

CIO Steelworkers Shoot for Record-Breaking Pay Boost in Negotiations

Labor Experts Expect 11-15 Cents an Hour Jump in Wage Level

Washington—(U.P.)—Labor experts today predicted a jump of from 11 to 15 cents an hour in the general level of 1955 wage hikes, perhaps tripling last year's level.

They said they expect the Ford-CIO Auto Workers agreement to give a boost to the general level of wage hikes rather than set a guaranteed wage pattern in labor-management settlements this year.

Confined To Wages
They expect a steel industry settlement to strengthen this boost. The negotiations this year between the industry and the CIO Steelworkers are confined to wages with the union scheduled to take up the guaranteed annual wage issue next year.

Last year's labor-management settlements averaged around a nickel an hour in pay increases. Unemployment was high and business in a slump. Wage hikes have crept up this year to between seven and eight cents an hour, plus a variety of improvements in so-called fringe benefits such as pensions, health and welfare funds, vacations and holidays. Strike activity also is on the upsurge.

'Missed the Boat'
Labor experts explain it by saying that unions feel they "missed the boat" last year and are out to cash in on the 1955 business recovery.

One government expert described the Ford-UAW guaranteed wage plan as a "vote of confidence" in the economic future of the company. But economists said the plan is not likely to have any impact on the nation's economy immediately because the company will not pay anything out to idle workers for another full year.

Committee Approves East's Nomination

Washington—(U.P.)—The Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday approved the nomination of Judge William G. East of Eugene to be federal district judge in Oregon.

Judge East was recently named to take the vacancy created when Judge James Alger Fee was elevated to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco.

Transmitter Move To Soda Mountain Planned by Station

An application has been submitted to the Federal Communications commission by the KBES-TV to move its transmitter from Blackhill hill, north of Medford, to Soda mountain, southeast of Ashland near the California border.

Everett A. Faber, vice-president of the Southern Oregon Broadcasting company which operates the station, revealed plans for relocation at the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce roundtable yesterday.

Area To Increase
Faber said the station's viewing area would increase greatly with the change, but added that no date has been set for relocating the transmitter. The station studio will remain in Medford, he said.

Faber said the relocation would increase viewing reception not only in the Rogue Valley area, but also in Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, and northern California.

Faber reviewed problems in starting operation of a television station here. Since initiating service, there has been an increase in TV sets to about 27,000 in the station's viewing area, he said.

REED VICE PRESIDENT

Portland—(U.P.)—Dr. Gerald P. Burns, assistant to the vice chancellor for development at New York University since 1952, yesterday was named vice president of Reed College here. He will assume his new duties next September.



JOHNNY KIM SHOPS—Kim Jong Koo (center) known to newsmen around world as Johnny Kim, arrived in Tokyo from Korea enroute to his new home in the U. S., and didn't waste time. First thing on Johnny's agenda was a shopping tour of Tokyo's stores. He is shown here with Correspondent Robert Pierpoint (left) and Mrs. Suzuko Hashimoto while purchasing some underwear.

Speech Development Conference Subject

Ashland—The Southern Oregon chapter of the International Council for Exceptional Children will hold its mid-year conference Saturday, June 18, on the Southern Oregon College campus, according to Dr. Alva Graham, professor of education and president of the chapter.

The conference theme will be "The Development of Speech in the Child"—how parents can prevent speech problems from occurring and what teachers and parents can do for children who have speech problems by the time they enter school.

Bill Wensley, consultant in speech correction for the state department of education, Salem, will speak.

The conference will be a half-day meeting, beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending with a noon luncheon at Susanne Homes hall.

US Steel First To Hear Demands For Wage Increase

Pittsburgh—(U.P.)—The CIO United Steelworkers opened steel industry wage negotiations with the U.S. Steel Corp. today, shooting for a record-breaking pay boost to tide the union over until 1956, when it expects the guaranteed annual wage "to drop in our laps."

U.S. Steel, the nation's biggest producer, was the first of the booming industry's top firms to hear the 1,200,000-member union's demands for a wage increase the union described only as "substantial."

Amount Not Specified

The union did not specify the exact amount it sought, but the union-estimated 20 cent an hour package won Monday by the CIO United Auto Workers in the Ford negotiations gave USW President David J. McDonald a likely target in wage talks, limited under contract terms to wage rates only.

McDonald indicated last month that the USW might be after a new high in wage boosts when he said, "In the past we've gotten increases of 18½ cents an hour (in 1946) and 16 cents an hour, but I don't say that is a substantial figure as of today."

'Big Six' Talks

The USW-Big Steel negotiations opening here will be followed by similar sessions each day this week with other members of the industry's "Big Six" producers—Bethlehem, Republic, Jones and Laughlin, Youngstown Sheet and Tube and Inland Steel. These six firms employ more than two-thirds of the basic steel industry's 600,000 production workers, who now earn an average hourly rate of \$2.23.

The guaranteed wage settlement won by the auto workers, the only CIO union bigger than the USW, buoyed the confidence of McDonald that the steel industry would match the settlement within a year and drop the guaranteed annual wage "in our laps." The USW began pressing for a guaranteed annual wage back in 1937.

"We'll get the guaranteed annual wage next year—that's for sure," one union negotiator said. "What we want now is the money we're earning for the steel companies."

Near-Record Production
Top producers in the steel industry have been reporting near-record production and earnings this year with production expected to continue at high levels for the rest of 1955.

McDonald feels the steel industry will be compelled to follow the auto industry's lead on the annual wage because automobile manufacturers are the biggest steel consumers, utilizing some 22 per cent of total steel production.

In framing this year's demands, the USW Wage-Policy Committee emphasized it wanted the guaranteed annual wage issue settled "at the earliest possible moment," under the present limitations of the two-year contract signed last June.

Union negotiators said they were confident of reaching a wage settlement before midnight June 30, after which the union will be free to strike. While reaffirming the union's traditional no-contract-no-work policy, McDonald said he felt that the three weeks remaining before the strike deadline left sufficient time for a peaceful settlement.

Grange

Upper Applegate Grange
Upper Applegate Grange met May 26, with Pearl Byrne, master, in the chair. On roll call executive committee member, James Winningham and agriculture chairman, Harlan Cantrall were found absent.

The Charter was draped in memory of Harry Whitney.

The degree team put on work in the third and fourth degrees for those members who had not received full ritual initiation. Those present to receive degree work were Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Sutton, Mrs. Nellie E. Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Otis Buck, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Pearson.

Several of these members attended Central Point Grange, May 28 for initiation in the fifth degree.

The chaplain announced that Mrs. Bert Harr is recuperating from injuries received in a recent fall.

Lecturer Anna Scott stated that the program for the next meeting would be supplied by the 4-H club and directed by Nancy Lou Redhead.

This will be an open meeting to allow 4-H members and parents who are not Grange members, to attend.

The youth group of the Grange will serve refreshments for this meeting. The committee will be Nancy Lou Redhead, Shirley Dunlap, Gary West and Robert Cantrall.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

Farmers' Market Slated at Talent

Talent—An open-air Farmers' Market will open at 10 a.m. Friday at the corner of New st. and Pacific Highway. The market, which will feature fresh vegetables and fruit, is owned by Seiber's Shopper center.

The market will remain open between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. every day each week throughout the summer, Al Seiber, owner, said.

Farmers have rented all but one of seven booths in the market, Seiber said. One booth will be used as a refreshment stand.

FAITH SHAKEN

Daytona Beach, Fla.—(U.P.)—Tom Daugherty of the local Pigeon Club had his faith in the navigating ability of pigeons somewhat shaken today. He found a homing pigeon with a band on its leg addressed to "Ronald C. Chang, Honolulu."

College Group To Sing For Phoenix Nazarenes

Phoenix—The King's Heralds, musical group from Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Ida., will present a program at the Church of the Nazarene, Third and Pine sts., 7:30 p.m. Thursday evening.

In addition to vocal numbers, the King's Heralds feature selections by a trombone quartet and a brass quintet. Richard Ivester, a 1934 graduate, will speak briefly on the work of the college.

The Rev. W. V. McArthur, pastor of the Church of the Nazarene, has invited the public.

OREGON CHALLENGED

Salem—(U.P.)—The state of Washington has challenged Oregon to a strawberry growing contest. Gov. Arthur Langlie of Washington issued the challenge to Oregon Gov. Paul Patterson yesterday. The state with the greater number of growers with a per-acre yield greater than five tons would be victor.

Phoenix Councilmen Submit Resignations

Phoenix—The Phoenix city council last night accepted resignation from two councilmen.

Leo H. Bohls, who has been a councilman for several years, resigned to move to Medford, and Al Sorenson resigned because he is moving to California.

The vacancies will be filled by the council at its next meeting, July 11.

No action was taken on the Phoenix sewer system last night. The system was approved recently by Phoenix voters, who also approved connecting to Medford's disposal plant through the South Bear Creek Sanitary district.

Mayor Dan Adams said action was delayed pending receipt of figures from engineers on the system.

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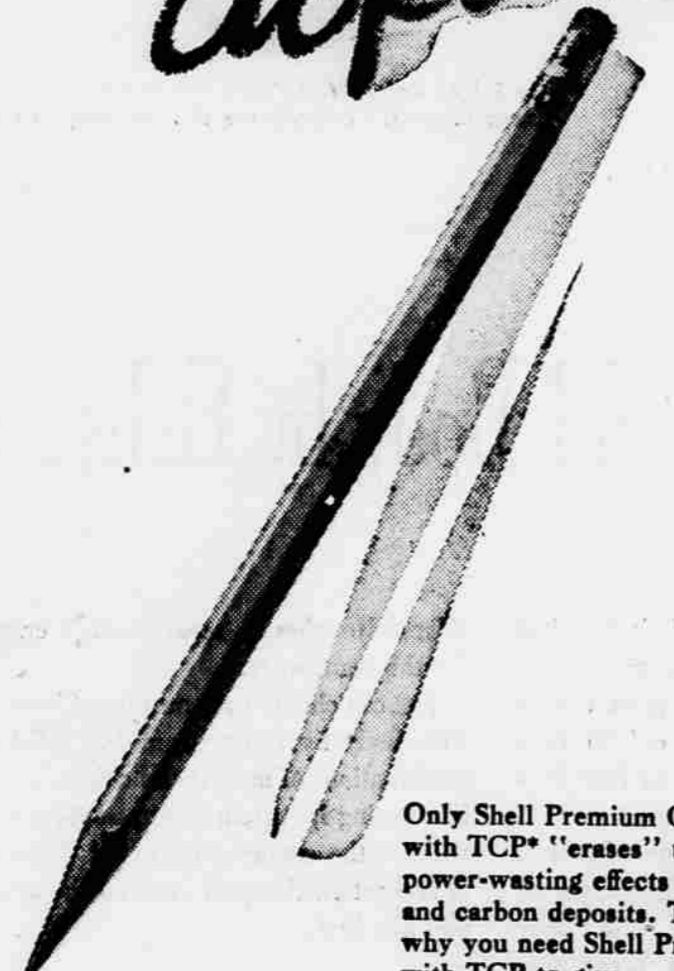
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