

The Local Scene

City Faces Shortage of Beef Next Spring; Exports Blamed

Victoria probably will face a shortage of beef early next spring, wholesalers said yesterday.

It was stated the beef market had already "shortened up a bit" because of large livestock shipments to the United States. Herds of cattle raised in British Columbia have already been depleted and wholesalers said they now had to depend on Prairie herds for local beef supplies.

An advance of two or three cents on the local wholesale price of beef is expected Monday. Present wholesale selling price of top grade beef is around 41 cents a pound.

In normal years wholesalers said they were able to draw on supplies of British Columbia-grown beef until after Christmas. This year, owing to the large export shipments, the British Columbia supplies have been exhausted early.

Retail meat dealers said there had been no change in the price of beef during the past month, since the 30-cent-a-pound drop from the previous high. During the past week retail price range of beef was from 85 to 75 cents a pound.

Meat dealers said there was little likelihood that beef prices would drop.

Retail price of pork has dropped 10 cents a pound during the past two weeks, it was stated. Retail pork prices ranged from 50 to 78 cents a pound.

Dealers said butter and eggs were scarce at present and probably would continue in short supply throughout the winter.

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Today's Question

Answer on Page 4
What is German silver?

of poppies along Government Street from November 8 to 11.

Mr. Watson is 76 years old, his wife 63.

In 1898, Mr. Watson fought with the 7th Battalion Highland Light Infantry against Turks on the island of Crete.

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'I Wanna Bike', 'I Wanna Doll' Rangers Find Missing Hunter After Search of Five Hours



Less than five hours after it left Victoria yesterday to join a two-day search for William Reader, missing since Thursday in the dense woods of the Skoke Lake watershed, a party of 27 South Vancouver Island Rangers found the lost hunter "in amazingly fair condition."

Reader, 60-year-old father of eight children, left his home at Colwood Camp at 11 a.m. Thursday to go deer hunting with his son, William.

Reader and son separated about 4 p.m. and the elder Reader was not seen again until located by the Rangers shortly after 11 a.m. yesterday.

It took two hours to carry the lost man, weakened by hunger and exposure, out of the bush, three miles on a stretcher. He was driven to his home by Corporal F. L. Jeeves, of the Duncan detachment of the Provincial Police.

WANTED FOOD

First request made by Reader when he was found was for food. He said he had starved off hunger by eating animal berries, which he knew were edible after seeing evidence of bears having eaten them.

"The first pang of hunger hit me on the first day," explained Reader. "After that I was too hungry but I knew I needed food to keep warm and keep up my strength."

Reader said he had 30 bullets in his possession when he lost himself in the tangled underbrush, while searching for his motorcycle.

"I fired 27 shells in answer to the shots fired by the searchers, but I saved three to use on game which I could use for food," said Reader.

"But I never even saw a grouse all I could use for food," said Reader. "But I never even saw a grouse all the time I was lost."

Reader said he had grown tired hunting Thursday afternoon.

"I told Bill I would go back to the motorcycle," he recalled. "I went down a logging road but I missed the motorcycle. Somewhere I got wandering to and fro in a very small area. I could hear the searchers shouting to me in many different directions."



WILLIAM READER, JR.

Reader said he had a "nasty" time of it Thursday night. Wet and without wood to build a fire he spent a sleepless night under a cedar tree. He decided not to move during the night when in the darkness he felt and severely scratched himself in the dense undergrowth.

Friday afternoon Reader collected enough wood to build a fire which lasted him throughout the night.

He didn't sleep more than a few minutes throughout his ordeal. Several times he could not answer the calls of the searchers because he had shouted himself hoarse.

Reader expressed great admiration for the Rangers.

"It was wonderful the way they closed in on me," he said.

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