

Fruit Cannery Workers Subject To Labor Laws

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—(AP)—In a ruling important to the fruit canning business the National Labor Relations Board today ruled that the industry's employees are subject to the federal labor relations laws.

The board ordered an election held among cannery employees of the Di Giorgio Fruit Corp.'s Lucerne Park, Fla. grove to determine if they wish to be represented in labor negotiations by the American Federation of Labor.

The Di Giorgio corporation has principal offices in San Francisco and operates in both Florida and California.

Congress has exempted "agricultural employees" from the labor relations laws, just as they

are exempt from the wage-hour law. However, the NLRB found that cannery workers cannot be considered exempt as "agricultural workers." The NLRB said:

"This is quite different from the situation in the instant case where the employees work in a cannery, operate machines, cut up and transform fruit into juices and other materials such as sugar, and can the resulting product."

"The form of the fruit is thus changed and the activity becomes a commercial one, because the additional processing is conducted to enhance the value of the fruit and is not required for the sale of the fruit in the normal course of business."

Czech Press Raps Catholic Church

PRAGUE, Wednesday, Dec. 2.—(AP)—Blasts against the Roman Catholic Church of Czechoslovakia were carried last night in the nation's press and over the radio.

The attacks were leveled against a purported pastoral letter by Roman Catholic bishops. Informants said the letter, which was not published in any Czech papers, prepared church members for a "new heroic test of their faith in the church."

The letter reportedly claimed for the Roman Catholic Church exclusive holiness, referring to all other churches only as sects, and setting forth 19 points for faith-

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By Jimmy Hatlo

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Bethlehem Star Shines Once More

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Dec. 3.—(AP)—The Star of Bethlehem shines down again on this "Christmas city of the U.S.A."

The 90-foot star was turned on last night. From its position high above South Mountain it is visible for 25 miles.

And with the star, the lights went on again in Bethlehem, a city of 60,000.

And what lights!

There were seven miles of illumination throughout the main business and residential sections.

There were more than 40,000 lights in the display.

A giant 60-foot Christmas tree, made up of many smaller trees and 1,200 lights, shown brilliantly on the plaza of the hill-to-hill bridge connecting North and South Bethlehem.

The star is symbolical of the one that guided the Wise Men to Christ's manger in another town named Bethlehem 1948 years ago.

ful members to support.

One attack on the document was in the form of an open letter signed by "the non-Catholic Churches of Czechoslovakia."

The letter denied the Catholic churches' claims and assailed its describing all other churches as sects.

The open letter was circulated by the Czechoslovak press bureau at the request of Government agencies. The Press Bureau did not say what churches were represented among the signers.

Reorganization Plan Touches On Postal Department

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—(AP)—Rep. Clarence J. Brown (R-Ohio) hinted today the Post Office Department is one of the chief targets of the bipartisan commission now studying government reorganization.

Brown, a member of the 12-man commission on organization of the executive branch of the government, told the annual Congress of American Industry sponsored by the National Association of Manufacturers:

"Without divulging too much information as to what the commission will recommend, let me suggest that you keep your eyes open for some interesting developments in our greatest federal service agency—the Post Office Department."

NAM estimated that nearly 3,000 of the nation's top industrialists and businessmen are attending the three-day session, which ends tomorrow night with a speech by Secretary of Commerce Sawyer.

Sawyer hinted in Washington Tuesday he might disclose some details of the anti-inflation program President Truman will give to Congress in January.

Former President Herbert Hoover heads the government reorganization commission that was set up by Congress.

It was Congress' intent, Brown said, to promote economy, efficiency and improved services in the executive branch of the government by:

1. Eliminating duplication and overlapping of services.
2. Consolidating services, activities and functions of a similar nature.
3. Abolishing unnecessary services, activities and functions.
4. Defining and limiting executive functions, services and activities.

Surplus Agencies Cited

"We have found many peculiar governmental situations," Brown said. "For instance, there are over 42,000 postmasters throughout the United States who report directly to the postmaster general in Washington rather than to any regional or state supervisor."

He pointed out that such cities as New York, Cleveland and Boston have one postoffice with integrated branches, "while in California we have found a single county which contains 129 separate post offices."

In addition to naming the Post Office Department, Brown mentioned specifically federal corporations, government lending agencies, government statistical agencies and federal participation in educational matters.

He said the federal government has 19 different departments and agencies dealing with

Musical Instruments Under Oregon Jails Ban

PORTLAND, Dec. 3.—(AP)—No more guitar-playing prisoners for the sheriffs of Oregon.

Sheriff C. N. Lilly of Benton County told the State Sheriff's Convention here that twice pri-

soners had used guitar strings in attempts to saw through cell bars.

Several other sheriffs said the same thing had happened to them.

So they decided to ban guitars

—and other musical instruments as well—from jails.

Northern pike devour almost 9,000,000 wild ducks annually.

The average adult has 20 square feet of skin.

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