

It's Your Output, Not Your Hours The Harried Bosses Worry About Now

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK, Aug. 31 (AP)—It isn't how long you work but how much, or how little, you do. Bosses around the country worry more about that today than ever before.

The reason is they're in a double squeeze. They're trying to get production costs down so they can price their products to suit a demanding public. At the same time, labor's drive for a shorter work week spreads out into more industries.

These trends pull against each other. It would look like a stalemate, with the consumer getting the worst of it, in higher prices—unless ways can be found to turn out more goods in less time.

The railroads are face to face with the problem. Their non-operating employees go on a 40-hour week Thursday at the same pay they've been getting for 48 hours. That will be costly to the roads, unless they either can close down some facilities two days a week without loss of revenue, or can get the former amount of results in eight less hours of work.

Rail labor leaders, however, note that freight loading has been decreasing on Saturdays anyway since industry generally beat the roads in taking up the 40-hour week.

Textile mill spokesmen warn workers that the industry faces extinction in New England unless they produce more. Mill owners contend that productivity there ranges as much as 50 per cent less than in some other textile regions.

An employer in the building industry contends that employees average one day off for each two days of work. H. C. Turner Jr., president of the Turner Construction company, with offices in New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago, adds up 104 Saturdays and Sundays a year, 8 holidays and 10 vacation days to get a total of 122 days not worked. That leaves 243 work days out of the year's 365.

In a letter to his employees he says the one off, two on ratio should mean "starting work promptly and working a full day."

The plea for more work also comes from a source that might surprise you. In a report to be submitted next week, leaders of the British trades union congress are telling workers that business is being taxed almost to the limit and labor's only hope for better living standards is to work harder.

Some executives in this country think that maybe hiring some more men might be the way to get this increased output per man hour. Gustav Metzner, president of New York central, says it may be wise to add supervisors to the railroad staff "to see that we are getting a full day's work for a full day's pay, and to see that the work that we are getting is productive work."

Against this, labor makes two points. One is that with fewer working hours employees are fresher and can produce more work per hour. The other is that management often wastes labor's time, keeps employees hanging around unnecessarily and doesn't provide work for them efficiently while they are on duty.

Another factor—one of which labor and management often do not see eye to eye—is the matter of mechanization. This is being speeded up in mills, factories, on the farms and in the offices.

A case in point is labor's objections to the use of diesel engines on the Southern Pacific railway if it means fewer workers. President A. T. Mercier replies that on the face of it diesels are labor saving. They pull heavier loads, require less helper service, make better time and are easier on the tracks. But

he says that thereby the road can meet truck competition. Therefore, he reasons, "we expect to be able to get more traffic with the diesels and put more men to work." And so, Southern Pacific plans to use diesels almost entirely by 1950.

Another business spokesman seeks to allay labor's fears that the drive to increase output per man hour is just a speed-up, or a move back toward sweatshop days.

W. Walter Williams, Seattle businessman who is chairman of the committee for economic development, says: "Increased productivity is not so much a matter of working harder as it is a matter of working better."

Lard Output In US May Gain In '50

With more pigs in prospect and another bumper corn crop likely, economists of the U. S. department of agriculture expect a continued large output of lard most or all of next year.

The economists not only see more hogs coming to market, but continued high yields of lard per hog. Lard prices are already comparatively low. They have gone down substantially since last summer. And it now looks as if it will take low lard prices to move the extra lard this fall and winter into export or use here in this country.

The economists figure our people will use at least as much lard per person this year as they did last. Production of lard the last half of this year will probably run larger than during the first half of the year. Exports may prove smaller, and leave more lard for marketing in this country.

In fact, the price of lard in 1950 will probably depend a lot on the size of exports. Unusually large exports might keep lard prices about where they are.

Arab Refugees Move With Seasons

SUHKNE, Hashemite Jordan (AP)—Sixteen thousand Palestine Arab refugees have returned to the Suhkne camp from which they fled last winter. Sub-zero temperatures and heavy snow and rainfalls had chased them from this barren windswept plateau, 30 miles north of Amman. They took their winter quarters in the Jordan river valley, around the Biblical towns of Jericho and Shuneh.

But with summer came an intolerable heat and malaria. So they were forced back to Suhkne. Now Jordan government authorities and International Red Cross representatives—jointly responsible for the with the problem of moving them again soon.

Nazi Veterans Get Discharges Now

BREMEN, Germany (AP)—German men are being discharged here from the Nazi army that has been out of existence for four years. The U. S. occupied city of Bremen is issuing new identity cards to its inhabitants. In order to obtain this card, men must show they were discharged from the Wehrmacht.

If they cannot satisfy the police that they were correctly separated from the German army, the police will give them new discharge certificates.

'Lost Purse' Trick Robs Aged Woman

SPOKANE, Sept. 1 (AP)—An 80-year-old woman was swindled out of \$2500 in savings by two women using the "lost purse" bunco trick, Detective Robert Piper said yesterday.

Piper said Mrs. Ethel E. Smith told him two women she thought were Negroes got the money.

One of them stopped Mrs. Smith on the street and started talking to her, Piper said. Then the other appeared and said she had found a purse containing \$2500. She said she would ask her boss what to do about it.

The woman returned in a few moments and said her boss had told her that the three women should split the money. However, each should produce an equal amount to show good faith, the woman said.

Mrs. Smith went to the post office and withdrew \$2500. She gave it to one of the women and they agreed to meet later to split the \$2500.

Mrs. Smith was the only one of the three who showed up for the appointment.

Power Plays Big Part On US Farm

The basic facts of why the American farmers have become increasingly "power minded" in recent years are outlined as follows by I. F. Reed of the U. S. department of agriculture, senior agricultural engineer at the department's tillage machinery laboratory, Auburn, Ala.

Agriculture as an industry, says Reed, has become cost conscious. Most people working in this field now realize that an agricultural worker can prosper only in proportion to the power he uses effectively.

Experiments conducted years ago showed that a mature man of average size and in good physical condition could produce continuous work for an 8-hour day at the rate of only one-tenth horsepower hour, says Reed. "If the laborer is working with one or two mules—and I mean working with—the cost per horsepower hour, including the man is still very high and the amount produced per worker is limited to the amount the one or two mules can produce."

On the other hand, says Reed, the cost for a farm tractor may be as low as 5 cents per horsepower hour. The worker operating a 20- to 40-horsepower unit can produce many times as much as a man with one or two mules, thus enabling him to produce more efficiently, to have an easier life, and to have a much better standard of living. The aims of the tillage machinery laboratory are to aid in helping to bring this about.

More than one-half the productive capacity of New York state's brick manufacturing industry is turned out by 12 plants in the Hudson valley, which turn out 500,000,000 bricks a year.

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SCHOOL TOGS—School is right around the corner and this picture shows Joe Demetrakos, well known KUHS student and gridster, trying a pair of pants for size at a local men's store. Youngsters were contributing heavily to local trade this week.

New Fire Suit Offers Hint To 'Hot' Clothing Makers

By HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 (AP)—You can walk into raging fire, with flames licking your entire body, and live there comfortably for more than two minutes in a new snow-white suit out of Aero Medical laboratory.

This suit, the first and only one yet made, was shown to the Aero Medical association yesterday by the laboratory's doctors from Wright Field, Ohio.

The purpose is rescue work in the blazing gasoline of wrecked airplanes.

The suit withstands 3000 degrees Fahrenheit for up to three minutes. Then you come out to cool down, but only the suit needs cooling.

The snowy suit has 18 layers, which pile up to a thickness of about half an inch.

The first two outer layers are fiber-glass, which is white as driven snow, and the whiteness re-

Street Lights Delayed 'At Least 30 Days'

It will probably be "at least 30 days" before The California Oregon Power company can start installation of new downtown city lights, Copco Manager Sam Ritchey announced today.

Delay in procuring materials needed for initial construction is holding up the job, Ritchey said. The company feels it should not make any concrete excavations until the bases for the steel posts and conduits have arrived.

Under the terms of the contract with the city, Copco will own and maintain the lighting system with a cost to the city of \$1012 a month over a 10-year period.

The monthly cost to the city includes rental, energy cost, maintenance and upkeep.

The area which will have the "new look" when the switch is thrown is Main from Second to Esplanade, Klamath from Fourth to Twelfth, Pine from Fourth to Eleventh, Esplanade from Main to Alameda and all intersecting side streets.

It is hoped the lighting will be ready to coincide with the turn-on of Christmas decorations on Main the latter part of November.

The city will pay for the new lights from the parking meter fund.

fects away some of the heat.

The third layer down is silver foil. The burnished silver also deflects the heat, and the metal won't melt even at 3000 degrees.

Then follow layers of glass cloth in zones of three to four each, interspersed with aluminum foil.

Layer No. 17 is coal black fiber glass coated with neoprene. Black absorbs heat.

The Aero Medical men say a man can remain comfortable in this suit for over two hours during a heat wave in the 90's. This seems to be a tip for manufacturers of hot-weather clothes.

The final inner layer is nylon, not just because of heat resistance, but to make it easy to slide into the suit with fire-regulation speed.

How To Play Canasta: 1

Canasta's Truly A Wild Game

By WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

America's Card Authority

Written for NEA Service

Canasta, the new card game, will prove popular because it is a light partnership game. It is said that the game comes from Argentina, and the word "canasta" in Spanish means basket. However, I am inclined to think it is a development of Oklahoma, a double-deck game of rummy that was introduced a few years ago.

In playing canasta, you literally have a "wild" time. In the four-handed game, there are four jokers, all wild of course, plus the eight deuces, which are also wild.

Canasta can be played by any number of players from two to six. When two or three play, each plays for himself. Four-handed is a partnership game and is the ideal way to play canasta. If you have five players, put three on one side and two on the other. For six-handed, have two teams of three players each.

Some play six-handed with three pairs of two players each, but it is much better to play it as a four-handed game; and when there are three players on a side in either five- or six-handed, have the third player sit out one hand. At the end of a hand, the player sitting out comes in and one of the others of his side goes out.

In three-handed canasta, the player who sits behind the weak player—that is, the player who receives the discards of the weak player—is bound to win. The weak player will not remember the cards in the discard pile, and therefore his discarding will make it rather easy for the next player to pick the pack and win.

The swings in two-handed canasta are terrific. In other words, the play depends entirely upon who gets control of the pack. And these terrific swing hands may prove boring. While it can be played two- or three-handed, I want to recommend the four-handed game to you.

There are quite a few rules in canasta, but they will come to you quickly as you play it. There is some variation in rules among proponents of different styles of play, but I consider those described in this series to be basic and the most authoritative. They are the rules approved by Albert H. Moorehead, noted authority on American

card games. If you want his rules in permanent form, you can buy his book on canasta for a quarter from the Greystone Press, New York City.

Before we go into the rules of canasta, let me point out some of the important differences from the ordinary game of rummy. In canasta, sequences do not count. In other words, you cannot meld three cards in a run such as the seven-eight-nine. You can only meld three or more of a kind.

The object of the game is to score points by melding cards. Each card has a scoring value, and in addition, the greatest of which is the forming of canastas.

A canasta consists of seven of a kind. A canasta composed of seven natural cards of a kind, such as seven fives, is termed a natural canasta. Canastas also may be made up of natural cards and wild cards, but no canasta can have more than three wild cards. You may add natural cards or wild cards to any canasta. They do not increase the value of the canasta except for the point value of the cards themselves. However, if you add a wild card to a natural canasta, you reduce its value to that of a mixed canasta.

TOMORROW: Melding and forming canastas.

New Wheat Types To Be Tested

ISLAND CITY, Ore. Sept. 1 (AP)—Three new experimental semi-rigid wheats will be tested for milling and baking at the Pioneer Flour mill here September 15-16.

A lot of 150 bushels of each wheat will be run through tests to see whether they can be recommended to Pacific Northwest growers. Oregon State college, Washington State college, and the Northwest Crop Improvement association are sponsoring the tests.

The wheats were developed by Foster Martin, USDA agronomist at Pendleton; Dr. S. P. Swenson, dean of the Washington State College of Agriculture, and Orville A. Vogel, USDA agronomist at Washington State.

Growers interested in the tests will meet at nearby La Grande for a dinner September 15.

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