

manufacturer, the wholesaler being required only to furnish the goods to the local agent in the manner specified in the contract, and to charge the consignment account.

To persons not accredited as local agents, the wholesaler may sell only single packages, and at full retail price. In such cases the manufacturer may by separate agreement remit the commission to the person after the goods have been resold at full retail price.

The objects sought by this modification of the coupon plan are to make the wholesaler and retailer the actual as well as the ostensible agents of the manufacturer, and to retain the ownership of the goods in the latter until they are actually sold in accordance with the terms of the agreement. As the contract expressly provides that the goods are placed on consignment, the manufacturer can resume possession at any time if the retail agent violates the agreement as to selling price, while the compensation of the agent assumes the form of a commission on goods sold for another instead of a profit on goods of which he has complete ownership. Other details of the plan relate to the times of settlement, rates of commission in proportion to size of purchase, forfeiture of deposit for failure to conform to agency contract, settlement of disputes by arbitration, etc., etc.

While the plan will necessarily need much discussion, and perhaps a legal test before it can be regarded as providing a final solution of the question of price protection by contract, it possesses many attractive features from the retailer's standpoint, and it is to be hoped that proprietors, jobbers and retailers will unite to give it a thorough and honest trial.

J. H. BEAL.

A RATIONAL CALENDAR.

The calendar and the hours of the day seem to most of us almost like part of the natural and immutable order of things, and however much trouble the present indefensible system has caused, men have felt that it was rash—almost impious—to suggest a change in it. "Give us back our eleven days!" cried the mob when the Gregorian calendar was introduced into Great Britain. From the days of Julius Cæsar to our own, he has been a bold reformer indeed who would suggest changes in the disorderly procession of the months. Now enters Moses B. Cotsworth of Victoria, B. C., with a proposal for a rational calendar. He would divide the year into thirteen months, each of twenty-eight days, which would leave one extra day in the year, and this he beautifully plans as a free day for every one—free from interest charges on money, the necessity to work, the wage scale, etc. Then each month would commence on Sunday and the first, eighth, fifteenth and twenty-second days of each month would be Sundays. President Hadley of Yale is quoted as saying that the month of four weeks "will come as a commercial necessity." The adjustment to the change would be very small compared to that necessitated when standard time was introduced on transcontinental railways. Mr. Cotsworth has literature to distribute, poking fun at the present system. If he wins, school children need no longer learn: "Thirty days hath September."—*Jour. Am. Med. Assn.*