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SALT LAKE CITY, — NOVEMBER 21, 1932.

ARE WE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR COAL?

A SERIOUS question has been raised by the Utah Shoppers' Traffic association regarding what interests every business and almost all the families of Utah—the price of coal. This body alleges that we are paying a million dollars a year more than we should. It is stated that Denver, under a somewhat similar situation as far as coal and transportation are concerned, pays \$4.50 a ton where our coal costs \$8.50.

Perhaps there is some error in the statement of the Denver situation as there is a definite error in the local price. Both lump and stove coal are delivered in this city at \$7.50 a ton, nut coal at \$6.75, and slack at \$3.50. To commercial users, slack is \$3.00. All the coal produced in Utah is bituminous, while we understand much of the Denver coal is lignite.

The reason for the present effort is perhaps suggested by the fact that Utah county has received a material reduction in coal prices. The former freight of \$1.90 a ton has been reduced to \$1.41, while in Salt Lake county it is \$2.16 for the nut, stove and lump sizes. The competition of trucks is the reason given for reducing the freight on coal delivered in Provo and vicinity.

Application is now to be made to the public utilities commission of the state in the interest of lower prices. Naturally charges made by the mines or retail dealers may not be decided, but only the freight rate can be considered. It is stated by the traffic officers that 17 mills per ton mile is charged for coal into Salt Lake county, while the rate to Omaha and Los Angeles is only 6 mills. While a differential naturally in favor of the longer haul is just, it is believed by the protestants that this is too great a disparity.

If you are buying coal for your furnace or stove of a size that goes over a three-inch mesh, you are paying the mine \$3.25, the railroad \$2.42 and the retail dealer \$2.00, or a total of \$7.50. If you are buying slack that goes through a one-inch mesh, you are paying the mine 75 cents, the railroad \$1.61, and the retail dealer \$1.14 if you are home owner or 61 cents if you are a commercial user, making your price \$3.50 or \$3.00 according to your class. A group of persons can order a car and buy at the same figure as the retailer and avoid his profit, but must do their own delivering.

All are interested in the welfare of the railroads, but we do not wish to pay for an undue part of their troubles. Fifty cents less freight would be received gratefully. Moreover, if coal can be mined and retailed for a less figure, the public should get the benefit of the economy. One of our jurists has called attention to Section 4475 of the revised laws of Utah which forbids combinations in restraint of trade and suggests that both the retail dealers and the mines may have come to an understanding on uniform prices in violation of the statute.

A thorough airing of the whole question is in place, and it should be conducted in a spirit of fairness not only to the people but to the industry itself, which is one of our very important ones. We are mining normally about five million tons annually of a value at the mines of between twelve and thirteen million dollars. Approximately half of it goes out of the state, so that it is one of our important exports. The citizens are willing to pay a fair price to keep this industry going, but do not wish to be overcharged.

CALL TO HITLER

Last Adolf Hitler's day of glory has come. The young leader of the National-Socialists of Germany, himself not a German citizen, was invited this morning by President Paul von Hindenburg to form a cabinet and become the chancellor, provided he can obtain a Reichstag majority and also that he retain Konstantin von Neurath as foreign minister and Kurt von Schleicher as minister of defense.

Probably the last condition will not be material. The first is serious. Hitler's representation in the Reichstag at the election on Sunday, the 6th, gave him 105 out of 582 members. This was a loss of 35 from the

previous election but leaves the Nazis by far the strongest party. Now he must gain, to have 322 votes, the Socialists with 121 seats or the Communists with 100 seats, or a combination of the Catholic party, called Centerists and Von Papen's group, called the Nationalists, with 69 and 52 votes, respectively, or either one of these latter with all the smaller parties, the Bavarian, the People's and other scattered groups.

The reports indicate that it is unlikely Hitler can gather a majority, but the figures do not indicate that. In the first place von Neurath and von Schleicher are both commanding persons in the Nationalist party. Von Schleicher is probably the strongest man in Germany, with the exception of Hitler, so that if these two figures hold dominating places in the ministry, the Nationalists should not be afraid to join, and the Catholic group might also be induced to co-operate.

What will not take place is that the Communists join the Nazis to form a government.

Hitler's program would repudiate the treaty of Versailles and pay no more war debts. However, this step has already been taken by the Nationalist government. He would do away with unearned incomes, and this means a fundamental change in the economic life. He threatens to execute profiteers, expel dirty aliens, and disfranchise Jews.

But if he comes to power, he will probably put into real effect none of these revolutionary doctrines.

THE FEDERATION OF LABOR at its executive council meeting in Cincinnati announced yesterday that it recommends compulsory nationwide unemployment insurance, supported by industry alone. It also makes a plea for the six-hour day and the five-day week as the only possible solution for putting to work the present idle labor. Unemployment insurance will of course cushion every depression, which becomes acute when people lose or fear they may lose their purchasing power. Just which of many plans to adopt is a question for deep consideration. But to meet future depressions with no better plan than relief by charity is unthinkable.

BENNETT CHAPPLE of Middleton, Ohio, addressing the Association of National Advertisers, suggests that as war is the greatest of all tax breeders we should advertise for peace and create thereby the impossibility of war. That is good sense and is the policy of certain peace societies in Europe, which by striking placards are turning the minds of humanity away from the supposed glory to the ugliness of war.

IT is only since the war that amnesia has become a well-known affliction. For a person to be entirely sane regarding what goes on about him, but to have forgotten in an instant of nerve collapse whole chapters of his life, seems to be a result of our strenuous existence and particularly associated with the shocks of war. Col. Raymond Robins, discovered working as a miner, shows no recognition of his wife who suddenly has become a stranger to him.

IN MEXICO where Sunday is less of a holy day than of a holiday, twenty thousand sports enthusiasts marched past the national palaces, sang songs and celebrated the twenty-second anniversary of the revolution. Passionate and intense as are the Mexicans in their political relations, they possess a world of color and music in their hearts. Those who live among them, though conscious of many foibles, learn to love them.

AT KITTYPAWK, North Carolina, Saturday a ninety-foot beam of granite was dedicated to celebrate the first flight nearly twenty-five years ago of Orville and Wilbur Wright. That flight was made in what was little more than a box kite with a motor, but it enabled man to rise above the earth in a heavier-than-air machine and revolutionize transportation.

WOMAN

What woman! in this world of ours! What gift can be compared to thee? How slow would drag life's weary hours, Though man's proud brow were bowed with flowers, And his the wealth of land and sea, If destined to exist alone, And ne'er call woman's heart his own. —Morris.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
THURSDAY, NOV. 21, 1912.

Alma W. Richards of the B. Y. U., who last summer won the Olympic high jump at Stockholm, Sweden, accepted an invitation from the Amateur Athletic association to join the American team on a tour through Australia.

The foreman was killed by a cave-in at the Thirteenth Avenue and N. street gravel pits. He was examining an overhanging bank to see if it were safe for his men to work under. Tons of gravel came down and buried him, killing him instantly against a scraper. His name was Andrew Joseph Thomson, 36, of 131 Wentworth avenue.

Professor Richard E. Lyman was being urged by his friends to become a candidate for member of the city board of education from the Fourth precinct.

Tremors from an Alaskan earthquake were recorded on the University of Utah seismograph.

C. L. Miller of Murray filed request with the state engineer for 15 second feet of water from Cottonwood creek to be used for power purposes.

A VERY KNOTTY PROBLEM!



David Lawrence
Plan to Pay Soldier Bonus Under Certain Conditions Being Worked Out By Veterans Bureau

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—The veterans' administration has under consideration a plan which, under certain conditions, may make possible the pre-payment of the soldiers' bonus.



DAVID LAWRENCE

Recognizing that the bonus issue will come up to plague every session of Congress between now and 1945, when it is due, and noting that the American Legion has voted at its national conventions to insist upon pre-payment of the bonus, General Frank T. Hines, veterans' administrator, has been studying various plans looking toward a possible elimination of the issue and a settlement on a basis satisfactory to the ex-service men as well as to the treasury.

It became known today that Governor Roosevelt on his western campaign trip sought and obtained data on whether there was any possible way by which the bonus could be prepaid.

The conclusion reached by his advisers was that only two methods presented themselves—the acceptance by ex-service men of the present value of their certificates as a basis for consideration, or else the payment of the full face value. The latter meant a heavier expenditure that was originally contemplated by Congress and was deemed out of the question. The former was studied but it was discovered that unless the ex-service men would agree to the present value it would be difficult to promise a pre-payment of the bonus.

Studied by Hines. This correspondent inquired at the veterans' administration today whether, in view of the oft-repeated statement that a substantial economy could be made in veterans' expenses, the government could get aside this same sum each year and thus accelerate the payment of the bonus.

The general plan, which is not yet perfected and may never be adopted unless Congress feels so inclined and the veterans' groups support the proposal, is that a sinking fund should be established from which every veteran could get the cash surrender value of his present bonus certificates at any time. For this sinking fund it is estimated that at least \$100,000,000 a year could be saved for the next five years, or possibly a total of approximately \$500,000,000 by repeating what are known as the non-service disability allowances.

This would be the nucleus of a fund out of which the bonus certificates could be prepaid. If the government paid in 1932 the full face value of the bonus, it would mean that \$2,000,000,000 expended today and compounded at 4 per cent interest would cost the government more than was originally intended. So the question really is whether the veterans would accept present value, take their money, and invest it themselves at 4 per cent and thus have by 1945 exactly the same amount which the government promised. At present the full face value of the bonus certificates amount to about \$2,500,000,000. Of this sum approximately \$1,500,000,000 has been loaned, so that \$2,000,000,000 remains outstanding as the sum that the government would have to provide by 1945. The present value, however, of all the bonus certificates is approximately \$1,800,000,000 and since \$1,500,000,000 has been loaned already only \$300,000,000 of present value remains. To this, it has been suggested, should be added the full 25 per cent increase which Congress in 1924 pledged as an incentive to the veterans not to cash their certificates for 20 years. Thus about \$1,000,000,000 in all would be needed to pay present value, plus the 25 per cent increase.

It is estimated that about 600,000 veterans out of the 2,500,000 who hold certificates of adjusted compensation have not requested any loans. It is believed, therefore, that not all veterans would wish to see their policies surrendered for cash and that as economic conditions improved many more veterans would hesitate to cash their policies.

Assuming that one-third of the veterans would not take advantage of the sinking fund plan, since they have not borrowed anything on their certificates thus far, it would mean that approximately two-thirds of a billion dollars would have to be provided for the new sinking fund. This could be obtained by an economy over the next five years of a total of \$500,000,000, with possibly an extra appropriation of about \$50,000,000 unless some further saving could be made in order to get the latter sum as well.—(Copyright, 1932.)

What Readers Think

Letters to this column must not be longer than 300 words; must bear the name and address of the writer, although these will not necessarily be published, and must not be of a defamatory or libelous nature. Only excerpts of letters over 300 words will be printed. Ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of contributors and may or may not reflect the views of The Desert News.

Oratorio Suggestion
Editor Desert News: If money cannot be raised to put on "The Messiah" with orchestral accompaniment, why not give it without. Surely this great oratorio is not going to be omitted this Christmas just because an orchestra cannot be hired. Important as the orchestra is to the performance, I feel confident that capable local soloists can be found who would be willing to serve without pay for once.
FREDERICK LEWIS.

Street-Car Employees Protest Discussed
Editor Desert News: I just recently listened to a plea made in the interests of our street car service men calling attention to the increasing number of people soliciting and getting automobile rides. It was pointed out that the practice is becoming so serious that the traction employees are getting anxious about their jobs and asking car owners to stop it. Citizens, is not the time just here when the railroads and light companies should reduce the fares and rates to a point where there would be little if any necessity for anyone to solicit rides out or in to the city? We have tacitly admitted that the only way out of our present depression is for all to go on a "hard times" basis, quietly submitting to wage reductions, short time labor service, etc., etc. Why not the street car company do likewise and take the risk of a smaller dividend?
But I am convinced that with reduced rates, instead of the cars running half the time empty, the additional patronage would more than compensate for the reduced rates.
Let me add, my sympathy is with the street car men. They are obliging, attentive servants, in a most exacting, responsible service, or an investor. And even he doesn't know whether or not he's a sucker.

No Reason Why Senator Smoot Should Retire
Editor Desert News: During the recent dinner to Senator Smoot, one of the speakers observed that—the distinguished Utahn, may he not re-enter politics. Why not? He is still of vigorous mind and body. There will be another senatorial election in Utah two years from now. Will it be the master with running him again? If Senator Smoot has a desire to remain in politics and offers himself again as a candidate he should most certainly be given the opportunity to do so. The stupid, U. S. policy of dropping experienced statesmen after defeat must be discarded if we are ever to have sound government in our land.
ARTHUR FREEMAN.

Small Tax Items Become Burdens in Aggregate
Editor Desert News: It is interesting to note how almost every public official who is asked to reduce expenses, especially when definite or individual items are mentioned, answers: "The amount saved would be so small when distributed among the many taxpayers as to be almost negligible."
When they look for new sources of revenue they add one cent extra on letter postage, three per cent to our light and power bill, a few cents per gallon on gas, etc. The total amount raised is enormous, but when considered as individual cases the amount is so small as to be almost negligible.

Paraphrase
BY ROBERT QUILLLEN
You never really know a man until he and you have designs on the same dollar.
If he holds his place at the feed trough while kicking about the feed, he is a Progressive.
Bridges isn't a clean sport like football. You can't slip behind an opponent's chair and scout his hand.
Only the individual himself knows whether he is a speculator.

Who's News
Intimate glimpses of persons figuring in today's news given daily in this column by Lemuel F. Parton, special feature writer for The Desert News.

Have to Get Up at Night?
Deal Promptly with Bladder Irregularities
Are you bothered with bladder irregularities; burning, scanty or too frequent passage and getting up at night? Heed promptly these symptoms. They may warn of some disordered kidney or bladder condition. Users everywhere rely on Doan's Pills. Recommended for 50 years. Sold everywhere.

Doan's Pills
A Diuretic for the Kidneys

How to Make Better Cough Remedy Than You Can Buy
Saves You \$2, and It's So Easy! No Cooking!
Cough medicine usually contains a large quantity of plain syrup—a good ingredient, but one which you can easily make at home. Take 2 cups of granulated sugar and 1 cup of water, and stir a few moments until dissolved. No cooking! No trouble at all! Then get from your drug store 2 1/2 ounces of Emsco, pour it into a pint bottle, and add your syrup. This gives you a full pint of truly wonderful cough remedy, far better than anything you could buy ready-made. It lasts a long time, never spoils, and saves two-thirds of the money a family usually spends on cough remedies. Children love its taste. This is positively the most effective, quick-acting cough remedy that money could buy. Instantly, you feel it penetrating the air passages. It loosens the germ-laden phlegm, soothes and breaks the inflamed membranes, and makes breathing easy. You've never seen its equal for prompt, lasting results. Pinex is a highly concentrated compound of Norway Pine, the most reliable healing agent for severe coughs. It is guaranteed to please you, or money refunded.

SAVE Money, Time and Health with the new VICKS PLAN for better Control-of-Colds.

VICKS PLAN
DROPS
TO PREVENT many Colds TO END a Cold SOONER