

# List of Billion Dollar Firms In United States Swells To 33

By ROBERT G. SHORTAL  
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New York — (U.P.) — The biggest boom in history swelled the list of American companies doing a business of more than \$1,000,000,000 a year from 29 to 33 last year, a United Press survey showed today.

These 33 sales giants turned out an assortment of products that affected the lives of almost every American in one way or another.

Five companies joined the billionaire sales ranks and one dropped out in 1955, a year that saw consumers team up with big business to fashion a boom that made 1929 look small by comparison.

These 33 sales leaders, selling everything from hairpins and pizza pies to automobiles and atomic reactors, rang up total sales of more than \$90,000,000,000, or almost \$550 for each man, woman and child in the U.S.

Unparalleled Spending Spree  
Their sales in 1954—a year of

mild recession and belt-tightening for industry — aggregated approximately \$75,000,000,000.

The growth of America's dynamic economy last year was sparked by an unparalleled consumer spending spree for new homes, automobiles, appliances, and a long list of other goods and services. Industrial expansion played a key supporting role in this economic drama.

However, the continued decline in defense business from Korean war peaks was responsible for Boeing Airplane Company's sales dipping below the \$1,000,000,000 mark in 1955. It was the sole casualty.

The five companies which joined the list last year were Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., International Harvester Co., Radio Corporation of America, Republic Steel Corp. and Union Carbide & Carbon Co.

In 1939, the year World War II began in Europe, only General Motors and the Bell Telephone System were doing an annual volume of business in excess of \$1,000,000,000.

Oil of California, \$1,277,840,419 — \$1,113,342,595; National Dairy, \$1,260,230,044 — \$1,210,328,531; J. C. Penney, \$1,220,085,325 — \$1,107,156,633; Kroger

Co., \$1,219,474,812 — \$1,108,694,168; Republic Steel, \$1,195,094,731 — \$850,343,516; Union Carbide & Carbon, \$1,187,153,197 — \$923,693,379; International Harvester, (3) \$1,165,764,841 — \$994,074,204; Firestone Tire & Rubber, \$1,114,870,167 — \$916,047,040; Sinclair Oil, \$1,110,066,902 — \$1,021,461,419; American

**Mrs. Jackson's Estate Filed in Probate Court**

Portland — (U.P.) — An inventory and appraisal of the estate of the late Maria C. Jackson was filed in probate court here yesterday and disclosed the widow of the founder of the Oregon Journal left an estate valued at \$2,471,176.

Major items in the inventory were Mrs. Jackson's holdings in the newspaper founded by her husband, the late C. S. Jackson. Mrs. Jackson died last February.

Bulk of the estate will go to the Jackson Foundation for charitable and educational purposes in Oregon.

## Elijah Satisfied On Mountain Ledge

Buena Vista, Colo. — (U.P.) — A rescue party that climbed to a high mountain pass to rescue Elijah the forlorn horse said today Elijah really is an individualistic nag named Bugs and he doesn't want to be rescued at all.

A Denver Post rescue party which climbed the Rocky Mountain heights Thursday confirmed the suspicions of Al and Bill Turner that the horse spotted by an airplane pilot is their pack horse, Bugs.

The Turner brothers advised against rescuing Bugs. They said he likes to take off for the mountains during the non-working winter months when there isn't any packing to do. They also described Bugs as a particular pony who doesn't like to see women wearing skirts and has a violent dislike for parked cars.

George McWilliams, a Denver Post reporter and a member of the party, said no attempt was made to bring the horse down because of the deep snow drifts in the area.

## Young GOP Fight Seen On Senate Candidate

Eugene — (U.P.) — The possibility of a floor fight over endorsing of a candidate for senator was indicated today as Oregon Young Republicans opened a two-day convention here.

Jim Hatfield of Salem, state chairman, said leaders were agreed that it would be inadvisable to endorse a candidate for the GOP nomination for U.S. senator. The nomination is being sought by Douglas McKay, Phil Hitchcock, Elmer Deetz and George Altvater.

But Hatfield said, "there will be some who won't agree with us, and I expect at least a floor skirmish on it."

Young Republicans two years ago changed their constitution to allow choosing among candidates in a primary election.

Both McKay and Hitchcock have asked that there be no endorsement in their race.

Gov. Elmo Smith was to address a dinner meeting here tonight.

The Ford Motor Co. produced 1,708 cars during the first year of its operation in 1903.

## Milwaukee Transit Workers on Strike

Milwaukee, Wis. — (U.P.) — More than 2,000 bus and street car workers went on strike today, shutting down public transportation for 200,000 Milwaukee area residents.

All policemen and deputy sheriffs were ordered to report to work two hours early to forestall an expected traffic jam of 50,000 to 100,000 more cars than usual.

The strike began officially at 5 a.m. (EST). It involved 1,570 drivers and 500 maintenance employees of the Milwaukee Transit Co. All the strikers are members of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees.

Company President Fred Johnson made four offers to the union at Thursday night's meeting. All of them involved a 16-cent hourly boost to the current average wage of \$2 an hour.

Charles Brehm, local union president, turned down all the proposals.

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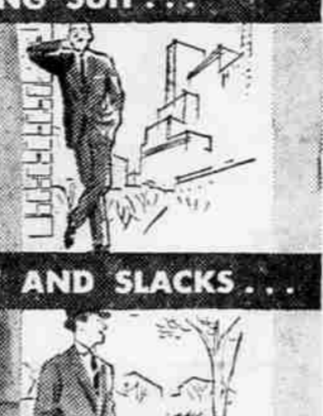
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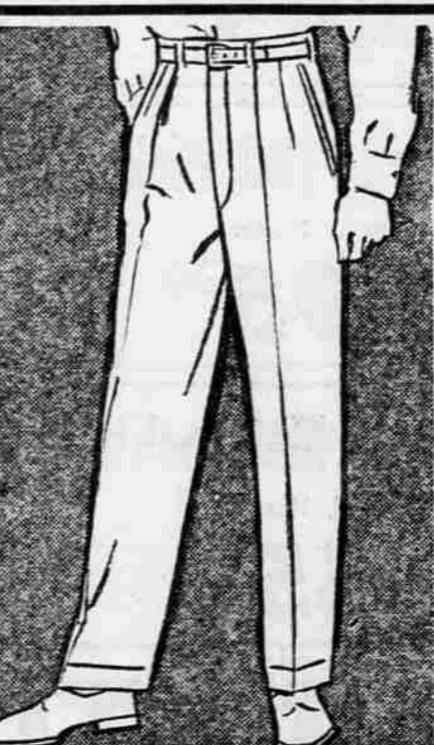
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