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SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1921.

The Railroad Settlement.

THE railroads owe the government something over $700,000,000 expended during the period of Federal control and operation for equipment, betterments and extensions. Such expenditures are charges against capital. They are paid from profits in some instances where profits are large. They are usually paid by issuing securities for a period representing the estimated life of usefullness of the investment. It would seem perfectly fair that the government should give the railroads the ten years agreed upon in which to pay this capital debt.

It has been agreed between the railroads and those who officially represent the government for such settlements, that the government owes the railroads $500,000,000 for losses in operating income guaranteed to them. This is a debt due in cash and now. It represents the balance due on the price agreed upon for the use of the roads during the war period. The President, Secretary of the Treasury and Federal Director General of the Railroads have reached an agreement to make this settlement. It is as if a man had rented a house for a period of years with the right to build an addition. At the end of the lease, he pays the balance due on rent account and takes the owner's notes or a mortgage for the cost of the addition.

There is nothing unusual, unfair, or one-sided in the agreement with the railroads. But if it did favor them; if it does make it financially easier for them; and if the government might offset what it owes against what it has paid for capital account and demand the $200,000,000 balance, is it the part of a government of, for and by the people, to put on the screws and demand the pound of flesh from the country' most important industry?

One thing the railroads did not do during the war—they did not profiteer. They did not take extra toll from extra high prices. They did not pile up a great surplus of war profits. Instead they were taken over by the government, who operated them in ways forbidden the railroads by law, to lower costs of operation and increase profits. Yet the government, with all this advantage in their operation as one large system regardless of separate ownership, was not able to earn enough by $800,000,000 to pay for added equipment, betterments and extensions. It was not able to earn enough by $500,000,000 to pay even the profits guaranteed by it to the railroads.

When the government was not able to do this with all the advantage it had, and fixing its own rates, are the railroads to be censured and punished for not being able to do better during the succeeding period of business depression? They have not been able to borrow money for capital charges. They have had no profits. They now ask for the profits guaranteed to them and that the government extend the time of payment for the capital investments made on their account, under a settlement reached by the official agencies. This is what Congress is asked to approve, with the further arrangement that this shall be carried out without payments from the Treasury, or any disturbance of the government's fiscal affairs.

If this settlement is approved by Congress, the roads can pay their outstanding capital debts and contract for a large amount of new equipment. They can rush needed repairs on their tracks and road beds, reopen shops and halt depreciation. None of this fund will go to the stockholders. It will go to employ labor. It will be invested in industry. It is estimated by those dissociated from the railroads, that it will give employment this fall and winter to 1,000,000 men now idle. With the repeal of the tax on freights, it will do more than anything else Congress can do, to revive business. Why repeat the story of the gentleman who watched Rome burn?

Next thing the public knows, the Senate will do its thinking out loud. As it is, much of the open expression does not carry that impression.

Self-Protection and the Square Deal.

THE United States acquired territory from Mexico by war. It is not a creditable page in the record. It got the Philippines and Porto Rico by war, but these were not lands then controlled by their own people. They were changed in sovereignty for the better. As for the rest, it came by purchase or so-called "discovery." As a truth, no lands have yet been discovered which were not already inhabited by someone. This country has tried to be fair to the Indians, but the struggle has not been overly fruitful in good results.

We had title by war to Cuba, but refused to take it, leaving it with a people far enough advanced for self-rule and near enough our shores for tutelage. Had the Philippines been as close, there might have been another story there. But if this country had a foreign policy in any complete sense, it might well be summed up as self-protection and a square deal. There has been no policy of economic preference, no effort at absorption, no extension of political control. This has not been altruism; it is but the square deal.

When, therefore, Lord Bryce says that Japan "learned about intrigue from us," he cannot include the United States. It is, however, true that Great Britain had her spheres of influence in China long ahead of Japan. France followed, with Germany, while Holland was near by, and when Japan absorbed Korea, she but made one bite of the cherry and did a complete job. Germany had Shantung first and Russia was pushing south through Manchuria, before Japan risked war.

It is well enough to say that those who will best develop a land's resources are those entitled to them. In that way came the United States. In that way has come, too, the complete division of Africa. In that way has come the advance of civilization, which is good insofar as civilization does not forget to be civilized. There have been conflicts recognized as between two forms of civilization, and it may not be quite fair to measure civilizations as good or bad wholly according to what is done with natural resources.

There are those who maintain that Korea is as advanced even under this modern standard as is Japan, though not so aggressive and less material. The Turks have a notion that their civilization is an improvement on that of the Christians, and India is not yet certain she prefers the British form. The problem may resolve itself into what is done with the lands taken from the control of their inhabitants, and what is done for those people. In this Great Britain developed the best policy, and the United States then improved upon it, and today is trying to make its policy of the square deal both between nations and toward the native populations the international policy of all governments.

Open covenants silently arrived at, saves a lot of time getting there and goes far in assuring an arrival.

Hold the Bottle's Neck.

THE Greeks are reported as intending to take Ismid. When they do, they will control a port for supplies on the Sea of Marmora. They will have a railroad back of their entire front to Konia, where their right flank rests on the hills. They will have direct rail connections with Smyrna on the Mediterranean. They have advanced about 50 miles along the railroad to Angora, Kemal's capital, forming a rather dangerous salient. Save for this and the enormous expense, it would seem the Greeks might hold this line indefinitely, and it includes the most valuable part of Asia Minor.

Yet without the interior trade, it is of little cash value to Greece, but it includes the neck of the bottle for all trade to and from all countries in the Near East and into Persia and beyond. It is this fact which is so material to the others. It is this which shapes Great Britain's policy as between the Greeks and the Turks. Even with Smyrna alone, the Greeks would have a strategic commercial position. Adding Ismid just back of Constantinople makes the control complete.

If the Greeks sit tight, the rest of the world must work out some settlement of peace and, being in possession, it is quite impossible to see how they could be denied a large measure of the fruits of victory. They are rebuilding the efficiency of these railroads, bringing up supplies and munitions and strengthening their lines. It is said that Budeny, the Cossack ally of Kemal, is near Angora. Maybe he is. But even he and his cavalry may go to the well once too often.

The Greek army is fairly well supplied with both airplanes and artillery. They have some tanks. These have all proved uncomfortable for cavalry attacks. Just now, too, any kind of supplies or munitions from the Bolshevik government is a dream. It might send troops, if the Turks could feed and munition them. But on the whole, Greece seems favored by fortune as well as to have learned from experience.

Soviets is the Russian dish which is a mixture of one part promise and nine parts starvation.

Immigration Law Enforcement.

THE new immigration law was practically a reversal of the policy of this country. The law seemed simple; its provisions are not complex; it is perfectly plain, but its administration has proved difficult. Some of these difficulties have come from newness, the lack of precedents, and the over-technical habit of mind of some of the agents empowered with the law's enforcement.

This latter cause has resulted in vexatious and almost comical incidents. It has delayed the landing of persons clearly entitled to come here. It has kept on shipboard those to whom, because of personal distinction, any disregard of their right to preference is as an indignity. Such things have given occasion for explosions from friends and their local press, which have had the noise of an outrage. It cannot but be conceded that such happenings are provoking, though they arouse little of public sympathy.

But the only serious difficulty in the administration of the law has come from the willingness, almost eagerness of the steamship companies to disregard it. In this, vessels under the Federal control are not without their share of culpability. Steerage passengers are profitable. There has always been intense rivalry in this field. It is hard for old dogs to change their habits. Other governments, also, have not sufficiently protected their own people from coming here only to be turned back. The State Department is now warning these of their obligations.

At the same time Immigration Commissioner Husband is dealing with the steamship companies. To prevent hardship to would-be immigrants, he has for a second time wiped the slate by admitting more than the monthly quotas. On their part the companies have promised to change their habits and reform their manners. If they do not, it is probable, and surely should be certain, that those who again offend will be compelled to carry back those they have carried over, free of charge, or face a black-list.

The newspapers all believe in publicity. But the kind they prefer, is at regular advertising rates.

Guessed Wrong.

IT is not safe to make guesses as to this administration. The Baltimore Sun tried it. It believed it saw a fine little crack in which to insert the thin edge of a wedge. It pictured an estrangement between the President and Senator Borah. It elaborated a lack of accord between them as to disarmament. It did a very skillful bit of work in beautifully veneered insinuation.

It could not understand why the Senator was not consulted by the President, whose "key note" had been conciliation and harmony. Yet he let estrangement grow between himself and Mr. Borah. The ink was hardly dry on this clever example of boosting along a hope, when the news story came of a two-hour conference between these two. Whatever may have been their variance of opinion, they met and parted in the spirit of good friends.

If a covenant was arrived at, or an agreement to disagree, neither has made it public, nor was the meeting held with the press boys present. It is passing strange how many secret conferences there are daily in this center of government on the Hill, at the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, in offices, at homes, around dinner tables, in cloak rooms and all sorts of places, of which the public knows nothing. It is a sad and grievous condition from which even those are not exempt who are most insistent on complete publicity of all negotiations and conferences to which they are not parties.

New York City Day By Day Impressions

By O. O. McINTYRE

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—The life of a New York dramatic critic is not so rollicking as it might appear. Of course, it is nice to have entre at all the playhouses, have your name in electric lights and on billboards indorsing plays and to wean a nubbin of a smile from box office grouches. Yet the dramatic critic must maroon himself in isolation so far as the Rialto is concerned.

If he stops to chat with a theatrical producer he has succumbed to the lure of gold. He has been "bought." Just now a scurrilous charge is being whispered. A group of dramatic critics held stock in two plays by a former critic who turned producer, and as a result the plays received superlative publicity, the story goes.

It so happens that the group lunches several times a week in the public dining room of a theatrical hotel in the west forties. They are old friends, and several other members of the literati join them. The luncheons serve as means of relaxation, and serious talk is barred. Most of the time is consumed in good-natured bantering as to who will pay the check.

The two plays in question were outstanding successes of the year. It is folly to believe that dramatic critics by an avalanche of puffery can drive the public to poor plays. Dramatic critics are carefully selected, and in all the years of New York's theatrical history only one is known to have played crooked. He is now a literary pariah, scorned in every quarter. So much so that he has sought European seclusion.

The only objection the layman might have to New York dramatic critics is the space they consume in reviewing a play. Some take a column or more to give their opinion. After all, there is virtue in the Texas editor's review. He wrote: "Last night 'Pure as Snow' was at the opera house. Many stayed to the end."

In a little club off Fifth avenue a few steps where there are private lockers with, in these latter days, big padlocks, a club member and guest visited the other afternoon. Seating themselves in deep sea going leather chairs, the host pressed the button, bringing Louis the official handy boy.

"Louis," he inquired, "can you not mix us something that will have claws and teeth in it? Yes? Well, please do so, and make one for yourself so you will take a keener interest in your work."

Louis soon brought them frosted quart-size glasses. Guest and host touched them together, wishing success to crime, and quaffed them deep. A half hour later the host was climbing a Fifth avenue traffic tower singing a sailor's ditty, and the guest was swinging to a club chandelier by his feet, barking like a German police dog. It seems that Louis had opened the wrong locker and got hold of some home brew. Louis is still missing.

A press agent for one of the classical Greek dancers, who does lyrical hop-scotches in a cheesecloth chemise with lifted knee, head thrown back and mouth agape, sends me the following blurb about her charms: "She is Debussy music in the flesh—the divine apparition, the white wonder of arms and breasts and thighs. It is as though on the aphrodisiac swell of the sea the white Anadyomene herself approached earth's shores again. Before you rises an exquisite swaying form, glistening carnation and silver and over all the maddening glow of red-gold hair. She lives again that scene in Florence when Sandro Botticelli saw Simonetta in the spring."

Whereupon, after reading, I went walking with my dog, and he barked at a cloud. I did a zephyr dance. We wer both en rapport with true art.

Horoscope For Today

What the Stars Indicate

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1921.

This day is read as most unfortunate by astrologers who find that Jupiter, Mars and Saturn are all adverse, while the Sun is benefic sway.

Men who wield power will foresee danger of war and urge preparation for it on this side of the Atlantic.

Leaders of public opinion will arise to fight the idea of disarmament, for Mars is in threatening place.

Many forces will unite to fight the influences that make for universal peace. The power of evil will gain at this time.

While there are rumors of international disputes many destructive agencies will be stimulated to activity and prohibition again will be strongly combatted.

Values of many commodities again will fall and while prices will be lower there will be a sudden caution about spending money. This will be due to causes not counted on in the early spring.

Farmers have the forecast of organization that should greatly benefit them after a time, but they may pass through a period of depression.

Taxation will be widely discussed and movements to alleviate the burdens of the middle classes will be of grave moment.

Warning is given that the spoken word of fear or despondency may do great harm, since optimism will be required, if the nation is to fulfill its best promises.

A falling off of the birthrate will be noticeable in the autumn

The exposure of sores on the body politic will continue to arouse the spirit of reform all through the autumn.

Nation-wide movements to teach the duties of citizenship will mark the coming autumn and winter, the seers declare, since it is essential that every man and woman should recognize responsibility to the State and the nation.

Persons whose birthdate it is should be cautious in association with persons of opposite sex. Business may require much attention.

Children born on this day will be generally successful in whatever they undertake and will prosper all through life, in all probability.

AMERICA SITS IN AGAIN—AS AN OBSERVER

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Open Court Letters to The Herald

The Herald has found that certain writers sign fictitious names as their own. In a few instances we find these have escaped our notice. We will hereafter require not only the name but the directory address. The Open Court must not be abused. It is for fair, impersonal, informative discussion and statement of opinion.

Tidal Basin Troubles.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

I have waited patiently for some one to come forward and answer V. E. R., under the date of July 18, in regards to the Tidal Basin Bathing Beach. If you will allow me a little space in your paper, I will state what I have learned.

The Tidal Basin Bathing Beach is under the control of the Federal government and not the D. C. government. The Federal government to make it self-supporting, leases the buildings with all privileges of the tidal basin, such as swimming, boating, ice skating and selling refreshments, subject to rules and regulations of superintendent of public buildings and grounds, to the highest bidder.

L. Gordon Leech and brother were the successful bidders and hold the contract or lease at the present time. After paying the amount of their bid they are allowed to charge a fee for checking valuables, hiring batning suits and row boats, and selling refreshments. They in turn agree to furnish a competent force of life guards, locker attendants and special officers to keep order. Where Col. C. O. Sherrill or any one person gets the power to charge a locker fee without the sanction of Congress under the present contract or lease I am at a loss to know.

Since opening the Tidal Basin Bathing Beach about three years ago, there has been plenty of material for criticism and complaint, but the idea of charging a fee for a cubbyhole into which to crush your suit, is the limit and puts to a loss the good intentions of the people who succeeded in inducing Congress to establish the present beach.

The cure for all the evils is to turn the beach at the termination of the present contract or lease over to the playground department of the D. C. government where it rightfully belongs, to be run in and for the interest of the public at large, and not the financial gain of a few.

Now, Mr. Editor, if your paper is anxious to help your readers here is one way to serve them and the public. Start a campaign of words of righteousness only to end when the public be pleased and not otherwise.

DAVIE JONES.
Jefferson School, Washington, D. C.

Urges Reward to Soldiers.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

Financial embarrassment, retrenchment, fear and inadequate faith seem luring us to the brink of ruin. Why not apply the brakes? In one instance, let the dead rest in France. Save the millions now being paid for bringing them over here. The human body is but a lump of clay. It matters not where it is deposited. The soul is sleeping and knoweth not nor has any more a part of anything done under the sun. The tender hearts and loving hands of France are doing everything that can possibly be done for our deceased heroes. To disturb the beautiful tributes paid to our heroes on her soil is little less than an insult to heroic and grateful France.

Theodore Roosevelt, one of America's greatest men, whose life and deeds from the cradle to the grave is worthy the emulation of every red-blooded American, when his son fell in battle said, let him be buried where he fell.

That being his favorite son in the opinion of the writer, hastened the demise of America's favorite citizen.

Sherman was correct. If he was not things would be different. Millions of us would not be as we are today. Due to Sherman's statement millions of soldiers of past wars are today in institutions, some in the poor house (the grave preferred); only recently a former soldier committed suicide because of insufficient means. America, the by-word of every tongue, the mightiest, the noblest, grandest, richest and most generous nation of earth. Let us get our bearings. For instance, when Scott McClellan, Hooker, Meade, Thomas, Grant and others, met the Confederate armies in mighty array, had the soldiers said to those illustrious commanders: "General, there comes your foes, we are going back home," history would have recorded a somewhat different spectacle. Today we would be running a close second to the South American republics; a new President every new moon.

General Pershing at the head of the grandest army that ever trod this old earth won laurels that will never fade. If Pershing had been told by his men, "Well, General, there is the Kaiser, you go and get him, we have other fish to fry," would the Kaiser at this time be in Holland? Not on your tin-type; the octopus would be clawing the waves Americanward. Would we have have coming to us ten billion dollars principal and one billion interest? Hardly. I wonder what we are going to do with all of this prospective income? The enlisted men of the United States army and they only made all this. Why not do a little something to reward those who are suffering for the necessaries of life?

JOHN W. JENKINS.
Late First Sergeant,
Sixth U. S. Infantry.
Washington, D. C.

He's for the Gumps.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

I want to publicly voice my approval of the "Gump cartoons" appearing daily in your paper.

Mr. Smith, the artist responsible for the cartoons, deserves credit for the remarkable wit and humor he displays in the daily lives of Andy and Minnie Gump. His lines are exceptionally clever, have a laugh in every one, and an artist capable of doing this day after day is an asset to any paper and to the community.

In Tuesday morning's Herald a communication signed "Stranger," deplores the fact that Andy has no chin, etc., which is immaterial. Whether Andy has or has not the chin to hold his pipe, he hands us a good laugh every morning, and I for one say, long live the Gump cartoons and their artist, Mr. Smith.

JAMES F. HOMER.
1101 Thirteenth street northwest.

Says Negro Gets Fair Deal.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

The race question being much discussed in the Open Court, I wish to add my views thereto. To begin will say I mean to be fair.

"Kentuckian" was only partly right when he said keep the negro in his place. He should have said, let both white and black keep their places. Some have said Africa being the habitat of the negro, he should be sent back there. I've often thought a part of the South should have been set aside for the colored people, where they were freed, which no doubt could have been done then. That's out of the question today. The negro feels, or rather thinks he isn't getting a square deal. At the same time the whites see only the mistake of their ancestors in establishing slavery in this country, which resulted in leaving the whites as caretakers for a happy-go-lucky race. I abhor the word slavery, but must say, notwithstanding the long years of bondage, if the negro will soberly contrast his position today as given him by the whites with what might have been if left in his native land, he must feel he hasn't a bad part of the deal after all.

Lots of the colored people have forged ahead until they are a credit to the country, but a majority of them, believing in having a good time, live up to their income, large or small, and then harbor the feeling they're discriminated against. If they would look around about them they would readily see the good colored people are always respected. In fact, I believe through sympathy or some such cause, they get more respect. Who are the good ones? Those who mind their own business and know and respect the color line. I'm pleased to say there's such a family living on the adjoining farm to mine. I used to advocate lynch law, and while there's cases not worthy of a higher court, happenings that have come to my own knowledge, especially one which came under my personal observation in one of the government buildings during the war, when a faithful negro employe was tempted by a girl, make me say, go slow with the hemp. The colored man is capable of filling many public offices, but for the good of everybody, his cause in particular, he will do well to keep away from political plums, which are used only for bait.

Liquor has been one of the worst stumbling blocks to the negro cause. So the negro leaders will do well to use their influence in wiping out the bootlegging among the colored.

There's lots to be done rather than standing off calling each other vile names. It being obvious to white and black there's a wide social gulf, which neither has any power over, we both will do well to keep our places.

P. F. SKINNER.
Washington, D. C.

A Brief for Spirits.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:

In answer to the very fine article by the Rev. Clovis G. Campbell, appearing in your issue of August 8, I would like to make a few remarks, basing those remarks on his quotation: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God." Dr. Campbell includes in this sentence all persons who consult mediums, calling the latter "witches," evil persons who know nothing of God.

I would like to call attention to the twelfth chapter of St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians, beginning at the first verse: "Now concerning spiritual gifts," to the fourth verse, "there are diversities of gifts, but one Spirit;" the sixth verse, "and there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh in all. For to one is given the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gift of healing by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another the discerning of Spirits; to another diverse kinds of tongues and to another the interpretation of tongues. But to all these there worketh the self-same Spirit dividing every man as He wills."

Again, in the twenty-eighth verse we find: "And God hath set in the churches first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then healing," etc.

This in answer to the Spiritual powers. Dr. Campbell can hardly call such men as Sir Oliver Lodge "fools." Sir Oliver is a very devout worshiper of God, yet he consults mediums, and says so in his lectures to very large audiences in which the clergy are very prominent listeners.

Nor can he class all mediums as witches. I myself am a medium, but I do not aspire to the title of a witch.

Christ sat in circles with His disciples and taught them to unfold their marvelous powers within. He then sent them forth to teach the truth to all men. "That the blind see, the dead live, the deaf hear, all through the spirit working through them." To some of the elect Christ retired "to an high place" and materialized the spirits of the departed, and consulted with them. Yet this same Christ said, "greater things than I do, ye shall also do."

These acts were called miracles by the ignorant minds of the day but to the initiated they are recognized as the Divine right of everyone of us who seeks to unfold. Christ has said "the last enemy to be overcome is death," and communication with our beloved dead is rapidly overcoming our last enemy.

I agree with Dr. Campbell that many false mediums exist, and that it is not good to consult with them. But that is no reason why any just man should be reviled.

JANE B. COATES,
Pastor of the Spiritual
Science Church of Christ.
1502 Fourteenth street, northwest,
Washington, D. C.

Phonograph records are used in many Catholic colleges, seminaries, convents and churches for teaching the Gregorian chants. This style of music is notably difficult for the reason that it can be taught by oral methods alone. The talking machine solves the problem.

The Herald Scientific Notes and Comment

Calendar of Meetings
Activities of Societies
In Washington

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 1921.

LOW PRODUCTION CAUSES WASTE IN INDUSTRY.

Faulty control of materials supplied to the workers of the different industries, lack of knowledge of the cost of operation, lack of research, and poor control and selection of labor are factors that cause low production in the representative industries investigated by the committee on the elimination of waste in industry of the Federated American Engineering Societies.

This committee of engineers found that the average building contractor has no calendar of operations except the dates of starting and finishing a job. He largely regulates deliveries of materials by visits to the job, or through statements received from the job superintendent. Haphazard methods of planning result in delays for want of material or in burdening the job by an oversupply of material.

The waste caused by gambling in raw materials, especially cloth, is pointed out in the report, and loss in the shoe industry caused by waiting for work and material amounts to some 35 per cent of the time.

When it comes to designing of buildings and planning for printing these are some of the possible improvements pointed out:

Standardization of the thickness of certain walls might mean a saving of some $600 in the cost of the average house. Standardized mill work, such as window frames, doors, and other similar items would reduce the cost.

There are approximately 6,000 brands of paper; 50 per cent of which are more or less inactive. The duplication of brands serves no useful purpose and ties up money in unnecessary stock.

The Federal Reserve Bank check will not cut without waste from any of the regular paper sizes. A draft questionnaire issued during the war was of such nonstandard size as to require special filing cabinets. The Technical Publishers' Association on measuring 927 catalogues found 147 different sizes. A trim of one-quarter inch on a 6x9 page is equal to 7 per cent of the total cost of the paper.

Among current magazines there are eighteen variations in width and seventy-six in length of page or column. Among trade paper publications, there are thirty-three variations in width and sixty-four in length. Among newspapers, there are sixteen in width and fifty-five in length. These variations cost the public not less than $100,000,000 each year.

The standardization of newspaper columns to one size would make possible an annual saving of $3,000,000 to $5,000,000 on composition and plates alone.

The waste of time and money through duplication of estimates and of designs in the building trades runs into the millions every year. Frequently the architect makes a general design, and for lack of knowledge of how to keep down its cost, asks all the bidders to design the structural details in order to get their quantities. Thus not only must the bidder include the cost of the design in his proposal, but he must allow, in addition, an overhead to cover the cost of various similar designs he made for unsuccessful bids. This duplication of design is waste for which owners must eventually pay.

Failure to properly plan and route work in tailoring shops wastes much time and money. Production control in shoe factories is poor, and thousands of pairs of shoes are often delayed during manufacture by congestion of operations. Average loss in clothing factories during running time is 30 to 35 per cent, and it is estimated that an increase of 20 per cent in production is possible.

"Fixing the value of annual output in the men's ready-made clothing industry at $600,000,000 it should be relatively easy to save $750,000 a day, an increase of 40 per cent in effectiveness," the report declares.

The engineers found that the majority of the industrial plants studied lacked a knowledge of costs and have no cost control. Therefore there is no adequate method of judging fairly and accurately when improvements are needed and when waste is occurring.

While certain industries are ahead of the rest in plant research, the need for more intensive research activity is apparent in every industry. One industry which is backward in this respect is clothing.

Control of labor was found to be poor in most industries, and labor turnover was found to be high. Few of the plants have employment managers and the "hiring and firing" is usually at the will of the foreman or superintendent.

This is the second of a series of articles appearing in this column giving a summary of the report on the elimination of waste in industry. The third, telling of the waste caused by interrupted production, will appear tomorrow.

BUREAU OF MINES STUDIES BLAST-FURNACE COKE.

G. St. J. Perrott, associate physical chemist of the United States Bureau of Mines Experiment Station, Pittsburgh, Pa., is to be sent to Birmingham, Ala., to study the physical properties of coke in relation to its production and use in the blast furnace. Blast furnace operators declare that there is a decided lack of knowledge regarding the physical and chemical properties of coke in producing iron ore. In the stress of wartime they found it necessary to use almost anything in the way of coke material that was offered, and, it is said, they found they could use materials that before seemed impossible. It is believed, therefore, that the investigation proposed offers a very fertile field for the obtaining of very interesting information. Conditions are very favorable for the conducting of these investigations at the Tuscaloosa Experiment Station of the Bureau of Mines, where there are quite a number of small blast furnace plants and by-product plants, many of which are ready to carry on investigating work.

Few organs or parts of the human body are inaccessible to examination by X-rays. The most remarkable advance in this line was the discovery that insoluble opaque salts can be administered to patients in such quantity as to fill the gullet, stomach and intestines, so that these hollow organs may be studied with the rays. The "opaque meal" shows their size, shape and position, and also reveals their contractile movement.