

HERE'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINTS ON GAS FAILURE

J. D. Forrest Takes Typical
Letter Received by Times
and Replies to Question.

STILL BLAMING COAL

Many letters have been received by The Times complaining of the gas shortage and questioning the necessity for the rigid rules laid down by the Citizens' Gas Company for conservation of coal.

A typical letter, embracing most of the points raised by protesting consumers, together with the answer made by J. D. Forrest, general manager of the gas company, follows:

"Editor The Times—Why is it that there is a gas shortage now so acute that the entire pressure has to be shut off?"

"I think it is an outrage to think

that during the war and the acute coal shortage at that time we still had gas. Now, you have to get up at midnight and stay up all night to do any baking.

"What about people who work at night and do not reach home until morning?"

"They can not have even a cup of warm coffee."

"What are the housewives going to do to get their washing done? If they hire it done the laundress does not start work until 8 o'clock, at which time the gas is shut off."

"There is no such action by the water and light companies."

"What about the air going through the pipes with this low pressure?"

"Our gas bill is the same as usual."

"The gas went out this morning at 7:30, at which time I had bread in the oven."

A SUBSCRIBER.

RAILROAD STRIKE
IMMEDIATE REASON.

"In reply to the first question," said Mr. Forrest today, "the immediate reason for the gas shortage is the railroad strike, which has prevented the import of the company's contract coal from mines in the south and southeast."

"A setback of that nature would not normally cause serious inconvenience, but

the company has been short of coal ever since its reserve supply of about 100,000 tons, laid in last fall as usual, was depleted in the coal strike."

"Last Jan. 1 we had only about ten days' supply left and we should have had nearly sixty days' supply."

"From Jan. 1 until April 1 we were unable to buy any coal in the market except that produced at our own mines, and some which we had under contract."

"The reason we couldn't buy it was the fact that the government had fixed coal prices for such use at \$2.65 to \$2.85 a ton."

"Foreign buyers, of course, could pay what they pleased."

"Then we had Italian and French buyers in the American market, taking all the coal they could get at twice the figure we domestic buyers were allowed to pay."

RESULT—UNABLE TO BUY ANY COAL.

"The result was we were not able to buy any coal at all to speak of and our reserve stock was not renewed."

"As for the second question and the third, we believe the point of paramount importance is to continue furnishing gas for cooking, as the worst hardship will come when there is no longer coal left for that purpose."

"Obviously we can not consider some

between-meals needs without considering all of them and maintaining steady pressure until a shut-down."

"The reason the water and electric utilities are not in distress over the present contingency is partly that their coal needs are inconsiderable as compared with the needs of a gas utility."

"With regard to air in the pipes with the low pressure, we never admit air to the pipes when we can prevent it, as to do so may cause an explosion."

"It would be less expensive for the gas company to permit its gas supply to be exhausted and then to shut down and lay off all employees, and the regulations are enforced only as a means to save the city suffering."

Takes Poison, but Doesn't Tell Why

Joe Golas, 1008 South Illinois street, is in a serious condition today at the City hospital as the result of having taken poison last night.

Motor Police Finney and Lansing found Golas at 50 West Maryland street, where he had taken the poison, it is said, with suicidal intent.

He would not tell the police his motive.

Shortridge Girls in Gingham Now

Girls at Shortridge High school joined the newly formed "Out of the Attic" club today.

Many young misses appeared at school in plain gingham dresses.

A large number of boys appeared in old clothes; many of them left shirts and laundered collars at home and wore sweaters.

The "Out of the Attic" club was formed late yesterday.

The movement is approved by Principal Buck as a move toward simplicity and economy in the dress of high school students.

No steps have been taken at Emmert High schools to wear overalls or old clothes.

METHOD TO HIS MADNESS?

CHICAGO, April 22.—Paul Stevens told his wife he had a sinful past, was known as a desperate man, and she was granted a divorce on the strength of his story. Police investigation showed Stevens had been A. W. O. L. once from the navy.

Coming From China for Ad Convention

A. R. Hager, president of the Advertising Club of China, will come to Indianapolis from his home in Shanghai, China, to attend the convention of the Associated Advertising Clubs of the World here June 6th.

Mr. Hager, in a letter to O. T. Roberts, advertising manager of the Indiana Daily Times, who is chairman of the local hotel committee, asks that reservations be made for himself and wife.

Reservations were made for the Hagers at the Hotel Hamilton.

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Expect Indictments Against Potato Hogs

CHICAGO, April 22.—Indictments charging profiteering were expected to be asked by government attorneys, who today continued investigation before a federal grand jury of searing potato prices here.

Retail price of potatoes have advanced from \$1.50 to \$3 a peck, it was shown.

Headaches From Slight Colds

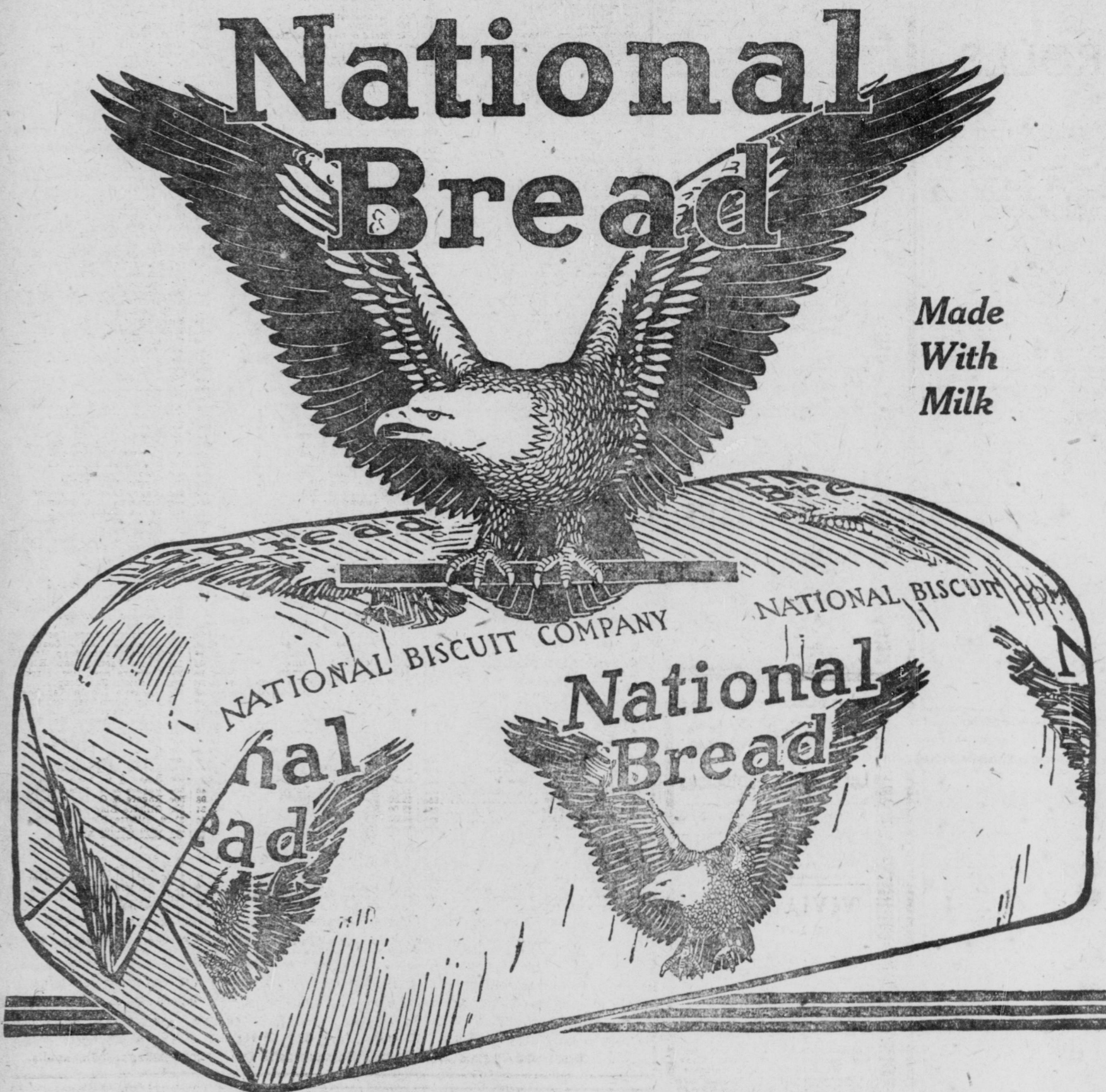
LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets relieve the Headache by curing the Cold. A tonic laxative and germ destroyer. Look for signature E. W. GROVE on box. 30c.—Advertisement.

Rush Says Library Needs 100,000 Books

The Indianapolis public library is over 100,000 volumes short of the number required to provide the public enough reading matter, said Charles E. Rush, librarian, in a talk before the Parents' Teacher association of school No. 29 late yesterday.

There should be at least one book for every resident, but the present shortage of funds with which to buy more has made this impossible.

Mr. Rush stated that the child who reads good books keeps out of harm, regardless of environment, and urged the teachers and parents to encourage good reading in the schools.



To Women Who Bake Their Own Bread

If you knew where you could get every day a loaf of the best bread baked wouldn't you believe that a great household problem had been solved?

National Bread is that loaf—the result of constant and consistent control of the finest bread ingredients and conditions of baking. Made with milk it has a wonderful flavor and goodness that appeal to all appetites.

National Bread is baked in pound-and-a-half loaves. It keeps better in this large, convenient home-size loaf. The bakery freshness of every loaf is preserved by a protecting wax wrapper. Try the taste test—simple and sure. Buy a loaf today.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

The Red Eagle Wrapper Means National Bread

STORE HOURS
Open
8:30 a. m.
Close
5:30 p. m.
Saturdays,
Close
6 p. m.

The Star Store
360-370 W. Wash. St.
Three blocks west—easy to find and worth finding.

STORE HOURS
Open
8:30 a. m.
Close
5:30 p. m.
Saturdays,
Close
6 p. m.

RED LETTER SALE

Friday Bargains!

A Red Letter Friday Bargain Day—values that are worthy of your closest attention. No phone, C. O. D. or mail orders on these Friday offerings.

Men's Pajamas, 1.45

Four dozen only, men's pajamas, fancy striped percales; sizes A, B and C; 1.75 value; Friday Bargain, 1.45. —Main Floor.

Shirts and Drawers

Broken lines of men's bal-brigan and ribbed shirts and drawers, long and short sleeves, ankle length, nearly all sizes; values up to 1.00; Friday Bargain, suit, 1.35; 69c. —Main Floor.

33c Percales, 24c

Standard navy blue percales, stripes and figures; full pieces; best quality; an actual 33c value; Friday, 24c. —Basement.

2.49 Spreads, 1.89

72x80 honeycomb bedspreads, good weight, double bed size, new designs, hemmed; 2.49 value, Friday, 1.89. —Basement.

To 33c Muslins, 22c

36-inch bleached and unbleached muslin, good quality, lengths to 10 yards; to 33c value; Friday, 22c. —Basement.

Scarfs, 69c

Dresser scarfs, 18x50-inch size, extra good quality cotton centers, flat lace trimmed, 85c to 1.00 value, Friday, 69c. —Main Floor.

2.50 Corsets, 1.95

Such makes as Thompson's, American Lady, R & G and Warner corsets; low or medium bust, in white or pink. Regular 2.50 values, Friday, 1.95. —Second Floor.

Coats, 13.75

One lot of women's coats, in clever spring styles; of polo cloth, silverstone, burella cloths, velours and tweeds; tan, mixtures, blues and copen; loose or belted models with narrow leather belts, Fri- 13.75. —Second Floor.

Spring Dresses

As a Friday special we offer an assortment of women's dresses, of serge or silk; button or braided trimmed; blues and greens, 16.95. —Second Floor.

New Suits

Women's spring suits marked special for Friday—one lot of plain tailored and fancy models, in serges, jerseys, poplins and mixtures. Very spe 19.75. —Second Floor.

Untrimmed Hats

Untrimmed shapes, large and small models, in tan, black and navy; formerly sold up to 3.00; your choice, 1.00. —Second Floor.

To 7.50 Hats, 5.00

Smart banded sailors, both straight and rolled brims; formerly sold up to 7.50; Friday, while they 3.95. —Second Floor.

1.00 Wall Brush, 68c

Large size wool wall brushes, of lambs' wool, can be washed; with long and short handle; an actual 1.00 value, Fri- 68c. —Basement.

Men's Shirts, 1.29

Men's negligee shirts with collar attached, light colors, assorted stripe patterns; sizes 14½ to 17; Friday Bargain, 1.29. —Main Floor.

Men's Sox, 33c

Irregulars well known brands, 50c to 65c men's hile socks; colors, black, cordovan and green (2 pairs, 65c), 33c. —Main Floor.

Boys' Shirts, 59c

Boys' negligee shirts, with collar attached, assorted stripe patterns, light color; dandy for school wear; sizes 12½ to 14; Friday Bargain, 59c. —Main Floor.

To 65c Hose, 33c

Women's fine gauge black hile hose, regular and out sizes, irregulars; 50c and 65c grades (2 pairs, 65c), 33c. —Main Floor.

Mended Gloves, 1.00

One lot of women's mended kid gloves, sizes 6, 6½, 6¾ and 7; mostly black; mended 3.00 and 3.50 gloves, 1.00. —Main Floor.

2.00 Gloves, 1.10

Women's silk gloves, with gauntlet cuff; colors are gray, black, white and pongee; with contrasting embroidery back; sizes 7½, 8 and 8½; 2.00 value; until sold, 1.10. —Main Floor.

2.00 Silk Hose, 1.39

Women's black thread silk hose, nonravel garter hem top; fashioned leg, soamed back; double sole with high spliced heel. Every pair perfect; splendid 2.00 value (2 pairs), 1.39. —Main Floor.

1.00 Union Suits, 79c

Union suits for large women, sizes 46, 48 and 50; sleeveless, narrow shoulder strap; with large arm hole; wide knee, lace trimmed. Extra good 1.00 value; slightly imperfect, 79c. —Main Floor.

Thread, 10c Spool

J. P. Coats' sewing thread; white, Nos. 40, 50, 60, 70; black, Nos. 40, 50; full 150 yards to spool; Friday, 10c. —Main Floor.

1.00 Frames, 79c

Bag frames, made of metal, with chain handles; over 10 different styles; 1.00 — 79c. —Main Floor.

Buttons, 5c Card

Trimming buttons, odd lots; most all colors and sizes; 4 to 12 on a card; up to 60c. —Main Floor.

6.00 Oxfords, 4.95

There are women's oxfords and pumps, with or without buckles; of patent colt and black or Havana brown kid. Choice of military, Cuban or French heels. Stylish models of the better \$6.00 grades, 4.95. —Main Floor.

Boys' Shoes

Custom made shoes for boys, of black or Havana brown calf-skin, with English or round toe shapes. A good 6.00 grade, Friday, at 4.95. —Main Floor.

Baby Shoes