NOVEMBER, 1914

of civil war pensioners from 1909 to 1914, inclusive. There were on the roll in 1909 a total of 620,985 pensioners and in 1914 a total of 462,379 pensioners. The percentage of loss went up from 5.2 to 7.3. In some cases the deaths of veterans caused additions to the pension roll, as provision had to be made for dependent widows."

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MONEY GETTING AS LIFE OBJECT

In the passion for the mere accumulation of wealth a great many people become "poverty stricken" in the rich things that their own wealth might bring if devoted to ideals of service to themselves and their fellows. The Indianapolis Star tells of a Connecticut man who died the other day at the age of 74, after spending his life as a watchman at \$2 a day. Further the Star says:

"He lived the life of a recluse when off duty, spending no money save for absolute necessities, and subsiding, so his relatives say, almost entirely on bread and onions. But he saved money and invested it shrewdly, so that when he died he left an estate of \$60,000.

"It would be interesting to know what he thought about as all those years passed. Doubtless he took pleasure in accumulating that money, and it was probably a source of satisfaction to him that he would not be dependent on charity in his old age. But evidently money had no value to him except as money. It did not represent travel, or leisure, or acquaintance

The Commoner

with the world, or personal comforts and luxuries. It did not appear to him as a means whereby he might relieve the necessities of his fellow men, for if he did not spend it on himself, neither did he spend it on others. Now that he is dead the money will be divided among a small army of nephews and nieces, for whom he seemingly cared little in life, and his painfully accumulated treasure will be scattered far and wide.

"He was of a class from which a broad outlook could hardly be expected, but he was not, after all so very different from a host of other men of a supposedly higher grade of intelligence and aspiration who spend their lives in the pursuit of wealth, having little use for it when it is gained except to add more to its sum. They have no pleasure except in the making of money, and their lives are hardly less circumscribed than that of the Connecticut watchman. They have riches in bank, but not a rich life. When they finish their labors they have dollars, but they have missed what is better than dollars. To seek wealth for the mere sake of wealth, and to concentrate all the energies and interests on that pursuit, is a sorry waste of existence that might have meant something more and better."

WORK THAT WOMEN PREFER

Census figures relating to women's occupations in New York city throw an interesting light on the drift of female labor in the last ten years. Commenting on this, the New York World says: "Thus, while the number of actors in the

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greater city declined from 4,733 to 4,207 between 1900 and 1910, the number of actresses rose from 2,629 to 3,759. The number of women barbers, hairdressers and manicures increased from 852 to 3,864; the number of bookkeepers, cashiers and accountants from 8,291 to 21,613; telegraph and telephone operators from 2,406 to 7,362; milliners from 7,651 to 12,096; laundresses from 16,102 to 17,823, and cigar and tobacco factory operatives from 6,437 to 8,751. The number of women musicians and musicteachers rose from 3,281 to 5,804, and women stenographers and typewriters show the remarkable increase from 10,868 to 33,769.

"Meantime, the number of servants and waitresses increased from 103,963 to but 122,367, notwithstanding the great growth of population. The number of tailoresses and the number of seamstresses and dressmakers exhibit a marked decline, assuming the accuracy of the figures telegraphed from Washington and the agreement of the classification of the former with the last census. The number of saleswomen was 22,761 in 1910 as against 22,705 in 1900, and there was a decline in some forms of factory labor, such as paper-box making.

"For a conclusive showing of woman's changing preferences in the choice of an occupation, an analysis of the full census report will be necessary. But enough is contained in the summary to indicate a marked tendency away from laborious pursuits and a drift toward those of a politer nature which provide independence along with congenial surroundings."



WHAT WE PAY FOR

The recently-formed American Society for Thrift, which is to hold an international congress at San Francisco next year, has made a tabulation of the annual cost of the alleged extravagances of the American people, Automobiles, according to this authority, cost \$600,000,000 a year. or little less than twice as much as cigars and tobacco, which are set at \$350,000,000. Intoxicating drinks cost \$1,700,000,000, and soft drinks, such as those sold from soda fountains, at one-fifth as much, or \$325.-000,000. Chewing gum costs \$25,-000,000, and confectionery \$87,000.-000. Theaters, including moving pictures and similar entertainments, are rated at \$600,000,000, while the "extravagances" in hotels, restaurants, tango teas, etc., or a sum more than necessary for comfortable subsistence, is rated at \$400,000,000. Th's makes a total or more than \$4,-000,000,000. And this amounts to \$40 per capita, \$200 per family, or one-fifth the total expenditure of the American people for all purposes .----Boston Herald.

A BOLD ORGAN

The dyestuf enterprise has been open for a long time to the men of all parties and all occupations, and yet the dye stuffs have been made in Germany. Their manufacture will continue in Germany so long as there is no premium offered to induce men in the United States to put their money into the business. They are not going to try any experiments.— Des Moines Capital, Standpat Rep.

That's plain enough for anybody. Men are not going into business in this country unless the government is pledged to be used in their interest. Is the government guaranteeing you, gentle reader, anything? The boldness of the special privilege interests is enough to take away the breath of the m n who has to depend upon his own efforts. — Milwaukee Journal.

WHY

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Why the protectionists in their long period of control of the government failed to make this country self-sufficing in the production of dyestuffs must remain an everlasting mystery.—Springfield Republican.