

Average Earnings Of Production Workers Increase

Salem, Ore., May 19—(U.P.)—Average weekly earnings of Oregon's production workers increased in March to \$66.53, best level of the year but slightly under the high of \$67.57 in December of 1949.

Reports from more than 400 large manufacturing plants showed an average hourly wage for industrial workers of \$1.72, highest figure yet released by the Oregon unemployment compensation commission in cooperation with the U. S. bureau of labor statistics.

The January average weekly wage dropped to \$60.72 and February came back to \$64.18.

Wood Products Lead

Lumber and wood products led the advance in March, jumping \$3.61 from the previous month to a new 1950 top of \$69.88 for a week of 38.8 hours at \$1.80 a hour. The weekly average for lumber was \$6.95 higher than in January but slightly under the high of \$70.52 for last October.

Lumber production is increasing in all parts of the state because of better demand and higher prices, and officials look for the April and May reports to show still higher wage levels. An average work week of 43.5 hours in plywood and millwork plants compared with 40.5 hours in February was responsible for much of the March increase.

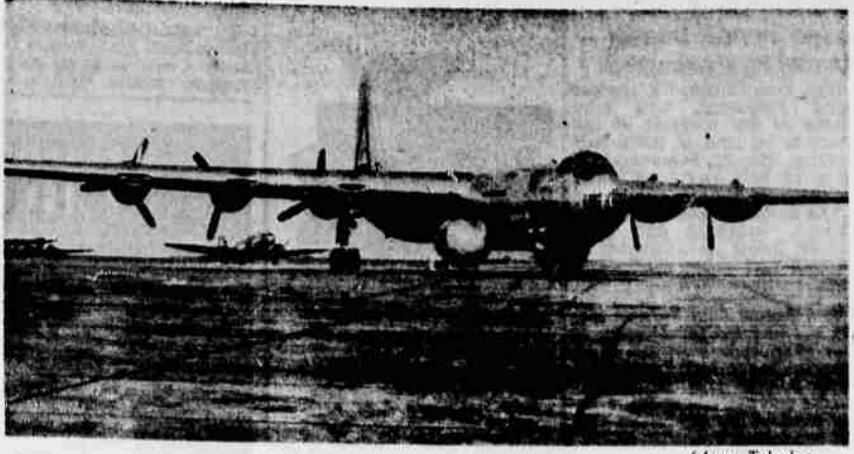
Printing and publishing still led in March with a weekly wage average of \$76.16.

Profitable Business Year Seen in 1950

Memphis, Tenn., May 19—(U.P.)—Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder predicted today that 1950 will be "one of the most profitable business years in our history."

Snyder told the Tennessee Bankers association that "the fact that last year's business readjustment did not unsettle the economy has created a justifiable feeling of confidence."

He said rising industrial production, plant and factory expansion, booming home building and automobile production are the healthy signs.



POWER TO SPARE—Modified version of the Air Force's B-36 intercontinental bomber, the B-36-B, is shown at Fairfield-Suisun Air Force Base, Calif., after its first military flight. Pod-shaped nacelles, one on each side of the fuselage, carry completely built-up engines and make the plane self-supporting.

Science at Work

Research Men in Laboratories Are "Unsung Heroes" in Fight to Develop New Wonder Drugs

By Paul F. Ellis

United Press Science Editor
New York — (U.P.)—The "unsung heroes" of this day of wonder drugs that are giving man better health and longer life are the scientists in the research laboratories.

They are the men who know that the so-called "wonder" or "glamour" drugs are not "commonplace," but are the result of long, painstaking and sometimes heartbreaking efforts to discover the drugs and then find ways to make them in mass production so that all may benefit.

Robert Lincoln McNeil of Philadelphia, who has just finished a term as president of the American Drug Manufacturers' association, expressed it this way:

"The tortuous path to medical discovery is opened by the work of thousands of scientists associated with our nation's research and teaching institutions. These unsung researchers are constantly moving into unexplored regions of human knowledge in the basic sciences. Very often the "miracles" are the application of knowledge thus unfolded. Though we contributed to the support of basic research, either through direct participation or by financial support, the most important contribution of the pharmaceutical industry is

effective against virus disease.

He said:

"The scientific drive toward development of newer anti-biotics (drugs) to supplement the miracle of penicillin has uncovered agents effective in some virus conditions. Continued progress in this field leads to the hope that even potential poliomyelitis may be among the sufferers who will benefit."

McNeil also believes that competition between drug manufacturing firms will bring better results than production by government supervision. He recalled the race for synthesis of ACTH and Cortisone, two of the newest "glamour" drugs.

"The winners in this competitive race ultimately will be chosen by the medical profession through its practitioners and its research clinicians," he said. "It is my opinion that we are moving faster toward our goal than we would have moved if government had succumbed to the pressure of last summer to take over the project."

Gov. Dewey Weakening; May Seek Third Term

Albany, N. Y., May 19—(U.P.)—Governor Thomas E. Dewey New York's chief executive since 1943, indicated today he is weakening in his desire to quit politics and may seek re-election to a third term this fall.

The governor said he would give New York republican leaders a definite answer when he returns from vacation June 9.

Tallulah Bankhead Claims Employee Swindled Money

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—Actress Tallulah Bankhead claims a former woman employee swindled her out of some \$20,000 during the past year or so. She hopes to get some of it back because, she says, she needs the money.

"I know I make \$5,000 a week," she said, "but where does it all go?"

Miss Bankhead, private living, appeared here in "Private Lives," told newsmen yesterday the employee changed the figures on some 100 checks she received from Miss Bankhead for expenses.

When she first discovered the practice, Miss Bankhead said, she was inclined to be lenient. But she changed her mind, she said, after the employee threatened to circulate "malicious, vicious and unfounded" reports about her private life.

"When somebody suggests blackmailing me, I'm ready to go at 'em with everything I've got," she said. "Nobody ever blackmailed a Bankhead because there never was anything to blackmail a Bankhead for."

She has instructed her attorneys to file a formal complaint with the district attorney's office in New York after they complete their investigation of her cancelled checks.

Fluid Determines Sex, Scientist Says

New York, May 19—(U.P.)—A Belgian scientist reported today a revolutionary technique of determining the sex of babies before birth.

The test, according to Dr. Pierre A. Rosa, of the University of Brussels, has been tried on 25 pregnant women and the results were satisfactory.

Rosa made his report at the fourth International American Congress on Obstetrics and Gynecology. Rosa's technique involves the injection of a needle into the abdomen of the prospective mother and withdrawing a small amount of the amniotic fluid, in which the embryonic child is immersed.

A laboratory test of the fluid, Rosa reported, will determine whether the child to be born is a boy or girl.

Azalea Festival at Brookings May 20, 21

Brookings, in Curry county on the coast, center of the native Oregon azalea area, will the scene Saturday and Sunday, May 20 and 21, of the annual azalea festival. Brookings is the location of the Oregon state azalea park, a 33-acre tract of azaleas growing in their natural state, now coming into full bloom.

Festivities will begin Saturday at 11 a.m. with coronation of Queen Leta Hassett, who will reign for the two-day festival, attended by Nancy Vincent, Phyllis Darger, Mary Ann Biddle and Beverly Hill. Court members are juniors and seniors at Brookings high school.

At noon Saturday, a flower show will open with arrangements of various types of flowers on exhibit. The queen's banquet and ball will be held that evening, with Ralph Cohan, Portland attorney, as principal speaker.

Sunday will open with church services at 11 a.m. At noon a wild hog barbecue, free to the public, is scheduled. A baseball game has been arranged for the afternoon.

Dead line Sunday Classified is a Noon Saturday

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