

Economy Week

HOW to save money! A mighty merchandise event launched by sixty-three of Moline's and East Moline's leading merchants.

Five Days of Unprecedented Value Giving

(February 22nd Until February 26th Inclusive)

Combined Sales Start at 9 O'Clock Tuesday Morning

UNITED MERCHANTS ECONOMY SALE WEEK

A Tremendous, Grand Ensemble, Get-Together Spirit

—that breaks all barriers of profit making, outclasses any and all trade events by the most reckless, daring sacrificing of prices known in this state. Scan list of merchants who are participating in this most unusual co-operative competition. Profit by many trade advantages offered; act now.

GET YOUR SHARE

Everyone within a radius of 50 miles around Moline should avail themselves of this Colossal Bargain Event — every business house listed below competing for "bargain honors"—the combined opening of all sales at the various stores—starts at promptly 9 o'clock.

ART STUDIOS
Mrs. S. D. Poole, 1536 5th Ave.
ATHLETIC GOODS
Lethin Bros., 1520 6th Ave.
AUTOS
S & C. Auto Sales Co., 510 15th St.
CAFES
The Roderick, 422 15th St.
CLOAKS AND SUITS
Grossman's, 414 15th St.
CLOTHING AND FURNISHING GOODS
Coleman & Schultz, 521 15th St.
G. S. Fitzgibbon, Reliance Bldg., 5th Ave.
Holmgren & Lage, 405 15th St.
C. H. Mangold, 1418 5th Ave.
Mayer & Johnson, 409 15th St.
H. T. Moss, 1630 3rd Ave.
Talty's (Every Man's Store), 509 15th St.
Vander Vennett Clothing Co., 419-421 15th St.
Chas. Ydeen, 13th St and 5th Ave.

COAL AND WOOD
Midland Ice & Fuel Co., 217 23rd St.
Moline Fuel Co., 319 16th St.
Beder Wood Sons' Co., 18th St. and 1st Ave.
DRUGGISTS
Jericho's, 501 15th St.
Jericho & Co., 401 15th St.
G. H. Sohrbeck, 1601 5th Ave.
G. W. Sohrbeck, 514 15th St.
DEPARTMENT STORES
Flisk & Loosley Co., 414-424 15th St.
Lundt & Co., Reliance Bldg., 5th Ave.
New York Store, 1521-27 5th Ave.
Patrick Mullane, 1415 6th Ave.
ELECTRIC SUPPLIES
W. A. Robb Electric Co., 1608 5th Ave.
Tri-City Electric Co., 16th St. and 3rd Ave.
FIVE AND TEN CENT STORES
R. C. Leedy & Co., 1330 5th Ave.
H. G. Lincoln & Co., 402-4-6 15th St.
F. W. Woolworth & Co., 411 15th St.

FURNITURE
East Moline Furniture Co., 714-716 15th Ave., East Moline.
Grilk Furniture Co., 1515-17 6th Ave.
John Kloppenborg, 908 15th Ave., East Moline.
Shallene Bros., 1513-15 5th Ave.
GROCERS
Benson's Market Place, 4th Ave. and 14th St.
Geo. L. Benson, 926 15th Ave., East Moline, Ill.
Rimmerman's Cash Grocery, 7th Ave. and 15th St.
Tubah & Mullane, 706 15th Ave., East Moline.
HARDWARE
C. A. Berglund, 1317-1319 5th Ave.
Moline Hardware Co., 528 15th St.
The Reid Co., 1504 3rd Ave.
Rowe Hardware Co., 824 15th Ave., East Moline.

JEWELERS
C. T. J. Delaporte, 408 15th St.
C. L. Josephson, Reliance Bldg., 5th Ave.
MEAT MARKETS
Chicago Butchers Market Co., 1519 6th Ave.
John Junce, 1520 6th Ave.
Schroeder Bros., 508 15th St.
E. W. Tilson, 621 15th St.
MILLINERY
Bon Ton Millinery Co., 1531 5th Ave.
MUSIC HOUSES
Tri-City Piano Co., 512 15th St.
Lundt & Co., Edison Department.
NEWS DEPOTS AND CIGARS
L. C. Oakley, 503 15th St.
OFFICE SUPPLIES
Carlson Bros., 417 15th St.
OPTOMETRISTS
Ramsdell Optical Co., 1332 6th Ave.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLIES
A. D. Webster.

SHOE STORES
Akin-Schwenker Co., 412 15th St.
Five Points Shoe Store, 1411 7th Ave.
A. T. Jacobson, 1423 5th Ave.
Harry Orman, 1029 15th Ave., East Moline.
Forsberg's Walk-Over Boot Shop, 413 15th St.
Rank's Shoe Store, 1422 5th Ave.
Square Deal Shoe Store, 426 15th St.
Wynes Bros., 407 15th St.
TAILORS
John A. Anderson, 314 15th St.
\$15 Smith, 507 15th St.
\$15 Smith, 838 15th Ave., East Moline.
TEAS AND COFFEE
Oriental Tea Co., 508 15th St.
Reliable Tea Co., 627 15th St.
THEATRES
The Bio.

SWITZERLAND IS DOING BIG WORK

Little War Isolated Country Handles All "Soldier Mail" For the Belligerents.

Berne, Switzerland, Jan. 29.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—There is one small postage stamp, with a black border and the single word, "decade" (dead), which represents a greater tragedy than any battle in the present war. It is the stamp used by the International mail service, conducted by the Swiss government, between the prisoners of war of all nations and their families, on letters directed to soldiers who have fallen at the front or died in hospital.

A large table is piled high with these letters, each bearing the fatal stamp "Decade." This is but one mail, and each day's mail piles the table again. They are to families in England, Germany, France, Turkey, Austria, Japan—the entire range of fighting countries—for Switzerland has taken over the entire work of administering this mail service between families and their men at the front.

For a small country it is an enormous work that Switzerland has thus assumed, bearing the entire expense without a penny's charge to anyone. Located right in the heart of the carnage, with the fighting nations on every side, Switzerland is peculiarly placed for effectively carrying on this humanitarian work. It is like the diplomatic work which the United States assumed for the different countries; but the magnitude of the work is probably greater owing to the vastness of these daily mails between all the fighting countries. And yet Switzerland does this work simply and without noise, and few know of the extent of the undertaking.

Accompanied by Secretary Breny of the postoffice department, who is in direct charge of the work, the Asso-

ciated Press representative saw its many branches of activity in full operation. Even the big general post-office of Switzerland was not adequate to carry on this international work, and the huge gymnasium was brought into service. Here the trapezes and flying rings have been looped to the side walls, along with rows of Indian clubs and dumbbells, giving a free open space for the enormous influx of soldier mail. Long trains of mail vans are at the door, and some 30 to 50 wagon loads of this mail are handled daily—letters to Bombay for Turkish prisoners there by the English, or to Nagasaki, Japan, for German prisoners held there by Japan, as well as the nearby transmission between France, Germany, England, Austria, Italy, Bulgaria, Serbia, Belgium, etc.

A great pile of German mail had just come in, and the bags were stacked up on the floor.

"Here is something curious," said one of the officials, turning to the German mail bags. "You will notice they are made of paper—yes, paper mail bags. Usually mail bags are very stout, of leather or heavy canvas. But lately we have noticed the Germans are using paper for their bags. It means a big saving on their help, and the bags are strong and serviceable."

Taking a knife, one of the paper mail bags was cut, showing great resistance. It appeared to be a new quality of paper, with fibre almost like the mesh of cloth, but unmistakably paper.

"It is remarkable," said an onlooker, "how the Germans get up a serviceable substitute as soon as they run out of any article."

"Here is another curious and significant fact," said the official in charge of the gymnasium mails. He held up a large card, a foot square, on which he had placed 21 samples of rope and twine.

"These show the ingenious substitutes the Germans are now using for ordinary rope and twine," said he.

The samples are from various mail bundles from Germany. They ranged in size from a small size rope, about one-eighth inch thick to ordinary string. None of the 21 samples had any hemp. Most of the small strings and twines had a fine inner wire, to give tensile strength, wound with paper to give an outer finish and flexibility. The heavier ropes were of paper, with strands wound together into a stout material. But the little inner wire seemed the basis of strength in these strange German substitutes for hemp rope and cord, required so enormously in ordinary business and commerce.

All about, long lines of postal employees were at work sorting the soldier mail—letters, packages and money orders—going to various countries. Many poor people mail a loaf of bread daily to the son or father away at the front or in prison. One of the wrappings of a loaf of bread had been opened and disclosed that the sender had ingeniously inserted a copy of the Paris *Matin* inside the bread. It was doubtless done without malice, the of-

OXEN USED TO DRAG BRITISH RED CROSS AMBULANCE. "MADE IN AMERICA," THROUGH SERBIAN BOGS AND CREEKS



A British and Serbian Red Cross detachment in its retreat from Serbia to Salonica across mountains and over impassable roads faced all sorts of dangers and difficulties. The ambulance, made by an American auto man who is almost violent in his opposition to war, frequently needed the help of sturdy oxen to get across streams and bad stretches of road.

officials said, by some poor mother who wanted her son to get a glimpse of the home paper. Most of the packages made one sad to see, they were so pathetic in their meagerness and yet so full of silent love. One was with a small remnant of a Christmas tree with some of the trinkets adhering. Others were packages neatly divided into small sections of chocolate, tobacco, soap and other needs and small luxuries of the men away from home.

But the most poignant branch of this busy bureau was the table heaped with letters and packages which could never be delivered, each bearing the stamp "decade." One employee was binding these letters in packages of a hundred, and there were many of these hundreds, with the incoming vans adding to them constantly. When the letters are first received, every effort is made to deliver them, but when the official record or other authoritative information shows the soldier is dead the fatal black-bordered stamp "decade" goes on the letter and it is returned to the sender. And so this stamp carries into countless homes daily the news which is a tragedy to each one of these households—the first news, for the sending of the letter showed the family thought the son or father was still alive.

"There was a strange incident about one of those letters," said the official. "The letter was sent by a mother in Germany to her son in France. Finding he was dead, the letter was re-

turned to the mother, with the stamp 'decade.' But the mother, not understanding the French word 'decade,' thought it meant the name of the town to which her son had been transferred. And so she wrote him again, and this time all the children joined in the letter, and it was addressed to his name at 'Decade, France.' Of course, there is no such place, and so again the letter went back with an explanation why it could not be delivered."

In other nearby rooms scores of male and female employees were at work on postal orders. It needed nice calculation in each case, making the exchange between French francs, German marks, English shillings, Russian roubles, Italian lira, Austrian kroners, etc. The records kept by Mr. Breny showed France was sending about five times as much to Germany as was

sent the other way, indicating more French prisoners than Germans or else more generosity. In October, for example, France sent 153,000 postal orders to French soldiers in Germany, totaling 1,681,000 francs (\$336,000), while Germany sent 34,000 orders to German soldiers in France, totaling 546,000 francs (\$110,000). Russia is also sending an exceptionally large number of money orders to her soldiers in Austria, Hungary and Germany. Since the war began over 35,000,000 francs (\$7,000,000) has been transmitted from families to soldiers imprisoned in various countries.

Mr. Breny summed up the magnitude of this work in all classes of soldier mail as follows: "Each day the Swiss postoffice receives and forwards an average of 219,984 letters and posts, 16,912 small unregistered packages, 51,897 registered packages and 8,328 postal orders—this is the daily average, on the special service of soldier mail."

And yet Switzerland, a small and not rich country, is doing this work without charge and doing it gladly; its state railways carry all this mail free of charge; all postage stamps and duties are waived; hundreds of extra postal employees are engaged in the administration, and expenditures of 20,000,000 francs (\$4,000,000) of various kind are waived—that is the way a small country is obeying a large impulse to do its share in the better part of the war's work.

PRESENT PROSPERITY ABNORMAL—BURTON

(By THEODORE BURTON.)

The abnormal conditions which prevail in the business world today and the results of the present European war have given great concern to our bankers, financiers and those charged with administering the fiscal affairs of the government. There is a general fear that, with the termination of the war, and the upheaval of both local and international commercial and financial dealings which will then ensue, there may be a period of stringency and depression somewhat approaching the panics which in former years have had such disastrous effects in the United States.

We must exert every energy at our disposal either to obviate such a result or else to soften its effects, and, so far as possible, neutralize its dangers. While it is true that we are, in this country today, enjoying a certain type of prosperity, yet that prosperity is purely artificial in its origin, and is unfortunately spotted and marked with a great deal of speculation. It is based primarily upon the exigencies of the present war and the demand of countries which are engaged in conflict for supplies necessary to its conduct. The activity along this line has very naturally made itself felt in other more or less allied industries. If, by some fortunate chance, peace were to be declared within a few weeks, we should face an immediate cessation of this unusual and unnatural industrial activity.

We must adjust ourselves gradually to this situation, and must be prepared, when that time comes, to meet the conditions which will then confront us. To successfully accomplish this end, and to protect ourselves from a financial disaster due to these conditions, we must, in the meantime, develop other lines of industry, other fields of trade, and other avenues of commerce. Indeed, to a close observer of industrial conditions, financial reports and market speculations, it seems that we have already reached the point where the demand for essential munitions of war and supplies of that description are commencing to diminish.

Over production in any line of industry is certain to lead to a period of financial depression. Crises of this nature have in the past occurred with such regularity that business men have come to expect their recurrence at intervals of about a decade apart. Indeed, some observers actually have been led to believe that they were the result of sun spots, though no one has ever demonstrated how this was possible.

While alternating periods of expanding and contracting credit are certain to produce stagnation in industrial centers, much can be done to relieve the situation by a proper preparation and comprehension of the causes. In the first place the federal reserve act of two years ago has materially improved our banking and financial legislation and by furnishing

a more elastic currency system it will do much to prevent or neutralize any money stringency in the future. There are those who feel that the termination of the European war will find the United States in a period of intense industrial depression. This need not follow, and should not follow, if our manufacturers and business houses will give proper attention to the development of industries manufacturing goods for which there will be a substantial demand from the very nature of our civilization. We should, among other things, attempt to build up a foreign trade in those sections of the world which we are qualified to supply. For instance, we have sent to South America in the past only about six per cent of our total exports. This section offers the most promising field for commercial development.

Moreover, the war has closed to us sources of supply for many of our most essential products, and we have been forced to produce in this country either these articles themselves, or satisfactory substitutes for them. By continuing this line of development, we will be able in the future to manufacture more and more the articles which we need, and in a greater sense be independent of foreign complications, and, at the same time, we will increase the diversity of our industries, and in that way diminish the chances of industrial depressions. Moreover, a careful study of conditions of production and consumption will enable us to detect more easily the warning of approaching depression, and in that way enable us to avoid the dangers of over production. While such crises cannot be entirely avoided, yet their severity can be diminished and their serious effects to a large extent avoided.

A Hundred Thousand Strong—that's the size of the army that passes every year through the factory at Niagara Falls in which Shredded Wheat is made—an army that inspects every detail in the manufacture of the cleanest, purest and best of all cereal foods. These crisp, brown, delicious little loaves of baked whole wheat have everything in them the human body needs. Try them for breakfast with hot milk or cream. Made at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Sprains and Bruises

are so common in every home that it pays to keep a good Liniment handy. Nothing better than Sloan's Liniment. It stops pain, relieves congestion, reduces swelling and does it quickly too. Just apply a few drops and the pain disappears.

Sloan's Liniment

KILLS PAIN

"Keep a bottle in your home."

Price 25c, 50c, \$1.00

Eczema Is Conquered

Greasy salves and ointments should not be applied if good clear skin is wanted. From any druggist for 25c or \$1.00 for extra large size, get a bottle of Zeno. When applied as directed, it effectively removes eczema, quickly stops itching, and heals skin troubles, also sores, burns, wounds and chafing. It penetrates, cleanses and soothes. Zeno is dependable and inexpensive. Try it, as we believe nothing you have ever used is as effective and satisfying.

Zeno, Cleveland.

