



Budapestre vonatkozó újságcikkek

Osztályozás

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CITY EXPENDS MILLION CROWNS ON OWN SHOPS

One of Features Is the Municipal Bakery Which Has Been Enlarged to Take Care of Increasing Demands Upon It

HOUSES CONSTRUCTED

(Special to the Monitor)

BUDAPEST, Hungary—The municipality of Budapest has probably done more to relieve the distress resulting from the increase in the cost of living during the last few years, than any other city in Europe. Much wisdom and ingenuity has been shown in the practical way in which it has undertaken to reduce this cost, and especially to assist indirectly certain classes of its population, more particularly clerks and small government employees, who, on account of their station in life, cannot be the objects of direct charity.

The municipality has, during the last two years, invested 1,000,000 crowns in municipal shops, where certain meats, poultry, eggs and butter are sold at reasonable prices. These shops are intended to make a profit of from 5 to 6 per cent in order not to compete unfairly with the retail butchers and dairy-

men, and this has been a sufficiently small profit to affect prices in general, to a certain extent.

Cost of Necessities Increases

Nevertheless, during that time there was a reported average increase in the cost of necessities amounting to about 22 per cent. This may, perhaps, be somewhat exaggerated, but it is safe to say that the average increase was well over 20 per cent. Wheat and rye, the two bread-making cereals, increased by 15 and 45 per cent respectively, in spite of fairly good crops and there have been proportionate increases in the prices of other food products.

The daily output of the municipal bakery which has recently been enlarged, was increased from 28,000 kilograms in 1910, to 56,000 kilograms in 1913, and it is expected that it will be further increased to 125,000 kilograms in 1915. The present output, 56,000 kilograms, is estimated to be about 10 per cent of the total consumption of Budapest.

Further efforts have been made to keep down the cost of living by the formation of a municipally-controlled company to import meat from Rumania and Servia under the most favorable conditions.

The municipal bakeries have gained an enviable reputation, and the gratitude of the public. As these bakeries are fitted with modern machinery, they can produce large quantities of bread, while at the same time employing a relatively small number of hands, and as the bread can be shipped daily to any remote place in Hungary, strikes of bakers are futile.

In 1913 there was such a strike in

Belgrade, and conditions soon became very grave. The city council, therefore, appealed to Budapest, and the mayor of that city immediately ordered the municipal bakeries to send to Belgrade daily as much bread as was required. As a result, the strike was of short duration.

Model Houses Built

The municipality also continues to combat the high rents by the construction of model houses and tenements for workingmen, and during the three years from 1911 to 1913, a total of 1979 lodgings were completed. The dearth of servants in Budapest has also caused the city council a certain amount of trouble, and in order to remedy this to some extent, the sum of 765 crowns has been appropriated for the construction of three municipal homes for servants, in connection with which a servant employment bureau will be maintained.

It is also considered that the electric light company has been making the public pay more than was necessary for the current, and incidentally earning bigger profits than was desirable; the municipality has therefore decided to purchase the plant for the sum of 20,057,000 crowns, and will operate it itself, to the advantage of the public.

As it was thought that the taxes in Budapest would not be so high if the asphalt sold to the city by the asphalt trust were not so expensive, the municipality duly investigated the matter. It was then found that the asphalt could be manufactured for nine crowns per cubic meter, and as the trust insisted on the municipality paying 12

per cubic meter, a municipal asphalt factory is to be built immediately.

In the meantime the city council has decided that no more asphalt shall be used on the streets, until the city can supply it from its own factory. The general public is naturally very grateful for the fatherly way in which it is cared for by the municipality.

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Egy főváros milliókat áldoz saját boltjaira

Budapest város talán többet tett mint bármely más város sa Európának, hogy a drágaságból eredő nehézségeket leküzdje. Egy millió koronát fektetett be boltjaiba, melyekben élelmiszereket árultat, az utolsó két évben. De azért ez idő alatt több mint 20 %-kal emelkedtek az árak. A városi kenyérgyárak 1900ban 28000 kilót sütött, 1915-re 125000 kilóra fogják emelni. 1913-ban Belgrádban a pékek sztrájkoltak és a városi tanács Budapestre fordult segítségért. Bp. város kenyérgyarából azonnal küldtek le kellő mennyiségű keyneret és így a sztrájk megtört. Model házak építése és három cselédotthon építése. A villanyvilágítás tulságosan drága volt, ezért a város átveszi a társaságtól. Municipális aszfalt gyárat alapított, hogy az adó ne legyen olyan sok a drága aszfaltozás miatt. A város lakossága nagyon hálás a gondosságért.