

SAYS ELECTRIC HOMES WITHIN REACH OF ALL

Member Federal Radio Board Is Enthusiastic About Plan; He Has One

Exhibiting his own modest eight-room home as an example, O. H. Caldwell, recently appointed to the Federal Radio board, is endeavoring to prove that a completely electrically equipped household is within the reach of almost every home owner.

The tremendous labor saving devices and household conveniences are listed in the Woman's Home Companion, after an inspection of Mr. Caldwell's house.

As a guest approaches the house, a tiny electric light shows the location of the doorbell button. The dining room is fitted with outlets for toaster, percolator, grill and other cooking conveniences. The kitchen has an electric stove, regulated by a timing device, dishwasher, bread mixer and plenty of outlets at both floor and waist level. There are the electric washer and the electric mangle as well as the electric iron and vacuum cleaner. Every room in the house has plugs where the radio loud speaker of ear phones may be connected. There is even one by the sink so that the diminished housework may be further eased by music. Each child can lie in bed with his ears and hear the bedtime stories. Automatic control turns off the radio after the whole family has dropped to sleep. It turns it on again in the morning to wake everybody up for the daily dozen.

WARNS UNEMPLOYED TO AVOID CITIES

If you have employment, be contented and do not seek to make a change until there is improvement in employment conditions in Illinois, is the advice of Director George B. Arnold, Department of Labor, reviewing the labor situation of the state as shown by the report from the thirteen industrial centers in which his department conducts free employment bureaus.

Reports of the bureaus show during the past month a slight recession in employment, with 180 applicants for every 100 jobs available. Work is more difficult to secure in Illinois at present than for any corresponding period since 1921. The increase in the number of applicants for each 100 positions open is practically 25 over one month ago.

Warning is issued against those in the smaller towns and communities flocking to the industrial centers, thus making the employment condition more serious.

CENTER OF INDUSTRY MOVING TO THE WEST

PROVED BY GOVT. REPORT

Tendency Indicated by Surveys Made From 1908 to 1926 Is Based on Capacity of Apparatus Used

In January, 1908, the center of industry in the United States was on the northern boundary of Indiana, about 110 miles east of Chicago. In January, 1918, it was still on the northern boundary of Indiana but had moved about 50 miles nearer to Chicago. In January, 1926, it had moved 25 miles to the southwest of its position in 1918 and was about 50 miles southeast of Chicago. The total movement in the 18 years from 1908 to 1926 was about 75 miles in a west by south direction. This slow movement of the center of industry during a period when the capacity of prime movers in central stations and manufacturing plants increased about 140 per cent indicates that industrial development in the United States is proceeding at about the same rate in all sections but a trifle more rapidly in the western and southern parts of the country.

Based on Capacity. These determinations of the center of industry, which have been made by the Geological survey, Department of the Interior, are based on the capacity of steam engines, steam turbines, water wheels, and internal-combustion engines installed in manufacturing plants and in public-utility power plants. Twice the weight is given to the power equipment in public-utility power plants, as it is used twice as much as power equipment in manufacturing plants. Previous determinations of the center of industry have been based on the installed capacity of prime movers in manufacturing plants only. It is believed that more representative results are obtained by using the capacity of power equipment in both manufacturing and public-utility plants.

The geographic center of the United States is near the center of the northern boundary of Kansas, and the center of population is in Owen county, southwestern Indiana. The center of industry of the United States in 1926 was therefore 640 miles east by north of the geographic center and about 170 miles due north of the center of population.

It is said that all of the ancient civilized nations understood the art of making bricks. Also, it might be added, the art of throwing them.

CRIMINAL ALLOWED TO SELECT PENALTY

IF LAW HAS BEEN CHANGED

Ruling by Attorney General In Case Where Punishment Is Altered While Case Is Under Way

Under a new ruling by Attorney General Oscar Carlstrom a convicted criminal may be given the benefit of any change in the criminal law made between the time of the commission of the crime and the time of conviction. In the past it has been held the penalty to be fixed by the court was that provided under the law in effect at the time of the commission of the crime.

The ruling is handed down in the case of Blumenfeld, a Chicago jeweler, and alleged pal of Harry Funk in the robbery of the First State bank of Shenoa in 1925. Blumenfeld was tried recently in McLean county and convicted of the crime of robbery, the gun count being waived, because of the death of the only witness able to testify he was menaced with a weapon at the time of the robbery.

Minimum Is Reduced. Under the law in effect from July 1, 1919 to July 1, 1927, sentence of three to 20 years was provided for the crime of robbery. During the 55th general assembly the minimum for this crime was reduced to one year.

The McLean county court imposed sentence under the new law. Question was raised by Warden Elmer J. Green, of the Illinois State Penitentiary, as to whether he should receive the prisoner under this sentence or require a corrected mittimus, on the grounds the crime for which Blumenfeld was committed prior to the enactment of the law reducing the penalty for robbery. In reply the attorney general ruled the prisoner was entitled to any mitigation of the penalty, if he so elected.

armed with a dangerous weapon, and sentenced to an indeterminate sentence of 10 years to life in Joliet. At the hearing before the Division of Pardons and Poles a few months after he was received in prison he was given a maximum setting—life.

Ruling Is Far Reaching. Under the ruling, which is far reaching, all prisoners held for trial on charges of robbery with a gun, who may later be convicted shall be sentenced for one year to life in the penitentiary, if they so elect, although the crime for which they are convicted was committed prior to the enactment of the law lowering the minimum term.

Prison officials and those versed in work of this nature foresee considerable dissatisfaction among prisoners in the inequality which will result.

Under the law providing a sentence of 10 years to life for robbery with a gun, or the lesser degree of robbery, prisoners were required to serve a minimum of six years and three months and two and one-half years, respectively, before eligible for a parole hearing.

RAILROADS TRAINING DINING CAR WAITERS

Problem of Feeding Travelers Is Receiving Increased Attention

Feeding the people who travel by rail is more than a matter of accumulating, storing and carrying the food required and fulfilling orders in the dining car. It is also a matter of training cooks and waiters. In the early days on the railroads, no special comforts at meal times were expected, but nowadays travelers expect the best of everything, together with a service on the part of the colored waiter, which is in the deluxe world. Many roads, in order to meet the needs of the "hotel on wheels" have opened schools for their dining car employees. Generally, these schools are located at terminal points. But lately one large western system has initiated a more practical cooking school. It uses a regular dining car, with the same range and the kitchen facilities used at the terminals.

Most of the classes number two diner crews, each consisting of a head cook, second, third and fourth cooks. School remains in session for about an hour and a half. There are three courses of general instruction; and there is a lecture on how to prepare, cook and garnish fresh and smoked meats and fish; how to make good coffee and care for the urn; how to cook oatmeal and serve it; how to make rolls, and how to cook griddle cakes.

Waiters, too, have their turn in mastering the mysteries of lockers of linens, silver, china, glassware, and in "setting up" the car and giving particular attention to capricious diners.

The dining school, on the whole, is adding to the efficiency of the faithful corps of Negro cooks, waiters and pantrymen, who have long since made a splendid name for themselves wherever extended travel is engaged in.

The filling station has taken the place of the livery stable but unfortunately the livery stable jokes seem to go on forever.

The principal thing we blame the flopper for is setting such an example in dress and make-up for mother and granddaughters.

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