

SHOPPING CENTRES

The main or downtown streets form the hub of the shopping district. It is not easy to gauge how much of every day foods are bought from the local store or from the department "groceries," or from the district cash-and-carry stores. The service of the telephone, the highly developed delivery services make this method of purchasing convenient and advantageous.

For pricing food the cities were therefore divided off into representative working class sections. Prices were then collected from the stores in these localities; then from the chain, cash-and-carry stores, and from the departmental grocery departments. In this way a representative range of prices were secured.

For clothing it was ascertained that the downtown shops were the most frequented by working class shoppers. The department stores ranged in importance, followed by men's clothing, ladies' wear, shoe and millinery stores. For men's clothing the custom tailors were also consulted.

For furniture and furnishings for the house, the department stores, the representative and reliable downtown furniture stores, dry goods stores, and hardware stores were interviewed. The furniture, hardware and dry goods stores which were known to be reliable and permanent in character and which carried a good stock of wares, situated in the working class sections in all parts of the city were included. In all of these only cash prices were taken, and care was had to obtain quotations on an identical article in each store. Standardized products helped to make this method possible.

HOUSING.

Houses in this part of the country are built of brick, in the two-story style, and either detached, semi-detached or in terrace-like rows. Those selected for this budget had the standard sanitary requirements, furnaces, gas, electricity, verandahs, backyards, and lawns. In Montreal many families were known to reside in apartment houses; in Toronto to a less extent; while in smaller centres like Belleville, Ont., and Coteau Jet., Que., the small family house prevailed. The choice of apartment for the families living in the former cities included heat, good plumbing, lighting and cooking facilities, and the requisite number of rooms for the family under consideration.

In these large industrial centres, what has above been described as a slum prevails to the same degree and type, but over a larger area and over several areas in the city. These areas were excluded from the price-survey.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Municipal services to citizens are further developed in these provinces than in the Maritimes. Hospital clinics, medical inspection of school children in the schools, public health nursing service, scavenger service, playgrounds, parks, boys' and girls' clubs, lodges, libraries branching over all parts of the city, theatres, "movies," zoological gardens, skating rinks, public schools, ranging from the lowest to the highest, etc., are available, comparatively free of charge. As to whether these services are sufficient in extent and how satisfactory are the services offered or rendered, and to what number of people in the proportion of the city's population and taxable wealth, may form the theme of a separate discussion.

WESTERN PROVINCES

Winnipeg, Man., Saskatoon, Sask., and Kamloops, B.C., were investigated. These provinces form Canada's prairie and western coast centres; the wheat, lumber, mining, cattle, and fishing industries predominate. In the cities, however, where the workers congregate, around the industries they serve, the indus-