FUEL SHORTAGE IS IMPENDING

Government Officials and Operators Urge Probe

COAL MEN FEAR SITUATION

Anthracite Production Since January 1 10,600,000 Tons Less Than Last Year And Bituminous 74,700,000 Tons.

Washington.—Urging congressional investigation of the coal situation, government officials and coal operators told the House Rules Committee that a fuel shortage was impending.

"Coal men fear the situation may get away from them, and that prices may rise $5 or $6 a ton," declared C. E. Lesher, of the Geological Survey. "Their advertising of the situation is in hope that this may be averted, for they know that the condition would reflect on them."

Anthracite production since January 1 was 10,600,000 tons less than last year and bituminous 74,700,000 tons, Lesher said, due to lack of demand.

"The only remedy is for the consuming public to lay in supplies now," he said.

George H. Cushing, managing director of the American Wholesale Coal Association, said the coal shortage in the east and northeast during the war would be repeated this winter, adding that its extent would depend on the industrial activity in those sections.

300,000 Tons For Norway.

London.—More than 17,000 Welsh coal miners have joined the strike which is rapidly spreading throughout the country, according to the Chronicle. The newspaper pointed out that an order for 300,000 tons of coal from the Norwegian government, which normally would have been placed in Wales, has gone to America.

Mineworkers Idle.

Washington. — Unemployment is prevalent throughout the United States, Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, told the Joint Labor Committee of the House and Senate. Morrison appeared to favor a bill providing for a permanent Federal employment service.

"From 30 to 50 per cent. of the mineworkers of the United States are now unemployed," Morrison declared, "due to large stores of coal which have been previously mined." Morrison said that in the State of Massachusetts there is 11 per cent. unemployment, about 400,000 persons being out of work.

PLANS TO EXECUTE PEACE TREATY TERMS.

Discussing The Probable Commissions —Preparing For Plebiscite In Silesia.

Paris.—American members of the peace delegation are taking part in all discussions of plans for enforcing the German peace treaty and the creation of commissions to execute its terms. The Americans, however, are refraining from discussion of the probable American membership of these commissions, apparently, it is said, wishing to avoid any possible criticism on the score of undue haste in preparing to enforce the treaty before its ratification by the United States.

The Americans, as well as others of the peace delegations, seem confident that difficulties betwen the Poles and the Germans can be adjusted so as to hold the plebiscite in Upper Silesia without the necessity of using foreign military forces. Plans for the plebiscite are being perfected rapidly.

All German and Polish soldiers will leave the district peacefully, according to present indications, and enable the Allies to organize a local police force sufficiently strong to insure proper conduct of the balloting.

The United States, as well as other powers, it is said, has expressed in the Supreme Council meetings a willingness to send troops to Upper Silesia, if necessary. The delegates generally are said to be of the opinion that the Germans are disposed to execute in good faith that part of the treaty terms calling for the evacuation of the Baltic provinces, Upper Silesia and other parts of Poland occupied by German troops.

There are said to be many indications that the extreme bitterness existing there six months ago is disappearing generally because of a general desire to avoid further fighting and to begin the work of economic reconstruction.

CONGRESSMAN TO FARM BOARD.

Representative Lever To Quit The House August 1.

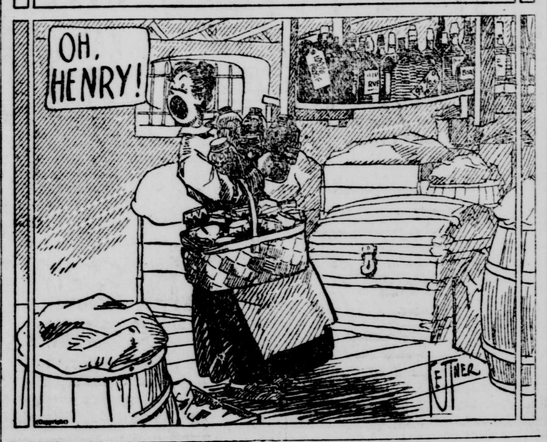
Washington.—Representative Lever, Democrat, of South Carolina, was nominated by President Wilson to be a member of the Farm Loan Board. Mr. Lever announced that he would resign from the House August 1 to accept the appointment.

CROKER TO DESERT IRELAND!

Former Tammany Chief Coming Back To U. S. In Two Months.

Dublin.—Richard Croker, former Tammany leader in New York city, will return to the United States in two months. Mr. Croker found the Irish climate unsatisfactory. Mr. Croker will hold a large sale of his horses soon. He intends, however, to retain several, and he will continue to be represented on the Irish turf.

Preserves



FINAL PLANS FOR NATIONAL GUARDS

Approval of Reorganization Given by Secretary Baker

ON SIXTEEN-DIVISION BASIS

Major General Jesse McI. Carter Has Sent Out Notifications To Various Adjutant Generals Of Allotments to Their States.

Washington.—Final plans for the reorganization of the National Guard on the 16th Division basis, with divisional areas following the same limits as did those from which guard divisions were organized for service against Germany, were approved by Secretary Baker.

Maj. Gen. Jesse McI. Carter, chief of the Bureau of Militia Affairs, immediately sent notifications to the various adjutant generals of the units allotted to their States and of the readiness of the Federal Government to extend recognition after the required inspection had been made.

The organization table announced provides for 47 regiments and 18 battalions of infantry; six regiments, 17 squadrons and 19 troops of cavalry; 10 regiments, 20 battalions and seven batteries of field artillery and 74 coast artillery companies, with additional forces of engineers, sanitary and signal corps.

A maximum expansion to about 440,000 men, or 800 per senator and congressman, is provided for, but the units for the time being are to be organized on the basis of 65 men per company of infantry, as appropriations for the National Guard for the fiscal year 1920 permit only the organization of the guard on the basis of 200 men for each Senator and Representative, giving an aggregate strength of about 106,000.

State allotments as given in letters sent to the various adjutant generals show that New York, because of its preponderance in population, will have the biggest part in the reorganized guard, six full regiments of field troops and 12 companies of coast artillery having been assigned to that state.

Pennsylvania is authorized to maintain four full regiments in addition to auxiliary troops, while Illinois is given three complete regiments and Massachusetts two. The assignment to Texas of six full regiments of cavalry besides four other regiments and auxiliaries was considered significant.

The state assignments follow:

New York—Twelve companies coast artillery, four regiments infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one regiment engineers, one field signal battalion, one engineer train and one sanitary train complete.

Pennsylvania—Four regiments infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one field signal battalion, one engineer train, one sanitary train complete.

Connecticut—Six companies coast artillery, one battalion infantry, two troops cavalry, one battery field artillery, one ambulance company.

Delaware—Two companies coast artillery and one battalion infantry.

District of Columbia—One battalion and two companies infantry, one battery field artillery, one signal company (outpost), one headquarters company infantry.

Maine—One regiment infantry.

Maryland—One regiment infantry, two batteries field artillery, one field hospital company.

Massachusetts — Eight companies coast artillery, one regiment infantry, two troops cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one signal company (wire), one engineer train, one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

New Hampshire—Two companies coast artillery, one battalion infantry, one battalion field artillery, one field hospital company.

New Jersey—Two companies coast artillery, one regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one machine-gun troop, one battalion field artillery, one battalion engineer, one signal company (radio), one field hospital company.

Rhode Island—Six companies coast artillery, two troops cavalry, one battery field artillery, one ambulance company.

Vermont—Two battalions infantry, one machine-gun company.

West Virginia—One regiment and one battalion infantry.

Arizona—One squadron cavalry, one battalion field artillery.

California—Eight companies coast artillery, one regiment infantry, one battalion field artillery, one battalion engineers, one signal company (radio), one field hospital company, one ambulance company, two troops cavalry.

Colorado — One regiment infantry, one troop cavalry, one battalion field artillery, one company engineers, one signal company (outpost), one engineer train, one ambulance company.

Hawaii—Two companies coast artillery, one battalion infantry, one machine-gun company, one supply company.

Idaho—One battalion infantry, one machine-gun company, one company engineers.

Illinois—Three regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment and one battalion field artillery, one battalion engineers, one signal company (wire), one engineer train, two field hospital company, two ambulance companies.

Indiana — One regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, one battalion engineers, one signal company (radio), one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

Iowa—One regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one machine-gun troop, one battalion field artillery, one battalion engineers, one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

Kansas—One regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one battalion field artillery, one signal company (outpost), one engineer train, one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

Kentucky—One regiment and one battalion infantry, one squadron cavalry, one machine-gun troop, one battalion field artillery, one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

Michigan—One regiment infantry, one squadron cavalry, one regiment field artillery, two companies engineers, one signal company (radio) one field hospital company, one ambulance company.

Minnesota—Two regiment infantry, one regiment field artillery, one ambulance company. One infantry regiment to be converted to field artillery.

SUNDRY CIVIL PASSES.

Appropriation Bill Now Goes To The Senate.

Washington.—Amended to provide $14,000,000 instead of $6,000,000 for the rehabilitation of wounded soldiers, sailors and marines, the Sundry Civil Appropriation Bill, which was vetoed by the President, was passed by the House and sent to the Senate.

Prompt action on the bill is planned by leaders in the Senate.

WASHINGTON

Assistant Secretary Long, of the State Department, formally denied reports recently published in South American newspapers that the United States had determined upon a policy of armed intervention in Mexico.

Plans to continue the fight for repeal of the daylight saving law, despite the veto of the President and the refusal of the House to over-ride it, will be discussed Friday by the House Agricultural Committee.

Governor Davis, of Idaho, telegraphed the Department of the Interior, asking aid in fighting a great forest fire raging along a 15-mile front in the Thunder Mountain district of that state.

An agreement reached at a conference between Chairman Koons, of the Wire Control Board and representatives of unions is expected to bring about an end of the Pacific Coast telephone strike.

President Wilson invited a number of Republican senators to call at the White House to discuss the peace treaty and the League of Nations, Secretary Tumulty announced.

Individual invitations were sent from the White House late today to a number of Republican senators to confer with President Wilson with regard to the peace treaty.

Conservative members of prohibition in the House have set out to curb drastic enforcement legislation, fearing its effect on the whole liquor drinking question.

The House Judiciary Committee has agreed upon an amendment to the dry enforcement bill governing the sale of flavoring extracts.

Plans for the reorganization of the National Guard on the basis of 16 divisions have been approved by Secretary of War Baker.

Republican leaders in the House plan to bring about the repeal of the 10 per cent. tax on soda water and ice cream.

Approximately 175 ships, with an aggregate tonnage of more than 500,000, will constitute the newly organized Pacific fleet.

CRUEL TREATMENT SOLDIERS CHARGE

Says Arrogant Officers Ruled in Prisons Abroad

BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE

A. H. Mendleburg, Who Served With Base Hospital 42, Says An Officer Rolled A Soldier In Mud Because He Smiled.

Washington. — American soldiers testifying before a special House committee investigating alleged cruelties to military prisoners in France, declared that merciless assaults were committed without provocation on the prisoners by arrogant officers in charge of the prisons and camps. Only one of the witnesses, all of whom were charged with being absent without leave, was convicted, the others having been acquitted or the charge dismissed.

"The Bastile," "The Stockade," "Prison Farm Number Two" and "St. Ann's Hotel," also known as "The Brig," were the places named by the witnesses as the scene of the alleged cruelties, which are said to have extended over several months in 1918. Some of the officers in charge of the prison camps, it was said, had been convicted by courts martial and others were awaiting trial.

Lieutenant "Hardboiled" Smith, one of the prison camp officers, was mentioned frequently, while others named were Lieutenants Mason and Sullivan and Sergeants Ball, Wolfmeyer and Bush.

"Did they try the general in charge of the camp," asked Chairman Royal Johnson, who left his seat in Congress to serve with the Army abroad.

"Not that anyone heard," responded a witness.

When Lieutenant "Hardboiled" Smith was tried at Tours, early this year, a hundred witnesses appeared against him, and he was convicted, testified Sidney Kemp 479 West One Hundred and Forty-Sixth street, New York City, who was a corporal with Company F, 102d Engineers, 27th Division.

"Fifty witnesses whom I can name will verify everything said here and tell more, too," asserted Kemp.

Several of the soldiers testified that, in addition to being beaten, food in small amounts and of poor quality was supplied and that the bedding was poor, sometimes the mattress being in mud under a small tent.

"A prisoner was smiling and an officer says, 'Take that smile off, or I will,'" A. H. Mendleburg, 1410 East Fayette street, Baltimore, who served with Base Hospital 42, testified. "The officer did, by rolling the man in the mud," Mendleburg added.

"Did you get that officer's name?" asked Representative Flood, Dem., Virginia.

"I'm too sorry I did not take his name," answered Mendleburg.

When telling of poor food, Mendleburg said that "if you asked for an extra piece of bread, you were flat on your back." Meals, he and others said, consisted of a stew, made from canned beef, one slice of bread, and part of a cup of coffee. Sometimes only the stew was served, witnesses said.

LIGHTNING INJURES 25.

Pittsburgh Street Car Struck; Panic Follows.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Twenty-five persons were injured, several probably fatally, when lightning struck a crowded Hamilton avenue street car at Fifth and Wood streets, in the center of the downtown district, during a severe electrical storm. J. T. Hoffman, 50, motorman, was severely burned when the lightning, which struck the trolley wire, came down into the car and exploded the controller. Women and children were trampled in a panic which followed.

HORSE INVADES FACTORY.

"Fire Tail" Slips Halter And Stampedes Girls.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—A delirious dapple gray horse named Fire Tail, having slipped his halter and got out for a rip-snorting high old time, climbed the stairs to the Bramhall-Dean factory in Brooklyn today and galloped playfully around the office, precipitating a riot. After hurdling desks, the fleeing stenographers, Fire Tail smashing windows and snorting at pranced into the president's sanctum and stood around until a patrolman came after him.

CHALONER NOW SANE IN N. Y.

Author Of "Who's Loony Now?" Wins 20-Year Fight.

New York.—Twenty years is a long time to wait to find out whether you're insane in New York State. But that's what John Armstrong ("Who's Loony Now") Chaloner did. Supreme Court Justice Ford rendered the belated opinion that he is just as sane in New York as he is in any other State.

LONG FLIGHT FOR D'ANNUNZIO.

Poet-Aviator Expects To Soar From Rome To Tokio And Return.

Rome.—Gabriele d'Annunzio, poet and aviator, has arranged to attempt a flight from Rome to Tokio and return. The trip will last a month and the aviator purposes to cover about 20,000 miles. The route will lie through Asia Minor, India, Tonking and China to Japan. D'Annunzio has arranged for stations along the route where he can replenish his supplies.

Airplane Patrol for Forest Fires

Washington, D. C.—Airplane fire patrol of the national forests by army machines was begun as an experiment for the forest service recently. The first report from a forester has just come to headquarters here after an exciting observation flight from Mather Field made over the southern patrol route in California, covering portions of the Eldorado and Stanislaus forest preserves.

The trip was taken by Assistant District Forester How for the collection of data as to the feasibility of this novel method of fire detection; what should be done to fight the flames, if possible from the plane; how alarms may promptly be given; what style of plane or balloon is best adapted, and what additional apparatus may be necessary to make successful this attempt at more effectually safeguarding remote and inaccessible stretches of practically unexplored country from the scourge which annually destroys thousands upon thousands of acres of timber rapidly becoming well nigh priceless.

Tells Stirring Tale.

Forester How not only covers all these interesting points, but tells a stirring tale of adventure in doing so. After describing his preparations for the trip, he continues:

"My pilot was Sergeant McKee, who is one of the army flying instructors. The plane we used was a Curtiss JM-1 with an OX-5 motor. There are no controls in front, so all I had to do was to sit strapped to my seat. We started about nine o'clock. I had heard so much of persons becoming nauseated that I was expecting to feel funny, but I never had that kind of a symptom. My impression was that we were standing still, when in fact we were going 70 miles an hour. We flew up the American valley to Placerville; thence to Chinese, ten miles southeast of Sonora.

"On the trip we saw five fires, all of which were outside of the forest boundaries. The largest was near Placerville and had been burning a week.

"The country is so rugged that a landing could not have been made to fight a fire without a crash. The pilot agreed to this and steered to the west of the peak instead of to the east, and by doing this, we missed seeing some of the country the patrol is expected to cover. A forest patrol by aircraft is more hazardous than the flying that is usually done.

"My pilot made me understand that our trip scared him more than any other trip he had ever made, simply because he could not make his plane attain the elevation necessary for relative safety. He said he would take no more passengers in the future. To do so would mean that he could cover only portions of the forest which could be seen from the lookout points.

Getaway Extremely Difficult.

"In landing at Chinese for luncheon we broke our tail skid, but were able to replace it. Our getaway was extremely difficult, and I did a heap of thinking. Returning, we made a direct flight to Mather Field at an elevation of 6,000 feet. When about half way the pilot said he was going to make a straight dip. He had made a series in the morning of 50 to 70 feet on an angle. This time he shot down for 500 feet.

"This was quite thrilling, but nothing to the tail spin he put the machine through in descending to Mather Field. I had no warning and felt as if we were going down a series of corkscrew curves at a terrific rate. The earth looked like an ocean during a heavy sea. We dropped 1,500 feet in this manner and then gracefully volplaned to the field within a hundred feet of the hangar. Our total flight time was about four hours and the distance covered 250 miles.

"Fires have already been detected from airplanes that have not been picked up by the lookout man. There is no question in my mind that it is the most feasible method of prompt fire detection. I believe, however, that the expense of establishing such a patrol would be prohibitive for the forest service.

"I am convinced more than ever that the dirigible with helium gas will be the type of ship we shall use in the future. I predict that within five years our present system of lookout patrol will practically be a thing of the past and also that the suppression of forest fires will commence immediately after discovery. In other words, the fire fighting forces will accompany the observer in a dirigible. When a fire is discovered one or two men will climb down and put it out. There will then be different methods of fire suppression than we now use. It will be possible to carry large tanks of water and motors to pump it on a fire. Chemicals, perhaps, may also be used."

CONTROL 16,000 MILES OF PHONES

Coblenz.—At the time the Americans began withdrawing from Germany the United States army had perfected one of the finest telephone systems in Europe. From the headquarters of the third army in Coblenz fifty long-distance lines had been set up and it is possible for the commanding general to sit in his office and talk with American officers in London, Berlin, Vienna, Rotterdam, Brussels, Antwerp, Paris and various other European points.

The army of occupation has a telephone system closely resembling the best commercial system in the United States. On the top floor of the headquarters building in Coblenz a nine-position switchboard was installed soon after the Americans reached the Rhine. Scattered throughout Coblenz are twenty private branch exchanges of the various units of headquarters. Connected to this system are more than four hundred "subscribers" in addition to the fifty long-distance lines.

16,000 Miles of Wire.

Within the German occupied area there has been established by the signal corps under the direction of Col. Parker Hitt, chief signal officer, a network of wires connecting the various units of the third army. Direct lines connect with all the corps and divisions, approximately 16,000 miles of wire being in service.

This extensive plant has not, however, been built by the third army, but consists almost altogether of the German lines taken over by the signal corps and so arranged as to meet the needs of the army. Sufficient circuits were left, however, for the civilian population to carry on their business.

More than 15,000 calls are registered daily on the Coblenz switchboard. With the establishment of an exchange in Coblenz it was necessary to employ operators who could speak English, French and German. The fifteen operators on duty in Coblenz are all members of the women's telephone corps and have been in the service more than a year. The chief operator, Miss Helen Cook, was a former employee of the American Telephone and Telegraph company of New York. Previous to joining the American expeditionary force, Miss Cook spent six years as instructor for the Bell system in offices in Chicago, Minneapolis, Omaha, Cleveland, Detroit and Memphis.

The word "Doodlebug" is the code name of the third army switchboard in Coblenz, the corps and divisions also retaining the code names that were assigned them during the war. On the back of a twenty-page telephone directory issued by the third army the artist's conception of a "doodlebug" has been reproduced in the shape of a bug made up of a combination of sabres, rifles and an aerial bomb.

All the apparatus, including switchboards, telephone instruments, and, in fact, everything excepting the wires, is of American manufacture and is to be taken out when the Americans in force say good-by to the Rhine and start for France and home.

DE FOREST, THE WIRELESS WIZARD

Dr. Lee De Forest (at left), the "wireless wizard," whose invention of the audion made possible the transmission of speech by wire and wireless over long distances as used today. The photograph was made at Dr. De Forest's laboratory at High Bridge, New York city.

Marine Rookies Shocked by Customs of Cubans.

Guantanamo, Cuba. — Some newly arrived marines at this place are getting their first insight into Cuban customs.

It is not uncommon to see naked children in the towns about here playing in the streets.

Another novel sight is the municipal graveyard. Cubans have to pay taxes on the graves of their relatives, and when the taxpayer becomes delinquent the body or bones are exhumed and thrown in a common heap in one corner of the burying ground.

The marines are rapidly acquiring the notion that Cubans are fresh air fiends.

Switzerland is considering the adoption of the 24-hour clock, abolishing the a. m. and p. m.

HEROIC WAR PIGEONS

Flock That Did Wonderful Deeds Returns Home.

"General Muir" Comes With Breast Shattered as Result of Many Exploits.

New York.—With breast shattered, but still alive, General Muir, one of the greatest war heroes, returned recently. As the steamer pulled into New York harbor, General Muir sat on the deck wrapped in a blanket that bore several wound and service stripes. There was no perceptible sign that he realized where he was. He made no comment.

Reporters tried in vain to interview him. Sergt. Fred J. Hermann, his commander, did all the talking. You see—General Muir is a carrier pigeon.

He was one of the seven birds of the intelligence service of the A. E. F. that the transport brought home. General Muir's exploits are many. On one occasion, having been assigned to deliver a message of great importance to a post 18 miles away, he flew through shrapnel and gas, and past a squadron of Germans that had been sent out to intercept carrier pigeons and delivered the message in just 33 minutes.

With his breast torn open, with his wings singed by fire, and eyes blinded with blood, he kept on till he had reached his objective.

King Cole, another pigeon, is the nearest rival of General Muir for fame. He was a messenger in the last Argonne drive and flying through a cloud of gas fell into an abandoned trench. There he lay in the mud for two days, and gathering strength, arose, and came home with the message.

A patent has been granted for an electrically illuminated keyhole.

PRIZES FOR LITTLE TALES

Chance Offered to Win Money and Help the Fatherless Children of France.

Chicago.—Many thousands of the children of France were rendered fatherless by the great war. These little ones were the especial pets of the Yankee soldiers who got across, and the doughboys have brought or written home countless interesting or pathetic stories about them. The chance is now offered to put these tales to double account. A number of daily newspapers in various parts of the country offer cash prizes, ranging from $100 to $1, for the best true stories of the French children sent in by anyone who was in France in any capacity during the war. All the stories submitted, whether winning prizes or not, will be considered donations to the publicity committee of the organization known as "The Fatherless Children of France," and will be used to raise funds for the support of those bereaved little ones

No especial literary ability is required to capture these prizes and anyone who could write home a letter can win one. The contestant is asked only to tell, out of his experience, the story of some little French child who impressed him by its courage, devotion, tragic experience or friendliness to the American soldier. Wives and sweethearts need only to dig down into the box where Bill's letters are kept and find the one which told about the little girl near Verdun who was asleep in the dog kennel, or hunt up Bert's story about the small boy and his dog who wanted to join the American army and fight the Germans all the way to Berlin.

The conditions of the contest can be obtained by writing to "The Fatherless Children of France," Room 634, 410 South Michigan avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The truth would seem less brutal if people were better acquainted with it.

MAKER PAYS "NEAR BEER" TAX

Fruit Juices in Separate Class, United States Revenue Bureau Rules.

Washington.—Regulation for administration of the 15 per cent tax on "near beer" and other beverages made of cereals, and the 10 per cent tax on manufacture of soft drinks, provide that the assessment is against the original manufacturer of soft drinks, provide that even though he sells to another concern which bottles and sells the product. If the beverage is subjected in the process to any remaking, sales by the second manufacturer also are taxable. The tax is on the manufacturer's price, not the retail price.

The tax on soft drinks, as differentiated from soda fountain products, is on unfermented grape juice, ginger ale, root beer, pop, artificial mineral waters, apple juice, loganberry juice and other fruit juices. The tax is paid by the manufacturer, and these articles are exempt from soda fountain taxes.

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