The Queenstown News

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Friday, November 20, 1953

The Atom in Peace

So far, we have known power only as a means of causing incredible destruction of life and property in war. Now it seems, intense attenton is to be given to an infinitely happier possibility —the use of atomc power in peace.

This new era was launched when Thomas E. Murray of the Atomic Energy Commission announced that work has started on a full-scale experimental electric plant fueled by the atom.

One very important phase of the matter lies in whether the government is to have a monopoly of atomic energy for peaceable use, as it now has a monopoly of the weapns, or whether private enter price is to enter the picture. The law provides that this first experimental plant must be built by government though private business will do the actual construction under AEC contract. But it is an encouraging fact that a great many people who have studied the question, including men high in government, believe that the present law should be changed in the near future to permit private enterprise to go ahead with atomic power developmetn on a competitive, business-like basis. Necessary security restrictions, of course, would be imposed.

This is the traditional American way to handle any discovery—and the way that promises the most benefit for all the people.

Those Fixed Costs

There has been much discussion of the fact that the cost at wholesale of many of the things we eat and wear and use is often a great deal less than the price we must pay in the retail store. And that tends to create an impression that retailers are a bunch of bandits who are making extortionate profits at the expense of the hapless housewife.

What this attitude fails to take into consideration is that, in late years, the fixed costs of carrying on a retail business have tremendously increased. Those costs include labor, taxes, rents, transportation, and everything else. And there is still another factor, which is found in changed consumer preference. As an example, people now want processed foods where they used to buy the raw product. They want goods in a wide range of packagings and sizes and varieties. And all this costs money. The retailer, like the producer and manufacturer, has no choice save to pass the cost on to the buyer.

The real test of whether or not retailing is exploiting us is found in its net profit—the money typcal stores have left at the end of the year after all the bills are paid. Major food chains earn a net of as little as one per cent. Other types of stores customarily earn three or four or five cents on the dollar of sales.

NOTICE

Application is made under Article 2B, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, by DENVER E. McKAYE, PETER F. BARNES, and VERNON W. LANE for the use of M & M Restaurants, Inc., of Stevensville, Md. for a Class "B" Beer License, to expire April 30, 1954 permitting them to sell the aforesaid beverages on the premises known as M & M Restaurants Inc., of Stevensville, Md.

Anyone may speak for or against the granting of this license at a meeting to be held by this Board on December 7, 1953 at 1:30 P.M. Eastern Standard Time in the Board Meeting Room in the Basement of the County Jail, Centreville, Md.

Board of License Commissioners Of Queen Anne's County.
J. Fred Carter, Chairman,
Vachel A .Downes, Jr., Attorney.

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C.F. OLEOMARGARINE	pound	27c
CAMBELL'S TOMATO SOUP	3 cans	34c
C.F. SWEET PEAS	2 cans	33c
C.F. FANCY BARTLETT PEARS	can	24c
GOLDEN WEST TURKEYS large toms D & D		61c
GOLDEN WEST LITTLE TURKS	6 to 8 lbs.	71c
TENDER SMOKE SLICE DBACON	pound	65c
GOLD MEDAL FLOUR	5 pound bag	52c
C.F. CRANBERRY SAUCE	2 cans	39c
LIBBYS TOMATO JUICE	can	27c
C.F. FANCY RAISINS	2 packages	35c
C.F. GOLDEN PUMPKIN	2 cans	29c

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