

U. S. STEEL RAISES WAGES \$28,000,000 FOR EMPLOYEES

Corporation Grants Third Rise Within a Year, Making Total Advance Amount To 33 Per Cent.

GIVE EMPLOYEES CHANCE TO COMBAT PRICE ADVANCES

Many Eastern Cotton and Woolen Manufacturers Make Substantial Increases in Pay To Thousands of Mill Hands.

To meet the increased cost of living the United States Steel Corporation has decided to increase the wages of its employees at steel works and blast furnaces 10 per cent, with a proportionate advance in case of workers in the mines and transportation companies. This is the third increase made this year for a total of 33 per cent. over the wages in force Jan. 1. After the weekly meeting of the Finance committee, Chairman E. H. Gary issued this statement:

"Ordinarily the question of wages would not come up for consideration or decision at this time of the year, but in consequence of the abnormal conditions now existing it has been decided to increase the wage rates of our iron and steel companies about 10 per cent, to take effect Dec. 15. As to other departments, increases will be equitably proportioned.

"The clerical forces in the various offices of subsidiary companies are expected to share in the upturn. All told about 260,000 men are employed by the corporation, and the average monthly wage, will be nearly \$99. The increase in dollars will approximate \$9 a month, basing calculations on the official wage records of the corporation which showed the average monthly pay of the men to be close to \$90 when the second advance of the year became effective on May 1. If the increase amounts to 10 per cent in case of all the men, the corporation's payroll will be increased by the latest advance about \$28,000,000 a year.

"It is estimated that 175,000 laborers are employed at the blast furnaces and steel mills, whose average wage last January was \$2 a day. After Dec. 15 they will get \$2.54 a day. Figuring 200 working days to the year, the corporation will pay the day laborers on its payroll in the neighborhood of \$141,000,000 a year on the new basis, compared with \$90,000,000 being distributed annually at the January rate to the 150,000 laborers then employed. It is expected that the Republic Iron and Steel Company, the Lackawanna, the Cambria, and other big producers of iron and steel will put the same advance into operation. They followed the lead of the Steel Corporation when their increases were made last January and April.

While wages have advanced 33 per cent the prices for steel products have risen this year from 200 to 600 per cent. Forward orders on the books seem to assure the companies of capacity operations for at least a year, which means that the workers may look ahead to steady employment for many months.

In voting the two previous wage increases, the Finance Committee of the Steel Corporation considered as one factor the rising cost of living throughout the country. Presumably the same item had influence in this last action. If the findings of statisticians who have looked into food prices are correct, as made public last week, the cost of major foodstuffs has advanced nearly 30 per cent in the last year. The 33 per cent wage increase, therefore, leaves the employees of the Corporation 3 per cent ahead of their position a year ago when they met their grocery and butcher's bills.

MILL WORKERS AT PASSAIC GET RAISE OF 10 PER CENT

New York, Nov. 26.—Thousands of workers will receive increased wages in New Jersey and Connecticut, beginning December 1 and 4. This has been announced by several big plants. Mill workers in Passaic, totaling more than 15,000 will receive 10 per cent raises, notices being posted by seven leading companies. Other large concerns are making similar arrange-

ments. Wages have increased over 30 per cent in the textile industry, counting new advance since the strike trouble in Passaic a year ago.

The second voluntary increase made by the Clark Thread company of East Newark and Greenville, Conn., goes into effect December 6, affecting 450 employees.

Five firms in Rockland, Conn., announced a similar action while munition workers at Simsbury and Avon, Conn., have started profiting by added wages.

AMERICAN WOOLEN COMPANY BENEFITS 35,000 WORKERS

Boston, Nov. 24.—A 10 per cent wage increase in all the mills of the American Woolen Company, which employs 35,000 hands in New England and New York state, was announced at the headquarters of the company here tonight. At the same time the Arlington mills, whose big cotton plant at Lawrence employs 6000 hands announced "a higher scale of wages" the amount of which was not specified. It was believed that the new scale would be similar to that made public last night by the Cotton Manufacturers' Association of New Bedford, granting their 33,000 employees a 10 per cent raise.

Franklin W. H. Hobbs, President of the Arlington mills, in announcing the new scale of his company, said: "The increase is in accordance with the policy of the corporation to adapt its scale of wage to improved conditions of business, and keep it at least on a parity with the best wage scale among its competitors in New England."

Massachusetts Hands Get Raise Adams, Mass., Nov. 24.—Wage increases of 10 per cent, effective Dec. 4, were announced today by the several cotton mills in this vicinity. Notices to this effect were posted by William B. Plunkett, who controls 4 mills in this town: W. C. Plunkett & Sons.

Several thousand operatives are affected. The promised increase will be the third of the calendar year, making the total advance 25 per cent.

BLIND JOHNNY KEENEY LAID TO REST SATURDAY

Lane County Native, Who Was 61 Years of Age, Dies After Years' Illness.

The funeral services of John S. Keeney—"Blind Johnny," who died here Thursday evening after an illness of more than a year, were held at 10:30 o'clock on Saturday morning, at Pleasant Hill, Reverend Harry Benton being in charge. Interment was made in the Pleasant Hill cemetery.

Mr. Keeney was 61 years of age and was a native of Lane county, being the son of Eli Keeney, one of this country's early pioneers. He leaves two sisters, Mrs. Alethe Rychard of this city, and Mrs. Ruth Fletcher of Pendleton, and a brother, Elias Keeney, also of this city.

"Blind Johnny" was one of the best known characters of the county, and he was liked everywhere. He was born on the Keeney donation land claim between Pleasant Hill and Clowdale. It was there, when he was five years of age, that he was kicked by a horse, the bones of the bridge of the nose being broken and crushed against the optic nerve. From that day until his death he was unable to see daylight. He often made the remark that the only things he could remember of seeing were the green grass and his mother's eyes. It is said that such an injury in these days of modern surgery could easily have been remedied and his sight restored.

"Johnny" is said by those who knew him best to have been able to find his way in any part of Springfield or Eugene and over almost any road in the county. He made his own living by peddling perfumery, soap and other notions until over a year ago when he was attacked by a nervous breakdown which caused his death. At one time he owned a homestead and a timber claim in eastern Oregon, which he sold for a good sum, and this money went a long way toward his support. He was a member of the Christian church.

LOCAL ODD FELLOWS VISIT

Grand Warden Walker and Others Make Trip To Waverille.

Grand Warden W. F. Walker, accompanied by a number of other Springfield Odd Fellows and their wives made an official visit to the I. O. O. F. lodge at Waverille Thursday evening upon the invitation of the latter lodge.

The party left by automobile about 7 o'clock, making the trip up and back without accident. A real "big time" is reported, including a very enjoyable social affair, and an extra good supper, both as to quality and quantity. The Waverille Rebekahs and other ladies of the neighborhood prepared the lunch.

Those who made the trip are: W. F. Walker, H. E. Walker, D. S. Beale, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Korf, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brummette, Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Bally, T. W. Bowman, Dr. and Mrs. R. P. Mortenson, Dr. J. E. Richmond, Oswald Olsen, Mrs. Al Montgomery, J. P. Fry, and Charles Sylvester.

BISHOP HUGHES TO DEDICATE CHURCH

Reverend Moore Announces Building To Be Ready For Great Occasion.

PRESIDENT DONEY SPEAKS

Epworth League Will Put Last Finishing Touches On Auditorium Friday Afternoon.

By RUTH SCOTT It is now a certainty that the Ebert Memorial Methodist Episcopal church will be dedicated Sunday, December third. Through the efforts of the Reverend James T. Moore, the local pastor, Bishop Matthew S. Hughes of San Francisco, has been secured to deliver the dedicatory sermon.

On Saturday evening of this week there will be an official members' meeting at the church. The principal speakers of the following day will meet with the members to complete plans for dedication.

The following is a brief outline for the Sunday services:

At 9:30 the Sunday School will meet and the regular classes will be held.

At 10:30 the dedication service, from the Ritual of the church. Special music by the choir. Sermon by Bishop Hughes.

At three o'clock, Layman's platform meeting in charge of T. S. McDaniels of Portland.

At 6:15 the Epworth League exercises. There will be special music. The principal address will be delivered by the Reverend Henry J. Talbot, Dean of the Kimball College of Theology at Salem. A feature of the meeting will be the Epworth League pledge service.

At 7:30 the evening song service will be held. Music by the choir. Sermon by the Reverend Carl G. Doney, president of Willamette University.

The services of the day will be in charge of the Reverend James Moore of Albany, Superintendent of the Eugene district.

There will be a Brotherhood meeting the following Monday at which Dr. Talbot will speak.

Epworthians Clean Up

The members of the Epworth League will meet at the new church Friday afternoon at two o'clock, for the purpose of putting the building in order. Everyone is to be there and bring brooms, dustcloths and Bona Amb.

Members and friends wishing to contribute to the Thanksgiving boxes, which are to be prepared by the Epworth League, are requested to bring donations of fruit, vegetables, or any kind of eatables, as well as cash, to the church at the corner of Sixth and C streets. Please bring articles on or before Wednesday of this week. Contributions will be gratefully received by the committee in charge. Chloe Wooley, chairman, Mebel Duryee, Nora Olson and Mrs. Campbell are in charge of the work.

To Speak Before Parent-Teachers.

Miss Anne McCormick, domestic art teacher at the Lincoln school building, is to speak to the Parent-Teachers meeting at the Lincoln school building on December 8 at 8 o'clock. One of her topics will be "Fruits of Domestic Economy."

WILL OPEN RACKET STORE

E. E. Kepner Purchases Stock of Goods to Conduct Business

E. E. Kepner of this city has bought a small stock of goods at Florence, Oregon and will open a 5-10-15 cent store next week in his own building on Main street.

Mr. Kepner was formerly a real estate agent in Springfield and is well known here. He will take charge of the store himself. The building in which the business will be conducted is being remodeled and arranged more conveniently.

Local R. N. A. Camp Gets Pennant.

Mistletoe Camp number 4878 Royal Neighbors of Springfield secured the 50 inch pennant for having the largest delegation at the meeting at Eugene, held last Thursday night.

Offers Prize For Rooters Yell.

The Booth-Kelly basketball team has offered 2 season tickets for league games as a prize for the best short yell for its rooters. Send yells to post office box number 187, Springfield.

JAPAN BUYS BONDS VALUED \$50,000,000

Merchants and Exporters of Nippon Invest in Our Railroads And Industries

HAVE GREAT PROSPERITY

Prefer Buying U. S. Securities To Lending Money at Low Rates to Their Own Countrymen.

Japanese merchants and exporters have bought between \$30,000,000 and \$50,000,000 American securities in the last six months, according to estimates made yesterday in banking quarters, where an important part of the purchases were put through. The securities were bonds for the most part, largely underlying railroad issues, although a substantial part consisted of mortgage bonds of industrial companies returning a high yield on the purchase price. It is assumed that many hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of American bonds sold here by Europe have gone directly into Japanese hands.

These Japanese investments on so large a scale are the outgrowth of the shifts of commerce which resulted from the war. Japan has been shipping to the United States a great amount of goods which formerly were manufactured by Germany, and at the same time exports to us of silks and other Far Eastern products from Japan have been stimulated because the European demand for them has been reduced. In consequence Japan's trade balance in this country has been growing steadily, producing credits which either had to be transferred to the owner or put to use here.

For the most part the securities bought with the proceeds of Japanese goods sold in the United States have been deposited with local banks. As the interest on the bonds falls due it will be credited to the owners account, and dividend checks will receive similar attention. On most of the stocks and bonds, it is said, an income return of at least 4 1/2 per cent, is obtained, which is 1 1/2 per cent, or more higher than the owners could get if they had their funds sent back home and the money lent at interest rates current in the Japanese market.

The superabundance of money in Japan is the primary reason for investments in American stocks and bonds, from war orders, and this business has flooded the country with money. A number of prominent banks have of late refused farther deposits, and the bankers have discouraged gold importation as far as possible. Gold is sent from this side from time to time, however, \$2,000,000 having been transferred yesterday by the Sub-Treasury to the San Francisco mint for shipment to Japan. Half of the total was arranged for by the local agency of the Yokohama Specie banking firm.

Japan has invested a part of her balance of trade in Great Britain, in British Treasury notes. Three months ago it was learned that approximately \$30,444,000 of Japanese Government funds held in New York had been sent to London to be used in the purchase of these English Treasury obligations.

RAILROAD FORCES PREPARE NEW FIGHT ON 8-HOUR LAW

B. K. TO SHIP TWICE AS MUCH LUMBER AS NOW

Plans To Put Another Motor Truck On Run Between This Point And O. E. Depot, Soon.

It is announced that about twice as much lumber can be shipped by the Booth-Kelly Lumber company from this point as is being shipped at present, when a second motor truck recently ordered will be put on the run, which will probably be in a short time.

To accommodate the increased shipment which will then be made over their line, the Oregon Electric railway company is building another loading platform at their freight yards on Fifth avenue west between Olive and Charnelton streets in Eugene.

A crew of men is now at work moving the trucks over a few feet to make room for the planned operations.

At present the company is shipping two cars a day over the Oregon Electric lines. A least two, and perhaps three more will be added when the new truck is put on in addition to the truck and team now hauling.

If the company can get all the cars they can utilize at the Oregon Electric depot, and can secure a few right along here, it is estimated that probably 50 per cent. of its shipping requirements from this point can be met. Even this is some betterment of conditions, for in October only 37 per cent. of the total requirement was met.

Some relief from the car shortage is expected from the arrival of new cars from time to time. One was received from Columbus a few days ago, for which lumber for construction was sent from this mill. Others are promised, and may be expected almost any time.

EVA TITUS MOST POPULAR

Wins Most Votes In Contest Conducted by Marcola High School

The contest for the most popular girl in the Marcola high school closed Friday. Twenty six dollars was taken in. This money will be used to send three of the M. H. S. boys to the boy's conference at Corvallis from December 1st to 3rd. The girl receiving the most votes was Miss Iva Titus and the boy selling the most votes was Oliver Barr. Both Miss Titus and Mr. Barr were presented with a fine box of candy from the student body in honor of the occasion.

The three boys chosen by the Marcola high school student body to attend the boy's conference at Corvallis were: Ralph Garoutte, Layman Yockey, and Willis Blackley.

WILSON GAERTE, IS DEAD

Mrs. Al Montgomery Notified of Brother's Death, at Orange Calif.

Mrs. Al Montgomery received word Friday her brother, Wilson Gaerte, had died at Orange, California, the preceding Saturday. The cause of death was tuberculosis with which Mr. Gaerte had been afflicted for some months.

Mr. Gaerte formerly lived at Mabel, Oregon. His wife, who with two children survive him, is a daughter of Charles Spencer of West Springfield.

Annual Institute Begins Today.

The session of annual institute for teachers of the county began at 9:30 o'clock this morning in the Eugene high school building. A profitable session is looked forward to, as superintendent E. J. Moore has been fortunate in obtaining the consent of the foremost educators of the state to be present. Among the lectures on the program is R. L. Kirk, superintendent of the Springfield Schools, who will speak at 9:50 Tuesday morning on "History and Civics in Advanced Grades."

S. H. S. Girls Go On Hike.

Miss Vera Williams, history teacher in the high school, and also girls' athletic coach, took the high school girls on a hike Tuesday, November 21. They went to the Maple school house, a mile and a half east of town. They had planned on having basketball practice but the boys of the high school were using the hall.

Brotherhood Leaders, Worried Over Situation, Prepare to Defend Their Rights, in Washington.

REPRESENTATIVES CALL ON PRESIDENT WILSON

All Labor is "Irrevocably Opposed" To Proposed Compulsory Investigation by Government in Cases of Threatened Strikes.

Events in Washington last week indicated that the battle between railroad capital and railroad labor, which was suspended by the armistice afforded by the enactment of the Adamson eight-hour law in August, is about to be renewed. It is evident that the chiefs of the railroad brotherhoods are worried over the present situation and are preparing to make a fight to regain the ground which they think has been lost by the action of the railroads in seeking to test the constitutionality and the legality of the Adamson act in the Federal courts.

The four brotherhood leaders, W. G. Lee, Chief of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; Warren S. Stone, Chief Engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; W. S. Carter, Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, and L. E. Sheppard, Acting Chief of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors, interviewed President Wilson on the situation. The elation which they felt over the working agreement effected between the brotherhoods and the twelve railroad unions of the American Federation of Labor to obtain a permanent eight-hour work day for railway workers, to fight the effort of the railroads to overturn the Adamson law, and to oppose any attempt in Congress to enact unsatisfactory legislation apparently had disappeared.

While the brotherhood heads are saying little, the talk among those acquainted with the views of these organizations shows that the leaders of railroad labor feel that President Wilson is under debt to them, and that he will use his influence to combat the attempt of the railroads to have the Adamson law declared unconstitutional. That the brotherhood chiefs are worried is a rather general opinion among those who have talked with them.

What the heads of the four brotherhoods said to President Wilson when they saw him at the white house has been made known in detail, but it is gathered that they took advantage of the opportunity to tell Mr. Wilson of the work they had done in Ohio and California in organizing the railroad workers in behalf of the Democratic national ticket.

Everything learned gave the impression that the brotherhood heads felt that their case against the attempt to overthrow the Adamson law was the government's case; that the Government should stand by the brotherhoods in maintaining the eight-hour railroad work day, and that they believed the Administration owed them a debt that could be repaid only by using its influence to make the eight-hour day a permanent thing.

The brotherhoods see cause for worry in the knowledge that President Wilson intends to renew to Congress his recommendation of the last session that a law be enacted for the compulsory investigation of industrial disputes, the investigation to be completed, to use the President's words, "before a strike, or lockout may lawfully be attempted." The President so informed Representative Adamson of Georgia, Chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, when the latter called on him immediately after the Brotherhood chiefs had left the White House.

The Brotherhoods make no secret of the fact that they are "irrevocably opposed" to compulsory investigation. At one of the sessions of the American Federation of Labor in Baltimore last week a resolution against compulsory investigation was adopted.

The brotherhoods are thus in a dilemma. In the first place they did not want the eight-hour day by Congressional enactment, preferring to

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