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Getting to Know One Another.

It is good to read that more than 500 local grocers have gone in a body to Jamestown. They cannot fail to return impressed with the advantages of advertising by the means exemplified at the exposition. But the excursion would be valuable to the city if it consisted only of a trip down the river for three days.

Washington needs more acquaintance among its tradesmen, more friendship, and more co-operation. It has made slow commercial progress largely because it has lacked team work. Every such trip as this, or that taken by the Chamber of Commerce last June, brings nearer the day when the business men of Washington will pull together for their common benefit.

Mixers—Big and Little.

"The smith a mighty man was he." Do we need to introduce Mr. Dan Donnelly to our regular readers? Hardly. But for the benefit of visiting students of American life we will say that he is a union farrier running for alderman in Boston on the "mixer's" platform, and that a "mixer" is a candidate whom the voters, and particularly the proletarians, can "talk to as they like, and know from the ground up."

That is Mr. Donnelly's philosophy of politics, and it is no half-done product. It is the finished article from the forge, cold, hard, well-tempered. It bars the dilettante and the base counterfeits who fit this description:

To the people they're oilers ez slick ez molasses,
An' butter their bread on both sides with The Masses.

Lincoln was a good "mixer." He could joke with anybody. President Roosevelt is another. He gathers round him a sailor, a poet, an antiquarian, Mr. Dooley, an envoy from Abyssinia, a reformer from Six Shooter, a subway builder, the secretary of the International Brotherhood of Gate Tenders, a jiu-jitsu professor—and off they go, the President in the lead. Nothing is Greek to him. No one can out-mix him. And Secretary Taft is a good second; a man who today can name the prize-winners at the Cincinnati baby show and some time later can enjoy tiffin with the ex-sultan of Bagbag. The "mixer" is dear to the hearts of the people. No man of the "mixer" type will go abroad and apologize for the fact that the American likes to show his shirt sleeves.

But the ideal "mixer" knows when to stop. He won't let his fellow-citizens pat him to death or put words in his mouth. The weakness of most of these "good fellows" in politics is that they try to do too much. There is a limit to prudence and to susceptibility. The wise man draws the line. The weakling doesn't, and before he knows it he's overboard.

To Live a Hundred Years.

A distinguished scientist now much in the public notice has specified roughly his program to make the average generation a hundred years, instead of thirty-three. That will come to pass, he says, as we—

Eat when we are hungry; sleep when we are sleepy; play whenever we can; and work only when we must.

Few will dissent to the first two items. The American eats too much. Probably nine out of ten of us never know the pangs of real hunger. Five out of ten rarely feel the joy of a keen appetite. Similarly, the average American plans his sleep badly. Beginning wrong by staying awake after he is tired at night, he runs through the whole week behind his rest needs. If, as a people, we could shorten our rations a third and advance our slumber period by three hours, we could fire half our physicians, close half our drug stores, and add two-score years to our average life at a clip.

But we shall get into trouble trying to follow our scientist's program verbatim. What is work? What is play? Is the thing set for us as a task to be done only when we are held down to it? If so, we must sweep aside at a single motion all the leaders of the nation. It is inconceivable that Luther Burbank works at all, in this sense. The ardent inventor, like Mr. Edison, plays all the time. The lawyer absorbed in his case; the potter all a-tremble to know the product of the night's firing in his kiln; the student, reading on and on into the night, not nearly tired enough to sleep; every workman worthy of his task will find it hard to discover any play brightened with so much interest or fraught with so much happiness as what is commonly called his "work."

Play we all need. And we need vastly more of it than most of us get. But if we do not work earnestly, industriously, willingly, even happily, we shall not enjoy our play much or little. Going to the work bench "only when we must" is a poor means of health. Rather, it is the short road to depression, discontent, and physical break-down. Let us amend our scientist's formula, therefore, and make it read:

Eat when we are hungry; sleep when we are sleepy; and find a work so full of joy for us that we must watch against letting it shut out a rightful allowance of play.

In Outer Darkness.

It is possible to read almost anything about the President in the New York Sun, the New York Times, and the New York World these days. All the hard language thrown at Andrew Jackson seems likely to find a parallel in the disapproval of these metropolitan journals of 1907 for the policies of an Executive who has not been found, even in their columns, to possess a single one of "Old Hickory's" bad qualities.

The explanation probably is that our esteemed contemporaries have destroyed their political perspective. They have contemplated the dire spectacle of a President who meant to enforce the law whether it upset the New York speculative market or not, and utter darkness has encompassed them round about. They have seen the head of the Government set about resolutely to make corporation wrong-doers suffer as well as corporations, and so they divide their time between ridiculing him for not having yet landed any industrial Warren Hastings in jail and objurgating him for ever having attempted to do so.

It will help the New York Sun, the New York Times, and the New York World if they borrow other eyes for a while. Let them turn to a foreign paper like the Spectator of London. None of them will ever charge it with demagogism They cannot suspect it of disregarding the law. They cannot even believe it to be radical. Yet it is so little frightened by the utterances of the President which have made these American papers twitch with nervous fear that it says:

At last, however, the courts have got to close quarters with a trust, and a judge has actually declared the elementary truth, as we regard it here, that if a company, no matter how powerful, breaks the law, it must take the consequences in the matter of fines and other punishments provided by the statute, just as if it were a poor individual or a small trading company. Nevertheless, so strange has the notion that even the trusts must obey the law grown to the people of the United States, and so ingrained has become the belief that if only a trading corporation is big enough and wealthy enough it stands above, or at any rate outside, the law, that a vast number of Americans appear to have expected that the President would shrink back when he saw the results of the laws he has called for or approved, and that he would somehow or other prevent those laws being applied.

There is no need to make Mr. Roosevelt's plain speaking plainer. No one who is not anxious, or, rather, determined, to mistake him can imagine that he is any enemy to industry or to the legitimate accumulation of wealth, or that he has any socialistic bias. On the contrary, it is clear that he is to be counted as the best friend of property and of a state organized on individualistic lines. He stands for the rights of property and the rights of the individual against a lawlessness which, if persisted in, can only have one end—the destruction of a state based on individual freedom and private property.

New Yorkers would be in a curious position if, in order to have the President fairly treated, they had to subscribe to the London papers. But that will never come to pass while there are other papers in the country—and, if the Democrats were to nominate an out-and-out radical to oppose some Republican candidate indorsed by Theodore Roosevelt, we should find that not even the Sun, the Times, and the World were altogether without trust in the indorsement.

If those Western farmers really do want a supply of hot air to ward off possible frosts in September, they can learn something to their advantage by applying to the Hon. Jim Sherman and the equally Hon. Jim Griggs, care U. S. Capitol.

We know of some schools, not a thousand miles from the White House, which do not bear such distinguished names as that bestowed on the new building at Lodi, N. J., "with the President's consent."

Bishop Anderson, of Chicago, writes that some of his churches need plain-speaking Episcopal preachers. If they speak plainly about all they see in Chicago the newspapers won't dare print their sermons.

It's mighty hard to reconcile the freight agent's excuses for delaying your shipments with the prophesies of the railroad presidents that the new rate bill would kill their business.

Half of those jurymen will be so befuddled in that church tonight they won't know which pair of bright eyes belongs to the spook.

Secretary Wilson is not the only man who wants his compliments in plain United States.

If it is true the President is setting up speeches in his Oyster Bay printing shop, we'll bet there are cobwebs over the "I regret to report" box, however much he may use "We view with alarm."

Mr. Hammerstein now includes Philadelphia in his grand opera circuit. Going up or down the scale?

The TALK of the TOWN

BY THE TOWN TALKER

IT'S rather surprising, how many of the thousands of sightseers in Washington daily expect to get a peep at the President as they pass through the White House grounds and how many have one name uppermost in their minds when the navy is mentioned—that name being Admiral Dewey.

Visitors pour continually through the White House grounds and the policemen on guard there almost constantly suffer a severe tax upon their patience. For instance, one informs me that scarcely an hour goes by that some one does not ask how he might manage to see the President, despite the fact that he has been at Oyster Bay all summer, or when the new White House will be finished. The scaffolding, cleaning and painting that has been in evidence apparently gives some of the strangers the impression that a new home for the President is just being completed.

As to Admiral Dewey, messengers in the Navy Department are kept busy explaining where he is and his present duties, and many are surprised to learn that the hero of Manila Bay is almost as much of a stranger in the navy headquarters as they themselves are. Many actually think he is at the head of the Navy and that he would be called upon to whip any nation in case of war.

One of the most amusing incidents concerning the visitors and their questions about the Admiral occurred recently when a man with a pronounced Kentucky accent strode with an important air into the office of Acting Secretary of the Navy Newberry and calmly asked to see Admiral Dewey. When Private Secretary Allen informed him that the Admiral of the Navy did not occupy the Secretary's office, the visitor appeared dumfounded and was inclined to charge that he was being trifled with. At this moment Secretary Newberry emerged, going to luncheon, whereupon the stranger removed his hat quickly and saluted.

"I'd a knowd yo-all anywhere, Admiral," said he, "even 'thout your whiskers. I sweah, suh, yo-all don't look a day oldah, suh, then when yo sunk all them Spanish boats out thauh in the Philypines."

The Secretary politely excused himself and Mr. Allen informed the visitor that after luncheon he might find the Admiral in his office in te Mills building. It so happened, however, that Admiral Dewey had been away for the summer several weeks.

A FEW evenings ago a handsome two-seated electric automobile occupied by two women and an escort came spinning rapidly west on O street northwest. When near the corner of Thirteenth street the machine was driven close to the south curb of O for the purpose of making a good turn toward Iowa circle. The rankest kind of an amateur at the guiding post could have made the turn in all safety, but, to the wonderment and surprise of a number of persons who saw the failure of the effort to make the turn and what followed the accident added new surprise and much speculation, the front wheel on the right side was jammed into the sewer drop and smashed like an eggshell, the other wheel, flying around, suffering a bad fracture. Notwithstanding that the car was going at a lively speed, the collision did not throw any of the occupants out. As soon as the car was at a dead standstill, the man in the car quietly assisted the two women out of the car, and the three, without so much as a look at the wrecked machine, turned their backs on the electric and walked off north, on Thirteenth street. The broken car remained where it was wrecked for two hours before a wrecking crew from some garage came and hauled it away. Who the trio in the car when it was wrecked were, and why they so quickly left it remains a mystery.

"I SEE by the papers," said a pretty telephone operator, "that in Philadelphia the management of the telephone company has ordered both the girls and the patrons of the line to cut out the word 'please' in answering calls and asking for numbers.

"I hope such a thing will not be thought of here," she continued. "You know a whole lot of men are impolite enough as it is and when you absolutely order a man not to be polite, I shudder to think of the tone in which some Washington patrons may call for their numbers. Of course the word 'please' is dropped a lot of times by both operator and patron, but this is done involuntarily and not on account of the fact that a big rule is staring you in the face requiring that you be abrupt as you can."

"There may be a little time saved, it is true, by the adoption of the Philadelphia standard, but so far as I and the rest of the girls are concerned, I believe we'd rather things would continue as they are, with a continual 'please' to break the monotonous 'cussing' we often get.

"Yes, some of the women subscribers are rather peevish, too," she admitted when cross-questioned, "and that is all the more reason why some of them should not be encouraged to take their spite out on us just because they stumble over the cat or one of the children in going to the phone."

And with a few contemptuous flings at politeness and its present discount in Philadelphia, she turned to the board and a moment later was heard to say "Number, please," in most enticing tones.

THE new minister of a Methodist church, South, in a nearby Virginia town recently made his first pastoral call upon one of the pillars of the church who filled many positions of honor in the congregation, including chairman of the board of stewards, superintendent of the Sunday school, leader of the choir, class leader and all-around churchman. Now, if there is one thing that the Methodist Episcopal Church South is opposed to it is liquor in any form and it was this much hated commodity of commerce that caused trouble on this particular pastoral visit.

In explanation, and in justice to the pillar of the church, it must be said that he boarded with his daughter, whose husband always kept a little of the amber liquid in the refrigerator, but the pillar of the church, the father-in-law, was a total abstainer.

In the family there was a tot of a grandson full of all kinds of mischief. While the new minister had the family on its knees in the usual solemn family prayer offered up before the pastor leaves, the little grandson left the prayer circle, went into the dining room, opened the door of the refrigerator, took out two bottles of beer and with true Virginia hospitality returned to the prayer circle and as the amen was said and the pastor and family arose from their knees, the little boy handed one bottle to the pastor and the other to the grandfather, who was the church pillar.

No manner of explanation could make the church pillar feel that the new pastor fully understood that it was the son-in-law who drank beer and not himself.

DAILY I meet up with people in every station of life whose sole aim seems to be to get their "money's worth." It is not an uncommon sight to see newsboys and bootblacks stick a toothpick in the stump of a cigarette or cigar and continue to puff away until the last vestige of the weed has gone up in smoke, simply to get all that's coming to them. Again I see women in the large department stores wasting $100 worth of energy trying to get certain articles a few cents cheaper. The street cars are familiar places to catch glimpses of this trait in the American people. There men take up about one and one-half times more room then they really need, and at the same time hold on to their seats like grim death, in spite of the fact that women are standing by their sides, all in order that they may get the full value of the five-cent fare.

However, it was down at a popular beach resort a few days ago that the full significance of this trait of the American people struck me most forcibly.

A fat man and his wife had donned their bathing suits and were making their way toward the beach. As they got to the water's edge, he left her and plunged in. The woman hung back rather timidly and seemed loath to venture out more than ankle deep. Finally the man, who was now up to his neck, looked back, and seeing his wife still on the edge, started toward her, beckoning frantically for her to meet him. The woman showed no disposition to get out any farther, however, and when he had reached calling distance, he cried in a voice pathetic in its entreaty:

"Why don't you come out here in deep water?"

"I am afraid to go out any farther," she answered meekly.

"But you don't mean to tell me that you are not going out any farther than that?" he said, swelling up with anger. "The bathing suit you have on cost me a quarter and you can't even get it wet in that shallow water. Try to come out just a little farther," he pleaded. "I won't get my money's worth if you don't."

Cadet Bock's Mother Going to West Point

Assails West Pointers Who Refuse to Speak to Her Son Because He Entered Reports Against Them, and Will Investigate Case.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 7.—Mrs. Lottie Bock, wife of George W. Bock, of 2074 Allen avenue, this afternoon said she would leave St. Louis for West Point tonight to see why other cadets there have sent her son, Carl William Bock, to "coventry" and refuse to speak to him or associate with him.

"My boy is the kind of a soldier Uncle Sam wants, and I'm going to see that Uncle Sam keeps him. I am angry enough about this to fight," said Mrs. Bock.

Cadet Bock is twenty years old. He was appointed by Congressman Bartholdt last June. So far, his mother says, his life at West Point has not been pleasant.

His present trouble with his fellow-cadets started two weeks ago, when he was charged with informing on his drill master, Corporal William C. Sherman, a Georgia cadet.

Mrs. Bock says that in letters home, the last of which was received three days ago, her son has complained that there is prejudice against him at the Academy "because he is a German."

In a letter which he wrote to his father shortly after he was admitted to the Academy, he told of an attempt to haze him.

He wrote that he begged them not to do this, and he pleaded so earnestly that his companions told him they would postpone the spanking for a couple of weeks.

Later they notified him that, in their estimation, he was a quitter. They would not paddle him, they said, but they would do something worse to him.

Bock thinks he was never forgiven for having begged off. In his letters he says he has been annoyed in many ways.

WILLIAM P. EWING, NEWSPAPER MAN, DEAD

HARPERSVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 7.—William Pinckney Ewing, an old-time newspaper writer, widely known, is dead here at the age of seventy years. In the early 50's, Mr. Ewing was identified with the Cincinnati Atlas until it merged with the Gazette, and later with the Southern Ladies' Book, published in New Orleans. In 1871 he went to Ashtabula, and for a number of years was connected with newspapers in Chicago, Topeka, and other Western cities.

He was a delegate to the convention which nominated Lincoln in 1860.

PRINCE STIRS COUNTRY BY BECOMING MONK

BERLIN, Sept. 7.—A sensation has been created among the German nobility because Prince Karl von Loewenstein, the head of one of Germany's oldest families, has become a monk and entered a Dominican convent at Venloe, near the frontier of Holland.

Before entering the convent the prince solemnly abdicated and declared his oldest son head of the family, whereafter he divested himself of his military uniform and decorations, had his hair shaved off, and declared that he would hereafter be known to the world only as Brother Raymundus.

LETTER CARRIERS ELECT OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR

CANTON, Ohio, Sept. 7.—Today the National Letter Carriers selected these officers: President, W. B. Kelly, of Brooklyn; vice president, E. J. Gaynor, of Muncie, Ind.; secretary, E. J. Cantwell. For the executive board the following members were chosen; George Bushman, of Canton; M. H. Finnan, of Bloomington, Ill., and J. J. Gallagher, of Jersey City.

LABORERS RIOTING THROUGHOUT ITALY

ROME, Sept. 7.—Labor conditions throughout Italy are again being seriously disturbed by strikes, and much rioting is in progress calling for interference of police and militia. A large number of persons are injured daily, and the prisons in some districts are filled with rioters.

At Bari the situation is extremely grave. The street cleaners, whose demands have been refused, are following the tactics of the strikers at Dublin, Ireland, and are attacking the police. A deputy of the department of public safety was severely wounded. One policeman, who joined the strikers, was captured at the point of a knife. Five arrests were made this morning.

At Girgienti, the public discussion of public affairs has caused serious rioting. Rioters conflicted with the police this morning and four were badly hurt. Arrests were made.

SULTAN BEGS KAISER TO PLEAD HIS CASE

BERLIN, Sept. 7.—It is understood that the Kaiser will be asked by the Sultan of Turkey to use his influence with the King of Greece, whose son is married to the Kaiser's sister, to put an end to the crimes of the gangs of Greek outlaws which are terrorizing Macedonia.

Some time ago the Turkish government sent a note to the government of Greece demanding that something be done to wipe out 130 of these gangs which are continually invading Turkish territory, and, after committing unspeakable crimes, rush into the kingdom of Greece, where they cannot be arrested by Turkish officers, but, as usual, the Greek government paid absolutely no attention to the note.

It is a well known fact that the Greeks care little for Turkish notes, and it is said that the Sultan has now appealed to the Kaiser, who expects to receive a visit from King George of Greece this month.

POPE TO WAGE BITTER FIGHT ON DIVORCES

Evil Growing in Roman Catholic Ranks Causes Great Alarm.

ROME, Sept. 8.—The divorce evil has been growing among Roman Catholics as among Protestants in recent years. It has been announced at the Vatican that Pope Pius will take steps to stop it immediately.

A commission appointed several months ago to investigate conditions is ready with its report. Though there have been few violations of the canonical law the commission says there have been 4,000 authorized separations recently.

To end the scandal it is recommended that the marriage be considered an indestructible sacrament, and that most of the laws permitting separations be abolished. The Pope has signified that he will approve this finding.

Countenanced Divorces.

Divorce, as such, has always been under the church's ban. Matrimonial separations have been countenanced, however, under the canonical law annulling marriages, for the following causes:

Ceremony not in accordance with Roman Catholic Church rites.

Proof after marriage that husband and wife are nearly related.

Conviction of improper conduct by husband or wife.

Impersonation by a third person of either bride or bridegroom.

Bigamy by husband or wife.

Inability of husband or wife to fulfill marriage relations.

The committee's report shows that there have been many instances in which to secure a mutually desired separation, the husband and wife have agreed to admit violation of one of these laws. In other cases, it was found, false testimony has been secured through the connivance of lawyers or physicians, to convince the church authorities that there have been breaches of the canonical rules.

Rich Grossest Offenders.

The scandal is rendered all the more serious, the commission adds, from the fact that the rich and influential have been the grossest offenders, some securing the church's consent to separation by liberal donations of Peter's pence, others by pressure through powerful interests on members of the college of cardinals.

The commission of inquiry consisted of Cardinal Pretoni, prefect of the congregation of rites; Vice Secretary Tuto, Cardinal Inquisitor Macci, secretary of briefs, and Ferata, prefect of the congregation of bishops.

OFFICER CHASES SPEEDING DRIVER FOR MANY BLOCKS

Policeman's Wheel Too Slow for Trotter, Finishes Race in Auto.

Bicycle Policeman J. A. Connors had an exciting chase for several miles through the norwest section of the city last night, and it was only after he had obtained an automobile that he succeeded in arresting William Cullinan, a young man living in Cleveland Park, on a charge of fast driving. Cullinan started from the New Willard about 9 o'clock in a light rubber-tired runabout that was drawn by a horse that was easily in the 2:40 class.

Driving up Fourteenth street the animal was traveling at a speed in violation of all police regulations by the time F street was reached. At G street the horse was going about twenty miles an hour. Connors gave chase, but Cullinan managed to keep a safe distance ahead.

The officer followed the rig to Florida avenue, where the driver made a quick turn and raced down Fourteenth street. Connors blew his whistle several times and called to the young man to stop, but Cullinan only whipped up the horse and kept going.

At Thomas Circle he turned up Massachusetts avenue to Dupont Circle and then down New Hampshire avenue to Sixteenth street. At Sixteenth and Park road the policeman found that the horse was gaining on him. Jumping off his wheel, Connors got into an automobile that was waiting at the curb to take a party out.

"Put on you high speed and get ahead of that horse," the policeman told the man in the front seat.

After a chase of several blocks, the machine caught up with the runabout, and Connors jumped out and grabbed the horse by the bridle. Cullinan was taken to the First precinct police station, where he was obliged to remain in a cell until the appearance of a friend who deposited $50 collateral for his appearance in the Police Court Monday.

Knocking.

By JOHN A. JOYCE.

A word and a lift for your fellow
Is better than knocking his play,
And if you can't speak of him kindly
Be square and have nothing to say.

A dollar or two to a creature
Far down in the depths of despair,
Is better than knocking on morals
And preaching a lot of hot air.

A hope for the glory of heaven
Is better than doubting the plan,
Or knocking the plea of salvation
Established for God given man!

OFFICIALS KNOW DEFECTS IN SHIPS BUT KEEP QUIET

Naval Officers Admit There Are Flaws in Some Vessels.

While officials of the Navy Department will not agree that charges made in an article in "The Navy" for September, describing more alleged defects in construction of battleships, particularly the Missouri and the new Minnesota and Connecticut, are true, and decline to discuss these statements for publication, many naval officers admit that such defects have been known in the department, and every effort has been made to hide them, particularly in the two newer vessels, which are supposed to be models of present-day construction.

Hard Blow to Navy.

The navy is hard hit when the Connecticut is criticised, for that is the most pretentious effort the navy has ever made, the biggest and, in fact, the only first-class battleship the Government has ever built. The others were the Maine, sunk in Havana harbor, and the Texas, which is still afloat, but which has narrowly escaped sinking of her own accord several times during her career of a score of years.

The article in question first deals with the Missouri, declaring that a big depression has been created in her forward deck, caused by the firing of her forward twelve-inch guns at a level. One notable weakness of the American navy, it is said, is that the hulls of American ships are heavier than those of foreign vessels.

Too Much Strength.

The ships are built with strength in some places in excess of what is needed, whereas the experience on the Missouri demonstrates that it was weak in places where more strength was needed. It is stated that in many of the battleships the forecastle deck is too weak to withstand, without buckling, the blast of the forward turret guns.

This defect is so thoroughly recognized by the Bureau of Construction and Repair that the bureau is officially on record as asking that the commanding officers of the ships be forbidden to fire the forward turrent guns straight ahead.

Admiral Brownson prevented the repetition of these errors, or at least some of them, it is said, in the Alabama, the next warship built. He secured this alteration of plans by going personally to the President. The Board of Construction was apparently impervious to argument.

Higher Pay Outran 1906 Food Prices; Highest in 17 Years

Food was higher in 1906 than in 1905. And every month the percentage of increase grew.

The annual investigation of the Bureau of Labor into the retail prices of food shows that in the principal manufacturing and mechanical industries average wages per hour in 1906 were 4.5 per cent higher than in 1905, the regular hours of labor per week were 0.5 per cent lower, and the number of employes in the establishments investigated was 7 per cent greater. The average full-time weekly earnings per employe in 1906 were 3.9 per cent greater than in 1905.

During 1906 wages were increased generally in nearly all industries, forty of the forty-one industries covered by the investigation showing some increase. The greatest increase was in the manufacture of cotton goods, where the average wages per hour in 1906 were 11.2 per cent higher than in 1905. In the industries as a whole, weighted according to importance, the increase in hourly wages was 4.5 per cent.

Food 2.9 Per Cent Higher.

The retail prices of food, weighted according to consumption in representative workingmen's families, were 2.9 per cent higher in 1906 than in 1905. As the advance in wages per hour from 1905 to 1906 was greater than the advance in retail prices of food, the purchasing power of an hour's wages, as measured by food, was greater in 1906 than in the preceding year. In 1906 the purchasing power of an hour's wages as expended for food was 1.4 per cent greater than in 1905, and the purchasing power of a full week's wages was 1 per cent greater in 1906 than in 1905.

The price of food was higher in every month of 1906 than in the corresponding month of 1905. The increase over the corresponding month of the preceding year, which in February, 1906, was only 0.4 per cent, grew steadily greater throughout the year, the price in December, 1906, being 5.1 per cent above that of the preceding December. The price in December, 1906, was 4.8 per cent higher than the average for the year 1906, which year showed a higher average than any other year during the seventeen years, 1890 to 1906, covered by the investigation of the Bureau of Labor.

Foods That Advanced Most.

The increase in prices in 1906 over 1905 applied, in unequal degree, to twenty-five of the thirty articles included in the investigation. The articles which showed the greatest advance in prices are lard, 9.8 per cent; evaporated apples, 9.1 per cent; fresh pork, 8.8 per cent; dry or pickled pork, 8.7 per cent; bacon, 8.4 per cent; ham, 7.3 per cent; while the advance in fresh fish and mutton exceeded 5 per cent. The only articles which showed any material decrease are flour and sugar.

The articles which showed the most marked advance in prices in December, 1906, over December, 1905, are butter, 15 per cent; lard, 13.9 per cent; fresh pork, 12.2 per cent; dry or pickled pork, 11.9 per cent; bacon, 11.1 per cent, and ham, 9.8 per cent.

The only articles which showed any marked decline in price in December, 1906, from the price in December, 1905, are potatoes, 5.0 per cent, and flour, 4.8 per cent.

The retail price of the principal articles of food, weighted according to family consumption, was 15.7 per cent higher in 1906 than the average price for the ten years, 1890 to 1899. Compared with the average for the same ten-year period, the purchasing power of an hour's wages in 1906, as measured by food, was 7.3 per cent greater, and of a full week's ages 2.4 per cent greater, the increase in the purchasing power of a full week's wages being less than the increase in the purchasing power of hourly wages because of the reduction in the hours of labor.