

COST OF LIVING INCREASED

Labor Agent Reports Increase By Reason Of Many Luxuries.

The cost of living in the region of Kansas City has increased 59 per cent in ten years, while the wages of skilled workers have been augmented a fraction more than 26 per cent, according to conclusions reached by George A.

Trayer, agent of the department of labor.

He said final reports on the result of investigations being made in 40 of the larger cities of the United States would be issued January 1.

"For the unskilled laborer," Mr. Thayer said, "there has been almost no change in wage. The supply being greater than the demand, wages have not increased. The common school has proved a

factor in increasing the cost of living by teaching higher ideals until we can not live as we did several years ago. What was luxury ten years ago now is necessity. In my own state, Virginia, where the piano used to be considered a luxury, it now is regarded as necessary.

"The 16-year-old daughter of a man earning \$2.50 a day, if she had average training desires a piano. He must buy it for her on the installment plan."

COUNTRY EDUCATION.

Our farmers are not making the progress they ought to make. They are moving forward, but slowly. The landlord may be better off than he was twenty years ago, but, how about the tenants? Are they on a stand still, or improving? The land and well regulated industry are the great assets of the farmer. The best land in the country, without wise management, will pay nothing.

In order that labor may be remunerative, there should be educated farmers. We do not mean that they should understand Greek and the higher mathematics, but they should know enough to read and understand best books and papers bearing on their special work. They should be wise enough to apply the knowledge thus gained. We do not mean by that in the primary schools, the small children should be taught the principles of agriculture, the analysis of soils and value of fertilizers. What your small children should learn up to the age of fifteen, is how to read and spell, well, and to express themselves clearly in writing. They should learn how to use the dictionary and maps. Let vocational training alone. There will be time enough for that later. Give them fairy tales, story books, books of travel and even good novels. That is the sort of education needed by your children. That will lay the foundation for professional life or business of any sort. Some of our teachers get the idea of vocational training in their heads and there is no room for any thing else.

Your children in the rural homes need the same instructions given to town children, and they are generally ready to receive it. It is better to turn over to the girls some good magazines and story books, than a wise book on domestic science. Let the boys read the Arabian Nights, books of travel and adventure accounts of the great battles of the world. They will be much more interested and the mind will be better developed than if they were to put in their time studying books on field crops and stock raising. On this subject we quote the following from W. S. Brazeale, of Rutgers' college:

"In this connections we can do no better than study the question of rural schools as it has shaped itself in a country that is admittedly a marvel of agricultural and educational efficiency.

"There is a striking similarity between conditions in Denmark and those in the south. Both the countries had to rehabilitate themselves after a defeat by a greater power. In 1864, victorious Prussia took from her little opponent the two duchies of Schleswig and Holstein. It seemed then, and for some time after, that the loss of their national identity was to be the fate of the beaten people. But a Moses came, in the person of Grundtvig, whose prophetic vision told him that universal education was the salvation. Indeed the peasants, poor and illiterate, excited his pity and best efforts. He preached a season and out of season that the country youth has an inherent right to all that is best in life. That was advanced ground, but why, we ask ourselves when we think about it, does he not have a trained mind, with the horizon of his mental and spiritual vision enlarged, as well as the son of the lawyer, merchant, or anyone else? Should not his intelligence be made as keen, his sympathies as alert, his general equipment as complete as those of the city youth?"

"Let us follow a little the idea of Grundtvig's as it began to be realized in Denmark. Rural high schools have been established to the number of eighty. In these not a thing is taught of agriculture. There are, indeed, agricultural schools, numbering nineteen in the whole kingdom, where a boy may go after he has arrived at a proper age and has decided to be farmer, but they are distinct.

"Of the population who are of the proper age to be in a high school, 27 per cent. are in attendance. This does not take into account children between six and fourteen years of age all of whom are in elementary schools. Such a large proportion in the high school is most remarkable, and what should be brought out here is the high efficiency of the Danish farmer and the fact that he has kept vocational educational out of his regular schools.

"A little country of less than half the area of South Carolina, for example, supporting a population of two and a half millions principally by agriculture, should be an object lesson to the farmers of this country.

"It is not vocational training that is the fundamental need of the country youth. It is well that fact be emphasized just now when so many seem to have lost their balance, and are not giving due consideration to the estimation of values in life. What good will it do if a population is re-

THOUGHTS IMPROVE HEALTH

Strong Positive Thoughts of Cheerfulness Conducive to Good Health.

In the November Woman's Home Companion, Ralph Waldo Trine, writes a most suggestive article entitled "Thought as a Force in Daily Living." Following is an extract:

"The type of thought we entertain has its effect upon our energies and to a great extent upon our bodily conditions and states. Strong, clear-cut, positive, hopeful thought has a stimulating and life-giving effect upon one's outlook, energies, and activities; and upon all bodily functions and powers. A falling state of the mind induces a chronically gloomy outlook and produces inevitably a falling condition of the body. The mind grows, moreover, into the likeness of the thoughts one must habitually entertain and lives with. Every thought reproduces of its kind.

"Says an authoritative writer in dealing more particularly with the effects of certain types of thoughts and emotions upon bodily conditions: 'Out of our own experience we know that anger, fear, worry, hate, revenge, avarice, grief, in fact all negative and low emotions produce weakness and disturbance not only in the mind but in the body as well. It has been proved that they actually generate poisons in the body, they depress the circulation; they change the quality of the blood, making it less vital; they affect the great nerve centers and thus partially paralyze the very seat of the bodily activities. On the other hand, faith, hope, love, forgiveness, joy and peace, all such emotions are positive and up-lifting, and so act on the body as to restore and maintain harmony and actually to stimulate the circulation and nutrition.'

"The one who does not allow himself to be influenced or controlled by fears or forebodings is the one who ordinarily does not yield to discouragements. He it is who is using the positive, success-bringing types of that are continually working for him for the accomplishment of his ends. The things that he sees in the ideal, his strong, positive and therefore creative type of thought are continually helping to actualize in the realm of the real."

PUFF COMPANY PROSPERS.

Asheville Firm Shows Progress at Stockholders Annual Meeting.

At the meeting of the stockholders of the Talcum Puff company the reports of the different officers showed that the year just closed has been by far the most prosperous one in the history of the company.

The following directors were elected by the stockholders to serve during the current year: Dr. S. Westray Battle, L. M. Bourne, Dr. C. S. Jordan and M. V. Moore of Asheville, Jacob Friedman, B. D. Jacobs and P. E. Page, of New York.

Immediately after the adjournment of the stockholders meeting the directors met and elected the following officers: Dr. Westray Battle, president, M. V. Moore, vice-president and treasurer, L. M. Bourne, secretary, all of Asheville, C. S. Humphrey, assistant manager, both of New York.

An extra dividend of 20 per cent, in addition to the regular quarterly dividend of two per cent, was declared payable at once to stockholders on record.

The Talcum Puff Company is a North Carolina corporation and was located for a number of years at Asheville in the manufacture of talcum powder, soap and other toilet articles, the majority of stock is still owned by Asheville parties.

duced to machines, performing their functions perfectly if you wish, and if that is all? Where does the human, I should say man, come in? Where are his faculties for discriminating for enjoying, his ability for associating with his fellows and his power of influence for good? What has been done towards refining his tastes, towards emphasizing these elemental things out of which he will evoke his ideals, and that will determine his aspirations—in fact, will give a noble aim to his life? Meeting these questions squarely is of more importance than teaching a boy to raise corn or cotton. They are also much more difficult, and call for the greatest energy, perseverance, and expenditure of money; but like all good things the dividends to be realized on the trouble and expense will amply justify the investment. We all wish material prosperity, but it must be conditional on an intelligent, moral and altruistic citizenship. There is no reason under the sun why the southern people can not have both if they are wise. Little Denmark has "arrived," and under adverse circumstances. With the great natural resources of the south, she ought to do even better."

DOES MOUNTAINS INJUSTICE.

Macon County Publication Reflects on North Carolina History.

Some one has sent us a copy of the Mountain School Herald, published by the Cowee Mountain School at Leatheman, Macon county, but bearing an imprint that shows that it is printed in Berrien Springs, Mich., says the News and Observer. Being printed in another State and probably edited by an individual who has never visited North Carolina and who is ignorant of its history, the magazine is like most others of its class in failing to reflect conditions in this State faithfully. In its original articles as well as the selections which it publishes and evidently approves the Mountain School Herald is as unjust to this State as might be expected of it in view of the circumstances under which it is published and in fact is much more so than would ordinarily be supposed possible.

Here is a specimen paragraph from an article by George Fitch in the Jackson Patriot, of Jackson, Mich., and quoted without comment in the Leatheman-Berrien periodical:

North Carolina was settled 250 years ago and has remained calm and placid ever since, not even getting into the Civil War to any extent. It took a prominent part in the production of eraly patriots, turning out Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson and James K. Polk. Its only feat in the last 100 years, however, has been the production of Uncle Joe Cannon. It is a peaceful hook-wormy State whose only diversion is to send a Republican to Congress every now and then and watch Cornelius Vanderbilt try to farm his little patch of ground at Biltmore with a gold-mounted plow and imported horseflies."

The curious thing to us is that the Northern people who interest themselves in the people whom they choose to designate "the mountain whites" should feel so plainly disposed to reflect on the people of the State generally. It would be a breach of good manners if they were to say the disagreeable things about the State that the tre (that there are some of these all candid Carolinians will admit). But that these self-constituted mentors of the State should write and speak out of malice and ignorance is still more difficult to understand. Their ignorant and insolent comment reveals the existence of narrow and shrivelled souls such as we of the South are not accustomed to encounter and the existence of which we should find it hard to credit did we not come across the unmistakable evidence as found in such articles as those we have quoted from the Jackson (Mich.) Patriot by way of the Mountain School Herald.

TYPHOID VACCINE FREE.

Ready for Delivery From State Laboratory to Those Who Apply.

Typhoid vaccine can now be had free upon application to the State Board of Health, it is announced by Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary of the board. The vaccine is now ready at the State Laboratory of Hygiene in Raleigh. The board requests, however, that only those persons who will use it apply for the vaccine, and hopes that all who will use it will apply.

"Vaccination against typhoid fever has passed all the tests of science and practice," says the board, "and has won as prominent a place among sanitarians as vaccination against small pox."

"TOO MUCH SOCIETY."

John Sullivan Talks About Modern Women and Race Suicide.

"The modern women"—John L. Sullivan's left fist crashed down on his knee with a force that made the little blonde woman who sat looking at him in awe-struck wonder, jump—"I'm against 'em—dead against 'em."

"Too much society," the ex-prize fighter growled. "Too much thinkin' about what other men think about her looks, and not enough about what her husband thinks of her character. Half the time they haven't got any husbands at that. Bachelor girls, huh, my idea of nothin' to be."

"Get me on this too, we're goin' to have race suicide, sure as a black man loves corn bread and fat meat. Know why we're going to have it? 'Cause the ladies want to keep a stylish figure. It's gettin' so that if a man wants a family he's got to guarantee his wife he'll buy her a plaster of paris cast, so she don't lose her shape."

"Naw," he continued, "gimme the old-fashioned girl—like I used to know when I was a youngster. I ain't sayin' anything about morals, mind you. I'm just talkin' about the way they look at things—at life."

"But the young men ain't much better at that. Too much education, booze, and bein' good fellows. You know I'm raising an adopted son upon my farm near Boston. He's ten years old. I was talkin' to him not long ago."

"Son," says I, "if you want to make good in this world let the booze alone—let women alone until you feel like you want to get married, work hard at the job you're on, no matter what it is. Don't get the fool notion in your head that you ought to go to college—and keep out of politics."

"The Effect of Your Message Greatly Depends Upon the Style and Quality of You Stationery"

You are more often judged by the paper you use than by the thoughts you express in writing. **Pride, good taste, refinement**—all demand that you use stationery that is **distinctive, stylish, good.** Shown here are two brands of stationery to be had in a wide variety of beautiful tints, modish shapes and correct sizes—each so rarely good that its use will help establish you as a person of excellent good taste in the minds of those you write to.

Symphony Lawn Writing Paper

is made exclusively for The Rexall Stores in a big mill way up in the Massachusetts Hills, from the best and cleanest rag stock. Each sheet has an exquisite lawn surface made by pressing it between plates of zinc lined with sheets of specially-woven French cloth.

Symphony Lawn has a splendid writing surface, is beautiful to look upon, is in every respect correct, is stationery you will be proud to use.

Made in white and the following tints:

Twilight Gray Surf Green Shell Pink Old Lavender Boudoir Champagne Blue

—with tinted edges and in four sizes: Regular Letter, Correspondence, Note, Acceptance.

In one-quire boxes, with envelopes, 40 and 50 cents. In larger boxes, \$1.00 to \$2.00. With gold or silver edges, 50 and 60 cents a quire.

Symphony Lawn Correspondence Cards, now very fashionable for short messages, in any of the above tints and sizes, gold edge. Box of 25 cards and 25 envelopes, 40 and 50 cents.

Illuminated Crest Stationery

—for those who prefer an initial stationery, has an artistic finish and high quality that makes it distinctive and different from most other initial stationery.

It suits best those who are hardest to please. Each sheet is die-stamped with a graceful initial in gold and sepia, as illustrated.

Any initial, with envelopes, 50 cents a quire.

These low prices are possible only because the more than 7,000 Rexall Druggists—one in each of the principal cities and towns in the United States, Canada and Great Britain—buy together in such immense quantities as to be able to get the lowest possible prices. It is an advantage to you to buy stationery at the Rexall Stores.

"Stationery Week" begins today at all the REXALL Stores

This Stationery is sold only at

JUSTUS PHARMACY

H. F. and W. T.

D R A K E

==TWO STORES==

GROCERIES

and ::

F E E D

Main Street, Phone 43

Crab Creek St., Phone 217

Call Us

We Want Your

B U S I N E S S