SHIPBUILDERS WAGES

Scale Is Intended to Be Uniform Throughout the Country.

The full text of the uniform national wage scale for shipbuilding workers in all parts of the country, as awarded by the shipbuilding wage adjustment board on October 24, 1918, is published in the December number of the Monthly Labor Review, just issued by the department of labor.

For wage adjustment purposes the shipyards were placed in two divisions, one including those of the Atlantic coast, Gulf, and Great Lake districts, and the other including those on the Pacific coast. The new scale provides a substantial increase over existing wages, the basic crafts being granted a rate of 80 cents an hour, as compared with an existing rate of 65½ cents on the Pacific coast and 70 cents on the Atlantic coast.

The award affecting Pacific coast shipyards is retroactive to August 1, 1918; the other award is effective as of October 1, 1918.

The rates are based on cost of living figures supplied by the United States bureau of labor statistics, which indicate an average increase of 20 per cent on the Pacific coast from October, 1917, to October, 1918, and of 15 per cent in the other shipbuilding centers from December, 1917, to August, 1918. The 80-cent rate, however, does not apply to laborers or to every class of skilled mechanic.

In each district the board increased the rates for laborers and helpers "upon whom the burden of rising costs of living falls most heavily, as much or more than is required by a strict application of increase in cost of living reported by the bureau of labor statistics." In the case of certain skilled trades, also, the board did not deem it "necessary or wise to apply this entire increase in the cost of living to occupations already above the base rate of the scale for the skilled trades."

Important features of the awards are provisions for (1) semi-annual (April 1 and October 1) readjustment of wages on the basis of changes in the cost of living as determined for the board by the bureau of labor statistics; (2) organization of shop committees, representing both workers and employes, to settle yard grievances; and (3) guarantees of the continuation of open shop conditions where now prevailing and of the right of workmen to join unions without company interference or discrimination.

The awards made were first submitted to, and approved by, the conference of national labor adjusting agencies. The award applying to the Atlantic coast, Gulf and Great Lakes shipyards, and that affecting the Pacific coast shipyards are substantially the same.

The principal characteristic of the decision is that they establish uniform national wage rates for practically all of the skilled trades. The board adopted these uniform national rates because experience has convinced them that by this means only can they put a stop to that shifting of employes from yard to yard and district to district which continues to be a chief obstacle to efficient ship production, and which causes enormous losses, both to the workers and the government. This decision is in complete accord with the urgent requests of representatives of both employes and employers.

Added arguments for uniform national rates are that citizens working for the government—and work on ships is now essentially government work—feel that they should all be treated alike; that there are no longer any marked differences in the cost of living between different sections; and that the federal employment service, rather than divergent wage rates with their unsettling tendencies, should be relied upon to effect whatever shifting of wage earners is necessary to the carrying out of their program.

From the evidence submitted to the board by the bureau of labor statistics in reference to the increase in the cost of living in the five Pacific coast shipbuilding centers and in sixteen Atlantic coast, Gulf and Great Lakes shipbuilding centers, they concluded as follows:

(a) The average increase in the cost of living on the Pacific coast from October, 1917, to October, 1918, was 20 per cent.

(b) Applying this average increase to the basic daily wage of $5.25 established by our previous decision the new basic wage for the 75.2 crafts would be $6.30, or 78¾ cents an hour.

(c) The average increase in the cost of living in the shipbuilding centers of the Atlantic coast, Gulf and Great Lakes for the eight months from December, 1917, to August, 1918 was 15 per cent. In the absence of statistics for the precise period, February to October, since our first decision for these eastern shipyards was rendered, we assume that the increase for these eight months was the same as for the overlapping eight months covered by the bureau's investigation that is, 15 per cent.

(d) Adding 15 per cent to the basic hourly rate of 70 cents would make the new rate 80½ cents.

(e) In the interest of uniformity and to comply with the unanimous request of the International and local representatives of labor who appeared before us for a national wage scale we have made the basic hourly wage rate for the principal skilled crafts 80 cents.

CHEAP LUMBER

We are offering for sale a lot of cheap lumber. Also two-inch plank and dimension, and a limited amount of finish. A competent man in charge at yard on Spruce street, near the Railroad "Y." United States National Park. wkly 21 d 2-5-4t

FROM ABROAD IN THE STATE.

At a meeting in Pendleton of representative citizens from every community in Umatilla county and from farmers and commercial organizations, a program of road building for the next two years calling for the expenditure of over $1,500,000 was indorsed.

Final computation of figures for Oregon's War Savings stamp campaign for 1918 shows that the state has exceeded its quota. Purchasers accredit the state amount to $16,489,972.83. This is one half of one per cent in excess of the state quota.

Through an agreement reached between the Coos Bay Shipbuilding company officers and the carpenters' and joiners' union, the strike in progress at Marshfield since January 7 was settled and the 652 workmen returned to work Friday morning.

The Oregon state highway commission was denied a reduced freight rate on materials for highway construction in a letter received by Senator McNary from Edward Chambers, traffic director of the railroad administration.

Captain James O. Convill of the United States employment service in Portland, declares there are approximately 10,000 unemployed men now in Oregon, most of whom have been released from war work.

Hopes of securing oil in paving quantities from the well on the White ... ranch, southeast of Dallas, have been abandoned by the Oregon Oil & Pipeline company. The well was driven to a depth of 1200 feet.

John Cyril Laird, convicted of second degree murder for the shooting and killing of Deputy Sheriff Frank Twombley, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary in Circuit Judge Gantenbein's court in Portland.

February 10th last day to pay water rent without a penalty. 2-7-2t

A WANT AD will do it

FRENCH SACRIFICE FOR LIBERTY HEROIC

Six millions of French sons have offered their lives that democracy might live. Thirty million other French men and women sacrificed their all for the same purpose. America's debt of gratitude to France for this is very great. We also are indebted to her for an invaluable remedy for stomach, liver and intestinal ailments discovered by her peasants, which it is reported has saved many American lives and prevented thousands of surgical operations. Geo. H. Mayr, for many years a prominent Chicago chemist, imports the ingredients and sells this remedy under the name of Mayr's Wonderful Remedy. It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the catarrhal mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded. Sold by all druggists.—Adv.

HAIR WORK.

Ladies' modern hair work done, new switches made to order. Combings made to order. 1427 Washington St. 1-18—2-18

NOW IS THE TIME

to think about your car. The Standard Auto Repair shop, corner Adams and Fir, is doing very satisfactory work. ED COX, Prop. 2-1-1m

MONEY TO LOAN.

On improved real property in Union county. No delays. Current rates. La Grande Investment Co. 1-20-5t

The new list of the finest soda water drinks made you will find served just right at Silverthorn's fountain.

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.
2-5-3t

Enlistments

Wanted. Now!

Formation of a National Guard company in La Grande is now under way. There are many reasons why able-bodied male citizens of military age should investigate this proposition and avail themselves of it.

The day is gone when men grow up and become old without some military training. The training of a National Guard equips boys and men with better physiques; better brain; better carriage; in short, makes better men of them.

Those who enlist now have a voice in naming their commissioned officers.

Compulsory training is not a remote possibility. National Guard service will exempt from compulsory service.

FULL EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED

The National Guard of the United States was last Saturday voted $3,000,000.00 by the ways and means committee of the lower house in congress. The government has great stores of equipment, shoes, socks, two sets of uniforms, blankets, tentage, hats, overcoats, mittens—everything complete—that will be issued to the National Guard as needed.

The National Guards of Washington and Utah already have these full lines of equipment.

One-fourth regular soldier pay is issued to every National Guard member. For privates this amounts to about $5.00 per month and non-commissioned and commissioned officers proportionately higher. Two weeks or ten days' camping and training at American Lake each year at extra pay and keep, is another feature that should appeal to the virile youth in search of physical and mental betterment.

Territory contributory to La Grande is included in the area from which recruits may be drawn.

Address all inquiries to Commanding Officer, Provisional National Guard, La Grande, Oregon, or apply for enlistment blanks to any of the present officers of the Oregon Guard of La Grande.

OBSERVER ADVERTISING will bring results.

The Sign of Good Quality

Insist Upon Golden Rod Cereals

They are the perfection of experienced milling—excellent in quality and the product of a Home Industry.

GOLDEN ROD MILLING CO.
Cereal Millers and Poultry Food Manufacturers.
Portland Oregon

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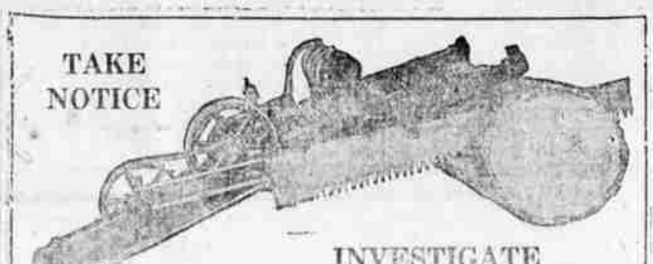

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This Man Talks Like It Was a Ford.

Hood River, Or., Route, Mar. 4.
Vaughan Motor Works,
Portland, Oregon.
Dear Sirs:—Am having fine success with the little old bug. Average ten ricks to gallon of gas; also cut 300 ricks at 1-8c cost per rick. Going some for an old rig. Respectfully yours, J. J. KRUNEMACHER.

LABOR SAVERS

A Gasoline Motor Driven Drag Saw Machine that saws up to 25 cords of wood per day.

NOTE: We also suggest that for good results you should specify a VAUGHAN Drag Saw.

For further details address

VAUGHAN MOTOR WORKS, Inc.,
475 East Main Street. Portland, Oregon.

Columbia Brand

"THE THRIFT SPREAD"

Oleomargarine

Makes economy a double pleasure; a table treat; delicious on toast and bread and on steaks and vegetables.

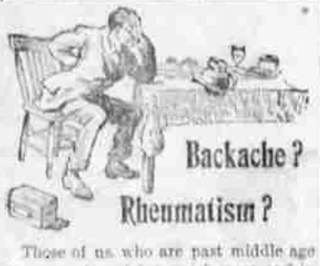
You'll like it right from the start.

Composed of pure, carefully selected ingredients and churned fresh daily with pasteurized milk.

The most noticeable difference between Columbia Brand Oleomargarine and fancy creamery butter is the price — and it's in favor of users of Oleomargarine.

Packed in waxed, odor-proof - cartons. U. S. Government Inspected.

UNION MEAT CO.
North Portland, Oregon



Backache? Rheumatism?

Those of us who are past middle age are prone to eat too much meat and in consequence deposit lime-salts in the arteries, veins and joints. We often suffer from twinges of rheumatism or lumbago, sometimes from gout, swollen hands or feet. There is no longer the slightest need of this, however, as the new prescription, "Anuric," is bound to give immediate results as it is many times more potent than lithia, in ridding the impoverished blood of its poisons by way of the kidneys. It can be obtained at almost any drug store, by simply asking for "Anuric" for kidneys or backache. It will overcome such conditions as rheumatism, dropsical swellings, cold extremities, scalding and burning urine and sleeplessness due to constant arising from bed at night.

Send to Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for a 10c. trial package.

MORRES, CAL.—"I recommend Doctor Pierce's Anuric very highly. I have suffered for the last three years with catarrh of the bladder, having tried every remedy I heard of but without relief. I saw Anuric advertised in the paper, and like a drowning man grabbing at a straw I thought I would try it also, which I did with great success, as it relieved me almost immediately, before I had taken all of the trial package and having great confidence in the remedy I immediately sent to the drug store and bought a full-size package. I can say to all suffering from any disease of the kidneys or uric acid troubles, try this remedy and suffer no longer, as I have great faith in Dr. Pierce's remedies."—S. T. HANNAH.

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Its the daily breakfast in thousands of western homes.

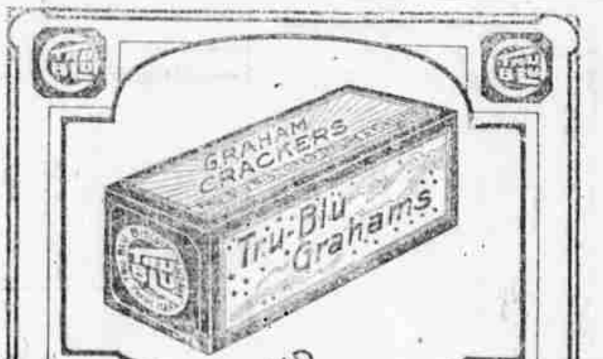
There is no other so digestible and healthful.

Honestly recommended as the daily diet of the entire household.

Because the ingredients are so blended as to produce a food that is appetizing and perfectly digested.

Those who have found other pancakes indigestible will find OLYMPIC agrees with the most delicate stomach.

The Portland Flouring Mills Co.



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The King of Crackers

Tru Blu Grahams have the rare combination of rich food value and crisp deliciousness that make them ever welcome. At meals or between meals they are always popular. Made for you in the daylight food factory. Sold everywhere.

TRU-BLU BISCUIT CO.
Portland.

OREGON MADE FOR OREGON TRADE

Success or a Success.

Whether man has had wealth or poverty, failure or success, counts for little when it is past. There is but one question for him to answer, to face boldly and honestly as an individual alone with his conscience and his destiny. "How will I let that poverty or wealth affect me? If that trial or deprivation has left me better, nobler, then poverty has been riches, failure has been a success."

Observer advertising will bring results.

Panic Active Aid to Disease.

Panic, in truth, is always the most potent enemy upon which disease can call for aid. For panic not merely cripples the mind and the muscle; it has directly disastrous consequences to the body itself. It deranges the digestion, it strains the heart, it slows the circulation of the blood. Thus it weakens the whole system, predisposing to infection by disease and making it more difficult to escape outcome if infection strikes.

Butter Wrappers printed at the Observer Office.