

Hike Expected in Steel Prices

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Industry observers looked Wednesday for a hike in steel prices to compensate for a wage increase and social benefits grant. The CIO United Steelworkers employed in the basic steel industry.

The new agreement signed by the union and top executives of the steel industry gives steelworkers a 10% increase in hourly wages and a minimum pension of \$140 a month. The benefits also were included in the "package" settlement ranging from eight to 12 cents an hour per man, depending on pension costs from company to company.

The agreement, hailed by the industry, will be effective at midnight.

The pact, completed in detail late Monday night, replaces industry-wide agreements which expire at midnight tonight.

Other early signers included Bethlehem, Republic, Jones & Laughlin, Youngstown Sheet & Tube, Inland, and Pittsburgh Steel companies. They, with U. S. Steel, employ about 380,000 of the basic steel industry's workers.

Other producers rushed to sign similar agreements with the USW after settling minor individual differences.

Observers said price increases of from \$3 to \$4 per ton may follow soon to compensate for boosts in production costs brought by the new agreement. Such action was forecast by industry spokesmen before formal negotiations between basic producers and the USW began six weeks ago.

PRICE RISE IN DOUBT

However, one industry source said Tuesday a price rise may now depend on how much pressure is brought "from Washington" on steel companies "not to do something inflationary." Steel prices are a major factor in the nation's economy.

Steel prices were increased correspondingly last year shortly after the USW won contracts granting an 8½ cents per hour wage increase.

The new wage boost, which goes into effect Thursday, raises average pay of steelworkers to \$2.23 an hour and grants workers in southern plants an additional 2½ cents an hour to eliminate area differentials.

Plane Crashes Kill Three

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP)—Three men were killed and others injured in two plane crashes near here.

The dead were Marine 2nd Lt. George Hoehn of Milwaukee, son of Mr. and Mrs. George G. Hoehn of Milwaukee; Lt. JG J. H. Press of Florenceville, Tenn., and French cadet. Officials would release the cadet's name only if his family in France is notified.

Hoehn was killed when two trainers collided in the air in instrument flight. Lt. JG A. Schmidt of Tipton, Mo., fell out of one of the planes in his parachute afire, but only suffered burns and scratches.

Also injured were Lt. W. E. Donald of Portland, Ore., and Lt. F. J. Michael of Sunbury, Pa., and the French flyer killed when another SNJ stalled and crashed while attempting a landing.

Petrov Denies Theft Charge

Reds Say Refugee
Stole 'Large Sums'

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Vladimir M. Petrov, Soviet Embassy secret police chief granted asylum here with his wife, branded as "a filthy lie and slander," Soviet charges that he sought political asylum because he had embezzled "large sums of money."

"They do it often, accusing innocent people of murder, theft and other offenses when they themselves are in difficulties," Petrov said. "This Soviet method is very old and has outlived its usefulness."

Petrov turned himself over to Australian authorities voluntarily last April while on an embassy mission and gave them documents and information on a Soviet spy ring operating in Australia. At least 70 persons were named in the evidence.

His testimony was given before the royal commission investigating Soviet espionage.

Mrs. Petrov, a Soviet Embassy code clerk, asked for and was granted asylum as she was being forced aboard a plane by armed Soviet couriers.

The Soviet government, which broke off relations with Australia over the incident, first charged Petrov was kidnapped. Then it demanded his return as a common criminal who had stolen embassy funds.

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Three Meet Violent Deaths In Separate Oregon Mishaps

Three persons met violent deaths in separate accidents in Oregon Tuesday.

One was fatally wounded by a gun shot, one was believed the victim of a hit-run driver, and another died in a fall.

Donald Lehman, Portland, told police a gun he was examining accidentally discharged and the bullet struck his wife in the head, killing her. She was Mrs. Patricia Lehman.

Peter Russell Griner, 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd O. Griner, was found dead beside the highway at his home near Philomath.

The boy's grandfather, William S. Newport, discovered the body. Cause of death was not immediately determined but police believed a hit-run driver was responsible.

Frank Mahn, 63, a resident of Twin Rocks, was killed when he fell from a scaffolding while nailing shakes to the side of his house.

WEEK DESIGNATED

SALEM (AP)—The week June 27 through July 4 has been designated as Freedom Under God Week by Gov. Paul L. Patterson. He urged appropriate demonstrations and recognition.

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Attorney Named

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower Tuesday nominated Frederick Stueck of St. Louis, 48-year-old Republican attorney, to a five-year term on the Federal Power Commission. He will replace Dale E. Doty, whose term expired.

Register-Guard, Eugene, Ore. Wed., June 30, 1954

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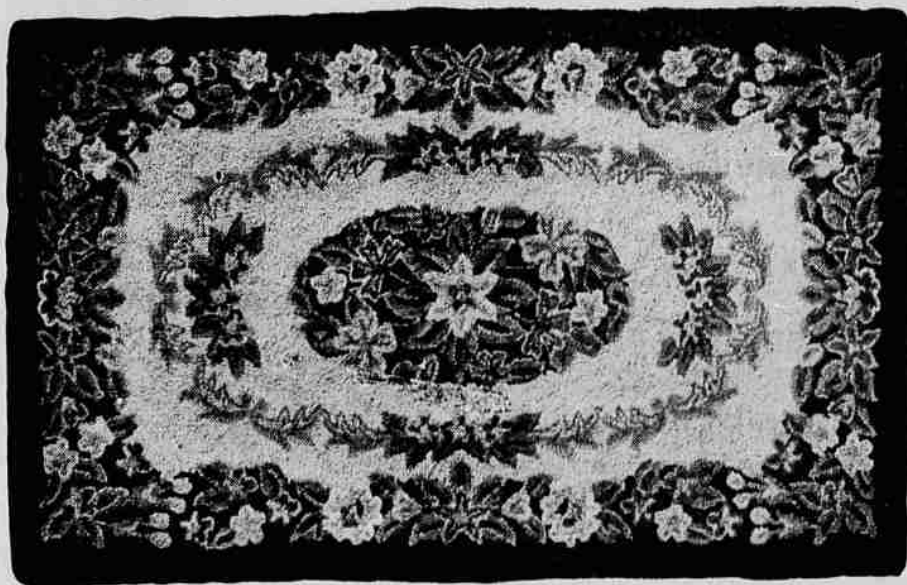
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