

House Rules Committee Was Arena For Bracero Program Return Bout

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Rules Committee was the arena Wednesday for round one of a bitter return match in the house over the controversial "bracero" program.

The committee was expected to clear for floor action a bill to extend the Mexican migrant workers program for one more year.

The Democratic leadership has not yet decided when to call up the bill for a vote. It could come next week.

On May 29 opponents of the program pulled a stunning upset and convinced the house that the 12-year-old law permitting importation of Mexican farmhands should be allowed to die a natural death on Dec. 31. The vote was 174 to 158.

The chief strategist for the bill conceded recently that the pro-bracero forces were overconfident last spring.

But Rep. E. C. Gathing, D-Ark. said the result would be different the second time around because of harder work on the part of his group.

Opponents report that increased "pressures" are being brought to bear on doubtful by the big western and southwestern growers who favor the program.

One anti-bracero congressman said the situation was "fluid" and that the vote could go either way. A similar statement was made privately by a member of the other group.

A switch of nine votes could have changed the outcome of last May's vote. While it was felt that the 100 absentees were about evenly split on the issue, both sides are working hard to hold their lines firm.

Opponents of the program swayed the house by effectively arguing that the program had long outlived its purpose as an emergency measure to provide labor during the Korean War. They fought it on moral grounds and charged that it served to deprive American migrants of jobs and to exploit the Mexicans.

They believe that many mem-

bers, who had been voting for the program in the past on the assurance that it was the last time they would be asked to, finally rebelled.

But gatherings asserted that when the measure comes up again the house will approve it because the members "will know that the fruit and vegetable prices will go up if we don't have the laborers to work the farms."

Opponents reply that there are Americans who will do the work if they receive a decent wage.

The House in May rejected a straight two-year extension approved by the Agriculture Committee, which is dominated by farm interests.

This time the committee approved only a one-year extension.

The Senate narrowly approved a one-year extension—but with several liberalizing amendments that would provide domestic migrants with some of the same protections now guaranteed the Mexicans.

The House Agriculture Committee refused to accept these amendments. Opponents feel it is just as well. They believe they have a better chance to defeat that measure than the one passed by the Senate.

Quirks In The News

By United Press International

MANCHESTER, England (UPI)—The trial of Samuel Waters, 25, accused of wounding with intent to murder, was postponed Tuesday when lawyers said Waters was under treatment for a razor blade and water glass fragments he swallowed in prison.



PLAN NEW ASSAULT—Three of the group of explorers who found their way out of the Barranca del Cobre, Monday, are shown shortly after they were led out of the area by a tour guide and a party of primitive Indians. Left to right are: Janice Cross, Dr. John L. Cross, Mary Ellen O'Reilly. They plan a new attack on the river at a later date.

Group Of U.S. Adventurers Set New Assault On Mexican River

CHIHAUHUA, Mexico (UPI)—"River runners" are a hardy breed.

So, predictably, a group of American adventurers vowed today they would return someday in another attempt to conquer the wild Barranca de Cobre country of northwestern Mexico.

The Barranca defeated and held them prisoner for 11 days, but they enjoyed it.

Bill Roylance of Salt Lake City probably summed up the feelings of the members of his party after their joust with the treacherous Urrique River and its monstrous boulders.

"We got what we came for—the unexpected—and that is what adventure is," Roylance said. "But if we had known about the boulders we might not have come."

Their boats were too heavy

and waterfalls 75 feet high sent them spinning.

"After awhile we were measuring distances in yards rather than miles," said Leroy Sessions, 59, a Salt Lake City mechanic.

It took only two days in the

TREATMENT IN REVERSE

NEWARK, N.J. (UPI)—Albert Johnson, an automobile salesman gave a prospective customer the full treatment Tuesday. He invited the man to his home, served him coffee and took him for a trial run.

But when they reached Branch Brook Park, the customer pulled out a pistol, handcuffed the salesman, tied him with a rope and shoved him into some bushes. He then took Johnson's wallet and drove off in the automobile.

Sierra Madre Country before "we knew we were in for an ordeal," said Al Morton, 58, also of Salt Lake City. The group of 15 Americans tackled the Barranca Sept. 25. Three days later they sent James C. Dean and Larry Davis back for supplies.

Edward Mendoza, a native of the Barranca country, found the expedition. Food was running low. Mendoza and some Tarahumara Indians led the adventurers back to civilization.

John Cross Sr., Orem, Utah, expedition leader, said if it had not been for Mendoza "we would have really needed a savior."

Mary Ellen O'Reilly, of Upper Black Eddy, Pa., one of two women in the party, was the heroine of the expedition. She plunged into the Urrique River to save their gear when a boat was swamped.

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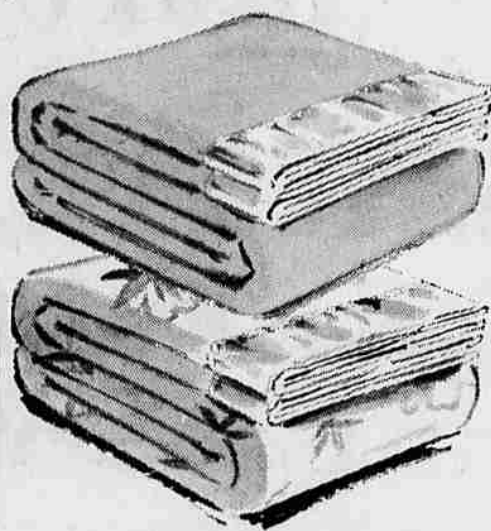
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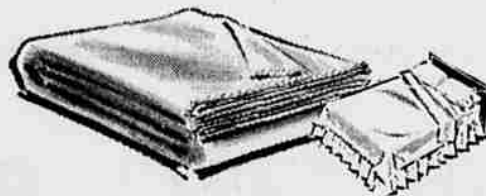
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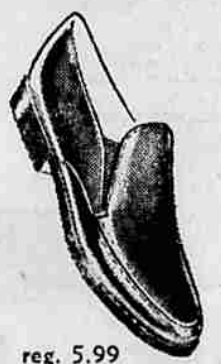
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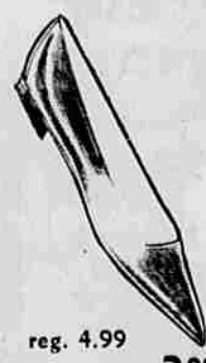
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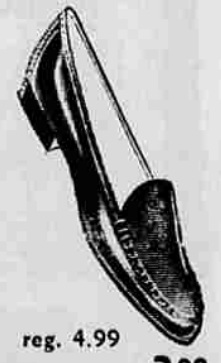
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