

Equaling Of Women's Wages To Those Of Men Promised By Governments

By SIGRID ARNE

WASHINGTON.—Women the world over are still being paid less than the men who work next to them on the same job. The injustice has been recognized, internationally, since 1919 when the International Labor office (ILO) first called attention to it. Now the ILO is going to try to get a hard-and-fast promise from governments that they will take steps at home to wipe out the difference.

There is precious little gallantry in the way in which women workers are being treated. The ILO says that the first squawk from men, who approved the idea of equal pay for equal work, came for a selfish reason: they didn't seem to be worried whether women got the going rates for a job; what they feared was that employers who found women could do a job for less pay would cut the pay of men on such jobs.

Apparently women are proving just as able as men on a wide variety of new occupations. Reports flowing in from the world to the ILO offices show that women workers are slowly taking over a good many industries where they were not used back in World War I days.

Oddly enough, the place where they seem to be making the most marked inroads, in several nations, is in the metal trades and light engineering. At the same time, in some lands their numbers are dropping in the clothing industry.

Shortage Of Goods Aids

Today's shortages of goods are working to the advantage of women who have to earn their own

living, ILO reports. Several governments are trying to draw more women out of the home and into industry. Here are some of the things that are happening to working women around the world, as the ILO reports them:

France has been hiring women in such great numbers for so long that there has been little change since 1896. Since that year French women have remained almost constantly one-third of the French working force. In those years there has been a drop in the number of French women doing domestic service and working in factories. But the number in business and the professions has gone up.

Britain reports that women workers are multiplying the most rapidly in the industries which are using new techniques: metal trades, electrical equipment, explosives, chemicals and engineering.

U. S. reports show that there are now greater proportions of women in men's apparel, electrical machinery, knitted goods, and light engineering.

Business Reflects Effects Of Weather; Bumper Crops Of Corn And Prunes Listed

By SAM DAWSON

NEW YORK. — (AP) — Freakish weather plays hob with merchants, farmers and government planners alike. Immediate effects dot the business picture across the nation. Long-term effects are taking shape, some good, some bad.

A misplaced summer heat wave in the eastern part of the nation drives all thoughts of winter clothing and furnishings out of the minds of shoppers. Sales in department stores in New York and Philadelphia are 14 per cent lower than at the same time last year. Hardest hit are the apparel and fur departments.

Tropical storms did tremendous damage to unharvested rice, vegetables and cotton crops in Texas. Government planners are trying to assess the effect on their subsidy and control plans. Merchants in the area are wondering how they'll move their stocks.

Pork Prices Will Drop

Just now the housewife is finally reaping the benefit of the bumper corn crops of last year. Hogs are rolling into market. In the week ahead, your butcher should have plenty of pork chops and loin roasts. That fine corn growing weather the nation has enjoyed for two years mean lower pork bills for you.

And still later, thanks to the weather man, last year's corn crop should mean plentiful and lower priced beef. Unless the government can hold prices up. Because that good corn growing weather is now just a headache for the government. Washington is scurrying around right now to find aluminum to build bins in which to store farmers' surplus corn, because steel is a strike casualty. Subsidy officials are trying to figure out how to hold up the prices the farmer gets for his hogs. The government will support both the price of hogs and of the dressed pork.

Prune Surplus Noted

There was good prune-growing weather, too, and now there is a surplus in the growing area on the west coast. Subsidy payments are reported planned to induce exporters to ship prunes to the Marshall plan countries. That will help keep prune prices up.

There's another big surplus

cotton crop coming up. Favorable weather sends the govern-

ment crop estimates higher and higher. More and more bales will go into government warehouses.

The effect of bad weather, as well as good, is showing up in the price scales now. Last winter's blizzards in the sheep country are part of the reason that United States wool production is at a new low this year, and that American mills are bidding high in the Australian wool auctions. And that lamb prices aren't dropping along with pork.

Grape Fruit Price Soars

Last winter's freeze in Texas and this fall's hurricane in Florida have cut the grapefruit crop so that a box of grapefruit which cost \$3 wholesale last year is bringing \$4.50 now.

But usually good weather, with plenty of rain, in the winter wheat areas of the southwest this fall has put planting far ahead of schedule. Reports today are that we are off to a good start for another big wheat crop next year. And that could mean more aluminum and steel for storage bins, more subsidy headaches, more pressure to get crop surpluses moved abroad—but also more prosperity in the wheat country and plenty of bread on the nation's tables.

The government can plan all these things, but the weather usually decides them.

Sixty-eight per cent of Japan's eligible women voters cast ballots in their country's general election, January, 1949.

Anderson Farm Plan Will Pass, Lucas Predicts

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(AP) Democratic leader Lucas (Ill.) predicted the Senate will pass the "compromise" Anderson farm plan today. Lucas told reporters, however, he sees no chance for adjournment of Congress by Saturday. That had been the target date.

Lucas was questioned after a brief conference with President Truman.

In view of the legislation pending, Lucas said he doesn't see how Congress can adjourn by Saturday.

"We are going to pass a farm bill," he said.

"It will be the Anderson bill." Asked if the Anderson bill was acceptable to the President, Lucas replied "I don't know."

Mr. Truman has been reported by some callers as favoring 90 percent of parity price support for basic crops instead of the sliding scale of 75 to 90 percent proposed by Senator Anderson

(D-N.M.), former secretary of agriculture.

The President called Lucas and other senators to the White House yesterday and urged them to get together on some kind of farm bill he can sign.

His reported differences with his two top senatorial lieutenants on the farm measure may cloud the issue for the Democrats in the 1950 campaign.

By all accounts today, the President was standing for farm price supports at 90 percent of parity on six so-called basic crops—cotton, corn, wheat, tobacco, rice and peanuts.

Parity is a level aimed at giving farmers the same return on crops, in terms of things they buy, that they had in a past period favorable to them.

Unbudded by this reported shift in the President's position, Senator Lucas (D-Ill.) and Anderson D-N.M.) stuck by their formula of flexible price props for the basic crops, ranging between 75 and 90 percent of parity.

For 1950, the support level under the Anderson bill would be 90 percent of parity on those basic crops under production or marketing controls. After 1950

the support on these crops could be dropped to as low as 75 percent. Controls are expected in 1950 on cotton, wheat and corn. Tobacco is due to be supported at 90 percent indefinitely, there being no prospect of removing controls from this group.

The House already has voted to continue a flat 90 percent support for basic crops in 1950.

During the allied occupation of Japan, an average of 150,000,000 textbooks have been printed every year.

Norsemen made a soup full of Vitamin C. It was later found with a base of rose haws.

The date palm is the sacred tree of the Arabs.

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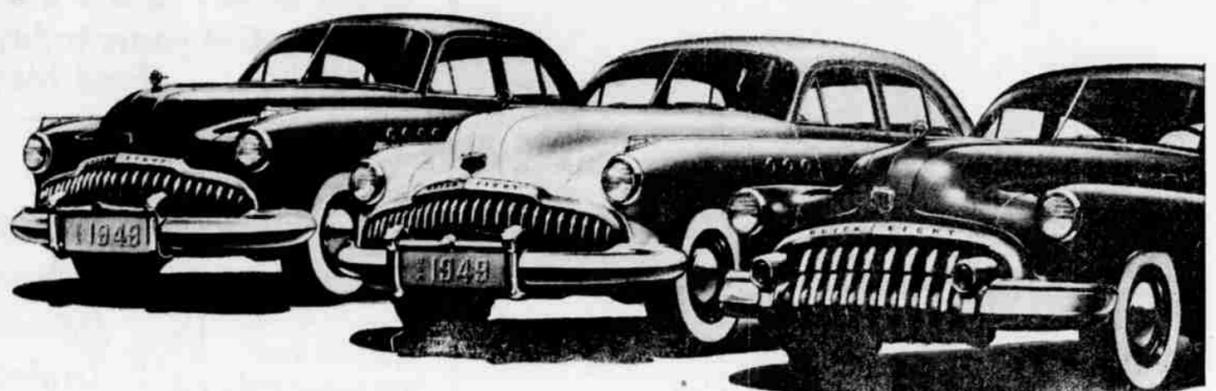
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