

WHY COST OF LIVING INCREASES

Demand for Food Will Soon Exceed Home Supply, Says Commission Expert

JAMES J. HILL'S PROPHECY

We Have Reached a Point Where We Are Ceasing to Be an Exporting Nation of Edibles—Effect of Country's Growth.

New York, N. Y.—Henry Dunkak is President of the New York Mercantile Exchange, the organization of produce commission merchants who handle New York's fresh food supply. The World asked him why the cost of living is increasing so rapidly. This is his reply:

"Natural causes — a complete change in the conditions governing our national food supply. Artificial changes here and there, extra profits in some lines, combinations in others; local conditions in cities have tendencies to increase certain prices, but those are the exceptions, not the ruling causes. Underneath them lies the basic reason; namely, a demand for food that is increasing faster than the supply."

"We have reached a point where we are ceasing to be an exporting nation of food products. Our population is increasing so rapidly that we are consuming at home nearly all products of the American farm. A few years ago we exported large quantities of food; to-day we export little save in special lines; a few years hence we may be importing."

"It is a very simple rule in economics that when the demand proves greater than the supply prices rise. This is the condition we are approaching in the food question. This is why prices are steadily advancing."

"Mr. James J. Hill the railroad man, is considered, I believe, an authority on the grain supply of the West. He has stated that we, as a nation, are rapidly approaching the time where we will cease to export wheat and flour and consume at home every bushel we can raise. I am not familiar with the details of the wheat supply, but I accept that prophecy, because I know the same conditions are applying to the fresh produce of the farm—the butter, eggs, cheese, milk, vegetables and poultry."



"Until recently New York was a great dairy State. It more than supplied this city with its butter, milk and cheese. To-day we go far West for the greater part of our butter and eggs. The States of the Mississippi Valley supply the New York breakfast table. The commission merchant is driven to go further and further West and South for his consignments of farm produce."

"The very rapid increase in population has a double effect. First, there are a greater number of people to be fed, particularly in the large cities, who do not raise any of their food supply; secondly, there is a decrease in the available acreage in Eastern States, owing to the spreading out of communities. Every new town that springs up or expands into a city draws first on its own immediate vicinity for farm products, and thereby decreases the supply that formerly was shipped to the metropolis."

"Thus everywhere the general demand for food products is increasing, while the available supply grows very little larger. The first effect of the demands is to raise prices at initial points. The farmer can ask and receive higher prices for everything he raises than five and ten years ago. There is a steady upward movement in all market prices."

"Examine almost any staple on the list, butter for example, and you will find the average price from the dairy onward has had an unvarying rise. The producer, think, has had the first and largest benefit of this increase."

"The longer distance from which New York must bring its fresh food supply naturally leads to some increase in the cost of transportation. Only a very small part of the total comes from nearby regions. The truck gardens of long Island have been turned into building lots. The milk trains start 200 miles or more away from the city. Iowa butter is sought after. The States of the South furnish us with vegetables."

"But it is not merely these special conditions that is raising the cost of living. The real causes lie further back. The population is growing enormously. We are wanting and getting better qualities of food. The demand is going ahead at such rapid pace that it is overtaking the supply. The result is inevitable—higher prices."

"There is the answer to your question."

Baby Weighs Pound and a Half.
Cleveland, Ohio.—Elizabeth Bond, of No. 7,700 Denison avenue, is five days old and weighs only one and one-half pounds. Doctors think she will live. The baby is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Bond.

Husbandless Honeymoon.

There will be a very unique social affair in Atchison soon. A certain girl has never married, and as all her sisters married and enjoyed pretty clothes and wedding presents, her father announces that he wants to do as well by her, and will give her a mock wedding.

She will have as much money to spend on clothes as if she were to be a bride, and after she has them all made her father will give her a party and notify all the kin that they must carry presents as if to a bride. Then he will send the girl on a trip to the sea coast, where she can wear her new clothes and have more fun than if there were a man tagging along.

Language of Ants.

Insects carry on conversation among themselves, and while this is done by means of their feelers they are not entirely dependent upon them.

"A whole colony," says M. Bouwer, "in an ant house or a beehive often responds instantaneously to a signal which may have been given without contact. It is interesting to see an ant laborer for whom a burden is too heavy go to a fellow, make a sign or give a certain touch with his feeler and then see the second insect join the first in lifting or moving the object."

England's Woman Voters.

A return of the number of women voters in England and Wales who are qualified to vote for county councils and for councilors in municipal boroughs, issued to-day, shows that the women's franchise for county councils extends to 562,961 for England and 41,945 for Wales, making a total of 604,906. For county borough councils in England and Wales the number is 265,862, and for non-county borough councils there are 131,421 voters for England, 5,993 for Wales, making a total of 137,424.

New Fruit for California.

California is to try acclimating the Korean wild fig. The fig, growing on a hardy vine, on trees, trellises and hedgerows to a height of 30 feet, bears a delicious fruit. Some of the seed has been sent to the department of agriculture, California State university. The fig grows wild in Korea and has proved of great value there.

Overcome Adversity.

The waves which sorrow lashes up around us stand high between us and the world and make our ship solitary in the midst of a haven full of vessels. Cannot one do like the fair sun, and go under the waves and yet come back again. And yet, after all, if you look upon his going down rightly there is no such thing in reality.—Richter.

Gossip.

Let the greatest part of the news thou hearest be the least part of what thou believest, lest the greater part of what thou believest be the least part of what is true. Where lies are easily admitted the father of lies will not easily be excluded.—Quarles.

Delicately Put.

"The first day out was perfectly lovely," said the young lady just back from abroad. "The water was as smooth as glass, and it was simply gorgeous. But the second day was rough and—or—decidedly disgorgeous."—Everybody's Magazine.

Pagan Idea of Death.

Death—a stopping of impressions through the senses, and of the pulling of the cords of motion, and of the ways of thought, and of service to the flesh.—Marcus Aurelius.

Horribly Mean.

The meanest man in the world is the husband who placed his money in a mouse-trap so that his wife could not get it in the early morning without liberating a mouse.—Exchange.

STOVES IN THE SHOES.

No Danger of Cold Feet with This Kind of Footgear.

People who are troubled with cold feet may take heart. In Germany there has been patented a contrivance described as a "heatable shoe." The heel is hollowed out, and in this hollow is a receptacle for a glowing substance similar to that used in Japanese hand-warmers. Between the soles, imbedded in asbestos covers, is a rubber bag which is filled with water.

The heating substance in the shoe keeps the water warm, and it circulates while the wearer is walking, thus imparting a pleasant warmth to the foot. A small safety-valve is provided, so that the bag cannot burst. The warmth given by the sole never rises above 70 degrees Fahrenheit and will last about eight hours. It is claimed that the sole is not unreasonably thick, being only slightly thicker than that of a wet-weather shoe.

The Impulse of Courage.

In many cases courage is merely instinctive. Many a man has distinguished himself in the performance of some act of heroism the thought of which caused him completely to collapse when the danger was over. The same instinct which leads a man to dodge when about to be struck will lead him, without waiting to take counsel of his judgment, to risk his life in the performance of some heroic act. The impulse of courage is just as natural as the impulse of fear, and, however much cultivation may lead individuals to dislike physical danger, so long as there are Carnegie medals to distribute there will probably be no lack of persons worthy to receive them.

SLEEP FOR THE SLEEPLESS.

French Specialist Woos Slumber for His Wide-Awake Patients.

A French specialist has come to the rescue of persons afflicted with insomnia. His method is somewhat vaguely described as "lulling the wideawakes to unconsciousness such as babies are put to slumber."

"It is a perfect palace of peace that he has opened in lovely Touraine. Here is never a disturbing sound. The silence is broken only by the absolutely monotonous and soothing tick, tick, tick of solid grandfather clocks, and the scarcely perceptible drip of unseen fountains."

"Everything is seen through a cerulean haze, everything moves in list slippers, the air is fresh but full of faint perfume. Before the eyes of very refractory patients slowly revolve colored balls, not the smallest rose leaf is allowed to crumple in any bed, each bed so designed that there is no possibility of the body growing weary. Here, in fact, the wooing of sleep has been made a positive science, and it is said no one can keep awake here, however hard he may try."

The Spirit of Work.

The amount of work which each man accomplishes during the day depends upon other factors than the mere hours of labor, and the most important of these factors is the spirit in which the work is done. The spirit of the day's work will depend upon the personal relation which exists between the office and the workshop. If the employer is known to be interested in the welfare of his men, they will be, more truly than otherwise, his retainers, more zealous for the property of his business; but if his relation to them is that of a taskmaster, they will be his slaves, merely, and quite capable of any treachery. The effort of the employer who would gain the loyal service of his men must be to preserve in every possible way the individuality of the employee, to emphasize his manhood, and thus to increase his self-respect.—J. T. Lincoln in the Atlantic.

Learn to Walk Erect.

If you are walking along the street and wake up to the fact that you are carrying yourself poorly, take the mental attitude of standing erect, as well as the physical one.

Look at the men you meet and imagine that each one of them owes you a dollar; put even a suggestion into your position.

Hold your head well back; look people squarely in the face.

This will not only give the impression to others that you possess the power you want, but it will actually tend to bring that power.

Keep the neck against the collar.

If constantly persisted in an erect carriage will soon become very natural and there will be no need of thinking of it.

Sermons in Ancient Times.

St. Augustine's sermons lasted about eighteen minutes, but in that ancient day it was no uncommon thing to have several at the same service. When two or more bishops were present it was usual for them and the presbyters to preach one after the other, reserving the last place for the highest dignitary. Some consolation, however, was to be found in the fact that applause was permitted and many of St. Chrysostom's sermons were hailed with the "tossing of garments and waving of handkerchiefs."

Sees Final Victory Over Tuberculosis.

Dr. William Osler says: "Whether tuberculosis will be finally eradicated is an open question. It is a foe that is very deeply entrenched in the human race. Very hard it will be to eradicate completely, but when we think of what has been done in one generation, how the mortality in many places has been reduced more than 50 per cent.—indeed, in some places 100 per cent.—it is a battle of hope, and so long as we are fighting with hope, the victory is in sight."

Cuts Off Thousands of Miles.

When the Panama canal is completed and opened for the passage of vessels the water route from New York to San Francisco will be reduced more than half. The exact number of miles that will be cut off is 7,796. The water route around the Horn is now 13,690 miles. The canal route, therefore, will be 5,204 miles.

Forced to Listen.

"My daughter is a fine pianist. Have you ever heard her play?" asked the lady from next door, calling.

"Hear her?" exclaimed the other. "Of course, we've heard her! You don't think we can keep the windows shut all the time, do you?"—Yonkers Statesman.

Her First Sight of a Peacock.

Little Mary went into the country on a visit to her grandmother. Walking in the garden she chanced to spy a peacock, a bird she had never seen. She ran quickly into the house and cried out, "Oh! grandma, come out and see. There's an old chicken in full bloom."

America's Largest Cities.

In this country there are 158 cities of population exceeding 30,000. Of these fifteen have over 200,000 inhabitants, twenty-seven have between 100,000 and 200,000, forty-eight have between 50,000 and 100,000, and sixty-eight have less than 50,000.

Who He Belonged To.

A matron of the most determined character was encountered by a young woman reporter on a country paper, who was sent out to interview leading citizens as to their politics. "May I see Mr. —?" she asked of a stern-looking woman who opened the door at one house. "No, you can't," answered the matron, decisively. "But I want to know what party he belongs to," pleaded the girl. The woman drew up her tall figure. "Well, she a good look at me," she said, "I'm the party he belongs to!"

ROARTY PUTS ON GOLOSSES

Basas Hard Winter Prophecy on Jersey Farmers' Thick Crop of Whiskers.

Verona, N. J.—Columbus Roarty of Greenwood Lake made his annual visitation here to announce the weather for the coming fall and winter. Before giving out his private tips he was in earnest confab with the corner grocery man. Columbus was inquiring about the market quotations on goloshes and ear muffs a week days, and drove a hard bargain by trading a fat pullet that had stopped laying and set of mosquito screens for the cold weather protectors.

The prophecies of Columbus Roarty—he refuses to call them prognostications or even predictions—have been accepted for thirty years hereabouts as only a little in advance of fact. He is so sure about the weather that he always buys his winter supplies in summer, and the reverse. All his prophecies are based on signs from nature. After he had traded with the grocer he gave out the signs.

"We're going to have a mighty cold winter," said Columbus. "Everything points to a cold fall and a rip-roaring winter. For one thing, have you noticed this season's corn. Every ear has grown long whiskers, and that's a sure sign. The corn seems to have the sense of a Morris County granger in this respect. A wise farmer'll grow a good crop of whiskers as winter advances. The harder the winter the longer and thicker the whiskers. The same way with the corn. I've never noticed longer breezes than they have this season."

"You may have noticed, too, that the sunflower blossomed early. That means that we'll have an early frost and early snow. We will have a billiard of the 1888 brand along the middle of November. Then, look at the apple trees. I can't remember when we had such a poor crop. That means that the trees are storing up all their sap and energy against a hard spell of weather and a long winter. In summers before a mild winter there is always a fine crop of apples. The present condition, by the way, too, means a hard winter for the lover of apple-jack."

"As a clincher I might say that the cabbages are on to the fact that we are going to have a record-breaking winter. When a man says 'cabbage-head' to mean an ignoramus, he does not know what he is talking about, for the cabbages are the wisest of vegetables. Every head of cabbage on my farm this summer is growing thick, tough leaves—and all because they are providing warm coverings for the cold weather that they know we're going to buck up against this winter."

THE ASCENT OF THE AVIATOR.

In the air one minute—"Another fool inventor."
In the air three minutes—"Hasn't he killed himself yet?"
In the air five minutes—"All the fools ain't dead yet."
In the air thirty minutes—"Mr. Ayryder, the well-known aviator."
In the air one hour—"Our distinguished fellow-countryman."
In the air one hour and a quarter—"The wizard of the air."
In the air one hour and a half—"The Legion of Honor could have been bestowed on no worthier man."

THE GOAL AND THE PRICE.



—From the New York World.

"Cats' Angel" Kills 'Em for Fur.

Atlantic City, N. J.—Deep mystery has surrounded the fitting personality of a veiled woman in black in this city. It was believed she was gathering in cats owned by wealthy residents, who neglected them, and that she took them to a home for shelter. The shock was great when owners of valuable cats were informed by detectives that the pets had been slain for their fur.

Dies at 115; Said Onions Gave Life.

Bellefontaine, Ohio.—Mrs. Rebecca Burns, who claimed that when a child she saw George Washington, died here at the age of 115 years. She attributed her longevity to eating onions twice each day. For scores of years she made onions, which she had grown in her own garden, the principal part of her diet.

Dog Complained of by Thomas Cats.

Mount Vernon, N. Y.—John Nolan was in court charged with harboring a dangerous bulldog. The complainant was Thomas Cats, who failed to appear, and Judge Gay dismissed the complaint.



Darling's Animal Circus, White City, Worcester, Mass., opened the Park on the 22nd day of May, 1906, to the largest opening of any park in this vicinity and pronounced by press and public, that these animals are very cleverly educated. At the Wayne County Fair next week.



Pine Hurst Park, Worcester, Mass., also engaged Darling's animals the following week after Lincoln Park and opened the Park to 12,000 people at their opening performance and pleasing the ladies, children and gentlemen to the best of satisfaction. Will be here next week, at the county fair.

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