



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor C. T. JAMES, Editor WEDNESDAY, Aug. 14th, 1918.

The War and The Profits.

No person will deny that the prices being asked for certain articles of food by dealers in this city, are exorbitant, and the consumers have to satisfy the skyrocketing demands of the sellers. Food and fuel must be had, consequently the strain of the purchase of the ordinary man than ever before. The price of fuel is almost beyond the pocket of the average salaried man. His coal bill is now two and a half times larger than it was in 1915, and it looks at present as if there is to be no diminution in the prices being now charged. Something must be done to change this. Our Tonnage Committee, or if they have not the power, then the Government must take the matter of fuel supplies in hand and fix a price within the reach of all. This is no time for sentiment, neither is it the time for excessive profits. The Government must act, and speedily. The fuel situation is becoming too serious an issue to be discussed lightly, and everybody must realize that it presents grave aspects. The year is passing and it will not be long ere the drear fall comes. Meanwhile the coal bins of the majority of city dwellers are empty, and sixteen dollars per ton is still being charged. Gentlemen of the Government, don't you think it time for you to get busy and do something to relieve the situation? With regard to food prices, we believe that for imported articles, no better scale can be arranged, under the circumstances. Touching local productions, however, especially vegetables, it appears that there is ample room for improvement. The pound of flesh is being not only demanded but taken. Whether the farmer is the extortioner or whether the retailer is amoopt point. But be this as it may the rate being charged for potatoes in St. John's is beyond all reason. It figures out something like eighteen dollars per barrel. We claim that under no conditions of war or peace is there any justification for this. Here is the opportunity of the local Food Control Board to show that they are not nonentities. Let them investigate at once and we are sure that such investigation will show that excessive profits are being made by some person. The people are being made pay through the nose for the necessities of life. There is something radically wrong when such a sum as sixty cents per gallon is being asked for new potatoes, and an enquiry exhaustive and complete should be instituted. No man be he farmer or merchant

should be permitted to put his hands in the pockets of the consumer at any time, and least of all in war days. Abnormal profits, wrong from the necessities of a people already carrying a greater load than they can support, constitute a great crime against the nation, and against its well being, and those guilty of making them are guilty of treason, just as much as though they had given information to the enemy. To fix prices of necessities so that they will be within the reach of all is the business of our Food Control Board and when they have done that they will have accomplished something to justify their appointment and existence. Says the Victoria Colonist on 'The Fixing of Food Prices':—"The Government needs neither courage nor ordinary political sense to take this problem in hand and find the solution. All that is required is 'business administration. It is certainly abnormal profits are being made from the necessities of life, and no Government which counts on the continued confidence of its public, can afford to dally with this question any longer." This applies as much to the Government of Newfoundland as to the Government to which it refers. Let us now see if our Government possesses sufficient business administration to tackle the problem presented and find its solution, with the assistance of the Food Control Board.

Notes and Comments

The very latest—No information to be given certain sections of the press regarding smuggling cases. If a man who evades the payment of duty on a few pounds of tobacco, or such like, is fined \$50, how many months imprisonment should be given men who loot six thousand dollars of public monies? Is there a reason? Is it not about time for Newfoundland to get busy and shed some of her profiteers? German references to their retreat towards the Vele River are still quite veiled. We should like to see the prettiness of this beyond the Vele. Even the optimist forgets to smile when the Income tax forms are being sent around. "Newfoundland in proportion to population," says Sir Hamar Greenwood, "has contributed a larger number of men than any other country and has earned its title of 'The Jack Tar's Cradle.'" In four years Britain has transported Thirteen Million men by sea, and the loss of life in conveying this prodigious number of troops was infinitesimal. Both the Navy and the Merchant Marine have made a glorious record. The Boston Herald defines the difference between an optimist and a pessimist, that one believes the promised cut in beef will be in price, and the other believes that it will be in quantity. With potatoes selling at six cents each in St. John's we are becoming hardened pessimists. The homely spud is now beyond the pockets of any but the ultra rich. The employees who refuse, in this crisis, to submit Labor differences to independent judgment, commit a crime against the State. "That early to bed and early to rise, When everything's said and done, Will make a man healthy, wealthy and wise is true—but he misses the fun."

Orphanage Garden Party.

The weather clerk must surely have kept to-day's brand of weather especially for the Garden Party which takes place this afternoon at "Eggs." Every arrangement for the comfort and pleasure of those who attend has been made, and the entertainment to be offered is of the best. Teas, loes and various other refreshments will be on sale and the C. L. B. Band will look after the musical programme. Vehicles of all kinds will be at points convenient for patrons, and there is every anticipation of a record attendance. The object is a worthy one. The maintenance of an institution which looks after the orphans is no light undertaking in the present times, and the management should receive the financial and moral assistance of all citizens. Make to-day's receipts a record and help lighten the burden.

Cricket.

This afternoon at St. George's Field the match announced yesterday will be played. The first ball of the first 'over' will be bowled at 1.30. The proceeds are to be devoted to the rebuilding of the Parish Church at Holyrood, recently destroyed by fire. The names of the players of both teams guarantee a splendid exhibition, and one which should not be missed by devotees. When you want Roast Beef, Roast Veal, Roast Mutton, Roast Pork, try ELLIS.

Conservation of Food.

INTERVIEW ADDRESS BY MR. H. E. THOMPSON, CANADA'S FOOD CONTROLLER.

The attendance at the Casino Theatre, last evening, was not as large as might be expected, but those that did attend were well entertained by the brilliant speaker of the evening. His Excellency the Governor presided, and introduced the speaker to the audience at the same time commenting on the splendid efforts and patriotism of our civilians, the Canadians. The question of food control, said the Governor, is not one of any individual country, but rather is one of world wide importance. Mr. Thompson, in opening his address, paid some very high compliments to Newfoundland, and the part she has taken in helping the Empire. By the large numbers of sailors and soldiers, a number, which, in proportion, equals and exceeds that of many places of the Empire. By her Victory Loan, and the quick response, her civilian population had well proven their loyalty and enthusiasm. In the matter of Food Control, said Mr. Thompson, I am not here to dictate just what you people should do, but I have been invited here by the Chairman of the Food Control Board, Sir P. T. McGrath, and merely wish to make a few remarks on the subject. Mr. Thompson spoke of the great pleasure it had given him to visit this country. His visit has been most enjoyable. However, this is not a time for pleasuring, except for relaxation, and he was here for work. In this matter of food control the people of this country do not realize what it means. The people of Canada did not at first realize its importance. He did not, when he was first appointed as Mr. Hanna's assistant. Nor, indeed, did that gentleman himself realize its great importance. However a great campaign of newspaper and magazine publicity, lecturing and other means had brought home to the Canadian what it meant. At one time, France, with her millions of sons, soldiers and civilians, was with three days food only in the country, and submarines and German cruisers between her and the source. It indeed looked black for the French people, but by united effort the Canadian people had saved the situation. Try to realize your position, said Mr. Thompson, Chairman of the Food Control Board announced that we had only three days food in the country, and submarines and enemy shipping everywhere between here and the mainland. The problem with Canada, he said, was not production, as they raised plenty of food. Her problem was conservation. The Allies had to be fed. England and the other allies depended on Canada's and America's food. So that Canada's and America's problem was conservation in order that out of their own supplies they could save enough to feed the Allies. At one time Canada did not raise enough pork for their own requirements, but now they raise over 200 p.c. more, and the surplus is sent across. Before the war Canada imported 7,000,000 pounds of butter, and that has been wiped out, and they now export over 4,000,000 lbs. of butter for the Allies. That means a difference of seven millions, just a little more than a pound a head per year, so that really it did not come hard on anybody. Nobody minded giving a pound a year when 4,000,000 lbs. could thereby be conserved for the soldiers. Before the war Canada was raising only enough beef for herself, but today she is raising, in addition, enough to feed over 600,000 men in Europe. This was accomplished by getting the people to eat fish, as a substitute. The occasion for striking demonstrations in honor of Great Britain and in token of the very real friendship that has been cemented by the common sacrifice. Paris gave the lead with a great gathering in the Sorbonne, at which the President of the Republic was present. Among the many eloquent tributes paid to Great Britain's effort in the War, perhaps the one that most deserves to live is the saying by M. Millerand, who, contrasting the British and the German navies in the War, declared that, while money and organization might improve a fleet, "nothing can improve a race, and it required time, tradition, and heredity to bring into being the incomparable maritime population which was the pride and the rampart of Great Britain." A cordial message was sent by M. Poincare to King George, who, with the felicity of expression which characterizes his public utterances, referred in his reply to the generous impulse which had prompted the French to associate themselves with the celebrations of Empire Day. The splendour of France's achievements would be blended that day in the hearts of the British with the thoughts of their own endeavours and successes. "Such heredit and self-sacrifice," his Majesty concluded, "cannot fail at length to be rewarded by the attainment of our joint ideals of justice and civilization, and to be crowned by a lasting union of hearts between our two peoples."—United Empire.

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you need (applause). We have no desire to stultify you. But you must do your part in conservation and the use of substitutes, as we are doing ours. In the matter of the Government standard flour, he said it was much more healthful to the people than the old white patent. It is more nourishing, and if he had his way after the war, Canadian soldiers would be supplied to mill only brown or pure flour. Regulations in Canada are very rigid on substitutes. Western Canada now grows more oats than formerly, and they are being milled into flour. The oat flour is very good, and nutritious oatmeal makes excellent bread. In some mills over 20,000 bushels of corn are milled daily, and there is nothing better than corn bread. This, in Canada, is called Indian meal. That country can supply us with all the rolled oats and corn meal we can use. Every pound of flour in Canada is under the license system. Nobody can sell an ounce of food without a license, and as dealers wish to keep their license safe, they adhere to the regulations. Another thing had been done by Canada. In the early days of the war neutral ships would put into Atlantic ports and load goods. This would eventually go to the Central Powers. To-day, before an ounce of food can leave Canada, the exporter must tell where it is going, who it is going to, and who will use it. This has effectively prevented Germany from getting any Canadian food. In addition to being in charge of food control, the Canadian Control Board had agricultural labor and increased production problems set them. However, these had been handled. In the matter of increased production, Henry Ford, the great motor car manufacturer, had written them and promised to let them have the first thousand plough tractors he would make. This he did and sold them at little more than seven hundred dollars each, while he might have gotten over fifteen hundred dollars each for them elsewhere. The United States will have a big crop this year, but will conserve the same as ever, so that food will be sent to feed the Allies. Mr. Thompson then went into the Russian mudie. Russia is in a state of anarchy and confusion. Owing to this lawlessness, only about one-third of the regular wheat crop has been planted this year, and even now, in some places there, the people are starving. How will it be when the winter comes and the railway system and other means of distribution disorganized, and the small crop they will have will not be distributed, so that if her 155 millions of people many millions will starve to death. The speaker then remarked on our fisheries and other industries and resources. We could increase them beyond all conception. He advised us to prepare our country for a tourist traffic. Because of our scenery, history and interesting outposts, we should have a tremendous tourist traffic. We could get thousands here every year. The speaker concluded by advising the people of Newfoundland to back up the F. C. B. in their efforts to conserve food for the Allies.

Empire Day in France.

Our French Allies could have had no happier inspiration for testifying to the solidarity of an Alliance which has come to mean so much to the two peoples than by associating themselves this year in the celebrations of Empire Day. In all the chief towns of France, Monday 24 was made the occasion for striking demonstrations in honor of Great Britain and in token of the very real friendship that has been cemented by the common sacrifice. Paris gave the lead with a great gathering in the Sorbonne, at which the President of the Republic was present. Among the many eloquent tributes paid to Great Britain's effort in the War, perhaps the one that most deserves to live is the saying by M. Millerand, who, contrasting the British and the German navies in the War, declared that, while money and organization might improve a fleet, "nothing can improve a race, and it required time, tradition, and heredity to bring into being the incomparable maritime population which was the pride and the rampart of Great Britain." A cordial message was sent by M. Poincare to King George, who, with the felicity of expression which characterizes his public utterances, referred in his reply to the generous impulse which had prompted the French to associate themselves with the celebrations of Empire Day. The splendour of France's achievements would be blended that day in the hearts of the British with the thoughts of their own endeavours and successes. "Such heredit and self-sacrifice," his Majesty concluded, "cannot fail at length to be rewarded by the attainment of our joint ideals of justice and civilization, and to be crowned by a lasting union of hearts between our two peoples."—United Empire.

To Whom is the Credit Due?

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—I do not suppose for a moment that the letter which you published on Monday over the signatures of a number of the recently returned Blue Puttees Men was intended to be anything other than what it appeared to be—an expression of gratitude to the Minister of Militia for his services in obtaining for the writers their welcome and merited furlough. Nor do I dispute the fact or the value of these services, which may have been in every way deserving of the thanks rendered thus publicly. And I certainly do not think that the soldiers who signed their names imagined that they were taking sides in a controversy in making any sort of discrimination. Yet that is what they have done in effect. Omission is often the most patent misrepresentation, and by omitting reference to the real causes which secured this leave for them, the soldiers have made it appear that the whole merit belongs to Mr. Bennett. I doubt if even Mr. Bennett himself would claim half as much. If there must be a dispute over a matter of such a sort, nine-tenths, if not the whole of the credit for this, I will not say favour, but act of justice to our Veterans, must be awarded to the Returned Soldiers and Rejected Volunteers Association, and in particular to one or two of its founders whom there is no necessity to indicate by name. The work that they did, and the changes that they wrought are both so recent and so great, that there should be no need to remind a single one of your readers of them, but if their plain fact can be so easily forgotten or winked out of sight as this, there is very great need indeed. The inauguration and conduct of the Recruiting Campaign which filled the gaps in the Regiment in a few days were, apparently, for nothing, they were among the "efforts" that "failed." The whole thing was done in an hour's interview with the Commander in Chief! Our Minister of Militia must have a persuasive eloquence indeed! I wonder, however, whether the facts and figures he was able to supply—thanks to the above mentioned efforts—did not after all persuade more eloquently than he. This matter is so logically the result of the events of the past year, and men's memories are so notoriously short, in this country at least, that it may serve some purpose if I endeavor to recount those events briefly and to show their bearing upon the present dispute. A year ago a shuffle of offices had taken place which was necessitated by the amalgamation of the two parties. It is an open secret that the creation of the Ministry of Militia was due less to the sense of the real necessity of that office—at that time at any rate—than to the desire to accommodate Mr. Bennett with a place in the Administration. Its general effect I need not dwell upon. It is sufficient to say that the new Department assumed, with unquestionable benefit to the country, all the most important functions which the Patriotic Association had so well discharged. In the matter of Recruiting, with which we are here concerned, it achieved the least possible results at the greatest possible expense—a fact which doubtless testified to its success as a Government Department but did not help the Regiment very much. Further, the whole unwieldy interference with the course of events, which it caused, enabled the Government to postpone for eight or nine precious months the introduction of Conscription, which the Recruiting Committee and the Patriotic Association had already vigorously recommended. By April the inevitable had happened. The Regiment depleted of men and lacking reinforcements was performance withdrawn. The whole situation imperatively demanded strong measures, but these the Government were unwilling to take. Both the Minister of Militia and the Premier strenuously opposed the idea of Conscription stating it to be impracticable and altogether unsuited to the conditions of the country and the temper of the people. I need only recall to the memory of those who were present the Premier's attitude at the meeting in the Casino at which he was so badly heckled. It was there and then that the popular feeling was voiced by many of the Returned Soldiers and the movement set on foot which resulted in the formation of the Association and its enthusiastic practical support by the country at large. The form which that support took and effect upon Recruiting are too well known to need recalling here. But what I wish to emphasize most strongly, since it bears directly upon the matter I am discussing, is the fact that this body, in all the appeals that it made always put foremost among them, the plea that to reinforce the Regiment would not alone redeem the honour of the country, but provide the only means of giving the men who had been in harness from the first, the remnant of the Blue Puttees, the rest that they so well deserved. This, if not the most important of their motives, was not the least, and it was one which the Returned Soldiers had most at heart and took the most personal interest in. Their first and greatest object, the return of the Regiment to the firing line, has just been won; the second was accomplished on Sunday and Thursday of last week when St. John's turned out en masse to greet those who were left of the band of

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McMurdo's Store News.

WEDNESDAY, Aug. 14, 1918. Our new stock of Page and Shaw Candy is likely to go rapidly, so we would advise lovers of these delicious sweetmeats to send along their orders at once. A good variety of the most tasty kinds in half, one and two pound boxes. We give good prices in cash for second hand medicine bottles. Must be clean and in good condition. No instant medicine or miscellaneous bottles wanted. At our War Street and Military Road Stores. ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—The Hon. Secretary-Treasurer of the Methodist Orphanage begs gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of \$30 from Hon. George Knowling, towards the funds of the Orphanage.

McMurdo's Store News.

When you want Steaks, Chop Cutlets and Collops, try ELLIS.

heroes to whom it had hidden God speed in October, 1914. It is inviting to quarrel about services rendered and to apportion thanks, but let them at least include those to whom they are most due. Truly some saw that others may reap. But for the Returned Soldiers and Rejected Volunteers Association, where would the Blue Puttees be now? Where the Regiment? In France possibly, but not in the Fighting Line. All prospect of continuing the fine record it had made would be gone forever, and the Dominion, except for the isolated services here and there of its Naval Reservists, a spectator of events in which it had once played so splendid a part. It would have made more than an interview with the Hon. Douglas Haig to set things right. Yours very truly, JUSTICE, Aug. 13, 1918.

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CABLE NEWS

WAR REVIEW.

The strength of the Germans on position against the Allied troops from immediately north of the Sambre River to the region just below Roye, are apparently has checked for the moment at least, their march eastward in the process of clearing the Amiens-Montdidier sector of the enemy. It is not, however, presented the French in the extreme southern end of the line from adding additional points of great strategic value in the hill and forest region between the Oise and the Meuse where Lossigny and Novion are the ultimate objectives, and the capture of which would not alone result possibly in the forced evacuation by the Germans of the Noyon-Rive-Chaulnes line, running "southward" past Solismont and thence along the Vesle River. The battle-line in the north and on the center remains virtually as it stood on Monday, although the Allied troops have bettered slightly their stands and taken additional prisoners. The Americans and French at last accounts still were in the environs of Bray, north of the River, while south of the River the Germans continue in possession of Chaulnes and Roye, which seemingly they intend to defend at all hazards. Fresh reinforcements and large numbers of guns have been brought up by the enemy to aid him in his endeavors to hold the line which is essential to the safety of the German armies now in the pocket described by the Somme in the north and east, and the Oise on the south. The Germans are not merely on the defensive, but at salient points have and there they are delivering violent counter attacks against the Allies, and are also bombarding fiercely the rear areas. Notwithstanding the enemy's efforts, however, Chaulnes is receiving a mighty visitation of shells from the Allied guns, and Roye has been encroached upon that it is now under a heavy cross fire from both the north and south, and seemingly both towns ultimately must be evacuated. Added danger to Roye is the fact that the French in their operations are knocking at the door of Lossigny, about seven miles to the south, and also are pressing forward eastward toward Noyon in a wedge-driving manoeuvre which not only is outflanking Roye, but bringing Noyon daily nearer the range of the big guns. Unofficial reports are to the effect that the Germans, in addition to their retreat between Roye and the Oise, are retreating along the Oise Valley toward Novion, and if the statements should prove true it is unlikely that the entire German battle line to the north will give way in unison and that even then there may be a readjustment of the enemy's front from Sedan to Rheims. Far to the north from Ypres to Albert there has been considerable activity on the part of the British and French forces against the Germans. The latest German communication asserts the Allied attacks were repulsed on the Vele River. The Germans in their attacks against Fiamet which is held by the Americans and French are declared to have driven the Allies to the southern bank of the River. A counter attack, however, resulted in the re-occupation of Fiamet. The Czech-Slovaks in Russia who are opposing the Bolshevik element, have been formally recognized by Great Britain as an Allied nation and their armies are an Allied force waging war against the Teutonic allies.

THE VALUE OF FOCH'S STRATEGY.

WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN FRANCE, Aug. 13. (By the A.P.)—After the battle of the Avre, the situation of the Belgians is present, change which for rapidity and extent has rarely been approached in military history. Marshal Foch's strategy and the mastery tactics of the General commanding the armies and groups of armies under him, have in three weeks wrested from the Germans what required four months for them to obtain at a cost variously estimated from 700,000 to 1,000,000 men. The immediate results of the counter offensive which will have the greatest bearing on subsequent operations, are the clearing of the Chateau-Thierry pocket, ending the menace to Epernay and Paris; the liberation of Montdidier, ending the menace to Amiens; the freeing of the important eastern railroad line from Paris to Chalons, an equally important northern line from Paris to Amiens, restoring to the Allies means of communication which give them enormously greater ease in the future movements of troops. The successes render impossible any rupture of the line which would separate the French armies of the center from those to the east, or a rupture of the connection between the French and British. The most disastrous consequence to the Germans aside from the heavy losses they have sustained in men and material is the collapse of their plan to drive wedges into the Allied lines, and the subsequent winning and joining, which would have meant general dislocation. Marshal Foch's strategy in releasing the western wedges, wrests the initiative from the Germans. They are obliged to retreat to the north, and are unable to strike in the rear. The enemy adopted the second alternative.

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HOT SHOT BATTERY FOR MOTOR IGNITION. Just arrived: 15,000 Columbia Ignitor & Acme Ignitor, No. 6 Dry Cells; also HOT SHOT and MULTIPLE BATTERIES. Also a full line of Marine Engine Parts, Etc. A. H. Murray & Co. Ltd. Agents Lathrop, Gray & Stanley Engineers. ESTABLISHED