

CO-OPERATION IN AMERICA

Success and Failures Recorded in Many Promising Fields.

TRACING THE CAUSES OF COLLAPSE

The Many Substantial Benefits Accruing from Industrial and Distributive Co-operation—Notable Instances.

The September bulletin of the Department of Labor, at Washington, contains an instructive review of co-operative work in the United States, prepared by Dr. Edward B. Benson. His article is devoted in the main to the history of co-operative distribution, but sets out with a review of the comparative failure of co-operative manufacturing here in this promising field. It is made clear that this is largely owing to the lack of the strong co-operative spirit which the eight famous co-operative shops in Minneapolis, which existed in 1885, only four survive, and none of them paid any dividends during the past three years. One does not appear to have paid any interest on the capital invested, either. This is in part due to the general depression, in part to the introduction of machinery that has lessened the demand for skilled labor, and in part to the failure of the co-operative spirit to be maintained in the face of the competition of the large business of over \$700,000 a year, and could do all the work for the Minneapolis mills, but the mills will not be sold to them at a low price, and it is feared possibly a recombination if once they secured all the trade. A quotation from a report of the Minnesota bureau of statistics, which says the writer, applies equally to many illustrations of co-operative distribution. It may be worth while to recall that co-operation is not a religion with these co-operators. They are not experimenting for the benefit of humanity. One of them might say, with his savings bank account open as a proprietor of a less shop without the slightest twinge of conscience, or the remotest chance of being called a "co-operative" spy. In fact, the president of one of the smaller shops did so, and failed, came back to co-operation in Minneapolis without hindrance.

Disaster has recently overtaken many of the so-called co-operative furniture factories at Roskford, Ill., which really are really co-operative companies, but have widely scattered among the employees. The trouble would appear to have been there the tendency, where every stockholder is a member, to keep up the business rationally, at the expense of profits. The small co-operative stores in Illinois are said by the state mine inspectors to have brought down upon their neighbors a heavy burden of taxation to underbid the market when trade was dull. While many forms of co-operation, in manufacturing especially, are being introduced in the United States in comparison with Europe, on the other hand, our farmers have made as great strides as those of Holland, Denmark, France and Germany in the matter of better drainage, and fire and tornado insurance companies. The success of fraternal life insurance, and of our co-operative banks, building and loan associations, and the "farmers' co-operative organizations," such as the Grange, the Patrons of Husbandry, and the Farmers' Alliance, which sometimes control the market, and secure for their members, and again purchase wholesale and even establish co-operative stores, often effect a great saving for their members, but rarely or by the most trade combinations against the consumer.

Distributive co-operation proper had its American birth in New England between 1847 and 1850. Not less than 700 such stores were started; 350 of them reported in 1857 an annual trade of \$2,000,000. Not only these survivors flourished, but the early grange stores of the Patrons of Husbandry, started in 1848, followed their plan of limiting dividends and selling a little below cost, and the following year the first co-operative store that was started in Philadelphia in 1850 on the method pursued by the famous Rochdale pioneers, failed for lack of the co-operative spirit. In fact, the movement at that time took root in Kansas. The Knights of Labor were next in the field. Scores of co-operative workshops, coal stores, and even co-operative stores, were formed for the want of knowledge of proper methods or past experience. The few successful ones were transformed into joint stock or private enterprises. The numerous co-operative stores opened by the Wheel and Alliance in the southern states from 1852 to 1857, were all failures. The volume of the work has been greatly reduced. Of twenty-seven associations started in New Jersey since 1873, only eight are now running. Of thirty stores started since the year 1880, only one is now running. The volume of the work has been greatly reduced. Of twenty-seven associations started in New Jersey since 1873, only eight are now running. Of thirty stores started since the year 1880, only one is now running.

Without Coal or Gas, He Finds a Way to Work off His Inspiration. A certain artist, who writes poems and stories, and depends mainly upon his own energy for a living, writes some of the other night in a hurry. He writes the Boston Herald, and he called to his wife: "Strike a light, Mollie—quick! I've got an order to print which must be written tonight and mailed in the morning. There's big money in it. Why is the house so dark?" His wife put her arms about his neck and whispered: "The gas man came today and took the meter out of the house. It is done." Here was a dilemma, indeed! And there were five cents in the household, and the nearest stores in the neighborhood were fast closed. "Do you think we could borrow a light?" asked the desperate poet. "No, no, no," said the wife, "no gas, no light, no money, no hope, no nothing." "Well, then, I'll have to do it myself," said the poet, "I'll settle it." He got up and with that he seized a pad of paper and a chair and ran off. "What are you going?" asked his wife. "To that light you," he replied from the corner. "I'm going to write the poem that will make you a millionaire."

Late pedestrians saw a man seated in a high-backed chair, leaning against a telephone pole, and waiting for dear life. A stray policeman decided that the man was connected with the electric light company, and was there in its interest. But after the lapse of two hours a man dragged a chair up the steps of his dwelling, and, throwing his arms about his wife, cried joyfully: "It's done! It's finished! We'll have that gas meter back in less than a week!"

AWARDED Highest Honors—World's Fair. DR. CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MADE. A Pure Grain Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 Years the Standard.

GRANT'S TOMB AT RIVERSIDE

Minute Description of the Great Captain's Last Camping Ground.

THE SCENIC SURROUNDINGS SUPERB

Divided Opinions as to Its Artistic Merit—The Tomb of Paris and Frederick's at Potsdam Compared with It.

As General Grant's tomb approaches the time of its dedication, opinion is distinctly divided concerning it. It is a simple, unadorned structure, built of granite, and is situated on a high, wooded hillside. The design of the tomb is the work of the architect, John Russell Pope. The monument is a simple, unadorned structure, built of granite, and is situated on a high, wooded hillside. The design of the tomb is the work of the architect, John Russell Pope.

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IT BEGINS MONDAY MORNING

Grandest Sale of Modern Times—\$200,000 Worth of Dry Goods.

BOSTON STORE, OMAHA

Edison, Keith & Co's entire stock of dress goods, silks, linens, white goods, embroideries, hosiery, trappings, underwear, etc., etc., etc.

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THE OVERLAND LIMITED

Operates two through superbly equipped trains EVERY DAY in the year.

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WHAT?

Saturday we put on sale a fresh invoice of those elegant self-lined overcoats for men, which created such a furor earlier in the season when we disposed of a hundred in a few days.

This present invoice is exactly the same kersey. Exactly the same styles—exactly the same carefully trimmed, finely finished, stylishly made up garment and the prices this time will be nine dollars and fifty cents. This coat is a big advertisement for The Nebraska. It is one of the remarkable values of the age. It is a distinct and emphatic example of what people are beginning to find out—that bigger values, better values, more real, tangible, visible values are found at The Nebraska every day in the week, than can be contained or conglomerated into any six stores when they make a specialty of hair-lifting, eye-opening, panic-preventing, pocket-pulling and fake-filting sales.

Nebraska Clothing Co.

OMAHA

another hat thus forming a primitive recreation for the halcyon days of the past.

No honor was allowed within a hundred yards of the wolf pit, that being the liberal construction which the trackers had put upon the law providing that no hunter shall be sold or given away within a mile of any election precinct in Georgia on election day.

It is the most satisfactory to have these beautiful shapes reproduced, and old conveniences to your old enjoyments. We are offering this season some exact copies of famous old pieces of furniture of the last century. We reproduce the exact form and proportions, the material and trappings are accurately described.

Chas. Shiverick & Co FURNITURE

12th and Douglas Sts.

Gold kept in hiding should now be taken out. Put some in your mouth. Will bring you enjoyment three times a day. Consult BAILEY, the Dentist. THIRD FLOOR, PANTON BLOCK, TEL. 1085.

Old-Time Method of Calculating Time and Measuring Distances. Some very old printing that was brought to light the other day contains curious suggestions for measuring distances. The only way to cure this disease is to purify the blood. The most ultimate cases of rickets which are cured by a simple remedy.

TESTED BY A STAR. The progress of the star must be watched, and the instant it vanishes from the sky it disappears. The following list shows the time that it will be visible.

CREATED THEIR DEATH. The second incarnation of the Chinese deity occurred on Second and Alder streets in 1895. His majesty's ashes were carefully picked up and carried away.