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The Outlook for Commodity Prices

By B. K. Sandwell

As far as prices go, the public is more at the mercy of the druggist than any other dealer. That the druggist is entitled to a larger percentage of profit than the ordinary tradesman goes without question. He employs a chemist to dispense his sales where the ordinary store employs a clerk, the care with which he carries on his business is daily a matter of life and death to large numbers and he must carry on his shelves expensive drugs not used more than several times a year. Lowering the status of the chemist by asking him to work for a clerk's wage is not suggested. Surely, though, one hundred per cent profit should be sufficient except in cases where the compounding of the prescription takes exceptional care and a considerable amount of time. In this particular instance, the druggist admitted that he was invoiced twenty cents for what he attempted to sell at a dollar—five hundred per cent profit. There was no compounding to be done. One wonders what percentage that druggist makes on prescriptions.

—From "The Question of Honest Drug Charges,"
by Harold H. Metcalfe, on page 7.

A Court of Industrial Relations

By J.W. Macmillan