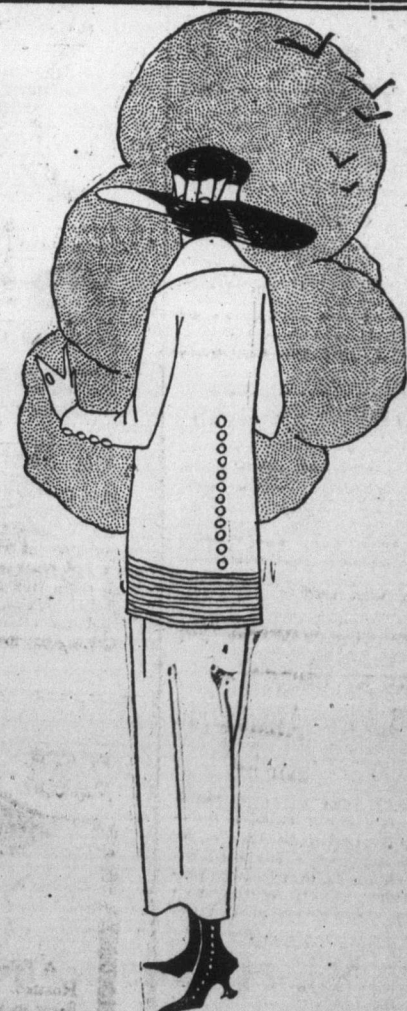
Chatham and Kent County will be asked to contribute \$12,000 in the forthcoming Y.M.C.A. drive.

## Thursday, Friday and Saturday

we offer a special discount of 10 Per Cent. off.

## Coats, Dolmans and Suits

Some very smart Belted Coats and Dolmans for you to choose from in the newest colors—sand, pecan blue, taupe and reindeer. Capes in navy and sand. At our reduced price you can get them from \$23.00 up. SUITS in box style, embroidered with vestees, trimmed with military braiding, in French, blue sand, roue, brown, taupe, navies and blacks, all fully lined, satin linings, paisley patterns. A splendid selection. Clearing some as low as \$19.00.



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Boys' Norfolk Tweed brown mixtures and 32, 33, 34, priced to sell at \$6.50, \$7.00, \$7.50.

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Boys' fine all wool N. pants, sizes 28, 29, 30 sell at \$5.00, \$6.00.

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For washing. Soak clothes over night add one tablespoon of Oakite, in the morning place in washer (boiling necessary) add half-tablespoonful of Oakite with one ounce amount of soap usually use after washing wring as usual.

For Dishes. For dishes use one-half to spoonful of Oakite. No injury to the hands.

For lime in Kettles. Take the lime out of your kettle with Oakite. One dose spoonful in a kettle-boil one hour. Ask your grocer for it, at a book of directions.