

WAGE ADVANCE

Large Industries Raise Pay of Employees.

TRUST LEADS MOVEMENT

Thousand Men Affected and Will Add Millions to Annual Payroll of Companies.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—Sixty thousand employees of the great industrial and commercial corporations were today granted increases in wages that will add millions to the annual payrolls. One of the most notable increases was that announced by the United States Steel corporation, which its 20,000 unskilled employees will receive an addition of 10 cents a day to their wages after Jan. 1. This will add about \$600,000 to the payroll.

New York Central firemen were granted an advance averaging between 6 and 7 per cent as a result of a conference of the wage conference at New York. The advance applies to all employees of the company except the firemen of Albany and affects about 10,000 men. By an adjustment of the hours firemen on switch engines will hereafter have to work only 48 hours a day instead of 12.

Calumet & Hecla Mining company announced at Calumet, Mich., today, beginning January 1, that all its employees at the mines will receive an advance of 10 per cent. The action, which affects 5,000 and 6,000 men, was voluntarily, the first intimation given to the employees when the news was posted.

Beginning next Monday, 30,000 cotton mill operatives at Fall River, Mass., will work under a new scale, which will work under a new scale, the 10 per cent to their wages. The movement in this case was forced on managers by the operatives, who threatened to strike unless the new scale adopted, and also by the fact that D. D. Borden, an important manufacturer employing 5,000 hands, and Fall River Iron works mills had all agreed to the demands of the mill men, and his action forced the other managers to yield.

Means Advance for 100,000.

London, Nov. 24.—According to a report received from cotton mill centers in northern New England, an advance of 10 per cent in wages granted by the River manufacturers today to 100,000 employees will affect nearly 100,000 operatives in Southeastern Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Eastern Connecticut and several towns in other states. It is understood, however, that the advance will not amount to 10 per cent in Fall River and several other villages.

Net Income of Railroads.

Excess of Nearly \$97,000,000 in Net Earnings.

Washington, Nov. 24.—A preliminary report of the Interstate Commerce commission on the income account of the railroads of the United States for the year ended June 30 last contains figures from 30 companies operating 220,000 miles of lines, or about 99 per cent of the mileage that will be covered in the fiscal year.

The total gross earnings of the roads were \$2,319,760,030, being equivalent to \$11.943 per mile. Passenger earnings were \$618,555,934, or \$2,811 per mile, and freight earnings \$1,640,942,000, or \$7,458 per mile. Operating expenses were \$1,512,163,153, or \$6,963 per mile. The net earnings were \$807,596,877, being \$3,580 per mile or nearly \$97,000,000 more than the corresponding amount of the previous year. Incomes from other sources than operation aggregated \$132,624,000, and taxes \$38,903,288.

New Rules for Railroads.

Chicago, Nov. 24.—In its last circular issued yesterday the Interstate Commerce commission has given the railroads an important hint on through rates. The circular modifies to an extent one issued October 12, in which the commission was given the railroads to raise on a single day's notice the through rates where they are greater than the sums of the local rates. Shipper would not afford them any more, adding that the commission would declare the sums of the locals to be the through rates in such cases.

Denies Them Immunity Bath.

St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 24.—Grain firms and railroad men who were recently indicted by the special grand jury in St. Paul at the instance of the department of justice will get no "immunity bath" from the Interstate Commerce commission, which closed its session today, as none of the witnesses before the last jury were called by the commission in the investigation of the relations between the grain firms and the railroads.

Government to Make Torpedoes.

Newport, R. I., Nov. 24.—Arrangements are reported for the establishment of a factory in this city of a government torpedo factory where all of this class of torpedoes used in the United States navy will be manufactured independent of private concerns.

SEEKS GUARANTEE.

Norway Fears Russia May Attempt to Seize One of Her Ports.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 26.—An international compact guaranteeing the inviolability of Norway against territorial aggression by any power whatever, and giving the new kingdom a status somewhat similar to that of Switzerland and Belgium, will soon be inscribed on the records of diplomacy. On account of its extended position, the possession of valuable deep water harbors on the Atlantic and the agreement with Sweden against fortification in the neighborhood of the frontier, Norway is in a peculiarly exposed position and the first efforts of the Norse diplomacy have been directed toward eliminating the danger of being attacked and securing facilities for the peaceful development of the country without the crushing burden of a large army.

With regard to the action of Norway in approaching the powers for the purpose of securing these concessions, it can be stated that Russia, the power most directly concerned and from which Norway apparently had most to fear, in spite of the denial by the Russian foreign office that Russia was endeavoring to secure a Norwegian port, or in any way contemplated infringing on Norwegian territory, had no objection to the conclusion of a convention. Germany already had signified her approval of the movement of which Great Britain is the sponsor, and France will follow suit.

Russia admittedly contemplated securing a deep water harbor, one easily defensible, on the fiord southward of North Cape, but is now willing to disclaim these pretensions and make the best use of the present available port of Yokotamina, on the Murman coast.

COMPANY PAYS THE FINES.

Law Fails to Punish Railroad Officials for Rebating.

Chicago, Nov. 26.—Railroad officials fined by the government for rebating do not pay the fines themselves. The stockholders pay the bills. Such at least is the case of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, according to evidence submitted today to F. K. Lane, of the Interstate Commerce commission. The evidence was taken in connection with the punishment of the railroad recently by a \$40,000 fine and of First Vice President Darius Miller and Traffic Agent C. C. Burnham by fines of \$10,000 each on charges of rebating.

Today's hearing came on a charge that \$20,000 of the road's funds had been used to pay Miller's and Burnham's fines. "Solicitor Dawes, of the road, paid the fines to Clerk MacMillan of the United States court," testified General Auditor Sturgis. "He tendered a \$60,000 check signed by Cashier W. F. Fabian. It was accepted in payment of all three fines. The amount of the check was not entered as a single amount on the books. It was placed in the 'correction of freight earnings' account and spread over two months, April and May. The account contained entries necessary in errors in accounts of freight earnings—claims arising through demands on overcharges and the like. The \$60,000 was spread over two months that the monthly report of the road that carried the freight might not show too large a reduction for a single month."

ISSUES WORTHLESS PAPER.

Stensland's Crime Brings On Another Crash in Chicago.

Chicago, Nov. 26.—Chauncey L. Graham, vice president of the Steel Ball company, was arrested last night at his residence in Evanston by detectives from the office of State's Attorney Healy on a bench warrant issued by Judge Kersten, the charge being uttering fictitious paper. The accusation grows out of the Milwaukee Avenue State Bank failure. The Steel Ball concern owes the bank approximately \$270,000, and most of the notes it gave are considered worthless.

The receiver said he has been unable to find the makers, endorsers or guarantors of certain notes, and that he does not believe they can be located. He thinks they are all fictitious.

Railroad Man Hard on Rebates.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 26.—Arthur E. Stillwell, president of the Kansas City, Mexico & Orient railroad, addressing the Railroad club here last night, denounced the practice of rebating. He said: "Of all crimes in the whole category, the rebating crime is the whole category. Rebating strikes at the people—the fountainhead of the rights delegated to the average railroads. The hired assassin of old may be pictured as a white robed saint compared with the rebater. I'd like to see the rebater get 20—yes, 50—years."

Witte Hopes to Dominate.

Rome, Nov. 26.—Private reports discredit the rumor that there is a possibility that Count Witte may become the Russian minister of finance. The Russian minister of finance is being intensely against Witte is being increased so greatly that it will not be surprising if an attempt were made to assassinate him. This advice adds to the fact that it seems to be Witte's intention to be appointed president of the council of the empire, thinking that in that post he would again be able to dominate.

Italy Admits American Pork.

Rome, Nov. 26.—The board of health has decided to admit American pork into Italy without other requirement than the regular certificate of the American department of Agriculture. A microscopic inspection will not be made, it being considered that the hygienic measures taken in the United States are sufficient to warrant the parity of the meat.

TO IMPROVE RIVERS

National Congress To Be Asked for Fifty Millions.

WAR EXPENSES COST FAR MORE

Congressman Ransdell, Chairman of Rivers and Harbors Congress, Makes Startling Statement.

The United States government expends 25 times more in indirectly fostering trade than in doing so directly. In other words this government spends \$500,000,000 annually for war and its effects, which are presumed to foster trade, and but \$19,750,000 for the improvement of rivers and harbors in this country—a direct method of not only fostering, but also creating and up-building trade. This is the essence of a startling statement made by Chairman Ransdell, of the National Rivers and Harbors Congress, in a recent address before the Portland Chamber of Commerce. He stated that the national government annually expends \$169,000,000 for the navy, \$166,000,000 for the army and \$144,000,000 for pensions. Congressman Ransdell believes that if the United States can afford to expend so vast a sum annually for war, it surely can make at least substantial appropriations for the improvement of the rivers and harbors. It has been estimated that an appropriation of \$50,000,000 at the coming congressional session will aid materially in improving many of the present rivers and harbors and open others so that they may become navigable and be what at present they are only supposed to be—the main arteries of trade and practical trade reducers. To do this the leading commercial organizations, and, in fact, everyone interested in the welfare of our country, is co-operating so that all forces may throw their influences together and secure this appropriation, the effect of which will necessarily be inestimable.

Able men will head the Pacific Northwest delegations to the National Rivers and Harbors congress which will meet in Washington, D. C., on the 6th and 7th of December. The object of those who compose this congress is to secure a national appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the improvement of the rivers and harbors of this country and with the tremendous influence of this powerful organization there is no doubt of success.

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI CONGRESS.

Speeches and Discussions Cover Wide Range of Subjects.

Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 22.—Speeches and discussions covering a wide range of subjects took up the time yesterday of the three sessions of the Trans-Mississippi Commercial congress. Improved waterways, insurance and currency reforms, the value of the Panama canal as a means of enlarging our trade relations with the South American republics and the necessity of closer relations between the United States and those countries, the great value to the South of improved levees and the resources and needs of Alaska were some of the topics touched upon. The principal speakers were J. E. Ransdell, representative in congress from Louisiana; W. D. Vandiver, superintendent of insurance of Missouri; Dr. W. S. Woods, president of the National Bank of Commerce of Kansas City; John Barrett, United States minister to Colombia; Minister Calderon, of Bolivia; Minister Pardo, of Peru; Minister Cortes, of Colombia; Secretary Do Amaral, of the Brazilian legation at Washington; Representative Morris Sheppard, of Texas; John G. Brady, of Boston, ex-governor of Alaska, and Major T. I. Clarkson, of Seattle.

Mr. Sheppard, who is credited with being the youngest member of the national house made an earnest plea for the upbuilding of the levee system, and won warm applause from the delegates. He began by declaring the levee is one of the most important factors in the economic growth of the United States, and of many other countries.

He took the various arguments urged against levees, especially the claim that they were an interference with the laws of nature, and showed that the arguments were without foundation. He demonstrated that there was no real conflict between irrigation projects and levee enterprises, showing that they were the product of entirely different geographical conditions and had a common aim, the improvement of the productivity of the soil.

Another Railroad Fined.

Denver, Nov. 22.—The Missouri Pacific railroad was fined in the United States District court here today for violation of the safety appliance law. The alleged offense happened at Pueblo, where one of the company's trainmen was compelled to go between two freight cars to pull a pushing pin, which refused to work when the safety appliance was operated. The suit was prosecuted at the instance of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Income Tax Law for Ohio.

Columbus, O., Nov. 22.—Governor Harris stated today that he would recommend in his first message to the legislature the levying of a tax on incomes by the state of Ohio, if a way can be found to enact a law that will stand the constitutional test. The governor also favors a re-enactment of the inheritance tax law repealed by the legislature.

Proposed Oregon Tax Law

Following are the joint resolutions for constitutional amendments and bills as recommended by the Oregon State Tax commission and to be presented to the legislature at its next session:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. —

Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon.

Resolved by the house, the senate concurring: That the following article, as an amendment to the constitution of the state of Oregon, be proposed and referred to the next legislative assembly, and if the same shall be concurred in by a majority of all the members elected to each house thereof, and shall afterward be ratified by a majority of the electors of the state, then the same shall be a part of the constitution of the state of Oregon:

ARTICLE I.

That article I, section 32 of the constitution of the state of Oregon, be and the same hereby is abrogated, and in lieu thereof shall be inserted the following:

"No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the people or their representatives in the legislative assembly; and all taxation shall be equal and uniform upon the same class of subjects within the territorial limits of the authority levying the taxes."

(The two joint resolutions presented are drawn on the theory that the initiative amendment to the constitution submitted in June, 1906, did not become a part of the constitution, having neither been proposed in the manner provided by the constitution, nor having received a majority of all votes cast, although proclaimed by the governor. If, in the opinion of the legislature, the amendment mentioned was regularly adopted, the form of this and the following joint resolution must be changed accordingly.)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. —

Amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon.

Resolved by the house, the senate concurring: That the following article, as an amendment to the constitution of the state of Oregon, be proposed and referred to the next legislative assembly, and if the same shall be concurred in by a majority of all the members elected to each house thereof, and shall afterward be ratified by a majority of the electors of the state, then the same shall be a part of the constitution of the state of Oregon:

ARTICLE I.

That article IX, section 1 of the constitution of the state of Oregon, be and the same hereby is abrogated, and in lieu thereof shall be inserted the following:

"Taxes shall be levied on such property as shall be prescribed by law. The legislative assembly shall provide by law for uniform and equal rate of assessment and taxation upon the several classes of subjects of taxation within the territorial limits of the authority levying the taxes; and shall prescribe such regulations as shall secure a just valuation for taxation of all property taxed, except property specifically taxed."

A BILL.

For an act to provide a more efficient and equitable system for the assessment of property for taxation; defining property subject to taxation and property exempt therefrom; defining the duties of the county assessor, and prescribing the manner of making the assessment of property by him assessed for the purposes of taxation; requiring all persons, and the managing agent or officer of any corporation or association liable to be assessed by him, to furnish the assessor with a list of property subject to taxation, and prescribing a penalty for failure so to do; and to amend sections 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327 and 328 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton, to amend section 26 of an act approved February 21, 1903, and found on page 262 of sequitur of the general laws of Oregon, and said section being found on page 271 of amended section, of an act entitled "An act to fix the place of assessing national bank stock and private banks, loan and trust companies," approved February 24, 1903, to amend section 1 of an act approved December 24, 1903, and found on page 4 of sequitur of the general laws of Oregon, special session, 1903, to amend sections 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Be it enacted by the people of the state of Oregon:

(Of Property Subject to Taxation.)

(Real and Personal Property to Be Assessed Uniformly and Ratably.)

Section 1. That section 3037 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton, be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

All real property within this state, and all personal property situated or owned within this state, except such as may be specifically exempted by law, shall be subject to assessment and taxation in equal and ratable proportion.

(Old law provides: "All taxes for the support of the government of this state shall be assessed on property in equal and ratable proportion," and all property, etc., shall be subject to taxation. The old section unambiguously limits the taxing power of the state to direct property taxes.)

(Real property—How construed.)

Section 2. The terms land, real estate, and real property, as used in this act, shall be construed to include the land itself, whether laid out in town lots or otherwise, above and under water, all buildings, structures, substructures, superstructures, and improvements erected upon, under or above, or affixed to the same, and all rights and privileges thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining; and all franchises and privileges granted by or pursuant to any law of this state, or municipal ordinance or resolution, owned or used by any person or corporation, other than the right to be a corporation; and all mines, minerals, quarries, fossils, and trees in, under, or upon the land.

(Chapter 1, title XXX, B. & C. Comp., contained no definition of real property. This definition is taken in part from section 3037, B. & C. Comp. Definition of franchises and inclusion as taxable property, specifically, is new; compare the Minnesota definition of real property.)

(Personal property—How construed.)

Section 3. That section 3038 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton, be and the same hereby is amended to read as follows:

The terms personal estate and personal property shall be construed to include all things in action, household furniture, goods, chattels, moneys, and gold dust, on hand or on deposit; all boats and vessels, whether at home or abroad, and all capital invested therein; all debts due or to become due from solvent debtors, whether on account, contract, note, mortgage or otherwise, either within or without this state; all public stocks; all bonds, warrants, and moneys due or to become due from this state, or any county or other municipal subdivision thereof; and stocks and shares in incorporated companies, and such proportion of the capital of incorporated companies liable to taxation on their capital as shall not be invested in real estate; and all improvements made by persons on lands claimed by them under the laws of the United States, the fee of which lands is still vested in the United States.

(Adds to former statutory rule as to taxable things included in the term, things in action; state, county or municipal bonds, warrants, and claims, and improvements on claimed lands—the latter property transferred from B. & C. Comp., section 3005.)

superstructures, and improvements erected upon, under or above, or affixed to the same, and all rights and privileges thereto belonging or in any wise appertaining; and all franchises and privileges granted by or pursuant to any law of this state, or municipal ordinance or resolution, owned or used by any person or corporation, other than the right to be a corporation; and all mines, minerals, quarries, fossils, and trees in, under, or upon the land.

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(Adds to former statutory rule as to taxable things included in the term, things in action; state, county or municipal bonds, warrants, and claims, and improvements on claimed lands—the latter property transferred from B. & C. Comp., section 3005.)

(What property is exempt from taxation.)

Section 4. That section 3039 of the Codes and Statutes of Oregon, compiled and annotated by Hon. Charles B. Bellinger and William W. Cotton, as the same is amended by an act entitled "An act to amend section 3039 of Bellinger and Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon," approved February 24, 1903, and as amended by an act entitled "An act to amend an act entitled 'An act to amend section 3039 of Bellinger and Cotton's Annotated Codes and Statutes of Oregon,'" approved February 24, 1903," which last named act was filed in the office of the secretary of state December 24, 1903, being found upon page 28 of sequitur of the general laws of Oregon, special session of 1903, be and the same hereby is amended to read as follows:

The following property shall be exempt from taxation:

1. All property, real and personal, of the United States and this state, except land belonging to this state held under a contract for the purchase thereof.

2. All public or corporate property of the several counties, cities