

Be the case what it may, there is no gainsaying the effect. Every farmer, every workman every clerk, every professional man, every preacher, teacher or student, every householder, every one who has had occasion to assist in making up the family budget; and to share in its proceeds, knows how increasingly difficult it has become to make a dollar go anything like as far as it went five years ago, to say nothing of ten, twenty or thirty years. To one family after another it has meant curtailment of enjoyment, the foregoing of opportunities of education or recreation, a neglect of future needs, and the claims of others for future support, the giving up of insurance policies; to many it has meant a mode of living less congenial or beneficial to that previous enjoyed, to some downright privation and hardship, to all sacrifices of one kind or another. That it could not be otherwise, where incomes or wages have not proportionately increased, actual statistics must make apparent enough

I have in my hand statistical tables and charts which have been prepared in the Department of Labour, showing relative prices of different classes of commodities during the 20 years 1890 to 1909 inclusive

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