

Tuesdays Prices

Hold Good Until Saturday Night, January 28th.

We are After Your Cash and will Sell You for Less to Get It.

You may expect us to do what we say we will do.

SMITH-LEE CO.

NOT MORE PAY BUT MORE WORK WANTED

Says Elgers Are Jumbled to Convoy
Wrong Meaning—Perchance
Power of Gold

By Norris Home

C. J. Hinson in an address before members of parliament to the Mosley division of Birmingham, a few days ago made the following statement regarding the purchasing power of gold when applied to labor:

"An ounce of gold will purchase 17.22 hours of labor in the United States; in Britain it will purchase 50.10 hours; in Japan, 65.50 hours; in France, 117.31 hours; and in Germany, 291.55 hours."

So you see gold possesses the least amount of labor in the United States where most of the world's supply of gold is said to be stored; and the greatest amount of labor in Germany where the least supply of gold exists.

According to Mr. Hinson's figures, Germany workers are earning about seven cents per hour measured in gold. While United States workers are earning about ninety-three cents per hour measured in gold.

Statistics are, if properly compiled and correctly quoted, about the only way we have of determining the average reckonings of these national items of cost and effort. But a little thought on the above statement regarding the wages of working men in the United States and placing same at ninety-three cents per hour or nine dollars and thirty cents per day. This makes us wonder where these high priced American workers are and when they had their wage scale raised.

There are some 30 million people in the United States engaged in agriculture. There are at least as many more engaged in other lines of industrial activity, which would make a total of 60 millions of workers who are earning, according to the above figures, the sum of \$55,800,000 an hour or \$558,000,000 a day.

With all of this accredited earning capacity the very class that are accused of earning so much are so short in buying power that the rulers are all the time straining every nerve and fibre in their being in pretense of devising ways and means to enable the working people to get hold of enough buying power to equip themselves with the things they stand in such dire need of, in order to stimulate business and start something to moving in this country.

The greatest trouble with such statistical facts (?) as above referred to, is, as every one can plainly see, they are not facts at all, but only jumbled figures intended to carry us out into a dense wilderness of bigness and lose us in the darkest spot of the whole dense mess.

The man who have nothing to do except figure can tell us wonderful stories of things about which we are not expected to know anything, and the consolation they get out of it seems to be the satisfaction of having been instrumental in assisting in camouflaging actualities.

Some months ago the Virginia coal fields were in turmoil over the miners' strike. The owners claimed the miners were striking for an eighteen day and four dollars per day pay. This accusation was so camouflaged as to make the public think the miners were unfair in their demands and to get public sympathy for the owners. The owners said the miners were already getting four dollars per day and that ought to keep thousands and families in comfort. The miners said came out later, and they showed that they were getting four dollars per day but that they were only employed for two days a week and what they wanted was, not less work, as the owners were trying to show, but more work. They were willing to accept the wage scale as it was, but they wanted forty-four hours a week instead of sixteen.

This is just one instance of how figures can be made to mislead. Four dollars per day would be supposed to be twenty-four dollars per week, when really, with only two days work per week, was not 24 but only eight dollars.

No statistician can jumble figures so as to make working men who will use their heads believe they are getting 93 cents per hour, or \$9.30 per day, when actually they cannot pay their rent or their taxes and in millions of instances cannot provide a shack in which to shelter their families, or to find a job by which to satisfy their groceryman for food with which to supply their daily needs for nourishment.

If the men who are wearing out good nerve force and consuming vital energy in trying to keep people deceived, while they devise new ways to play their same old tricks, would use one-tenth of the effort in seeking out ways of truth and justice, and in trying to make things plain and easily understood, instead of otherwise, they would accomplish more that is really worth accomplishing in one twelve months than will be accomplished in a million years at the pace and by the means we are now trying.

Cost of Living Not Down But Coming

The Raleigh News and Observer wants the light turned on high rents and it goes about the job in this manner:

A comprehensive investigation shows that the total cost of living for the country as a whole has fallen 20.03% since the peak in July, 1920, but in November, 1921 was 63% higher than in July, 1921. Cost of shelter and fuel and light is shown to have increased; food, clothing and sundries decreased, since the peak.

Mayor Manning, of Durham, proposes to find out why rents stay so high in that city and has appointed a commission to make an investigation.

Why not a similar commission in Raleigh and other places where complaint about high rent is loud and insistent? It looks as if some property owners are getting more than a fair profit. If so, the fact ought to be made known. Some people are renting their property at reasonable prices, others are getting war prices although the actual value of the property has decreased and the excessive

war prices never were justified.

In every town where the high war prices for rent are still in effect there ought to be an investigation such as that launched by Mayor Manning in Durham. Let us have the facts. What is rental property valued at on the tax books? What profit is being earned after due allowance is made for deterioration and cost of up-keep?

And if the investigation find that the property owners are not charging too much rent—they will certainly not find this in all cases—let them turn their attention to the problem of creating some homes that can be rented at prices that men with modest incomes can afford to buy.

Turn on the light! It may be the very thing that is needed to get rents down to a reasonable basis.

Justifying Haste

He was well past three score years and ten, and when, a few months after burying his second wife, he took unto himself a third only about half his own age, it created a furore in the small Southern town in which he resided. Being a pillar in his church, a meeting was called to look into the matter.

"Brother Bankston," began one of the elders, after a tactful approach of the subject by another member, "don't you think you were in rather much of a hurry in this last matrimonial venture?"

The old man arose and gave the gathering a sweeping look. "Brethren, most assuredly I was in a hurry. You must remember I am seventy-odd years old, and I have to be in a hurry with anything I want to do now."

Record Breakers

During a heavy fall of rain a man carrying a very wet umbrella entered a hotel to pay a call on someone. After placing his umbrella where it

might drip, he pinned a piece of paper to the umbrella and wrote up on it: "Notice—This umbrella belongs to a man who can strike a 252 pound blow. Back in fifteen minutes." He went upstairs, and after an ab-

sence of fifteen minutes returned, to find his umbrella gone and in its place a note reading: "P. S.—Umbrella taken by man who walks ten miles an hour. Wont be back at all!" —Boys Life.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MONROE, N. C.

HENRY E. GURNEY
Minister.

W. A. HENDERSON
J. M. BELK
Sunday School Superintendents.

MRS. MABEL BELK
Superintendent Primary Department.

Mrs. R. H. HARGETT
President Woman's Auxillary.

WESLEY COBLE
President Young People's Society.

Regular Services
SUNDAY
10:00 A. M.—Sunday School.
11:00 A. M.—Worship and Sermon.
7:00 P. M.—Praise service and Sermon.

WEDNESDAY
7:30 P. M.—Service for Meditation and Prayer.

A cordial invitation is given to all to attend the above services, if not attendants elsewhere.



ROASTER REFLECTS QUALITY

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F.S. ROASTER GUANO COMPANY

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