

240,000 STEEL MEN GET WAGE INCREASE

United States Corporation Announces 10 Per Cent Rise for Unskilled Workers.

\$15,000,000 ADDED TO ROLL

Average Daily Pay Per Man Nearly \$3 Already—Other Departments to Share and Miners Are Considered.

NEW YORK, Jan. 6.—Because of the prosperous condition attending the steel and iron trade the finance committee of the United States Steel Corporation, acting on the recommendation of the heads of its subsidiary companies, today decided to increase the wages of its common laborers about 10 per cent, the advance in take effect February 1. Increases also will be made among other classes of employees.

The action of the finance committee was embodied in the following statement issued from the office of Chairman Elbert H. Gary: "In view of the prosperous conditions now existing, it was unanimously voted at a meeting of presidents of our iron and steel companies, held today, to recommend that there should be made adjustments of the wage rates, to take effect February 1, and at a subsequent meeting of the finance committee it was decided to adopt the recommendation of the presidents.

Other Departments to Share. "It is proposed to increase the rates of common labor about 10 per cent. As to other departments, increases will be suitably proportioned. "Adjustments in wage rates in our mining companies are under consideration. The proposed increase will affect the greater part of the corporation's force of about 240,000 men and will increase the annual payroll by about \$15,000,000, according to estimates by the corporation's representatives.

In 1914 the steel corporation had an average of 182,000 employees on its rolls, as against 223,900 in 1913. The average daily pay in 1914 was \$2.83, an advance of 3 cents over the average of 1913. Employees of the general administrative and selling departments averaged \$2.97 per day, compared with \$2.92 in 1913. The total payroll of the steel corporation in 1914 was \$122,350,000, against \$107,300,000 in the preceding year.

A table indicating how the employees of the steel corporation have fared since the company's organization in 1892 shows that the average pay level of \$2.77 per annum was reached in 1894, after which it steadily mounted, with one exception, the year 1913, in which was the average of 1912 and 1914.

Special interest attached to today's announcement of the wage increase because of Judge Gary's statement of the previous day, in which present and future conditions of the steel industry were exhaustively dealt with. It is said that the action of the steel corporation will be followed by most of the leading competitors, including some of the so-called independent operators.

During the past few weeks there have been rumors of labor troubles, arising in part from differences between employers and employees over the wage of the smaller companies are experiencing strike difficulties at this time.

E. C. HERLOW FREE, THOUGH CONVICTED

Efforts to Compel Service of Sentence, Imposed in 1914, Are Thwarted Twice.

PROSECUTOR IS AROUSED

Commitment Orders Recalled Twice and Court Said to Have Been Active in Endeavoring to Procure Pardon by Payment.

UNKNOWN PARENT FOUND

PORTLAND WOMAN MAY SEE MOTHER AFTER 25 YEARS.

Mrs. E. H. McKay's Efforts to Find Relative, From Whom She Was Separated at 2, Succeeded.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., Jan. 6.—(Special.)—As a result of a newspaper item, Mrs. E. H. McKay, of Portland, Oregon, will be reunited with her mother, Mrs. Eliza Hindman, of this city, whom she last trace of a quarter of a century ago.

Ann Arbor police received word from Mrs. McKay asking them to assist her in finding her mother, who had placed her and her four small brothers and sisters in the state school at Coldwater 25 years ago, after she had been deserted by the husband and father. The Ann Arbor Times-News published the appeal and a brother of Mrs. McKay saw it and wrote her that her mother lived here.

Mrs. E. H. McKay lives with her husband at 1533 East Everett street. She wrote to the Chief of Police at Ann Arbor on December 27, in the effort to learn if her mother was living in Ann Arbor. She said last night that she had not yet received the letter from her brother, Mrs. McKay, that was her mother about 25 years ago. After being placed in the Coldwater institution she was adopted, she is now 57 years old. She came to Portland seven years ago. The news dispatch from Ann Arbor may have beaten the letter from her brother.

USURY INQUIRY BEGUN

BANKS ASKED FOR DATA AS TO INTEREST RATES.

List of Loans on Which Total Compensation Exceeded 6 Per Cent Must Be Submitted.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The Controller of the Currency today issued a call to all National banks requiring them to report to him their condition at the close of business on Friday, December 31.

In today's call the Controller goes further than in any previous time to learn if money is being lent by National banks in violation of state usury laws. He asks for a list of loans by all banks during 1915, upon which interest was charged or collected, either in the shape of interest, discount or commission, at rates that would amount to more than the equivalent of 6 per cent per annum.

"Banks are cautioned," says the call, "to prepare this statement with care and accuracy." The call also asks banks to state whether it is their custom to require borrowers to carry deposits when loans are granted, how much they are now lending to non-depositors and how much is lent and not secured by collateral.

PRISON HEAD MUST GO

GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK DEMANDS RESIGNATION.

Falsification by Transfer of Convicts Engaged in Welfare Work Is Given as Reason.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Governor Whitson today demanded the resignation of John R. Riley, state superintendent of prisons.

The reason for the demand, as given in the governor's message, was that Riley recently ordered a draft of 66 prisoners transferred from Sing Sing to Dannemora prison. Most of the transferred convicts, the letter points out, have been or are prominently connected with the Mutual Welfare League of the prison, which was organized by Mr. Osborne, such transfers to Dannemora have for years been regarded as punishment.

INSURANCE MEN PROTEST

State Highway Commission to Hear Opposition to Compensation Act.

SALISBURY, Or., Jan. 6.—(Special.)—To hear a protest of Portland insurance agents against its order requiring all contractors on state highway work to come under the workmen's compensation act, the State Highway Commission will meet next Tuesday.

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STATE AID IS APPROVED

I. N. FLEISCHNER FAVORS ISSUE OF BONDS BEARING LOW INTEREST.

Credit for Reclaiming Drainage Districts and Logged-Off Lands as Well as Irrigation Proposed.

NEW YORK, was host Wednesday evening at a banquet at the Mulholland held in honor of the field men for the state.

The banquet was the conclusion of a day's interesting work in convention, where the latest topics in life insurance were discussed.

Mr. Katz acted as toastmaster and introduced as the chief speaker Dr. Otis R. Wright, head medical referee for the State of Oregon for the Mutual Life. Mr. Katz had as guests the following: J. R. Brady, L. E. Brown, L. J. Brogan, R. C. Bean, J. H. Cochran, D. D. Condon, C. P. Doster, J. Elkington, A. P. Fleming, F. E. Fortner, F. R. Fortner, E. C. Goodwin, W. A. Goss, J. F. Hutchison, Paul Henderson, C. A. Hood, M. M. Keane, J. B. Mackenzie, F. F. Nolan, D. R. Snyder, R. Van Dusen, Otis R. Wright, H. H. Kirby, R. W. Johnson, G. M. Nolan, C. H. Pruner, H. G. Reed, P. A. Smith, George C. Ulrich, E. R. Wright, C. E. White, Guy Ingram and Lloyd Van Dusen.

"It is time now for Oregon to do something to develop its own resources," said I. N. Fleischner, of Fleischner, Mayer & Co., yesterday in discussing the proposal to authorize the state to guarantee the interest and principal of irrigation and drainage bonds. "But the bond guarantee plan," continued Mr. Fleischner, "should be broad in its scope and far-reaching in its effects. It should include not only irrigation and drainage districts but logged-off land developments and any other public enterprise that could legitimately and practically be brought under its operations.

"Extension of the state's credit to enterprises of this kind not only will develop the latent resources of the state, but will form the basis of a system of rural credits that will give material aid to settlers all over Oregon." Mr. Fleischner expressed thorough agreement with the suggestions already made by various Portland bankers that would guarantee by the state of interest and extend over a period long enough to give the settler a chance to secure the principle.

"It should be possible to procure all the money necessary at 5 per cent," he said. "Irrigation or drainage districts that would justify the sale of 5 per cent bonds at par or better probably are not worth developing as part of the principal mature until five years after the bonds are sold. That would give the settler a chance to get his place in working condition before being mortgaged to the state at 5 per cent. Meanwhile he could, doubtless, make enough each year to pay his interest—especially with interest at 4 per cent.

"The payments on the principal should be spread over a period of 15 or 20 years. We can't expect to get many actual settlers on the land if we burden them with heavy interest payments at the start and if we expect them to pay off the principal within a few years." Mr. Fleischner believes in a premium sale at the state, to compensate for its work.

"In my opinion, he says, also could be used in paying the expenses of the state incidental to an investigation of the districts for which it undertakes to guarantee securities.

"But the question of investigation is a mere detail in the larger plan," he declared. "It goes without saying that the state's interests should be protected in every case and that the credit of the state should not be placed behind any project that is not perfectly legitimate and that is not pronounced feasible by competent authorities.

"I believe that this plan offers an excellent opportunity to develop our logged-off lands as well as our irrigation and drainage districts. And these logged-off properties should be provided for in any scheme that calls on the state for money.

"I do not believe in using the credit of the whole state to develop the resources of any one part of the state without offering similar advantages to every other part.

Double Stamps on First Three Floors Today and Saturday

Electric Desk Lamps Adjustable, regular \$2.25, now \$1.69

Electric Grills THE POPULAR DINING TABLE STOVE. A Few Samples of the Prominent Makes at Special Prices:

Former price \$7.00, today and Saturday priced at \$4.28
Former price \$5.00, today and Saturday priced at \$3.78

Use This Coupon 20-EXTRA-20 Bring this coupon and get 20 extra "S. & H." stamps on your first \$1 cash purchase and double stamps on the balance of purchase. Good on first three floors today and Saturday, January 7 and 8.

About 100 Gilt-Framed, Hand-Colored Photographs Yours \$2.89

Choice up to 10x12 inches; regular prices up to \$25. For 98c Each A fine assortment of FRAMED PRINTS, priced regularly up to \$2.50

Heaters at Reduced Prices

January Clearance Causes This Reduction in These LUMINOUS HEATERS In the Two or Three-Globe Style. Regular \$6, today and Saturday... \$3.29

Bathroom Mirrors A Special Number at a Very Low Price.

10x12 oval, best white enamel frame, a regular \$15.00 value, special at... 98c

PROSPERITY SALE 1916

Through the month, in every department, we shall record here price savings worth your while.

- Genuine Cowhide Traveling Bags, Black or tan, 14 and 15-inch, sewed-on cor... \$4.98
- All-Leather Suitcases, 21-inch, heavy, 2 straps... \$4.98
- All-Leather Suitcases, 24-inch, with 3 out straps... \$4.49
- "Cross" Jewel Boxes, 2 1/2 x 3 1/2... 25% off
- 50c Jewel Bags on 49c
- Chessmen... 40c to \$2.75
- Dominoes... 75c to \$6.00
- Cribbage Boards on sale at... 35c to \$2.30
- Playing Cards, "Wood-Lark," a 52-card... 15c on sale for... \$1.00
- 25c Crude Carbolic Acid now for... 19c
- 50c Dargest & Ram-dell's Cold Cream on sale for... 36c
- \$1.00 De L'Isle on sale now for... 85c
- \$1.00 Pyorrhoeic on sale for... 87c
- 25c Santal Tooth Paste now for... 16c
- 25c Resinol Soap on sale for... 17c
- 35c Pack's Tar Soap on sale for... 15c
- 25c Dentized Alcohol for... 20c
- 25c Formaldehyde on sale for... 19c
- 25c Rose Water on sale for... 15c
- 15c Lime Water on sale for... 11c
- 25c Hay Rum on 19c sale for...
- \$1 Pinkham's Vicks 69c
- \$1.00 Sal Hepatica 79c on sale for...
- 75c J. & S. S. S. on 59c sale for...
- 50c Emulsiated Coconut Oil for... 37c
- One gallon "Wood-Lark" Furniture Polish on sale for... \$1.09
- 45 Coffee Percolator now for... \$3.00
- 45 Silver Tea... \$4.98
- All Fancy Candy Boxes and Baskets, prices from \$1.00 to \$5. are 25% off now at... \$3 off
- 25c pound Hard Mixed Candy for... 14c
- 35c pound Cream Mixed Candy now... 16c

Woodard Clark & Co. ALDER STREET AT WEST BURN MARSHALL 4700-HOME 4971

which are to be presented in public recital in the near future. Special attention will be given tonight to scenic effects, costumes and make-up.

Furnace Fireman Hurt.

Max Guthrie, of 593 Beacon street, fireman at the Meier & Frank department store, was burned about the face,

Jail Follows Robbery Attempt.

Jim Sullivan, charged with being the third member of the trio whose efforts to rob a man in a lodging-house were in-

terrupted by the proprietress, Mrs. E. Platt, who flashed a pistol, was yesterday sentenced to 30 days in jail. J. Cory Ford and Tom Barrett, the other two, are also serving jail sentences for this offense.

Experts estimate that unused land lying at either side of the country roads is capable in many cases of bearing 2 bushels of corn to the acre.

Bankrupt Sale

Of the Entire Stock Brasfield & Porges (Fourth and Morrison Streets)

ONE OF PORTLAND'S LARGEST AND FINEST CLOTHING HOUSES, STARTS AT 9 A. M. SATURDAY

Was Ordered Sold by U. S. Court for Benefit of Creditors

All Standard Trade-Marked Merchandise, Such as Paragon Trousers, Mallory and Stetson Hats, Michael Stern and Sophomore Clothing, Etc., Etc.

—THE STORE OF BRASFIELD & PORGES IS KNOWN TO EVERY PORTLANDER. It carried good goods, and good goods only.

—And tomorrow this stock—the finest that ever came over the rails to Portland—goes to the public at far less than it's worth. POSITIVELY NOTHING RESERVED.

—\$20 SUITS AND OVERCOATS, any

of 'em, GO FOR \$12.50; \$25 ONES GO FOR \$15; THE \$30 ONES FOR \$17.50 AND THE \$35 ONES FOR \$20.

—Any \$3 hat goes for \$1.85; \$3.50 Mallory hats go for \$2.15 and John B. Stetson's, your choice, \$2.95.

—There are other things here, such as bath robes, umbrellas, caps, canes, full dress and fancy vests, etc., etc. ALL AT BANKRUPT PRICES. COME.

Sale on the Premises of the Former Store of Brasfield & Porges (Bankrupt), Fourth and Morrison Streets—Join the Crowds Here Tomorrow



COMMISSION PLAN IS ISSUE

Aberdene Citizens Will Vote on Proposal February 28.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 6.—(Special.)—Mayor Phillips today named February 28 as the date when Aberdeens will vote on a proposal for commission government.

This is 18 days prior to the primaries under the Councilmanic system, and means that a full Council ticket will be filed, and in the midst of a campaign when commission government is voted on.

MANAGER HOST TO AGENTS

Alma D. Katz Gives Dinner Following Mutual Life Convention.

Alma D. Katz, local manager for the Mutual Life Insurance Company, 46

Hazelwood Candy

is always pure and fresh. When you buy Hazelwood Candy you buy the best.

The Hazelwood Confectionery and Restaurant

Washington at Tenth

F. E. SMITH BANQUETED

Work for Land Show Is Recognized at Chamber Luncheon.

Frank E. Smith, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was honored yesterday by a luncheon given by the managing committee of the Bureau of

Quinine. E. W. Gove's signature appears on the