

**The Best City.**

There has been so much discussion among the best citizens of every locality and city as to which was the "best" city of the United States that the New York Independent investigated statistics touching on various civic matters, and gives out the following report:

Comparisons are odious, but did you know that Seattle, Washington, is the best large city in the United States and Birmingham, Ala., the worst? Such is indeed the case, for no less an authority than the professor of sociology at Reed College, Portland, Ore., has just directed a statistical inquiry into the thirty-six largest cities of the United States and finds this to be the case. He divides the subjects by which the cities are to be judged into eighteen categories and finds that all the western cities are in the first quarter, the southern cities in the last quarter and the east betwixt and between.

As to separate categories: Seattle pays the highest wages per hour, Charleston, S. C., the lowest. The cost of living is lowest in Minneapolis, highest in Birmingham. The death rate is lowest in Seattle, highest in Charleston. The infant mortality rate is lowest in Omaha, highest in Charleston. The proportion of population married is highest in Cleveland, lowest in San Francisco. Louisville heads the list in church membership, Portland, Ore., foots it. Minneapolis has the lowest percent age of child labor, Atlanta the highest.

Providence has the largest park area per inhabitant, Atlanta the smallest.

Baltimore is the best paved city, Salt Lake City, the worst.

The destruction by fire is less in Baltimore and more in Birmingham than anywhere else.

New York owns the most valuable public properties per inhabitant, Birmingham the least.

More people draw books out of the public library in Cincinnati and fewer in Birmingham than elsewhere.

As might be expected, Boston has the best school attendance, Charleston the worst.

Kansas City has the most school property per child attendance, Jacksonville the least.

New York pays the public school teachers the most, Jacksonville the least.

In the lowest number of pupils per teacher, Los Angeles leads. Atlanta brings up the rear.

Seattle is the literate city. Charleston the most illiterate.

Jacksonville has the fewer foreign born unable to speak English, Milwaukee the most.

The Independent, from which this article is taken, continues.

Here they are in their proper order.

- 1, Seattle; 2, Salt Lake City; 3, Denver; 4, Los Angeles; 5, Washington; 6, Portland; 7, Minneapolis; 8, Cincinnati; 9, San Francisco; 10, St. Paul; 11, Omaha; 12, Cleveland; 13, Boston; 14, Buffalo; 15, St. Louis; 16, Kansas City; 17, Milwaukee; 18, Newark; 19, New York; 20, Pittsburgh; 21, Chicago; 22, Indianapolis; 23, Louisville; 24, Detroit; 25, Springfield Ill.; 26, New Haven; 27, Philadelphia; 28, Baltimore; 29, Memphis; 30, Providence; 31, New Orleans; 32, Scranton; 33, Jacksonville; 34, Atlanta; 35, Charleston; 36, Birmingham.—Augusta Chronicle.

**8,000 Armenians Killed at Marash.**

Constantinople, March 28.—Estimates of casualties in the massacres at Marash last month, sent here by Americans, place the loss of life at about 8,000 Armenians. During the disorders 150 Turks were killed.

There are 10,000 Armenians refugees in Marash of whom 2,000 are sheltered in American orphanages and hospitals. Americans are also caring for wounded Turks, but there is great suffering at Marash because of a lack of supplies, doctors and nurses. A wagon-train of American supplies was pillaged early in March between Aintab and Marash.

Forty per cent of the buildings at Marash were destroyed or rendered uninhabitable during the massacres.

Nearly all shops were destroyed, and more than half of the churches and mosques were laid in ruins.

The hills are so full of armed bands at present that traveling is almost impossible, but two more American doctors are now on their way to Marash from Adana, under guard of Turkish gendarmerie.

**For Quick Acceptance.**

Galvanized Roofing at \$8.50 per square, except 10 and 12 feet lengths which are 10 cents higher. This is cheaper than factory prices. Galvanized shingles on hand. A car of pressed bick to arrive this week.

E. S. JOHNSON.

**THE TASK NEXT.**

Daisy M. Moore

What makes the Legioners all smile?  
I know you'd like to ask;  
It's just because success at last  
Has crowned our long, hard task.

We are so glad our glorious states  
Have taken up their stand  
Sprang up against intemperance  
All through our splendid land!

No wonder that our faces shine;  
It gladdens every heart  
To know our Young Crusader did  
Her gallant little part!

Someone has said 'Your work is done'  
But we are not through yet;  
We have another foe to fight—  
The horrid cigarette!

We'll hammer and we'll batter it  
And some fine time the sun  
Will shine upon the glad day when  
We'll have it on the run.

**SOFT DRINK TAX IS HEAVY**

Returns from taxes on soft drinks have so far surpassed estimates of government statisticians that no accurate check as to whether the government is getting the full amount due is possible, according to the internal revenue bureau.

Original estimates were that \$52,000,000 would be derived from the tax, but the actual figures show that the amount paid will aggregate between \$75,000,000 and \$80,000,000. Were all returns accurate, the bureau estimates that the total soft drink tax would aggregate \$100,000,000.

Hundreds of convictions of dealers failing to pay tax have been made.

Very soon now the delegates to the World's Convention and other workers in the prohibition cause will be embarking for the voyage which is to take them to the World's Convention in London, April 18-23. About one hundred women have been booked for the journey and about one hundred local unions will receive direct inspiration from them when they return from this first World's Convention to be held since the whole world went mad in 1914.

This Convention will be unique in many ways. The delegates from the United States W. C. T. U. will go to it in the full flush of the victory of their cause in this country, but they will have besides this victory a message of the difficulties which lie beyond the enactment of prohibition law—a warning to those other women in the other countries which will be represented in the London meeting to lay well the foundations for prohibition in their own countries if they would hold the victory when it is won.

**Something New for Edgefield.**

We have installed an electric clipper, which enables us to do faster and better work, and in order to render satisfactory service to the Edgefield public, we have increased our force of barbers to three regularly during the week, and four on Saturday. Our patrons will not have to wait hereafter to be served. Mr. L. W. Smith is at first chair; Mr. C. E. Hall, the second; Mr. Ed Corley, the third and Mr. John H. Miller, the fourth.

PALACE BARBER SHOP.  
To the rear of Bank of Edgefield.

**NOTICE.**

In pursuance of the resolution of the Board of Directors of the Bank of Trenton, that it is advisable to increase the capital stock of said bank from twenty-five thousand to fifty thousand dollars, the stockholders of said bank are hereby notified and requested to appear at said bank either in person or by proxy at Four o'clock p. m. on April 7th, 1920 for the purpose of considering the advisability of adopting the resolutions of the said Board of Directors.

- J. F. BETTIS
- A. S. J. MILLER
- B. B. BOUKNIGHT
- B. R. TILLMAN
- ANDREW C. YONCE
- J. M. VANN
- W. W. MILLER
- J. M. LONG

Directors.

**Velvet Beans**

Ninety-Day Speckle Velvet Beans, grown by myself, at Ellenton, S. C. \$3.00 per bushel, cash with order, f. o. b., Ellenton, S. C.

H. M. CASSELS,  
Ellenton, S. C.

**WANTED:** To buy Scrap Iron of all kinds, brass, copper, aluminum, rags, bones, etc. Highest prices paid. Next door to Cassell's guano house.  
LOUIS KAMENOFF,  
Johnston, S. C.

**DO STOCK YARDS HAVE A STRANGLE HOLD ON OUR MEAT SUPPLY?**



Buying and selling cattle in Union Stock Yards, Chicago. The men in the pens are the ones who must judge each steer and determine what he is worth.

Are the great stock yards of Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha and elsewhere hotbeds of monopolistic control which succeeds in milking the farmer on the one hand, and the consumer who buys meat, on the other hand? This will be one of the questions threshing over in the discussion of the Kenyon bill now before a committee of the Senate.

If these big markets, where millions upon millions of dollars change hands, have any sort of a strangle-hold on our food resources, few there would be who would not say, rout them. Yet equally few, perhaps, could give you any sort of a vivid word-picture of what takes place in these markets through which flows much of our farm wealth.

**Separate From Packing Plants.**

The "stock yards" are synonymous in the minds of many people with all packingdom. This is error number one. They are operated as corporations wholly distinct from the packing plant companies that cluster around them.

The stock yards perform two functions: they are unloading, feeding and resting stations for live stock; and markets for buying and selling. As buying and selling places, they are among the most interesting spots in the world—places where one may see a nation at its bartering. Huge auction stations where a fraction of a point counts, and counts big.

The Chicago stock yards, as the most notable example, will receive in a day anywhere from 10,000 to 30,000 cattle, not to mention hogs and sheep. These would represent shipments by many farmers. Each farmer puts his cattle into the hands of a commission firm who acts as his agent. The "stock in trade" of the commission firm is a satisfied clientele among the farmers—the better bargainers they are for a long price, the more the farmer is disposed to patronize them.

**A Game for Experts.**

It is a titanic game, and one for experts. On the one side are arrayed the commission men, and on the other the buyers representing packing concerns, brokers and others. Both sides know their business, which is to say that they know full well what the receipts of the day are and their relation to the requirements, and they know cattle.

The big auction begins. Not from a block, but an auction for all that. Buyers, mounted on ponies, scurry hither and thither, making a bid on one lot here and on another lot there. The commission man will hold the bid in abeyance, dickering for a few points higher price and awaiting the arrival of another man on a pony who may make him a better offer. Every commission man is a competitor of all the other commission men; and every buyer is a competitor of all the other buyers.

We say that all of these men know cattle. A steer is not a standardized commodity. Nature makes him what he is. The contour of his haunches, the build of his body and his make-up in general have everything to do with

what he is worth as a beef animal. No one can determine his value but the men in the pens,—the commission men and the buyers.

**Buyers Represent Many Firms.**

Many think that these cattle are all purchased by the big packers, which is far from being the case. Besides the buyers for the big packers there are always in the Chicago yards from a hundred to a hundred and fifty other buyers on the scene, many of them representing firms that are not located near the stock yards or even in the same city. All told, the large packers do only 44 per cent of the meat animal slaughtering of the entire country.

The penalty which awaits the buyer who will not bid up to true values is that the other buyers take the cattle away from him and his firm will be without its requirements. On the other hand the commission men cannot stick it out for an exorbitant price; for the buyers would cut down on the amounts of their purchases. There are some people who will buy meat at any price, but the majority of people reduce their meat purchases precisely as the prices mount upward. The buyers in the stock yards reflect this attitude of the general public almost as accurately as a thermometer indicates the temperature.

**The Arena of Supply and Demand.**

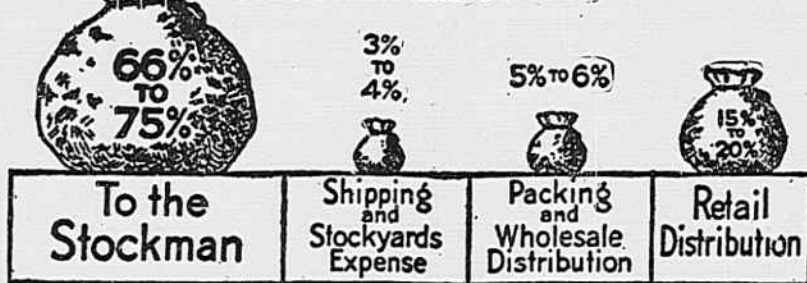
In other words, the stock yards are the meeting places of two tremendous powers of the economic world.—Supply and Demand. Any one who visits one of these places, even as the most casual observer, and watches what occurs there, will give up any illusion he may have about monopoly or control. Too many buyers and sellers are involved, and judging the value of an individual steer or a pen full of steers is altogether too complicated a matter to cover by any sort of agreement in advance.

The Kenyon bill would make it illegal for any packers to have financial holdings in stock yards corporations. Common sense rightly asks, "Why?" How such holdings, which, where they exist, are nothing more than financial backing of a worthy enterprise, can control the men in the pens who are hired to use their judgment, is too deep to be seen at a glance. The advocates of the bill should be forced to explain. And how a lack of such holdings would prevent control or monopoly, if such things were possible, is another thing which the proponents of the bill should be able to elucidate.

**SMALL PACKERS OPPOSE LICENSE**

Cincinnati meat packers in drawing resolutions against the licensing of all packers doing interstate business, brought attention to the fact that the proposed legislation embodied in the Kenyon and Kendrick bills, if enacted, would have a tendency to drive hundreds of small packing firms out of the field of interstate operations. This would be the preference forced upon them as against operating under a licensing system which would be a continued menace of interference.

**HOW THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF A STEER ARE DIVIDED.**



Who gets the money that you pay the butcher for beef? This interesting diagram will help you to see. It is made up from figures secured by the Federal Department of Agriculture who followed a number of groups of steers through the packing plant and through the retail market up to the time the meat was in the hands of the ultimate consumer. The live animals were bought from the farmer; in addition to the meat there was, of course, the hide, visceral fat and other by-products. These were sold by the packer and this sum added to what the retail market man received for the meat gives the total proceeds. Out of this total amount the farmer received 66 to 75 per cent for the live animals. Three to 4 per cent were required to ship the live animals to market and to feed and care for them in the stock yards before they were slaughtered. The packer received 5 to 6 per cent of the total proceeds, and this covered the cost of slaughtering, refrigerating, shipping in refrigerator cars to the local branch houses, selling to the local butcher, and also profits. Fifteen to 20 per cent was received by the butcher, which comprised his selling cost plus his profits. The illustration indicates the proportions of these amounts by the relative sizes of the money bags.

**IT'S NOT WHAT YOU MAKE BUT WHAT YOU SAVE THAT COUNTS**



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EVERY dollar that you spend foolishly, every proportionate amount of money that you earn that it would be possible to save and do not, is only money that you have to work for again. On the other hand every dollar you put in the bank is money that is going to constantly work for you. Which is the best; money always working for you, or you always working for your money. Come in and start that bank account. Don't put it off another day.

**BANK OF EDGEFIELD**

OFFICERS: J. C. Sheppard, President; A. S. Tompkins, Vice-President  
E. J. Mims, Cashier; J. H. Allen, Assistant Cashier.  
DIRECTORS: J. C. Sheppard, Thos. H. Rainsford, John Rainsford, M. C. Parker, A. S. Tompkins, B. B. Bouknight, E. J. Mims, J. H. Allen

**2 IN 1**

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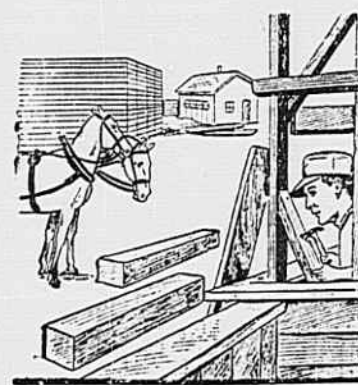
**The Married Man**

They make a good many jokes at the expense of the "poor married man," but really marriage is no joke to the man who is married.

It is a stern, sobering event to the average man when he takes unto himself a wife. It means two mouths to feed instead of one. Two people to be properly clothed, a home to furnish, additional duties and responsibilities. It means more economy, more careful adjustment of finances. An account at our bank is one of the greatest safeguards the newly married man can make. Save a little something every week, every month, every year for a rainy day.

**The Bank of Trenton, S. C.**

**We Can Give You Prompt Service on Mill Work and Interior Finish**



Large stock of Rough and Dressed Lumber on hand for Immediate Delivery.

**Woodward Lumber Co.**  
QUALITY—SERVICE  
Corner Roberts and Dugas Sts., Augusta, Ga.