

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT IN INDUSTRY SHOWN BY REPORTS FROM ALL SECTIONS OF NATION

(By Associated Press)
CHICAGO, April 29.—General improvement in the industrial situation, described in several instances as slow but steady, particularly over conditions as they existed in the winter months, was indicated in reports gathered by the Associated Press from federal, state, labor and industrial leaders in many states of the union.

Labor commissioners and other officials in virtually every state from which reports were received, not only declared that unemployment had materially lessened in the last few months, but nearly all were optimistic concerning the future, holding that the opening of seasonal lines of work, such as agriculture and road building construction would help greatly in absorbing the surplus of workers.

While no definite figure on the present number of unemployed was available, approximately 1,350,000 persons were reported idle in sixteen states from which estimates were received. Large industrial states such as New York, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts contributed more than 1,000,000 to this total. New York leading with an estimated 600,000 out of the work. The total population of the sixteen states was in excess of 43,000,000.

5,000,000 Unemployed
Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, estimated the unemployed at 5,000,000. Miners and other workers on strike were not included in the state estimates. The miners' strike, which union officials estimated as involving nearly 700,000 men, was the largest industrial controversy in progress as May Day approached, with a considerable number of workers affected by textile and stone cutting strikes in shutdowns in New England and in minor walkouts in other parts of the country.

In some cities there was declared to be a demand for skilled workers, although the supply of common labor, generally was declared to be larger than the demand. Some state labor department officials definitely stated that the unemployment crisis had been passed in their states and that a move toward normal conditions was in progress. Some localities reported that conditions already virtually were normal, but from most of the states reporting there was declared to be unemployment in many lines. Only in a few isolated instances, however, was it declared to be acute, and the general tenor of the statements was one of optimism, particularly with reference to the future.

Building Activity.
A program of intense building activity and city and state improvement work was outlined in reports from virtually every state, and it was expected that many idle workers would find employment in a gigantic construction boom which was indicated from many sources.

Monthly records of building activity kept by the American contractor since 1914 were broken by the total value of building permits at leading cities for March, and the aggregate of \$262,283,254 for 190 cities was believed by that publication to be the largest for all time. The number of permits issued last month in those cities was 62,444.

As compared with March, 1921, when the permits numbered 53,315 and the valuation amounted to \$131,905,317, the gain in value was 98 percent. New York established an unprecedented record of \$104,598,548. Chicago's permits were the largest in nine years, according to the Illinois Department of Labor, despite the handicap of unsettled labor conditions in some building trades. They amounted to \$19,333,900, an increase of \$12,033,800 over March of last year.

Auto Trade Better.
Statements from some of the large industrial centers were encouraging. Detroit reported that employment in the automobile industry was 70 percent of normal, while the general percentage of employment was 65 percent of normal, as compared with 30 percent a year ago.

Reports from Indiana and Ohio follow:

Indiana: Of the 15 largest cities of Indiana, none reports conditions as unimproved; two report employment equal to that of pre-war times, and in only two are conditions giving serious concern, according to Evans Woolen of Indianapolis, regional director for Indiana of President Harding's conference on unemployment.

Ohio: Conditions improved 40 percent in last year; placements by employment offices during first quarter of 1922 46 percent more than during same period last year, according to W. J. Biebesheimer, federal director of labor.

Mr. Biebesheimer said a quarter of

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a billion dollars would be spent in Ohio this spring, which would be directly beneficial to working conditions. State, city and county paving programs will approximate \$50,000,000 in expenditures, she said; soldiers' bonus will put about \$30,000,000 in circulation, and manufacturing concerns of the state, according to information received at this office, have \$100,000,000 ready for spring production.

HARRISON TOWNSHIP WILL ISSUE \$50,000 IN BONDS FOR SCHOOL

LIBERTY, Ind., April 29.—The advisory board of the Harrison school township met this week to discuss the building of a combined high and elementary school. After some deliberation it was unanimously agreed that bonds to the amount of \$50,000 should be issued, and in accordance with the law legal notices have been provided for. The building will be erected on the site recently purchased just west of Kitchel on the north side of the road. The architect is making sketches and will present them at the next board meeting.

It is the plan now to equip the building for a four-year high school course, the two additional years to be added in 1923. The building will be fully equipped to meet all the requirements of a four-year school, it is said. The members of the board are Charles G. Mitchell, William P. Kitchell and Isaac Hart. The township trustee is John Stout.

Undergoes Operation.
Miss Ruth Kitchell underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Jewish hospital in Cincinnati on Thursday morning. The report is that she is now convalescing satisfactorily.

Celebrate Grant's Birthday.
Grant's birthday centennial was appropriately celebrated by the Liberty schools Thursday morning at the general assembly hour. Jennie Louise Dugan read a short biography of Grant, Rowena Lafuse gave a recitation, and Francis Brendel read some sketches and stories concerning the great general. Mary Knowlton Moore followed with a reading which set forth Grant's generalship at Shiloh. Miss Cora Abernathy sang the verses to the Battle Hymn of the Republic and the schools joined very heartily in the chorus. Other patriotic songs with orchestra accompaniment made up the program.

Conduct Market.
The Liberty schools conducted a market at the Welfare hall on Saturday morning. The proceeds are to be used in the purchase of slides for the stereopticon. It is the purpose to procure the set of 600 geographical and historical slides as soon as possible.

Memorial Day Plans.
A meeting of the Relief Corps, Grand Army, American Legion, Boy Scouts and all citizens interested will be held at the library on next Wednesday evening at 7:30. At this time plans will be perfected for Memorial Day services.

The continuous production system of manufacture which is used in modern industry has been applied to the building industry. Houses erected in the Wrightland addition in West Richmond will be put up on this plan.

Excavation work on the first four of the 30 houses which are to be erected in the addition already has been completed. Two teams and a gang of eight men, starting Thursday morning, have completed the excavations for the basements of four houses which will front on Peacock road.

Masonry work on the foundations will be started Monday when a gang of 12 cement men is started on the row of houses. They will follow the excavation gang.

Carpenters Begin Thursday.
Carpenters numbering 12 to 15 will follow the foundation gang, starting their work next Thursday. Finishers and plasterers are the last to commence work.

All the houses are to be built on the colonial type of architecture, and the same plan will not be used more than twice. Basements are 24 by 26 feet in size.

Permits for the houses will be issued as they are needed. Building Inspector J. Ed. Higgs stated Saturday. Permits are good for 90 days after they are issued.

It is customary to state the size of war vessels in displacement tons.

(Political Advertisement)

Jonathan O. Edgerton Candidate For ASSESSOR Wayne Township Subject to Primary May 2, '22 No. 58 on The Ballot

(Political Advertisement)

William L. Seaney
Candidate for
SHERIFF
of Wayne Co.

I have been a resident of Wayne County during my entire life. I am for the fulfillment of the law and the betterment of the county.

Your Vote will be Appreciated
Subject to Republican Primary, May 2.

THE NEW WILLARD HOTEL IN WASHINGTON SWEPT BY FIRE.



The New Willard Hotel in Washington, home of many noted figures in diplomatic circles, which was cleaned out following fire which caused \$250,000 damage. While there were no physical casualties, one fireman was slightly injured. The entire tenth floor of the hostelry was ablaze before the patrons realized their danger.

CONTINUOUS SYSTEM IN HOUSE BUILDING BEING APPLIED HERE

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Circuit Court

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Everett W. Dotson and Dossie Williams, both of Richmond, were issued a marriage license Saturday morning. Dotson is a clerk, and his bride gave her occupation as a stenographer.

Jerry Halladay and Doris Marie Benham of Greenville and Richmond were issued a marriage license Saturday. Halladay is a salesman. Miss Benham is a book keeper.

ASKS POSSESSION

Complaint for possession of real estate consisting of lot No. 11, in the Moore addition, was filed by Royden E. Parke and Barbara B. Parke, against Minnie Rieser, Saturday.

JUDGMENT FOR PLAINTIFF

Judgment for the plaintiff to the amount of \$1,162 was issued by the court in the suit of Hugh Charness against John and Emma Banning, Saturday.

ASKS MARRIAGE ANNULLED

Request that the marriage of Mamie Wise to Raymond Wise be annulled and her maiden name of Mamie Lawrence restored, is contained in a complaint filed in circuit court Saturday.

The complaint states that she was 15 years old at the time of her marriage to Raymond Wise, in August, 1921, and that they separated the following November.

RESTRAINTS COMMISSION

ENFORCING 6-CENT FARE

CHICAGO, April 29.—A temporary injunction was granted in federal court restraining the Illinois commerce commission from enforcing its six-cent fare order on the Chicago surface lines beginning May 1. A similar injunction was granted several months ago when the commission attempted to put into effect a five-cent fare. Present fares are eight cents.

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