

Living Expenses

Better Modes of Cooking Needed

By THURDE RAYLE BRUCE

EXPENSES of living are inordinately high, but this is in the case of most of our people a condition that can be easily remedied by themselves.

It is hardly to be expected that congressional investigation or the formation of anti-food monopoly associations will do much to lower the cost of the necessities of life. That the trusts are organized to raise prices may be true, but to reach them in any effective way by law is a different problem. What can be done, though, in a practical way by the heads of households to cut down living expenses, is very considerable and if generally adopted will bring about a decided lowering of prices.

Here is an instance: The choice cuts of meats, like porterhouse steaks, or fancy lamb chops are bringing an absurd price, say 28 to 30 cents a pound. The average family can't afford them, but many will continue to buy, ignoring the fact that the plebeian round steak is almost as good, if properly cooked, and quite as nutritious, while its cost is less by 33 1-3 per cent. It is a common saying that Europeans can live on what Americans waste, and I know there is much truth in the statement. Our people in the days of a more plentiful and cheap food supply acquired wasteful and extravagant habits; really good stuff was thrown into the refuse cans, instead of being utilized for future meals. Now we have reached the point where some of this inferior material must be put upon the table.

Better modes of cooking will make it palatable and acceptable. If the public will, by a common movement, sternly set its face against the purchase of all ultra high priced products and not disdain the cheaper grades it will do more to bring domestic expenses down to a reasonable basis than all the legislation that Washington can manufacture.



Passion for Collecting Old Junk

By W. E. THOMAS

Walt Mason's dissertation upon "The Passion for Junk" recalls to my memory an actual character who is possessed of the habit of collecting junk. He is an under official in one of the largest manufactories in the west. He is a man of means and it is needless to say that his mania for collecting old iron is not one of necessity. But whether it be at his place of employment or on the highway this man cannot resist the temptation to stoop, pick up, pocket and carry home stray bits of old iron. A peculiar feature about the man's collecting is that he never takes large pieces, confining himself entirely to nuts and bolts, washers and other like trinkets. Several times his employers have asked him why he gathers this vast collection of rolling-mill products. His response always was that he did not know, but that he could not resist the impulse to pick up the articles. Even a threat of discharge did not cure him of his mania. He is a man of education and breeding and it has been told of him that when passing through the streets in evening dress he has filled the pockets of his "claw-hammer" with his finds.

Naturally his employers grew curious to learn what disposition was made of the old iron and a visit was paid to the man's home for that purpose. What they beheld was amazing. In the hear of his lot, in a monster barn, were piled high, clear to the ceiling, tons of old iron. When again questioned as to what disposition he intended to make of the iron he replied: "I really do not know. But I suppose that I shall go on collecting until I am no more."

Keen Noses as Salary Makers

By GEORGE MOULTON

The city of Washington was recently up against the problem of selecting an inspector of markets and among the other qualifications demanded was a keen sense of smell, this being necessary in order that the inspector might readily locate meats and other produce a little past their prime. As to whether or not there was a competitive examination the authorities are darkly silent, but if there was it must have been interesting.

Keen noses insure a fairly good living in several industries and trades. Scent makers, for example, need some one with a delicate sense of smell to aid them in mixing the ingredients of perfumes in proper proportions, exact measurements not always yielding the same results. The favorite perfume of the queen of England is a violet extract, which costs \$50 per ounce and this has to be approved by five professional "smellers" before the makers are willing to forward it to her majesty. Perfume makers pay their "smellers" \$20 to \$35 a week.

In Great Britain, where gas is much used for street lighting, for illuminating public buildings and pleasure parks, the contractors employ "smellers" to locate leaks, these men strolling about after the manner of a bird dog in a likely field. They are usually paid one shilling for each leak reported and some of them make as high as \$15 per week.

Caring for All Dumb Creatures

By ELSIE NICHOLS

The superintendent of Chicago public schools, Mrs. Young, orders that school children be asked to feed the birds. Why not include in this commendable charity other dumb brutes as well? We see many shivering, half-starved dogs, roaming the streets this cold weather, with their pathetic eyes seeming to beg for human sympathy and food. Also stray cats at your door find it hard to live in winter. Why not educate the children to take an interest in man's faithful friend, the horse? If they see a poor horse standing unblanketed in the cold, let them request the owner or driver to blanket him. Or let them take the trouble to turn a horse's head away from the street-car tracks. I have seen many horses narrowly escape being struck by street cars through owners' carelessness. Or teach the children to report cases of brutality or overloading. If the children were taught this in the schools there would be a crusade started in Chicago that would soon result in better conditions for these dumb brutes.

STREAM OF BIBLES LEAVES NEW YORK TO CIRCLE GLOBE

NEW YORK.—There is a door in a Fourth avenue building which has all the hall marks of shipping department doors in general—battered side posts, polished iron chutes, boxes on the sidewalk marked with names that seem to have been taken haphazard from a gazetteer. Husky truckmen are continually going in and out and through the dusty windows the heads may be seen of clerks checking off lists. It is one of a thousand doors which would to a casual passerby seem devoted to the same purpose.

But there is a special name attached to this particular door. This is the Door of a Million Bibles. Out of this door each year a million Bibles pass to be distributed through the world.

The rumor that a conditional gift of \$500,000 from Mrs. Russell Sage awaits the action of the Bible society in raising a similar amount is affirmed by one of the officials, but that any rigid time limit has been placed upon it he denies.

"Mrs. Sage has been very considerate," he says, "and appreciating the difficulty attendant upon the task has extended the time limit most generously."

Already large sums have been received from the various agencies about the country to be added to the fund which is being raised. It takes approximately \$600,000 to pay the expenses of the society each year and the \$1,000,000 that the officials expect to receive through Mrs. Sage's gift will be considered in the light of a nest egg, something to depend on in financial depressions and slacking up of contributions.

It was Sir Walter Scott who in his last illness, after asking a friend to read aloud to him and hearing the interrogation as to the book desired, said "There is only one." As to this "only one" there is, according to the statistics of the American Bible society, no evidence that the interest of the human family has lapsed into indifference. A record of approximately 90,000,000 volumes in 80 years speaks eloquently to the contrary.

Early Days of the Society.
"The society was first housed in a small building on Nassau street, in a

sent to parts of China over the great Yangtze-kiang river. The figures of the latter half of the year 1909 are not yet compiled, but the record shows that during the first six months there were sold in China alone about 408,000 Bibles, a total never reached before.

In the salesroom of the society are cases filled with duplicate copies of original books and manuscripts. The fact that the building is not fireproof is the reason why the interesting collection owned by the society is at present housed at the Lenox library. This collection contains editions of the Bible in more than 150 languages and dialects. Of English versions and revisions there are approximately 5,000 volumes exclusive of the manuscripts.

Editions of Famous Bibles.

Here you will see one of the few "Vinegar Bibles," Oxford, 1716, in which a printer's mistake has been immortalized, as in the "Breeches Bible." There is a facsimile of the Bible printed on white satin which was presented to the empress dowager of China in 1894 by 10,000 Christian women. There is a copy of the Bible done into the Mongolian dialect by Schrascherowsky, a cripple, who also did it into Calmuck. There is a copy of the "Mazarin Bible," the first book printed from movable metal types in two volumes, which appeared about the year 1455 and the first recognized copy of which was discovered in the library of Cardinal Mazarin—hence the title. It is also called the "Gutenberg Bible," from the name of the printer, and again termed the "Forty-two Line Bible," from the number of lines in each column of its pages. Copies of the several editions of the Gutenberg Bible have been sold for sums which would procure nearly 100,000 Bibles now printed by the American society.

There are also copies of the Douay version of the Bible used by Roman Catholics, of the translation from the Latin Vulgate made by the English college at Reims, of the English version of the Scriptures now in common use and of the revised edition, the work of English and American scholars, which appeared in 1885. According to the terms of the agreement then entered into no other revision



room about the size of one of the secretaries' sanctuaries of to-day, with its walls lined with shelves. An officer of that early time said that he hoped the society would prosper to the extent of having all the available space some time filled with Bibles. In 1853 the society moved to its present quarters after various changes of residence, the corner-stone being laid with due ceremonial on June 24, 1854," says Dr. Henry Dwight, one of the secretaries of the society.

Following him you see in the printing rooms men and women working together, a majority of whom have grown gray in the service. Some of the secretaries and clerks have served in the missionary field, and Dr. Dwight himself has come to his quiet revolving chair after strenuous service in Turkey.

One of the most interesting places visited is the managers' room, where board and special meetings are held. It is a fine old apartment with high wainscoted walls and paneled ceiling. Stained glass windows afford a mellow light and in it are portraits of men prominent in the history of the society. At one end of the room is a facsimile of a Chinese houseboat used to convey a corps of missionaries guarding about twenty tons of Bibles

Dr. Dwight in regard to the expense incurred in earlier times.

"Before the art of printing the Bible was reproduced exclusively by briefmen or copyists who wrote it out with the pen, and it was then the most expensive book in the world," he said. "In the thirteenth century a copy of the Bible with a few explanatory notes cost \$150. The wages of a laborer amounted then to 15 cents a week and it would take a workman about fifteen years to earn enough to purchase a volume.

Bible a Household Treasure.

"Even after the invention of printing the Bible sold at fabulous sums. In as late a period as that immediately following the American revolution the dearth of books was so great that the possession of a Bible ranked with that of the other treasures of a household. The cheapest volume cost not less than two dollars."

Altogether, through the efforts of the society, translations of the Bible have been made into about 450 languages and dialects. These translations are generally made by missionaries, who in the countries where there is no written tongue find themselves confronted by a work that oftentimes takes anywhere from two to five years and is attended by very great difficulties. As soon as a missionary has formulated a written language from the spoken sounds and has taught some of the natives to read and write he wants to translate the Bible and requests the Bible society to print the translation and send him the books for distribution.

At the present time the Bible society is printing the Bible in three of the languages of Africa which have never been used for writing. It is also printing Bibles in five of the lan-

guages of the Philippines and slowly completing the printed list of 30 languages used in the islands of the south Pacific.

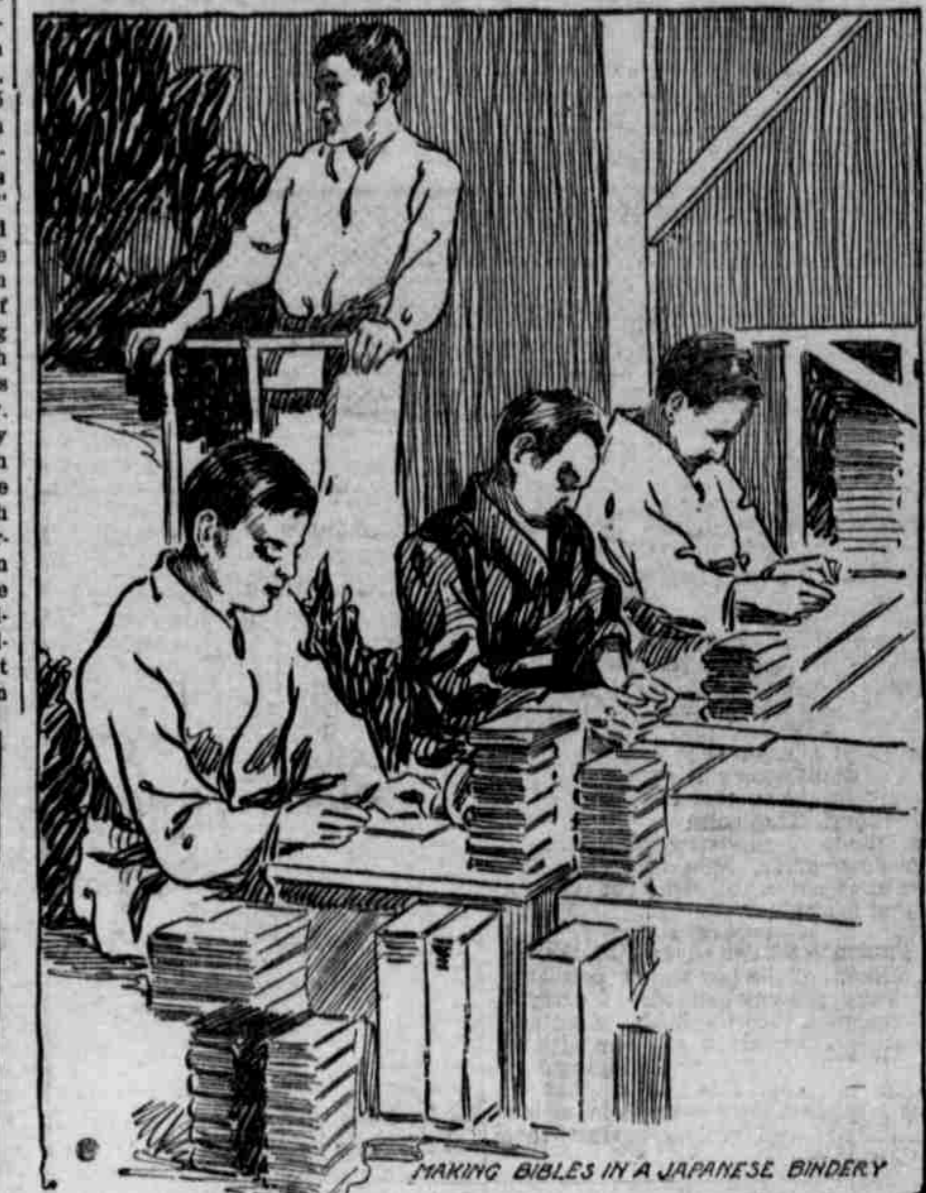
Among the naval forces and among seamen generally. About 1,500,000 books have been distributed by the marine committee."

Sales at Coney Island.
Even the dignified seriousness of Dr. Dwight is not proof against the attack of mirth that seizes him as he relates the introduction of what a barker described to the merry-makers at Coney Island last summer as "the wash-tub" edition of the Bible.

The Bible at Coney Island is brought into competition with fascinating and novel forms of amusement and entertainment and the hoarse voice of its own energetic colporteur is one of many crying special wares, such as the "Loop the Loop," the "Ride into the Whale" and the "Voyage to Heaven and Hell," and even these members of the society who deprecate the apparent loss of dignity involved in this rivalry are obliged to admit that while it is eminently necessary to maintain the serious character of the Holy Book, at the same time it is equally necessary to yield a point in doing so and to take into account the prevailing moods of the thousands who stroll by the stand—moods of recreation and enjoyment.

The colporteur at Coney Island has a ready tongue and wit. He has a more difficult proposition to handle than his competitors, and he handles it deftly. To one he says reprovingly, in answer to a jest: "This book will keep you from sin. Sin will keep you from this book. On the cards he distributes and among the printed posters decorating his wall stocked stand the passerby may read:

Scriptures sold as cheap as these. With his megaphone in hand John Henry Way, a lifetime devotee of this special branch of work, calls out to the moving multitude, "Don't forget the Bible," and some are singled out for special comments adapted to their special needs. The small boy whose greedy mouth is open to receive a large chunk of ice cream sandwich is, for instance, arrested by the statement, "You can have a book that will last you for years for the price of a sandwich that is lost in a second." Probably the sandwich is lost and the book is not gained, but the boy has been made to think.



Many Distributing Points.
A great many of the books intended for distribution in the far east are printed in places other than New York. For example, there is a fine printing establishment at Yokohama under the auspices of the Bible society which employs Japanese workmen under contract. From this place distribution is made to the Philippines and to Korea. The society also prints in Shanghai and Chen Tu and at Bangkok in Siam, and at Beirut in Syria similar work is done, some of it on presses belonging to the Presbyterian Missionary society, with which the American Bible society co-operates.

The agency established in the northwest during the year ending in March 31, 1909, distributed Scriptures in 35 different languages, including, in addition to French, German, Scandinavian and Finnish, such tongues as the Lettish, Slovak, Lithuanian, Croatian, Slovenian and Arabic. One of the Bible society colporteurs was sent to Indianapolis to distribute books among the Hunyaks. The name was unknown to him. When he went among them he found that the people so designated were a medley of Servians, Croatians, Bulgarians, Macedonians, Turks, Rumanians, Greeks, Albanians, Germans and Hungarians.

In Haughville, a suburb of Indianapolis, he found Slovenians, Poles, Slovaks and Lithuanians. These foreigners live together in groups; in one instance 53 men were living in five small rooms. The colporteurs employed by the American Bible society during the last year numbered approximately 662; of these 163 were in the home agencies and the remainder in the foreign agencies and as missionary correspondents.

Revisions and Translations.
The revisions of the various translations and editions of the Bible already printed is also an important branch of the work," says Dr. Dwight. "For example we have been at work since last spring in getting a Spanish revision and expect it will take six years to complete the work. For this purpose we brought here three Ameri-

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