

DECEMBER EADS IN BUILDING PERMITS FOR THE YEAR 1915

Report for 72 Leading Cities of Land Shows Gain of 84 Per Cent.

NEW YORK BIG GAINER

Figures Are Taken to Indicate Gradual Improvement in Business Conditions of the Country.

December outside all other months of 1915 in the number of building permits issued throughout the country.

According to figures compiled by the American Congress, Chicago, the aggregate of 72 leading cities was \$68,526,362 for last month as against \$27,210,242 for December, 1914.

This is an increase of 84 per cent. In November the comparative gain was 75 per cent; October, 42 per cent; September, 27 per cent; August, 14 per cent, whereas the first seven months of the year showed losses.

Beginning with August the constant gain month after month, is taken as a certain indication that times are vastly improved in most all parts of the United States and that 1915 will see building on a normal scale.

The greatest gain for the month is recorded by Evansville, Ind., with 3687 per cent.

New York makes the remarkable gain of 173 per cent; Philadelphia, 114 per cent; and Chicago, 71 per cent.

In California Los Angeles reports a gain of 48 per cent; San Francisco, 35 per cent; Oakland, 3 per cent.

Closer at home, however, it is evident that building in the northwest is not yet back in the stride. Seattle reports a loss of 53 per cent; Spokane, 29 per cent, and Portland, 20 per cent.

Tacoma, however, shows a gain of 27 per cent.

For the 72 cities considered the total for 1915 was \$695,058,032 as against \$683,892,866 for 1914.

This is a gain of 5 per cent for the year.

For the year Cleveland shows the greatest increase over 1914, 196 per cent.

Portland reports a loss of 41 per cent; the comparative figures being \$6,334,075 for 1914 to \$4,895,245 for 1915.

Board of Inquiry Is Named for E-2 Case

Secretary Daniels Seen in Explosion "Tremendous Argument" in Favor of His Suggested Naval Laboratory.

Washington, Jan. 18.—(I. N. S.)—Secretary of the Navy Daniels has named the following to sit as a board of inquiry on the explosion of the submarine E-2 at Brooklyn navy yard.

Lieutenant Joseph Fisher, judge advocate; Captain H. G. Bullard, lieutenant commander H. G. Sparrow and Lieutenant C. S. McDowell.

The board will begin its investigation tomorrow.

Secretary Daniels declared the E-2 explosion is a tremendous argument in favor of the suggested naval laboratory for which he has asked congress to appropriate \$1,000,000.

Plans for general equipment of submarines with the new Edison batteries have been halted. Officials said that further experiments with them will be made before actual trials on vessels.

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THREE DEMOCRATS TO JOIN IN CONTEST FOR NATIONAL GATHERING

Dr. J. W. Morrow, E. Versteeg, Newton McCoy Are Named; Sweek Considers.

Bernard Ott of Contest McMinville Man Changes Mind Since His Announcement Made at Jackson Club Reunion Here.

Three Democrats definitely announced today that they would be candidates for delegates to the Democratic national convention, which is to be held at St. Louis, June 14.

Dr. J. W. Morrow of Portland announced that he would be a candidate for delegate at St. Louis. He has lived in Oregon for approximately 40 years, and says he has been a consistent Democrat all his life. He is a Wilson supporter.

Dr. Morrow said he never had attended a national political convention, and this year he expected to take in the national gatherings of all three parties, and he hoped to attend the Democratic meeting at a delegate.

E. Versteeg of McMinnville, a candidate, but was a little uncertain as to whether he will run from the state at large or from the Third congressional district. He said most likely he will run from the district. He has long been active in the Democratic party.

"I've been on the ticket a number of times as an 'filler-in,'" said Mr. Versteeg, "but it was always where I never had a look-in. This time I am going to make a hot race and I expect to be elected."

Newton McCoy, whose name has been mentioned as a possible candidate, said he would enter the race as a candidate for delegate from the Third district, comprising Multnomah county.

Alex Sweek, another Portland Democrat who is considering becoming a candidate, said he had not definitely made up his mind about the matter.

Herbert Bernard of McMinnville, who advised friends at the recent Jackson club banquet that he thought he would become a candidate for delegate from the Third district, said he has decided not to run.

William J. Piepenbrink, secretary of the Vista House association, for the first time in better product for their pledged and cash from automobile owners of Multnomah county had received nearly \$1500.

That gas users of Salem and Eugene are receiving a better product for their money than Portland was the report brought back to this city yesterday by F. A. Rasch, examiner for the public service commission.

Mr. Rasch said that in the winter record for the past four years. This is within three degrees of the winter record. Last month it went to 12 below, North Powder, 28 below; Whitney, 26 below, and Haines, 25 below, are the coldest points in Baker county.

Interstate Commerce Commission Case for Consideration; M. S. Gile Case is Also Argued.

Washington, Jan. 18.—(WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE JOURNAL)—The Willamette valley lumber case was argued and submitted before the Interstate Commerce commission today.

James G. Wilson appeared for the lumber interests and C. W. Durbin asserted Portland mills want to limit the California case.

Wilson denied that unfair competition is being practiced by the California mills. He also heard on application of the railroad to apply higher distributive rates from Portland on trans-continental shipments.

Mr. Durbin's attorneys representing Willamette valley points.

La Grande Lighted With Baker "Juice"

Emergency Electric Plant Burned and the Regular One Is Frozen Up, But Everybody's Lamps Are Shining.

La Grande, Or., Jan. 17.—The Mill creek power plant, which is an emergency plant for electric "juice" for La Grande, was completely destroyed by fire at noon yesterday.

The plant was owned by the Eastern Oregon Light & Power company. The Cove plant is frozen up, so La Grande tonight is getting juice from Baker.

The light company was equal to the occasion, and everybody is supplied with electricity. Only a few lights in the south part of the city are out of commission.

The fire destroyed everything at the plant except the water wheel. The generator was partly destroyed, but it could be fixed up. The cause of the fire was probably a defective flue.

Mr. Gore, manager of the company here, said that the plant will be rebuilt at once.

After a bitter contest which lasted two hours, Senator Lippitt agreed to withhold temporarily his demand.

Senator Borah had already attacked the idea of further delay in objecting to the resolution of the foreign committee.

Senator Lippitt of Rhode Island was the author, but senators opposed to the administration course of "watchful waiting" back his effort, and an acrimonious debate ensued.

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INTERVIEWER ASKED IMMEDIATELY; SENATE DEBATING MEXICO

Senator Lippitt of Rhode Island Offered Resolution Demanding Quick Action.

Washington, Jan. 18.—(U. P.)—In a final effort to get quick action in the Mexican situation, a resolution was offered in the senate today, proposing immediate intervention.

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Heavyweight Seeks Congressional Post

W. T. Dinsmore, Waycross, Ga., Weighing 585 Pounds, Will Use Wagon of Appropriate Size for Campaign.

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 17.—(I. N. S.)—In this troublous period of the world's history when the nations of Europe are engaged in a death struggle and the way of the neutral is hard and confusing, the United States assuredly has need of its own men.

That man, one of our own men, is the biggest man in the country. "I have arranged for my canvass," said Mr. Brinson today, "and will make it in a wagon of appropriate size and construction. My friends in this district are many and my exertions will be few. If elected I will get into congress even if I have to go through a bay window."

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Uital Statistics Marriages, Births, Deaths

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Adney H. Wheeler, Yampa, Colo., legal, and Ella R. Scott, 215 East Twenty-seventh and Going st., legal.

W. G. Smith & Co., Wedding and Visiting Cards

DEATHS AND FUNERALS 75

CLARK—The funeral services of the late Mrs. M. J. Clark, 615 1/2 1st St., will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the residence.

SHOLES—In this city, Jan. 17, at the family residence, 1300 1/2 Commercial, Mrs. M. J. Shoales, wife of C. H. Shoales. The funeral services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the above residence.

WOOTEN—The funeral services of Florence Wooten, 480 Park, will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the residence.

THOMAS—In this city, Jan. 17, at the family residence, 1300 1/2 Commercial, Mrs. M. J. Thomas, wife of C. H. Thomas. The funeral services will be held Wednesday, Jan. 19, at 2 o'clock p. m., at the above residence.

DUZIER—Funeral services of the late Audra Duzier, aged 20 years, will be conducted Thursday, Jan. 20, at 10 a. m., in the mortuary chapel of A. D. Kenworthy & Co., 102 1/2 1st St., between 1st and 2nd Sts., at 10 o'clock a. m.

MAIRET—At residence, 400 1/2 Alameda, Mrs. M. J. Mairet, aged 75 years, beloved wife of C. H. Mairet, father of Elsie G. Mairet, 400 1/2 Alameda, Portland, Ore., and Finley & Son, Montgomery at 5th. Funeral at 10 o'clock a. m., Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the residence.

SMITH—At residence, 400 1/2 Alameda, Mrs. M. J. Smith, aged 75 years, beloved wife of C. H. Smith, father of Elsie G. Smith, 400 1/2 Alameda, Portland, Ore., and Finley & Son, Montgomery at 5th. Funeral at 10 o'clock a. m., Wednesday, Jan. 19, at the residence.

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MONUMENTS MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS

FOR SALE—HOUSES 61

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