

GM Biggest Sales In History

NEW YORK (AP)—Ten billion dollars in sales, more than 14 billion in profits, 598 millions in profits—that's the record of General Motors Corp. for 1953.

The sales of \$10,027,885,482 were the highest in history for any private corporation and eclipsed by a wide margin the \$7,549,154,419 in 1952, previous record for GM or any other firm.

Net income of \$598,119,478 was

only the third highest for the giant auto manufacturer but GM kept its position as biggest money-maker in American industry, topping 1953 earnings of 553 million by Standard Oil Co. (N.J.) and 491 million for the Bell Telephone System.

DIRECT TAXES

Direct taxes of \$1,237,000,000 plus \$661,000,000 collected by GM in sales and excise taxes came to \$1,898,000,000 equivalent to \$21.77 a share of common stock, compared with net income of \$6.71 a share.

"Earnings continued to be adversely affected by excess profits taxes and in 1953 earnings also were affected by higher material costs, particularly higher premium steel costs, higher labor costs including large amounts for overtime premiums, and increased costs for special tools," said the annual report.

The report to GM's 495,000 stockholders, by Harlow H. Curtice, president, and Alfred P. Sloan Jr.,

chairman of the board, reported the company sold 3,760,000 passenger cars and trucks in 1953 against 2,629,000 in 1952. Of the 1953 total, 3,276,000 were produced in the company's United States plants and 484,000 in Canadian and overseas plants. Of 1953 U.S. and factory sales for passenger cars, GM had 45.7 per cent.

NET INCOME

The net income of \$6.71 a share, after the annual requirement of \$12,928,312 in preferred dividends, amounted to 6 per cent on net sales. This compared with 7.4 per cent on sales in 1952 when net income was \$58,721,179 or \$6.25 a share. The only years when net income exceeded that for 1953 were 1949 when it was \$656,434,232 and 1950 when it was \$834,044,039, which still stands as an all-time record for any private enterprise.

Assets at the end of the year were \$4,405,475,042 compared with \$4,001,294,708 at the end of 1952. Sixty per cent of the company's billion-dollar expansion program will be completed in 1954 and the remainder by the fall of 1955, said the report.



GAIL ELLIS, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Ellis, Lakeview, is one of a troupe of 20 skaters that will travel to Portland to attend a three day state meet, at the Imperial Skating Rink, in April. The group will compete in figure, dance and speed skating. Fred Fleisher is the instructor.

Turkish President Has Texas Visit

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—The mayor of Dallas, banker R. L. Thornton, and President Celal Bayer of Turkey engaged in some lively conversation through an interpreter here

after the President's recent visit. After answering dozens of questions from the Dallas mayor, Bayer finally said he had one to ask.

"If Mayor Thornton asked banker Thornton for a loan, would he get it?"

"No," said Thornton.

"Hah," said Bayer, "that's a sign you are going to run again."

POLISH REDS

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—The Polish Communist Party opened its second post war congress Wednesday with Nikita S. Khrushchev, first secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and a top Kremlin leader, among the observers.

Civilian Navy Chief Needed

WASHINGTON (AP)—The administration was moving today to fill quickly the vacancy in the Navy secretary's post created by the selection of Robert B. Anderson to be deputy defense secretary. The White House announced yesterday that President Eisenhower had sent Anderson's nomination to the Senate, to succeed Roger M. Kyes, who is leaving as No. 2 man in the Defense Department May 1. Anderson is a "Democrat for Eisenhower" from Texas.

Secretary of Defense Wilson, at a Pentagon news conference shortly after the White House announcement, was asked if Gov. John Lodge of Connecticut, a Republican, was being considered to succeed Anderson for the Navy post. Wilson said "I would rather not talk about any of the possible choices," but he added:

"It will be settled before the week is over—not later than that." Kyes, who attended the news conference, was asked why he was leaving the defense job, which he took after resigning as a General Motors vice president.

"The best reason was that I agreed to come down to Washington for only one year," he replied.

Anderson's nomination was referred to the Senate Armed Services Committee. Early Senate confirmation is expected.

Wilson told reporters the selection of Anderson, 43, was "very fortunate" because he now had a year's experience in Pentagon operations and "I'm sure he will contribute greatly to the job that is to be done."

Toastmasters To Hold Contest

The Modoc Toastmasters Club will be host to the Southern Oregon area speaking contest Saturday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Willard Hotel.

The Southern Oregon area includes Grants Pass, Medford, Ashland, Yreka and Klamath Falls. Harrell Creasey will represent the Klamath Falls club as winner of the local contest held February 27 when he "out spoke" three other local toastmasters.

President Bob Perkins has announced the other contestants in Saturday night's word wrangle. Eugene Leidigh will represent Ashland; Cliff Ouellette, Medford; George Patimer, Grants Pass. It is doubtful that Yreka will be able to participate, according to Perkins.

Topics for the next go-round will be mailed to speakers Thursday evening, allowing only about one day for preparation. The winner of Saturday's competition will enter the district contest to be held at Coos Bay. District winner will go to Portland for a crack at the state title.

The public is cordially invited to attend Saturday's speak meet in the Pine Room of the Willard.

Concert Pianist To Be Heard

Malczynski, a former student of Professor Turczynski at the Warsaw Conservatory, winner of a Grand Prix at the Last International Chopin Competition, and the most celebrated protege of Paderewski, is today holding concert audiences spellbound all over the world.

Without question, he is one of the busiest artists in concert, and his stage personality has a tremendous and ever-growing mass appeal. Malczynski, sponsored by the Klamath Community Concert Association, will be heard at the Pelican Theater tonight at 8 p.m. Admittance is by membership card only. The doors of the Pelican Theater will be open at 7:00.

Senate Split Evenly Over State Bills

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate appeared today to be split almost evenly on whether to tie together statehood proposals for Hawaii and Alaska, with a showdown set for tomorrow.

The Alaska amendment to a Hawaiian statehood bill, introduced by Sen. Anderson (D-NM), was backed almost solidly by Senate Democrats. Only two of them, Senators Long of Louisiana and Holland of Florida, have voiced

opposition to the merger proposal. Democratic leaders hoped to pick up several Republican votes for admission of Alaska.

Hawaii statehood has the backing of President Eisenhower, who has said he does not believe Alaska is yet ready.

Anderson, supporting statehood for both territories, told the Senate yesterday that combining the two bills is the "only practical

way" of getting statehood for Alaska at this session of Congress.

He said there is no other way to get action on the Alaska bill in the House because it has been "on ice" in the Rules Committee there for nine months. The House okayed Hawaii statehood last year.

He said Alaska is being populated by young veterans of World War II—"men of spirit who stand there ready to move out" in the tradition of pioneers.

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