

# FRANCE STARTS STATE STORES TO CUT PRICES

## Regular Merchants Evade Other Efforts to Regulate Business—Competition by Government Brings More Reasonable Cost Figures.

### THE NABOTH HADIN.

PARIS, March 10.—The French are making experiments with state socialism in an effort to reduce the food prices which are mounting ever higher. During the war military necessities imposed state socialism in many forms, without much success. Attempts to regulate prices by imposing maximums were permissible by the government because the government could not supply the demand. Hence, national shoes were sold surreptitiously for below market prices. Thus it has become evident that it is impossible to fix legal maximum prices without securing supply.

An attempt to squelch the speculators in foodstuffs by the state to reduce the prices, also failed. A few cases were brought into court and fines were levied, but were far below the profits, so the speculators paid the penalties and returned to business as usual.

Along the front the soldiers have partly solved the problem by forming co-operative organizations which competed successfully with the profiteers who always prey on the unfortunates.

Last winter the city of Lyons opened municipal stores, turning over a capital of 7,000,000 francs and making 7,000,000 francs in profit which was used for an orphan asylum. Yet they undersold private dealers.

In Marseilles the local prefect opened stores which sold groceries 30 per cent below the current prices, thereby reducing the dealers' rates correspondingly. Many other cities have taken

similar steps. Having failed to regulate grocery and butcher prices, the municipalities now take recourse to competition.

Last week the government opened fifty grocery stores in popular centers of Paris. The prices prevailing at these stores are about forty per cent below the current rates. Whether a general reduction will follow is as yet uncertain.

Restaurant prices remain at the same high level, most of the managers buying materials wholesale in the central markets.

The government stores sell only limited quantities to each family. Whether the government will be able to continue the competition without loss to the public treasury remains to be seen. During the war the price of bread alone was kept down by a government subsidy in order to appease the poor, but somebody must pay the bill later.

The food ministry claims food prices are high because of the profit made by the middle men, whereas the dealers blame the high cost on the congestion of transport, making the supply available in France. Before the war, the government's time as Premier, made the prices rise.

It appears that the problem of the distribution of the necessities of life is more urgent than that of production and that of distribution of food and clothing.

That in the Socialist state which now functions in France, brought about by the war, its first task is to assure the distribution of the necessities of life and then it must kill the undue profits of middle men by direct competition. This is the government's price list per pound:

Rice, 11 cents; beans, 13 cents; lard, 1 cent; ham, 62 cents; salted pork, 50 cents.

All the government stores are crowded with women who gladly pay the current prices, thereby reducing the dealers' rates correspondingly. Many other cities have taken

### Grandmother Pokes This One Modernized

Apparently we are to go back to the time when our grandmothers coqueted from under the drooping brims of large pokes, for the styles that have been introduced, or rather regenerated, for this season are almost identical with those of long ago.

The large poke with no back brim whatever is produced in many different ways, but the most striking point of the entire display is the unusual and artistic blending of colors. For instance, jade moire covers one of the shapes with the facing developed in natural length, and the hat is merely a tuft of black ostrich feather.

Black hair braid is used for another poke held out from the crown. The satin covered wire on the brim edge, crown base and tip and trimmed with a large yellow taffeta bow placed across the back against the crown. A large aster, also in yellow, is laid flat on the side of the crown. The taffeta horn makes an attractive large poke with the crown seemingly crushed down to meet a wreath of white ribbon that bands the crown. Under this wreath a wide black velvet ribbon is wound, dropping off the back brim in a bow that is made to fit under the tuft of hair.

A small poke bonnet is of natural tulle-faced in yellow satin striped silk and is trimmed in two shades of colored ribbon, the latter with a wide band around the crown and drawn under the brim at the side. Two uncurled ribbons, one in red, are laid against the crown at the back. A black hair braid small bandau shape is faced in yellow satin and trimmed with short uncurled yellow ostrich feather, around the crown and a small rose nooted in the dyes.

### STYLES FROM PARIS SHOPS

Jewelers along the Rue de la Paix are displaying Red Cross emblems in diamonds and rubies. Many of these have the ruby cross on a plateau of diamonds, the whole being about the size of an American nickel.

Among the few novelty millinery trappings shown are acorns and pine cones, intermingled with pine. In this connection it may be also stated that there seems to be a disposition to launch green among the millinery houses. Jade is one of the season's favored colors, but other hues, as, for example, Rebox, are using greens of quite a different character. This movement is not unlikely to prove a success for many is for the moment, and with brown the present rage, unquestionably there must soon be something to take its place.

While all shades of green are not applicable to millinery, greens and browns in the cone and acorn shades, blend most harmoniously and jade combines successfully with both black and teal de negro and is even attempted with gray. The green in this year is reckoned with, though it is introduced also in foliage effects which, however, are quite prone to autumnal shades.

In anticipation of a cold winter, Paris prepare to interest in under things that have an interest for those in America who are seeking novelties. The surplice top petticoat combination, made of green and white, shown in some shop windows here are daintier than one might suppose.

### MAKING THICK JERSEY

One of the returning American buyers reported to among the novelties prepared by the French houses for the next winter season is a double jersey of wool. It consists of two layers interlocked with each other and making the thickness of the little finger. It will be used for coats.

Another novelty in the line of jersey is for this coming summer, this buyer reported. This will be in the shape of napped wool jersey of extreme softness and pliability and will be used as a fur substitute on coats, wraps and dresses, especially around the neck.

### MARRIAGE LICENSES

Eddie S. Cumber (24), Richmond.  
Mary Elizabeth Edwards (23), Richmond.  
Harry Dempsy (24), Media, Cal.  
Sarkis Collier (24), Richmond.  
Frederick Lee Harvey (27), Roanoke.  
Sallie Lee Martin (24), Richmond.  
John Hubert Blacklock (23), Richmond.  
Helen Murray (22), Richmond.  
Hollis W. Regal (27), Richmond.  
George Edward New (24), Richmond.  
Louise Lamance Camden (23), Richmond.

### Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks to Remarry

NEW YORK, March 10.—Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks, who recently obtained a divorce from the motion picture actor, is to wed again within a few days, according to a report current today. Confirmation and the picture actor, is to wed again within a few days, according to a report current today. Confirmation and the friends of Mrs. Fairbanks failed to make categorical denials. Mrs. Fairbanks is out of town. The rumor had it that she is to marry James Evans, a Wall Street broker.

### To Remove Greases

Clothes that have been packed away for any length of time sometimes become very crumpled and shabby looking. To remove the greases hang the articles on a clothes-line in the bathroom and turn on the hot-water tap until the room is full of steam. Leave them for an hour or two, and then dry them in the open air, and press on the wrong side with a rather cool skiltoon.

### At the Movies

ODEON—Peggy Hyland, in "Marriages Are Made."  
NEW—Harry B. Walthall, in "The Long Lane's Turnout."  
COLONIAL—Thea Barr, in "The Light."  
1818—Wallace Reid, in "Alias Mike Moran."  
BIJOU—Allen Holubar and Dorothy Phillips, in "The Heart of Humanity."  
VICTOR—Norma Talmadge, in "The Probation Wife."  
BLUEBIRD—Hazel Daly and Matt Moore, in "A Wild Goose Chase."  
LUX—Lewis Hennessy, in "Sandy Burke, of U-Bar-U."

### SOME STYLE HINTS

Brilliant-colored metal brocades and extreme décolleté are among the striking features of the very large Callot collection.

The riches and ruffles on the dresses are reminiscent of the second empire. The collection contains many wide skirts, while other models have skirts binding the knees and others of the skirts extremely short, ending a little below the knees.

Black and white Chantilly lace are among the materials used more extensively.

The dresses are made with short sleeves or no sleeves at all, and there are also waists without any sleeves. The capes and separate coats are long.

American buyers are of the opinion that there is little likelihood of a new silhouette affecting this season's styles.

Shells in Australia.

The pearl shell industry is largely carried on in Australia, especially in Queensland, and of their ancestors of five centuries ago and leaving Europe to return to Asia. And the weird part of it is that in costume, conveyance and manner of life there has been practically no change in these along the northern and western coasts of Australia for a distance of over 2,000 miles. On the north coast the shells themselves are of small size, but the industry is carried on both for pearls and shells, usually with the aid of Queensland pearl shell diving is actively pursued, and it is by far the most important of the fishing industries. Two distinct species of pearl are exported from Western Australia, the principal trade being done with the large shell—Melagrina margaritifera—whose distribution is for the larger manufactured articles, such as knife and fork handles, large buttons and inlaid work. The largest and finest pearls are obtained from this shell. The second species is the one known commercially as the Shark Bay variety—Melagrina imbricata—which is smaller and used chiefly for the manufacture of small buttons.

### GET MOSES SERVICE

The new list of Victor Records for March contains several fine dance records:

15587 (Double-face, 12-inch) \$1.35—"Head Over Heels"  
"I'm Always Chasing Rainbows"  
—waltz fox trots by Smith's Orchestra.

15226 (Double-face, 10-cm) "I'll Wee Wee Again"—waltz by Orlando's Orchestra and "Beautiful Ohio"—waltz by Waldorf-Astoria Orchestra.

15220 (Double-face, 10-cm) "Out, Out, Marie"—medley one-step Pietro, and "Sweet'n Pretty"—fox trot by All Star Trio.

15211 (Double-face, 10-cm) "Rock in the Boat"—fox trot and "The Girl Behind the Gun"—medley one-step—both played by Smith's Orchestra.

Call and hear these Records, or please (Madison 4620) to send them up.

### New Dances

When springing clothes, use hot water; it damps them more evenly. When washing articles with patent fasteners which are more important before doing so the spring will keep all right.

If machine oil or grease gets on any fabric, however delicate, during the making, it can be removed without injury with eucalyptus oil.

After washing serviettes, dip them into boiling water, wring them lightly between two starched cloths and iron with a very hot iron. This will bring the coveted crispness.

Rusty knives should be soaked in paraffin for twelve hours, then dried and rubbed with fine emery paper. To renew commercially used knives, soak them along the knife-edge or through the knife machine.

If handkerchiefs, cuffs, collars, etc., are spread out after washing on a large towel and fastened with small pins, and the towel fastened to the line, a lot of room is saved, and they are easily taken in if it rains.

To remove glass stoppers, wind a soft string around the neck of the bottle twice, and while some one holds it, draw the string to and fro at great speed. This friction heats and expands the neck, so that the stopper is easily removed.

### Some Home Hints

Dear Miss Fairfax—Some time ago I met a young man whom I cared for but would never tell him so when he asked me. It seemed as though he cared for me also; in fact, he even told me so. One day he made an appointment which he did not keep. Later he gave me an excuse which I accepted. Since then he stopped calling on me. I tried to forget him, but I find that I am always thinking of him. I would like to regain his friendship without being too forward.

I am afraid you have already allowed yourself to think too much about this young man. Unless chance throws you together again should say your only course is to forget him.

Does Not Like His First Name.

Dear Miss Fairfax—I am engaged to a young man whose first name is "Ebenzer," and I dislike the name very much, and I asked him if I could not call him by another name. He objected to this, and, both of us being stubborn, we had a quarrel. He is too proud to meet advances toward making up, and so am I. As I love him very dearly what would you advise me to do?

To quarrel about such a thing as the man's first name seems absurd to me. As you raised the issue, it seems to me that it is up to you to take the first steps toward a reconciliation.

### BIRDS OF PREY

Kites were a common sight in London in the fifteenth century, and even at the beginning of the nineteenth century often formed a feature of many a rural landscape in England. A Bohemian traveler who visited England about 1461 says he never saw so many kites anywhere as around London Bridge. The French traveler and naturalist, Belon, said they were as numerous in London as at Cairo, and fed on the garbage of the streets and edge of the Thames. Both kites and ravens were, in 1555, protected by law in the City of London as they were found useful as scavengers. Sir Thomas Browne in 1662, writing of ravens in Norwich, says there were so many of them that comparatively few kites were to be seen there. Birds of prey, however, were always hated by poultry and gamekeepers, and the latter exist in the Western Midlands and in Wales and Scotland. In many Indian towns kites and crows are still found useful as scavengers. As a result, though there is no law to afford them protection, they are seldom molested by inhabitants of the East.

### Bishop's Retort

Mr. Gladstone and the then Bishop of Peterborough, the famous Dr. Mackenzie, were dining together at a time when the home rule question was being much discussed, and Dr. Magee, in the course of conversation, made it plain that he thought the latter was not acting straightforwardly. "I am afraid, Dr. Magee," Mr. Gladstone remarked, "Irishman as you are, you do not approve of our method of dealing with Ireland." "It's not your dealing that I don't like so much as your shuffling," the bishop retorted.

### SAVE THE UNIFORM!

Men and Women who have been in service can have their uniforms and coats dyed seal brown or black to wear with civilian clothes.

THE COST IS REASONABLE.

We use only the best dyes, and our complete and sanitary plant is specially equipped for this work. Phone or write us for prices and full information.

### FOOTER'S DYE WORKS

America's Greatest Cleaners and Dyers.  
207 North Foushee Street.

### New Spring Styles

Boots—Oxfords—Pumps  
The \$5.00 to \$12.00 Kind.  
\$3.50 TO \$8.00

SMALL PROFITS—QUICK SALES—CASH ONLY.

Young Geiger Co.  
Smart Shoes for Young Women,  
410 East Broad Street.

### FRENCH MOTHERS ADOPT AMERICAN HEROES' GRAVES

People of Devastated Regions Tend Mounds of Men Who Died for Them.

NEW YORK, March 10.—"No mother who has a son buried in France need feel that his grave is neglected for every family upon returning to their shell-wrecked homes adopt a grave to tenderly care for in appreciation of the American mothers who sent their brave sons to help them win their freedom; and the government of the rehabilitation of the homes in the devastated region by America that enables them to find shelter and in a way resume the duties of a home-loving people," states Miss Anne Morgan, in a letter to the American Committee for Devastated France.

"No home is so poor in the region where losses were thickest and where there are myriads of white crosses rising out of the ground to tell of a fallen American, but that it claims the right to tend the mound of some soldier who fought in the war for human freedom."

"One bent old French woman who walked with a cane, said to me: 'Two of my sons are gone. I don't know where they are buried, but I hope somebody lays a flower on their graves occasionally. For their sakes I have adopted two of your American soldiers who lie outside the village in the army cemetery, and I keep their graves the best I can.'"

The American Committee for Devastated France has been asked by the French government of the region where many of our boys made the supreme sacrifice.

### Unchanged by Centuries

The Turkish and other Mohammedan villagers from the Thracian plains are retracing the steps of their ancestors of five centuries ago and leaving Europe to return to Asia. And the weird part of it is that in costume, conveyance and manner of life there has been practically no change in these along the northern and western coasts of Australia for a distance of over 2,000 miles. On the north coast the shells themselves are of small size, but the industry is carried on both for pearls and shells, usually with the aid of Queensland pearl shell diving is actively pursued, and it is by far the most important of the fishing industries. Two distinct species of pearl are exported from Western Australia, the principal trade being done with the large shell—Melagrina margaritifera—whose distribution is for the larger manufactured articles, such as knife and fork handles, large buttons and inlaid work. The largest and finest pearls are obtained from this shell. The second species is the one known commercially as the Shark Bay variety—Melagrina imbricata—which is smaller and used chiefly for the manufacture of small buttons.

### Walter D. Moses & Co.

163 East Broad Street.  
Oldest Music House in Va. & N. C.

### Fourquaren, Temple & Co.

Just opened up a very big and most impressive assortment of the best styles and most effective Waists we've shown in years.

We want you to see these because we are sure they will actually delight you.

Prices very reasonable throughout.

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New Blouses  
In Voiles and Other Cool Cottons

Just opened up a very big and most impressive assortment of the best styles and most effective Waists we've shown in years.

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Prices very reasonable throughout.

### Mourning Blouses

A few very choice pieces in hard-to-get Waists that are entirely correct for mourning. These in \$6 and \$6.98  
Peau de Cygne and in Taffeta. Prices....

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### Today's Appetizing Menu

Breakfast.  
Stewed Apricots and Prunes.  
Oatmeal.  
Coffee.  
Luncheon.  
Kidney Beans.  
Lettuce and Pineapple Salad.  
Cookies.  
Dinner.  
Roast Stuffed Veal.  
Baked Potatoes.  
Spinach Timbals.  
Bread Pudding.  
Coffee.

### for fine watches

—The store which is headquarters for railroad men, where you find only the best American Watches (no Swiss), where you get the very best Watch for the money, and we can prove it.

### J. T. ALLEN & CO.

In the Low Rent Section,  
14th and Main Streets.  
RICHMOND, VA.

### A Matter of Taste

Irving used to employ the same cab driver to take him to the theater each evening when in London, and once he asked him if he had ever seen him act. The man replying in the negative, Irving promised that he should have two tickets as soon as possible, wax-works."

### and kept his word

The next day Irving asked him what he thought of him on the stage. "To tell you the truth, sir," said the driver, "we didn't go." "Not go?" exclaimed the actor. "When I had given you 'Well, sir,' said the man, 'it was this way. It was my mislaid birthday, and I asked her which she would prefer to do—go to see you act or go to Madame Tuzaud's, and she chose the wax-works.'"



## Thalhimer Brothers

Replenish Your Wardrobe Yourself

YOU will not only save considerable money—but you'll secure dainty, distinctive styles, and real hand sewing—your hand. Every stitch will be even, firm and smooth, and then there's the pleasure of individuality in dress.

The illustration is McCall Pattern No. 8838—a smart model that will be becoming to almost any woman—made with guimpe; one-piece tunic, straight lower edge; one-piece foundation, lengthened by straight section.

A Bewitching Dress, as above illustrated, would not be at all expensive should you use the attractive materials we are now featuring in our basement departments, such as Japanese Crepes, in solid colors and novelty stripes, plain and plaid Gingham, Tissue Gingham, Splash Voiles, Dotted Swiss and other attractive fabrics.

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### SHOP FIRST in the TIMES-DISPATCH