

State Chairman of Food Sanitation for the Federation, took the Portland plan and called a meeting of all the club presidents in her city to consider it. And the "Presidents' Council" presented to the City Council the Tacoma plan. Its important added feature is that Tacoma shops are not only watched to keep them clean, but any customer who enters can know as easily as glancing at a clock just how clean they are. Every proprietor receives each month from the Food Inspector his "mark." He is rated to an exact per cent. by means of the score card which she carries with her on her rounds. She looks all about in each shop, at the clothing of the employes, at the floors and walls, into refrigerators and coolers, out into the back room and the back yard. Then in the blank space after each point covered by the score card she writes the percentage attained. Ten constitutes the perfect mark in any division and the total of all adds weight or measure and package goods the statement of the net weight of the contents. Some ten states have secured this law. It was passed in New York State in 1912, after the New York City Federation had devoted three years to awakening public sentiment. They had talked before churches and settlements and labor unions, to which they had carted about for exhibition purposes a trunkful of measures with false bottoms and other fraudulent devices assembled from stores and food shops. The Minnesota Federation secured their law last year. And it was at their suggestion that the Governor invited the Governors of all the other states to send representatives to a conference on uniform legislation for weights and measures, held in Minneapolis last November.

But the leak in the housekeeping pocketbook through short weight and measures is not all that is the matter with the cost of living. It is the steady increase in the housekeeping budget that is most alarming. Even the year that the United States harvested the largest crop in history, prices went right on rising. The women's organizations have tried various means to

stop them. In the Spring of 1912 the Pittsburgh Marketing Club, of which Mrs. John S. Flannery is President, and the Housewives' League of New York, under the leadership of Mrs. Julian Heath, organized "butter boycotts" that brought the price of butter in each of these cities from 60 cents to 35 cents in about two weeks' time. Last Spring the Housewives' League of Philadelphia, under the direction of Mrs. William B. Derr and the Clean Food Club of Chicago, led by Mrs. Bley, conducted the egg sales that reduced the price of eggs from 40 cents to 24 cents a dozen and forced the retail dealers to meet that figure.

Now the sales and the boycotts in themselves have proven but temporary expedients. But they have served to turn the searchlight of investigation on the middleman. In 1911 the farmers of the United States sold for \$6,000,000,000 the foods for which the housewife was charged \$13,000,000,000. On the way from the farm to the kitchen, it is clear that some one else got the difference.

IMPOSSIBLE

"Impossible" is not French.—Napoleon.

"Impossible!" Who talks to me of impossibilities?—Chatham.

Impossible! Never name to me that stupid word.—Mirabeau.

"Impossible," when Truth and Mercy and the everlasting voice of Nature order, has no place in the brave man's dictionary.—Carlyle.

Mayor Harrison of Chicago recently appointed a board of six persons, one man and five women, to censor moving picture films. The members will have to pass civil service examinations to make their appointments permanent. Their salaries are \$1,320 a year each. Four new appointments are expected.

Life—Now, really, why do you women want the vote?

Suffragette—To keep the men from doing all the things you say the women will do when they do get it.