

Geisdale ones, though bearing the same name. As Mr. G. J. Holyoake says:

"A co-operative society properly divides whatever savings it makes among all its customers who buy from it. It permanently increases the means of the poor by saving their profits for them and teaching them the art of thrift. An imitative one (such as the London Civil Service or Army and Navy stores) merely gives partial reduction in price to the purchasers, and awards the remainder as personal profit to managers, directors or shareholders. These societies, organized chiefly to supply goods at a cheap rate and make a large profit for the shareholders, are not co-operative in the complete sense of the term, since the managers have an interest distinct from the shareholders and the shareholders an interest distinct from the purchasers."

Many attempts have been made to organize plans for co-operative living. The family of Pinon maintained, near Thiers, in France, a community of wealth and property so successfully, that after more than a century they were living in great affluence, owning large estates and even whole villages, and in point of education ranking with the best. They were the descendants of a farmer who advised his children to adopt this plan of making their property common to the family, instead of scattering it to individuals. This description was given of them in 1762 by the Marquis of Mirabeau.

A society was formed at Queenwood, in Hampshire, which lasted a few years and then perished. A high price had been paid for the land and houses, and many unlooked-for discomforts arose which the members were not willing to endure; they therefore disbanded.

The Ebenezers founded a society in Germany more than 200 years ago; when they removed in 1842 from Hesse Darmstadt to America, they numbered 600 persons, and in 1877 they had increased to 1,300. They live in comfort, are well educated, are free from crime, and all disputes among them are settled by arbitration. Their first home in America was at Buffalo, N.Y., but, having outgrown that place, they moved to Amana, on the Iowa River, 70 miles from the Mississippi. Ann Lee founded in 1774 the Community of the Shakers, of which 18 still exist. Robert Owen founded New Harmony, in Indiana, which perished for a time and then died. Such has been the fate of numerous similar attempts in Europe and America. Societies for farming, for printing, for publishing, and for manufacturing have been founded, but most of them have passed away. It has been hard for human nature to find the right means of carrying out this beautiful millennial dream of brotherly love instead of fratricidal war. The advocates of Co-operation have set before themselves from the first these aims, to be aspired to even if they could not at once be attained:

1. Equal chances of education for all, because ignorance is the parent of disease and crime. So they have been pioneers in the educational advance that has been made of late years.
2. Equal chances of living for all, shorter hours of labor, and no