

WOEFUL WASTE, GROCER CHARGES

City's Housewives Arraigned by Secretary of Philadelphia Association

EXTRAVAGANT IN BUYING

Says Housewives Can Save \$480,000 a Week

PHILADELPHIA housewives can reduce their store bills \$480,000 a week if they practice economy and eliminate waste and extravagance. They are largely responsible for high prices because of their incompetency in buying. They make grand cruises on the grocery stores and create an abnormal demand for foodstuffs which serves to boost prices. Delivery charges of Philadelphia grocers, which amount to more than \$40,000 a week or \$2,000,000 a year, can be relegated to the bottom of the Delaware River for all time.

Churches, clubs and civic organizations ought to teach women in the art of handling family budgets. There is no reason to fear a food shortage for the warehouses are filled.

RENO SCHOCH, Secretary Retail Grocers' Association of Philadelphia.

Philadelphia housewives in contributing their "bit" toward the war are throwing to the four winds more than \$480,000 a week because of their inefficiency, negligence, extravagance and wastefulness in the management of home budgets.

This is a severe indictment to draw against the fair sex, and particularly Philadelphia's feminine folk, according to the Retail Grocers' Association of Philadelphia, is sponsor for the charge.

Today he discarded the cares of business and for a half hour played the role of prosecutor against the Quaker City women. In a masterly and brilliant Philadelphia housewives as "slackers," asserted that they are getting no thought to the war, and in summing up paid them the compliment of being "wasteful, extravagant and negligent."

The war and its connection with the corner grocer brought forth the indictment, for Schoch, as secretary of the association that has a membership of 1800 grocers, asserts that he reflects their attitude toward the housewives.

That the war is the least of the corner grocer's troubles and that the housewives drive them out of business was one of the outstanding features of his statement.

Here are a few solid shots fired into the Philadelphia camp of handsome femininity by Schoch:

"There are approximately 6000 grocers in the city, and they do an average business of \$100 a week, or a total of \$2,400,000. Store bills can be reduced by 20 per cent with a little effort, and the health of Philadelphia will not suffer. That means that \$480,000 a week can be saved by housewives if they practice ordinary commonsense rules of economy and eliminate foolish luxuries.

"One item, amounting to approximately \$100,000 a week, or more than \$2,000,000 a year, which represents the cost of delivery charges, can be relegated to the bottom of the Delaware River for all time.

"The women are largely responsible for high prices because they make a grand rush for every article that is boosted a half cent. That means that the following day the article is kited higher and the buying keeps up.

"Instead of devoting their time to aviation and navigation, they ought to get busy and learn how to buy groceries.

"Every church, club and civic organization ought to organize a campaign of education and carry the message of practical economy to the housewives."

GROCERY PRICES TOO HIGH It was suggested to Mr. Schoch that he confine himself to the war and offer some suggestion as to how the corner grocer is affected and how he can cope with the stress of war conditions. Schoch made it plain that he appreciated the war situation, but as a wholesale grocer, insisted that the war prohibits the handling by the Army and Navy Department.

"Business," he said, "is splendid. Nobody is complaining, but the prices are too high. The little fellow in the trade is hard hit because the high prices mean a big investment, and that is a difficult problem to meet.

\$480,000 A WEEK WASTED "It is up to the woman to solve that problem and they can. I believe that the most important work to be performed by war committees in Philadelphia is the education of the housewives. Consider what \$480,000 a week will do if diverted to relief channels. I have been conservative in my estimate for every day I am getting reports from grocers. They tell the same story and place the blame for present-day conditions upon the housewives.

"What can the housewives do to aid the grocer? At the outset they must stop buying in large quantities. Buy, but buy as they need the groceries. Don't hoard groceries, because by doing so they lose. The groceries spoil and the run on the market boosts the price for the real poor.

SPECIMEN OF EXTRAVAGANCE To illustrate the extravagance and incompetency of the housewives Schoch offered the following illustrations:

"Mrs. Brown enters grocery store and finds that cereals have advanced two cents a package. She immediately buys four times more than she needs and her example is followed by others. The next day the wholesale price of cereals, owing to the abnormal demand, is boosted. The next day, thinking that prices will go higher, buy more.

"Mrs. Jones, who has some money, rushes to the grocery and takes a \$200 check of groceries. What happens? Half the stuff will spoil before it is used and she has contributed to a price-boosting campaign.

"Mrs. White, who before her marriage started dinner with an anchovy, insists upon having them now and pays from thirty to forty-five cents for six fish. That is pure extravagance.

"Mrs. Black reads that the Government has requested tin can makers not to sell their products to bean factories, and feeling sure that canned beans will hit the ceiling makes a rush for the grocery. The next day the price on canned beans goes up."

WAREHOUSES ALL FILLED Schoch asserted that there is no reason to feel alarmed over a food shortage and cited the condition of warehouses to substantiate his statement. "Every warehouse that handles foodstuffs," he added, "is filled to the roof, and almost all the space in any of them and only regular patrons are served."

Concluding, he became less severe on the women and suggested that they turn over a new leaf today. "I can tell them," he said, "that they need not fear that men engaged in the making of luxuries will lose their employment. A few may, but they can be absorbed in other industries. They need not fear high prices, or rather higher prices. They can control the price situation. My advice is this: When the price of an article is boosted let it remain on the shelves of the stores. It won't remain on the shelves more than a week before the price will tumble.

"And, after all, we can stop using 50 per cent of the products carried by grocers. There is no reason to buy on credit. The money to help the Government is better spent."

MINISTERIAL AND LAY DELEGATES AT THE NEW JERUSALEM CONVENTION



Representatives of Swedenborgian churches throughout the country are assembled at the mother church in this city, Twenty-second and Chestnut streets, in a tennance at the centennial session of the general convention of the Church of the New Jerusalem in America.

"MERE MAN" SHOWS GIRLS HOW TO COOK

He's George E. Farrell, Federal Culinary Savant, and Pupils Are Drexel Matriculates

A mere man, spotlessly garbed in white linen, cooked before the exacting eyes of 340 girls this morning and never blinked an eye or broke a cup. The girls are students of the domestic science and arts departments of Drexel Institute. They were assembled in the auditorium for the occasion and the mere man is George E. Farrell, a Government expert, who came from the Department of Agriculture in Washington this morning to show the girls how Uncle Sam does his canning and preserving. The big stage of the auditorium was fitted up like a real live kitchen. There were stoves, tables, an evaporator and such like and in the background five domestic science students wisely dressed in white with black ties, who occasionally stepped to the front to help Mr. Farrell. The Government demonstration continues in to last two days. Today beans, peas, string beans, strawberries and pineapples were "put up." Tomorrow other greens and fruits will be the subject of practical demonstration. Drexel Institute is blazing a trail in bringing Mr. Farrell to this city. The demonstration today is the first of its kind and importance to be given in Philadelphia. So that the subject of canning and drying of foods might not be a foreign one to the girls, Miss Edith Boor, Drexel's professor of Domestic Science, introduced courses in preserving into the school during the last few weeks. The girls are well grounded in the work and the Government instructor is expected to set a final seal on their instruction. Short "wartime" courses bearing on efficient home-making are to be given at Drexel during the summer months.

DR. KEEN INJURED; UNABLE TO TALK ON FLY CAMPAIGN

Celebrated Surgeon Acted as Stable Inspector—Fell on Fifth Street

Dr. W. W. Keen, widely known surgeon and president of the American Philosophical Society, will be unable to address the Co-operative Citizens' Committee for Fly Extirmination at the Chamber of Commerce next Tuesday on his experience as a "stable inspector," because of an accident which will confine him to his bed for two weeks. Doctor Keen fell on Fifth street, near the Bourse, on Wednesday and suffered a severe injury to his right shoulder. Doctor Keen has been one of the most enthusiastic workers in the campaign for the extermination of the fly which has been waged for more than a month now by the Co-operative Citizens' Committee for Fly Extirmination. When Albert Cross, chairman of the inspection committee, called for volunteers to inspect the city stables, Doctor Keen immediately volunteered his services. He was assigned to a group of stables on Rittenberg street between Seventeenth and Eighteenth, and he personally inspected these places from top to bottom, looking for means of keeping down the annual summer crop of fly pests. A meeting was scheduled for next Tuesday in the Chamber of Commerce to give the inspectors and others an opportunity to tell of their experiences in the "fly trenches." Doctor Keen had prepared an exhaustive address on his experiences, but he will have to forgo reading it on account of the accident that befell him.

AMERICA WILL FEED BELGIANS AND FRENCH

Commission to Abandon Its Appeals for Public Contributions After June 1

NEW YORK, May 18.—The United States Government will finance the relief of Belgium and northern France for the six months of the present year beginning on July 1. The Government will advance \$2,000,000 a month to feed the people of the German occupied sections of France and \$2,000,000 to be applied to the relief of the Belgians. As a result of this arrangement the commission of relief in Belgium, speaking through its chairman, Herbert Hoover, announces that it makes no appeal for public contributions after June 1. The commission, however, will gladly receive contributions up to the day the Government loan becomes available. The announcement of the new arrangement for affording relief for the millions of victims in Belgium and northern France is made in a letter addressed by Mr. Hoover to his associates on the Commission for Relief in Belgium.

Bulgar Czar to Visit Bavarian Court. ZURICH, May 18.—King Ferdinand of Bulgaria is preparing to visit King Ludwig of Bavaria, says a dispatch from Munich today. It is believed that the visit deals with the growing desire for peace in Bulgaria.

NEUTRALS CAN HAVE FOOD IF THEY SEND OWN SHIPS

This Is Idea of American Government, After Discussion With British Envoys

WASHINGTON, May 18.—If neutral countries like Holland and Scandinavia want American food they must release their shipping and send after it. That is the idea of Government officials, and presumably was made the subject of discussion in a conference between part of the British mission and State Department heads today on trade matters. The problem of ratcheting the Allies and of furnishing a moderate amount for the neutrals was one of the vital topics in the light of complaint from neutrals that they are to be starved by reduced rations. Details of the conference were lacking, though it is assumed that England and America are agreed upon the principle that neutrals shall have only a limited quantity of provisions. This limitation is necessary because some supplies have found their way into Germany via the neutrals.

To Head Porto Rico University. STATE COLLEGE, Pa., May 18.—Dr. Louis W. Raper, professor of education at the Pennsylvania State College for the last three years has been notified of his appointment as dean of the University of Porto Rico. After teaching for six weeks this summer at the University of Montana, Doctor Raper will go to his new post early in the fall. He came to State College from the University of Illinois.

MISS RANKIN LEADS DRIVE FOR SUFFRAGE

House Committee Scene of Lively Discussion in Favor of Constitutional Amendment

WASHINGTON, May 18.—A new drive for woman suffrage by constitutional amendment was made on the House today. Members from suffrage States and women of national neighborhood prominence in the campaign for the ballot tread the House Rules Committee to report a resolution creating a House committee on woman suffrage. Congresswoman Rankin, of Montana, urged the committee that the only hope of advocates of the ballot for women is in constitutional amendment. This can be handled only through a committee on suffrage. Miss Rankin explained that the machinery for granting the ballot in the several States is so cumbersome and unwieldy that little can be done in that way. Mrs. Maud Wood Park, speaking in the absence of Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, read a letter from Mrs. Catt urging the creation of the suffrage committee. Mrs. Catt wrote that the women of the country could not escape the feeling "that the monarchies of the

old world are more just to the cause of woman than the United States." Mrs. Helen Gardner, of Washington, read a letter from Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, honorary president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, also advocating creation of the committee. Others who spoke were Miss Anna Martin, of the National Woman's party; Miss Maud Younger and Mrs. Richard Walcott, of Washington; Representative Mondell, of Wyoming; Keating, and Taylor, of Colorado; O'Shaughnessy, of Rhode Island; McArthur, of Oregon, and Baker, of California. At the close of the hearing Representative Harrison, of Minnesota, asked who was responsible for picketing the White House with banners bearing suffrage devices. Mrs. Wood, in behalf of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, absolved her organization from any responsibility for the picketing and denounced the practice.

Winona Coal Plant Sold. UNIONTOWN, Pa., May 18.—The McLerran Coal Company, of Uniontown, has today purchased the operations of the Winona Coal and Coke Company, near Grifton, W. Va., for \$100,000. Together with the coal plant are 1000 acres of coal land.

MASTER MADE \$5 THE Shoe Store This Season

That fact we proved and are continuing to prove it day after day. We know what shoes men want. The Master-Made shoemaking, the strong stylish lasts, the many tones of tan, cordovan, hoko or wax calf they look for, all combined in our Master-Made styles.

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Here's Just the Gift for the Bride Price Complete \$15.00 A "Hotpoint" Electric Percolator (Greenland Upr Design) As beautiful as it is serviceable. Made of drawn copper, and beautifully nickel-plated, it challenges comparison with the most elaborately equipped sideboard or buffet. Silver-lined interior; has valet's percolating device; two handles of polished wood, with pedestal of same material; feet are fibre tipped to prevent marring polished surfaces. Call or write for catalog of electrical gifts suitable for the bride. Frank H. Stewart Electric Co. 37 & 39 N. 7th St. OLD MINT BLDG. 1426 WALNUT STREET

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