

FEDERAL TRADE BOARD PROBES STEEL PROFITS

By RAYMOND CLAPPER
WASHINGTON, April 23.—Little steel companies made the biggest war profits and the big companies the smallest, the federal trade commission discovered in an investigation of war profits in the steel industry.

"For each steel and pig iron companies a comparison of rates of return, quantity of production and total amount of investment shows that the companies with the highest rates of profits were not those with the largest average production but rather those with the smallest investment," the commission said.

"The companies with medium profits, on the other hand had comparatively large production and investment."

"Capable management or good fortune in investment and operation were apparently the major factors in determining the rate of profit, and they, rather than mere size,

were the characteristic elements of business success."

This conclusion, quite contrary to popular belief is of special point at this time when markets are tearing apart in many heavy industries. Whether the rule of small profits for large plants is peculiar to the steel industry only, the commission did not say.

Earnings Large

Average earnings of the companies—before payment of bond interest or federal income and excess taxes—were 7.5 per cent of the investment in 1915; 21.7 per cent in 1916; 24.3 per cent in 1917; 26.1 per cent in 1918. The four year average was 24.2 per cent.

Federal taxes took a large part of these profits. In 1916, in 1917 and 1918, the commission stipulated. In making its comparisons the commission defined investment as the aggregate amount of stocks, bonds and surplus.

The United States Steel corporation was stated, reserved for taxes 55.5 per cent of its net earnings this year the equivalent of 11.5 per cent of its investment. Other companies set aside 42.5 per cent of the net earnings or 7.5 per cent of the investment. These were amounts set aside for payment of taxes but whether all of this money actually went into government coffers the commission did not reveal.

The commission said that the United States Steel corporation of which President Coolidge is a stockholder controlling nearly one-half of the steel production of the nation. It is also the principal factor in each of the more important branches of his industry. Bethlehem is next in size.

The commission included the statement of the steel companies that the eight hour day had increased production costs but did not say to what extent.

Leaves \$50,000 Gems Under Mattress



MARQUISE D'ORGEVILLE

The Marquise D'Orgeville of France is believed to have hidden \$50,000 worth of pearls for some time. She hid them under the mattress of an apartment in New York City, where she stayed for some time. Then she returned to Europe. Then she was arrested by the British. She had hidden the pearls under her mattress. The gems had been found and turned over to the police, who refused to deliver them to the court.

DISORDERS IN BULGARIA ARE GROWING WORSE

VIENNA, April 23.—Tehentseff, alleged to have been the chief lieutenant of the slain communist leader, Minkoff, who plotted the Sveti Kral cathedral bomb outrage, was shot dead today in Sofia as he resisted arrest, according to dispatches from the Bulgarian capital.

There has been a noticeable decrease in the number of arrests in Sofia during the past 24 hours, and it is reported that this is due to energetic protests of the American charge d'affaires and the British ambassador to the Zankoff government.

Stories of repression and wholesale executions charged against the Bulgarian government are supported by advices trickling into Vienna. Persistent reports that King Boris virtually is a prisoner and that Gen. Lazaroff has become dictator of the country are contradicted by other reports, saying that the king is held in uncommunicado in his palace because he suggested that Premier Zankoff resign so that a coalition cabinet of peace might be formed. Boris' actual position is not known.

An official spokesman at the Bulgarian legation told the United News Thursday night that there was comparative quiet throughout Bulgaria.

Elsewhere it is learned that Sofia prisons are crowded to the bars with hundreds of persons suspected of plotting against the government, that cellars, dungeons and keeps of any descriptions sufficiently strong to withstand the blows of men's naked fists, are being used to confine the catch of the police and military.

To these unconfirmed tales have been added the words of two members of the British parliament and a former member who have returned from Sofia after a visit to learn the facts of the present disturbance for themselves. The men are William MacKinder, Colonel Lester Anglo Malone and Col. Josiah Wedgwood. They left London for Sofia on April 13 and arrived April 19.

MacKinder and Malone said the worst stories of the Bulgarian atrocities which had leaked through the censorship were true in almost every detail. They reported Bulgarian conditions as approximating medieval inquisitions. In Sofia they interviewed the British ambassador, Kalkoff, the Bulgarian secretary of state, and others. From Kalkoff they learned that the government was convinced that the uprisings had been fomented from Serbia, now a part of the kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. They were not permitted to interview any arrested men.

Outside the bureau of public safety the British visitors said they saw 4 men and women arrive in trucks and on foot in charge of police, soldiers or armed civilians. White batches of prisoners entered, other batches left the building, presumably for execution, MacKinder said. One of the prisoners being hurried away concealed his hands.

"We were curious and questioned a passer-by," MacKinder related, "and learned that the condemned man's finger nails probably had been torn off during the torture of the third degree and that he was compelled to conceal his hands because the government did not wish the populace to see them."

"The towns people told us that every night recently scores of prisoners were carried in trucks to lonely

Stops Plane



M. FOKKER

M. Fokker, famous Dutch wireless inventor, has perfected an airplane, which he has exhibited in England, which will not go into a nose dive when the engine stalls, but which gradually and slowly settles to earth without the controls being touched by the pilot.

spots outside the city and executed. "We are of the definite opinion," MacKinder continued, speaking for his colleagues, "that the Bulgarian trouble is due to suppression of the press, and the outlawing of all decent parliamentary opposition."

CENSUS TAKERS HAVE HARD TIME IN K. F.

Klamath Falls reputation as the best little city for business in the west is working a hardship upon two local young ladies who are engaged in taking a musical census.

It appears that the local housewives are so harassed by peddlers and solicitors that they would be unable to finish up their housework if they responded every time a stranger rang the bell and the result is that these ladies engaged in this worthy undertaking are obliged to make numerous visits before anyone answers the door.

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Northwest Indians Make Money Fishing

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Centuries ago the Indians of the northwest eked out an existence from fishing in their own primitive way. Their catches were valuable for food only and had no commercial value.

The aborigines were crafty fishermen, too, and understood the habits of the fishy game. That knowledge is the heritage of the remaining scattered tribes of the northwest, but in this modern day they have learned to commercialize their pursuit.

Individual catches of several Chinook tribesmen of the state of Washington brought as much as \$4.22 in the open market last year, tabulations made by the interior department made public today show. Incomes of other fishermen ranged from \$1,200 to \$2,500 a year.

The Indian fishermen are handicapped by their ancient method of fishing. Not even this primitive method brings to the Neah Bay Indians receipts annually amounting \$12,000 from sale of seal skins and some \$20,000 from sale of salmon for canning purposes.

Fishing in the Quinalt river, only 20 miles in length from its mouth in Quinalt lake, produces a total revenue of approximately \$50,000 annually.

There are 25 fishing locations on the banks of the river. The salmon leave the lake and after having spent from three to five years in the ocean return, through the river to spawn. When the "run" is on the Indians capture salmon in large numbers and find ready sale for their catches to canning establishments along the coast.

Unusual But True

(Over Last Night's Lensed Wire)

VIENNA, April 23.—Ten pretty girls without bobbed hair don't exist in Vienna, according to an Austrian movie company which has searched for them for two weeks. This, despite the fact that Viennese girls are said to be the prettiest in Europe. The producers are now advertising for the ten, but they admit they expect little success.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., April 23.—Dr. William H. Purdy, local health officer, will ask Friday for an appropriation for the vaccination of all the dogs in Mount Vernon against rabies. All dogs entering Mount Vernon must first be inoculated or shot.

DOBBS FERRY, N. Y., April 23.—Uta Yokoma, a Japanese butler, who said he had never taken a drink until he came to the United States, was sent to jail today after pleading guilty to intoxication and destruction of furniture in the home of his employer.

A New automobile oil pump lights a row lamp on the instrument board of a car when the supply runs low.

The government of British Guiana has opened a radio station at Mackenzie City, on the Demerara river.

A New Freight Line

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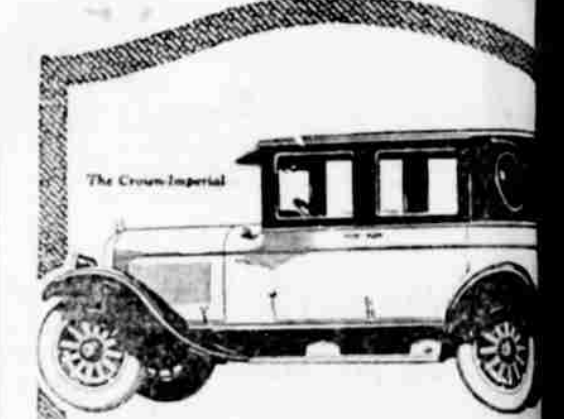
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