

THE BUSINESS COLUMN

Where Are the Five Best Retail Centers in the U. S.?

That the chain stores come into a town, seize the most desirable locations and ultimately injure those locations for all business, was the opinion expressed by real estate men in national convention in Kansas City. They reported the chain stores are literally swarming out of the East and settling down in the West like a flock of locusts.

The influence of the chain stores, it was claimed, was mainly to enormously increase the rental of properties in the larger cities. W. H. Dyer, a Cincinnati real estate man, said that real estate men, despite commissions they might earn, were concerned to find chain stores, after taking the best locations, worked to drive out the independent business. He said that chain stores demanded a 100 per cent location and had the capital to bid up the rental to any point necessary to win the location. He suggested these new stores should be required to purchase rather than lease valuable properties, on the theory that they exploited any given corner for immediate and temporary gain.

The chain stores were defended by a real estate man in a small town, who declared they brought pep into a community of sleepy merchants.

The retailers were much interested in an address by C. C. Nichols, of New York city, on chain store leases.

There are now fifty noncompetitive lines of chain stores in the United States, Nichols said. "More than 400 companies are operating chains of more than ten stores each. One of the most profitable features in the real estate business is the leasing of business property of chain stores."

Nichols said the shady side of streets had proved best for stores catering to women, and that, on the whole, the women's store locations are worth from 10 to 20 per cent more than similar locations for men's stores.

Asked to name the five best retail centers in America outside of New York city, Mr. Nichols gave in order the southwest corner of Madison and States streets, Chicago, occupied by a drug store; Peach and Edgewood streets, Atlanta, Ga.; Chapel and Church streets, New Haven, Conn.; High and Broad streets, Columbus, O.; and Twelfth and Walnut streets, Kansas City, Mo.

Posts Make Good Auxiliary Centers.

A use has at last been found for the somewhat unsightly and often disagreeing posts or columns supporting the ceilings in retail stores.

A fixture that can be utilized for the display of merchandise of various forms has been devised by the Adler & Vint store in West Wing, Minn.—a metal strap clamped around the post or column. Radiating from this support a number of braces which support a large circular band, on which are many books. On this rack, books of various sizes and other articles of similar proportions. The band is held sufficiently far away by the braces to permit lanterns.

Marott Knows the "Weight" to Hold His Customers.

Getting weighed is always interesting, but George J. Marott, an Indianapolis shoe dealer, has an added attraction in connection with his scales.

Marott has a scale in his store and invites every one to step on it. This gets a good many people into the store. But, of course, the big idea is to get them to come back and eventually buy a pair of shoes.

So Marott has a pack of weight cards in a pocket on the scale. Each card has space for three different weighings. When the customer steps on the scale the first time his weight is recorded on the card. Naturally, if he wants to know if he is gaining or losing, he comes back to the store for the second and third weighings, as all cards are retained at Marott's.

This store now has a regular list of "weight customers" who fill in the cards at stated intervals and have long formed the habit of dropping in. Needless to say Marott regards it as a good habit.

Jammed Auto Made a Good Advertisement.

"We know people are hurrying to buy our merchandise, but don't crowd. Come around to the back door if you want to get in."

This was the sign placed by J. J. Woodcock, on his dry goods store in Greenfield, Mass., when an auto, which had become unmanageable, wedged itself into the front door of the store and its owner declined to be moved out of that position. A large crowd gathered and Woodcock took advantage of the opportunity to invite people into the store.

HANS AND FRITZ ENTERTAIN MANY

"The Katzenjammer Kids" Score Two Successes Yesterday — A Bright Humorous Show — Some Clever Dancing.

Two large audiences witnessed George M. Cuff's presentation of the "Katzenjammer Kids" in the Imperial Theatre yesterday and judging from the frequent bursts of applause and hearty laughter they enjoyed the antics of the characters so familiar on the funny pages of weekly newspapers. The musical comedy was well staged and the principals essayed their parts in a creditable manner. The ballet dances were graceful and the scenic effects very striking. Some of the scenes were exceptionally good, especially the one introduced in "London Town" in which an empty keg was chained with crepe and the mourners fled off the stage to the tune of a dead march. The pull-bears were the two kids and following in the cortege were the Captain, whose lamentations were "I hate to lose you, I'm so used to you now," and other members of the cast.

Another amusing scene was when the Captain was narrating his experiences in the jungle and telling his audience of his daring exploits when suddenly his outstretched hand came in contact with the mane of a lion—not a real one—but formed by the two tormentors, Hans and Fritz. His facial expressions were good and his sudden cessation of boasting coupled with his hasty exit evoked prolonged laughter.

There were a number of other laughable scenes, which were well portrayed by the two kids and following in the cortege were the Captain, whose lamentations were "I hate to lose you, I'm so used to you now," and other members of the cast.

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BETTER TRAINING IN CITIZENSHIP

Aims of National Council of Education Are Detailed — Idea Is to Secure Interchange of Ideas Throughout the Empire.

The following statement has been handed out by the National Council of Education:

The National Council of Education, organized as a result of the conference on education in relation to citizenship which was held in Winnipeg last year, has briefly three principal duties. First, the setting up of a national bureau of education, a non-government institution which, it is hoped, may in course of time at least partly supply needs of a federal bureau; secondly, the carrying out of a survey of school text books; and thirdly, the consideration of matters affecting the status of the teaching profession.

Under the British North America Act the provinces are autonomous in so far as the administration of education is concerned, and fears have been expressed that in the creation of a federal bureau there would be danger of infringement of provincial rights. The national bureau, however, organized purely as an advisory and co-ordinating factor and general clearing house of educational data, has received the endorsement of representatives of the Winnipeg conference dealing with the subject into effect. The bureau will embody features of the department of special enquiries and reports of the English board of education, of the federal bureau of education at Washington. On matters affecting education the various states to the south of us are similarly placed to our own province, although there is no such bureau in no wise been found to be a source of danger to inter-state rights.

There seems no reason therefore why similar, though voluntary, institution in Canada should not be feasible. Canada's greatest need is a national education system. The points of direct contact in the administration of education in the different provinces are all too few. The national bureau will be a source of danger to inter-state rights.

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A GOOD BILL AT OPERA HOUSE

New Week-End Programme Was Enjoyed by Large Audiences — Great Acrobatic Offering, Good Comedy, Music, etc.

Considerable satisfaction was expressed by patrons of the Opera House last evening after they had enjoyed the week-end bill. The new programme contained much of interest and the participants were accorded hearty and well-merited applause. The latter was especially true of the acrobatic and musical offerings.

Following another interesting episode of the popular motion picture serial, "The Third Eye," Marie Hughes appeared and sang a number of Scotch songs, gave a clever demonstration of high kicking and a Chinese number, which made quite a hit.

Harris and Holly won rounds of applause with their comical and eccentric dancing. The latter was exceptionally good and they were forced to respond to an encore.

Hall and Gibson won their audience by their catchy and tuneful melodies on their instruments. Their playing on a violin and trombone was exceptionally good and evoked prolonged applause. They are also good dancers and comedians and held the undivided attention of their audience until they terminated their offering. This programme will be repeated this afternoon and evening and again on Monday and should attract large audiences.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST LABOR PARTY SENTENCED

Twenty Get Prison Terms and Two Fined in Addition — Women's Trials Later.

In Chicago, this week William Bros Lloyd and nineteen other members of the Communist Labor party were sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to five years, having been found guilty of sedition. Lloyd and two other members were under fine of \$2000 and two under \$1000 fine, in addition to their prison terms. The men were convicted last night of violation of the state law relating to sedition.

A motion for a new trial was granted and the hearing set for September 25.

Three women, indicted at the same time as Lloyd and his associates, are awaiting a separate trial. They are Margaret Prevey, Okron, O.; Helen Judd, Chicago; and Clara Hefsky, Chicago.

Those found guilty, with their sentences, follow:—

William Bros Lloyd, sergeant-at-arms at the Communist Labor party convention; one to five years in prison and \$2000 fine.

L. E. Katterfeld, Brighton, Kan., national organizer and drafter of the party's platform; prison and \$2000 fine.

Max Bedacht, San Francisco, member of the national executive committee and platform committee; prison and \$1000 fine.

Jack Carney, Duluth, Minn., member of the national executive committee; prison and \$1000 fine.

Every Shipman, Rock Island, Ill., member of the state committee; one year in the county jail.

L. K. Englund, Moline, Ill., member of the state committee, prison.

Ludwig Lore, New York, editor of Class Struggle, who helped to draft the constitution, prison.

Dr. Karl Sandberg, Chicago, organizer and delegate to the national convention, one year in the county jail.

Dr. Oscar J. Brown, De Kalb, Ill., organizer, delegate to the national convention, and member of the platform committee, one year in the county jail.

Neil J. Christensen, delegate to the national convention and member of the international relations committee, one year in the county jail.

Edgar Owens, Moline, Ill., state secretary, helped to draft the constitution, prison.

Samuel Ash, Chicago, lawyer, one of the organizers, one year in prison.

James W. Meisinger, Chicago, member of the county executive committee, one year in prison.

Samuel P. Hainin, one year in prison.

Edin Firth, Indianapolis, Ind., national delegate and organizer, one year in the county jail.

John Vogel, member of the county committee, one year in the county jail and \$2000 fine.

Arthur Proctor, Chicago, owner of the Chicago Book Store, 20 N. Dear Street, meeting place of radicals, member of the county committee; prison and \$2000 fine.

Neil Kjar, Chicago, member of the national executive committee and county propaganda committee, prison.

Morris A. Stolar, Chicago, member of the county executive committee, one year in prison.

Charles Krumblin, Chicago, member of the county executive committee, one year in prison.

All freed on bail.

All of the men convicted were permitted their liberty on bail pending an appeal.

Eighty-six Communists, thirty-seven Industrial Workers of the World and three women Communist Laborites remain to be tried.

The eighty-six Communists will be the next group brought to trial, the state attorney's office announced today. The state will press the case immediately after the summer vacation of the court. The Communists to be brought to trial include Rose Pastor Stokes, Nicholas I. Hourwich, editor of Nory Mir of New York; Charles E. Ruthenberg of Cleveland; Alex. Stokolsky of Mexico City; John Schwartz of Boston and many others.

Big Butter Production.

Edmonton, Alta., Aug. 7.—The production of butter in this province in 1920 will, in all probability, reach 12,000,000 pounds, W. W. Prevey, one of the leading creamery men in central Alberta, predicts. In view of the scarcity of feed which prevailed in some parts of the province during the winter and the very late spring, this is regarded as a rather remarkable achievement, inasmuch as the entire production for 1919 was only 11,000,000 pounds. Last year Edmonton produced more butter than any other city in Canada.

MUTT AND JEFF—ALL THE GOOD GOLFERS WEREN'T IN ENGLAND BY ANY MEANS

