

Wholesale Prices Drop, but Retail Quotations Climb

Food Index Reported Higher for June—Building Materials and Metals Show Largest Decrease.

Washington, July 18.—Although the general level of wholesale prices throughout the country decreased nearly 2 per cent from May to June, according to figures assembled by the bureau of labor statistics, the retail food index showed an increase of 1 per cent.

Among the 404 commodities included in the wholesale price statistics, building materials showed the largest decrease, averaging 4 per cent, while metals declined 2.4 per cent, chemicals and drugs 2.1 per cent and fuel and lighting materials about 2 per cent. Farm products, food, cloths and clothing and miscellaneous commodities registered smaller declines.

Decreases were shown in 190 commodities, increases in 53, and 161 were listed as unchanged.

Thirteen articles of food increased in price at retail between May 15 and June 15, while 15 showed declines and 13 were unchanged. Potatoes advanced 19 per cent, round steak 5 per cent, sirloin steak, leg of lamb and onions 4 per cent; chuck roast and bananas 3 per cent; rib roast and cheese 2 per cent; ham and fresh eggs 1 per cent and vegetable lard and substitutes and tea less than 1 of 2 per cent. The chief decreases recorded were cabbage, 23 per cent, and butter, 4 per cent.

The increase in the retail price level from June 15, 1922, to June 15, 1923, averaged 3 per cent. The general wholesale markets meanwhile registered an advance of 2 per cent.

During the month ending last June 15 food prices advanced in 32 cities, rising as much as 3 per cent at Newark, N. J., Pittsburgh and Washington, D. C. The level decreased in 16 cities and was unchanged in three, but in no city did the average family expenditure for food decline more than 1 per cent.

New Sugar Plant Sought for Beet Land

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee, Scottsbluff, Neb., July 18.—Efforts to secure an independent sugar factory for the North Platte valley, to be located at Torrington, are being renewed.

Under the leadership of the Lions club of Torrington, other communities in the valley are being asked to cooperate to secure the factory, by making pledges of acreage of beets for the proposed refinery. The Torrington boosters point out that the presence of another factory would benefit all the farmers by forcing the Great Western Sugar company to offer a higher price for beets, basing that claim upon the fact that certain independent companies have already paid as high as \$3.50 a ton for 1922 beets while the price received from the Great Western so far is only \$7.

Last winter when the first move for the factory started and a good deal of preliminary work was done, several thousand acres of sugar beets were planted in the Gosheen, Hole country. This crop will be marketed to both Nebraska and Wyoming factories, but the Torrington boosters believe they can get their own mill by next year.

Rough-Hewn Dorothy Canfield

(Continued From Yesterday.)

more to his college work than he had understood. The studies themselves were not unlike those of high school; indeed they were easier than the science of mathematics that had been hammered into him at Hadley. But the point of view was different, and that had fooled him. There was a "take it or leave it" attitude about everything at college; the professors did not, as at Hadley, hold their jobs only because they were able to drive the bright, the dull, the scatter-brained, the sluggish, all through passing grades for the next year's work. No, these college professors and instructors gave themselves no such trouble. They set out their wares. If the students helped themselves, so much the better; if they didn't, so much the worse—for the students. Neale recalled the professors for lazy time-servers, but he wasn't going to let them put it over on him that way another time. He would read everything they suggested, and more! They would be astonished by the brilliance of his finals. But just then baseball practice started in the cage, and Neale forgot all about his vendetta against the professors.

At baseball he expected to shine. His vacant lot, light-of-nature game had not compared favorably with the play of graduates of well-coached Prep schools. He was thrown just as well, he told himself with sour-grape philosophy. After all, he was there, among other things, to get an education.

CHAPTER XIII

The event of that summer, the only one that counted for him, was a long, timber-cruising trip which he took, as chain boy and camp helper, up into the mountains of southern Vermont. Grandfather's whole life had been spent in handling timber in one way and another, and all his old friends and associates were in the world. Every one had the greatest respect for old Mr. Crittenden's "timber sense" even now when he was so old that he could do no more cruising, engage in no more active speculation.

The summer after Neale's Freshman year the proposition was a big buy of wild land from which grandfather himself had skimmed the cream 20 years ago and sold for nothing afterwards, but which old Mr. Crittenden opined, cocking a shrewd old eye in reflection, must have gained to some exploitable value. Three men were to go up unobtrusively and timber-cruise through it, back and forth, zig-zag, till they could make a fair report on what was there. The plans were being made one evening out on the porch where they all sat in the long, clear summer twilight. Grandfather had not seemed to notice Neale's halfhearted interest in the talk of camp outfits and compasses and packs, but suddenly, looking down to where the boy stretched his long, gaunt body on the porch floor, he said: "What say, Neale? How'd you like to go along? You could carry chain when they had to run a line, and I guess you're smart enough to keep a fire going and help make camp, ain't you?"

That had been a great month; full of discomfort and hardship, and fatigue and deep, deep satisfaction. Neale was the only boy with three men, hardened, wiry woodsmen, who had spent their lives in forests, not at all in the loafing irregular manner

of sportsmen, with occasional spurts of nervous effort, and with long periods, in unfavorable weather, of idling around a camp fire. Neale's three companions had always worked in the woods as regularly as his father worked in his office. Rain and heat and cold and insect plagues were nothing to them. The main business of every day was work, and camp life was organized sketchedly (without much regard for comfort, not to interfere with work. Neale found that his gymnasium practice, athletic sports, college life had left him as soft as dough beside these lean, iron-like men. He doggedly sweated himself into a hardness that made it possible for him to keep pace with them. At first when they turned in under their blankets at night, as soon as dark came, Neale had been too exhausted to sleep and had lain awake, every one of his big bones bruised by the roughness of the hastily made balsam-wood bed. But in a week he was able, as his companions did, to stretch out with one long, deep breath, and to know nothing more till morning came and the light woke him to roll over and open his eyes to the unimaginable freshness of dawn, filtering through the thick-leaved branches over his head. He drew a chest full of the sweet, new air, a heart full of immaculate beauty, and fell heavily asleep again, till half an hour later one of his companions kicked him awake to take his share of getting breakfast and packing up for the day's tramp.

The three timber cruisers talked very little of anything, most of their prodigious capacity for effort going into their work, and they never talked at all of the beauty which was the background of their lives, but they occasionally paid a silent, offish tribute to that beauty by going a little out of their way to sound "jocount," evidently, for their talk, familiar to them since boyhood.

Once as they sat on a crag, throwing stones and smoking, the head timber cruiser, old Martin Hoardman, remarked to Neale, of whom they usually took little notice: "See that high range over there, and that other beyond it, the one with the three-peaked mountain in the middle?"

Neale nodded.

"Well, you'd never guess it, but there's a valley down in between them two, with a sight of folks in it, and farms and old-fashioned water power mill there."

Another man said: "Why, old man Crittenden's got a brother lives there. Ain't that the Ashley valley? He runs an old-fashioned water power mill there."

Martin observed: "Yep, I've drawn many a load of logs to the old man's mill."

Neale remembered the sharp-spoken old man who had visited grandfather's mill one day when he was a little boy. He had said then he would go up to Ashley some day and make a fair report on what was there. If he were a crow or a hawk he could do it now, in about half an hour. He sat dreaming, his eyes fixed on the

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Over \$14,000 Investment

Henry Broder filed suit for \$14,000 yesterday in district court against Boris Pred, Omaha merchant and part owner of the Emporium.

Broder claims he invested \$14,000 in the business of the Emporium on Pred's representation that he held a 15-year lease and that the enterprise was doing big business.

Later he says, he learned the lease was in Mrs. Pred's name and that the volume of business is less than represented.

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FREE dishes with each dining room suite.

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Thursday only.

No. 1 Michigan Navy Beans, lb. 9c
3 lbs. for 25c

Paraffin, 1-lb. pkg. Thursday only, 3 for 25c

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No. 10 Apricots in syrup, can 65c
Dozen cans \$7.50

No. 10 Yellow Cling Peaches, can 65c
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Fancy Sunkist Lemons, dozen 25c

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Fancy Homegrown Potatoes, peck 28c

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Fancy Sweet Corn, dozen 20c

Grape Nuts, pkg., 15c

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Fancy Evaporated Apricots, lb. 19c

Fancy English Walnuts, lb. 19c

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Fresh Cut Hamburger, 2 lbs. 25c

Rib Boiling Beef, 4c

Sugar Cured Picnic Hams, dozen 23c

Rex and Wilson Nut Oleomargarine, 20c

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