

**THE LEON REPORTER**  
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LEON, IOWA

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**THE COST OF LIVING.**

The bureau of commerce and labor devotes a pamphlet of more than 400 pages to tracing the course of wholesale prices for the years between 1890 and 1906 inclusive, which is worth the attention of all who pay the expense of a family. For this inquiry 258 representative commodities were selected—clothing, farm products, foods, fuel, metals, implements, lumber, build materials, drugs, house furnishing goods, etc. The conclusions established by the tables and the investigation are that wholesale prices, if the 258 commodities be considered as a whole, were higher in 1906 than at any other time in the period of seventeen years covered by the bureau's statistics; that the average in 1906 was higher than the average in 1905 by 5.6 per cent, higher than the average in 1897 by 26.5 per cent and higher by 22.4 per cent than the average for the ten years 1890-1899. Diagrams show a continuous fall from 1890 to 1897, a sharp rise in the ensuing three years, a slight recession in 1901, and then a resumption of the advance, which is sharp again in 1905 and 1906.

The bureau makes no attempt to point out causes of either rise or fall. Its tables end with December last, and it is shown that the highest level was reached in that month, December's average exceeding by 4 per cent the average of the entire year 1906. Other and unofficial records show an advance since December. According to the index number of Bradstreet's, prices reached a new high level on February 1. This index number, based upon carefully selected commodities, show an average increase of 18 per cent since July 1904, and 54 per cent since July 1897.

Many workers who find it harder to save money out of increased wages than under the old scale of pay do not know what hurts them. A little study of the figures given above will bring understanding if not relief.

**TARIFF-MADE MILLIONAIRES.**

Mr. M. E. Ingalls, former president of the Big Four railroad system, could not have chosen a better place than Boston to make the statement: "I am not in favor of taxing for destruction, but the question is whether we have too many millionaires for the good of the republic. I believe that one of the greatest causes of the production of large and illegal fortunes is the tariff."

Boston, for some time now the center of strife between the tariff revisionists and the standpatners, should have no difficulty in seeing the truth of Mr. Ingalls' assertion. It long has been plain to the people of the west that the tariff has outlived its original purpose—that good or bad—and that for at least two congresses it has been making millionaires at the expense of the consumers of the whole country.

The "infant industries" that the tariff was intended to nourish until they could stand and walk unaided have grown to be industrial giants; yet they are still feeding on tariff pap, furnished mainly by the people of the United States.

There is a rapidly spreading public sentiment that it would be vastly advantageous to the nation if we had fewer tariff made millionaires and freer access to the world's markets. The American consumer has grown tired of high prices, due to a protective schedule that even its father, in the so-called "Buffalo platform," declared to be no longer needed to maintain the country's prosperity.

Standpat means stand still. The American people favor progress. And the time is close at hand when the only standpatner in the land will be the tariff-made millionaire.—The Valve World.

**THE BLUFF OF PROSPERITY.**

It is hard to bear prosperity. Harder still is it in prosperous, flush and busy times to believe that the wolf will ever again wait outside the door with barred teeth. "Sh' ll hard times come again no more?" Listen to Paul Morton: "I don't believe there will ever come again a period of national depression with failures throughout the country," continued Mr. Morton. "The only thing which could possibly produce such a catastrophe," he added, "would be a total failure of crops. So diversified have they become that this is now almost an impossibility."

Mr. Morton, like all other men of greater or lesser degree, finds it hard to imagine a recurrence of the conditions of the earlier nineties. Most people recall those days of 9 cent corn, of industrial and commercial paralysis, only as they remember a bad dream. Like Mr. Morton they are prone to believe that they can never return; and the wish is father to the thought.

Nevertheless, in spite of all the hopes of Mr. Morton and all the rest of us, hard times will come again and men wonder where the next day's work and the next month's rent are coming from. Whether the period of depression shall drop so deep or last so long, may be doubted, but the depression will come as it always has come. It is pleasant to be optimistic, but it is safest to get squared around ready to meet what is sure to come.—Marshalltown Times-Republican.

As surely as anything can be foreseen, the conquest of the air seems to be assured within a reasonable time in the future. The world seems to be trembling upon the very verge of the secret of aerial navigation. The solution of the problem may be extremely simple and discovered by accident by a yokel or it may be extremely complex, worked out with extreme labor by scientific investigators. The discoverer of the last link that will join manhood to the upper world may be classed now among the dreamers and cranks or he may be already famous among physicists.—Washington Post.

Majority rule is all right provided the majority is not a mob.

Dollar wheat is bound to have an effect sooner or later on the breakfast food.

Take out of this world all the chances, opportunities and pleasures and fruits of graft, and quite a few would commit suicide.

As President Roosevelt realizes that he cannot be elected for a third term, he is determined to run the government by proxy.

"Tis an ill wind that blows nobody good." The green bug and late spring have made fortunes for those who backed their convictions on dollar wheat with the cash.

With a prospect of a \$79,000,000 surplus on June 30 the national treasury will be in fine condition for congress to get in its deadly work when the roses have faded and gone.

The theory of taxing ourselves rich by means of the tariff reminds one of the shrewd farmer who, when being told that a certain new-fangled stove would save half the fuel, said he would buy two and save it all.

No excitement is likely to follow the declaration of Attorney General Bonaparte that he is about to proceed against the harvest trust. That is, there will be no excitement outside the columns of administration organs. Experience has shown that it is easy to abolish trusts so far as court decisions go. It has also shown that, without exception, the trusts maintain their monopoly after going through the hocus pocus necessary to evade the law. When the "smashing" of a combination is seen to actually result in the investment of independent money, genuine competition and lower prices, the country will expect speedy relief. But just now it seems far away.

The discontented men and women of today are the victims of too much prosperity. They need a touch of hard luck to put them in a healthy frame of mind. In the days when people had little and were obliged to work hard for what they had life was appreciated. Pleasures were simple and the home life was wholesome. Luxuries were known to few and contentment was a general condition. Nowadays men and women pass a feverish existence in the pursuit of riches and tire of luxuries as spoiled children disdain toys when the collection is too numerous. In a way we never grow up and the restlessness that possesses adults shows itself in the children of modern families.—Washington Herald.

Mr. Carnegie, wise and shrewd, and cannily far-seeing, is advising the railroads to make the best of Roosevelt as a friend, lest he be succeeded by somebody else "who will go the extreme limits." He further warns the roads that Roosevelt is advocating only "just and reasonable measures." His idea is to have the railroads take the people into their confidence and show the cost of building and operating. Mr. Carnegie's long and successful business career has taught him that the people generally want only a square deal and are ready to meet all business interests half way and more. Let the roads get out of politics and do business on the square and they have nothing to fear from the public.

"Railroad Accidents" is the title of a careful study in the May Atlantic. It is interesting, by the way, to notice that this "literary" magazine is publishing such timely and popular matter. The writer shows by statistics that while legislation has to a large extent eliminated many of the causes of accidents, yet casualties due to collisions and derailments have increased during the last six months. High speed of trains, inexperience and overwork of employees and negligence seem to be back of the trouble, yet "the fundamental weakness of American railroading from the standpoint of safety is the widespread and almost universal lack of discipline." It is a relief to our fluttering nerves to find a satisfactory first cause of such a widespread trouble and a plausible remedy. Professor Dixon, the writer, concludes: "What the country needs is a federal board of inspection of long, if not of permanent tenure, consisting of men of such wide knowledge and of such undoubted integrity that their conclusions will be accepted without question and their recommendations adopted by the railroads as a matter of course."

The Interstate Commerce Commission has just handled the first case in which it assumes the prerogative granted it by the new rate law of controlling the express companies. Express charges in the United States are one of the most onerous exactions under which the people suffer. Heretofore there has been no way of reaching them legally for they were not affected by any law and could charge what they pleased. The present case is not far reaching. It deals only with the case of cut flowers sent from the surrounding country to New York city. The express company without warning and without improving the service, doubled the tariff. When brought to book for their action, their defense was remarkable. They explained that under their contract with the railroads, they had to pay the railroad company 45% of their gross receipts. They wanted more for the flower service than they had been getting, but they had to raise the tariff more than they otherwise would because so much of the increase went to the railroads. It is to be noted with some satisfaction that they were compelled to promptly put the tariff back at what it was before the raise.

Disturbed The Congregation. The person who disturbed the congregation last Sunday by continually coughing is requested to buy a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar.

Bell & Robinson.

**LIVES OF SWEETNESS.**

Postmortem Kindness Does Not Cheer the Troubled Heart.

On the back of a card received by us from W. D. Boyce, of Chicago, President of the American Weekly Publishers' Association, we find his "Creed," which we think is such an excellent one that we reproduce it, hoping it will find a responsive chord in the hearts of all who read it.

"Do not keep the alabaster boxes of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Fill their lives with sweetness. Speak approving, cheering words while their ears can hear them, and while their hearts can be thrilled and made happier by them; the kind things you mean to say when they are gone, say before they go. The flowers you mean to send for their coffin, send to brighten and sweeten their homes before they leave them.

**THE CAREFUL GUESSER.**

One man in 208 is over six feet. One in 100 women carries life insurance. One man succeeds in business to eight who go bankrupt. There is one sudden death among women to eight among men. One cold is taken out of doors where nine are taken indoors. One in each 1,000 couples live to celebrate their golden wedding.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

**"The Old World And Its Ways."**

This is the title of a new and profusely illustrated book by Col. William Jennings Bryan, recounting his noted journey around the earth and through Europe, which was so widely heralded through the American Press. The book is illustrated and descriptive record of that entire journey, which is so memorable in current history. The journey embraced a period of a year, and covered practically all the nations of the earth. Col. Bryan traveled with camera and pencil, and not only described, in brilliant phrase, what he saw, but further illustrated his journey by photographs. These photographs constitute a striking pictorial presentation and lend especial interest to the book. They number 240, and they show in picture the world as he saw it. They constitute just that many striking Object-Lessons of the people of all countries in their cities, towns and villages—in their homes and every day occupations. The book will interest every reader as a unique presentation of a wonderful interesting journey. It is sold only through solicitors. The Thompson Publishing Company of St. Louis, Mo., are the fortunate publishers. They advertise for agents in another column of this issue.

More News from the New England States. If any one has any doubt as to the virtue of Foley's Kidney Cure, they need only to refer to Mr. Alvin H. Stimpson, of Willimantic, Conn., who after almost losing hope of recovery, on account of the failure of so many remedies, finally tried Foley's Kidney Cure, which he says was "just the thing" for him, as four bottles cured him completely. He is now entirely well and free from all the suffering incident to acute kidney trouble. Bell & Robinson.

**NATURE TELLS YOU.**

When the kidneys are sick, Nature tells you all about it. The urine is nature's calendar. Infrequent or too frequent action, Any urinary trouble tell of kidney ills. Doan's kidney pills cure all kidney ills. Leon people testify to this. Mrs. Mary Hind, living in the southeast part of town, says: "I knew years ago that my kidneys were weak and I was subject to backache upon the least provocation, particularly so if I overexerted myself. There was no doubt about the cause for the action and condition of the kidney secretions plainly proved it. They contained a sediment, were full of acid and scalded. If I contracted even a slight cold it was sure to seat itself in the lions and greater aggravation followed, and I always knew a coming change in the weather. I have used more than one remedy in my time when these attacks were very pronounced but until I went to L. P. Van Werden's drug store for Doan's Kidney Pills I never was able to check a spell let alone stop it. The treatment of Doan's Kidney Pills differed from anything I ever employed. They acted directly upon the kidneys and stopped the last attack."

**As Many a Leon Reader Knows Too Well.**

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, New York, sole agents for the United States. Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

SHERIFF'S SALE. BY VIRTUE OF AN EXECUTION, directed to me from the Clerk of the District Court of Decatur County, Iowa, on a judgment obtained in said Court, on the 19th day of April, 1907, in favor of J. P. Hamilton as Plaintiff, and against J. A. Eliza and Blanche Wilson as Defendants, for the sum of Three Hundred Eleven Dollars and 30 Cents, \$357.57, attorney's fees and costs taxed at \$34.05 and accruing costs, I have levied upon the following Real Estate, taken as the property of said Defendants, to satisfy said execution, to-wit: Northwest quarter (1) of the southwest quarter (1), section (31), township (89), Range (24) west. And will offer the same for sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, on the 17th day of June A. D. 1907, in front of the Court House door in Leon, Iowa, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., of said day, when and where due attendance will be given by the undersigned.

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