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Gold Moulded Cylinder Records. Edison Bell and Columbia, new, 25c., were 40c.

Columbia Indestructible Cylinder Records, 45c., beautiful tone, cannot break, \$1.50 machine.

Four Minute Cylinders Records, 50c.

Columbia Indestructible. Four Minute Records, most wonderful invention 45c.

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Edison Firestone, with six genuine gold moulded two minute and six four minute records \$33.10

Victor Disc Gramophone, with 16 large selections, \$25.00 and upwards. Second-hand machines at bargain prices. Old machines taken in trade; 40 styles of talking machines; 10,000 records; 40 styles of pianos.

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house officers and clerks would be drawing pay for handling their potatoes. However, the exchange has grown steadily in membership.

In this country co-operation has developed principally among farmers for the purpose of marketing their produce. In England its great development has been on the other side—among city workmen for the purpose of buying supplies. In a good many California towns you may notice the sign "Rochdale" over a store. The name refers, of course, to the English town where the greatest co-operative movement of modern times had its beginning.

Co-operative Idea in England.

The principle of co-operation seems always to have appealed to men who were hard up. Behind the oldest co-operative movements that have succeeded were still earlier ones that failed. For co-operation, however fine it may be in principle, will not work automatically. It is not enough that a number of producers or consumers agree to co-operate. If they succeed at it they must discover capable management, and be guided by good, sound business judgment. So there had been many attempts at co-operation among the cotton mill hands of Lancashire before the successful one of 1844, although that date is sometimes mentioned as the beginning of modern co-operation.

If being hard up is a condition precedent to successful co-operation, the cotton-mill hands were certainly eligible. An old report mentions six shillings a week as an average income. To make a penny go as far as possible in purchasing food and clothing was a matter of quite vital importance.

George Jacob Holyoake has described the Rochdale meeting in 1843, at which he spoke upon co-operation—a meeting held in a room belonging to Zach Mellor, the town clerk, its back window looking over a low, marshy field. "It was at the end of a damp, drizzling day," he says, "and people come in one by one from the mills, looking as disconsolate as the weather." How a handful of flannel weavers met, the next year, in Toad Lane, and solemnly resolved to start a co-operative store, has often been told. There were twenty-eight of them finally, and they were to contribute one pound each, constituting the capital of the venture, but hardly one of them seems to have had a whole pound. Most of them paid in a shilling a week, or whatever they could. They had the right idea, however—to divide the profits among their customers. James Smithies was elected secretary. It is related that, when the tiny enterprise seemed likely to winkle out, Secretary Smithies, after working until ten or eleven o'clock at the store, would make the round of the town, rousing out of bed such persons as were known to believe in the movement and were suspected of possessing a little money, with the summons, "I'm come for thy brass, lad. We maul ha' it."

Persistence Triumphed

Such was the original Rochdale store, started by a handful of flannel-weavers who could barely scrape together the capital of a hundred dollars. As the movement grew, it provoked opposition. One of the charges brought against Cobden was that he favored co-operation, and on that ground some candidates for Parliament were defeated.

Twenty years after the Toad Lane meeting, co-operative retail stores in Great Britain, founded on the Rochdale plan, were selling ten million dollars worth of goods annually. The Co-operative Wholesale Society, with headquarters at Manchester, was then formed, its capital stock being divided into shares of five pounds each and subscribed for by the retail stores. Five years later the Scottish Wholesale Society was organized in the same way by retail co-operative stores in that division of the kingdom. The Wholesale Society's report for 1909 is a volume as large and interesting as an ordinary novel, showing yearly sales by the retail stores to the amount of three hundred and seventy million dollars and sales by the Wholesale Society to the amount of one hundred and fifty million dollars.

The Rochdale System

Such is the significance of the word "Rochdale," probably the largest merchandising enterprise in the world, and

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