

## SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

Morning—Evening—Sunday.

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AUGUST 23, 1919.

## COOPERATIVE BUYING.

The Chicago council of social agencies has appointed a committee to investigate ways of improving the buying methods of welfare organizations. It is believed that if there were cooperation in this matter charitable institutions in that city could save a total of \$100,000 a year.

Under present conditions the purchasing authorities of the various welfare organizations are not even acquainted with one another. There is no definite policy in regard to buying supplies. Efficiency and experience acquired by one buyer are not available to buyers for other agencies. Each organization acts alone and in comparative ignorance of the purchasing activities of the others.

This is foolish on the face of it. Their wants are all similar. Settlements, "homes," hospitals, charitable agencies and other benevolent institutions all need food, clothing, fuel and institution supplies. Quite often their office requirements are very much alike.

Social agencies are practising cooperation today more than ever before. They are uniting in discussion of many of the problems they are variously concerned with in order to avoid duplication and waste of effort. To cooperate in their buying is another step in the right direction.

## THE GUILTY CAUSES.

Here are the causes of the high cost of living, as revealed in recent bright speeches in the house and senate at Washington:

Inflation of currency, high taxes, devastation wrought by the Germans.

Big armament, prohibition, governmental extravagance, automobile, short working days, movies, milk bottles, wholesalers, retailers, commission men, trusts.

Farmers, sanitary packages, delivery wagons and telephones, domestic servants.

Housewives, mud roads, delay in ratifying the peace treaty.

Take your choice. Nearly everything is there, though a few details might be added. And having learned the list—what are you going to do about it?

## THE FIVE DAY WEEK.

Officers of the United Mine Workers of America say that at the national convention of that body, to be held early in September, there is going to be a demand made for a 30-hour week, the working time to be divided into five days of six hours each. Along with this short day and short week combination there is to be a demand for wage increase of 40 to 60 percent over the present scale.

Along with this remarkable proposal must be placed the demand of 12,000 union painters and decorators in New York city who, though not demanding such short hours as the miners, have actually gone on strike to obtain a five-day week, thus precipitating the five-day movement in the United States.

These demands are naturally regarded with keen interest by the majority of Americans who would rejoice just as much as the miners and painters, in the prospect, say, of a eight-hour day and a six-day week, but who do not see any immediate possibility even of that. Production demands at least that much work from the present labor supply.

Where is the farmer who puts in so short a day or week? Where is the newspaper man, or doctor, or merchant, or banker, who can attain that desirable goal of ease? Where is the housewife who hopes ever to get her work done in 30 hours a week?

It is well to aspire to such ease as this, and work constructively for the creation of conditions making it possible, not for any single class, but for all classes, but it is necessary for people who realize the actual plight of the nation and the world today to keep repeating that this is no time for such extravagant ventures.

There has been \$200,000,000,000 worth of wealth destroyed by the war. The need of the time is the production of more wealth to make up that loss. Until more is produced, more cannot be distributed. To work fewer days and fewer hours is to limit production, retard the replacement of the lost wealth, keep up prices and make everybody poor indefinitely.

It is right that every occupation should be enabled to make a proper living and have its share of the products of industry, but the American people will never get anywhere, under present economic conditions, if they work productively only six hours out of 24, or only five days out of seven. Any man or craft that seeks to obtain full compensation for such part-time effort in advance of the time when it will be possible generally, is demanding more than he has any right to, and trying to obtain his extra leisure at the expense of the rest of society.

## THE MIRACULOUS TROLLEY SYSTEM.

With street car fares rising everywhere, companies complaining that they are losing money and patrons kicking against higher fares, there is increasing interest in the Cleveland plan.

It is certainly a surprising phenomenon to find that in that city of nearly 1,000,000 people and long trolley hauls, the people are riding for less than five cents, with no prospect of an increase. The present rate of fare is 11 tickets for 10 cents, with an extra cent for transfer.

It does not seem to be wrecking the company, either. The stock, which is quoted at 102, pays a dividend of six percent, which may soon be raised to seven percent. Wages have been increased 25 percent lately, and the employees are satisfied.

How has this miracle been accomplished? First, the water was squeezed out of the stock some years ago. The company was re-financed on a basis of actual value, with private ownership and public regulation. The company kept the actual management of its property and employees, but the city guaranteed interest and dividends and assumed considerable authority over service, finances and general policies. This authority is exerted chiefly through the agency of a street railway commissioner. The fare moves up or down automatically to provide the money required for fixed charges and operating expenses. So far, it has ranged from three to five cents, with sometimes, as at present, a charge of one cent for transfer.

The plan is being studied with much interest by the Federal Electric Railways Commission at Washington, and may be made the groundwork of recommendations made by that body for the straightening out of trolley troubles in other cities.

## WHEN ONE COW EQUALS FIVE.

It may sound like an exaggeration to say one good cow is worth more than five poor ones. The assertion is proved, though, by an incident related in a U. S. department of agriculture bulletin.

A New Jersey farmer had five cows, just ordinary cows, which were not very good milkers, but with which he was pretty well satisfied. He got as much milk from them as his neighbors got from their cows.

His son, however, was not satisfied. He bought a high-grade cow, and paid \$155 for it—a price which his father regarded as extravagant.

When those six cows came fresh in the spring, the one high-grade cow produced more milk than the other five together, and kept it up longer.

There was five times the product for one-fifth of the labor and feed.

Does good stock pay? Anybody in that neighborhood will agree now that it does. The farmers there are selling off their old stock and buying a better breed.

At least, city consumers find a certain satisfaction, in the midst of high prices for breadstuffs, in the realization that they don't have to help make up any billion-dollar bonus for the farmer's wheat crop.

Everywhere public men are getting red in the face with denouncing "the profiteers" and carefully refraining from specifying any particular profiteer.

## Other Editors Than Ours

## COMMON SENSE AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

(By George Allan England.)

The most original thing any one can do, in discussing the League of Nations, is to refrain from quoting Tennyson. I shall do this thing, which means that I shall put aside much of the idealism of the subject and approach it from the standpoint of common sense, alone.

In the first place, the matter is complicated by the general assumption that in dealing with the various nations we are dealing with homogeneous units. The United States, France, England and so on are spoken of as such units, animated presumably by common purposes. The framers of the League have ignored, have either not understood or have suppressed, the fact that no such homogeneity in truth exists. The salient feature of modern capitalist society, the class struggle, has been conveniently shelved. No effective voice has proclaimed the message, in the councils of the League, that modern, civilized society is cleft by this dividing line and that the interests of the different classes conflict. This League, as proposed, is therefore essentially a League contemplated by the master classes for their mutual protection against the ravages of war; war having been amply proved as altogether too expensive a method of settling master-class quarrels.

Would not the peace of the world be more securely guaranteed by a covenant between those, throughout the world, who do most of the suffering and paying for war, that they will fight no more? I throw this hint into the air, like a Longfellowian arrow which may "fall to earth I know not where," but which may bear with it germs of a really effective peace organization.

Another thought: The League contemplates cooperation between various social groups in extremely different states of development. Some are full capitalist states, others partly so, still others frankly primitive. This makes an extremely hybrid organization. It is like trying to add different kinds of things; and we learned in primary school that different kinds of things cannot be added. There must be a common denominator. Think this out, also, and see just what the only possible common denominator must be, in effective international peace-efforts. I have my idea; what is yours?

In case the League goes through, as proposed, certainly justice will be outraged if each nation, civilized or uncivilized, capitalized or primitive, has an equal vote. There should be an upper and a lower house of some sort, the former with one or two votes, each, for every nation involved; the latter with one representative for each unit of population, be that unit one million, five million or whatever. Only thus can any sort of justice be maintained. And even this arrangement may work injustice to the smaller, weaker nations. In fine, the problem involved—accepting the world as it really is, and laying all bluebird dreams aside—is so vast that to the eye of common sense it looks to be nearly insoluble.

On the whole, however, I am in favor of the League. Faulty though it may be, it is a step in the right direction. Internationalization moves this way. If we cannot have the whole apple, common sense dictates that we accept a bite.

By all means, let us have a League. But let us forget rainbow-chasing in the wake of Longfellow, and let us realize that any League as now constituted can be only one step toward a really effective one, which shall for all time efficiently safeguard the peace of the world.

## THE SOUTH BEND NEWS-TIMES

More Truth Than Poetry  
By James J. Montague

## THE OLD ONES.

I relish these problem plays keenly enough.

Though I never know what they're about, But I miss the old drama that used to get rough.

And whose finish was never in doubt.

I loved to see heroines, facing big odds.

Being dragged from their screaming mamas,

In dramas with seventy-seven "My Gods!"

And seventeen hundred "Ahas!"

I like to see Virtue beat over the head,

For three long and terrible acts,

While villains walk round with a rubber-heeled tread.

Hiding whisky in temperance tracts.

I like to watch scenes where the dear little child

Is about to be drowned in the dam

While the torrent is raging, and logs, running

wild,

Are piled in a hideous jam.

I like to see heroes fed into a saw,

Which appears to be toothful and keen,

As a big bunch of bystanders look on with awe,

And no one dares stop the machine.

I like to hear rifles ring out in the night

When redskins are out on a bust,

And know that a number of savages bite—

To quote old Bill Cody—the dust.

These dramas perhaps were a trifle uncouth;

They got a bit crude now and then,

But they brightened the nights of my vigorous

youth,

And I fain would behold them again.

I love to remember those glorious days,

When a sack of red gum drops I'd munch,

And weep or applaud at the soul stirring plays,

That had a full measure of punch!

(Copyright, 1919.)

36 inch Ladies' Dress Trunk in the full size. This trunk is of the new Mishawaka model of the N. V. P., is well made for serviceable wear. . . . . \$19.50

## GEORGE WYMAN &amp; CO.

Come and See Us—

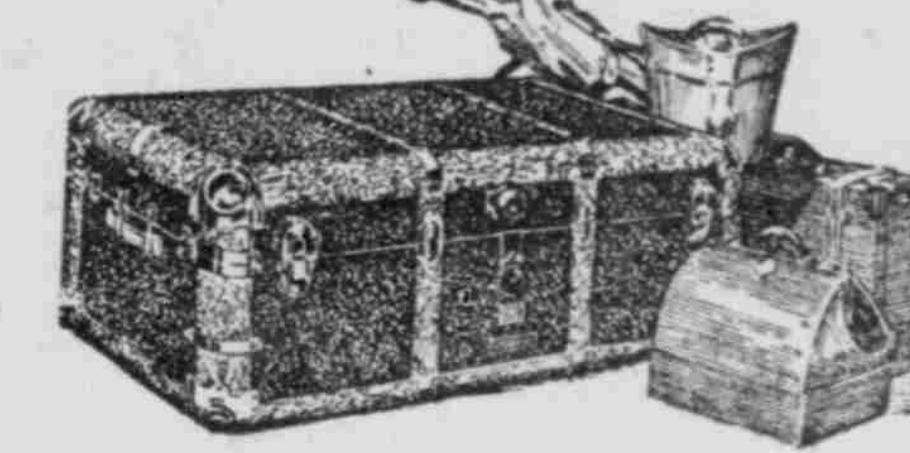
McCall October Patterns are now on sale at pattern counter. McCall Fashion Sheets also here.

There is but one more week to buy Furs and Blankets at our August Sale price.

Luggage—  
for School and Traveling

Here Listed Below Are a Few Pieces of Our New Luggage Department that will be Shown in the Window Over Sunday

## —Trunks—



36 inch Ladies' Dress Trunk in the full size. This trunk is of the new Mishawaka model of the N. V. P., is well made for serviceable wear. . . . . \$19.50

A full size Wardrobe in the N. V. P. trunk, made of 3 ply panels and hard vulcanized fibre, cretonne lined and equipped with laundry bag and shoe pocket. . . . . \$35.00

Medium sized wardrobe of the noted "Indestructo" construction made in arrangements both for men and women, cretonne lined. . . . . \$60.00

Extra large Wardrobe, 25 inches wide, the "Indestructo" laminated construction and fitted for every convenience. . . . . \$75.00

The "Indestructo" army trunk built for heavy army wear, is exceptionally suited for automobile touring. It measures 13x17x31 inches. . . . . \$15.00

## —Bags—

A Ladies' 16 inch Bag of long wearing composition leather and moire lined. \$11.50

Ladies' 16 inch of black board leather and leather lined. . . . . \$25.00

Men's full sized bag of heavy brown leather and leather lined. . . . . \$36.50

## —Suit Cases—

Ladies' light weight suit case for over-night trips, and boarded/imitation leather and satin lined. . . . . \$11.00

A Ladies' over-night case in a good-looking black enamel with black and white stripe linen lining. . . . . \$13.00

A brown leather over-night case, 22 inch size. . . . . \$18.50

A medium size suit case in brown leather of special value at. . . . . \$17.50

Week-end cases, 28 inch black enamel, complete with tray. . . . . \$14.50

Brief cases for school use. . . . . \$5.00, \$8.00 and \$15.00

All of the Above Pieces of Luggage Will Be in the Window Over Sunday

## Increased Production a World Necessity

