

AMERICAN SUGAR SENT TO FRANCE

American Price Rigidly Regulated by United States Food Administration.

CONSUMERS HERE PAY 9c.

Sugar Cost 35 Cents a Retail During Civil War—Refiners' Profits Now Curtailed.

Sugar is selling today throughout America at from 8 1/2 to 9 cents a pound to the consumer, even though there is a world shortage which has reduced this nation's sugar allotment to 70 per cent. of normal.

Through the efforts of the United States food administration the sugar market has been regulated as far as the producer, refiner and wholesaler is concerned. The food administration has no power to regulate retail prices except by public opinion. Even though more than 85,000 tons of sugar have been shipped to France in the last four months the retail grocer's sugar price is around 8 to 8 1/2 cents. He should sell this sugar at 8 1/2 to 9 cents, the food administration believes, and asks the American housewife to pay no more than this amount.

Last August when the food administration was organized the price of sugar rose suddenly to 11 cents a pound. During the Civil War sugar cost the consumer 35 cents a pound. By regulation of the sugar market and reducing the price to 8 1/2 and 9 cents and keeping it from advancing to 20 cents the food administration has saved the American public at least \$180,000,000 in four months, according to a statement made by Herbert Hoover the other day.

"It is our stern duty to feed the allies, to maintain their health and strength at any cost to ourselves," Mr. Hoover declared. "There has not been, nor will be as we see it, enough sugar for even their present meagre and depressing ration unless they send ships to remote markets for it. If we in our greed and gluttony force them either to further reduce their ration or to send these ships they will have done damage to our abilities to win this war."

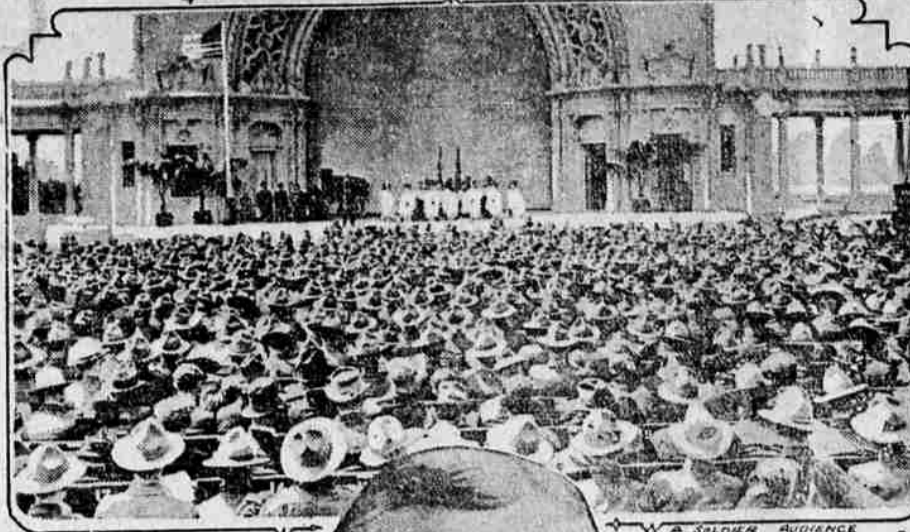
"If we send the ships to Java for 250,000 tons of sugar next year we will have necessitated the employment of eleven extra ships for one year. These ships—if used in transporting troops—would take 150,000 to 200,000 men to France."

Reason for World Shortage. As Mr. Hoover pointed out, the United States, Canada and England were sugar importing countries before the war, while France and Italy were very nearly self supporting. The main sources of the world's sugar supply was Germany and neighboring powers, the West Indies and the East Indies.

German sugar is no longer available, as it is used entirely in Germany, which also absorbs sugar of surrounding countries.

England can no longer buy 1,400,000

SELLS SMILEAGE FOR SOLDIERS



A SOLDIER AUDIENCE

In order that the expense of the entertainments which, at the direction of the Secretary of War, are being given the soldiers of Uncle Sam, under the management of the Military Entertainment Council, may be taken care of, this council has issued "Smileage Books". These books are sold for \$1 and \$5, according to whether they contain 20 or 100 coupons, and will entitle soldiers to free admission to any entertainment in any National Guard or National Cantonment in the United States.



MARC BLAW, IN CHARGE OF THE CAMP THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

The Smileage Plan. Starting the week of January 28, the books will be on sale all over the country. "Smileage Books" will admit the men in khaki to some of the best entertainments in the coun-

try. This statement is upheld by the fact that official announcement has just been made in Washington that the work of entertaining these men, heretofore conducted under three

separate auspices, has all been consolidated under one official body, the Military Entertainment Council, appointed by the Secretary of War. This council is a part of the Commission on Training Camp Activities, of which Raymond B. Fosdick is chairman. Credit for the plan of consolidation is given Harry P. Harrison, of Chicago, executive chairman of the Smileage Campaign.

The consolidation of the various forms of entertainment is, perhaps, the first thing of its kind in the country. It is the first time the Government has undertaken to put on real stunts for its soldiers. Under the new arrangement all entertainment in the camps is to be turned over to the Military Entertainment Council, the Chautauqua tents to be known as "Liberty Tents," and the theaters as "Liberty Theaters."

Everybody is expected to buy at least one "Smileage Book."

long tons of sugar each year from Germany. The French sugar production has dropped from 750,000 to 210,000 tons. The Italian production has fallen from 210,000 tons to 75,000 tons. Thus three countries were thrown upon East and West Indian sources for 1,025,000 tons annually to maintain their normal consumption.

Because of the world's shipping shortage the allied nations started drawing on the West Indies for sugar; East Indian sugar took three times the number of ships, since the distance was three times as great. Suddenly the west was called on to furnish and did furnish 1,420,000 tons of sugar to Europe when 500,000 tons a year was the pre-war demand. The allies had drawn from Java 400,000 tons before the shipping situation became acute.

"In spite of these shipments," Mr. Hoover stated the other day, "the English government in August reduced the household sugar ration to a basis of 24 pounds per annum per capita. And in September the French government reduced their household ration to 13 2/10 pounds a year, or a bit over 1 pound of sugar a month. Even this meagre ration could not be filled by the French government. It was found early in the fall, America was then asked for 100,000 tons of sugar and succeeded in sending \$5,000 tons by December 1. The French request was granted because the American household consumption was then at least 55 pounds per person, and it was considered the duty of maintaining the French morale made our course clear."

Today the sugar situation may be summarized by stating that if America will reduce its sugar consumption 10 to 15 per cent, this nation will be able to send 200,000 more soldiers to France.

Sugar today sells at seaboard refineries at \$7.25 a hundred pounds.

The wholesale grocer was agreed to limit his profit to 25 cents a hundred plus freight, and the retail grocer is supposed to take no more than 30 cents a hundred pounds profit. This regulation, which now asks the housewife to reduce sugar consumption as much as possible, using other sweeteners, and also reminds her that she should pay no more than 9 cents a pound for sugar.

Control of Cane Refiners' Profits. "Immediately upon the establishment of the food administration," Mr. Hoover said, "an examination was made of the costs and profits of refining and it was finally determined that the spread between the cost of raw and the sale of refined cane sugar should be limited to \$1.20 per hundred pounds. The pre-war differential had averaged about \$5 cents and increased

costs were found to have been imposed by the war in increased cost of refining, losses, cost of bugs, labor, insurance, interest and other things, rather more than cover the difference. After prolonged negotiations the refiners were placed under agreement establishing these limits on October 1, and anything over this amount to be agreed extortions under the law.

"In the course of these investigations it was found by canvass of the Cuban producers that their sugar had, during the first nine months of the past year, sold for an average of about \$4.24 per hundred f. o. b. Cuba, to which duty and freight added to the refiners' cost amount to about \$5.56 per hundred. The average sale price of granulated by various refiners, according to our investigation, was about \$7.50 per hundred, or a differential of \$1.84.

"In reducing the differential to \$1.20 there was a saving to the public of 54 cents per hundred. Had such a differential been in use from the 1st of January, 1917, the public would have saved in the first nine months of the year about \$21,500,000."

Next Year. With a view to more efficient organization of the trade in imported sugars next year two committees have been formed by the food administration:

1. A committee comprising representatives of all of the elements of American cane refining groups. The principal duty of this committee is to divide the sugar imports pro rata to their various capacities and see that absolute justice is done to every refiner.

2. A committee comprising three representatives of the English, French and Italian governments; two representatives of the American refiners; and a member of the food administration. Only two of the committee have arrived from Europe, but they represent the allied governments. The duties of this committee are to determine the most economical sources from a transport point of view of all the allies to arrange transport at uniform rates, to distribute the foreign sugar between the United States and allies, subject to the approval of the American, English, French and Italian governments.

This committee, while holding strong views as to the price to be paid for sugar, has not had the final voice. This voice has rested in the governments concerned, together with the Cuban government, and I wish to state emphatically that all of the gentlemen concerned as good commercial men have endeavored with the utmost patience and skill to secure a lower price, and their persistence has reduced Cuban demands by 15 cents per hundred. The price agreed upon is about \$4.60 per hundred pounds, f. o. b. Cuba, or equal to about \$6 duty paid New York.

"This price should eventuate," Mr. Hoover said, "to about \$7.30 per hundred for refined sugar from the refiners at seaboard points or should place sugar in the hands of the consumer at from 8 1/2 to 9 cents per pound, depending upon locality and conditions of trade, or

SAVE FUEL AND BE HEALTHIER

Overheated Dry Air Makes Man Too Susceptible to Disease, Declares Physician.

Washington.—Further endorsement of the campaign of the United States fuel administration against overheating has been given by eminent physicians of the country. Dr. James J. Walsh, physician, doctor of philosophy, and author, said:

"Pneumonia takes a little more than one man in eight and therefore has wrested from tuberculosis the grim honor of killing the most human beings. Man is a marine animal, seven-eighths water. He needs cool air and moisture around him. Overheated dry air makes him too susceptible to dis-

ease. In a temperature of over 63 degrees it is difficult for men and women to exist healthfully. If Americans can be taught to live in this temperature the number of pneumonia victims will surely decrease. Fresh, cool, moist air is the foe of pneumonia and persons who keep their houses cool and breathe fresh, moist air need have no fear of it."

City Is Stricken.

SIDNEY, N. S. W., Jan. 28.—(Special.)—The city of Mackay, in Queensland, has been overwhelmed by a cyclone, which produced a tidal wave and flood conditions.

Heavy loss of life is feared. Fourteen bodies have already been recovered. There is a call for assistance.

Prefers Chamberlain's.

In the course of a conversation with Chamberlain Medicine Co.'s representative today, we had occasion to discuss in a general way the merits of their different preparations. At his suggestion I take pleasure in expressing my estimation of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. I have a family of six children and have used this remedy in my home for years. I consider it the only cough remedy on the market, as I have tried nearly all kinds.—Earl C. Ross, publisher Hamilton County Republican-News, Syracuse, Kansas.—Adv.

Better than money because they earn money; buy a WAR-SAVING STAMP TODAY.

A Penny a Day Means a Kit-a-Month for a Boy at the Front



Every man, woman and child in this city can help keep one of our boys at the front supplied with cigarets and tobacco by setting aside one cent a day for each working day.

Just think what this little sum will do! For 25 cents we will enter your name on our Tobacco Fund list and will send 45 cents worth of smoking tobacco and cigarets to our boys in France. In the kit will be a postal card stamped and addressed to you, and on the kit will be a request to the soldier asking him to write a message to you on the postal and mail it.

The Red Cross takes charge of these kits of smoking material and distributes them; the French government sends back the postal bearing a one-cent United States stamp and admits the tobacco free of duty.

Surely if as busy an organization as the Red Cross Society and as pre-occupied officials as those of the French government will do these things to see that our soldiers get a chance to smoke, it isn't asking much to ask you to set aside one cent a day for the purpose.

Send in your contributions of any amount—25 cents, \$1.00, \$5.00, or more. For every 25 cents that you give, a separate postal bearing your name goes to the front.

Here's 45 cents worth of tobacco which is sent for your quarter:

A package of Tuxedo tobacco and four books of cigaret papers. Three pouches of Bull Durham Tobacco and three books of papers.

Two packages of Lucky Strike cigarets, twenty cigarets in each package.

A return postal card addressed to the contributor on which the soldier will pen his appreciation and gratitude for the gift.

THE OBSERVER TOBACCO FUND

The Red Cross Drug Store

The PRESCRIPTION STORE

Flake-White

is a pure vegetable fat. There is nothing to equal it for shortening and frying.

Try Flakewhite and you'll never be without it.

Flakewhite is cheaper than lard.

City Grocery & Bakery

The Home of Fancy Groceries.

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