

Explosive Farm Bill May Be Last Capitol Business

WASHINGTON (AP)—The politically explosive farm bill, pushed back on the Senate docket again under disputed circumstances, may be the final major business for the adjournment-bound Congress.

Sen. Aiken (R-Vt.) said Friday he has no intention of trying to get Senate action on the farm measure until "next midweek, probably Wednesday." Aiken, chairman of the Senate Agriculture committee, added in an interview: "All I want to make certain is that if there is no farm legislation at this session that I'm not going to take the rap for it."

Aiken smiled away a blistering statement issued Friday night by Senate Democratic leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas which branded as "simply . . . not true" Aiken's assertion that Democrats forced a delay in Senate action on the farm bill.

Groceries Hike Cost of Living

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government reported Friday that rising grocery prices forced the cost of living up one-tenth of one per cent in June.

The increase was small but it was the second rise in as many months and edged the index kept by the Bureau of Labor Statistics close to the peak set last October.

BLS announced the June index was 115.1—meaning the cost of living was 115.1 per cent of the 1947-49 average.

RECORD IS 115.4

The record set last October was 115.4. The June level is one-half of one per cent higher than a year ago and 13.1 per cent above the June, 1950 start of the Korean War.

Food prices rose four-tenths of one per cent in June, mainly because of higher prices for fresh fruits, some vegetables and coffee. Egg, milk and meat prices remained stable, as did most other consumer items.

Food prices have increased for three straight months, rising a total of 1.5 per cent.

Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, said he looked for "continued strength" in prices for the next few months, adding it is possible the living cost index will reach or exceed slightly last October's peak.

RENTS STABLE

One feature of the government's June price report showed that rents failed to increase in June for the first month since the end of World War II.

Small rent advances were reported in some large cities, but there were also scattered rent reductions in smaller cities.

Clague noted, that while prices are advancing somewhat, so are workers earnings. Average weekly earnings of factory workers increased 94 cents between May and June to \$71.68, the largest monthly increase since December, 1952. This reflected both higher pay, in some cases, and increased working hours.

Auto Plants At Standstill

DETROIT (AP)—All of Chrysler's Detroit automobile production was at a standstill Friday in the fifth day of a strike now idling 44,850 workers.

Assembly lines went down completely Thursday with the layoff of 8,850 machinists, motor builders and maintenance employees in mounting idleness from Monday's strike of 10,700 Dodge main plant employees.

Only an approximate 21,000 hourly employees, including defense workers, were still on the job.

All the affected employees are members of the CIO United Auto Workers. The Dodge main strikers walked out in protest of what they called a speed-up. Management denied there was a speed-up.

The only assembly plants left in operation were those in Evansville, Ind., and Los Angeles. These two turn out about 20 per cent of Chrysler's normal production of Chrysler, Dodge, DeSoto and Plymouth cars.



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WHAT, MORE WATER?—Mrs. Margaret Daly, 32-year-old San Francisco widow, offers a drink of water to her six-year-old son, Michael Francis Daly, as the lad recuperates from near-drowning incident. On an outing at Searsville Lake near Stanford University, Michael disappeared in the lake "for what seemed like hours" before he was found by lifeguard Richard Armstrong, 25, a Korean wounded war vet. At Mrs. Daly's scream, Armstrong shouted instructions to call fire department and dashed into water. He applied artificial respiration for 10 minutes after finding the boy. Resuscitator squad completed the job.

Pentagon Prodded On Lavenia Bar

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Investigations subcommittee prodded the Pentagon again Friday to tell why one of its aides, Thomas W. Lavenia, was denied security clearance.

Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis.), who appointed Lavenia as office manager and assistant counsel to the subcommittee, has invited both the Defense and Justice Departments to send spokesmen to a closed door subcommittee meeting for questioning.

CLEARED IN 1952
Lavenia has said he was cleared to handle secret documents in 1952 while in another government job.

Meanwhile, Sen. Flanders (R-Vt.) announced he will give the Senate a limited "bill of particulars" in a speech on July 30 or 31 to support his resolution of censure aimed at McCarthy.

He told reporters he plans to give the Senate "just a sampling" of his accusations that McCarthy, as the subcommittee's chairman, has been guilty of unbecoming conduct, and he added: "To give every item in a bill of particulars would take until Christmas."

McCarthy, who has called Flanders "senile," has not commented on the Vermont's move to have the Senate officially censure him. William Frye, a publicity man, announced Thursday that 23 prominent citizens sent telegrams to the Senate.

Singer Stricken

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Singer Ethel Merman is confined to a hotel suite with subacute appendicitis. She is receiving treatment to avoid surgery at present because she is making a movie. Miss Merman expects to return to her role next Monday.

Court Martial Tries Officer

Wilting Heat Caused Faintings, Say Men

FT. DIX, N. J. (AP)—The defense went ahead Friday in its effort to clear 1st Lt. Robert S. Morgan of a charge that he permitted his company of Army trainees to be held at attention for an hour in wilting heat.

Nine prosecution witnesses took the stand Thursday at the opening of Morgan's court-martial trial on charges of "dereliction of duty."

One of them was Pvt. William Brooks, 20, of Hempstead, N. Y., who told the eight-member court-martial board he fainted three times during the forced attention period June 21.

PLEADS INNOCENT
Morgan, 28, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., is accused of having allowed Company "L," 272nd Infantry Regiment, to be forced to stand at attention in 92-degree heat as punishment for a breach of discipline. Several men were said to have fainted.

As the court martial got under way, Morgan pleaded innocent to the charge. His administrative assistant, 1st Sgt. Richard J. Witbeck, 24, of Wellington, Ohio, will be tried separately on a charge of mistreating the men in the incident.

Brooks testified that he was revived by splashes of cold water each time after he lost consciousness. He said that when he fainted the third time, he finally was carried to his barracks.

When the prosecution concluded its case, the defense took over by reading a deposition from a former member of the company who has since been discharged.

DEPOSITION READ

The deposition, from ex-Pvt. Bayard Stockton of Colorado Springs, Colo., said he did not notice any men fainting during the hour-long formation, but that he did recall seeing one man lying on the ground.

Stockton declared that the men were discouraged over the fact they received no passes after four weeks of training, but that they were not bitter against Lt. Morgan.

NO LICENSE?

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Police say Jack Todora, 4, freed the family car from a curb Thursday and steered it downhill through three intersections. Reaching 50 miles an hour, it struck Donald Boudinot's auto, turned it over, killed Coudinot's collie dog, and finally hit James Matthews' house, officers said.

Damage to the car: more than \$1,000. To Jack: a cut lip and three loose teeth.

Firing Squad Takes Life Of Beria Aide

MOSCOW (AP)—M. D. Ryumin, henchman of executed Soviet Police Boss L. P. Beria, has himself met death before a firing squad nearly 15 months after he was tagged with the blame for the "doctor's plot."

His execution was announced Friday by Pravda, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper. Pravda said the Military Collegium of the Soviet Supreme Court tried Ryumin July 27 and ordered him shot on charges of forcing the doctors to "slander themselves and other people."

There was no explanation why the courts took so long to deal with Ryumin, who was arrested in April, 1953, as the scapegoat in the bizarre case.

The Internal Security Ministry first announced details of the doctor's plot in January, 1953. It accused nine physicians, several of them Jews, of plotting to kill Soviet leaders and charged they already had done away with Politburo Member Andrei Zhdanov with reverse therapy.

Three months later the ministry, which had since been taken over by Beria, announced that the nine doctors and six others had been freed and that Ryumin had been arrested. Beria was jailed himself in June, 1953, on treason charges, and his execution was announced last December.

Pravda said the death sentence was imposed on Ryumin because the court "took into consideration the special dangers of criminal activity . . . and the heaviness of the consequences of the crime perpetrated by him."



Mr. & Mrs. Willy A. Ingle of Rt. 1, Box 60 Veneta, show taking delivery of their new 1954 Pontiac Chieftain deluxe 4 door sedan purchased at Parmenter Pontiac Co., 8 Pearl St. Mr. Ingle said, "We took demonstration rides several different cars but the Pontiac really stood out. And like all women, Mrs. Ingle was very conscious of the color harmony of the car and liked the Brookmere Grey with its harmonizing 2 tone interior. Plus the 'Comfort Controlled' front seat (exclusive with Pontiac). Mr. Ingle said, "the allowance Parmenter's gave us for our old car was by far the best deal in town."

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