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Vacations.

During these days of financial and economic stress when everyone is laboring under high pressure, we are realizing more than ever before the real necessity of a vacation. There comes a time when it is proper to take a rest—a time when the trials and worries accompanying the successful conducting of your business should be cast aside and completely forgotten for a while.

It doesn't matter whether you go to the seashore, the farms, the mountains, the prairies, or only stay at home in the way of the housewife—but get away from business and forget it all. Let that mind free itself of worries—let those tired muscles relax—get rested—get some pep into your system and come back to work feeling like a new man.

If you live in a state without lakes—come to Minnesota. If you live in Minnesota—go to one of our lakes. If you live on a lake in Minnesota—get away from that one and go to another one. We have ten thousand lakes in Minnesota, and they are welcoming you. No place in the world is better able to fulfill your every desire for a vacation than this great state of ours. Fishing, swimming, boating, canoeing, camping, touring, hunting—everything your heart can wish for in the way of recreation.

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Who Said Business Isn't Looking Better?

If you meet a pessimist on the outlook, ask him what trade barometer he has been watching. Has he failed to note the advances in wheat and corn and livestock, the high and very firm prices in cotton, the increased production in steel, the improvement in foreign exchange, the shrinkage in the number of idle railway cars, the easy money available everywhere, the reports of increased construction throughout the country, the pronounced advance in stocks listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the Dun and Bradstreet reports of better business outlook—all with the prospects of a new farm crop to be raised at the lowest cost for several years. How can anyone observe such trade barometers and remain doubtful about better business ahead? We are coming into at least good business. The man who delays getting started, the man who doesn't put his house in order and get some stock on hand to do business with will be left way back in the dust. Now is the time to spread optimism. Business is good and it's going to be better. Everybody boost for a bigger and better year.—Empeco Paper News.

DON'T STOP.

If you stop to find out what your wages will be
And how they will clothe and feed you,
Willie; my son, don't you go on the sea,
For the sea will never need you.
If you ask for the reason of every command
And argue with people about you,
Willie, my son, don't you go on the land,
For the land will do better without you.
If you stop to consider the work you have done
And to boast what your labor is worth, dear,
Angels may come for you, Willie, my son!
But you'll never be wanted on earth dear!

—Rudyard Kipling.

A Robber Tariff.

According to the Democratic members of the Senate Finance Committee, the proposed new tariff will cost the people of the United States between three and four billion dollars in higher prices, of which the Government will collect only a tithe in revenue. Why are we to pay this tax to manufacturers? Because, the Republicans claim, only so American industry be restored to health. To prove their case they have taken figures of low cost of production, especially in Germany, which the Democrats now point out are old and misrepresent the present situation. Our markets are not flooded with foreign products; our imports in 1921 were only about four per cent of our total production and our exports were seven per cent. We are told that without a higher tariff, industries like the manufacture of hosiery and knit goods will be ruined. Yet the United States exported four times as much hosiery and knit goods as it

imported. Who are the beneficiaries of these new duties? Not "infant industries" but some of the worst trusts in America. Senator Simmons quoted in debate a letter from a clothing salesman charging that the American Woolen Company had already raised its prices from 10 cents to 45 cents per yard in anticipation of the new tariff. This is the company which in 1919 made profits of 100 per cent under the present tariff and, having doubled its capital stock out of war profits, managed in 1921 to earn 83-4 per cent on this inflated capital. No wonder the Fair Tariff League has been assuring farmers that for every dollar the more fortunate of them will gain by the new tariff as producers they will lose five as consumers.—The Nation.

THAT NINETEENTH ROUGH DIAMOND.

Take eighteen rough diamonds, young and vigorous, turn them loose on a nineteenth rough diamond; add a ball, a bat, a catcher's mask, and a "very congregational lynch-law sound" punctuated with yells of "Slide Kelly, slide!" or "Kill that umpire!"—and lo, you have our national game almost anywhere. On the village green, for instance, if your village affords a green. On the "sand lots." Or out yonder at the edge of the city, where the pound used to be, and a dump still is, and where billboards make a capital backdrop.

Just this ease of marking off a diamond almost anywhere is what eventually gives Babe Ruth's pockets with gold and gives Judge Landis a salary like a film star's. For the throngs who pay to watch a professional ballgame are onlookers but not outsiders. When we whoop "Ee-yay!" from grandstand or bleacher, it is because we ourselves have "been there."

Even mere verbal snapshots of a ball-game set our blood tingling—for example, this: "The ring of a bat, flying forms that fling themselves feet first along the ground in clouds of dust, other forms with heads thrown back and faces upturned, one horror-stricken figure moving across the far, far background, his posture that of anguish, hoping against hope—and victory is ours! We howl!" No wonder! In our rough-diamond days we, too, knew the joy of triumph. Also, we knew the pang of being "walloped by the Cedarvilles" and slinking supperless to bed.

But, whenever you find eighteen rough diamonds playing ball on a nineteenth as rough, you suspect that somewhere behind the scenes lurk some enterprising citizens who have found that there is no way of maintaining cordial relations with growing boys which quite equals the diplomacy of giving them a chance to play ball.

Community Service, 315 4th Ave., N. Y. City, is an organization which occupies itself with preparing plans for a better use of the play time of the youth of America. They have sent this article to the Review in the hope that it will reach parents and induce them to take an intelligent interest in their sons' amusements. They tell us this week just how to mark out a baseball diamond and do it right.

Pick a level field, preferably two hundred and thirty-five feet square. Mark off a diamond measuring ninety feet along each side. If possible, let the sides run oblique to the outer boundaries. Get a five-sided home plate, made properly of whitened rubber, and plant it so that two of its sides will extend twelve inches along the lines of the diamond from the angle. Opposite the point run a line seven-and-a-half inches long. On both sides of the home plate, place the batters' boxes, six inches away from it. They must measure six feet one way by four the other, with the longer side facing the home plate. Immediately behind the home plate, provide the catcher's place on a gradually sloping mound not more than fifteen inches higher and within a triangle made by extending the sides of the diamond and connecting them by a line ten feet from the point of the plate.

Now draw a coacher's line at right angles to the side of the diamond, fifteen feet from first base measuring along the line from the home plate to first base. Draw another at right angles to this and parallel to the side of the diamond and extending out a little beyond the base. At third base, provide a similar coacher's line. Finally, mark foul lines on the fence—that is, unless you prefer to use foul flags—and there you are, gentlemen, with a diamond worthy of the game and of yourselves.

But others, too, are there—or will be—and it remains to control the spectators. Give them a simple bench two hundred feet long, parallel to the base and foul lines and at least thirty feet away, on each side of the diamond, starting near the backstop and ending in the outfield. Or perhaps you can afford a grandstand. If so, have a space of at least thirty feet between it and the home plate.

Mrs. C. W. Miller, who was elected lay delegate of the First Congregational Church of this city, attended the State conference held on Monday, Tuesday and today at Duluth. Rev. E. F. Wheeler is also a delegate.

A Correction.

In writing up the Nonpartisan League meeting at Springfield last week the Review inadvertently stated that M. J. Pavlik of the Northern Light has said that his paper, being a Nonpartisan League organ, would give the Nonpartisan League candidates unqualified support. In making this statement we misquoted Mr. Pavlik. He did not state that his newspaper was owned by the Nonpartisan League. What he did say was that he was the manager and editor of a newspaper that was supposed to have the support and endorsement of the farmer movement and that he believed that the action of the delegates would meet with the approval of the members and that personally he would do all in his power to bring about the election of the candidates selected by the delegates.

Ordinarily a slip of the pen like the above would go unnoticed and the matter of the Nonpartisan League meeting and the contents of the article published in the Review had been completely dismissed from our mind until we got the last issue of the Lamber-ton Star and found that our inaccuracy in reporting Mr. Pavlik gave Schei, editor of this true and only loyal American newspaper an opportunity to rant and tear over his entire front page in an effort to make out that the Northern Light is in truth and in fact a Nonpartisan League organ.

The policy of a newspaper is determined solely by its editorial policy and any statements that the Review or any one else may make can not set the policy of any paper. In the eyes of some people the New Ulm Review may be a Nonpartisan League newspaper. As a matter of fact it is not as its editorial policy will conclusively prove. We have supported the Nonpartisan League because according to our notions it is a progressive movement and advocates certain measures which are absolutely right. As long as they advocate progressive measures they can count on our support but no longer. It would be much easier from a monetary viewpoint to publish a newspaper that endorses and advocates the interests of the predatory rich, because the plunderbund usually pays in the coin of the realm those who make it possible to keep their strangle-hold on the common people.

According to the Star we "inspired" the delegates at the Non-partisan convention. We did not know that we had the ability to speak in such eloquent terms as to inspire our hearers. We are almost puffed up with pride sufficient to go on the stump this fall and inspire the people of this section of the state to adopt our views along progressive lines. Some of our friends at times have told us that on this or that occasion we made a good talk, but we always felt that they were flattering us. Now that a sworn enemy rushes into print and tells the world (and the Star reaches the world) that we inspired those that heard us, we cannot help but feel in the bottom of our heart that for once the truth has been spoken and that we have the ability to "inspire." This has set us to thinking and in the meantime we wait with bated breath for the next issue of the Star to find out if it will give us as much space to our correction as it did to the previous articles containing a misstatement of fact.

Business as Usual.

A Hebrew and an Irishman were fishing in separate boats some distance apart. The Irishman got a bite, and was so nervous that he fell out of his boat. He sank twice, and as he came up the second time, the Hebrew rowed over and called out: "Mister, can I have your boat if you don't come up again?"

SOCIAL EVENTS.

St. Rita Court, Catholic daughters of America, entertained their members at a five hundred party last Tuesday evening at the Catholic School House. Cards were played at thirty-five tables.

A most enjoyable evening was spent at the Albert Nemo home Sunday when a number of relatives and friends came to help him celebrate his birthday anniversary. Five hundred was played at which prizes were awarded as follows: Mrs. Bertha Vogel, ladies' high; Mrs. Jack Bradley, second high; Henry Kunz, gents' high; Arthur Miller, second high and Mrs. Frank Kalz, low score. A two-course luncheon was served.

Mr. and Mrs. George Mauch entertained a large group of guests at their home on North Washington Street Sunday evening at five hundred. Cards were played at nine tables, Mr. Fred Dehn, Miss Sophia Kuehn, and Mrs. Henry Schultz and Mr. Herbert Dehn were awarded honors. At the close of the card game a luncheon was served.

Mrs. Al. Johnson and Mrs. Henry F. Schrader entertained at the former's home last Friday afternoon. A social afternoon was spent and at five o'clock a two course luncheon was served to twenty guests.

Mrs. William Ruenke, residing on North Minnesota street was hostess to a small group of friends last evening in honor of her birthday anniversary. Five hundred was played at three tables and following the game, a luncheon was served.

POINTS AT ISSUE IN COAL STRIKE

LIVING CONDITIONS IN MINE TOWNS DESCRIBED. WAGE SCALE ANALYZED.

SOME COAL FACTS—Wages and Living Conditions.

This is the second of a series of four articles written by Mr. J. A. H. Hopkins, Executive Chairman of the COMMITTEE of 48, for the National Bureau of Information and Education. These articles are based upon personal investigation by Mr. Hopkins.

In my last article I pointed out that the conditions under which the miners live and the wage scale under which they are employed are fundamental factors which must be intelligently adjusted as the first steps in arriving at our overhead costs and in formulating a course of procedure leading to the ultimate solution of the entire coal situation.

The miners live in so-called houses provided by the operators, containing from two to five rooms each. These houses are mere shacks built of thin clapboards plastered inside, but with no lights except kerosene lamps, no running water, no toilet facilities, and no heat except open grates. They are built upon uneven ground, without cellars, many of them on piles, which makes it impossible to heat them properly even though the miners burn as much as four tons of coal every six weeks. The shacks are from 100 feet to 1-4 of a mile distant from open tanks erected in the middle of the mining towns, from which all the water must be carried in pails. They are built on sharp declivities almost as steep as railroad embankments, which are difficult to climb at any season and require creepers during the winter months. No attempt is made to level the ground, even though the immense piles of slate and other refuse from the mines could be readily dumped into the hollows. The houses are painted a monotonous color, usually red, with no attempt at decoration or relief. With few exceptions the mining towns are without any grass, trees, or other vegetation. There are no sewerage arrangements. The outside toilets, which are miserable boxes, are, however, cleaned once a year.

The operatives have a right to demand that these conditions be remedied. From the standpoint of efficiency the public has a right to make the same demand; and it would also be advantageous to the operators themselves to establish decent, healthy, and attractive housing facilities.

In considering the wage scale it is necessary to explain that the "day men" are paid by the day; the "miners", that is the men who actually dig out the coal from the veins by the ton; and an analysis seems to show that both of these methods as heretofore practiced are open to considerable criticism both from the operators' and the miners' standpoint.

The "day men" in the non-union mines in 1916 received slightly less than the union men, but in 1919 the increase in the cost of living and the demand for coal had resulted in reversing these figures; so that the non-union miners then received \$7.80 per day against the union scale of \$7.50. Since then the non-union mines have repeatedly cut wages, so that when the strike was called on April 1, 1922, the non-union men were only receiving \$5.05 whereas the union men were still receiving \$7.50.

But it is very misleading to deal with this question simply on the basis of a daily wage. The miner has to live 365 days a year. The minimum cost of living for the average family with even comparatively decent surroundings is between \$1500 and \$2000. If the miner worked every day in the year except Sundays at \$7.50 per day he would have no cause for complaint.



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But the fact is that the mines are shut down a good part of the time, because they work intermittently, and the union mines in a series of years have not averaged over 200 days, while the non-union mines seek to justify their lower wage by claiming that they work close to 300 days, which would produce practically the same result.

The real difficulty, however, lies in the fact that the number of days refers to the number of days that the mine is open, and not necessarily to the number of days each miner is employed. Furthermore the operators, even were they willing to do so, obviously cannot guarantee to the miners any specified number of days' work. This situation has been aggravated by the fact that during 1921 the average working days fell far below normal, averaging probably about 125 days, or less than \$1000 per annum.

A solution of this difficulty would seem to lie in applying the ordinary business principle of employing miners by the month, with the understanding that they must be given a month's notice if they are laid off. The monthly compensation they receive, whether or not they are laid off incidentally during the month, to be exactly 1-12 of the annual standardized cost of living agreed upon. Of course this would carry with it the obligation on the part of the miner to work by the month and would mean that he forfeited his month's wages if he left his work before the month was up.

These suggestions apply to the "day men". The "miners" as already explained, are paid by the ton, but under a system of this kind it is still more difficult to work out a solution which will insure to the miner a continuous daily wage equal to the cost of living. And notwithstanding the operatives' preference for a tonnage basis, a practical solution of this problem appears to lie in adjusting the miners' compensation on the basis of a monthly wage, thus putting all the employees of the mine under the same system. This would of course involve abolishing the tonnage system altogether, but would standardize both the cost and the wages upon a mutually equitable basis.

In close connection with this question is the disputed checking system. The unions demand that the operators deduct the union dues of each miner from his monthly wages and pay it over to the union. The operators with considerable logic contend that there should be no obligation upon them to do the union's bookkeeping and to supply them with the sineqs of war in the event of a strike. But the operators have themselves established a checking system under which they deduct from the miners' wages their state, county and road taxes (whether or not they are citizens); the rent of the shacks; a doctor's charge of \$2 per month; a charge of 3-4 per cent upon their earnings for sharpening tools; their store bills; and \$.80 per month for death and accident insurance, (despite the existence of the Workman's Compensation Acts). They also deduct various penalties, such as \$1 per day for every day the miner refuses to work; \$1 for the first offense, \$2 for the second, \$5 for the third, when the operator considers that the coal produced by the miner is unnecessarily dirty, etc. The miners have offered to withdraw their demand that the operators check out their union dues, pro-

vided the operators will abolish the entire checking system, but the operators have so far refused this offer. Nevertheless, an acceptance of this proposition would certainly eliminate a great deal of unnecessary friction.

The above fairly covers, in a general way, the errors and injustices involved in the present system so far as they relate to the living conditions and wage scale of the miners, and the relation

which these questions bear to the efficiency of the industry and to the just demands of the operatives and the public. My next article will take up the question of the operator's demands, and the fundamental requirements upon which we must necessarily base our constructive suggestions.

J. A. Hopkins,
Executive Chairman, Committee of 48.

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