

INDUSTRY IS FACING RETURN TO NORMAL ON NEW STANDARDS

(BY C. E. G.)
Back to normal! With the nation's business engaged upon the readjustment of economic affairs, conditions of industry and workmen alike are beginning to peer from behind the haze of catch-phrase philosophy, toward the concrete facts which frame the answer to the question, "What is normal?"

Early after the close of the world struggle, the nation looked forward to a return to pre-war conditions. Normalcy then, meant a readjustment of things upon the basis of affairs of 1915 or even a few years before. But current developments show that this level will never be attained. Movements in industry and commerce are proof today that the country will readjust itself upon a different, and probably firmer financial foundation.

NEW STANDARD LOOMS

Prices will never return to the 1913 level. Students of conditions don't expect it. But the return to normalcy lies in the leveling of relative values, to a point where on the whole they bear the same mutual relation, though perhaps show a higher index number.

Taken in view of the actual conditions, as they exist today, the current cut in wages at the coast paper mills is but added proof that the inevitable revision of standards is gradually taking place. As one of the major factors in production, labor is necessarily heavily affected by any change, either spasmodic or permanent. Because labor is a perishable commodity, properly interpreted, it forms an accurate weather vane to the basic movement in the commercial world.

BASIC ADJUSTMENT MADE

A study of the scale as framed to govern the mills upon the coast, of effective December 1, shows that the wage reduction is only in proportion to the reduction of other commodities, raw materials, etc., which directly affect the paper and pulp industry. As a matter of fact, labor has been one of the last things to be reduced. Raw ingredients that make up the paper sheet, had dropped, before the labor cut, and the reduction of wages was made upon a basis proportionate to the fall of materials and other commodities. For example, during a period that saw but a 10 per cent reduction in wages, over a year's time, logs, the basic material in paper manufacture dropped nearly 50 per cent. Wood that is bought today at \$10 and \$12, sold fourteen months ago for \$18 and \$22.

It is true that some things, notably fuel oil, have not come down in proportion, but these are for the most part, commodities, the cost of which, like paper, is largely governed by the cost of labor.

CUT IS DETAILED

At the meeting of the coast paper-makers in San Francisco November 22, W. P. Hawley, Jr., of the Hawley Pulp and Paper company and A. J. Lewthwaite, of the Crown-Willamette were appointed a committee to frame the scale for the wage cut. Comparative figures upon material and overhead costs were taken into consideration with the result that the eight and five cent blanket reduction was worked out. The former cut applies to day workers and the latter to shift men. The only workers unaffected are the paper machine men, who are working under the scale as governed by the International.

Balancing of entire conditions indicates the readjustment of values upon a new standard. Neither wages nor commodities can possibly drop to 1913 bases any more than was possible after the rebellion, but present optimism is founded upon the knowledge that when capital, labor, land and industry reach their angle of repose, it will be upon a higher level which is the outgrowth of newer developments rather than superficial bolstering.

EXCHANGE IS UNSTABLE

The only note of discord in the entire atmosphere is the affect of the condition of foreign trade and foreign exchange. A striking example of the manifest injustice is shown in the figures compiled at the recent trade conference. In Germany, a paper machine man receives 1500 marks a month, equivalent at the present rate of exchange, to \$6 or \$7. In America, a man doing the same class of work, receives under the new wage scale, \$165 a month. The exchange basis reduces all other costs in proportion, until foreign manufacturers are enabled to put their product in the domestic market at a cost which it is impossible for the local mills to meet. Not only is this condition true of German business, but of Norway, Sweden and in a lesser degree, of Canada.

PROTECTION HELD NEEDED

The relief, it is believed, lies in a temporary emergency tariff to take up the slack. Manufacturers are not looking for an advantage, but merely for reasonable protection until the re-storation with the exception of \$450,000 Rural Credit Farm Loan 4 per cent bonds, and \$392,300 Irrigation District interest bonds.

Lottery Loans Popular in France

The government of the French Republic has no scruples about lotteries; they are not forbidden the mails, as in the United States, and it is entirely lawful and reputable to deal in them. The credit National Bank has just successfully launched a new 3,000,000 franc 6 per cent lottery loan as a continuation of its program begun in 1919 for restoration of destroyed industries and property of the North. Loans totaling 17,000,000 francs have now been floated by this institution alone. These loans are limited to 60 per cent of the capitalization of the properties and thus are theoretically first mortgages, guaranteed by the government. The lottery feature appeals to the small investor not only from a gambler's viewpoint, but also from that of an investor who sees in addition an opportunity for large prizes honestly distributed. Thirteen million franc in prizes are distributed annually, ranging downward from 500,000 francs. Thus the average yield is 6.35 per cent until the redemption in 1936.

What Currency Inflation Means

Continued devaluation of the German mark and reports of failure of the government's efforts to obtain new loans from abroad have contributed to the utter demoralization of financial affairs in Germany. The "Lokal Anzeiger," commenting on the situation, says: "It is hardly necessary to point out of consequences to German industry of the latest calamity to the mark. With the dollar at 300, the gulden at 100 and the franc at 33, it practically will no longer be possible for German industry to purchase raw materials abroad. We have entered the class of Austria and Poland." Minister Gessler of the cabinet said: "The 132,000,000 gold marks which we must pay the Allies is equivalent today to seven thousand billion paper marks, while the annual payment of 3,500,000,000 gold marks now amounts to 127,000,000,000 paper marks. We cannot possibly pay that. The next few months will determine the life or death of the German people and the German state."

Avenue of Credit for Cities

It is not generally known that Federal Reserve banks may make direct loans to municipalities. This is fully provided for in the Federal Reserve act. The Federal Reserve banks are not permitted to make loans or advances to individuals or corporations. Subject to certain conditions, for periods not exceeding six months, in anticipation of the collection of taxes or receipt of assured revenues, states, counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions of the United States may borrow directly from the banks. This is a feature of the law that may be very useful at times; for example, the city of Portland's general fund is greatly depleted at present, and several times in the past the city has borrowed from Portland banks when the banks perhaps could have found more constructive employment for their funds. The state of Oregon is "hard up" just now, and to bring some cash into the depleted industrial accident fund, State Treasurer Hoff is selling some of the state's bonds. He could, no doubt, borrow from the Federal Reserve bank at a low rate.

Interest Grows in Financial News

The press of the Pacific Northwest is showing increased interest in news of financial matters. The Walla Walla "Bulletin," the Yakima "Herald" and the Wenatchee "World" have all recently announced the weekly publication of a page of financial news and opinion. The papers will not accept advertising of wild-cat stocks or securities of doubtful character, and state that they will deal only in announcements of reputable institutions.

This Railroad is Prosperous

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy is one of the prosperous railroads. It comes from an authoritative source that the next dividend will be 20 per cent, making 25 per cent for the year. This will be an incident of much significance, although the prosperity of the Burlington is widely known. The dividend probably will apply to an increase in capitalization. Perhaps one motive for this large dividend is to help the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, owners of a majority of the Burlington stock, which are not doing very well on their own operations. They are not earning their dividend.

Lincoln Motors Bankrupt

Directors of the Lincoln Motors Company last week filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy, and the Detroit Trust Company was appointed receiver. Assets are reported at \$14,800,000 and liabilities at \$8,237,280. It is announced that the business will be continued by the receiver. Another casualty in the automobile industry is Hare's Motors, a selling organization for the Locomobile and other high priced cars. A receiver has been asked for.

GOOD LOOKS FOLLOW GOOD HEALTH

If You're a Young Woman This Advice is For You
Aurora, Neb.—"My mother was always a great believer in all of Dr. Pierce's medicines and when I was a girl she gave me the 'Favorite Prescription' when I was in a rundown, nervous condition and it soon built me up in health and strength. I am glad to endorse Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription as being a splendid tonic for girls or women who suffer."—Mrs. Walter Guard, 608 Tenth St.

How can delicate, sickly girls hope to become healthy women? A healthy state of the system comes with Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It's a medicine prepared for women's ailments. Get it now in either tablets or liquid from your neighborhood druggist, and write Dr. Pierce, Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for free medical advice.—Adv.

FIRE RAGES HIGH

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 5.—With a terrific and spectacular fire reported to be raging beyond control in the Malibu mountains, and threatening to sweep through the Calabasas section in the upper section of the San Fernando valley, near here, county officials today were rushing 300 fire fighters to the scene.

MEAT MEN STRIKE

SOUTH ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 5.—Striking packing plant employes attacked a trainload of strikebreakers here at 10 a. m., broke windows in the train and prevented packing plant officials from unloading the strikebreakers. Strike of unionized packing plant employes of the country was called in protest against wage slashes and refusal of employers to recognize the union.

BRIAND ENDORSED

PARIS, Dec. 6.—The French senate this afternoon voted confidence in the policies of Premier Briand. The vote was 249 to 12.

CHINOOK STORM WHECKS PHONES RIVER IS RISING

High Wind Does Damage In Oregon City; Gale Hits 60 Miles

More than 250 telephones in Oregon City are out of commission, with probably half this number down in the outlying districts, and the river is rising again, as the result of the Chinook which struck this locality Thursday.

The river at four o'clock Thursday afternoon had reached a stage of 61.8. The Crown-Willamette will be forced to close its pulp mills and grinder rooms with a rise of another three-tenths. Thursday night it was believed that this would be found necessary by Friday morning.

Gale Runs High

More than fifty telephone poles in this city and the surrounding country were torn down by the wind, which reached a velocity of more than 60 miles an hour. A large elm tree at Fifth and Water streets was blown down, and fell across the phone lines, breaking cable number 1, thus cutting off 200 telephones in the business district.

Thursday afternoon, telephone poles were reported down at Fifth and Monroe, Sixteenth and Division, Sixth and Washington, Fourth and Center and Eighth and Monroe.

The old suspension bridge across the Willamette river here swayed or more than a foot in the whipping gale. Traffic across the bridge was discouraged this afternoon, for it was believed that the structure was in danger.

Shop Demolished

The Rosenbaum blacksmith shop at Mountain View Addition is in a deplorable state of the large display windows was shattered.

For over an hour great excitement prevailed on Sixteenth street between Taylor and Jackson streets when trees were being uprooted, and limbs falling in all directions. During the height of the storm, the roof of the building of Mrs. Ida Eggleston, who was confined to her bed by illness, and carried out of the building, which had already been struck by one of the big limbs. Mr. Hall carried Mrs. Eggleston to the home of Mrs. Earl Wink, at 1601 Sixteenth street, and both had narrow escapes from being struck by the limbs while making their escape. The wood shed of Mrs. Eggleston was damaged by a falling tree.

Windows Are Broken

Several windows were broken in the offices in Oregon City, including the court house.

Trees lining the banks of the Clackamas river and the Abernethy creek were felled by the wind. Residents near the Abernethy creek rushed inside their homes fearing of being struck, while others feared their homes would be blown into the stream.

Canby Hit

Canby, Dec. 5.—One of the severest wind storms that has ever been experienced in Canby was this afternoon, when a gale swept over the city and throughout the rural section, doing much damage to property.

IRISH PEACE FIXED

BIRMINGHAM, England, Dec. 6.—Ireland hereafter will be known officially as "The Irish Free State," under the agreement reached at last night's London conference, it was announced by Lord Chancellor Birkenhead, in an address here today. It is understood that Ulster will have the option of maintaining her present status, but it is proposed to appoint a commission to limit the boundaries of Tyrone and Fermanagh counties. The Sinn Fein claims these counties wholly or in part of the ground of political belief.

FAMINE CONDITIONS SERIOUS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6.—The Russian famine is spreading and now threatens 25,000,000 people, ex-Governor James P. Goodrich of Indiana reported to Secretary Hoover today. Following the conference it was indicated that congress will be asked by Mr. Hoover to provide funds by which large quantities of grain and food supplies can be sent to the stricken territory.

CAR MEN TO STRIKE

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 6.—One hundred and twenty employes of the Seattle & Rainier Valley Railroad road company, at a mass meeting in Columbia City at midnight last night voted to strike at 1 o'clock tomorrow morning unless the company rescinds its recently posted bulletin of wage reductions, making these reductions retroactive to October 1.

FEW GREAT ARBUCKLE

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 6.—Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle came home from San Francisco with his wife today to enjoy what he said he hoped would be a "good rest."

A few women relatives and newspaper men greeted Arbuckle and his wife as they walked from the station to their automobile. No film celebrities were present, and there was no ovation of any kind.

Used Car Market At Low Ebb Now

"Buy used cars now," is the advice given motorists by Jake S. Risley, of Clackamas County Auto & Tractor Co.

"The extreme low point in the used car market has been reached. From now on the tendency will be toward a strong reaction for higher prices in repossessed cars."

Pointing to some of the deciding features, he says: "Immediately following a period of peak production came a sharp break in the demand for motor cars. Before the production program could be curtailed there existed a temporary surplus of supply over demand for new cars."

"Manufacturers then began producing on a greatly reduced basis until the market should once more reach a normal state.

"All these determining influences have affected the used car market. Attractive prices calculated to stimulate demand caused new car buyers to take advantage of lower cost and many thousands of these new car buyers had used cars to dispose of. Automobile dealers began taking the used cars in trade and offering liberal prices for them but today very few dealers are accepting used cars.

"Just now the used car supply temporarily exceeds the demand with the result that used cars are lower today than they have been and probably ever will be again. To prove the truth of this statement buyers need only ascertain the period during which any used car has been in service, then figure a depreciation of 25 per cent per year for the period in use, this being the percentage used by the United States Government, basing the depreciation not on pre-war price of the car but its present and greatly reduced price. You will find the present prices run between 35 and 50 per cent per year even figured on present low prices.

"This indicates that the final low point in the used car market is here.

Odd Phenomenon in Batteries Found

When storage batteries or dry cells are cooled down to 170 degrees below zero Centigrade, the temperature of liquid air, these producers of electricity may reverse their voltage. This is the scientifically startling phenomenon that has been discovered at the Bureau of Standards, Department of Commerce, by two physicists, G. W. Vinal and F. W. Alrup, who were making tests to determine the reliability of batteries at arctic temperatures. So far as it is known, this is the first time this phenomenon has been observed.

A storage cell of the same material as used on thousands of automobiles every day was gradually cooled down and the open circuit voltages at the various temperatures were determined. Down to 80 degrees below, the voltage remained at the normal value as it does in ordinary operation at normal air temperatures. But between 80 and 100 degrees below, after the electrolyte hand "under-cooled," it increased in temperature slightly as freezing began. The voltage dropped down to nothing at about minus 100 degrees Centigrade and then, at a slightly lower temperature, strangely registered a minus voltage. Still more unexpected was the fact that there was registered as high as 10 volts in the direction opposite to the normal voltage. Then the voltage violently fluctuated ranging from positive ten volts to negative ten volts. These reversals happened whenever the frozen electrolyte of the cell "ticked."

A dry cell of an electric flashlight of commercial grade was given the same cooling treatment, and after giving slightly higher voltage than normal at 115 degrees below, it gradually reduced voltage until at 170 degrees below it reversed its voltage also.

But while the voltages shown under the sub-arctic temperatures are reversed and remarkably large, no hopes is held that storage batteries can be recharged by the simple method of cooling them to the low temperatures used in the Bureau of Standards tests. The currents at these low temperatures are vanishing small, and practically they hardly exist, the tests showed. Just now the battery charging stations are far no low temperature competition.

The low temperature tests were begun to determine whether dry batteries would give reliable voltages at temperatures that would be encountered by the McMillan arctic expedition which recently started northward. The scientists of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institution of Washington who were cooperating in this expedition also wished to know whether dry cells were fit for use after being frozen.

Dry cells of both the ordinary type and the silver chloride cells which were also tested at low temperatures appeared to be perfectly normal after being thawed out. The small-sized storage cell used also came through the cold test tube that contained it was unbroken. This phase of the tests is likely to prove of considerable commercial importance as dry cells that are used in cold regions and accidentally frozen can be relied upon, according to the results of the tests.

The knowledge of the behavior of cells at low temperature will prove useful in the case of flying at high altitudes where temperatures approach those of the arctic regions.

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GLADSTONE NEWS

Christmas Tree is Plan of Gladstone

GLADSTONE, Ore., Dec. 3.—Gladstone will have a community Christmas tree. Plans laid at the meeting of the Community Club here last night promise good cheer for both the kiddies and the grown-ups at the yuletide season.

P. D. Ellis, an electrician, was appointed chairman of a committee to erect the tree and string the electric lights. Mrs. Ellis has charge of the decoration. Ed. Stoval heads the committee which will secure the tree. J. W. Leonard has charge of the children's exercises and Mrs. Frank Oswald has charge of the adult's program. Brenton Vedder was appointed chairman of the committee on "grand unusual and extraordinary stunts." Fred Burden is in charge of the orchestra, and W. E. Hassler, of the finance committee which will provide candy and other gifts for the children.

The tree is to be erected between River boulevard and Arlington and will be over 60 feet high. It will be put up on the 24th, and the exercises will be held Monday night, December 26. The tree will then remain standing until after New Years.

The Community club at its meeting elected the following officers: J. W. Leonard, president; Mrs. F. L. Oswald, vice president; W. L. Wilson, secretary; Mrs. Ed. Rauch, treasurer. These officers, with Jacob Kyler, T. F. Meeds and W. E. Hassler, were named as members of the executive committee.

Clackamas Scenery Damaged By Storms

The recent storm has left a wreckage in its path along the beautiful Clackamas river. A number of the large trees in the Gladstone Riverside park have been broken down while others are stripped of their main limbs. The island just east of the electric bridge is fast disappearing, the high water has so loosened the soil, that many of the largest trees were blown over during the wind storm Thursday. Four years ago a beautiful summer park was improved on this island while today it is under water and strewn with stumps, timber and logs which have been washed down stream. The roof of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Gault was partially torn off by the gale and Mr. Gault and Mr. Nelson were heroes of the hour.

Bazaar Date Set For December 14

The ladies of the Gladstone Christian church will hold their annual bazaar and supper in the basement of the church on the afternoon and evening of December 14th. They will have booths of fancy work, quilts, canned fruit and home-made candies. Supper will be served at 6:30, at a nominal cost.

Gladstone Voters Down Tax Measure

Between 175 and 200 taxpayers of Road district No. 5 known as Gladstone, met at the school house Wednesday to vote on the special road tax. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brenton Vedder, who read the call for the meeting from the county court in conjunction with other similar meetings held all over the county and that the Gladstone council had nothing to do with it. Mr. Vedder was elected chairman and Chambers Howell, secretary. Attorney William Hammond explained that the voting of a special tax at this time did not mean necessarily that the money had to be expended upon Portland avenue, but the meeting should designate what road or street should receive the benefit. However, this was questioned, by some as the call specifically mentioned Portland avenue and the meeting was largely of one mind—that the general taxes should not be used to pay for improvement along the thoroughfare, when taxpayers on other streets have been compelled to pay the cost of improving their streets. When a motion was made that a special tax levy of 10 mills be raised for 1922 it was voted down almost unanimously.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dunmire who recently sold their home at Fern Ridge are domiciled at the home of Mr. Gay.

Mr. and Mrs. Claud Bruder and little son Gordon, were called to Portland by the illness of the former's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dallas of Carver, were guests of friends in Gladstone Thursday.

Mrs. J. Blake Bowland is confined to her home with a severe cold.

The members of the Euterplan club met at the home of Mrs. T. E. Gault. During the afternoon Mrs. Frank Nelson gave an interesting talk upon the work of the "Red Cross."

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Holland of Portland have thoroughly remodeled their house on East Clackamas boulevard and have completely furnished it for renting. Mrs. Holland was formerly Miss Martha Rauch of this place.

Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Alldredge entertained at dinner Sunday, Mrs. H. H. Hulbert and children, Margaret, Teddy and James.

Cleland, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Eby is quite sick with bronchitis.

The school children are very busy selling Christmas seals.

The special services being held at the Baptist church by Rev. Lehigh are very largely attended and the wonderful sermons much appreciated.

Miss Marjory Read returned to her duties at the University of Oregon after spending the Thanksgiving week-end at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Read of West Gladstone.

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Jewelleto Cross, formerly of this city. Miss Cross will visit various places of interest and will perhaps be accompanied home later in the summer by Mr. and Mrs. Burk, who will visit friends here.

Mrs. J. W. Gray, who is the guest of Judge and Mrs. H. E. Cross, has received word from her husband, who proceeded her to their home at Husum, Wash., that the stages are now running from White Salmon to Husum.

Prof. and Mrs. Gray and little daughter Lucile drove to Gladstone just before the recent storm and could not get back with their machine. Prof. Gray returned to Husum last week, walking from White Salmon to their fruit farm at Husum.

C. Marston of Gresham visited his brother-in-law, Edward Eby and family Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. McKinney and Mrs. Carl Simmons of West Gladstone spent Sunday with the latter's brother, Lorea Shockley of Malibu.

Prof. J. W. Leonard is greatly encouraged over the success of the Saturday picture show which netted them \$24. Saturday, December 10th, will be the date of the next picture show at the school house being Wallace Reid in "The Valley of the Giants."

The football game played between Gladstone and Parkplace resulted in a score of 12 to 0 in our favor.

The excellent tackling done by Alden Rivers who weighs 85 pounds was a source of pleasure to all those who witnessed the game.

Mrs. Lyle Gault of Portland spent Friday with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gault of this city.

Mrs. Chas. Legler and daughter Mildred spent Saturday in Portland and were accompanied home by Dr. and Mrs. V. L. Rocho who were guests at the Legler home over Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. S. V. Frances were also the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Legler.

Mrs. James McFarland who has been the house guest of Mrs. W. E. Niles for the past two weeks returned to her home in Powell River, B. C. Saturday. Mr. McFarland will meet his wife at Victoria and they will spend a few days visiting friends at that place.

Mrs. Tufts who has been critically ill at the home of her daughter Mrs. Guy Dwiggin of West Gladstone is much improved.

Prof. J. W. Gray left for his home Thursday. Prof. and Mrs. Gray and daughter Lucile motored to Gladstone just before the recent storm and have the guests of Judge and Mrs. H. E. Cross and Mrs. Gray's sister, Mrs. Woods of Woodburn. Mrs. Gray and Lucile are visiting at the Cross home at present until Prof. Gray can make the trip with the automobile.

Mrs. Rudolph Wenger of Parkplace underwent a surgical operation at the Oregon City hospital Wednesday. Mrs. Wenger recently suffered a nervous breakdown and has been confined to her home for some time.

CHICAGO, Dec. 6.—Walter F. Blake, 52, an arc light inspector for the city, was shot and killed in his home early today by his wife, Mrs. Lucy Blake. Mrs. Blake told the police she shot her husband during a struggle for possession of a revolver with which he had threatened to kill her. Her husband had been drinking. Mrs. Blake said, and they quarreled when she attempted to prevent his going out after more liquor.

WIFE KILLS HUSBY

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