

SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

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AUGUST 19, 1919.

PRICES HAVE BEEN WORSE.

Let harassed housewives be of good cheer. Prices have been worse than they are now. And from past history, there is ground for hope. An old grocer's bill resurrected in Chicago shows these prices in 1865, at the close of the Civil war:

Sugar, 25 cents a pound.
Starch, \$1 a pound.
Tea, \$1.75 to \$2 a pound.
Salt, 35 cents a bag.
Rice, 17 cents a pound.
Blackberries, 45 cents a quart.
Kerosene oil, \$1 a gallon.
Oatmeal, four pounds for 50 cents.

Most other groceries cost proportionately. How would anybody like to pay those prices now? Let it be remembered, too, that wages and salaries were much lower in 1865 than they are in 1919.

And that wasn't the record, either. Going back to Revolutionary war days, a time when the present generation imagines that living was absurdly low, we find such prices as these, according to a Chicago authority:

Meat, \$1 to \$2 a pound.
Corn, \$25 a bushel.
Potatoes, \$10 a bushel.
Molasses, \$12 a gallon.
Cheese, \$2 a pound.
Butter, \$3 a pound.
Sugar, \$3 a pound.

In the year 1779 sugar rose to \$4 a pound. In 1789, a year comparable with 1919, because it was the year after the war had ended and the year when the American Union or League of States was established, butter sold for \$12 a pound and tea for \$40. Those prices, of course, must have been reckoned in depreciated currency. But it was the only currency in circulation, and was no doubt as hard to get as present-day money.

Prices have always been abnormally high after wars. And here is where the hope comes in—they have always gone down again—never, perhaps, quite to the previous low level, but greatly below the high level caused by the waste and disturbance of war.

Glance back at that 1865 list, and then remember the days since, when sugar could be bought for four cents a pound and bread for five cents a loaf and milk for five cents a quart and eggs for 25 cents a dozen. These current prices will not last forever.

THOSE KNOBBY MEN.

A woman who likes to go in swimming at Atlantic City has become incensed at the strictness of the rules affecting women's bathing suits this year, and still more incensed at the laxity of rule affecting the costumes of men. Her letter to the head of the beach patrol says:

"The way men are allowed to parade the beach makes them repulsive. Their limbs are simply awful, full of knobs; and besides, most men are bowlegged. Could anything be more unsightly? The men, not the girls, should be compelled to wear stockings. Nobody wants to see them, and they only clutter up good-looking scenery."

The letter is amusing enough, and the whole situation no less so. And of course it is true. Nineteen-tenths of the men on any bathing beach are unsightly caricatures. The women who correspond to them in lack of beauty are apparently too canny to display themselves in this way, or perhaps they use the well-known feminine gifts of camouflage to help them out.

Why are the men knobby and bow-legged and scrawny and other wise cluttering-up of good scenery?

A government bulletin recently issued helps to answer the question. It deals with the malnourished child. The children of today who are not given proper food, proper exercise, proper sleep, plenty of fresh air, become the bow-legged males and knock-kneed females, the scrawny and knobby and ugly adults of tomorrow.

The parents of today may be all these unbecomingly things. Their children do not have to become so. A little study of the means provided at every hand, a little effort to apply the matter learned, a little firmness in attending to the habits of the child, will help these children to grow up into sturdy, clean-limbed, beautiful creatures who will add to and not detract from the ocean scenery of later years.

TOWN-MEETING RETURNS.

The "town meeting" is to be revived in Lawrence, Kans., as a part of city commission government. The mayor will issue a proclamation setting aside one evening each month for the meeting. All citizens will be expected to attend, and to come with an intelligent, public-spirited interest in the affairs of the city.

This plan is intended to do away with the evil of public indifference to civic affairs, said to be especially fostered by the commission government system.

The town meeting is not new. It still exists in some parts of New England. Our forefathers knew

it well in the early days of this country's settlement. As the population of a town grows, however, the town meeting becomes awkward and unwieldy. That is one reason why it has been generally abandoned.

Every citizen ought to be sufficiently interested in the affairs of his community to follow with thoughtful interest the work of city officials, to attend council meetings occasionally and to know what his city needs most to insure its health, safety and good government. He should have opinions and express them at the proper times and places. If the citizens of any community lack such interest, no number of town meetings will do any good and no form of government will continue to be truly successful.

The people who back governmental reforms whether of the small town, the city, the county, state or nation would do well to remember this fact and to accompany their reforms with intelligent, wide-awake educational campaigns.

THE DOCTOR'S UNION.

A committee of physicians called upon the general organizer of the American Federation of Labor in New York the other day to inquire upon what terms they could join the federation.

These were not doctors with private practice. They were physicians employed by insurance companies and compensation commissions and in various similar capacities. They are obliged to give their entire time to the institutions employing them, and are subject to the same difficulties of stationary salaries and mounting living costs which affect other wage-earners. They need, therefore, the advantage of collective bargaining.

This does not come so strangely to the ear as it might have done a few years ago. Since actors, engineers and teachers have seen the light of the old motto, "United we stand, divided we fall," why should not the doctors join the procession?

Now if the ministers would only get together and acquire the power to extract a little real financial return from the congregation who habitually exploit their conscientious and self-sacrificing service, the outlook for human equality of comfort and opportunity would be a great deal more cheerful than it is.

Understand, however, we do not say all ministers; only those who are having "their conscientious and self-sacrificing service" exploited. A great many are not; are getting all they are worth under the "open shop."

OPEN DIPLOMACY AT WASHINGTON.

The session of the foreign relations committee of the senate at the white house on Tuesday, was an innovation which, however much it may have upset the votaries of precedent and tradition, makes a bit with the American public.

It is plain common sense, of course, for the president and the senate, the latter functioning through this committee, to get together and talk over the peace treaty frankly and fully. If there is to be any agreement about the treaty and any ratification of it within a reasonable time, it will be accomplished by such methods. The senators have had a chance to ask questions and have them answered by the one man who knows most about the treaty, and is most responsible for it. The president has a chance to present his reasons for acquiescing in the provisions that are in dispute.

Best of all, the public is let into the game. The most unprecedented phase of this conference is the full publicity provided for. Every question, every answer, every explanation and comment, goes over the wires to the whole nation.

This is genuine "open diplomacy," and with such diplomacy there can be intelligent progress made with the peace settlement and the League of Nations covenant.

The man who always wanted Sunday to come in the middle of the week may realize his dream, if some of the labor unions succeed in their plan for a five-day working week. If there are to be two Sundays, one of them can be substituted for Wednesday or Thursday.

Other Editors Than Ours

TIME TO COOL OFF.
(Dearborn Independent.)

If, in August, 1914, Germany had submitted her differences with France and Russia to a board of arbitration, she would have found nothing to arbitrate.

If she had waited for findings of a board of arbitration before going to war there would have been no war.

Nations will have plenty of time to cool off before going to war if the covenant of the League of Nations is adopted.

In that document the members of the League bind themselves to submit disputes to arbitration or to the council and they agree "in no case to resort to war until three months after the award of the arbitrators or the report of the council."

The council is given six months in which to make its report after the facts have been submitted to it by the nations in dispute. The nations in dispute can do as they like, submit their differences either to the council or to arbitrators of their own choosing.

The binding part of the agreement is not to make war on the other nation if that nation complies with the findings of the council or arbitrators, and in no case to make war inside of three months from the time the findings are reported.

If a cause is just it will not lose any of its virtue in three months time.

In three months time those who frequently make war, but do not do the fighting, will have time to hear from those who usually do not vote slaughter but get slaughtered.

There is no difference that can arise which cannot be adjusted if both sides are inclined to be fair. And the very purpose of the League of Nations is to prevent war by enforcing fairness.

England had reason for going to war because Germany, once in the war, broke her agreement as to Belgium. America had reason for going to war because Germany, once in the war and in desperate straits, violated the rules of the sea. Germany never thought England would come in, much less America. Had she realized how many nations would be united against her before the finish there would have been no beginning.

How much more careful will a nation be, then, about going to war if declaring war means offense to 45 other nations, and how much less likely is a nation to declare war if from six to nine months time is taken to think it over?

The League of Nations plan contemplates absolute justice, gives a nation the right eventually to declare war if its people become convinced they have a just cause, but provides that they shall think it over and make sure they are right before going ahead.

More Truth Than Poetry

By James J. Montague

THERE MUST BE SOME OF IT LEFT OVER.

When a town in the state of Kentucky went dry The officers emptied the whisky supply In a swift little stream, and the fishes therein Partook of the same with a welcoming grin. Next evening a person named Casey pulled out Of the murmuring waters a sizeable trout. He ate it that night, and—to make the tale short—

Turned up with a tide in the morning in court. At least Mr. Casey was free to admit That this was the way that he chanced to be lit. But the judge didn't think that the story was true, And neither, dear reader, will you!

The corn in a silo on Hennessy's place Turned sour and "worked" (as is often the case). The cow ate the corn, and the milk in the pail That evening was flavored somewhat like Scotch ale.

When Hennessy drank some for supper, with bread, He found that it suddenly went to his head. So he cranked up his flivver, and, scorching through town, Ran a couple of sheep and a constable down. At all events, this was the gist of his tale. But the sheriff was sure that the yarn was a lie, And so, gentle reader, am I!

An apple tree grew on a brewery site And burgeoned and fruited, and one autumn night

The Peterson kid, who was wandering by, Took some of the apples down home for a pie. Next morning the Petersons—numbering nine, Came issuing forth in a wavering line. Their voices upraised as they sang to the moon, In clamorous accents a loud Swedish tune. And when sundry neighbors had questioned them why

They acted that way, they replied, "Apple pie." But the stall didn't go in the town worth a cuss, Nor will it, dear reader, with us! (Copyright, 1919).

The Tower of Babel

By Bill Armstrong

Collar prices are going to 35 cents each, we stamp in the dailies. We wonder how a neat all wool sweater would look on us during the winter months.

One thing about that Memphis editor they sent to jail—they certainly did not jail his press agent!

By the way, that's a kind of a funny name for an editor isn't it? —Leech.

The next Dollar day in South Bend ought to be pretty well advertised by the time it rolls around again, because we read in the paper where the merchants are going to have a booth out at the fair for the purpose of advertising it.

Dollar day—now the merchants are beginning to talk in a language that we understand. But \$5 day—no compre, as the frogs used to say when we asked for Cognac with an M. P. at our elbow.

Some married men have unusual privileges. We met a man the other day that was boasting that he could leave his new wife and go down town for 10 or 12 minutes any evening that he had a mind to.

HAUL-ME-HOME CLUB MEETS.

New members have been accepted as follows:

Arnold Spielberg (*)
R. M. Blankenbaker (**)
(*) Accepted for membership on probation.

(**) Indicates borrowed machine with a rattle.

Old members continued activities, as follows:

Neal Welch (*)
John DeHaven (**)
Yellow Taxi (***)
Bob McInerney (****)

(*) Kicking on high price of gasoline.

(**) Insists on talking business.

(***) Usual fare charged.

(****) Request to assist in repair.

Are You Superstitious

BY IMOGENE BURCH.

Shaking Hands with Oneself.

"Something was bound to go wrong," said a mother of a family in excuse for a mistake that she had made.

"Something was bound to go wrong," I felt so pleased with myself yesterday to think how well I was managing that I shook hands with myself, so to speak, and then things began to go all wrong."

A Wall st. broker told me that whenever he congratulated himself on one big deal that he had put through, it seemed that immediately afterward he heard of some unfortunate error in judgment that he had made.

"I never dare shake hands with myself any more," he said.

It is horribly true that whenever we feel justified in patting ourselves on the back, or shaking hands with ourselves, then things begin to go wrong.

Why is it?

Perhaps it is because the mental prick which we experience when we shake hands with ourselves is almost like a prick of the conscience. There is a suggestion of remorse in it.

Good fortune is so rare that when it comes it makes us happy and we look for it again; we expect one stroke of luck to be followed by another. As a rule we expect in vain.

of two punctures. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Frank Allen and Lloyd Greenan were absentees from the meeting.

Charley Raab, born in Mishawaka and for years a thin man with a circus until he became so fat it took two chairs to hold him over in the county clerk's office where he loafed for a couple of years, is again visiting friends in these parts. Mr. Raab is now located in Washington, D. C., and claims to know the president personally, at least he sees him nearly every day. The other day in a short conversation with Mr. Wilson, Raab relates, the president made the following statement to him: "Get the H—I out of the way!"

Bill Nichols, on tour in his Buick in the west, went by a mail box in Yellowstone park at 90 miles an hour, and for a wonder the postal card hit the slot and now it lays on our desk in this office. Bill reports nice weather and a fine trip. We expect there isn't much left of the machine he started out of here with, except the top and possibly one tire, because a machine is only good for about one state the way Bill drives it. We suppose he will come riding in here some day in December on the Vandalla, with his Buick strewn from Clapin st. to Honolulu.

Milt Prudenstein came back to town in time for Dollar day.

Retail merchants visited the new consolidated telephone exchange on S. Main st. Tuesday where Ed Bonds has been in hiding for the past several months. Ed, in issuing the invitation to the merchants, made this statement: "Gentlemen you will find when you visit this exchange, dozens of pretty girls at work. And they work; not one of them will glance up even for a second while you are visiting the exchange, they are so busy." Joe Grand Leader did not go on the inspection trip as a result.

There is an old Roman proverb that says that whom the gods wish to punish they first favor. They raise a man to the highest pinnacle of fame and happiness so that when his downfall comes it shall be all the more keenly felt.

But that is not the reason why bad luck seems to come just as we are congratulating ourselves over some bit of good luck. We did not destroy the enchantment by a word. In the nature of things good luck cannot last. That handshake was part of a fleeting good time. We should not regret it. (Copyright, 1919, Thompson Feature Service.)

KOKOMO HAS FIRST FRENCH WAR BRIDE

KOKOMO, Ind., Aug. 20.—Kokomo has her first French war bride in the person of Mrs. Clyde Snoddy, who arrived in this city recently with her husband, a flag bearer in the world war. The bride is a native of Grenoble, France, and it was there that Mr. Snoddy met her shortly after the armistice was signed. The bride's people are said to be wealthy and her parents are expected to visit her this autumn. Mr. Snoddy is a former resident of Bloomington, Ind.

Try NEWS-TIMES Want Ads

GEORGE WYMAN & CO.

—Come and See Us—

See Page 3 for Large Ad.

about Thursday's

\$DOLLAR DAY\$

Bargains

School Shoes



Be Careful What You Put on Children's Feet

It's easy to slip a shoe on a child's foot and say: "That looks good." It usually does. The wrong size or shape, too much or too little room, not often noticeable at first, will hamper the healthful growth of children's feet.

PUT YOUR CHILDREN'S FEET IN OUR HANDS

DRULINER & McDERMOTT

Easy to Find

Guarantee Shoe Co.

Worth Finding

125 North Michigan St.

A 1900 Silver Dollar is worth \$2.00 on Articles not on Sale



Dollar Day Is Bargain Day...

—AT—

CLAUER'S

BIG VALUES FOR 'DOLLAR DAY

THURSDAY, August 21st

Dollars will do double duty here Dollar Day. Only a few articles of some items. Better come down early. See our window for bargains.

IN CUT GLASS

Bowl, 8-inch, floral cut\$1.00
Cream and Sugar, floral cut\$1.00
Handled Basket 12-inch\$1.00
Water Pitcher, grape design\$1.00
Relish Dish, heavy cut\$1.00
Celery Dish, 12-inch\$1.00
Mayonnaise Set, 3 pieces\$1.00
Tumblers, heavy cut, odd sets, 6 for\$1.00
Vase, 10-inch, floral cut\$1.00
Candy Jars, floral cut\$1.00
Ice Tea Glasses, grape design, 8 for\$1.00
Sherbets, heavy cut, 6 for\$1.00

SILVER, IVORY, ETC.

Ivory Hair Receiver\$1.00
Ivory Powder Box\$1.00
Ivory Brushes, cloth\$1.00
Ivory Buffers\$1.00
Silver Military Brushes\$1.00
Silver Mirrors\$1.00
Mahogany Nut Sets\$1.00
Mahogany Sewing Trays\$1.00
Dessert, Table or Soup Spoons, Wallace 35 year plate, set of 3\$1.00
Salad Forks, Wallace, set of 3\$1.00
Clocks, one day, desk\$1.00

These are only a few of the many good values offered here on Dollar Day. No article laid away or delivered on this sale.

CLAUER'S

Jewelers, Silversmiths and Diamond Merchants
105 SOUTH MICHIGAN ST.