

CITY MARKETS AND LIVING COST

Successful Experiments In Various Municipalities.

EIGHTY-ONE CITIES REPORT

The New York State Bureau of Municipal Information Has Made a Study of the Experience of American Cities With Municipal Public Markets.

The New York state bureau of municipal information has made a study of the experience of American cities with municipal public markets at the request of the mayors' conference's special committee on food supplies, of which Mayor George H. Lynn of Schenectady, is chairman, says the American City. Eighty-one American cities have to date answered the request for information. Thirty-six of these, all with a population exceeding 20,000, have one or more municipal markets of one kind or another. A study of the data received from them is said to show conclusively that Mayor Lynn's committee is justified in asking the legislature to give cities authority to establish departments of markets as one means of lowering the cost of living.

Twenty-two cities report that their markets are self-sustaining. One other says its market is usually self-supporting and another that it is not when interest, taxes and depreciation are taken into account.

In seventeen cities the annual cost of operation, maintenance and all overhead charges, in five other cities the income and expenditures are about the same, and in still five others the expenditures are less than the income. In twenty-one cities the total revenues are from the rent, sale or auction of spaces in the market places. Three secure additional revenue in fees for weighing and teams and in wharfage charges.

The cities report that these markets have brought about some startling results in reducing the cost of foodstuffs. Sixteen cities report that the average prices in the municipal markets are lower than those in the retail stores.

Five others report that the prices are the same. Auburn, N. Y., and St. Louis report that there is very little difference in prices. Jacksonville, Fla., says that the prices compare very favorably, and Sacramento, Taos and Detroit report that what variation there is in favor of the municipal markets. Wilmington and Duluth are the only cities which report that municipal market prices are higher. The following cities, which report lower municipal market prices, give the following percentages: Cleveland, 20 per cent lower; South Bend, from 5 to 20 per cent lower; Philadelphia, 10 per cent lower; Cincinnati, 15 per cent; Kansas City, Mo., 20 per cent; Des Moines, from 20 to 25 per cent; Columbus, from 10 to 15 per cent; Portland, Ore., says that several investigations showed prices in the public markets were often much lower than they were in retail stores.

Lansing, Mich., says the difference between municipal market and retail store prices will average one-half the difference between the retail and the wholesale prices. In twenty-three cities municipal markets tend to keep down prices of foodstuffs throughout the day.

The benefits derived from public markets are varied, according to the answers sent by the cities. Among the benefits mentioned are the following: Producers always assured of wages, fresh vegetables, does away with middlemen, offers opportunity for small producers to sell their produce, stimulates interest in agricultural pursuits and gardening and builds up agricultural interests, producers get more and consumers pay less, better quality and larger variety for consumers.

Twenty-six cities inform the bureau that their markets are a success. All of the nine cities, with one exception, which report their markets are not a success operate only curb markets.

The data indicate that the failure of these is due to inefficient management, which resulted in a lack of patronage by producers or consumers or both.

In answer to the question, "Would you advise a city to establish a municipal market as one means of reducing or preventing an increase of the cost of living, provided the food supply is normal?" twenty cities informed the bureau that they would, and only two answered in the negative.

Fourteen cities in New York state have municipal markets. Of these the following have reported to the bureau that the prices of produce in their public markets are lower than in stores: Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Olean, Corning and Schenectady. Jamestown reports that its market has compelled handlers of produce to sell at reasonable prices.

Detroit Plans:

Detroit, Mich., will have a metropolitan district embracing water, sewerage, parks and boulevards if the Detroit board of commerce is able to realize on the plans it has prepared. For over a year a special committee has been at work studying the metropolitan district plans of several American cities and Detroit across the sea. The result is that two positive or alternate bills have been prepared for presentation to the Michigan legislature designed to create the necessary law to carry out the proposed project.

Law Versus Judge Lynch

By RICHARD MARKLEY

Two gentlemen of Four Aces, a mining town, were consulting as to how to get rid of an enemy. One demurred at shooting since a court had been established.

"You see, Jim," he said, "they'll keep us in jail forever waitin' to try us."

"Don't you worry about that, Pete," said the other. "This yere justice isn't ready for real law yet."

So they shot their man and stood trial.

The citizens of Four Aces, eager to try the new legal system that had been introduced, did not inconvenience the two criminals at all by delay. The murderer was committed in the morning, and by 3 o'clock in the afternoon the trial commenced. A trial of the law named Simpson was prosecuting attorney, and one Waterman was assigned by the court to defend the accused. To save time they were tried together. The first hour was occupied in fencing between the prosecutor and counsel for the defense, the latter claiming that the first shot killed the gambler, and the man who fired it was the murderer, while the other could not be tried for killing a corpse. An appeal to the judge established the fact that both were instrumental in the deed and they should be convicted or acquitted together.

Then the prosecutor summoned witnesses who saw the shooting. The first was the barkeeper of the saloon, who was standing behind the bar at the time. He testified that he saw the two men open fire at the same moment on the gambler.

Question—What were you doing when the shooting commenced?

Witness—Tom O'Brien had just called for some pizen, and I was reachin' to the shelf back o' the bar for it.

Question—How could you see the shooting when your back was turned to the shooters?

Witness—There was a big lookin' glass behind the bar. I seen it in that.

Question—Your honor, said the lawyer, turnin' to the judge, "I move that this man's testimony be strikin' out. I did not see the shooting. He merely saw a reflection."

The judge considered for awhile,

then decided that a reflection was not a thing in itself, therefore the testimony of the barkeeper was not to be considered by the jury.

There were several other persons in the room at the time of the crime, but counsel for defense proved that the eyesight of one was bad, that another was so poor that he couldn't hear a cannon fire, to say nothing of a revolver, while a third had been sitting at a table in a fog in the room where he could not see the group in question. Friends of the accused swore that they had known them for years, both had taught Sunday school and neither had ever carried a revolver—indeed, they would not know how to handle such a weapon.

The prosecutor endeavored to impeach the veracity of these witnesses, but when he called on citizens present to swear that they wouldn't believe them under oath one of the witnesses announced that if any man dared to question his word or his sacred honor he would let daylight into his carcass. This effectively protected the impeachment of any of these witnesses.

When the lawyers had got through with the case there was an impressive silence in the court. The judge seemed averse to instructing the jury to accept the murderer, but he could not see how he could do anything else.

He was scratchin' his head when Oliver Budd, a primitive citizen of Four Aces and leader of the late vigilance committee that had ceased operations in view of the introduction of law into the place, arose and said:

"Your honor, these here men have been tried according to law, and the evidence shows that they are as innocent as two little doves. I suggest that before givin' up our former method we try 'em by the Lynch system, just to see how the two compare."

The judge accepted the situation and gave up his seat—a cracker box before his desk, a board between two barrels—to Mr. Budd, who took his place and said:

"Let all the witnesses for the prosecution stand up in line."

When the line was formed Judge Lynch or Mr. Budd said to them:

"These here two men are charged with the killin' of Charles Benton, gambler. All of you who know for certain that they done it hold up your hands."

Every witness held up a hand.

"That'll do," said Mr. Budd; then, turning to the large number of spectators present, he added:

"Citizens of Four Aces, you have seen a trial by court methods and a trial by Lynch methods. All who are in favor of the first say 'Aye.'"

A dead silence followed.

"All those in favor of these guido bain' treated to Lynch law say 'Aye.'"

There was a roar of "Ayes" that struck terror into the accused men.

"Such beh' the case," Mr. Budd concluded by virtue of being head of the vigilance committee. "I call upon the neighbors for the purpose of eliminating the prisoners."

Ten minutes later two forms were dangling and the citizens of Four Aces had resumed their usual vociferous

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL.

A Reason For Some of the Automobile Accidents at Night.

Frequently when there is an accident, where the automobile runs off the road, hits an obstruction or is upset, the driver or some other occupant of the car or the reporter says that "the steering gear gave way." Yet it is safe to venture that it is not the real reason for the accident. What often happens is that the driver goes to sleep.

In a report of an accident some time ago the driver frankly said he went to sleep and the next thing he knew he was under the car, which was thrown against an abutment. The soporific effect of driving an auto at night for several hours is really responsible for more accidents than defective construction. The constant vibration of the steering wheel, the continuous noise of the machine and the drone of the wind will have the same effect as does the buzz of an electric fan on most folk.

Before the driver realizes it he is getting drowsy. The wheel is held more and more loosely. Gradually the car takes the line of least resistance, aided by the shock of not totally abandoned control of the driver. The next thing he knows he is off the road.

Sometimes the car overturns. Sometimes the driver escapes, together with the occupants of the car. Oftentimes the dereliction results in injury or death.

If more drivers realized the danger of not keeping awake there would be fewer accidents. At least this is the opinion of experienced drivers.—Chicago Journal.

HOW WARS START.

An Ocean Cable Would Have Averted Our Conflict of 1812.

Had there been an ocean telegraph in 1812 there might not have been a war with England at that time. Five days after President Madison signed the declaration of war England recalled the orders in council which had provoked it. The purpose to recall the orders was unknown in America, while in England nothing was known of the war declaration when the orders were revoked. This war's most important battle, that of New Orleans, was fought fifteen days after the treaty of peace had been signed at Ghent. It was this battle which made Jackson a popular idol and gave him the presidency.

The first step in the Crimean war was Russia's Invasion of Moldavia, months before diplomatic rupture with England and France.

The firing on Fort Sumter, which started the war between the states, is a familiar story.

The first shot of the Franco-Prussian war was by a French soldier on guard at Strasbourg bridge a day or two before Napoleon III formally took the field.

The attempt on Bismarck's life as he was walking down the Unter den Linden on May 7, 1863, rallied public sentiment to him and his policy and from a dramatic standpoint may be said to have been the first shot in the Austro-Prussian war.

The blowing up of the Maine was the first blow in the Spanish-American war, which ended Spanish possessions in the new world.—Charlton Bates Strayer in Leslie's.

LEGAL NOTICES.

SUMMONS.

(Concluded from Page 9.)

Tr. 142. NE_{1/4}NE_{1/4} Sec. 25. Tp. 30 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Wm. E. Rosenburg; 1910, \$1.25; 1915, \$2.01. P. 20c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 142. NE_{1/4}NW_{1/4} Sec. 23. Tp. 32 S. R. 40. E. W. M.; A. F. N. Howe; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 97c. P. 10c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915 \$2.31. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 143. NW_{1/4}SE_{1/4} Sec. 15. Tp. 33 S. R. 39. E. W. M.; A. Nick Stoen; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, \$1.07. P. 11c. A. C. 50c; 1912, 70c. P. 4c; 1913, \$1.12. P. 31c; A. C. 50c; 1914, \$1.65. P. 17c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.01. P. 29c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 144. NW_{1/4}SE_{1/4} Sec. 19. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Antone Sacher; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 97c. P. 10c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 145. NW_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 9. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Harry J. Saline; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 92c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 146. NW_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 19. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Antone Sacher; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 97c. P. 10c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 147. NW_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 19. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Harry J. Saline; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 92c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 148. NW_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 31. Tp. 32 S. R. 37. E. W. M.; A. S. P. Saunders; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 82c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 149. NW_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 19. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. J. C. Shadford; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, \$1.07. P. 11c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 150. NE_{1/4}SW_{1/4} Sec. 5. Tp. 32 S. R. 37. E. W. M.; A. Josephine E. Smith; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 82c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 151. NE_{1/4}SE_{1/4} Sec. 29. Tp. 32 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. T. W. Smith; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 82c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c; 1915, \$2.30. P. 23c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 152. SW_{1/4}NW_{1/4} Sec. 13. Tp. 32 S. R. 40. E. W. M.; A. F. J. Wilkins;

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Tr. 31 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Bertha Smithsider; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 82c. P. 8c; 1912, 70c. P. 7c; 1913, \$2.04. P. 20c. A. C. 50c; 1914, \$2.05. P. 21c. A. C. 50c;

Tr. 153. NW_{1/4}NW_{1/4} Sec. 23. Tp. 31 S. R. 41. E. W. M.; A. Carl Sonnberg; 1910, \$1.25; 1911, 82c. P