

RENTS ARE SOARING TO THE SKIES

INCREASED COST OF LIVING, WITH AN INCREASE IN THE PAYMENT FOR HOUSES AND FLATS, IS PUTTING THE AVERAGE MAN UP AGAINST IT.

With the increased cost in Seattle of practically all of the necessities of life, the man who works for wages or for a small salary is more and more all the time being ground to poverty between the upper and lower millstones. On the one hand wages are increasing slowly and against the concerted opposition of employers of all classes of labor, while at the same time prices are being boosted rapidly by the concerted action of merchants, dealers and manufacturers.

Rents Go Higher.
The heaviest advance in the cost of living during the past year has been in the form of rents, which have increased throughout the city according to location and the character of buildings, from 10 to 30 per cent. In many of the better districts the advance has been even greater, owing to the recently devalued speculative value of real estate and the vastly increased cost of building operations has had the effect of materially restricting the building of houses to rent.

In the districts there are almost no new houses going up for rent, practically all new construction being of homes or flats. The building of flats in particular has progressed very rapidly, and even with the increase in flats the demand for them has grown so enormously that it is now next to impossible to find one which is vacant and at all desirable.

Can't Afford to Build.
All over the first hill, the second hill, the Broadway district and similar districts there has been such an increase in ground values that it is no longer possible to build single houses for rent, despite the prevailing high rents, and this suspension of this class of building operations has caused a corresponding jump in rents.

Further from the center of the city and in less desirable and less aristocratic residence districts the advance in ground values has been equally rapid, with the result that rents generally have been boosted from \$5 to \$20 a month on residences of four to six rooms, making it necessary for renters to move even farther and farther from the center of the city and accept less and less desirable houses in order to avoid the heavily increased rental expense and to enable them to live within their incomes.

Houses Are Scarce.
Of four to six-room cottages suitable for small families also there is a sharp shortage, and this is true in the history of the city. Homes of this class which a year ago were to be had at from \$15 to \$25 a month cannot now be had for less than \$20 to \$40 a month. The man who has an income of \$50 a month or less and who was enabled to pay \$25 a month, or one-fourth of it, in rent a year ago now finds himself confronted by the necessity of paying \$35 to \$40 a month, or one-third of his salary for the same house. This necessitates the practice of denying himself

and his family many of the comforts of life which a year ago were possible, particularly in view of the fact that everything else has gone up, or is going up, in proportion.

Demand Is Great.
At every real estate office in the city there is an overwhelming demand for flats or small houses for rent, a demand which the real estate men find it absolutely impossible to supply.

"Within the past year rents of houses and flats have increased from 10 to 20 and even 25 per cent, depending on the location or the character of the building," said C. K. Correll, manager of the rental department of West & Wheeler this morning. "And it is almost impossible to supply the demand for living quarters even at the higher figures," he continued. "Hundreds of people are daily haunting the real estate offices in search for living quarters. Many of these are now living in rooms and would move into houses or flats if they were to be had, which they are not. Rents have been raised in almost every portion of the city. The only remedy I can see for the man whose income is not sufficiently flexible to warrant him paying the higher rents is to move further out and accept something less desirable. At other leading real estate offices the same tale was told, all agents for property agreeing on the statement that rents have made a tremendous advance and that houses or flats are not to be had even at the higher prices."

Autumn Gown.
A handsome autumn costume, fresh from the hands of a smart tailor, is of brown cloth, trimmed with embroidered panne velvet. The skirt is untripped, and has the unucky number of 13 gored in it, yet is correct and well fitting.

The long coat is close-fitting at the back and semi-fitting at the front, opening over an elaborate waistcoat. To permit this to be seen, the coat is cut decidedly low, while over the corners of it and out upon the shoulders is an unique arrangement of the broadcloth. This apparently is held in place by large smoked pearl buttons, two of which fasten the garment below the waistcoat. The brown velvet of this is wrought with a variety of colored silks in floral design.

The sleeves are long and half-fitting.

Coach Sale at London's Friday.
\$100 coach \$9.50, \$16.50 bed coach \$11.00, \$22.50 coach \$25.50, \$28.00 coach \$35.00. Come to Seattle's largest bargain store and save money on this sale. Nice line of new porters \$2.00, \$2.25, \$2.50, \$2.75, \$3.00, \$3.25, at London's, 1111 Second St.

Dance at Leschi Park Tonight.
Don't forget the big dance at Leschi Park tonight. Gentlemen, \$2.50; ladies, free.

BIG PALACE FRIGHTENS ONE LITTLE WOMAN



THE MARGARET KLOCK ARMOUR MEMORIAL HOME.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 11.—From among stately trees that shade an estate several acres in extent rise the imposing gables of a magnificent \$75,000 building known to Kansas City as the Margaret Klock Armour Memorial Home for Aged Couples. The home is almost a palace and a mastron and servants labor faithfully to supply the wants and make comfortable the solitary inmate, who is mistress of all this grandeur.

It was not the original intention that the home should be the exclusive refuge of Mrs. Isadore Hatfield. This condition is due to the peculiar regulations that were made for its maintenance by its founder. The late S. B. Armour, founder of the big Armour packing plant in Kansas City, conceived the idea of establishing a permanent charity and the result was the home described by his widow, who supplied a large additional sum to complete and furnish it. The dedication was the occasion for an impressive ceremony, but afterward the aged couple came not. This was due to a provision that couples must be not less than 65 years of age and that an entrance fee of \$500 must be paid.

Finally, Isadore Hatfield and his wife bought an entrance to the home and reigned supreme until about a year ago, when Mr. Hatfield died. Since then no others have come to live in the big house among the trees. "Yes, it's pretty and grand here," said Mrs. Hatfield, "and the mastron and everybody is good to me; but, oh, I'm so lonely among all these empty rooms and in these big halls I wish I had company here or I could go to some little place where it wouldn't be so kind of awesome."

WOMAN'S RIGHTS THEIR AIM

Tonight at the Seattle hotel the executive committee of the Washington Equal Suffrage Association will meet to outline special plans for the two days' convention which opens tomorrow at the Labor Temple.

The convention is the twentieth of its kind to be held in this state. There will be many prominent people present and woman's rights will be the dominating feature of the convention. The exercises planned are as follows:
Tomorrow's Program.
Friday, October 12, morning, 9:30, convention called to order by the president, Dr. Fanny Leake-Cummings; invocation; appointment of committees, credentials, resolutions; report of executive committee, Mrs. Sarah Wilcox recording secretary; report of corresponding secretary, Mrs. Ellen S. Leckeny; reports of standing committees, Dr. Cora Smith Eaton, Miss Margaret Baple and Mrs. E. M. Dardall.
Afternoon—Invocation, Dr. Abbie Danforth, music; president's annual address, "Present Status of Suffrage," Dr. Fanny Leake-Cummings; address, Mrs. Clara B. Colby, of Portland, editor of Women's Tribune; address, Miss Ida Agnes Baker, of Whatcom normal; address by Mrs. B. B. Lord, of Olympia, Dr. Sarah Kendall and Miss Alice Lord.
Evening—Memorial, with Mrs. Marlon B. Baxter presiding; invocation; piano solo, Mr. E. E. Rose; tribute to Mrs. Susan Currier Owens by Rev. Harry Ferguson; "Miss Anthony as a Friend" will be given by Mrs. E. M. Wardall; "Miss Anthony as a National Leader," by Dr. Cora Smith Eaton; "What Manhood Owe to Miss Anthony," by Mr. Frederick Ornes; "The Debt of the Teacher to Miss Anthony," Miss Mary G. O'Meara; "Susan B. Anthony," by Dr. W. D. Simonds.
Saturday's Work.
On Saturday the program will be as follows: General conference on plan of work, Mrs. Ruth Dahnan presiding; election of officers; address by Dr. Sarah Kendall; "Woman," and address by Mrs. J. E. Baker; "Oregon Campaign," by Mrs. Emma Smith De Voe. Evening—Mrs. Homer M. Hill presiding; "Personal Impressions of New Zealand," Mr. Marc Wardall; "Women of the Far East," Miss M. Ella McGuire; "Woman Suffrage in Colorado," ex-Gov. A. W. McIntyre; "The Future of Woman," by Vincent Harper.

THE THEATERS

"Parsifal" a Lesson.
Teaching that Tomorrow is an ever widening circle and can never be overtaken, also that of the three virtues of the Christian—Love, Hope and Charity—the greatest is Love, "Parsifal" at the Grand, is the most solemn lesson. The story into which the performance is woven goes back into the history of the ninth century and depicts the early struggles of the more venturesome in spreading the gospel of the Redeemer among the people. "Parsifal" might be called an historical production, showing the trials of early Christianity, which was beset with evil influences in human form. "Parsifal" is a shepherd, who, clothed in innocence and purity, goes out into the world in search of the Holy Grail, which has been stolen by Klingsor, a black knight of necromancy, whose domain is blackest pagan land. "Parsifal" is beset at every step by this evil genius, the direct tormentor being Kundry, fairest of all fair women, who is under the influence of the Black Knight. Strong of purpose and with Christ-like divinity Parsifal is still only a man, and in the garden of Narcotic Blossoms he tastes of the earthly sorrows from the lips of Kundry, who in passionate moments completely overwhelms Parsifal like a vampire sucking the very essence of his pure life. Parsifal, although about to fall completely, even tasting the forbidden fruit of passionate love, conquers himself with a sad and calling on God, spreads destruction to the Narcotic Garden and the follies therein. The three characters mentioned above are the strongest in this presentation. All others are adequate. The scenery and effects are of the best. The music during and between the acts is most solemn, rendering Parsifal more impressive. The last performance will be given tonight.

Louis James.
Louis James, the eminent actor, is to begin a three nights' engagement at the Grand next Sunday evening, in the Shakespearean comedy, "The Merry Wives of Windsor," which has never been seen here. The company includes Norman Hackett, Nellie McHenry, Aphie James and a list of other players known here. The seat sale begins tomorrow. There will be a Tuesday matinee.

"The Holy City."
A special matinee of "The Holy City," given at the Seattle theater today, shows the interest that people take in plays of this character. A great many people are attending performances of "The Holy City," who seldom, if ever, frequent a theater.

Next week, at the Seattle theater, "A Millionaire Tramp" will be the attraction.

At the Third Avenue. "Queen of the Highway," with its pony express rider, stage coach, male bandits, wolf den, and other realistic effects, remains at the Third Avenue theater until Saturday night.

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ROLLER SKATES. \$1.50 Heavy Steel Adjustable Roller Skates, for boys and girls.	13c.
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MILL FILES. 15c Famous Russell Mill File, 8 inches long.	9c.
FAMILY SCALES. \$1.25 Family Scale, with slanting dial.	85c.

25c English Bone China Blue and Gold Breakfast Plates.	13c.
15c Heavy Tinned Patent Spring Mop Stick.	8c.
45c 2-Gallon Stone Jar and Cover.	29c.
15c Large Open Mouth Crystal Glass Vase.	8c.
15c Decorated Holland Oatmeal Bowls, extra special.	7c.
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