

Federation Split On Programs For Farm Assistance

By OVID A. MARTIN

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Dec. 20.—(AP)—The powerful American Farm Bureau Federation moved into the final day of its convention Saturday facing a possible sharp split on federal farm programs.

Its delegates were divided on an issue of future government price support aid for farm products.

Its leaders and resolutions committee sought to put over a policy statement that would prevent a division in the Bureau's ranks. They realized a split could weaken the organization, long a strong force for legislation in the farmers' behalf.

Specifically, one group of delegates—largely from the south—wanted the convention to advocate current wartime price supports for major crops when sup-

plies are large and growers vote production and marketing controls.

Another—principally from the midwestern corn belt—favored somewhat lower supports. They like the support system authorized by the Aiken-Hope law passed by the Republican-controlled 80th Congress.

That law would provide somewhat lower supports than the present wartime levels.

The resolutions committee proposed that the convention pass the question on to the Bureau's 21-member board of directors to decide later in the light of future events.

Stands On Other Issues. The convention took the following position on other subjects:

Foreign Trade.—U. S. should import more to help expand trade.

Government Storage.—Government should be allowed to provide storage facilities for surplus farm products. The last Congress limited this authority—an action that influenced some farmers to vote Democratic in the last election.

Soil Conservation.—Government

should continue to subsidize soil conservation practices, but on a "grant-in-aid" basis to states.

Government Spending.—Called for decent realization of "big government" and less spending.

Politics.—Insisted that employees of government agencies serving farmers "refrain from political or lobbying" activities.

Labor.—Favored a "reasonable" minimum wage which fluctuates "either up or down with the cost of living." Condemned monopolistic practices by either management or labor.

Price Controls.—Expressed "strong" opposition.

Nutrition.—Favored a national program to improve diets of people, with possible financial aid to low-income consumers in periods of recession.

Health Programs.—Favored vol-

untary rather than compulsory medical, health and hospital insurance programs.

Education.—Any federal aid to schools should provide "absolute" state and local control of schools.

Public Housing.—Opposed a "prodigious" expansion of federal housing at this time of "inflated prices, increased labor costs, and acute shortages of key building materials."

Foreign Relations.—Endorsed present government programs, including foreign aid.

Commodity Agreements.—Favored use of international agreements to deal with farm surpluses.

Farmer Cooperatives.—Opposed efforts to tax such cooperatives on their earnings when latter are paid to patrons.

Lifer Who Studied Law In Prison Wins on Appeal

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Richard Monahan, 47, who has been in prison most of his life since pleading guilty to murder in 1918, was free of that charge today.

Using legal knowledge he gained in the prison library, Monahan obtained a hearing before the State Supreme Court last month. He argued he had not been offered legal counsel in the first trial.

The Supreme Court ordered a retrial and charges were dismissed yesterday when the prosecutor's office said it was impossible to obtain evidence in the old case.

Monahan will be returned to the Missouri prison where he is serving a life sentence under the

habitual criminal act. He says he plans to file a writ of habeas corpus on the grounds dismissal of the murder charge makes the habitual criminal act inapplicable.

ENTITLED TO PENSION. STOCKHOLM.—(AP)—Ninety-year-old King Gustaf of Sweden will receive 1,000 crowns in old age pension a year, if he sends in an application. Crown Prince Gustave Adolf will be entitled to the same amount next year.

According to the new census registration regulations all Swedish citizens must be registered and all registered citizens are entitled to old age pension from the age of 67. In the old regulations it was directed that all "Swedish subjects" must register, and the king was not a subject.

The king and the crown prince have so far not applied for the pension.

Grain Loans, Agreements Near 300 Million Bushels

Government loans and purchase agreements on 1948-crop wheat, oats, barley, grain sorghums, corn, and rye totaled almost 261 million bushels through Oct. 31, reports the Department of Agriculture. Nearly 232 million bushels of this amount are under loans, and 29 million bushels are under purchase agreements.

Wheat loans cover more than 192 million bushels, with almost 150 million bushels stored in warehouses and more than 42 million bushels on farms. Wheat covered by purchase agreements totals more than 24 million bushels.

Only 997,604 bushels of corn had been put under loan as of Oct.

31, with 353,233 bushels covered by purchase agreements.

Negro GI Hanged For Slaying Four Japanese

TOKYO, Dec. 20.—(AP)—A 32-year-old Alabama soldier was hanged Friday for the hammer slayings of four Japanese.

It was the first hanging of a member of the American Army of Occupation in Japan. The man, Pvt. Stratman Armistead, a Negro of Thomasville, Ala., was convicted of bludgeoning a Japanese father and two sons and a girl to death near Yokohama Oct. 26, 1947.

An Army court-martial also convicted him of beating three other Japanese and stealing a watch. The death sentence was confirmed by President Truman Nov. 16.

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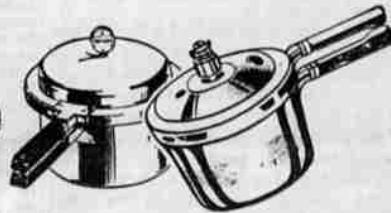


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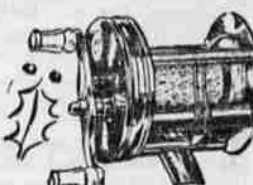


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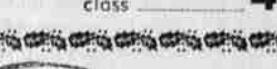
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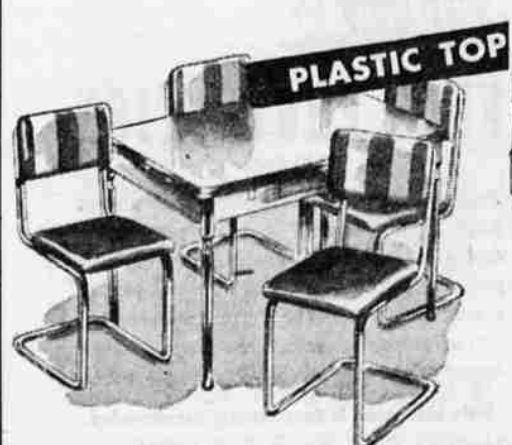


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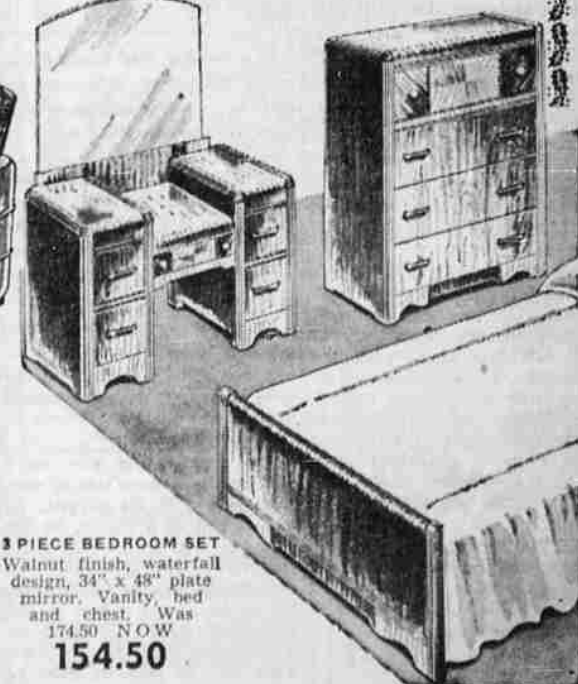
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