

extension and improvement of the railway systems of the country have been the backbone of the industrial prosperity which has led to the inflation of securities in Wall street to hundreds of millions of dollars beyond their value. The railway systems have got through; they have anticipated business for many years. It is a crime to deceive the country any longer with false hopes of returning industrial prosperity.

"The only door of relief must be cut right through the tariff. By that door alone we can reach the markets necessary to support our overgrown industries. Before this time next year the country will have suffered enough to put it in a thinking condition. Dark days are at hand for the 'standpaters,' for the real situation can no longer be concealed."

Population Paradox.

The general tendency of the colored population throughout the whole country, north and south, is from the rural into the city districts—from farms to the city—and should the mortality in the city be greater than it is in the country districts the colored population, like the Indian population in other days, would diminish to the point of extinction.

In 56 of the cities of the country, 50 recently reported in the census office show an excess of deaths among

the negroes. In New Orleans, for instance, there were, last year, 1,700 births among the negroes and 3,300 deaths; in St. Louis, 600 births and 1,200 deaths; in Chicago, 400 births and 700 deaths; and so on through the large cities, the exceptions being chiefly in the southwest and in Southern California.

Notwithstanding this, the colored population of the United States, which gets no augmentation whatever from immigration, continues steadily to increase, and in a ratio very little less than of the white population, added to enormously by new-comers from other lands.

This paradox is explained by the fact that the birth rate among colored people is very much larger in the country districts of the south than is the death rate. There is constantly a large and natural increase in the colored population in the rural and semi-rural districts. In percentage it is not high, but in totals it is considerable. Colored people who flock to the large cities do not go there in childhood, but when at or near adult years. Colored girls from 16 to 20 seeking domestic service go to the large cities, and boys seeking the attractions of large cities or towns in preference to life on the farm or plantation constitute the chief element of addition to the colored population of towns and cities.

Any person who is possessed of the idea that the colored population of the United States is dying out needs only to consult the census figures to see his mistake. There were 6,580,000 colored people in this country by the census of 1880; there were 7,500,000 by the census of 1890, and 8,850,000 by the census of 1900. There is no diminution of colored population in the United States, or in any part of it, despite the figures the big cities show.—New York Sun.

An English Firm's Pension Fund.

It seems to be the universal opinion in this country at any rate, that in bright, up-to-date advertising methods, the United States leads the world. There are some advertising dodges, however, in England, which in ingenuity and in results quite come up to any that we have evolved. A letter from that country recently received shows that a poor widow is receiving a weekly pension of 10 shillings from a tea company, located at Louth, England. The only thing the woman did to earn the pension was to buy a half pound of tea every week for one year previous to the time of her husband's death, from the firm, which has agents all over the country. The pension will last as long as the woman lives and the company has deposited many thousand pounds with the government as a guarantee fund, in order that even if the firm failed the promise to pay the pensions would still hold good.

Of course, the woman might have gone on buying tea for years and years, her husband living to enjoy it with her, but it was only necessary that she should have been a buyer one year prior to his death. This is a case where the firm, beside reaping a

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To accommodate those of our readers who wish to take one or more other periodicals with **The Commoner** we make special clubbing rates with a number of daily, weekly, and monthly publications. Our list includes newspapers, agricultural papers, and magazines of a general character, each being of first-rate standing in its own field, and well worth its regular subscription price. We handle many thousands of these subscriptions every year, involving a large amount of labor and expense, and bringing absolutely no profit, simply in pursuance of the paper's general policy of giving its subscribers as much as possible for their money.

CLASS A

	Regular Price
Farm and Home.....semi-mo.....	.50
Farmer's Wife.....mo.....	.50
Farm, Stock and Home semi-mo.....	.50
Home and Farm.....semi-mo.....	.50
Indianapolis Sentinel.....wk.....	.50
Kansas Farmer.....wk.....	1.00
Missouri Valley Farmer.....mo.....	.50
Poultry Topics.....mo.....	.25
Prairie Farmer.....wk.....	1.00
Reliable Poultry Journal.....mo.....	.50
Western Swine Breeder.....mo.....	.50

CLASS B

	Regular Price
Atlanta Constitution.....wk.....	\$1.00
Campbell's Soil Culture.....mo.....	1.00
Cincinnati Enquirer.....wk.....	1.00
Cosmopolitan.....mo.....	1.00
Good Housekeeping.....mo.....	1.00
Farm, Field and Fireside.....wk.....	1.00
Irrigation Age.....mo.....	1.00
Nebraska Independent.....wk.....	1.00
Pilgrim.....mo.....	1.00
Practical Farmer.....mo.....	1.00
Seattle Times.....wk.....	1.00
Thrice-a-week World.....wk.....	1.00
World-Herald.....twice-a-week.....	1.00
Windle's Gating Gun.....mo.....	1.00

Any ONE in Class A with The Commoner.....	\$1.00
Any TWO in Class A with The Commoner.....	1.35
Any THREE in Class A with The Commoner.....	1.60
Any ONE in Class B with The Commoner.....	1.35
Any TWO in Class B with The Commoner.....	1.85
Any THREE in Class B with The Commoner.....	2.35
Any ONE in Class A and ONE in Class B with The Commoner.....	\$1.60
Any TWO in Class A and ONE in Class B with The Commoner.....	1.85
Any ONE in Class A and TWO in Class B with The Commoner.....	2.10

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Farm and Home, semi-mo.....	.50	1.00
Farm, Field and Fireside, wk.....	1.00	1.35
Farm, Stock and Home, semi-mo.....	.50	1.00
Farmer's Wife, mo.....	.50	1.00
Home and Farm, semi-mo.....	.50	1.00
Irrigation Age, mo.....	1.00	1.35
Kansas Farmer, wk.....	1.00	1.00
Missouri Valley Farmer, mo.....	.50	1.00
Orange Judd Farmer, wk.....	1.00	1.10
Poultry Topics, mo.....	.25	1.00
Practical Farmer, wk.....	1.00	1.35
Prairie Farmer, wk.....	1.00	1.00
Reliable Poultry Journal, mo.....	.50	1.00
Western Swine Breeder, mo.....	.50	1.00

NEWSPAPERS.

	Reg. Price	Club Price
Atlanta Constitution, wk.....	1.00	\$1.35
Cincinnati Enquirer, wk.....	1.00	1.35
Indianapolis Sentinel, wk.....	.50	1.00
Kansas City World Daily.....	3.00	3.00
Kansas City World, da. exc. Sun.....	1.50	2.00
Nebraska Independent, wk.....	1.00	1.35
Rocky Mountain News-Times, wk.....	1.00	1.60
Seattle Times, wk.....	1.00	1.35
Thrice-a-Week N. Y. World.....	1.00	1.35
Wachter and Anzelsor, Sunday.....	1.50	1.85
World-Herald, twice-a-week.....	\$1.00	1.35

MAGAZINES.

	Reg. Price	Club Price
Cosmopolitan, mo.....	1.00	\$1.35
Good Housekeeping, mo.....	1.00	1.35
Household-Ledger, mo.....	1.00	1.45
Pearson's Magazine, mo.....	1.00	1.50
Pilgrim, mo.....	\$1.00	1.35
Review of Reviews, mo.....	2.50	2.85
Success, mo.....	1.00	1.65
Twentieth Century Home, mo.....	1.00	1.35
Woman's Home Companion, mo.....	1.00	1.45

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Reg. Price	Club Price
Literary Digest, (new) wk.....	\$3.00	\$3.00
Public Opinion, (new) wk.....	3.00	3.00
The Public, wk.....	2.00	2.25
Windle's Gating Gun, mo.....	1.00	1.35

Note—Clubbing combinations or premium offers in which the *Thrice-a-Week World*, *World-Herald*, or *Kansas City World*, or *Farm, Stock and Home* appears, are not open to residents of the respective cities in which the papers named are published.

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large benefit for itself by the unique advertising method, may feel that it is doing a charitable act as well, for the 10 shillings a week is all that stands between its recipient and poverty, and it is probable that this is only one of many similar cases which have been placed on the unique pension fund.

The firm advertises extensively in the newspapers and magazines its pension offer, and its patronage is large and steadily growing.—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Mosquito Plant.

The department of agriculture is investigating the virtues of the *ocimumvirides*, a plant from northern Nigeria, and experts say that if all that is asserted is proved, *ocimum-*

virides will soon be the rage as decorations for entertainments and dinners during the summer season at the seashore. It is conceded it is not as beautiful as bride roses or orchids, but it will remove mosquitoes, it is said, and in this fact its popularity is expected to lie.

Place a pot of *ocimumvirides* on the dining room table or the veranda of a summer cottage and the mosquitoes will leave and not return, it is said, so long as the plant is around.

Mosquitoes object to the odor the plant exudes. This resembles thymian and eucalyptus. The department, before giving its unqualified indorsement to the ornamental mosquito exterminator, is first going to find out if the insects will cultivate a liking of it.—New York Herald.