

**HIGH COST OF LIVING STRIKES THE NAVY**

(New York Journal of Commerce.)  
 Bids opened by the Navy Department on Tuesday and made public yesterday indicated that the high cost of living had reached the government and, incidentally, served to emphasize the scarcity of certain products. The bids called for a number of varieties of canned goods and on most of the items many of the firms refused to bid at all.

The first item on the list was for 40,000 pounds, or 14,500 cases of California peaches. While several California firms put in bids, they were either for part only or were considerably above the lowest bidder, who in this instance was Austin, Nichols & Co., who bid \$50,319, or about \$1.80 per dozen cans. The next lowest bidder was Francis H. Leggett & Co., \$52,828, while other city bidders included Lewis De Groff & Son for \$54,177 and Kemp, Day & Co., for \$54,208, with an alternative bid of \$54,808.

Only two bids were received for standard green Lima beans, of which 285,000 pounds, or 95,000 cases, are wanted. Lewis De Groff & Son bid \$20,288, or \$1.07 a dozen cans, while Seaman Brothers bid \$21,817. The government also wanted 500,000 pounds of cut refugee No. 2 string beans, or 16,000 cases. String beans this year are practically a failure, and the offerings for the general trade have been decidedly scarce, and in some instances canners say they will not be able to supply more than 5 per cent. of a normal pack. There were only two firms that had courage enough to submit bids to the government, and these were only for part of the quantity required. Seaman Brothers offered to furnish 57,000 pounds for \$4,403, or about \$1.13-1-2 cents per dozen, while R. C. Williams & Co. offered 270,000 pounds for \$22,120, or \$1.22 per dozen.

According to all advices in the trade, canned corn will command fancy prices this year, as the crop is short and in some States the canning will amount to very little, New York State being particularly unfortunate. The government requisition called for 1,140,000 pounds, or 38,000 cases, of Southern No. 3, Maine style. There were only two bids and these were quite wide apart. Lewis De Groff & Son offered to furnish the entire quantity for \$85,174, or \$1.13 a dozen, and R. C. Williams & Co. for \$93,480, or \$1.23 a dozen.

Owing to the rapidly advancing market of late, considerable interest centered in the bids for 2,305,000 pounds, or 76,000 cases, of Standard No. 3 tomatoes. R. C. Williams & Co. were the lowest bidders at \$122,112 a dozen, or a total of \$122,345. Lewis De Groff & Son bid \$113,338. Austin, Nichols & Co. \$113,670, S. H. Lewis & Son of Philadelphia, \$125,885, and Kemp, Day & Co. \$129,650.

**THE MISSOURI "SHORT HAUL" STATUTE**

Washington, Sept. 30.—The Missouri "short haul" law is an amplification by the legislature of state constitutional declarations of 1872 and 1875 and of the enactments of a special railroad legislation session of the Missouri assembly in 1887. Litigation has been in progress for years between the McGrew Coal Company and the Missouri Pacific Railroad Company, the latter contending that the constitution authorized prohibition of "unjust" rate discriminations only against both the statutory and constitutional declarations prohibiting all discriminations, whether unjust or just and reasonable, were void.

The Missouri Pacific Company attacked the "short haul" sections of the Missouri reversed statutes of 1909, fixing maximum penalties of \$1,000

for each violation. The "short haul" clause, it charged, violates the "due process" and "equal protection" clauses of the federal constitution and Missouri's constitution and interferes with interstate commerce. Missouri courts sustained the "short haul" statutes, declaring that they do not burden or interfere with interstate commerce and are a valid exercise of the state's powers over railroads within the state. They held, also, that the "short haul" provisions of the old state constitution were not repealed by the new, nor by the 1887 statutes, which were declared definitive merely and not restrictive of what constitutes unjust discrimination.

The McGrew Coal Company secured canal employees, and the ship on its judgment for excess charges on which he sailed, flying the Canal coal shipped within the state only. Zone governor's flag, was not saluted, but the railroad contended that the It was the first time Colonel Goethals Missouri laws could be applied to dis-thals has been entirely through the "turb interstate rates despite the canal on a ship. state courts' construction that the law was operative only upon interstate traffic.

**HUNGARY SO HE STOLE A BIT OF CHEESE**  
 Macon, Ga., Sept. 20.—Simon Cox, formerly a member of a local stock company, has been bound over to county court under \$150 bond on a charge of having stolen a piece of cheese. Cox claims that he stole to secure food for himself and his wife when out of funds and without a job. He is in the county jail, unable to return in an official capacity. His going was unknown to the cers and registration headquarters make bond.

**TWO SLICK SWINDLERS JAILED IN ATLANTA**  
 Memphis, Tenn., Sept. 30.—Jack Beckwith, aged 22, and Barton Beckwith, aged 22, claiming Atlanta as their home, are in jail here charged with getting money under false pretense. They claimed to be "furnace menders" and called upon numbers of householders, repairing heating furnaces. The only "repairs" they made was to paint the furnace front and door, leaving the defective inside in its original condition.

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