

The Planet.

Business Office 53
Editorial Room 102

S. STEPHENSON, Proprietor.

MONDAY, AUGUST 22.

COST OF LIVING.

During the period of prosperity which has lasted for several years it has been a common complaint, both in Canada and in the United States, that wages have not risen as rapidly as the cost of living, and that the average worker has not reaped any benefit from the good times in spite of the stress that has been laid in some quarters on the "full dinner pail." To what extent this complaint is justified is a question that can be solved only by a study of statistics, and some figures recently made public by the United States Bureau of Labor deal with the problem. The bureau conducted an exhaustive inquiry into the earnings and purchases of 2,500 families in various parts of the country, confining itself to those whose incomes were less than \$1,200 a year. The result of its calculation disclosed the fact that, while the cost of living increased 15.5 per cent. since 1896, the advance in wages was 16.6 per cent. A similar investigation under the auspices of the Employers' Association of Chicago is reported to have shown that wages rose 17 per cent. while the cost of living went up 16.8 per cent.

There is no reason to doubt the accuracy of the deductions made from the figures collected, but it would be interesting to have a similar inquiry set on foot in Canada. Without doubt there have been many individuals and families who have suffered from what has been very aptly called "the pinch of prosperity." People in the receipt of fixed incomes, which they are unable to increase either by their own efforts or in co-operation with others similarly situated, find the "good times" a delusion and a snare, for their dollars absolutely refuse to go as far as before in the purchase of fuel or food or in the payment of rent. But if it can be shown that, on the average, income and outlay have been increasing proportionately, the workers as a whole have no reason to grumble, whatever may be the situation in some less fortunate occupations or the case of individuals whose share in the general prosperity is represented by a cipher.

DASHING, EVEN IF DANGEROUS.

Few people who do not suffer from anemia can read the story of the cutting out of that Russian torpedo destroyer in the Chefoo harbor by the Japs without feeling a glow of admiration for the bull-dog fighting qualities of the little Britons of the East. Of course it was a violation of that diaphanous shade of legality called international law. But there was a lot of human nature in the transaction. Since long back in the winter the Japs have been lying out in front of Port Arthur waiting for their foe. In the cold snow squalls and the tempestuous typhoons, the dark, rough nights and the glaring days of calm and heat, Admiral Togo and his captains have maintained their hardy vigil, while their enemy lurked in comparative comfort in harbor under the guns of the big fortresses. At last they were driven out and in the mix-up that followed this destroyer got away and fled to a neutral port, where in the language of the small boy, it "touched wood" or "crossed its fingers" and was supposed to be safe. With the speed of "thrice ten thousand horse" the two Jap destroyers pursued it, but arrived too late. The temptation was too great. They just went inside the harbor and when the Russians refused to come out to fight, they thrashed them on their own deck and took their vessel out. There will no doubt be a big legal disturbance over it, but the Japs have the ship, and the white to international courts for redress will have to come from Russia. Besides the Japs have a show of legal right on their side because a belligerent vessel is not supposed to seek a neutral harbor, except from stress of weather, or for coal or provisions.

It may be illogical, but we could have wished that the British navy had shown the same dash and fearlessness of consequences in the matter of the seizure of British vessels those Russian "pirate" cruisers. From the cold-blooded legal standpoint it would have possibly been wrong, but British prestige would stand higher to-day if some of her cruisers had jumped in and taken those prizes out of the hands of the Russians and let the Russians do the talking afterwards. It is good betting that if that small, agile gentleman, who placed the telescope to his blind eye at the battle of Copenhagen, had been cruising around Alexandria when the Malacca came along with

a Russian prize crew on board, that prize crew would be in luck if it didn't have to swim ashore.

Of course, it is a fine thing for a great nation to have the power and still refrain from using it, perhaps illegally. And it may be that two wrongs won't make a right. But the Russians were doubly in the wrong in the Malacca case—they were technically pirates to begin with and had also made an illegal seizure. Britain would have been in a better position if she had recaptured her ship and let the Russians call on the courts, instead of presenting the spectacle of standing hand-in-hand protecting and waiting Russia's pleasure to settle the matter, while that subtle power proceeds to quibble and evade a settlement.

There is such a thing as being too polite and law-abiding, especially when that law is "international" when dealing with a nation that is inclined to be internationally lawless.

AFRAID OF HIM.

Montreal Gazette.

Mr. Borden is being made the subject of many uncomplimentary references in a section of the Liberal press just now. The Opposition leader has got past the stage of being spoken favorably of by his political enemies. They are afraid of him now. Hence the throwing of brick-bats.

TRUE AND IMPORTANT.

Toronto Globe.

The decision of the Minister of Railways to have a resurvey made of the proposed route of the Trent Valley canal from Rice Lake to Port Hope is a very proper one. It is right that all available information on a subject of so much importance should be put before the public.

PROFITS OF THE SALOON KEEPER.

Providence Journal.

In the course of a divorce case which Judge Dubois was hearing one party was a well known saloon keeper of Providence, and the wife's lawyer sought to bring out from the testimony of a witness for the husband "some statement as to the amount of the latter's income. The witness is both a wholesaler and retailer of liquors. He owns three saloons in this city, so what he says on the subject of a saloon's revenue may be considered authoritative.

"The earnings of a saloon depend largely on the locality in which it is placed," he said. "By that I mean that in some neighborhoods the proprietor of a saloon has to give larger glasses of beer than in another and that he has to give away more liquor for nothing in the form of treats in order to hold his custom. If the most favorably situated saloon takes in \$500 a week, it is a fair estimate that one-third of that will be clear profit after paying rent, help and other expenses. From that point the net profit varies to one-sixth, which represents the clear earnings on a gross income of \$500 a week in the locality where it is necessary to treat customers."

It Was on the Table.

Mistress-Jane, where is the salad oil I told you to put on the table? Jane—Please, 'm, I did put it on the table when I polished it up this morning.—Punch.

"I would much rather that posterity should inquire why no statues were erected to me than why they were.—Cato.

It's hard for a fellow to be a beau when he is bow-legged.

DISTRICT DOINGS.

DOVER CENTRE.

David Fryer, Jr., and family, have returned from Calgary, Alb., where they had resided for the past two years.

R. J. Rankin has purchased a valuable house and lot in Mooretown, where he intends to retire in the near future.

A number of our young people visited Tashmoo Park last week and report a good time.

Miss Agar, of Darrell, is visiting her uncle, Dr. Agar.

Everybody remember the date of the fruit social to be held on the personage lawn, Baldoon, on Aug. 24. Messrs. Jaz and Joe Rankin took in the excursion to Port Huron last Monday.

On Tuesday evening of last week, while John Ballantyne was driving Hugh Porter's three-year-old colt, the animal became frightened and ran away, throwing Mr. Ballantyne out and inflicting an ugly gash in his knee. Dr. Agar dressed the wound.

Aaron Highgate had a large barn raising Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Gooden, of Detroit, is visiting his daughter, Mrs. George Woods.

CON. 3, HARWICH.

Miss Jennie and Aggie McGeachy, Thameville, are spending the week with Miss Jennie Ferguson.

Peter Campbell, of Florence, spent Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Robert McNaughton.

Miss Annie Zink has returned home after a few weeks visit with friends in Ridgeway.

Miss Clara Wildgen, of Pontiac, has returned home after a few days visit with her cousin, Miss Millie Wildgen.

Mrs. N. Dewar and children, of Walkerville, are spending the week with Mrs. Robert McNaughton.

Mrs. Manson Campbell and Mrs. Thompson, of Chicago, spent Sunday with John H. McNaughton.

Miss Ada McNaughton is spending a few days with Miss Mabel Allison, of Kent Bridge.

The Shamrock and Thistle football team played the Maple Leaf team on the latter's grounds on Saturday night. The score was 2-1 in favor of our boys.

Reg. McNaughton left on Monday for a few weeks visit with his grandmother, Mrs. Campbell, of Laurence.

John Regan took in the Sons of England excursion to Niagara Falls and reports having a very good time.

Miss Edna French is spending her holidays with her grandmother, Mrs. Rouse.

FARM LABORER'S EXCURSION.

Manitoba and Assiniboia. Chatham \$12 to Winnipeg, from which point Farm Laborers will be distributed free of charge, on presentation of proper certificate to points West of Winnipeg in Manitoba or Assiniboia, but not West of Moosejaw, Yorkton or Estevan.

Tickets on sale and good going Aug. 20th. Apply to W. E. RISPIN, C. P. & T. A., 115 King Street.

Strenuous Times Since.

Pa—Now, don't ask me any more questions. I don't see why your history lessons should bother you. They didn't bother me when I was a boy.

Willie—Well, there wasn't so much history made when you was a boy.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Kick Coming.

Mrs. Ricker—Our Helen is to be married on Thursday of next week, Mary, and—

Maid—You've forgot, marm, that Thursday is my afternoon off. You'll have to take some other day for the wedding, marm.—Boston Transcript.

What the Reports Show.

"Can two opposing parties win the same victory?"

"Of course not."

"I guess you haven't read the Russian and Japanese reports of some of the fighting along the Yalu."—Brooklyn Eagle.

FINNISH EXILES.

An Interesting Feature of Immigration to America.

One of the most interesting features of American immigration is the large increase of Finns arriving on these shores in recent years because of oppression at home by Russia. In 1898 the number of Finn immigrants to America was less than 3,000. In 1899, when the czar issued the fatal decree depriving the people of Finland of their constitutional liberty, the number increased to 12,000. In 1900 to 25,000 and in 1903 to 50,000. Since 1898 more than 150,000 Finns have come to the United States, and there are now over 200,000 Finns under the American flag. In 1898 Finland's population was 2,000,000, so that 10 per cent of all Finland's inhabitants in the year previous to the czar's decree are in the United States today. A many more have sought freedom in other countries.

According to a writer in Everybody's Magazine, these exiles were the flower of their nation. They have found employment here in varied industries. A few are goldsmiths and silversmiths; many are "bridgemen" in steel construction work. In Michigan, which has the largest colony of them, they work in the iron and copper mines. There are 1,000 who are fishermen and miners in Alaska. Some are farmers in the middle west.

In New York, Jersey City, Hoboken, Brooklyn and Newark there are fully 15,000 Finns. Of these nearly all the women—in the peasant class, of course—are in domestic service, while the majority of the men are carpenters, ironworkers and bridge and house builders.

A Unique Coin.

A four dollar gold coin, probably the only one of its kind in existence, is on exhibition at the Germania National bank in Milwaukee. It belongs to Dr. Charles J. Lange and is valued by the bank officials at \$200, although this is only an approximate. The piece of gold is of the same diameter as a five dollar gold piece, but thinner. On its face is the well known "liberty head," without the cap, however. Around this are thirteen stars interspersed with the letters "G S 7 C 7 Grams." The exact meaning of these letters none of the bank officials has ascertained. On the reverse of the coin is a five pointed star, into which is cut the inscription "One stella—400 cents." Around it are the words "E Pluribus Unum. Deo Est Gloria," and around these, forming the rim of this side of the coin, are the words, "United States of America. Four Dollars." About fifteen years ago this coin was sent to Washington by the Germania National bank of Milwaukee, according to the Sentinel of that city, but the only information obtained was that the coin is genuine.

Balloons and Rifle Balls.

Some interesting experiments have just been conducted at Bienne, France, for testing the practical utility of captive military balloons against infantry or machine gun fire. The Paris correspondent of the Newcastle Chronicle states that at a height of 800 yards a few volleys sufficed to shatter the balloon, the range, it should be stated, being known in advance. At an unknown altitude varying from 1,100 to 2,000 yards no fewer than twenty-two trial shots were needed to fix the range. It was only the sixty-fourth volley that hit the balloon, without, however, doing it any apparent damage. The experiments are regarded as showing that rifle fire is not very effective, even against captive balloons, at uncertain ranges and still less so against balloons that are not captive.

Declining Birth Rate.

The continued decline in the birth rate in England has begun to arouse apprehension of the nation's future. In 1896 the birth rate was 35.2 per 1,000. By 1900 it had fallen to 29.2 and by 1901 to 28.5.

Attention was called to the matter in the registrar general's last annual report, issued in June, 1903, which pointed out that the birth rate was then the lowest on record, while infant mortality was startlingly high. Dr. Shardwell in a recent lecture at St. John college showed that the decline especially pertained to industrial centers. In England generally it is among the middle classes that the birth rate shows the most serious decline. In Australia the working classes are the pioneers of restricted families.

Progress of Electricity.

Fifteen years ago there were perhaps 100 electric cars in the whole world. Today they are in all parts of the globe. Even Seoul, the capital of Korea, has an electric railway built by an American.

Fifteen years ago a 200 horsepower generator was thought to be a monster, but today a 10,000 horsepower generator is not big enough to attract any unusual attention.

Fifteen years ago electricity was thought to be almost as much of a fad as it was a business. It employed few men. Today in one plant alone there are 12,000 people employed, and three out of every four are skilled workmen.

Death and Number Thirteen.

Pawtucket has four undertaking establishments, each of which is No. 13 upon its street. One of the "funeral parlors" is conducted by a man named Berry, which, if not spelled the same way, sounds exactly like "bury." In one of these establishments a young man of the name of Coffin secured a position some years ago. His first work was in connection with thirteen victims of a sleighing party run into by a train while crossing the railroad track near the city. And yet there are some people, otherwise of sound sense, who say there is nothing fatal in the number thirteen.—Providence

The Northway Co., Lt'd.

The Busy Cash Store

The Northway Co., Lt'd.

This Final Round-up Sale

will be continued until the end of the month. Every day will bring forth a fresh array of money-saving opportunities. All prices quoted hold good until the end of the month or until the goods are sold. Come with the crowds to the One Price Cash Store. Your money refunded if you not satisfied with anything you buy.

10 and 12 1/2 Oxford Shirtings at 8c a yard

16 pos. English Oxford Shirtings, good quality in range checks and stripes, guaranteed colors, regular 10c and 12 1/2c a yd.

Sale Price 8c

12 1/2 and 10c Dress Gingham at 7 1/2c a yd.

16 pos. fine imported Gingham incheck, stripes and plaids, fast dyes, regular 10c and 12 1/2c yd.

Sale Price 7 1/2c

25, 35c Wash Goods at 12 1/2c

About 40 pos. fine Oatmeal Suits, flannel Suits, Zephyr, Muslins, Dimities, etc., this season's best styles, guaranteed colors, regular 20 to 35c a yd.

Sale Price 12 1/2c

20c Victoria Lawn at 12 1/2c

375 yards fine Victoria Lawn, pure finish, full 48 in. wide, worth 20c a yd.

Sale Price 12 1/2c

12 1/2c Prints at 7 1/2c

600 yds heavy 32 in. Prints, light and dark patterns, fast colors, regular 10c and 12 1/2c yd.

Sale Price 7 1/2c

10c Bleached Cottons 7c Yard

2000 yds fine pure Bleached Cotton, full width, fine even thread, excellent value at 10c.

Sale Price 7c

Nottingham Lace Curtains

40 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, clearing at a pair

Sale Price 22c

38 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, 3 yds long 50 in. wide, overlook edges, regular price up to 90c a pair.

Sale Price 68c

38 pairs Nottingham Lace Curtains, hand-some styles, regular price up to \$2.95 a pr.

Sale Price \$1.48

Boys Suits

2 pc in Tweeds and Navy Serges, smart style, size 20 to 28, regular \$2.25 to \$3.00

Sale Price \$1.95

Boys 2pc suits in good range of styles in fancy tweeds and Navy Serges, regular \$3.25 to \$4 each

Sale Price \$2.95

46 p.irs Fine Lace Curtains

3 and 3 1/2 yds. long, 50 to 56 inch wide, new patterns, overlook edges, regular \$1.25 to \$1.50 a pair.

Sale Price 98c

12-1-2 Curtain Muslins

Curtain Sorima, Curtain Lace and Curtain Materials in choice patterns, wide, widths, white or cream, clearing at

Sale Price 9c

Window Shades at 25c each

15 doz. opaque Window Shades, full size in range of colors mounted on spring rollers, complete at

Sale Price 25c

\$2 Flaked P.K. Skirts \$1.19 Each

25 only fine Black and White and Navy and White Flaked P.K. Skirts, latest cut, prettily trimmed, assorted lengths, regular values \$2 each.

Sale Price \$1.19

Dressing Sacques

All our 50c and 60c Print and Muslin Dressing Sacques and Kimonos,

Sale Price 39c

All our \$1.00 White and Colored Dressing Sacques,

Sale Price 69c

All our \$1.50 White and Colored Dressing Sacques,

Sale Price 95c

\$1.50 to \$7 Cloth Skirts \$2.89

45 only fine Dress Skirts in Pure Wool Homespun, Cheviot, Frieze, Box Cloth, Basket Cloth, etc. latest cut, stylishly trimmed, colors Black, Navy, Grey and Mixtures, assorted sizes, reg. \$4.50 to \$7 each.

Sale Price \$2.89

Boys Suits

2 pc in Tweeds and Navy Serges, smart style, size 20 to 28, regular \$2.25 to \$3.00

Sale Price \$1.95

Boys 2pc suits in good range of styles in fancy tweeds and Navy Serges, regular \$3.25 to \$4 each

Sale Price \$2.95

Seven Stores

THE NORTHWAY CO. Limited.

Two Large Factories

Ought to be Satisfied.

"Jones is tickled to death over the event; he wanted the baby bad."

"He ought to be satisfied then; it's unquestionably the worst on the block!"

—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

Uncomplaining Sufferer.

Little Tildy—Don't you get awful tired doin' nothin', mister?

Languid Lannigan—Turrible, sissy, but I never complains. Everybody has dere troubles.

An Outing.

Bill—Our poker club had an outing yesterday.

Jill—Is that so? How much were you out?—Yonkers Statesman.

Tenders Wanted

Sealed, bulk or separate tenders, addressed to W. M. Drader, will be received at the office of the undersigned until Thursday, September 1, for the masonry and stone work, plastering, painting, and glazing, plumbing, heating and slate roofing, required in the erection of a brick and stone residence on Wellington St.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

A. M. PIPER, Architect, King Street, Chatham, Ont.

To Contractors

Bulk, and separate tenders will be received at the offices of Drs. Hall & Bell, Sixth Street, up till 7 p. m. Thursday, Sept. 1st, 1904, for all branches of works required to complete proposed additions and alterations to Hotel Santa, William Street, Chatham, Ont.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted. Plans, specifications and details to be seen at the office of the undersigned architects.

JAS. L. WILSON & SON, Architects, Directors — W. R. Hall, M. D., President; W. W. Scane, Esq., Sec. Secretary; Chas. Hadley, Esq., Treasurer; W. D. Sheldon, Esq., and W. Witherpoon, Esq.

STRAYED—Two Scotch Collies from Cornhill's brick yard, near the waterworks, on Saturday last, both about six months old, one black and white and the other a light yellow. Rewards will be paid for their recovery. For their return or for information that will lead to their recovery.

WANTED

AGENTS WANTED—\$2.50 day. Address Cooper, London, Ont.

PRINTER—Young man who has had one or two years' experience, at this office.

SAWYER WANTED—Who can handle a circular saw and who can act as foreman in a saw mill. Steady work and good wages. Apply to P. D. Campbell, Northwood, E. O.

HORSE WANTED—For its keep for driving until this winter or next spring. By a gentleman who will give first-class attention. Address Box 137, or enquire at The Planet.

WANTED—Men wanted to learn barber trade; only eight weeks required by our system of constant practice; tools furnished; diplomas given. Full tuition \$25. Call or write, Detroit Barber College, 277 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Mich.

FOR SALE OR TO RENT.

FENCE FOR SALE—In good state of preservation. Apply to Thomas Scullard, Victoria Avenue.

HOUSE FOR SALE—On Grant street, for particulars apply to Thomas Scullard, or at this office.

HOUSES FOR SALE—A house on Grant St., and house and lot on Victoria Ave. For particulars apply to Thomas Scullard, Victoria Block.

TO RENT—House on King Street west, nine rooms, gas, electric light, water, bath, etc., with or without stable. Enquire at Planet Office.

FOR SALE OR RENT—House on Raleigh Street, all modern conveniences, with stable. Apply to John Piggott & Sons, Lumber Dealers, King St.

FARM FOR SALE OR TO RENT—75 acres, s. w. 1/4 of 17, con. 10, Dover, with good frame house, stable and granary; good water; one mile from Dover Centre and in the best farming section in the County. Liberal terms. For full particulars apply to Archie Gillespie, Thameville, box 144, or to John Henderson, Dover Centre.

FARM FOR SALE—North east half of lot 16, front concession, Township of Harwich, 133 acres. All cleared, old loam, two good sized frame houses. Large frame barn and outbuildings; stable and driveway combined; granary and implement house. Buildings all in good repair; about five acres of orchard; artesian well, windmill and pump; three other wells. Price \$3,000.00. Apply on the premises to Mrs. John J. Walrath, or to W. F. Smith, barrister and solicitor, Chatham, Ont.

Minard's Liniment—Lumberman's Friend.

\$50.00 TO CALIFORNIA AND RETURN.

Via the Chicago, Union Pacific and North Western Line, from Chicago, August 15th to Sept. 10th. Choice of routes going and returning. Correspondingly low rates from all points in Canada. Two trains a day from Chicago through without change. Daily and personally conducted tourist car excursions. Write for itinerary and full particulars regarding special train leaving Chicago, Aug. 18th and 25th.

Commercial Printing.

When in need of anything in the line of Commercial Stationery, Visiting Cards, etc., leave your order at the

Planet Job Department.

Change of Time.

THE STEAMER City of Chatham