

Consumers To Feel Drastic Cutbacks As Steel Supplies Continue To Dip

Cleveland, Ohio—(UPI)—Most consumers face drastic production cutbacks, layoffs, or shutdowns in a matter of days because steel supplies are so close to exhaustion, according to Steel Magazine.

The metalworking weekly added that not even an immediate settlement could prevent the situation from deteriorating before it improves.

The magazine said that within two weeks, even the

largest and best protected users will feel the strike's impact.

Dip to Continue

In the first two weeks after the mills reopen, inventories will continue to dip as shipments fall short of consumption. By the third week, mills may start shipping as much steel as customers are using, but hardships will continue.

The magazine said invent-

tory buildup won't begin until the fourth week.

When the dispute started, finished steel inventories ranged between 24,500,000 and 27 million tons, while today they're close to 11,500,000 tons.

Many steel industry officials expressed fear of poor productivity when the workers get back on the job.

One official pointed out

that when President Truman seized the mills back in 1952, production in some departments was off as much as 65 per cent.

Revealed in Figures

He added that no one could see the slowdowns as the men worked, but they appeared when figures were checked.

In addition to the slowdowns, the struck companies feared the expensive possibility of having to shut down again after 80 days.

Steel said service centers have about 2 million tons of steel in stock, 60 per cent of normal. Since the walkout began, stocks have been drained at an average weekly rate of more than 130,000 tons, surprisingly slower than was anticipated.

The magazine said that stocks could be adequate for another 13 weeks or more, except for the imbalances in the product mix and in geographical distribution of reserves.

More Gamblers Registered in Oregon Than in All California

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Washington Correspondent
Washington (Special)—The latest report of the Internal Revenue Service shows that tax agents have slapped the \$50 federal head tax on more gamblers in Oregon than in all of California.

It also shows that the tax agents have imposed a \$250 tax on more slot machines in Washington state than in all of Nevada, where gambling is the state's chief tourist come-on.

It shows, what's more, that there are more acknowledged bookies in Utah than in California, Idaho and Oregon combined.

That's what the statistics show—but Internal Revenue officials are the first to throw up their hands in despair at interpreting the meaning of

these figures as far as reflecting a true picture of gambling in the West.

Federal tax collectors, since 1951, have been charged with the duty of taxing what is, in most localities, an illegal occupation. The law requires that every professional gambler—bookmaker, lottery or numbers operator and the like—voluntarily walk into the U.S. tax collector's office, fill out the prescribed forms (which require him to name his associates in sin) and over \$50 as the annual wagering occupational tax.

102 Members in Oregon

The latest report shows that in the fiscal year which ended June 30, there were 102 members of the wagering profession in Oregon who went through this prescribed routine at the Portland collector's office.

"The gambler is on the horns of a dilemma," explained a tax agent. "The federal law requires him to register with us and pay the tax. But local laws usually outlaw the gambling he is engaged in. If he registers with us, his name is a public matter, and local police can see it anytime they want to."

The penalty for dodging the federal tax, if the gambler is caught, is up to five years in prison. Last year federal tax agents got indictments against 441 gamblers who tried to dodge the federal tax collector. They got convictions in about half the cases.

Gambling Crackdown

A sensational crackdown came in Terre Haute, Ind., some months ago, where eight syndicate gamblers were caught, convicted and given five years. They were specializing in large bets on major sporting events. They went to Canada right after the wagering tax law was passed, but then returned to the States and were handling about \$50,000 a day in wagers, an official recalled.

Why gamblers will voluntarily register in some states and obviously duck the tax in others is a mystery to headquarters.

In California, for example, the report shows a total of three gamblers paid their tax, all in Los Angeles. The San Francisco office reported none for the year. Idaho reported four, Hawaii five, and Arizona eight. Then came Oregon with 102, Nevada with 182, Montana with 355, Utah with 646.

Overshadowing all these other western states was Washington. The Seattle office registered 2868 gamblers this past year, of which 178 were in Alaska and the other 2690 were in Washington state. No other state in the Union came so close to regis-

tering that many bookies and the like.

'Draw Own Conclusions'

Does this mean that in Washington state, or in Oregon, gamblers are less fearful of local crackdowns than in California?

"Draw your own conclusions," is the unwavering reply of the Internal Revenue Service.

One thing the tax officials are willing to risk a comment on—that the number of gamblers who report in and pay the tax is a fraction of the number who are in business. The total number throughout the country who reported this past year was 8,448.

"We feel confident there are that many bookies in New York City alone," the official declared.

Washington State leads the West in the number of acknowledged slot machines. The report shows that it had 2,240 "gaming devices" on which a \$250 annual tax stamp was issued. Nevada, with its wide-open gambling towns, listed 1,438 slots. Oregon ranked third with 276 slots on the books. Utah reported 124, Arizona 93, California 55, Montana 54, Hawaii 30, Idaho 7.

California takes the lead in purer forms of entertainment. It held a commanding margin on the number of acknowledged amusement devices, on which are paid \$10 annually. This covers penny arcade devices that don't pay off. California was reported as having 18,701, compared with Oregon's 2,948 and Washington state's 3,846.

Like the man said, "Draw your own conclusions."

Crime Solved Before Discovery

Dracont, Mass.—(UPI)—A crime was solved here before it was even discovered.

State troopers H. J. Fitzgerald and A. J. Blouin found two men asleep in a parked car. Under questioning the pair admitted breaking into a Newburyport school and stealing a safe containing \$100. The safe was found in a cemetery.

Not until police reported the confession did school authorities discover that the safe was missing.

Steelworker Return Won't Prevent Chaos

New York—(UPI)—An enforced return of striking steelworkers to the mills under the Taft-Hartley act will not prevent "complete chaos" in steel markets, Iron Age magazine said Wednesday.

The country already is nearing the worst steel shortage in its history, and any injunction now, at best can only prevent steel supplies from drying up completely, the trade publication said.

It would come too late to head off additional layoffs and no one in the industry is "under any illusion" that an enforced truce will produce peak effort by the steelworkers, Iron Age said.

Days of Production

An 80-day resumption of operations will result in only about 50 days of full steel production, the magazine said, explaining that there will be a lag in refring the furnaces and filling the mills' own pipelines.

Iron Age estimated that steel inventories have dwindled to about 7 million tons and that steel shipments could not reach top volume until from four to six weeks after the steelworkers go back to the mills.

Some mills, it added, will be unable to maintain full operations in January and February because of lack of Great Lakes iron ore that has been strike-bound during the ice-free shipping season.

Steel Shortages Seen

Some steel shortages will persist through the first six months next year or longer, cutting into auto output, the magazine estimated.

The auto industry, which normally consumes from 15 to 20 per cent of all steel output will be "trying to grab off 25 to 30 per cent of available steel to achieve its ambitious fall and winter production goals, it said.

This would further tighten the steel pinch for other industries, the magazine pointed out.

TV Supplements School Studies

Boston—(UPI)—More than 884,000 New England children representing 125 school systems are now receiving instruction by television to supplement their regular studies.

Known as the "21-inch Classroom," the TV series emanates from Station WGBH-TV here.

Participating schools pay 25 cents for each pupil taking part. Beside the TV lessons, schools receive teachers' guides and advice on the best use of the programs.

About 24 per cent of all retail sales in the United States today are automotive.

4-H CLUB NEWS

Eagle Point Ranchers

A potluck supper was held at the Eagle Point grade school cafeteria, Oct. 12. This was a reorganizational meeting for the Eagle Point Ranchers Livestock 4-H club. After everyone was called to order by President Frances Huffman, there was no old business, so under new business Mr. Dowell, our leader, gave the rotating trophy for the outstanding club member. This award went to Frances Huffman.

After the business meeting we elected the new officers for the coming year. They were president, Mike Higday; vice president, Kenneth Dowell; secretary, Susan Harper; communications secretary, Everett Adams; treasurer, Carol Burrill; reporter, Frances Huffman; and game chairman, Danny Burrill.

Frances Huffman will also serve as junior leader. After the elections was over Mike Higday introduced our guest speaker, Nat Eitel, the Eagle Point FFA instructor, who gave a short talk.

The next meeting will be Oct. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the FFA building.

Frances Huffman, Reporter.



SEES MODERN WORLD—Vaino J. Kilpinen, 58, who deserted from the Finnish Cavalry in 1921 because he was afraid of horses, is seen in the loft of his family's farm at Renko. Kilpinen emerged into the world on learning that he can no longer be prosecuted. He indicated he will try to make his own in a bewildering modern world he has scarcely seen. (UPI Telephoto)

Carelessness Costs Residents \$5 Million

Corvallis—Carelessness cost Oregon families nearly \$5 million last year in home fires and most of the accidents could have been prevented, according to Charles Ross, extension forester at Oregon State college.

Oregonians were careless, he said, in their smoking habits and use of matches and were willing to take chances on use of faulty electrical equipment. Ignition of hot grease, oil, tar petroleum and other flammable products, and overheated or defective heating units were often the cause of fires. Children left unattended by open fires accounted for many of the victims of home fires.

Ross predicted that one out of 50 Oregon homes will again become an accident "statistic" unless families become more safety conscious. He believes that fires could almost be wiped out of the home accident picture if families would learn what causes fires and

how to avoid them. He says some families "ask for trouble" by storing gasoline in glass jugs or by operating spark-producing machines near paint thinners.

Gasoline should always be stored in a metal container painted red and used only for gasoline, and be used outdoors. Sometimes accidents occur when someone mistakenly throws it on flames to "build up" a fire. One pint of gasoline has the explosive force of several sticks of dynamite.

Ross said that Oregon's account of accidents caused by fires is one of the most accurate kept in the United States. Figures are compiled by the state fire marshal in Salem.

HOTEL PRESIDENT DIES

Philadelphia—(UPI)—George H. Johnson, 74, president of the Bellview-Stratford Hotel, died Tuesday.

No Lawn Mowing In Next 10 Years

Pasadena, Calif.—(UPI)—A research biologist predicts that within the next 10 years, there will be lawns that need no mowing and dwarf trees that produce abundant crops of normal fruit.

"It may take one year or it may take 10," said Dr. James A. Lockhart, research fellow in biology at the California Institute of Technology.

"But it's just a matter of time until an anti-gibberellin is developed that will make this possible."

Dr. Lockhart described anti-gibberellin as a hormone-like substance that suppresses the growth of the plant without affecting its ability to yield normal crops.

Doses of the substance could double the height of plants,

Single Bulb Used to Light Biggest Hall

West Berlin—(Science Service)—A single fluorescent light bulb was recently used to light up the entire Deutschland Halle here, a huge indoor hall claimed to be the largest in Europe. The occasion was the 75th anniversary of the first electric illumination of Berlin and was celebrated with a variety show on a stage dominated by a scale replica of the well-known Brandenburg Gate. The climax of the event came as all incandescent light in the 328-by-258-foot hall was turned off, and a single, powerful 65,000-watt fluorescent bulb was turned on.

increase leaf size and crop output, and keep plants healthy in hot weather, he said.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. 9
Thursday, Oct. 15, 1959

FASTER WHEAT GROWING

Pasadena, Calif.—(UPI)—Another major gain in the fight against hunger has been reported. Researchers at the California Institute of Technology produced winter rye in two months by spraying with gibberellin, a hormone. The speedup eliminated the 6 to 8 weeks of cold weather usually required in the growth cycle. It can also be done with winter wheat, they said.

NEW 'WONDER' DRUGS

New York—(UPI)—Nearly 200 "wonder" drugs hit the market during the first half of 1959, according to Chain Store Age. Hormone products topped the list, followed by antibiotics, vitamins, antihistamines and tranquilizers.

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