

BUTTER AND EGG PRICES NATURAL

War Has Not Affected These Staples, Tribune Probe Finds.

ONLY FLOUR AND SUGAR ARE BOOSTED

Dealers Prophecy Increase All Along Line When Present Contracts Expire.

An inquiry yesterday into the prevailing prices for eggs and butter completed the survey of the principal staples whose prices supposedly have been affected by the European war. Taking the prices for these commodities found in the chain stores as a criterion, it was apparent that there was no justification for asking advanced prices for eggs and butter with the war as an excuse.

The range of prices found in these stores was approximately the same as for the corresponding week last year. While they were in advance of prices asked during the weeks just preceding the outbreak of the war, the rise is a natural one, inasmuch as August and September prices for dairy and farm products are always higher than July prices.

With meat lower during the week after the war declarations began, with butter and eggs at about their natural level as established by the high cost of living during the last few years and with other staple grocery prices as yet uninfluenced by the war, flour and sugar remained the only two necessities for which the housewife need feel she must pay abnormal prices.

If her particular grocer should give the war as a reason for asking excessive prices for other goods, unless they are imported from the countries at war, she can feel pretty well satisfied that he is seeking to take advantage of her.

Sugar Going Up.

The dealers prophesied, however, that before the end of the year they would be justified in raising prices all along the line. Sugar and flour, they said, would still be the chief offenders in increasing the cost of living. They said that their sugar contracts at before-the-war prices were beginning to run out, and that, expecting a further rise in price, they were making contracts at the current wholesale prices of \$7 to \$7.25 a hundred.

When the time came, they said, they would have to serve their customers with sugar purchased under these new contracts, and the present advanced prices of 32 cents for five pounds and 23 cents for three and one-half pounds would be materially increased.

The prices for eggs and butter yesterday varied somewhat among the various dealers, attributed by them to the quality of their goods. The basis of comparison was increased by grouping the egg and butter markets with the chain grocery stores.

The Manhattan Butter Market, with several stores in Harlem, was asking 31 cents for tub butter, 37 cents for best creamery butter, 25 cents for Western eggs and 35 cents for fresh state eggs.

Cristie Brothers carried only the best creamery butter, at 37 cents; Western eggs were 25 cents and fresh state eggs were 35 cents, while special White Leghorns were 45 cents.

F. M. Sweeney, operating a number of stores on the upper West Side and in Harlem, with the main store at 752 Ninth av., carried only creamery butter, at 37 cents. His eggs were 30 cents for Western and 38 cents for fresh state.

Butter at 35 Cents.

The Reeves stores were selling creamery butter for 33 cents as a Saturday special, but the price will be 35 cents on Monday. Fresh Western eggs were 25 cents; White Leghorns, 43.

L. Oppenheimer was asking 35 cents for creamery butter, 32 cents for Western eggs and 38 cents for fresh state eggs.

James Butler was giving eleven Western eggs for 25 cents, fresh state eggs were 39 cents, his best creamery butter was 35 cents and tub butter was 33 cents.

P. Parker's stores were asking 27 cents for Western eggs, 37 cents for fresh state and 35 cents for creamery butter.

Acker, Merrill & Condit had tub butter at 33 cents, creamery at 38 cents and fresh state eggs at 36 cents.

The storekeepers said that the free city markets were helping rather than interfering with their business and prices. One of the chain men confided to a friend how he had a lot of soup on his shelves which he could not get rid of at four cents a can. So he loaded it on one of his wagons, carted it to the Fort Lee ferry market and sold it all at five cents a can.

Another grocer remarked that the free markets to a certain extent lessened their competition from the wagon merchants. Many of these, instead of taking the grocers' customers away from them by door-to-door sales, were now gathering at the free markets.

DUCKS' WILD RICE ENDS FARMERS' HAY

Planted to Draw Birds, It Clogs Whippany River and Stops Field Drainage.

Whippany, N. J., Sept. 5.—Wild rice imported from Canada by lovers of duck shooting in this region is blamed for the fact that many farmers are unable to cut hay and are compelled to see heretofore valuable acres producing not enough to pay the taxes.

The wild rice has flourished in the Whippany River to the point where it clogs the stream. In consequence meadow lands do not drain, and it is impossible to cut any hay where in former years the crops have been of large size.

The Troy Meadow Fish and Game Club was organized fifteen years ago and began hunting in the marshes along the river. One of the members who had hunted duck in Canada remembered that the wild duck in that country were always to be found where wild rice was abundant. He suggested to his fellow members that the experiment of sowing wild rice along the Whippany be tried.

Accordingly a bag of seed was procured from Canada and planted at advantageous points. For several years it did not flourish, and it seemed as if the experiment would fail. A few years ago, however, the plants began to flourish, and now are so thick that the stream has become sluggish.

The farmers will probably do what they can to destroy the wild rice.

GRESSER BENT ON BATTLE

Ex-Borough President's Son in Congress Fight to Stay.

Lawrence T. Gresser, who announced his intention of entering the primary fight for the Democratic nomination for Congress in the 24 District against Charles Pope Caldwell, the attorney who prosecuted the charges which resulted in Mr. Gresser's father, Lawrence Gresser, being removed from the office of President of Queens Borough,

CLEARY'S FRIEND DRAWN FOR JURY

Man Who Saw Clerk Shoot Son-in-Law One of the Investigators.

WAITS ON WAR TO WED

Girl Reaches Scotland After Fiance Left for Front.

Mrs. Donald McAleese, of Lake Ocasawana, N. Y., received word yesterday from her daughter, Margaret, who travelled 3,000 miles to Kinross, Scotland, to wed, that her fiance had gone to the war. Now she will wait there until the conflict is over.

She was to marry Sydney Keene, but two days before she reached Kinross he started with his regiment for France. Keene arranged with his parents to have the ceremony postponed, and Miss McAleese will remain with them, awaiting his return. Miss McAleese met Keene when he visited Cold Spring two years ago, and the two courted by mail.

HUNDREDS AT CLAMBAKE

Western Essex Republicans Make Campaign Plans.

CITY TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY

In spite of the war the New York Tercentenary Commission has decided to hold the celebration of the city's 300th anniversary next month as scheduled.

MINNEHAHA SAILS WITH ONLY TEN PASSENGERS, BUT WITH FULL CARGO.

When the tank steamer Lampo arrived from Genoa yesterday, there was somewhat of a stir along the waterfront. Strung about the vessel

OIL BOAT RESCUES STRANDED GIRLS

Party Caught in Austria by War Glad to Get Home.

PASSED GIBRALTAR WITHOUT TROUBLE

Minnehaha Sails with Only Ten Passengers, but with Full Cargo.

When the tank steamer Lampo arrived from Genoa yesterday, there was somewhat of a stir along the waterfront. Strung about the vessel

were gay college pennants, and over the rail leaned more than a dozen pretty girls, evidently very glad to reach New York.

THE LAMPO IS NOT ARRANGED FOR PASSENGER CARRYING, BUT THE OFFICERS

up their quarters and under familiar hands the plain cabins soon took on a homelike appearance. Good food was provided, and the young women said the voyage had been far from disagreeable.

At Gibraltar, a British torpedo boat ran alongside of the Lampo, but when fourteen laughing women appeared at the rail and assured the Englishmen that they were not German reservists, no further questions were asked. Otherwise the voyage was uneventful.

The girls who accompanied Miss Reuche are the Misses Mona, Margaret, Eva and Maud Hind, of Tacoma, Wash.; Misses May, Ethel and June Tooby, of Spokane; Florence Rhoads, of Seattle; Charlotte Bennett, of Tacoma; Marie L. Corbin, of Spokane; Helen Hardin, of Lancaster, Pa.; Anna Poucher, of Poughkeepsie, and Doris Hall, of South Willington, Conn.

Only ten passengers were aboard the Minnehaha, of the Atlantic Transport Line, when she sailed yesterday for Liverpool. However, she carried a full cargo. The sailing was delayed half an hour, while the captain went to the Custom House to file a manifest of his cargo, which consists mainly of food products.



Sherlock Holmes returns

A brand-new serial story, showing the most famous character in modern fiction at work again.

Sir Artuhur Conan Doyle has the greatest of all detectives solves one of the most baffling mysteries of his career.

It is an American mystery. Two-thirds of the action takes place in the United States.

The latest story written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle begins SEPTEMBER 20th In the Sunday Magazine of

THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE

