

FOODS NOW AT STARVATION MARK; GROCERS SEE NO HELP

Government Ownership Advocated by German-town Merchant, Who Watches Distress

Figures Cited to Prove Small Dealers Are Not Getting Big Profits. Farmers Are Blamed

The days of your courtship, Mrs. Young Housekeeper, you and the man who is now the head of your little but always hungry family would stroll off after...

But you didn't take into account, did you, the rising cost of food, that not only you and your husband but the children...

For forty-six years Thompson & Co. has supplied housekeepers in Germantown, Nicetown and Tioga. The firm operates three stores at 326 Armat street, 4166 Germantown avenue and at Fifteenth and Tioga streets.

"The farmer is growing too independent and is holding back for big profits," asserted Mr. Collins. "Of course, all imports are up—double, in fact, but it is a strange fact, as we find it, that in spite of higher prices our customers of all classes still want the cream, the choicest cuts of meats and the fancy groceries. They do not seem to be economizing."

"Meats are down a bit today, but it seems that the women will buy sirloin steaks and chops when they are at the top prices. We sell steaming meat, but they don't want that as they do the finer cuts. We are selling yellow turkeys at \$1 to \$1.15 a basket, as much or more than white potatoes. Shoepeg corn is out of the market, and tomatoes that we pay \$1.35 a dozen for retail at twelve cents a can. I believe it is the farmer who is to blame, and the extravagance of the people is encouraging him. A break ought to come soon, and I believe it will come, and then those who have been holding out for big prices will suffer. The goods are not in the market, although the crops are good. There is plenty if we could only get it."

"Actually, it looks to me as if we are raising a weaker generation. Under the present living cost the man of moderate means simply cannot buy the proper food for himself and his family. He cannot give his children the education they should have and that he wants them to have in order to make their living in the world when they leave school. He works every day, is sober and frugal, yet his wages do not keep him from working to the utmost of his ability. We feel this condition, too. We cannot see such a family, our neighbors and worthy people, starve. When a woman comes into the store and asks for credit, I often give it out of pity, knowing full well that I won't be paid."

"Let me illustrate. A man earns, say \$11. Out of that he sets aside \$4 toward a rent. Now, with clothing, such as a suit and tie, light and other expenses, he cannot give the grocer more than \$5 a week. And with prices as they are today \$5 a week will not keep a working man and his family in food."

"Some prices have doubled; others are almost prohibitive. I sell as close as possible, yet the people can scarcely pay. Butter costs me forty-three cents a pound; I sell it at forty-eight cents. Eggs that I sell at forty-eight cents cost me forty-four cents a dozen. Sausage retails at twenty-two cents. I pay twenty cents for it. Potatoes are one dollar a half-bushel basket at the wharf, with ten cents extra for handling. I retail them at fifteen cents a quarter pack, a profit of ten cents a basket. Flour that costs me fifty-four cents for a twelve-pound bag I sell for sixty cents. Bacon at thirty cents a pound contains six cents profit, from which must be deducted the cost of wrapping, delivery and waste. The same with lard, which costs eighteen cents and sells at twenty-one cents. Bacon was eighteen cents a year ago, and ten years ago could be had at two cents for a quarter. Lard in those days was six or seven cents a pound."

Mr. Flower exhibited bills from supply houses to verify his quotations of current prices. He repeated his prediction that government ownership seemed the only solution to the price-soaring tendency. William Kee, at Wister and Wakefield streets, has had thirty years' experience in supplying a trade that is largely made up of mill workers and small housekeepers. "I'd break it up if I could," declared Mr. Kee, with emphasis. "It's an outrage."

Grocer's Figures Show Small Profit Margin

Table with 3 columns: Item, Cost, Price. Items include Butter, Eggs, Sausage, Potatoes, Flour, Bacon, Lard.

The Government should put a stop to it. The money power is to blame. They want to get us little fellows, and they will get us unless Congress makes laws to stop them. Why eighteen dollars today only goes as far as nine dollars a year ago. A man with twenty dollars a week cannot keep a wife and a couple of children. They simply cannot live. I've kept account, and I know that it cannot be done.

"The millworkers today are obliged to cut out meat, or if they do eat it they buy brisket and pay twelve to fifteen cents a pound for that. It's an outrage and a shame. I used to sell three to four crates of eggs a week, now I sell about fifteen dozen, a half crate. It costs a dollar today for a dozen eggs and a pound of butter."

UNABLE TO LIVE "And don't think the grocery man is getting the benefit of these prices. I've been in business thirty years at this corner, and this is a good neighborhood. Yet, with work going and the people employed, it has come to such a condition that I have to leave the store in charge of my wife and go out once in awhile and do a day's work. If I didn't we couldn't live."

"Not only are prices higher, but we independent dealers are not getting the cash when our customers have it. They use us for the two or three days when they have no money, then when payday comes they would get married. Some of their former playmates, and who are now grown up, this afternoon will see them united in marriage. The ceremony will be performed in St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Broad and Butler streets."

Mr. Sweeney is superintendent of one of the departments of the Remington Arms Company, at Edgewater. A number of munition makers will attend the ceremony and wedding feast which will be served at Miss Briggman's home.

FARMERS INDEPENDENT "The farmer is growing too independent and is holding back for big profits," asserted Mr. Collins. "Of course, all imports are up—double, in fact, but it is a strange fact, as we find it, that in spite of higher prices our customers of all classes still want the cream, the choicest cuts of meats and the fancy groceries. They do not seem to be economizing."

TODAY'S MARRIAGE LICENSES Elmer E. Day, 21 S. Redfield st., and Mary E. Meyer Parke, 5026 Brunswick st., and Lena Factor, 5026 Brunswick st., and Agnes John J. Curran, 202 N. 15th st., and Jennie Helmer G. Olson, 207 S. 15th st., and Jennie J. Nordquist, 232 S. Hamburg st., and John A. Renshaw, 2321 Wharton st., and Emma John Manning, 2118 N. Hancock st., and Beatrice Moran, 2118 N. Hancock st., and Helen A. MacFarland, 190 W. Spruance st., and Jacob Jacobson, 2117 E. 1st st., and Florence A. McGior, 840 N. 50th st., and Harry Lauba, Jr., 121 N. J., and Lena L. Townsend, Atlantic City, N. J., and Esther R. Goldstein, 1712 S. McKean st., and Esther Cohen, 707 Dickinson st., and Ida William L. Jones, 514 E. Vernon st., and Ida Cochran, 1508 S. Bouvier st., and Emilia Adolph Steward, 1509 Taylor st., and Elizabeth Smith, 1509 Taylor st., and Thomas W. Robinson, 1509 Taylor st., and Russell D. King, 1305 Cambridge st., and Emma Warren, 1305 Cambridge st., and Samuel L. Lotzner, 542 N. 6th st., and Minnie Hugh J. Dougherty, 2133 Morris st., and Marie O. Schaffner, 2133 Morris st., and William L. Brightman, Long Branch, N. J., and Mary C. Fox, Long Branch, N. J., and Moses R. Green, 421 N. State street, and Mattie Brown, 321 N. State st., and Florence Moore, 124 E. Westmoreland st., and Sylvester N. Moore, 848 N. Vernon st., and Inez Cochran, 1508 S. Bouvier st., and Martin Green, 421 N. State street, and Abraham 542 N. 6th st., and Arthur H. Alexander, 2010 Carpenter st., and Eva Moore, 1987 Pemberton st., and John M. Wickertman, 2134 Parkside ave., and Martin A. Halston, Pittsburgh, Pa., and Rodrigo Orsiano, 1721 N. 18th st., and Victorine Robinson, 1721 N. 18th st., and Joseph J. Kelly, 4902 Arch st., and Margaret G. Flynn, 4902 Arch st., and Frederick V. Henry, Perth Amboy, N. J., and Marie B. Bonner, Burlington, N. C., and Peter H. Brown, 2100 Mt. Vernon st., and Catherine G. Fisher, 822 S. Washington st., and Elizabeth Roth, Chestnut Hill, Pa., and Oliver H. Frankenberg, 822 S. Washington st., and Goldie A. Young, 8th and McKean st., and James James, 8th and McKean st., and W. Kelly, 5423 Catharine st., and Frances S. Stangenberger, 2322 S. 11th st., and Carl J. Gertrude, 1722 N. 8th st., and Maurice Bachild, 1722 N. 8th st., and Marie Bradburn, 1722 N. 8th st., and William V. Craven, 2021 Richmond st., and Eddie Henwood, 410 N. 11th st., and Clarence P. Strassburg, 410 N. 11th st., and George Conter, 1405 E. Columbia ave., and Joseph L. Roberts, 4848 N. Warwick st., and Grace L. Ferguson, 822 S. Indiana ave.



MISS LILLIAN BRIGGMAN JOHN L. SWEENEY

CHILDHOOD DREAM TO BE TRUE

Boy and Girl Romance of Lillian Briggman and John Leo Sweeney Leads to Altar

Years ago, when John Leo Sweeney, of 130 North Wanamaker street, and Miss Lillian Briggman, of 3539 North Warnock street, were children, they frequently told their playmates that when they grew up they would get married. Some of their former playmates, and who are now grown up, this afternoon will see them united in marriage. The ceremony will be performed in St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Broad and Butler streets.

Mr. Sweeney is superintendent of one of the departments of the Remington Arms Company, at Edgewater. A number of munition makers will attend the ceremony and wedding feast which will be served at Miss Briggman's home.

After the wedding dinner, Mr. Sweeney and his bride will leave for a trip through the Middle West. On their return they will make their home at 3545 North Warnock street.

MGR. KAVANAGH'S MOTHER DEAD

Parent of High Archdiocesan Ecclesiastic Passes Away Suddenly at Age of 81 Mrs. Mary Kavanagh, mother of the Right Rev. Monsignor Charles F. Kavanagh, of St. Katherine's Catholic Church, Wayne, died at the age of eighty-one years at her home, 1211 Spring Garden street, last night.

Mrs. Mary C. Crouse, widow of D. W. Crouse, died at the home of her son, Norwood, Pa., late Monday night. She was prominently identified with the Immanuel Lutheran Church. She is survived by one son, Raymond. The funeral will be conducted tomorrow by the Rev. Stanley Hillheimer. Interment will be in Mount Zion Cemetery, Darby.

Mrs. Elizabeth P. Smith Mrs. Elizabeth P. Smith, custodian of the Mary J. Hall Home and Day Nursery, of Camden, died yesterday in Cooper Hospital of cerebral hemorrhage. Mrs. Smith was sixty-nine years old and lived at 1819 Van Buren street, Camden.

Miss Mary McDermott Miss Mary McDermott, only surviving sister of the Rev. Daniel I. McDermott, rector of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, in this city, died suddenly last night at her home, 114 West Carpenter street. Miss McDermott was born in Ireland eighty-five years ago. She had been ill only a few days previous to that time had enjoyed excellent health.

Funeral of Doctor Uhle Today Funeral services for Dr. Alexander A. Uhle, one of the foremost specialists in the country on genito-urinary diseases, who was stricken with an attack of heart disease in the office of Dr. R. F. Riddpath and died later in the Medico-Chirurgical Hospital, will be held at 3 o'clock this afternoon at the undertaking rooms of Andrew J. Hair & Sons, Nineteenth and Arch streets. The interment will be private in Ivy Hill Cemetery, Chestnut Hill.

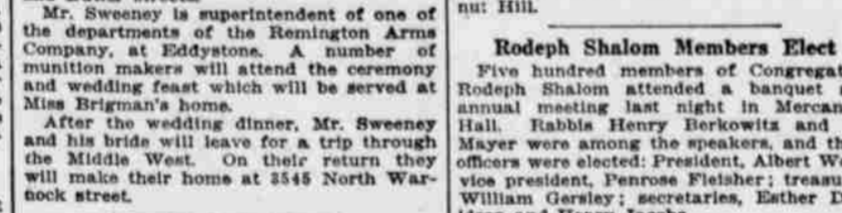
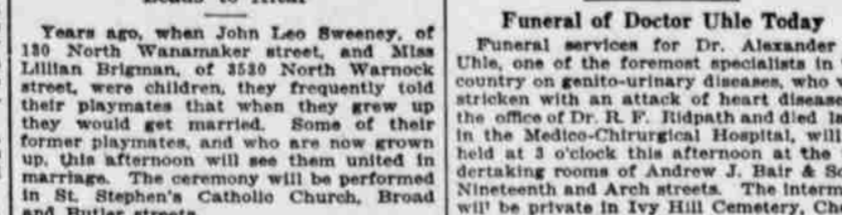
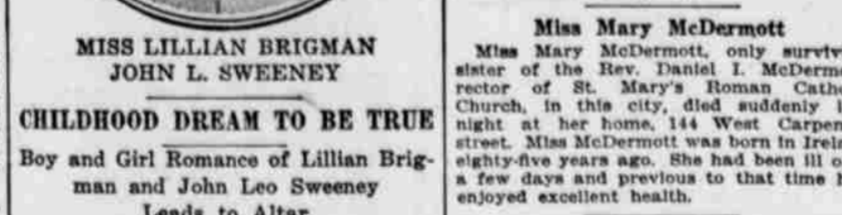
Rodeph Shalom Members Elect Five hundred members of Congregation Rodeph Shalom attended a banquet and annual meeting last night in Mercantile Hall. Rabbi Henry Berkowitz and Eli Mayer were among the speakers, and these officers were elected: President, Albert Wolf; vice president, Penrose Fishler; treasurer, William Gersky; secretaries, Esther Davidson and Henry Jacobs.

STRIKING COAL MINERS RETURNING TO WORK

Many Rochester and Pittsburgh Company Men Resume, but Some Hold Out PUNXSUTAWNEY, Pa., Oct. 25.—Miners employed by the Rochester and Pittsburgh Coal and Iron Company in seven mines in this vicinity, who went on strike a week ago, started returning to work this morning. The Adrian and Hevelia mines resumed operations today and three others will start tomorrow. The Florence miners have refused to return to work and that mine will remain idle, while the Eleonora mine, wrecked by an explosion Saturday, has not yet been repaired. Seven of the eight locals voted last night to return to work pending action by the district board of the United Mine Workers. The strike was not backed by the board, some of the demands being in direct violation of the contract signed with the operators.

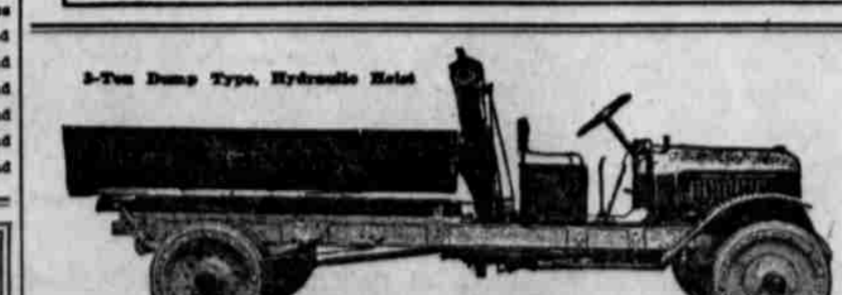
GERARD DECLINES TO TALK AFTER MEETING PRESIDENT

Says He Cannot Discuss Politics or Relations With Germany ASHBURY FARM, Oct. 25.—Aside from admitting he had "talked over every phase of the situation in Germany" with President Wilson yesterday afternoon, James W. Gerard, Ambassador to Germany, would not discuss for publication the three-hour talk he had at Shadow Lawn. "I am not in politics," explained Gerard, "and I cannot discuss politics or the bearing the situation that exists in Germany may have upon the future welfare of this country." Asked if he had discussed with the President the possibility of a resumption of U-boat warfare in case Wilson is defeated at the election, Gerard asked to be excused from replying.



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Advertisement for Hart Schaffner & Marx clothing. A new belt-back overcoat Distinctively a young men's style. IT'S a Varsity Six Hundred; the back is just as good looking as the front; ought to be, of course. This style is single or double breasted, half-belt in two parts; we make it also without the belt, with regular or adjustable collar. And of all-wool fabrics. Ask your clothier for the Varsity Six Hundred. Our label is a small thing to look for, a big thing to find. Hart Schaffner & Marx Good Clothes Makers. Strawbridge & Clothier are the Philadelphia Distributors for the Hart, Schaffner & Marx Clothing.

Advertisement for Mocha Gloves \$2 & \$2.25. These are the genuine Mocha, better still, we have them at last year's prices, owing to our placing a big order before the skins became scarce and before the advances in labor. Perfectly cut and finished—a big R. & F. value. Also advertisement for Venus Pencil and Reid and Fort.