

FARMER LOOKS FOR REDUCTIONS IN IMPLEMENT PRICES

**Resents Unwillingness of
Manufacturer to Shoulder
Share of Losses**

**Business Outlook — Large
Hamilton Plant Closes —
Demand Falls Off and
Stocks Accumulate — Im-
provement in Some Lines**

(Financial Post.)
The business horizon is still bedeviled with uncertainty. The forces of readjustment continue to be the dominant factors. Business mainly is being conducted along restricted lines, with faint glimmerings of the approach of better times in a number of cases. Developments of an adverse nature during the week have served, however, to dissipate the comfortable feeling which accompanied any indication of a possible adjustment for the better in any line. Price adjustments of both labor and commodities have still to pursue an arduous course before industry is in a position to definitely embark upon a period of sustained activity.

The closing of a large Hamilton concern engaged in the manufacture of farm implements has been a significant development of the week. For some little time complaints have emanated from the farming community that the implement manufacturers were not conforming to the trend of the times and were bolstering prices at war-time levels or even higher. The farmer points out that he has been forced to take losses on his products. Therefore he entertains a feeling of resentment against those manufacturers who seem unwilling to shoulder their share of losses during the readjustment era. The reasons assigned for their action by the Hamilton company are to the effect that the farmer is not buying that he is keeping his old machinery in service as long as possible, with the hope that when he is forced to buy prices will have been reduced very materially. In the meantime stocks have accumulated in the company's warehouse to such a degree that demand can be supplied for some time to come.

Reports from implement agents do not coincide with the statement of the company. It is evident, from these outside representatives that the demand for implements have been higher this year to date than for the corresponding period of the previous year, one agent even declaring that his sales were in excess by twenty-five per cent. The individual agent has, however, to concentrate greater energy in his selling force, and evidently his extra effort has been attended by very satisfactory results.

Both manufacturers and dealers are overstocked and the former will undoubtedly experience dull times until the surplus is absorbed.

Reductions Are Minor.
The indisputable fact remains, however, that the price reductions in farm equipment have been of a very minor character so far, and a number of articles are even selling at the top level. The manufacturers point out that the chief obstacle in the way of price reductions is the fact that owing to the extent of their operations they have been forced to buy materials in advance, and the stocks now on hand have been bought at the high prices prevailing some months ago. It is evident, however, that there is a disposition on the part of the farming community to resent this attitude, and it is doubtful whether companies can ultimately escape loss through a persistent adherence to the policy that has been laid down.

Better Auto Outlook.
One bright ray that has made its way through the obscurity on the business horizon is the announcement that automobile factories are taking on more men and are increasing production. While output, of course, has not as yet attained anything like normal, the fact that these companies have orders on hand of such volume as to necessitate increasing output is a favorable indication. With output sharply curtailed for a number of months there is little doubt that the accumulated stocks have been largely liquidated. There has been a decided revival in demand from the rural sections of the country for motor cars, and according to

reports the supply with the agents is wholly inadequate to supply the demand. It is stated that in the summer centres of Ontario agencies have been forced to refuse the orders of farmers because of their inability to secure delivery of cars, or have given promises of delivery in two, three or four months.

The tire companies, too, are making preparations for increased production. Demand for automobile rubber accessories has revived with an energy this spring, which augurs well for the future. One Toronto firm, according to reports, has found it necessary to extend its working day from eight to ten hours in order to keep up with the demand.

In Clothing Trades.
In the clothing trades the manufacturing concerns are receiving an increased volume of orders and production is being speeded up. The wholesale trade is making a determined effort not only to maintain the present volume of business, but to increase it for the balance of the year, and to this end, have larger sales forces on the road than ever before. This is a natural outcome of the times, when increasing competition renders it imperative that each individual firm apply more energy and ability in negotiating sales than during the period recently ended when orders came in almost without solicitation.

The same rule applies to practically every branch of industry. There is little doubt that from now on industry in all its phases will be subjected to the most rigid competition, and it is the duty of the individual enterprise, therefore, to meet the altered conditions by constructing additional selling force, and adopting new selling plans.

In many lines the process of liquidating stocks is still being carried on. Illustrating this movement, the tendency on the part of the firms handling steel, iron and small tools and various lines of steel equipment is to clear out stocks in order to be ready to take advantage of any new market standards that are coming out from time to time. It is reported that a number of warehouses are acting as commission merchants, so that with factories making immediate deliveries they may send orders direct to the consumers, instead of putting in stock for the purposes of filling them. This is an indication that stocks in many lines are being reduced to the smallest possible margin, and that there must be considerable buying for purposes of replenishment when a buying movement of ample proportions materializes. The downward price movements differ in momentum. The general tendency is still downward, but complete readjustment is being delayed until the cost of labor has been materially reduced.

LOCAL NEWS

Large variety of ladies' shirt waists and middie from \$1.98 up, at Bassett's, Charlotte St. (n-a)

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, 919, regular meeting tonight (Wednesday) at 8 p. m.

Don't miss the spring sale at Brager's, Union street. See large ad. page 8. 4-14

J. S. Gibbon & Co. have all sizes of hard coal. M. 2885 or 594. 1-23 tf

Five Roses Flour, J. E. Cowan 90 Main St. 5-1.

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Great auction sale at Arnold's Department Store, 90 Charlotte street, every evening this week. 4-18

Klenzol removes grease and dirt from your hands.

Don't miss the spring sale at Brager's, Union street. See large ad. page 8. 4-14

La Tour Dining Room, excellent home cooking; meals, 60c, ten tickets \$6. King Square. 8-14

Fare tonight, 'Prentice Boys' Hall, West St. John. 24731-4-13

Don't miss the spring sale at Brager's, Union street. See large ad. page 8. 4-14

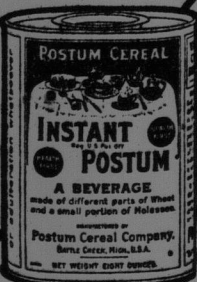
REORGANIZE CONSULAR SYSTEM
Mexico City, March 30.—(A. P. by mail.)—Complete reorganization of the Mexican consular system has been ordered with Ramon P. Deneget, former consul general in New York, in charge of the work. Senor Deneget told newspapermen that the least twenty-five per cent. of the consular body will be removed for inefficiency.

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arise from improper feeding, and it is important that mothers should understand that baby will thrive best if fed in the natural way—at the breast. This will not be so difficult of accomplishment if the prospective mother includes in her daily food a bowlful of Neave's Health Diet. But there are very many cases when the baby cannot be breast-fed, and then an important decision has to be made—"Which food shall we give our baby?"

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ACCEPTED OFFICE AGAINST HIS WILL

**New Prussian Premier, Stegerwald, Rose From Ranks
of Poor People**

Berlin, April 12.—Much against his will, the Centrist leader, Adam Stegerwald, has been elected Prussian prime minister by 382 out of 388 votes. Herr Stegerwald accepted only because otherwise it would have been impossible to form a working cabinet, as the Socialists obstinately refuse to co-operate with the Deutsche Volkspartei.

Though the old coalition of Centrists, Democrats and Socialists still had a bare parliamentary majority, there was danger of a number of Centrists according to important question and exposing the Coalition government to defeat.

Stegerwald, who was prime minister of public welfare in the late Prussian cabinet, and, as such, made the best of his difficult job, as was admitted by all parties, will have a free hand, it being understood, however, that the Socialists minister of the interior, Severing, who successfully suppressed the recent Bolshevik rising with his own hands.

The new premier will not have an easy task, for the Socialists and the reactionaries of the Deutsche Volkspartei will fight with him in the process of becoming a member of certain candidates whose names have been mentioned.

Son of Poor Parents.
The Prussian parliament, for so long the proud preserve of the Junkers, has chosen a self-made man for its new premier. Herr Stegerwald, who received the votes of all parties with the exception of the Communists and a few independent members, is the son of a poor peasant and was born in a small village in South Germany and apprenticed to a woodworker. While working as a journeyman he educated himself, and the son of poor parents, even managed to take a course of political economy in a Munich university. Later he became first secretary of the Union of Woodworkers and devoted several years trying to organize a labor party based on Christian principles.

When the war came, Stegerwald associated himself with the self-sacrifice and towards the end was called into the Prussian ministry of food, afterwards becoming first minister of the national welfare department, which was inaugurated after the revolution. His task now is to form a provisional business government.

BOLSHIEVSKI AND THE CHILDREN

**They Have Stolen Their
Minds, Say Gen. Wrangel's
Wife—Girls Dead Morally**

Constantinople, March 24.—(Associated Press by Mail.)—The Baroness Wrangel, wife of the general who commanded the anti-Bolshevik army in Southern Russia until its defeat and collapse, declares that the "demoralization of our boys and girls, the next generation of Russians, is the greatest tragedy of the Bolshevik nightmare. They have stolen the minds of our children."

Abundant evidence from trustworthy sources among the vast Russian refugee colony here is available on this subject. "Our girls are dead, morally," is a phrase in a letter dated a month ago, received here from Moscow, smuggled out by way of Reval, written by a woman to her nephew in Wrangel's army. "I am kept alive only by the hope of seeing you again. Never return here with your children. If they survive famine and disease, the Bolsheviks will make animals of them."

One of the demands of the revolting workmen in Moscow and other cities has been that the Communist education of children be abandoned.

Bela Kun, who in Budapest attempted to give the children of the very poor special playgrounds and introduce in a measure methods well known in the United States, has tried to organize the villas and palaces of the Crimea into rest houses and hospitals for children. Recently a Crimean wireless requested help from the American Red Cross for this purpose.

FORBID MOSLEM WOMEN APPEARING ON STAGE

Constantinople, March 25.—(A. P. by mail.)—The appearance recently of a number of Turkish women on the stage has resulted in an order by the Sheikh-ul-Islam, the religious chief, to the police to forbid women of the Moslem faith from appearing on the boards.

AUSTRALIAN WOMAN M. P.
Melbourne, April 13.—The West Australian elections resulted in Labor obtaining eighteen votes, the Country party seventeen and the Nationalists fifteen. The first woman to be elected to parliament was Mrs. Cowan, who defeated Attorney General Draper.

THE ELECTRIC HOME MARVEL OF SCIENCE

**Twenty-Two Minutes From
Broadway Wonderful Es-
tablishment is on Exhibition
—is a "Servantless" House**

(N. Y. Times.)
Olga and Katinka may disappear and the dusky Euphrosina and Petronella also may follow in the footsteps of the already departed Maggies and Gatties, but the home need not necessarily cease to exist. The electric home, for everybody won't have to live in hotels. Electricity and ingenuity will supply the deficiencies.

Twenty-two minutes from Broadway out at Jackson Heights, a small apartment has just been fitted up with various practical electrical appliances. The apartment is on exhibition. To the woman who has not kept in close touch with up-to-date housekeeping methods, this servantless apartment is a revelation. It has everything electric except the canary bird and the janitor.

There are no washbasins in the servantless home, still less a regular laundry with wringer and other paraphernalia. A compact electric washing machine washes, rinses and wrings—and does everything but dry the clothes. Dishes are placed in racks in a dish-washing machine, which, after washing, rinses them in hot water. They are not dried, thus eliminating handling and the expense of dish towels. An electric fireless cooker supplements, or is a substitute for, the electric range, which has all the latest fixings. Several degrees of heat are obtained with less effort than would be exerted in striking a key of the piano. Its oven space is at a convenient height to avoid stooping, but the general attribute of this stove is the fact that, no matter what is spilled on the little red-hot coils in the round plates over which things are cooked, no damage is done. A cup of cocoa spilled on the first day of the exhibition simply cost the opening, as it were, and was left no trace. Nothing could be more satisfactory from the housekeeper's viewpoint.

A wondrous utopia, looking like a great deep saucepan, suspended from nothing, and resembling an oversize edition of the milk platon mixer one sees in drug stores, is used for mixing bread or cake, or for creaming up mayonnaise dressing. An attachment turns it into a meat, vegetable, fruit or nut chopper. The vacuum cleaner has suction and brush action—sort of high and low geared.

The exterior of the ice box has a familiar look, with its white enamel and nickel trim, but inside it is something else. Little square patty pans are filled with ice cubes, and the ice is used in the square cakes of it, servicable for the pitcher or the celery or olive dish. How electricity can freeze water is not for the unscientific woman's mind, but it has something to do with several yards of neatly coiled, bronze-colored tubes in the top of the ice-box region.

In the servantless kitchen, as in the other rooms of the apartment, there has been no effort to select any one kind of equipment. Each article has been put in because it has the latest improvements, some new wrinkle. A Baptist minister is said to have invented the so little and the not a little, and the growth of the old branching towel arms used in many kitchens. The minister's purpose was to have all the arms parallel in the ceiling, and the drier worked by little line and pulley, so it could be brought down and filled, and then elevated to the ceiling. The apartment manager put in one to gratify the inventor's enthusiasm, and now every family in the place has to have it.

The children in the nursery have a miniature copy of mother's range and a tiny washing machine for dolly's clothes. This range, ten inches wide, cooks, and the tiny washer washes, and the youngsters think it's great fun. They push the plugs in and pull them out with glee, not knowing that they are learning to become housekeepers. A tiny electric iron does a good job on dolly's ruffled petticoats, and the low table and shelves help to make it a pleasant place in which to play. An electrically operated railroad with real train and tracks 'n' everything, is one of the favorite toys in the nursery. A small bear, the baby's middle-of-the-night lunch are among the comforts of the nursery.

In the living room, the electric stove is in favor for afternoon tea, and, while the guests drink it, baby displays her skill on the electric piano-plot.

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utensils are good for diningroom cooking—electric grills, chafing dishes, little dome-shaped things on which may be cooked whole small chickens. There are fifty glass and nickel contrivances for whipping cream or small quantities of dressing; toasters, waffle irons and coffee-making machines galore.

In mother's room the sewing machine is particularly appealing. When closed it looks exactly like a well-proportioned and well-made sewing table, with four slender legs and several shallow drawers. The front swings to the left, on hinges, and the machine moves up for action, leaving the entire space under the table free for comfort in sitting.

The guest room electric iron has a new wrinkle—two, in fact. It has a little opening, wherein the curling iron fits. This is appreciated by travelers. Those who have scorched bureau or table-top in hotels or guest rooms in trying to press the creases out of something or other will like the hinged wooden box which folds back to form a little stand for the iron. The box is a croton covered, with drawers at the ends. In traveling, the boxed iron will not protrude through the end of a light trunk, as a loose iron might.

Dainty electric thermos boudoir sets, with chubby bottles in pale pinks or blues, and shiny trays and glasses are in bed and guest rooms; electric marcel wavers for one's tresses, vibrators and violet ray outfits for home beautifying, electric heating pads, and even an electric incense burner, and, of course, electric heaters when one's room is a bit too cool and fans when it is a bit too warm.

There are no backyards or division fences in the space behind these new-style apartments. Green grass and shrubs, with flowers added, are in the rear.

The officials of the corporation responsible for the apartment electric say they have the only co-operative apartment project which offers a private community golf course, children's playgrounds for the very little and the not so little, and tennis courts among its attractions. There is a club, too, with card parties and weekly dances to help along the community spirit, not to mention a community church, which, while it carries the words Methodist Episcopal on its front, is being used by half a dozen denominations. There is also a Roman Catholic church.

Mrs. Mary Hope Norris did all the real work of assembling the interior of the electric apartments, furniture, furnishings, hangings, &c., down to the selection and purchase of even the children's toys.

PAINTER FOOLED FRENCH DEALERS

**Artist's Pictures Boomed
While He Was in Mad-
house — Recovery Ruined
Plot**

Paris, April 12.—Utrillo, released from the madhouse, is painting better pictures than ever. This is the news that came two weeks ago to upset one of the best little pieces of picture dealing Paris has ever known.

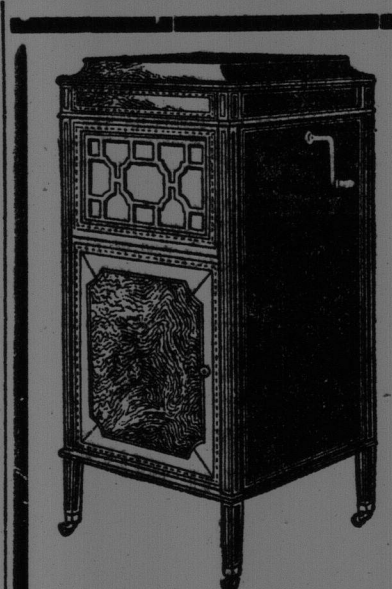
Utrillo was a young modernist painter of great talent who attracted the notice of the shrewdest Parisian art dealers a few years ago. Quietly they began buying his works—often getting fine canvas for no more than the price of a meal. Suddenly, eighteen months ago, the high-strung brain of the artist, who from the first was affected by brooding fits of melancholy, gave way completely under the pressure of overwork and semi-starvation. He disappeared into a private asylum, which physicians declared he would leave only in a coffin.

Immediately art dealers, secure in the knowledge that they had "cornered" the artist's best work, began an Utrillo boom. From fifty to 100 francs, the price of his pictures mounted steadily to 6,000. They were bid for eagerly at the best sales and occupied the best place in the showrooms of the galleries.

But once again the doctors had spoken too hastily and now Utrillo is back in his Latin quarter studio hard at work. True, he is under the care of a male nurse, but pictures he has already sold for 500 francs—a far better price than anything he ever received himself before—challenge comparison with the best of his early work. The dealers are in despair, but can do nothing.

NEW RAILWAY BETWEEN CHILE AND ARGENTINE

Buenos Aires, March 21.—(A. P. by mail.)—The first rail has just been placed on the new international railway that is eventually to connect the Argentine city of Salta with the seacoast of Chile, thus realigning to a certain extent the trade routes of Argentina and Chile. The Argentine section of the road is being built from Salta to Huastiquina, a place in the Andes on the frontier of Chile, while the Chilean section probably will



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be constructed either to Antofagasta or Mejillones. In Argentina, construction is being done by the state railways. Construction in Chile is not yet definitely provided for.

The Argentine half of the road is approximately 475 kilometers long. As a part of the work 6,000 meters of hard rock tunneling will have to be done.

HUGE FRENCH PAYROLL

Five Billion Francs Paid to State Servants Yearly.

Paris, April 13.—One person is twenty-seven in France is either guarding or governing the other twenty-six men, women and children, according to parliamentary figures.

The military force of about 770,000 is reinforced on the government's payroll by a civil army of 700,000 functionaries. These civil rulers and their office forces have been so multiplied during and since the war and their salaries have been so increased that the public payroll for 1921 is fixed in the budget at \$4,829,000,000 francs. If one adds to this list the wages of the 500,000 railroad employees on the state lines, the payroll now is about 5,000,000,000 francs or the equivalent, roughly, of the entire pre-war budget.

POSTPONE ERECTION OF NEW WIRELESS STATION

Stockholm, March 27.—(A. P. by mail.)—The building by the Swedish government of the contemplated high-power wireless station in Sweden for wireless communication with America has been postponed owing to the general economic depression.



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