

WAGES FALL FAR MORE THAN PRICES

Where Workers Are Organized Fare Better in Struggle.

The relative lowness with which retail food prices are declining, as compared with the fairly rapid fall in the wholesale prices and the slashing of wages, particularly in industries where the workers have no union organizations to protect them, indicates that so far as food "deflation" process is working out to the disadvantage of the laboring classes.

Statistics issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, show that retail food prices had fallen off only 2 1/2 per cent in November, as compared with October, although the wholesale price figures, issued earlier in the week, had shown a considerably greater decline, and farm products had fallen more yet.

Wages, however, had probably fallen more than anything else, on the whole. In the automobile industry, largely unorganized, the number of men employed during November was reduced 11.2 per cent, but the wages declined 31.2 per cent. The reduction in wages, according to the figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, has been from about \$17 to \$12 weekly, a loss of \$5 per week. The relief afforded by a decline of 2 1/2 per cent in the food budget, assuming that food constituted one-third the budget, is the \$17 rate, would amount to about \$2 cents. Assuming that all other items in the family budget, were similarly reduced, which does not follow—some items, having risen—the reduction in the size of the budget would be only about 84 cents. In other words, the reduction in wages is eight times as great as the reduction in living costs.

Reductions of 10 to 25 per cent have been made in wages in many industries of late, but in organized industries reductions have seldom exceeded 10 per cent. In the price of pork chops and rice of 12 per cent each; corn meal and onions, 9 per cent each; navy beans, 8 per cent; sugar, 6 per cent; flour, 5 per cent; round steak, ham and oranges, 5 per cent each, and smaller declines in other commodities. Eggs, however, ever increased 7 per cent, and there were other products that advanced.

Decrease of 1 Per Cent. Since November, 1919, there has been for the country as a whole a decrease of 1 per cent in retail food costs, the bureau announces.

The deflation process is making its most evident in the case of farm products, with clothing next in line, according to the bureau.

Since November, 1919, farm products as a whole, are 21 per cent, with cloth and clothing next, showing a decline of 25 per cent. Foodstuffs have declined about 10 per cent, but "luxury" items, such as fur, grain exchange and other luxuries for the rapid vanishing of value in their products. The reduction in the clothing industry has been brought about by the refusal or inability of the public, after an orgy of profligating by clothing merchants, to pay exorbitant prices.

Some Increases Shown. Increases, however, are shown, as compared with last November, in the other groups of commodities. Metals and metal products have advanced 3.65 per cent, much larger increases have been recorded in building materials, and house furnishings, goods and fuel and lighting materials have advanced 4.4 per cent. The statistics indicate that merchants and dealers generally have been able to protect themselves thus far from losses in the deflation process by throwing their largely upon the producers.

As compared with October of this year, building materials showed a considerable recession, dropping 12 1/2 per cent. Farm products dropped 9 1/4 per cent; cloth and clothing 9 1/2 per cent; fuel and lighting materials, 8 1/2 per cent, and metals and metal products 7 1/2 per cent. For all commodities, however, prices at wholesale showed a decline of 8 per cent, from October and of 24 per cent, from the high mark of May.

FOREWARNED. An old ducky miller announced that he had introduced an automatic collection basket, which would be passed around by the deacons of his church.

"It is so arranged, my brethren," said he, "that if you drop a quart or half gallon, it falls noiselessly on a red plush cushion; if you drop in a nickel, it will ring a bell; and if you drop a dime, it will ring a bell; but if you drop a button, my brethren, it will fish off a pistol."—Pittsburg Press.

It is impossible, in an average large industry, for the employer to keep in intimate personal contact with every one of his employees. — Tom Moore.

TOM MOORE EXPLAINS HIS VIEWS ON UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Reduce the Hours of Work and Keep Full Staff at Work—Charity Destroys the Independence of Those Who Receive it.

Tom Moore, president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada, who delivered his first address in Retnew in the Temperance Hall Tuesday night, devoted the most of the time to a discussion of the topic of unemployment insurance, which has provided a theme for considerable editorial criticism in the daily press all over Canada. Mr. Moore claims that his views have been misrepresented and those who heard him Tuesday night after reading the reports of and comments upon his speeches in the daily papers are likely to agree that his complaint is justified, says the Retnew Mercury.

Mr. Moore makes it clear that he realizes that the proposition is a big problem. He does not, however, propose a plan, or a series of newspaper articles, by which a man could abstain from labor and claim wages during his idleness. He asserts that the fundamental principle of such an enactment would be the elimination of non-employment. Men would be kept at work instead of being reduced to involuntary suffering or having their independence and self-respect destroyed by the doing of charity.

Referring to the present scarcity of employment, Mr. Moore, who recently saw the bread line in Toronto, men shivering while they were closed down because it is said that there are too many shoes. Yet the life workers, otherwise there would have been a revolution. Men who had risked their lives in the war and who came back believing in the promise that the world would be better for the sacrifices they had made were denied even food and shelter, for there were hundreds of such cases in Canada today.

It has been said that there are more small savings accounts in the banks today than there were before. In 1917 the Government at Ottawa had issued a statement to the effect that every wage-earner was entitled to enough to live on and to save something for old age. Is it right that they should be asked to save their savings while still able to work and then face again that horror of a poverty stricken old age?

We have been told repeatedly that old age pensions and unemployment insurance is not needed here in a country in which there are so many opportunities as in Canada, but this problem has not been solved. The old methods of handling it have been proved failures. Money will be handed-out in charity doles to dependent old people and those who receive it. Increasing the hours of labor in the factories and reducing wages in proportion will not relieve the situation.

Mr. Moore suggested that a more logical plan would be to reduce the hours of labor and keep all the force at work. Municipalities can dig new sewers and engage in other public works. The Provincial Government can do the same by building roads. It has already been suggested to not men at work clearing the land half a mile on each side of the road. O. K. Railways will not only keep men at work but the wood cut can be shipped east to relieve the fuel situation.

The Dominion Government is beginning to realize its responsibility in this matter. It riots over the Government's failure to preserve order and Mr. Moore does not blame the authorities for upholding the dignity of the state. He would like to see the Government suppress trouble they should also see it to prevent it. When the Government cannot provide work for a man then the latter should be preserved from want just as he is under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

Unemployment Insurance Fund. With regard to raising a fund for the payment of unemployment insurance Mr. Moore's idea is to have the employer pay a tax just as he does in the case of the workmen's compensation, this to be supplemented by grants from the Dominion and Provincial Governments. There should be an allowance made for under employment as well. A man not allowed full time should receive 75 per cent of his normal wages. Mr. Moore admits that the problem is a difficult one to work out in detail but maintains that Canada is rich enough to afford a living to its citizens. But this cannot be done so long as there are conflicting forces. Capital is thoroughly organized, the workers partially so. What is to be the position in the future?

It is no use for employers to say to their workers that they shall not organize or to discriminate against union labor. It is not right for organized workers to use their power unfairly. He does not believe that labor on a whole has done that. There are, it is true, extremists among them, but these are extremists among the employers, but the latter have not been advertised as have the others. There must be co-operation and confidence between the employers and their men. What virtue is there in urging the men to produce more when the right to produce is denied them? If there was more discussion between the

two parties there would be less friction and suspicion. The Eight Hour Day. The employers claimed that the eight hour day was impracticable on account of the production required to repair the wreckage of war. Yet all the countries that have suffered most in the conflict, France, Belgium, Italy and Britain, had adopted the shorter day and have recovered. They are flooding the English market with German goods and some of these are finding their way to Canada. Yet we who have the most up-to-date machinery, the finest type of men, employees or workers, are told we must work longer hours.

Let no man. Labor is asking now for unemployment insurance and old age pensions, for laws to protect women in industry and for the protection of the unborn child. The proposed Maternity Act will prohibit the employment of a woman six weeks before and after the birth of her child and will provide a fund to help her if she needs it. Labor also insists upon one day's rest in seven for every worker for no man can toil seven days a week and have a broad conception of life or a true idea of his duty as a citizen.

Let no man. Labor is asking now for unemployment insurance and old age pensions, for laws to protect women in industry and for the protection of the unborn child. The proposed Maternity Act will prohibit the employment of a woman six weeks before and after the birth of her child and will provide a fund to help her if she needs it. Labor also insists upon one day's rest in seven for every worker for no man can toil seven days a week and have a broad conception of life or a true idea of his duty as a citizen.

longer, in order to attend the meeting of the governing body. It will be remembered that the governing body of the International Labor Organization consists of 24 members, 12 representing different Governments and the remaining 12 being equally divided between employers and employees. Mr. P. M. Draper is the member designated to represent labor from Canada, but he will not attend the meeting this year. He will be represented by H. J. Halford, of Hamilton, Ontario, vice-president of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

Industrial Autocracy Menace to Civilization. The benevolent motives pleaded by the great steel makers of America in their determination to prevent the organization of their hundreds of thousands of working men are once more placed in a withering light, says the New York World in its editorial comment on revelations by the building trust probe. "When manufacturers undertake

to dictate the particular kind of labor that purchasers of their products shall employ they have but one step to take before limiting builders and owners as to their use and occupancy of their properties. Aside from the intolerable tyranny of this situation as respects capital, labor and housing in New York, the attitude of the steel makers condemns everything charged against them last year at the time of the strike and since substantiated by the report of the interchurch committee. "Thus the existence of an industrial autocracy which defies congresses and senate presidents easily becomes a menace to great possessions far removed from its thundering mills and equalled camps of imported labor. At great cost it suppresses the effort of its employees to better working conditions."

NOVA SCOTIA STEEL & COAL COMPANY LIMITED. New Glasgow, Nova Scotia. Western Steel Sales Office Room 14, Windsor Hotel, Montreal.

SHERWOOD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED. General Contractors. Harbor Commissioners' Building TORONTO.

DOMINION DRESS MANUFACTURING Co. Manufacturers of LADIES' DRESSES ONLY. New Wilder's Building MONTREAL 323 Biscay Street.

The News Pulp & Paper Co. Limited MANUFACTURERS OF PULP AND PAPER MONTREAL, QUE.

Insist on GOOYEAR WELTS When Purchasing Your FOOTWEAR

ST. MAURICE PAPER COMPANY, LTD. BOARD OF TRADE BLDG.—MONTREAL. MANUFACTURERS OF GROUND WOOD LUMBER SULPHITE and KRAFT PULP NEWSPRINT PAPER CLAPBOARDS SHINGLES MILLS AT Cape Madeleine—Three Rivers—Charlemagne St. Gabriel de Brandon—Montreal.

Try The Slater Shoe. There is but one "Slater Shoe." The sole indication of a shoe is indicated by three words in a slate frame "THE SLATER SHOE"

STEAM COAL CENTURY COAL COMPANY, LIMITED 310 Dominion Express Bldg. MONTREAL.

For Soup or a Vegetable Cheaper than Canned Peas. Tender & Tasty. Canadian Grown.

FINEST GREEN PEAS HAL BRAND. ALL DIRECTIONS ON BOX.

It's On Sale Everywhere. The Frontenac Breweries, Limited MONTREAL.

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

Everybody Smokes OLD CHUM



Canada's Favorite Pipe Tobacco.

CHRISTIE AND HALFORD TO REPRESENT CANADA

Governing Body of International Labor Office to Meet Soon.

The Government has appointed Mr. Loring Christie, legal advisor of the Department of External Affairs, to represent the Dominion Government at the meeting of the governing body of the International Labor Organization, which takes place in Geneva on Jan. 11.

MANY CLAIMS OF U. S. RAILWAY WORKERS WILL NEVER BE HEARD.

The act of John Barton Payne, while Director-General of Railroads, in dissolving the labor adjustment boards operating among railroad employees, is characterized by Labor, the organ of the railroad brotherhood, as "highly technical and illogical." One board, representing operating employees, is dissolved as of February 15, 1920, and the others as of January 15, 1920.

The Hamilton Bridge Works Company Limited

HAMILTON, ONT.

BLISS NATIVE HERBS

Over One Million Tablets Taken Daily.

For Liver, Kidneys, CONSTIPATION, NERVOUSNESS, Sleeplessness

NO CALOMEL OR HARSH PURGING DRUG. MADE FROM ROOTS, HERBS AND BARKS ONLY. MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE IN EACH BOX.

FEDERAL ASBESTOS CO.

Mines at ROBERTSONVILLE, Que. EXECUTIVE OFFICES: Dominion Express Building, 145 ST. JAMES STREET. MONTREAL-CANADA.

Constipation, health's worst enemy, can be easily conquered with "RIGA"

Purgative Water, which acts mildly, yet surely, without causing colic, cramps or weakness. On Sale Everywhere. 25c Per Bottle. Try It Today. RIGA PURGATIVE WATER CO. MONTREAL.

WARDEN KING, Limited

Founded 1852. Incorporated 1907. Manufacturers of "Daisy" and Viking Boilers. Heating Radiators, Screwed and Flanged Fittings. Soil Pipe and Fittings, Stable Fittings and General Jobbing Castings. MONTREAL. Branch: 126 Simcoe Street, Toronto.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS

WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S

Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

INDUSTRIAL AUTOCRACY MENACE TO CIVILIZATION.

The benevolent motives pleaded by the great steel makers of America in their determination to prevent the organization of their hundreds of thousands of working men are once more placed in a withering light, says the New York World in its editorial comment on revelations by the building trust probe. "When manufacturers undertake

STEEL AND IRON PRODUCTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

From Ore Mines to Export. The Steel Company of Canada LIMITED. HAMILTON. MONTREAL.

EKERS ALES and PORTER

THE NATIONAL BREWERIES LIMITED. J. P. Anglin, B.Sc., President. H. J. Gross, Vice-Pres. & Treas. C. D. Harrington, B.Sc., Vice-Pres. & Manager.

ANGLIN-NORCROSS, Limited

CONTRACTING ENGINEERS AND BUILDERS 65 Victoria Street, Montreal. Our Operations include Banks, Public Buildings, Office Buildings, Re-inforced Concrete Construction, Industrial Plants, Factories, Warehouses, Schools, Etc. Call or write for preliminary estimates. Uptown 2640.

Try Frontenac INDIA PALE ALE

The Good Old English Type. It's good ale, well brewed in a special department of the celebrated Frontenac Breweries, by a master of the art, who has been successful in combining in this brew the fullness, winey and snappy hoppy taste, with the creamy and full-mouthed qualities that have made the good ales of Old England so popular the world over.

It's On Sale Everywhere. The Frontenac Breweries, Limited MONTREAL.

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

STEAM COAL CENTURY COAL COMPANY, LIMITED

310 Dominion Express Bldg. MONTREAL.

For Soup or a Vegetable

Cheaper than Canned Peas. Tender & Tasty. Canadian Grown.

FINEST GREEN PEAS HAL BRAND

ALL DIRECTIONS ON BOX. It's On Sale Everywhere.

The Frontenac Breweries, Limited MONTREAL.

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

CHRISTIE AND HALFORD TO REPRESENT CANADA

Governing Body of International Labor Office to Meet Soon.

The Government has appointed Mr. Loring Christie, legal advisor of the Department of External Affairs, to represent the Dominion Government at the meeting of the governing body of the International Labor Organization, which takes place in Geneva on Jan. 11.

MANY CLAIMS OF U. S. RAILWAY WORKERS WILL NEVER BE HEARD.

The act of John Barton Payne, while Director-General of Railroads, in dissolving the labor adjustment boards operating among railroad employees, is characterized by Labor, the organ of the railroad brotherhood, as "highly technical and illogical." One board, representing operating employees, is dissolved as of February 15, 1920, and the others as of January 15, 1920.

The Hamilton Bridge Works Company Limited

HAMILTON, ONT.

BLISS NATIVE HERBS

Over One Million Tablets Taken Daily.

For Liver, Kidneys, CONSTIPATION, NERVOUSNESS, Sleeplessness

NO CALOMEL OR HARSH PURGING DRUG. MADE FROM ROOTS, HERBS AND BARKS ONLY. MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE IN EACH BOX.

FEDERAL ASBESTOS CO.

Mines at ROBERTSONVILLE, Que. EXECUTIVE OFFICES: Dominion Express Building, 145 ST. JAMES STREET. MONTREAL-CANADA.

Constipation, health's worst enemy, can be easily conquered with "RIGA"

Purgative Water, which acts mildly, yet surely, without causing colic, cramps or weakness. On Sale Everywhere. 25c Per Bottle. Try It Today. RIGA PURGATIVE WATER CO. MONTREAL.

WARDEN KING, Limited

Founded 1852. Incorporated 1907. Manufacturers of "Daisy" and Viking Boilers. Heating Radiators, Screwed and Flanged Fittings. Soil Pipe and Fittings, Stable Fittings and General Jobbing Castings. MONTREAL. Branch: 126 Simcoe Street, Toronto.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS

WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S

Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

INDUSTRIAL AUTOCRACY MENACE TO CIVILIZATION.

The benevolent motives pleaded by the great steel makers of America in their determination to prevent the organization of their hundreds of thousands of working men are once more placed in a withering light, says the New York World in its editorial comment on revelations by the building trust probe. "When manufacturers undertake

STEEL AND IRON PRODUCTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

From Ore Mines to Export. The Steel Company of Canada LIMITED. HAMILTON. MONTREAL.

EKERS ALES and PORTER

THE NATIONAL BREWERIES LIMITED. J. P. Anglin, B.Sc., President. H. J. Gross, Vice-Pres. & Treas. C. D. Harrington, B.Sc., Vice-Pres. & Manager.

ANGLIN-NORCROSS, Limited

CONTRACTING ENGINEERS AND BUILDERS 65 Victoria Street, Montreal. Our Operations include Banks, Public Buildings, Office Buildings, Re-inforced Concrete Construction, Industrial Plants, Factories, Warehouses, Schools, Etc. Call or write for preliminary estimates. Uptown 2640.

Try Frontenac INDIA PALE ALE

The Good Old English Type. It's good ale, well brewed in a special department of the celebrated Frontenac Breweries, by a master of the art, who has been successful in combining in this brew the fullness, winey and snappy hoppy taste, with the creamy and full-mouthed qualities that have made the good ales of Old England so popular the world over.

It's On Sale Everywhere. The Frontenac Breweries, Limited MONTREAL.

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

STEAM COAL CENTURY COAL COMPANY, LIMITED

310 Dominion Express Bldg. MONTREAL.

For Soup or a Vegetable

Cheaper than Canned Peas. Tender & Tasty. Canadian Grown.

FINEST GREEN PEAS HAL BRAND

ALL DIRECTIONS ON BOX. It's On Sale Everywhere.

The Frontenac Breweries, Limited MONTREAL.

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.

Manitoba Steel Foundries, Limited STEEL CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS WINNIPEG, Man. Tay'or & Arnold Engineering Co. Ltd SALES AGENTS: When you eat let it be the best

WAGSTAFFE'S Pure Strawberry Jam Pure Raspberry Jam. Made from Fruit and Granulated Sugar Only. Boiled with care in silver pans. ASK YOUR GROCER FOR IT.