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SOME FACTS ON FEDERAL SALARIES, INDUSTRIAL
WAGES, AND THE COST OF LIVING

1. Wage Increases approved by Congress for federal Civil Service employees, 1945 to date.
 - A. July 1, 1945: 8.9 per cent to 20 per cent increase with an average of 15.9 per cent.
 - B. July 1, 1946: 14.2 per cent increase with a ceiling of \$250 annually.
 - C. June 30, 1948: Flat increase of \$330 annually averaging about 11 per cent.
 - D. October 28, 1949: Reclassification program with an average increase of \$140, making an overall increase of about 4 per cent.
 - E. June 30, 1951: 10 per cent increase with a \$300 minimum and \$800 maximum.
 - F. This has meant an average salary increase of 40.4 per cent for federal Civil Service employees since 1946.

2. Wage increases approved by Congress for employees of the Post Office Department 1945 to date.
 - A. July 1, 1945: Increase of \$400 annually to all.
 - B. Jan. 1, 1946: Increase of \$400 annually to all.
 - C. June 30, 1948: Increase of \$450 annually to all.
 - D. Nov. 1, 1949: Increase of \$120 annually to all.
 - E. July 1, 1951: Increase of \$400 annually to all.
 - F. This has meant an average increase in the base salary of all Post Office employees of 61 per cent since 1946.
 - G. Letter Carriers only:
 1. Minimum salary was increased by 55.7 per cent since 1946.
 2. Maximum salary was increased by 31.3 per cent since 1946.
 3. The earnings of all letter carriers as represented by the average base salaries increased 42 per cent since 1946.

3. Increase in Veteran's pension and compensation since 1946.
 - A. In 1946, a 100 per cent disabled veteran was paid service-connected compensation at the rate of \$115 a month.
 - B. In 1954, he received \$181 a month.
 - C. This represents an increase of \$66 or 57 per cent.
 - D. Pensions for non-service connected disability rose from \$50 a month in 1946 to \$66.15 in 1954; an increase of \$16.15 or 32 per cent.



4. Increase in the gross earnings of all production workers in manufacturing industries.

A. Labor Department Index Figure as of July 1946 was 81.9 while in November 1954 it was 137.8.

B. This represents an increase of 68.3 per cent.

C. Average gross earnings in July 1946 were \$43.38 per week while in November 1954 they had risen to \$72.98. This is an increase of 68.2 per cent.

5. Labor Department's Consumer Price Index showing the rise in the cost of living since 1946.

A. In July 1946 the Index figure was 84.6. It had risen to 114.6 in November 1954. (Basic years for 100 are 1947-1949)

B. This is an increase of 30 points or 35.5 per cent in the cost of living between 1946 and 1954.