

Big Business Has Deadline Jitters

By SAM DAWSON
NEW YORK, (AP) — Business has the deadline jitters today. Some important ones are coming up shortly—and they're likely to play a big part in determining which way prices, wages, production and trade in general go.

First, in point of time, is December 24. By then merchants will know if the buying lull has been broken—or whether January will see drastic price-cutting to move out stocks. Some cities report Christmas trade is already good. Others, such as New York, say only a last minute buying rush can keep this year from being disappointing.

Next is December 27. That is the original deadline set for reaching an armistice in Korea along the present battle front. Millions of people are watching that deadline with intense interest. In addition, businessmen are waiting for the deadline before deciding how to plan for the months ahead—peace and perhaps an easing in the present half-war economy, or more war with still more controls and cutting back of civilian production.

Then come January 1 when the government is expected to issue new pricing orders—allowing some prices to rise, ordering some cut back. More curbs on use of scarce materials also are expected. Businessmen are speculating now on what these may be. For some manufacturers it could mean closing down of plants for lack of supplies. Some workers could be out of jobs—until they find others in defense plants.

January 1 is an even more important deadline in the steel industry. That is the day the steel strike could occur, if present wage negotiations break down. Top policy members of the CIO steelworkers union meet in Pittsburgh Monday to discuss the possibility.

SETS PATTERN

The deadline is important for millions not in the steel business. First, steel wage agreements often set a pattern for wage hikes in other industries. Second, steel makers are insisting that any wage boost bring with it an increase in steel prices. This would affect the cost of making countless items in everyday use. It might also shatter the government's present wage-price stabilization policy. It might foreshadow more inflation—a higher cost of living.

The pattern the dispute may take is reported today by the trade paper "The Iron Age," as follows: "Deadlock at the end of this month; then the president publicly demanding that both sides sit down and reach an agreement." That, of course they can't do while the government has the say on prices and wages. An impasse would

Movie Mogul Faces Suit

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Noah Dietrich, 62-year-old movie executive, must pay his estranged wife, Carol Dietrich, \$3500 a month pending trial of her suit for separate maintenance.

Superior Judge Orlando H. Rhodes fixed the amount of temporary support yesterday and ordered that Dietrich is to have custody of the three children on alternate weekends.

Mrs. Dietrich, 42, had asked for \$5000 a month. She estimated his wealth at \$2,500,000.

Dietrich, chairman of the board of RKO pictures, had contended that \$1500 monthly would be a more reasonable sum for support. He said his 1951 income, after taxes, will be about \$32,000.

Dietrich has denied his wife's allegations of misconduct with actress Janis Carter and has filed a cross complaint for annulment, alleging cruelty.

Rita Dropped At Hollywood Studio

HOLLYWOOD, (AP) — Rita Hayworth has been suspended by Columbia studio for failing to report for work.

She said she stayed away because she didn't get a completed script of her new picture. The studio said that Miss Hayworth, although not indicating any dissatisfaction over the story in almost a month of rehearsing, now is displeased with it.

Through her agent, Aly Khan's estranged wife said she has received only a rough draft of the script "and after reading it I did not think it advisable to report until they gave me the completed script."

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Merrill Hi News

MERRILL HI NEWS by Yvonne Conner and Edna Mae Reeves

On December 20, the annual Christmas program, and party, will be held in our gym. The grade and high school will present a coloratura program, followed by Santa and his helpers, who will pass out sacks of candy.

Carol Winter, student body secretary, has started typing the student council minutes and they will be posted on the bulletin board for students to read.

Danny Barry, Arlene Lemley, Bill Barber, and Carol Winter are in charge of sending out postcards advertising basketball games and student body activities.

Our basketball season was opened with a game with Tulelake last Friday. Tulelake B team beat Merrill's B team 31-20. They beat our A team also, 30-31. Friday we play Dorris at Dorris.

The county library bookmobile brought the seventh and eighth grades new books Tuesday December 4. They also brought a few books for the high school library.

The Meltema annual staff met here Tuesday. They selected the foreword for the annual, as well as making other plans for the book. All material for the annual should be in by January 15.

what I am going to do, I'll go before the cameras," she added. Shooting on the picture, "Affair in Trinidad," was slated for Dec. 17. It was to be Rita's first film since 1943. Columbia says it has invested \$300,000 in the picture so far and now will postpone it indefinitely.

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Hillbilly Band To Play Here

Ole Rasmussen and his Nebraska Cornhuskers, one of the nation's leading Western dance bands, is to be at the armory here tomorrow night.

Promoter Baldy Evans says the Cornhuskers' appearance here has been sought for several months. On their current tour, the Cornhuskers' Klamath Falls date will be their northernmost stand.

Rasmussen's outfit has been featured on the air for several years over KXLA and other stations. The band, originally of St. Paul, Neb., now works out of a Southern California base.

SYRACUSE, N. Y. (AP) — B. I. Newhouse, owner of the Syracuse Post-Standard, is one of several defendants in a libel action filed here Wednesday by attorneys for Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.). McCarthy was libeled, the suit claims, in an October 18 editorial, "McCarthy and the Davis Incident." The editorial commented on the case of Charles E. Davis who was convicted last October in a Swiss federal court on a charge of political espionage.

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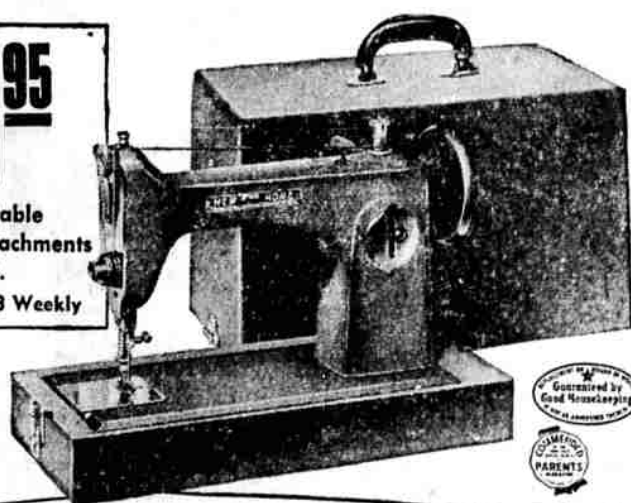
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