

American Business Shows Upward Trend In Profits

NEW YORK —(AP)— Profits of American corporations in the first quarter of this year show a strong upward trend from a year ago.

A compilation made by the Associated Press of 508 corporations in all fields of business and industry show first quarter profits were six percent ahead of the first quarter of 1949.

That earnings power came despite cut backs in postwar expansion programs, general price reductions, and strikes.

It was due in great part to the wide demand for automobiles and television sets by the public and to industry's need for chemicals, the raw materials that go into a long list of products.

In this year's first quarter profits of the 508 companies amounted to \$1,402,783,143 as compared with \$1,326,901,330 a year ago.

Significant advances were made by automobiles, air transport and aircraft, chemicals, drugs and cosmetics, food products, pulp and paper products, utilities, radio and television, and building.

Among the groups with losses were brewing and distilling, coal, machinery and tools, non-ferrous metals, oil and petroleum products, railroad equipment, iron and steel, and railroads.

The big money earner this year was automobiles. Profits of 11 companies in that group amounted to \$223,771,987, a 34 percent gain over the first period of 1949.

General Motors, the nation's biggest profit maker, reported first quarter earnings of \$212,387,765, a gain of about 55 percent over the year before.

Chrysler, on the other hand, reported a deficit of \$1,782,790 as compared with a profit of \$18,707,951 in 1949's first quarter. The Chrysler showing resulted from the 99-day strike which was settled this week.

Eighteen radio and television manufacturers accounted for \$71,970,797 in profits, up 44 percent. All during the quarter they operated at peak capacity turning out television sets for a seemingly insatiable public.

Thirty chemical companies had a jump in profits of 24 percent to \$123,499,967, a reflection of general industrial demand.

Another good index of general activity is the miscellaneous group of 46 companies covering many and varied fields. Profits amounted to \$35,996,210, up 36 percent.

Percentage-wise, the longest forward step was made by the air transport and aircraft section, up 45 percent to \$9,586,481. Their recovery was largely due to booming military orders.

On the other side of the picture are companies showing losses as a group.

Oil and petroleum products companies dropped 17 percent to \$237,951,969. The loss in dollars, just about offset the gains made by the automobile group.

Right now the oil industry is perking up with price increases beginning to be felt and increased production being permitted. Without the total of the 31 oil companies, the profits of all other corporations in the compilation would have been 13 percent higher.

Machinery and tools were down 29 percent, indicating the effect on the 33 companies of postwar expansion cut-backs.

The 17 companies in the non-ferrous metal mining group fell back 17 percent, showing the sharp drop in prices on their products.

A total of 34 railroad companies were down 12 percent to \$41,706,813 despite rate increases made during the year and effective during the first quarter.

That drop snowballed against the railroad equipment companies. The eight companies in this group were down 57 percent, the biggest fall in the list.

The iron and steel industry, with 30 companies in the list, dropped 11½ percent in the first quarter as compared with a year ago. But a year ago the steel companies were running at capacity and this year they had to cut back as a result of coal shortages. The 12 coal companies in the list were off 22 percent.

Corporate profits hit a peak stride in the third quarter of 1948, and they slid off each quarter until the third quarter of last year. Recovery set in at that time with enough force to bring 1949 to within 2.6 percent of equalling the 1948 all-time high.

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Mr. Harold Schmeer,

President, Roseburg Chamber of Commerce,

says:



"WE ARE DEPENDING ON YOU"

The Success and Prosperity of Roseburg Depends on Your

Willingness to Support and Cooperate With Your Roseburg Chamber of Commerce.

THIS IS WHAT YOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAS DONE:

1. Spearheaded project for improvement of East Second Avenue and North Umpqua Highway.
2. Never let up in projecting cooperative effort resulting in the construction of our swimming pool, wading pools, and the installation of modern playground equipment.
3. Sponsored plan resulting in the creation of a City Park Commission and Planning Commission and the adoption of the City Manager form of government.
4. Promoted the Douglas Community Hospital now under construction.
5. Attracted new residents who have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in real property.
6. Secured approximately \$350,000 of State and Federal funds for improvements within our city and an allocation of more than \$172,000 to help finance proposed improvements to our airport.
7. Helped in securing millions of dollars for highways and access roads in Douglas County.

All these have been done because men joined and supported the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce.

WE ARE DEPENDING ON YOU

- to join and work with the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce
- to take a part in the activities and programs sponsored by the Chamber

What has been done?

This is what has been accomplished.

... but, more important:

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

THIS IS WHAT YOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WANTS TO DO:

1. To make effective our plan, already projected, to reveal what we need in the form of new industries to maintain a high level payroll during the entire year. Estimated cost of this project \$2,000.
2. To establish personal contact with manufacturers of wood products giving them a true and complete story of the advantages of establishing manufacturing plants here. To finance this, \$1,000 will be needed.
3. To activate a well planned tourist promotion campaign to attract and hold tourists in our area. \$500 will be needed to get this campaign under way.
4. To complete a comprehensive study of needed public facilities within our community by which we may learn our needs so that each need will be secured in relation to its importance.
5. To provide local representation at each meeting of the Oregon State Highway Commission to show need for further improvements to U. S. No. 99 and other State highways within our county. Should have \$300 on this purpose.
6. To pursue an up-to-date publicity program to influence more people to locate here to man our payrolls, purchase homes, provide consumer's markets, furnish patronage for service industries, clients for professional people and support for our schools and churches. \$1,000 needed to do this.
7. To be prepared to engage in new or special projects having for their ultimate purpose the promotion of the general welfare of our people. Each year heavy demands are made on our treasury for these emergency programs.

All These Can Be Done If You Join and Support Your Chamber of Commerce

Here's what others think of the Chamber of Commerce:

"There is one characteristic, above all others, that makes your Chamber of Commerce the most profitable investment opportunity ever presented and that is—its capacity for effective, dynamic group action on business and civic problems with which you individually cannot cope."

KENNETH W. FORD

"I am proud of my membership in the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce because it is the greatest stimulant we have to community progress and improvement."

BUCKLEY BELL

"I shall always feel indebted to our Chamber of Commerce for the fine contribution it has made in the growth and stability of my community."

ROY E. HANFORD

"School teachers and administrators will find no better public relations agency in our city than our Chamber of Commerce."

ELI HALL

"A Chamber of Commerce is the instrument by which we amplify the voice of the community. Our voice can be faithfully reproduced only when the Chamber of Commerce speaks as representative of all our people. The past achievements of our Chamber of Commerce merit wholehearted community support and cooperation for the future."

CHARLES V. STANTON

"The best guarantee this city has against stagnation and retrogression is the service being rendered by its local Chamber of Commerce."

CARL M. FELKER

"I will never worry about the future of Roseburg as long as its Chamber of Commerce continues to function in the same effective manner as it has during the years that I have resided here."

CHARLES M. EMERY

HELP MAKE ROSEBURG THE FINEST CITY IN THE STATE
JOIN THE ROSEBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE THIS
WEEK AND TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN ITS PROGRAM

MR. BUSINESS MAN: A member of the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce will call on you this week—give him your cooperation.