

Railroads Face Costly Showdown As Year Closes

New York—(AP)—No U.S. industry faced a hazier future than did the railroads as 1959 drew to a close.

Impending wage and work rule talks with the powerful railroad brotherhoods, a million men strong, are apparently heading the industry toward a costly showdown which could plunge even the comparatively healthy carriers deep into the red.

If a strike is averted, the Association of American Railroads said, the nation's railroads could show an 8 to 10 per cent increase in freight traffic over last year as well as a 5 to 10 per cent jump in gross revenues.

Trend Forecast Impossible
But strike or no strike, the association said it is impossible to forecast a net income trend for 1960 since no one knows how the management-union struggle will come out on either wages or work rules, both of which play big roles in the industry profit picture.

The AAR reported that the steel strike cost the roads an estimated \$600 million in 1959 with the result that the industry's net operating income was held about unchanged from recession-bound 1958 at \$760 million.

Although revenues were up an estimated 3.1 per cent from 1958 to \$9,860,000,000 as improved car-loadings cancelled out a further sag in passenger revenues, operating expenses jumped around 2.3 per cent to \$7,715,000,000 although maintenance remained well behind schedule.

As contract negotiations continue in Chicago under supervision of the National Mediation board, both sides are standing firm in their demands.

The five operating unions are sticking to their bid for the equivalent of a 36-cent-an-hour wage boost and the 16 non-operating unions still want 26 cents. But the roads insisting on a blanket 15-cent-an-hour pay reduction.

The work rule controversy, involving "make work" practices by the unions, have reached the national negotiating level.

The unions have said they intend to fight any major changes in work and are expected to make counter-demands for contract provisions they claim are now being enjoyed by industrial workers.

Margaret Sanger Seeks Debate

Tucson, Ariz.—(AP)—Margaret Sanger, birth control advocate, charged Sunday night President Eisenhower has set back the birth control movement and challenged him to a debate.

Miss Sanger said she wanted to debate with Eisenhower "to put him straight on the question of planned parenthood." If the President does not want to debate, she said, she would at least "like an audience to tell him a few facts. He needs to be straightened out."

Miss Sanger, a longtime fighter for birth control, said Eisenhower set back the movement by his refusal to help overpopulated countries "settle their problems." The President's comment that family planning is not the business of governments was wrong, she said.

Baby Not To Be Traded for TV

Whitleigh, England—(AP)—A couple who planned to give away their fourth baby so they could afford a television set have decided against it because of pressure from the neighbors.

"Dozens of people told us that if we gave the child away 'You've had it.' Well, you can't do without neighbors," said Bill Williams. Williams, 35, makes \$21 a week as a landscape gardener.

"We have three boys," he said, "that's all we wanted. It was either keeping the baby that is coming or getting the telly. I couldn't afford both."

"But because of a slip of the tongue the neighbors got to know. There was hell to pay. So the missus and I decided not to give the child away and forget having the telly."

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| Kraft Cheese | Camembert Danish, 5 1/4-oz. | 59c |
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| Duncan Hines | White, & Yellow—Devil Food Cake Mix | 37c |
| Birds Eye | Frozen Mellon Balls | 39c |
| Pillsbury Cookies | Chocolate Chip 15 3/4-oz. | 49c |
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- | | | | |
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| Pink Champagne | Chateau Napoleon | 5th | 2.69 |
| Burgundy | Chateau Napoleon Sparkling | 5th | 2.69 |
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