

### Lunch Time Anticipation



Morningside elementary school pupils line up for their mid-day meal while a classmate is responsible for serving. Pupils assist with the serving. (Capital Journal Photo)

FOR 25 OR 30 CENTS

## Healthful Lunches Given In Salem School Cafeterias

By FRED ZIMMERMAN  
Capital Journal Writer

How would you like to be able to purchase a meal that consists of a breaded pork cutlet with tomato sauce, mashed potatoes, celery sticks, bread and butter, orange-grapefruit cup and milk for 25 or 30 cents?

Can't be done? It is being done five days a week and the operators are not losing money in the process.

Million Meals Served

Naturally, there are a few circumstances and conditions existing that downtown restaurant operators do not enjoy. For the organization that will serve a million meals in 9 months similar to the one listed above, is the Salem school district.

Nevertheless, it should be considered quite an achievement to plan, produce and serve the million meals, all during the noon lunch period and not come up with a deficit at the end of the school year.

Emma Wasson, supervisor for the school lunch program for the last eight years, finds the job of purchasing thousands of dollars worth of food stuffs, preparing the menus and, in general, keeping the machinery working smoothly "interesting and satisfying."

"We could not possibly provide nourishing meals at such a low cost if large amounts of government surplus commodities were not made available to us at nominal cost," Mrs. Wasson explained. Even so, it takes careful buying and planning to make a financial success of the program.

Health Comes First

Watching the commodity market day by day, the supervisor selects those articles that she deems to be the best buys at the time. However, the "health of the child comes first."

The commodities provided by the government change from time to time and since it is these commodities which provide the basis for each meal, the supervisor must purchase accordingly.

Every school in the system has its hot lunch program with the exception of Baker, Lincoln and Zena. Baker is a "neighborhood" elementary school and the pupils are able to go to their homes for lunch. Lincoln and Zena in Polk county are small schools where pupils carry their lunches.

Containers Used

The food intended for transportation is placed in large containers which keep it hot until it reaches its destination. Pupils served in this manner do not suffer any time lag in the lunch program for the transportation schedule is so arranged that all schools get their meals at approximately the same time.

In addition to keeping the cost down through transportation, the smaller schools are able to enjoy certain foods that could not be produced by a small operation. For instance yeast breads which take considerable time to produce.

Not all of the schools are able to break even on their school lunch programs. Nevertheless, since the program is an all-district affair, the profit realized from the larger schools is used to write off the deficits of others.

By way of illustrating the savings the district enjoys by being able to secure government surplus commodities, Mrs. Wasson said that \$45,493 worth of cheese, butter, dried milk, shortening, rice, peanut butter, canned grapefruit and similar commodities were purchased for a mere \$1,011 last year. For instance a 32-pound case of butter was bought for \$1.00.

Only One Increased

These commodities are mainly the reason why there has been just one increase in retail prices in the past eight years. This is in spite of an upward tendency in

charges for labor and materials. Of course the system could not pay out financially if there was a charge for rent and utilities. However, once the program is set up with all the necessary mechanical equipment, dishes and cutlery, it is self-sustaining. That means replacements must be purchased from receipts.

By purchasing meal tickets children are able to secure 10 lunches for \$2.25. It costs adults \$2.75.

Milk Cost Low

How about the youngster who prefers to bring his own lunch? The lunch management does not frown on this practice and welcomes the boy or girl into the dining room with the others where they may purchase a glass of milk. Milk may be purchased at the rate of two glasses for seven cents or 40 for \$1.35.

This is below the cost to the district, but a government subsidy

takes up the slack. The district pays 6 1/2 cents for a glass of milk while the government provides a four cent subsidy. This means the lunch program must operate on a potential profit of three fourths of a cent a glass. Out of this pitance must come the cost of refrigeration, straws and overhead.

About 60 full and part time people are engaged in the lunch program. In addition there is student help, all of whom work for the experience and for merit points except on the high school level. High school students are usually paid a wage because they are assigned more difficult tasks.

With 47 per cent of the entire enrollment of 12,798 receiving their noon lunches from the school cafeterias it cannot be said that the dinner bucket has disappeared, but it may well be on its way to a place on the shelves of the antique shops.

### BUSINESS MIRROR

## Corporations Boost 4th Quarter Profits

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK — The bounce back in profits after the summer slump is giving a healthier glow today to many corporate reports.

The first 90 corporations to publish their net incomes after taxes for the fourth quarter of 1956 show a combined gain of 6.5 per cent over the October, November and December period of 1955. Two out of three increased earnings over a year ago. And only three operated at a loss.

Earlier Decline Offset

For many of the firms the fourth quarter prosperity offset a third quarter decline and allowed them to report a net gain for the entire year.

The percentage of increase over the previous year, however, usually was considerably smaller than 1955's jump over 1954.

And the average 1956 fourth quarter spread over the similar 1955 period was noticeably smaller than the percentage of increase chalked up in the first three months of last year.

The summer slump in profits mostly hit firms affected directly or indirectly by the steel strike and the production cuts in the

Russian Subs Said Equipped With Missiles

WASHINGTON (UP)—The chief of naval operations warned today of the "great" danger of guided missiles from Russian submarines.

Adm. Arleigh Burke told the House Armed Services Committee in a discussion of Russian naval power, that "I'm sure they have the capability of putting guided missiles on submarines."

"The danger of submarine guided missiles is great," he said.

Navy Secretary Charles S. Thomas, in reply to questions, assured the committee, however, "We have a weapon that will revolutionize antishubmarine warfare."

Thomas, who made a similar statement last fall, declined to discuss the new weapon in public. He promised to give the committee more details in secret session.

Car Skid Fatal to Portland Woman

OREGON CITY — Mrs. Laura Enloe, 61, Portland, was injured fatally Wednesday night when her car skidded on icy pavement and crashed on the Pudding River Bridge near Aurora, south of here.

auto and farm machinery industries.

The bounce back in the final three months of the year was most apparent in these same categories.

Little Productivity Gain

For business as a whole there is still evident the squeeze on profits traced to rising costs of labor and materials, and to little if any gain in productivity — the amount of goods produced per man hour of labor.

Some companies with rising sales volume and higher prices for their own products have been able to offset the increased costs and keep their profit charts still pointed toward the ceiling. But many others have seen the curve level off if not droop toward the floor.

The first 90 corporations to report had combined net incomes of \$510,490,432, which was 6.5 per cent higher than the \$478,921,804 the same 90 reported for the final months of 1955.

Utilities, as a class, showed better gains than the average. Best gains among the industrials are reported by the booming steel and oil industries. Banks, which are not included in the 90, report considerably better gains than the average for the 90.

The average increase for corporate earnings over year ago figures was 12 per cent in the first three months of 1956. Then increased costs began to put a bite on profits. Earnings in the April, May and June period fell off and a sharper drop was reported in the July, August and September period.

If the first 90 to report prove to be a trustworthy sample, the marked gain over the summer months and the fair increase over the similar 1955 period should cheer some of the nervous corporate managements. It might even give the stock market something to think about.

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PSALMS 6:9—The Lord hath heard my supplication; the Lord will receive my prayer.



## THE MEASURE OF CIVILIZATION

Some folks judge civilization's progress by the kind of houses they live in.

Others point toward the giant strides of science or industry—or the striking advance of music, art, and literature.

Yet civilization is perhaps best measured by the kind of people it produces.

Picture a man who respects the dignity and rights of others, and who looks with compassion on human suffering. He is guided in all things by an abiding love for God. His moral stamina never ebbs. His spiritual courage grows stronger.

Multiply this man by the thousands . . . by the millions . . . and you'll see a civilization higher and greater than has ever existed.

The Church is the one great institution that devotes itself to the development of man's character and spirit. As long as it continues to thrive, we can expect our civilization to flourish and progress. Help extend the influence of the Church—give it your support, make it a part of your life!

**THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH**

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible, daily.

Day	Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday	Luke	7	1-23
Monday	Luke	11	1-13
Tuesday	Luke	7	18-27
Wednesday	Luke	12	13-34
Thursday	Luke	14	25-33
Friday	2 Corinthians	3	1-6
Saturday	Philippians	4	1-11

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