

Thirty-Second Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1937.

No. 124.

### BANKERS EXPECT CONTINUED EASE ON SHORT LOANS

#### Long Term Industrial Bonds Have Hit Peak for Cycle Is Consensus — Low Interest Seen for 5 Years

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 13.—(AP)—A continuation of ease in short-term money rates for the remainder of 1937 with the possibility of a slight increase is expected by more than 100 of the nation's largest bank executives, Reuben A. Lewis, Jr., executive vice-president of the Metropolitan Trust Co., Chicago, said today.

Speaking before the 15th annual regional Pacific coast trust conference, Lewis gave delegates opinions gathered in a survey of the nation's financial leaders.

"They believe long term industrial bonds have definitely sold at their peak for this business cycle," Lewis said.

Most See No Boost  
Asking for opinions on whether the expected increase demand for credit this fall would advance short term money rates, Lewis said he found:

Sixty bankers believed there would be no increase; 50 looked for a moderate increase and seven thought the increased rate on prime risks would be more than one-half of one per cent.

While an almost unanimous opinion was expressed that long term industrial bonds had sold at top prices for this business cycle, in no quarter, Lewis said, was the belief expressed that high grade bonds would decline drastically from present levels.

On the question of what average yield might be expected from AAA bonds over the next 20-year period, Lewis said the bankers' "best guess" was that it would be slightly less than 4 1/2 per cent, compared to 4.7 per cent for the period of January, 1919-37.

Low for Five Years  
The leading security analyst of one of the country's major banks expressed the thought that interest rates would remain low for the next five years because of eight factors:

1—Glut of gold; 2—government



### SENATOR AT WORK.

It wasn't hot, but Sen. Pat McCarran (D-Nev.), peeled off his coat anyhow as he sat down to work on the new court bill.

### EMPLOYMENT NOW AT HIGHEST MARK IS STATE REPORT

#### Industrial Accident Commission Shows Average Wages Also New Record—Governor Fears Inflation

By Paul W. Harvey, Jr.  
SALEM, Aug. 13.—(AP)—Employment in Oregon now is at an all-time high mark, the state industrial accident commission showed today, disclosing figures on employees in hazardous industries which are representative of all industry.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, there were 34,037,241 man days worked by men in hazardous industry, an average of 109,094 men working per day. But during June, there were 123,539 men working, indicating that a new record will be set during the present fiscal year.

The commission said the totals for all workers in the state would not vary more than one percent from the figures on hazardous industry.

1929-30 Best  
The previous employment peak was in 1929-30, when 33,500,000 man days were worked. The depression low of 21,000,000 man days came in 1932-33, the lowest point since 1917.

Employees' contributions to the accident fund last year also set a new high of \$3,793,735, compared with \$2,995,927 in 1929-30. There are indications that this mark also will fall during the present fiscal year.

During June, the 123,539 employees were paid \$13,772,544, while during the past fiscal year, the average of 109,094 employees received a total wage of \$118,303,782, all of these marks being new records.

The average daily wage during June was \$4.30 and is mounting almost daily. This figure is the same as the wage paid in July, 1931, while the low-point during the depression was \$3.13 in April, 1933.

Wages Rising  
Total wages during the past fiscal year was 13.01 percent more than 1935-36, 32.78 percent over 1934-35, 65.54 percent over 1933-34, and 97.81 percent over 1932-33.

The state employment service reported a shortage of common labor, asserting there are more than 5,000 jobs to be filled in the Willamette valley alone.

The 3,212,538 man days worked during June was more than double the 1,452,041 man days worked in February, 1933, low mark of the depression.

What the commission said is difficult to understand is why the percentage of accidents is less now, when more men are employed, than during the depression when fewer men were engaged in hazardous industry.

Inflation Feared  
State officials, while asserting that good times are surely here, aren't any too rosy about the future.

Governor Martin believes that increasing prices may send the nation into a period of inflation that will ruin the country.

State Treasurer Rufus C. Holman, urging the land board to be careful in its investments, said economists have advised him that the country in 1940 will "head into the greatest debacle it has ever seen."

Oregon Most Illiterate  
Klamath, Jefferson and Sherman counties are the most illiterate in the state, each having between two and 4.5 percent illiteracy averages, figures in the state education office showed today.

Counties having between one and two percent illiteracy are Marion, Wasco, Hood River, Multnomah, Gilliam, Umatilla, Harney and Columbia. All other counties have illiteracy rates of less than one percent, giving Oregon the position of being the most illiterate state.

The national illiteracy average is 4.3 percent.

Minds Absent In P. O.  
CHEYENNE, Wyo. (UP)—Everything from coconuts to women's nightgowns have been left in the postoffice lobby here by absent-minded persons. Roast beef, insurance policies, blankets, school report cards, a safety razor and a sack of flour are included among the forgotten articles.

Scout Traffic "Menace"  
LORAIN, O. (UP)—The foot-pedal, child-ridden scooter is Lorain's newest and apparently dangerous traffic menace. Louis Mikula, 7, was gashed on the head when he was knocked against a tree by a "scouting" playmate.

Counts Dog Noses  
INDEPENDENCE, Mo. (UP)—Declaring that an "emergency exists" Mayor Roger T. Sermon ordered a dog census here when it was estimated there were more canine noses than human noses to be counted.

### LABOR PARTY HITS SNAG IN ENGLAND; POLICIES LACKING

#### Halting Leadership Blamed As Defeat Is Tasted in 10 Recent By-Elections — Fighting Spirit Gone

LONDON (UP)—The Labor party, charged by its critics with lacking a fighting policy, has gone down to defeat in 10 recent by-elections. The government did not lose a seat in these contests.

Leaders of the party are gravely concerned and appear to be facing a revolt. This is the first time in the memory of living politicians that an opposition party has suffered such defeat in by-elections where usually the opposition candidate increases his roll, and the government candidate loses votes.

In the by-elections since June 10 the total votes recorded were: For the government, 177,319. Against, 114,175.

Here are a few figures showing the decline in the Labor vote: At Hillhead (Glasgow) the Labor vote dropped by 2,364, or 25 percent; at Buckingham it was 2,108, or 15 percent; at Brake (Plymouth)

it was 4,024, a decline of 20 percent.

Government Vote Down  
The government vote, too, has declined in these constituencies, but it has held the seats by large majorities, and a decline in the government vote in by-elections is considered automatic.

What sort of an augury is this for the next general election, ask politicians? It was not so long ago that some socialist leaders spoke of "socialism in our time" and they all, with one accord, spoke of the time "when we are in office," which they hoped and expected would be after the next general election.

But now no mention is made by the Labor party leaders in the house of commons about coming power. At present and by present indications, it would seem Labor must abandon all hope of forming a government for at least six years.

The slump is attributed to the lack of leadership. Since the break away of Ramsay MacDonald and Philip Snowden, and the death of Arthur Henderson, the party has been like a rudderless ship. As far as policy is concerned the party admitted has been weak, too weak, in fact, for the government's taste, as a little opposition is not a bad thing, especially in the case of a strong government.

Upset by Conditions  
Traditionally, the Labor party opposes rearmament. Equally it opposes dictators. The party found it impossible to reconcile—at least in the minds of the electors—two opposites. In view of the general situation in Europe, opposition to rearmament was patently ridiculous, so, reluctantly, the party gave its support.

This grudging support earned little approval for it is a fact that

few people in this country, however little they like the idea of piling up huge arms reserves, and however desirous they are of living in peace, can think of any alternative.

Thus Labor, in fact, was forced into the position of supporting the government's policy. Then it supported the government's policy of non-intervention in Spain, but later decided to appeal to the government to abandon non-intervention.

The Labor party, in fact, lacks a definite fighting policy, and that is why it periodically finds itself in the position it is now—that of trailing weakly behind the government.

Opposition Too Weak  
So far from pushing the government into action, the government drags the opposition along with it.

While all this has been going on the main occupation of Labor leaders has been merely hunting. Anyone who does not toe the official party line promptly is labeled a communist agitator and rebuked. This provides the government press with a good deal of amusement.

It does not seem so funny, however, to the present Labor M. P.'s and those who hope to be at the next general election.

Nevertheless, the Labor movement in this country obviously has an important role to play in the future. The movement, as a whole, is far from dead.

ing had been successful, so the officials went through their dedication formalities anyway.

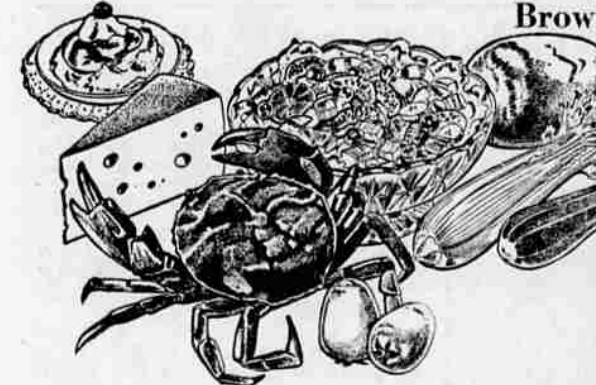
Hiker Loses 20 Pounds  
CLEVELAND (UP)—James Vessey, retired deputy police inspector, one of 48 to finish a health derby walk, reported on his return that he hiked away 20 pounds of surplus flesh in the 325-mile trek from New York City to Danville, N. Y.

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