

BUSINESS REVIEWING RAPIDLY SINCE 1921

Steel Leads Nationwide Improvement With Sharp Rise in Buying.

MOTOR ORDERS GROW

Studebaker Production Increased 143 P. C. Over Last Year.

FARMERS ON UP GRADE

State Governors Wire Optimistic Reports; Leather and Rubber Gain.

In the first three months of this year business generally throughout the country has improved markedly, with some rather spectacular recoveries here and there, and compensating weaknesses in other industries, which, however, bid fair to fall in line before long.

Careful canvasses of the leading industries reveal that the revival has, in most cases been up to the expectations of the leaders of industry, while in some cases the anticipations of the most optimistic have been exceeded.

Specific industries of which inquiry was made by THE NEW YORK HERALD report substantial improvement of conditions over the conditions prevailing a year ago, with production increased and unemployment decreased.

Speaking generally almost every line of industry and business has succeeded during the first three months of 1922 in overcoming the severe inroads caused by the depression of last year, but it is in such lines as steel, automobiles, leather, oil, rubber, etc., that the most apparent advances have been made.

The steel industry, the leading industry of the country, has gone forward at a remarkable pace in the last month. For the first two months of the year the improvement in this industry was marked and important but gradual.

In automobile lines the improvement has been sharpest. There was probably no industry more hurt and none was in a more serious condition at the low point of the depression of last summer.

Price Cutting in Motors. In automobile lines the improvement has been sharpest. There was probably no industry more hurt and none was in a more serious condition at the low point of the depression of last summer.

Lower Shoe Prices Help. In the leather industry there has been a big improvement also. Officials of the Central Leather Company and of the American Hide and Leather Company have declined to give out any figures in advance of their quarterly reports, but it is known that their business has advanced gradually and impressively.

The Chandler Motor Company had a big increase in business likewise. Officials of that company report that its business in the first three months of this year was about 81 per cent. greater than in the same period a year ago.

Non-Union Coal Mining Stronghold Invaded. Pittsburgh, April 9.—Carrying their campaign of organization into the heart of the Connellsville region, the non-union mining stronghold of western Pennsylvania, organizers for the United Mine Workers to-day held meetings in Uniontown, Connellsville and other places.

Machine Company, for instance, writes: "We are glad to advise that business is holding steady in volume—only slightly less than last year."

"Last year, during the first quarter, we were running on short time. This year, although we have largely increased factory production, we are running all plants, new and old, full time, resulting in an actual increase of 50 per cent. more pairs of shoes made this quarter than in the same period last year."

Farm Prosperity Expected.

The reports as to the improved condition of the farmers came from the Governor of the leading agricultural States in response to an inquiry sent out by E. A. Strout. They came from all sections of the country and were sent out yesterday by the Associated Press. In making these reports public, Mr. Strout expressed the belief that they reflected accurately a widespread condition extending throughout the farming States from the Atlantic seaboard to the Rocky Mountains.

"Our Department of Agriculture has made a survey of farm conditions in Ohio. That to advise the agriculturally Ohio farmers are on the upgrade. Improvement in price of farm products and improved marketing conditions have given Ohio farmers renewed hope. 1922 gives every indication of being a more prosperous year than the last."

Extracts from the messages of some of the other Governors follow: Gov. McCray of Indiana: "Conditions are improved and prospects brighter in Indiana. On the whole, the outlook is good for an early return to normalcy."

Gov. Hyde of Missouri: "The corner has definitely been turned. Missouri farmers, being close to three great terminal markets—Kansas City, St. Louis and St. Joseph—have been more fortunate than farmers more remote from terminal markets."

Gov. E. Lee Trinkle of Virginia: "Agricultural conditions are recovering from deflation to some extent. Farmers are looking forward now as prices advance."

Gov. Baxter of Maine: "I consider the agricultural situation of Maine more favorable. The inquiry for Maine farms is five times as great as one year ago."

Gov. Cox of Massachusetts and Gov. Russell of Mississippi reported favorable conditions in those States.

Gov. McKelvie of Nebraska was quoted as saying: "Nebraska has turned the corner and is now well on the way back to normal and permanent prosperity. The fact that the principal agricultural products in Nebraska increased 46,357,000 between November 1, 1921, and March 1, 1922."

"While the prices for farm products have increased, the prices of things for which these products must be exchanged have declined. This readjustment of exchange values is of basic importance and perhaps the most significant indication of a return to normal prosperity. There is profit now in nearly all branches of farming."

Dr. Hugh P. Baker, executive secretary of the American Paper and Pulp Association, opened headquarters at the Waldorf yesterday preparatory to the opening to-day of the annual convention of paper manufacturers, which will bring about 1,000 visitors to the city. He said:

"The business depression has passed and, though the recovery will be slow, all of the early arrivals for this week's paper convention report that the upturn is definitely under way in the amount of orders coming to the mills. The discussions of the week will center on the manner in which the number of orders has increased since the inventory period of fullness."

REPORTS 16,000 JOIN UNION MINERS' STRIKE

ALTOONA, Pa., April 9.—John Brophy, president of District No. 2, United Mine Workers, in a statement to-night from Cresson, where he has gone to direct the campaign for organizing the remainder of the miners in Somerset, Cambria and Indiana counties, said 16,000 unorganized workmen have gone over to the union ranks and that 60,000 men, both union and non-union, are out on strike in the central Pennsylvania field.

NON-UNION COAL MINING STRONGHOLD INVADED

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—Carrying their campaign of organization into the heart of the Connellsville region, the non-union mining stronghold of western Pennsylvania, organizers for the United Mine Workers to-day held meetings in Uniontown, Connellsville and other places. They declared that about 1,500 men had given their pledge to join the coal strike and predicted that within two days 30,000 non-union men would have joined the strike movement.

OPERATORS INSIST MINERS TAKE CUT

S. D. Warriner, Spokesman, Says Demands Would Raise Cost \$3 a Ton.

UNFAIR TO CONSUMERS

Better Conditions With More Work Predicted if Reduction Is Made.

AN APPEAL TO PRESIDENT

Broadway Merchants Association Will Ask Harding to Stop Strike.

If the demands of the anthracite miners for a 20 per cent. wage increase are granted the cost of coal production will be increased \$3 a ton, which the consumer must pay, according to a statement issued yesterday by Samuel D. Warriner, spokesman for the anthracite operators.

Mr. Warriner's statement indicates the counter proposals which the operators will present when the wage conference reconvenes to-morrow will call for a substantial reduction in wages. He said:

"The anthracite miners having completed the submission of their case in the conferences with operators which have been held almost constantly since March 15, the representatives of the operators will begin on Tuesday to present counter arguments and facts with regard to the miners' nineteen demands."

"Throughout these conferences the miners' representatives have insisted upon literal compliance with their demands, without abatement or modification. We are, nevertheless, hopeful that a settlement can be brought about in spite of the fact that all of our employees have been called out of the mines regardless of the pending negotiations with their representatives."

"An analysis shows that to grant the demands of the miners would add approximately \$170,000,000 to the annual cost of producing anthracite. As this increase would necessarily be borne by the consumer, it would mean an increase in the price of coal of approximately \$3 a ton."

"This added cost would be paid by the consumer, who, so far from being willing to pay present or increased prices, is rightly demanding that the price of anthracite shall be reduced. The industry in 1921 paid about \$260,000,000 for labor. To concede the miners' demands would make the payroll of the industry approximately \$430,000,000 a year."

"The increases totaling \$170,000,000 now demanded would be superimposed upon the several increases during the war, plus 17.4 per cent. increase in 1920, all of which resulted in an advance of the hourly earnings of anthracite miners between 1914 and 1921 of 162 per cent."

Price Reduction Demanded. "Anthracite producers see no reason to change the opinion expressed at the opening of these conferences with the miners, namely, that conditions demand a substantial reduction in the price of hard coal. We desire to pay good wages. But the rate of pay is not so important as regularity of employment."

"The problem to be solved is what scale of wages will permit the production of anthracite at a price the consumer is willing to pay. For, as shown, if the price is too high, consumption declines, and the result is irregular employment and dissatisfaction all round."

"We are confident that when the situation in all of its aspects has been presented to the miners' representatives they will see the impossibility of conceding demands which would put anthracite miners' wages still further out of line with others and ultimately react to their own disadvantage."

FIRST RADIO DEATH IN DETROIT

Man Killed When Dropped Wire Makes Accidental Connection. DETROIT, April 9.—While building an aerial for a radio phone Homer P. Crane of Royal Oak, Detroit suburb, dropped one of the wires he was stringing across a high tension power wire and was instantly killed.

GOETHALS BACKS PROJECT.

Columbia River Basin Irrigation Would Cost \$250,000,000. OLYMPIA, Wash., April 9.—The Columbia River basin irrigation project in Washington is feasible and can be constructed in six years for a cost approximating \$250,000,000, says a report by Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, retired, made public to-day.

WAGES STEADILY INCREASE WHILE PRODUCTION DROPS

THE following table showing the relation of labor cost to anthracite production in recent years is presented by the operators to prove their contention that a steadily mounting wage bill has to be paid for a steadily decreasing production:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Prod., Wage. 1917: 74,000,000 \$145,000,000; 1918: 72,000,000 195,735,000; 1919: 66,000,000 225,500,000; 1920: 65,500,000 232,175,000

tion, of which Leon Sunshine is president, is planning to send a large delegation of business men to Washington next Thursday to protest to President Harding against a continuation of the coal strike. The association has asked the Broadway Association, the Merchants Association and other organizations to join in the protest or at least to sign a petition which Mr. Sunshine will take to Washington and hand to the President.

In addressing a meeting of his association last Saturday night Mr. Sunshine said that he feared the coal strike would eventually hurt the business of the members, particularly if the Government has to put coal saving measures into effect. He declared that if the operators won't run their mines the Government should run them, and that if the miners won't work the Government should get others who will.

OUTPUT OF NON-UNION COAL IS NEAR NORMAL

Reports Show It From 40 to 70 and 80 Per Cent. WASHINGTON, April 9.—The National Coal Association in a survey of the strike situation stated to-day that reports from non-union fields show production to be running at various rates from 40 to 70 and 80 per cent. normal. In the union fields it was added: The factor limiting production is, in general, the strike, but in the non-union fields the limiting factor is described as continued lack of orders.

The "job spot" price of bituminous is practically the lowest reached at any time since the United States entered the coal strike—white work in the anthracite fields "ceased entirely" in the first week of the strike, the United States Geological Survey states.

Reports received by the survey indicated that from 60 to 64 per cent. of the bituminous tonnage of the country has been closed down by the strike, while of the remainder "a significant portion has not been operating recently for lack of demand." In the first week of the 1919 strike, the survey said, 71 per cent. of the bituminous fields were closed but "the anthracite mines operated at capacity."

Taking April 3 as the first real test of the effect of the strike, the survey noted that coal loadings aggregated 11,445 cars, against 38,055 cars on the day of war, the statement said, adding that production in the anthracite fields was slightly under that of the preceding week.

Heavy production also marked the last five working days in the anthracite fields, according to the survey, 38,255 cars being loaded. Bituminous coal production during the first week of the coal strike was estimated at slightly under 4,000,000 tons by the National Coal Association, which declared that while this tonnage was below the capacity of the non-union fields, "the only reason for the restricted production is to be found in the inability of the operators to find a market for their coal."

COAL FOR SIXTY DAYS.

Strike Causes No Alarm Among Those in the Trade. "Interest in the coal trade this week has been centered in the strike which began on April 1," says the Black Diamond. "Stocks in the hands of the trade, on track and held in reserve by consumers appear to be ample to take care of necessities in the next sixty days and the public utilities have supplies estimated to last for three months."

GOETHALS BACKS PROJECT.

Columbia River Basin Irrigation Would Cost \$250,000,000. OLYMPIA, Wash., April 9.—The Columbia River basin irrigation project in Washington is feasible and can be constructed in six years for a cost approximating \$250,000,000, says a report by Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, retired, made public to-day.

FIRST RADIO DEATH IN DETROIT

Man Killed When Dropped Wire Makes Accidental Connection. DETROIT, April 9.—While building an aerial for a radio phone Homer P. Crane of Royal Oak, Detroit suburb, dropped one of the wires he was stringing across a high tension power wire and was instantly killed.

GOETHALS BACKS PROJECT.

Columbia River Basin Irrigation Would Cost \$250,000,000. OLYMPIA, Wash., April 9.—The Columbia River basin irrigation project in Washington is feasible and can be constructed in six years for a cost approximating \$250,000,000, says a report by Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, retired, made public to-day.

WAGES STEADILY INCREASE WHILE PRODUCTION DROPS

THE following table showing the relation of labor cost to anthracite production in recent years is presented by the operators to prove their contention that a steadily mounting wage bill has to be paid for a steadily decreasing production:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Prod., Wage. 1917: 74,000,000 \$145,000,000; 1918: 72,000,000 195,735,000; 1919: 66,000,000 225,500,000; 1920: 65,500,000 232,175,000

EIGHT HOUSING BILLS UP TO GOV. MILLER

Hearing on Lockwood Measures Begin To-day With \$100,000,000 Aid Plan in Lead.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau, Albany, April 9. Gov. Miller will begin the last week of the thirty day period in which he has to act on bills left in his hands by the Legislature with a hearing to-morrow on eight of the Lockwood committee housing bills. Nine were passed by the Legislature, but the bill extending the period for the greening of tax exempt houses was signed before April 1, when the original period had expired.

Samuel Undermyer, counsel for the Lockwood committee, will lead the proponents of the bills, while a large delegation of representatives of insurance companies and real estate organizations will appear against them. Senator Lockwood also will speak for the bills. It is understood he has received the assurance that the Governor will sign them.

The real estate interests are expected to mass their attacks against the bill which would enable the Metropolitan Insurance Company to spend \$100,000,000 for the erection of moderate priced dwelling houses in New York city, the one to extend the emergency rent laws until 1924 and provide that thirty days' notice of increase of rent must be given, and also the bill fixing the assessed valuation to determine what is a fair rent.

The insurance men will object principally to the bill extending the jurisdiction of the State Superintendent of Insurance to rate making associations. The other housing bills, which in certain rent cases, prohibit the conversion of mutual fire insurance companies into stock companies, and one providing that subcontractors in New York city can complete their work when the main contractor fails.

Gov. Miller on Tuesday will give a hearing on the Westall bill which permits the parole of first term prisoners convicted of a felony. Although favored by Father Chaslin, Catholic chaplain of Sing Sing Prison, and several prison reform organizations it is doubtful if the Governor will sign this bill. It has aroused strong opposition on the ground that it would tend to encourage crime and that this is no time to show any leniency to youthful felons. Gov. Miller has always held that the one purpose of punishment for criminals is the deterrent effect it will have on others.

Hearings also will be given Tuesday on the bill changing the boundary line of the Eleventh, Twelfth, Thirteenth and Fourteenth Congressional districts in New York city, and on two bills increasing the pay of certain Kings county employees and officials.

The Governor has about 300 more bills to act on, and it is expected that about 200 of them will be found in the committee file on the thirty day bills will be completed about Thursday.

COAL FOR SIXTY DAYS.

Strike Causes No Alarm Among Those in the Trade. "Interest in the coal trade this week has been centered in the strike which began on April 1," says the Black Diamond. "Stocks in the hands of the trade, on track and held in reserve by consumers appear to be ample to take care of necessities in the next sixty days and the public utilities have supplies estimated to last for three months."

"In the anthracite district production has ceased, but no alarm is felt in view of the amplitude of stocks, and there has been no change in quotations, although a firmer undertone is noted in the Pittsburgh district. Consumers early supplied their future necessities and business this week has been moderate. The revival in the steel industry marked the return of the outlook for business in the future."

GOETHALS BACKS PROJECT.

Columbia River Basin Irrigation Would Cost \$250,000,000. OLYMPIA, Wash., April 9.—The Columbia River basin irrigation project in Washington is feasible and can be constructed in six years for a cost approximating \$250,000,000, says a report by Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, retired, made public to-day.

FIRST RADIO DEATH IN DETROIT

Man Killed When Dropped Wire Makes Accidental Connection. DETROIT, April 9.—While building an aerial for a radio phone Homer P. Crane of Royal Oak, Detroit suburb, dropped one of the wires he was stringing across a high tension power wire and was instantly killed.

GOETHALS BACKS PROJECT.

Columbia River Basin Irrigation Would Cost \$250,000,000. OLYMPIA, Wash., April 9.—The Columbia River basin irrigation project in Washington is feasible and can be constructed in six years for a cost approximating \$250,000,000, says a report by Major-Gen. George W. Goethals, retired, made public to-day.

WAGES STEADILY INCREASE WHILE PRODUCTION DROPS

THE following table showing the relation of labor cost to anthracite production in recent years is presented by the operators to prove their contention that a steadily mounting wage bill has to be paid for a steadily decreasing production:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Prod., Wage. 1917: 74,000,000 \$145,000,000; 1918: 72,000,000 195,735,000; 1919: 66,000,000 225,500,000; 1920: 65,500,000 232,175,000

HARDING INDORSES HOSPITAL DAY PLAN

Commends Movement to Hold Celebration on May 12 Next.

CHICAGO, April 9.—In providing for the care and treatment of former service men, the United States is establishing hospital facilities which later can be used for the benefit of the people of the country, according to the following letter from President Harding, received to-day by Matthew O. Foley, executive secretary of the National Hospital Day Committee.

"I was pleased to learn that you are going to celebrate national hospital day again this year on May 12, the anniversary of the birthday of Florence Nightingale," the President wrote.

"I feel that it is particularly worth while to continue this observance at present, because of some things which have lately come to my attention with regard to hospitals and hospital service both in this country and abroad. America has led the world by a long way in the development and maintenance of modern hospitals, and in this regard our facilities are far superior to those of any other community. Yet, by reason of the extraordinary demands for care of the disabled men of the world war, we are a long way from adequate equipment."

"I have been told that in some of the European countries, where a very large hospital establishment was created to meet the requirements of the war, it has now proved almost impossible to obtain the necessary endowment funds and community interest in these institutions. Keep them doing the great humane work which should be carried on by them, whether in war or in peace time."

"For myself, I have felt that in establishing the great hospital facilities which are needed for the soldiers, we will be providing ourselves with a facility whose usefulness will continue after the soldiers have been properly cared for and discharged. When that time comes I trust ways will be found to have these establishments utilized for the general interest of the community, through local associations similar to those that maintain so large a proportion of hospitals all over the country."

"One of the finest and most humane products of our civilization is the modern hospital, and every activity which aims to assure the progress of an increasing number of people deserves all possible encouragement."

LEWIS IS SATISFIED. HE SAYS ON RETURN

INDIANAPOLIS, April 9.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, returned here to-day, after a week's absence in Washington and New York. No developments in the strike situation marked the return of the union leader. He had no conferences with other union officials.

Mr. Lewis expressed himself as "well satisfied" with the progress of the strike, adding that he was gratified by the support coming from non-union fields. He intends to remain at union headquarters here for several days, having no plans for any trips to other cities.

UNION ORGANIZERS OF MINERS HALTED

Injunction Becomes Effective in West Virginia Fields. CHARLESTON, W. Va., April 9.—The injunction issued in the United States Court here last night to prevent further union organization in the Windy Gulf Coal Fields, was in full swing to-day. Sheriff P. L. Blankenship and his deputies were broadened early and the order was served on all officers of the United Mine Workers at Beckley and in other parts of the county.

District Secretary John Gatherrum read the injunction to a gathering of five hundred men at Beckley, where a miners' mass meeting had been planned, and expressed the desire of union officers of District 29 that the men observe the order as long as it should be in force, "just as though it were one of our statute laws." The men immediately dispersed.

EPHRAIM M. YOUMANS Formerly President of Youmans, Inc. From the Management of Which Firm He Has Secured Connections. Announces the Opening Today of EPHRAIM M. YOUMANS INC. 405 Madison Avenue Between 47th & 48th Streets HATS Complete assortment of hats and accessories both domestic and imported

Revillon Freres FOXES Natural and dyed, from our trading posts in the North FUR STORAGE Call 0360 Circle 5th Avenue at 53d Street, New York

The Coward Shoe Folks Who Want Style So many folks draw a distinction between comfortable shoes and stylish shoes that there is a wide-spread opinion to the effect that the two cannot be combined. Yet in Coward Shoes it is easily possible to get both, in fact a very large percentage of our shoes are designed to meet the popular demand. And not only are they stylish and comfortable but we have your size in the style you want. In our stores are carried probably the largest individual stock of any shop in America. for MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN James S. Coward 260-274 Greenwich St., N.Y., Near Warren St. (Sold Nowhere Else)

B. Altman & Co. The Department for Novelty Costume Accessories has just received from Paris, (and is featuring, among other attractive novelties) an exclusive importation of Knitted Sports Outerwear cleverly fashioned from the new French yarn "bouclette," and revealing unexpected whimsies of design as well as unusual richnesses of color. Among the many interesting arrivals here displayed (some from Paris, some from elsewhere) are frocks, costumes (the latter consisting of frock with matching cape or coat) and coat-and-skirt suits; all of them new, all of them knitted (of wool or artificial silk), and all of them smart in the ultimate degree. (Second Floor) Madison Avenue - Fifth Avenue 34th and 35th Streets New York

B. Altman & Co. Special Values for to-day (Monday) Women's Lace-and-chiffon Gowns a new and choice collection of dinner and evening models in all-white, all-black, silver, periwinkle, vieux bleu and brown offering unusual value at \$57.50 Sizes: 34 to 46 (Ready-to-wear Gowns, Third Floor) Women's New Tweed Suits in several smart Spring models, made especially for this Sale from fine all-wool tweeds (imported direct by B. Altman & Co.) will provide a remarkable offering at \$38.00 The sizes: 34 to 48 1/2. The colors: bluet, orchid, tan, gray, brown, oxford and others. (Ready-to-wear Suits, Third Floor)