

BUYING OF STEEL RAILS IN 1915 BY ROADS UNCERTAIN

Thus Far There Is No Sign of the Extent to Which They Will Depart From Policy of Buying Only For Urgent Needs

New York, Jan. 1.—The Iron Age, says the main development of the last week of 1914 is the action of a number of manufacturers of bars, structural shapes and plates in advancing prices from 1.05c. Pittsburgh, on early deliveries, to 1.10c. One independent bar interest made the advance last week. On Wednesday, December 30, the Carnegie Steel Company withdrew 1.05c. quotations and announced as its minimum prices on the three products, 1.10c. for first quarter and 1.15c. for second quarter. Two independent producers in these lines are reported to have taken a similar stand this week, and the indications are that the 1.05c. price is not being carried into the new year.

The amount of first quarter contracts booked at 1.10c., on which readjustments would be necessary if any lower price prevails on current business, is a strong incentive to sellers to hold the new minimum.

Interest has naturally centered, apart from that taken in this price movement in three market staples, in the outlook for railroad buying. Thus far there is no sign of the extent to which railroads will depart from the policy of buying for urgent needs. Rail orders were placed early this year; similar orders are likely to continue early in 1915. The Pennsylvania and the B. and O. are expected to buy soon. Some Eastern lines gave 1914 rollings on rails that will not be needed until next spring. The aggregate of track supplies soon to be required is considerable. One Eastern rail mill has booked 8,000 tons in the past week and other Eastern rail inquiries are pending, including 4,500 tons for the Boston and Albany.

Due to the reduced state of railroad traffic and the fact that new cars can be had in six weeks, there is no hurry to place car orders, but a few roads are looking up their needs. Preliminary has been given in this connection to the Pennsylvania railroad's probable requirements of 9,000 cars of various types. The Illinois Central is still negotiating for 1,400 refrigerator cars.

December bookings of all independent steel companies have been considerably larger than those of November, though few reached the 100 per cent. rate of gain reported by the Steel Corporation for the first three weeks of this month, that being apparently due to the inclusion of some special contracts with extended deliveries.

The rate of mill operations in early January will show a moderate increase upon the December average. Steel consumption is little changed, but specifications have come in better of late on low priced contracts running out with December. Predictions range from 50 to 65 per cent. as the probable operation by the end of the first quarter.

Foreign bar wire demand is hard to measure. Probably 75,000 tons of what is talked about is actually wanted, much of it for Great Britain. Further large inquiries for shrapnel bars have also come up. Russia is in the market for 2,300 tons of cold rolled strip.

Tin plate works are exceptional in running at nearly 70 per cent. of capacity. Since shipments for Pacific coast canneries are to be by the Panama canal earlier rollings than usual are required.

The Standard Oil plate contract, 20,000 tons for shipment in the first half of 1915, has gone into an eastern Pennsylvania mill.

December inquiry for cast iron pipe coming from gas and water companies and other private buyers has been the largest for that month since 1906. Low prices have been the stimulant. Baltimore has just bought 7,400 tons and Chicago 7,500 tons. In New York, the take bids on 2,400 tons and Boston on 3,800 tons. The first compilation of statistics of this product shows the country's output to have been 1,266,245 net tons in 1913.

Pig iron buying is still going on in the Central West after subsiding first in the East and then in the South. A gradual increase in blast furnace operation is probable in the new year. Wherever furnaces have taken on tonnage, they are filling them up for several months, they have advanced prices, but the gain has not been general. Most Middle Western furnaces will run through the first quarter on sales barely showing a profit.

KILLED TRAPPED BEAR

But Not Until He Was Badly Bitten and Clawed

Kane, Pa., Jan. 1.—Abraham Persing, of Oil City, had a narrow escape from death as the result of an encounter with a large black bear near Chapel Fork, eleven miles south of this city.

Persing was walking through the woods with his dog, when he discovered a bear with its front feet caught in a trap. The animal attacked Persing, who plunged his knife into the bear five times. Then the bear succeeded in getting Persing's face in his jaws, at the same time throwing his paw around Persing's neck.

When the bear closed his jaws on the left side of Persing's face the man gave a desperate thrust with his knife and pulled away. The flesh was torn from his face, and he had sustained a bad scalp wound.

In spite of his injuries, Persing was able to return to his camp, where thirty stitches were taken in the wounds by a physician. Persing later found the bear dead.

Lebanon Marriage Licenses

Lebanon, Jan. 1.—Marriage Clerk John D. Boger up to noon yesterday had issued to aspiring couples 494 marriage licenses for the year, 1914. In 1913, 490 licenses were issued with 1913 leading off for the three years, with a total of 523 licenses.

Advertisement for Arrow Collars, featuring the Whitby logo and text: 'ARROW COLLARS. For 25 cents. Gant, Fashley & Co., Inc. Makers.'

ASTRICH'S GREAT SLAUGHTER SALE OF MILLINERY, COATS and SUITS

Entire COAT STOCK Slaughtered Every Garment Must Be Sold

The greatest Coat and Suit Sale ever inaugurated opens Friday with 800 Coats and Suits, distinctive of style and of unquestioned high quality, now sacrificed regardless of profit or cost to insure at once the complete clean-up of our entire Fall and Winter Stock. Each one represents, beyond doubt, a very great bargain.



All \$6, \$7.50 and \$8 Coats \$4.98

Not only warm, but very swagger looking; made of choice materials in plaids and plain colors.

All \$8.50, \$10 and \$12.50 Coats \$7.98

Coats that have withstood the test of the most rigid comparison the whole season through, now to be turned over to you for considerably less than cost to manufacture.

All \$15, \$16.50 and \$18 Coats \$9.98

Bewitching in styles, so irresistibly tempting in price that choosing will be a pleasure among so many favorites.

Entire Suit Stock Enters This Clearance Sale

\$12 to \$15 Suits, Choice, \$7.98 | \$19.75 to \$22.50 Suits, Choice, \$12.98

\$16.50 to \$18 Suits, Choice, \$9.98 | \$25 to \$35 Suits, Choice, \$14.98

1 rack of Suits from last season, were \$15 to \$35, Choice, \$3.98 to \$4.98

GREATEST SLAUGHTER IN HIGH CLASS TRIMMED HATS

EVER INAUGURATED IN THE HISTORY OF OUR BUSINESS

500 elegant, classy and up-to-date hats of every description—including all our French rom prices, go on sale, beginning this Thursday and continued all day Saturday, January 2, 1915, at prices which in many instances are one-third of the original prices. Neither cost nor value have been considered in this mark-down. THE HATS MUST BE SOLD.

Some of Our Best Trimmed Hats

Formerly sold up to \$12.98. Must go at \$4.98

Finest Black Lyons' Velvet Close Fitting Turbans

Sold up to \$10.98. Must go at \$4.98

Small and Medium Black Silk, Velvet and Plush Hats

Formerly sold up to \$8.98. Must go at \$3.98

\$5.00 and \$7.00 Untrimmed Turbans, Saturday, \$1.98

These turbans are made of the highest quality Lyons' Silk Velvet—hand blocked and combine only the most-wanted and hardest-to-find shapes. Cannot be sold regularly under \$5.00 to \$7.00.

Misses' Black Silk Velvet Hats

With ostrich ribbons, furs, flowers. Sold up to \$6.98. Must go at \$2.98

Medium and Small Silk Velvet Hats and Sailors

Which sold up to \$5.00. Must go at \$1.98

Small Close Fitting Velvet and Satin Turbans

With flowers, fur and ostrich. Sold up to \$5.98. Must go at \$2.98

\$6.00 Quality Untrimmed Large Velvet and Picture Hats, \$1.98

Three entirely new shapes, made of highest priced Lyons' Silk Velvet. Hats which cannot be found anywhere else, being entirely new, and take you away from the ordinary \$1.98 tailor effect. Saturday, \$1.98

WORTH OF PENNSYLVANIA IN PROPERTY, \$62,000,000

Commonwealth Has No Liabilities Except Bonds of \$651,110.02 For the Payment of Which There Is More Than Enough in Sinking Fund

Over \$62,000,000 in real, personal and mixed property and money in banks and in the State treasury, is the worth of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to-morrow it will open books showing its assets. It has no liabilities except bonds of \$651,110.02, for which more than enough has accumulated in the sinking fund to pay. In fact the sinking fund is \$151,000, more than these old debts.

The vast extent of the assets of the Commonwealth was made known here to-day for the first time when the Property Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, made its report to Governor John K. Tener. This commission was appointed by the Governor on his own initiative. He wanted to find out what the State had in the way of worldly wealth so that it could have a basis to work on. The commission had no appropriation and secured its information from each department and each institution. In many cases the estimates are low and it is stated that \$1,592,075.14 of liens, taken under the appropriation act of 1911, on 77 hospitals, are not included.

The commission was composed of Samuel C. Todd, executive controller, who was chairman; Charles Edward Willock, Deputy Auditor General, secretary, and Samuel B. Rambo, Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings. The valuations are as of May 31, 1914, and the aggregate is \$62,743,876.55. This includes the cash balance in the treasury funds. About four-fifths of the grand total is real estate.

The treasury balances on the date of the appraisal amounted to \$7,761,717.15, of which \$7,608,239.90 was in the general fund, \$802,913.45 in the sinking fund which should be deducted \$651,110.02; school fund cash, \$1,673.82, making a net balance of \$7,761,717.15.

The detail of the valuations follows: Centre counties, \$1,516,696.81; Department of Health, sanatoria, etc., \$2,283,912.36; West Chester Normal School, \$795,427.21; California Normal School, \$290,906; Edinboro Normal School, \$244,747; Eastern penitentiary, Philadelphia, \$2,137,988.42; Department of Public Grounds and Buildings, including Capitol, Executive Mansion, Capitol Park, arsenal and other property, \$15,415,555.98; State police, \$73,505.34; Home for Deaf Children, Philadelphia, \$82,160.15; Fairview State Hospital for Criminal Insane, \$1,377,408.64; Stevens Industrial School, Lancaster, \$249,417.87; State hospital, Nanticoke, \$63,350.46; State hospital, Scranton, \$450,101.03; State hospital, Coaldale, \$67,169.33; State hospital, Blossburg, \$67,066.36; Capitol Park extension, May 31, 1914, \$1,093,797.73; Department of Public Printing, \$50,467.12; State hospital, Mercer, \$31,355.15; Live Stock Board, \$59,606.10; Department of Mines, \$10,085; Department of Printing, document division, \$5,000; Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Erie, \$1,021,742.02; Reformatory, Huntingdon, \$1,246,706.04.

State hospital, Hazleton, \$161,822.80; Department of Agriculture, \$9,421.15; Highway Department, \$283,113.24; quarantine station, Marcus Hook, \$126,299.95; Department of Fisheries, \$1,325,764.95; Valley Forge Park, \$186,487.41; Department of Internal Affairs, standards, \$1,561.99; State hospital, Shamokin, 136,626.72; State library, contents, \$235,764.34; Water Supply Commission, \$2,377.56; Soldiers' Orphan school, Scotland, \$268,800; State hospital, Connelville, \$44,731; State armories, \$2,060,340.55; Adjutant General's Department, military stores, etc., \$362,218.90; State hospital, Fountain Springs, \$413,846.19; State hospital, Wernersville, \$917,920.43; Department of Forestry, reserves, etc., \$6,244,299.69; Feeble Minded Institution, Spring City, \$1,522,240.76; State Institution, Pottsville, \$1,499,723.63; State hospital, Danville, \$1,712,218.61; State hospital, Harrisburg, \$1,458,032.28; Morgana reform school, \$1,364,115.79; State hospital, Norristown, \$2,128,007.09; State hospital, Rittersville, \$1,751,830.47; State hospital, Warren, \$1,989,430.58.

CONFESSES TO 12 FIRES

Frankford Colored Boy "Wanted to See Engines Run"

Philadelphia, Jan. 1.—Two hours of the third degree yesterday, under the supervision of Deputy Fire Marshal Whitmore, got Arthur Barrett, a 17-year-old colored boy, of 4613 Mulberry street, to confess to starting twelve fires in Frankford and Germantown during the year just ended. He was arrested yesterday, charged with firing a hay stack at Erie avenue and Tulip street. He offered the explanation in this case, which he expected to serve in all the others, that he "wanted to see the engines run."

U. S. TROOP QUITS COLORADO

Washington, Jan. 1.—Orders have been issued at the War Department for the withdrawal of Troop L, Twelfth United States cavalry, from Koutz county, Colorado, to its station at Fort Meade, South Dakota.

Tunnel Pierces Pyrenees

Paris, Jan. 1.—The Poix tunnel through the Pyrenees was pierced Wednesday. It is a part of a new line of railroad communication between Paris and Barcelona, by way of Toulouse. The last link in this line from Aix-les-Thermes to Ripoli, Spain, is now in course of construction.

Dog Killed by Fall; Man Injured

San Francisco, Jan. 1.—Walter Neill of Kearny street was painfully injured when a dog owned by Miss Georgia Williams fell from the roof of the four-story Nobby Hotel, Columbus avenue and Jackson street, and struck him on the head. The dog's claws struck Neill in the eye, nearly tearing the optic from its socket. The dog was killed by the fall.

MOTHERS, DO THIS--

When the Children Cough, Rub Mucsterole on Throats and Chests

No telling how soon the symptoms may develop into croup, or worse. And then when you're glad you have a jar of MUSTEROLE at hand to give prompt, sure relief. It does not blister. As first aid and a certain remedy there's nothing like MUSTEROLE. Thousands of mothers know it. You should keep a jar in the house.

It is the remedy for adults, too. Relieves Sore Throat, Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Croup, Stiff Neck, Asthma, Neuralgia, Headache, Congestion, Pleurisy, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains and Aches of Back or Joints, Sprains, Sore Muscles, Chills, Frosted Feet and Colds of the Chest (it often prevents Pneumonia).

At your druggist's, in 25c and 50c jars, and a special large hospital size for \$2.50. Be sure you get the genuine MUSTEROLE. Refuse imitations—get what you ask for. The Musterole Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

Have You a Good Hot Water Bottle?

You need one. Every home does. The season for Cold Feet, Neuralgia, Backache, Rheumatism and Lumbago is here.

A Hot Water Bottle is useful in forty ways and a good one will give you long service in the forty ways.

Come here for a water bottle, and select from our large assortment of best quality goods at prices ranging from 65c to \$2.00 according to size. We have them from 4 ounces to 3 quarts.

Forney's Drug Store

426 Market St.

FAINTS AS GUN IS POINTED

Woman Is Almost Scared to Death by Violent Demand for Food

Williamsport, Jan. 1.—Miss Harriet Cole, aged 36, of Marsh Hill, is dying from shock, the result of being frightened by a stranger who entered her home and demanded food from her at the point of a revolver.

DEATH UNDER FALLING BEAMS

Billmeyer, Jan. 1.—Three men were seriously injured and one fatally in an accident which occurred here yesterday morning while erecting an addition to the J. E. Baker Company building.

FIRE DRIVES OUT GUESTS

Blaze Next Door to Meadville Hotel Causes \$10,000 Damage

Meadville, Jan. 1.—Eighty guests of the Lafayette hotel fled from the building at supper time last evening when fire broke out in George Schwartzman's book store, adjoining the hotel main corridor. Most of the guests were young women attending the county teachers' institute, and for a short time the excitement threatened to become a panic.

Mrs. George Reidinger Dies

Marietta, Jan. 1.—Mrs. George Reidinger, 54 years old, died yesterday from a complication of diseases. She was a Breuner before marriage, and her aged mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Breuner, her husband, five children, and three brothers, survive. She was a member of the Lutheran church for many years.

Woman Bequeaths \$500 to Church

Neffsville, Jan. 1.—In the will of Emma F. Stoner admitted to probate yesterday the sum of \$500 is bequeathed to the trustees of the Lutheran church, at East Petersburg. There are a number of other bequests.

SHOOTS FORMER EMPLOYER

Discharged Laborer Wounds Dominick Ricco at Pittston

Wilkes-Barre, Jan. 1.—Discharged from his position as a laborer in the mines of the Pennsylvania Coal Company at Fort Blanchard, a week ago, Charles Borlen, of Pittston, lay in wait for his former employer, Dominick Ricco, of Pittston, yesterday and at the approach of the latter opened fire at him with a revolver. Five shots were fired, one taking effect in Ricco's neck, lodging at the base of the brain. He is in the Pittston State hospital in a serious condition. Borlen made his escape, and no trace of him has been found.

STILL COUNT BONI MUST WAIT

No Decision Yet in Suit to Annul Gould Marriage

Rome, Jan. 1.—The Rota tribunal met to take up the suit brought by Count Boni de Castellane to annul his marriage to Anna Gould, now the Duchess de Talleyrand.

WHALEN GOES TO OMAHA

Shortstop of Local Team Fourth to Go Since Season Closed

Penton Whalen, better known as "Red," shortstop of last year's championship Tri-State team, has been sold to Omaha. The price paid for the former American Association player was not made public by the local owners.

HAIR DRESSING

Little Julia's mother had just returned from a visit to the hairdresser with her hair all fluffy.

"Oh, mamma," cried Julia, "who fricasseed your hair?"—Chicago News.

WHOLESALE GIBBONS WEDDING

East Lampeter, Jan. 1.—Miss Lucy A. Gibbons, of this place, was married yesterday to Elmer E. Blocher, of Newark, Del., by the Rev. E. A. Bawden, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal church, Lancaster, at the parsonage. The couple was unattended.

OUT OF MOUTHS OF BABES

Little Miss Fell Tells Experts Much They Didn't Know of Turkeys

State College, Pa., Jan. 1.—After solemn, spectacled experts had delivered long lectures to a group of attendants upon "Farmers' Week" here yesterday, Miss Aileen Fell, who is only twelve, got up and told them all she knew about turkeys, which is a lot.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SAVES

Grand Opera Singer Now Said to Be Out of Danger

New York, Jan. 1.—The operation of blood transfusion has been performed upon Mme. Gerville-Reache formerly leading contralto at the Manhattan Opera house, who is ill in Roosevelt hospital. She is said at the hospital to be out of danger but the nature of her illness was not made known. The operation was performed Wednesday evening.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. David Frederick Enter into Honor of Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Allen

Mr. and Mrs. David Frederick entertained at their home, 1726 Market street, last evening. During the evening announcement was made of the engagement of Mrs. Elizabeth Frederick Stewart to Muriel White Allen, of Chambersburg.

The guests present included Mrs. Elizabeth Frederick Stewart, Miss Sara Heiser, Miss Rambo, of Philadelphia; Miss Dorothy Smith, Chambersburg; Miss Adams, of Reading; Miss Florence Bankus, Richard Smith, Charles Burns, Henry Lancaster, Mr. Stroub, Chambersburg; Mr. Light, Reading, and Mr. and Mrs. David Frederick.

Blocher-Gibbons Wedding

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Whalen is the fourth player on last year's team to be sold since the close of the season.

Coupon

Guaranteed Sterling Silver Initial Glassware

This coupon when presented or mailed to THE STAR-INDEPENDENT

with 48 cents, is good for Six (6) Tumblers—12 cents extra by mail; OR

with 72 cents, is good for One (1) Large Water Pitcher—15 cents extra by mail; OR

with 48 cents, is good for One (1) Sugar bowl and One (1) Cream Pitcher—10 cents extra by mail; OR

you can get the entire set of Nine (9) pieces with the amount specified above, or any two sets with the advertised price, if you have one of these coupons. Sets now on display at

THE STAR-INDEPENDENT

18-20-22 South Third St., Harrisburg, Pa.

Does Your Coal Burn Too Fast?

Does your furnace fire burn too freely during the day?

Can you regulate your furnace at night so that all the coal will not be consumed by morning?

Or, in other words, does your coal burn too fast?

If such is the case it is advisable to use a larger size. If Pea Coal won't give a long, lasting fire; use Stove Size next time, and if Stove Size don't satisfy you the thing to do is to burn Egg Coal.

One kind and size of coal will not give the same results under every condition.

United Ice & Coal Co.

Forster & Cowden Third Base

15th & Chestnut Humel & Muberry

ALSO STEELTON, P.