

H. C. L. SHOWS ONLY VERY SLIGHT DROP

Washington, April 18.—Prices of meats, butter, cheese and sugar increased during the period from February 15 to March 15, while retail costs of many other commodities making up the average family food budget decreased, according to the monthly index issued today by the Department of Labor. An average decline of one percent in the retail cost of food was estimated.

Fourteen of the forty-three articles dealt with in the index, showed increases as follows:

Cabbage, 17 percent, granulated sugar 9 percent; pork chops 8 percent; sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, chuck roast, butter and cheese 2 percent; plate beef, ham, lamb, hens and bananas one percent. Decreases were recorded as follows:

Eggs 13 percent; rice and prunes 7 percent; bacon and corn flakes six percent; lard five percent; oleomargarine, but margarine, corn meal, potatoes and oranges, four percent; onions and canned tomatoes, 3 percent; flour, rolled oats, navy beans, and canned corn 2 percent; canned salmon, fresh milk, evaporated milk, bread, macaroni baked beans, canned peas, tea, coffee and raisins, one percent.

Family Expenditure
The average family expenditure for food decreased in thirty-nine cities and increased in eleven cities from which the Department receives monthly figures. In Cincinnati the expenditure was the same on the two dates.

The greatest decrease, 4 percent was shown in Los Angeles and Rochester. In Charleston, Cleveland, Richmond and San Francisco the decrease was 3 percent; in Birmingham, Boston, Bridgeport, Fall River, Jacksonville, New Haven, New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Portland, (Ore.) Savannah and Scranton it was 2 percent; in Atlanta, Baltimore, Buffalo, Dallas, Columbus, Houston, Indianapolis, Little Rock, Manchester, Mobile, Newark, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland (Maine) Providence, Salt Lake City,

UNITED STATES SPEAKS PLAINLY

Panama and Costa Rica Must Behave—War Not Tolerated

Washington, April 19.—War between Panama and Costa Rica growing out of the present boundary dispute will not be tolerated by the United States, it was learned today authoritatively.

Both governments are understood to have been informed that the obduracy of Panama over the acceptance of the White award, insisted upon by the American government must not be made the basis for the renewal of hostilities.

It was not revealed in what manner the United States had made known that it would regard hostilities with keen displeasure, but it was assumed that representations had been sent to both Panama City and San Jose.

Official reports received here recently have indicated that peace on the isthmus was again about to be disturbed. These said Panama was mobilizing her army to meet any aggression from the north, while Costa Rica was assuming a bellicose attitude and had been assured either formally or informally of the active support of Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

The American position is understood to be that the United States is bound by treaty obligation to safeguard the integrity of Panama and that any move by Costa Rica would justify drastic action. Officials declined to indicate what action would be taken if hostilities were renewed. They are hopeful that the representations made to Panama and Costa Rica will serve to prevent armed conflict between the countries.

There is considerable force of American troops in the regular garrison in the Canal Zone. This is supplemented by force of the special service squadron now in Central American waters and in addition the Atlantic fleet is in Cuban waters on winter maneuvers.

The reported plan for support of Costa Rica by the three Central American republics was regarded here as having something more than mere altruistic object, since they are members of the recently established Confederation of Central America. Costa Rica is expected to ratify the confederation pact in May and Central American diplomats explain that with Costa Rica a member, it would be the obligation of the other three to give all support possible.

and Seattle, one percent, and in Butte, Denver, St. Louis and Washington five-tenths of one percent.

In Louisville the increase was 2 percent; in Chicago, Kansas City, Memphis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Peoria and St. Paul one percent, and in Detroit, Omaha, and Springfield, Ill., less than one-half of one percent.

The decline in wholesale prices which began in the spring of 1920 slowed down decidedly last month, the Department's index showed. Increases in prices were shown for 64 of the 326 commodities under the review, decreases for 173 and no changes in 89.

Prices of lighting and fuel materials declined about five percent in March, metal and metal products 4 1-2 percent and farm products, cloths, clothing and chemicals and drugs 3 percent. Miscellaneous commodities including bran, cotton seed 3-4 percent, building materials 4 oil and meal, lubricating oil, jute, rubber, newsprint and wrapping paper, soap, tobacco and wood pulp decreased about 7 percent. Food showed practically no change in the general price level with a very slight decrease in house furnishing goods.

Comparing prices in March with those of a year ago, the statement showed that food wholesale prices have declined 39 percent, cloths and clothing 46 percent and farm products nearly 48 percent. In the other groups except fuel and lighting the decreases ranged from 16 1-2 percent in house furnishings and chemicals to 34 3-4 percent in the case of building materials.

Charles P. Steinmetz, the electrical wizard, computes the power of a lightning flash to equal that of a 200-ton train going 50 miles an hour.

Toledo, Ohio, has a union depot for motor trucks.

VELVET BEANS

The Best and Surest Summer Legume for South Carolina—Great for Feed and Fertility, Says N. E. Winters, Extension Agronomist.

Clemson College, April 25.—Of the great variety of legumes which may be grown in South Carolina for feed, pasture, and soil improvement, velvet beans probably head the list for the following reasons:

They make a fairly good growth on the poorest land in the South. They make a bigger growth than almost any other legume.

Because of their growth they take a large amount of nitrogen from the air; and when plowed under or pastured off and all residue and manure incorporated with the soil, most of this nitrogen and large amounts of organic matter are added to the soil. Every ton of growth may add to the soil from 25 to 30 pounds of expensive nitrogen.

They will make more milk and meat per acre as a pasture next fall and winter than anything farmers can plant this spring.

Last, but not least, when planted in corn they help to check that "Fodder pullin' disease," an antiquated and expensive method of making feed.

Varieties.
Probably the best varieties for South Carolina are the Early Speckled or Ninety Day, and the Osceola. The former matures in about 120 days and the latter in about 160 days. The Osceola makes a larger growth of vine and foliage and larger pods than the Early Speckled; but as it needs about 40 days longer period, it is not so well adapted to the upper part of the state. The Early Speckled matures anywhere in South Carolina. Livestock usually eat the Early Speckled more readily than the Osceola, although they like both.

Velvet beans make more seed and better pasture if they have a trellis to run on, and corn is the most profitable trellis. Most velvet bean growers plant them in their corn, in alternate rows with the corn, using corn rows 1-2 to 7 feet wide. If the length of season permits, it is a good plan to plant the beans from 20 to 30 days after the corn, which permits the corn to make more growth before the beans begin to entwine around it, and results in the corn standing up better at harvest time.

Another method adapted to the upper part of the state especially is to lay off all rows about four feet apart and plant every third row to velvet beans with corn in the two rows between. This is especially advisable where the beans are planted at the same time as the corn, as it takes longer for the vines to cover the corn and usually leaves a better opening between the two corn rows in which one may walk in gathering the corn.

Amount of Seed Per Acre.
Farmers are using from one to two pecks of seed per acre for planting in corn, planting from 12 to 24 inches apart in the drill. If planted alone in rows, about one bushel of seed per acre is required, or about six pecks broadcast.

Effect on Corn Crop.
The first year the beans may reduce the yield of corn about two bushels (about the same reduction as pulling fodder causes); but the next year following a crop of velvet beans the yield of corn is likely to be increased about 33 percent, and cotton about 25 percent. On poor soil the increases are often more than this.

Fertilization and Inoculation.
It is usual to fertilize the corn as you otherwise would and let the velvet beans use what the corn doesn't get. Some farmers increase the amount of their corn fertilizer for the benefit of the velvet beans. It is never necessary, however, to increase the amount of ammonia in the fertilizer for velvet beans.

Velvet beans use the same inoculation as cowpeas, peanuts, and lespedeza or Japan clover, hence inoculation is practically never necessary, as our soils are already inoculated for them.

Velvet Beans—Good Business.
Velvet beans are the safest and surest summer legume for South Carolina, and we are not going to be the prosperous state that God intended until every cornfield in South Carolina is wrapped up in velvet beans every year.

In most of our soils nitrogen is the limiting element in crop production. It is also the most expensive part of the fertilizer that we buy. Nearly thirty million dollars was spent in 1920 by the South Carolina farmers for nitrogen; yet it is estimated that one square mile of the air contains enough nitrogen to supply the whole world for fifty years for crop production. There are 35,000 tons of nitrogen in the air above every acre just waiting to be pulled down and made available for growing crops by using velvet beans and other legumes in the rotation.

Humus, the very foundation of soil fertility, is also the crying need of our soils. Velvet beans will help as much or more than any other crop in building up the supply of humus in the soil.

The marketing problem will be well on the road to solution when growers are willing to co-operate with their neighbors instead of competing with them.

Do you realize that your county agent is one of the most valuable assets to your county?

BURIED WITH THEIR HUSBAND

Wives of Members of the Barua Tribe of the Congo Are Interred With the Corpse.

The Barua tribe in the Congo district of Africa have a number of strange and horrible customs, but of them all their burial customs are the most terrible. When a man dies a large grave is dug. The corpse and his wives—these may be anywhere from two to twenty—are escorted to the hole with wild music and the interested attendance of the entire tribe. The chief wife is thrust into the hole, and the corpse is then lowered. The second wife follows. The dead man's relatives then proceed to break the arms and legs of the two wives so they cannot get out of the hole. The head of the corpse is placed in the lap of the head wife, and the feet in the lap of the second wife.

The rest of the wives are then thrust into the hole, their limbs broken, and they are forced to sit in a circle about the corpse and its human supporters. The priest chants a few words, and everyone falls to with rude shovels, dishing earth into the hole. They never stop until the grave is full and the corpse and the living wives buried far under the earth. The howls of the wives with their broken limbs and fear of the terrible death are drowned by the banging of drums and the yells of the delighted tribe.

IN THE NAME OF RELIGION!

Weird and Savage Rites Indulged In by the Khyats, Sect of Russian Fanatics.

One of the queer religious sects of the world is the Christs or Khyats of Russia. They hold their meetings in their churches with hundreds of men, women and children attending. After prayers and hymns that last until midnight they begin a wild dance amid sob and groans. After this continues for a while they abandon their garments and put on white robes and white stockings. Candles are lighted, and a new dance begins that consists of rapidly revolving, the men to the right, the women to the left.

In a short time a sort of madness falls upon them. They leap, scream, beat themselves and each other, indulge in wild laughter and cries, and then begin to tear off the garments with shouts of "It is coming, the Holy Spirit is coming!" They begin to go about on all fours, riding on one another's backs, rolling about on the floor, biting and scratching one another, and at last go entirely insane and dash about until they fall exhausted. By dawn the church floor is covered with naked men, women and children, unconscious and blood-stained.

Weather's Effect on Birds.

Cold and hunger in England has driven armies of birds, even the wild-est, into streets and gardens and unwanted places. Great flocks of green plover, which are singularly shy as a rule, appeared in the stackyards and paddocks of Hertfordshire villages. In Buckinghamshire several thousand rooks in a flock was no rarity; and old scouts came right up to the back doors and competed for their food with the poultry and the pigs. In London it was curious to see the pigeons feeding busily on the ice, to the obvious irritation of the gulls, whose bills are useless for securing fragments from a hard surface. It was hard to be defeated by a land bird in their own element. Starlings showed even greater ability in picking up morsels from the fies and even the water of the river, a feat very foreign to their nature.

The Boy of It.

The three children were on the street car on their way to school—a boy and two younger sisters. The sisters disputed who was to push the button to notify the street car conductor to stop the car. The older sister won and held her finger on the button for more than a block. Then her brother rose, pulled her hand away arbitrarily and pushed the button. The older sister stepped into the vestibule, followed by her sister to be the first to step off the car. As it stopped, the brother brushed them aside and led the way. The sisters having alighted, waited for the car to go on, but the boy rushed across the tracks, ignoring the warning changing of the bell by the motorman.

Microbes in Sugar Bowl.

About one per cent of the Cuban sugar crop, valued at \$1,500,000, is each year destroyed by greedy microorganisms too small to be seen except when congregated in crowds of millions. Molds and bacteria are the culprits. It is estimated that each person in the United States consumes \$1.84 pounds of sugar each year. At this rate, 873,000 persons could be supplied with the sugar destroyed by germs. The sugar loses its sweetness when the molds consume the sucrose. Its "sweetening" principle.

Marble Cheaper Than Wood.

A report to Washington from the American commercial attaché in Rome is to the effect that American lumber has gone to such price heights in the Italian market that builders find it cheaper to put in marble staircases than to build them of wood. Such is the combined effect of mill cost, plus freight rates, multiplied by the exchange premium of four to one that Italian buyers have to pay to transport their money into this country.

WILL ACCEPT PRESIDENCY OF ALABAMA SOUTHERN COLLEGE AT BIRMINGHAM

Dr. E. Snavelly, dean of Converse College, has been elected to the presidency of the Alabama Southern college at Birmingham, and has signified his intention of accepting the position. He will enter upon his new duties about July 1. President Pell

and the trustees of Converse college were loath to give him up and tried to induce him to remain, while at the same time recognizing the attractiveness of the new work that had been offered him. Dr. Snavelly did not fully make up his mind until after consideration. Dr. Snavelly has done good work at Converse and has made a host of friends in Spartanburg and throughout the state, who will regret his departure from the city.



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Was Very Weak

"After the birth of my baby I had a back-set," writes Mrs. Mattie Crosswhite, of Glade Spring, Va. "I was very ill; thought I was going to die. I was so weak I couldn't raise my head to get a drink of water. I took . . . medicine, yet I didn't get any better. I was constipated and very weak, getting worse and worse. I sent for Cardui."

TAKE

CARDUI

The Woman's Tonic

"I found after one bottle of Cardui I was improving," adds Mrs. Crosswhite. "Six bottles of Cardui and . . . I was cured, yes, I can say they were a God-send to me. I believe I would have died, had it not been for Cardui." Cardui has been found beneficial in many thousands of other cases of womanly troubles. If you feel the need of a good, strengthening tonic, why not try Cardui? It may be just what you need.

All Druggists

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