

Restaurant Owner Squawks Over Low Grade of Spuds On Market

By William Warren
United Press Correspondent
Salem, Ore., Mar. 2—(U.P.)—The owner of a small Portland restaurant today told his troubles to the state agriculture department today and mailed a blast against the bum spuds he'd been getting to Charles F. Brannan, secretary of the U. S. department of agriculture.

G. M. (Jerry) Fox brought a bag full of spuds to Salem with him and showed them to Frank McKennon, chief of the plant industry division of the state department of agriculture. W. L. (Bill) Close, USDA associate marketing specialist, went along. So did Hugh L. Taylor, assistant chief of the plant industry division. They took one look at the potatoes and chorused: "Unfit for human consumption." The bag purported to be Oregon spuds. Taylor thought they probably came from Washington. All agreed they never should have

been sold. They said the potatoes undoubtedly had been all right when inspected at the shipping point but appeared to have been frozen, probably during the recent long cold spell.

Wants Top Spuds
But the point Fox wanted to know was: "Why can't I buy top grade spuds for my restaurant when Uncle Sam is dumping millions of pounds of them into hog feed, industrial alcohol for paints and varnish and such?"

McKennon explained that potatoes are inspected only at the shipping point and graded. He said there are plenty of No. 1 and No. 2 potatoes on the market and Fox wanted to know where he can buy them. Taylor suggested a certain retail store on the north edge of Salem. He also thought Fox could make arrangements to buy good spuds at one or two of the Portland produce markets.

Fox, noting that the price sup-

port for top grade potatoes—No. 1 and No. 2 grades—went up from \$1.95 to \$2 today, wrote Secretary Brannan:

Victim Of Fiasco
"As the owner of a small restaurant in Portland's Brooklyn district, an industrial area, I have been made a victim of the government's potato buying fiasco. I am paying \$4 a sack—supposedly wholesale price—for rotten potatoes. Out of five sacks of potatoes for which I pay \$20 I am fortunate to salvage two sacks of potatoes that can be served to my customers."

"I am being compelled to purchase these rotten potatoes because the government has bought all the top grade spuds in connection with its price support program. This deceptively labeled price support program is not a price support program at all but a commodity-purchase program. The outright purchase by the government of commodities in competition with private business is the worst thing that can be done. The potatoes I buy are actually third and fourth grade while the government dumps the top grade spuds into stock feed."

Compelled To Absorb Loss
"Oregon grows some of the nation's best spuds. But this senseless program compels me to absorb a loss on my produce or increase the cost of meals to the working men who are my patrons."

Fox concluded: "In closing, let me say that I would like to get out of the rotten potato market and into the troughs with the hogs and cattle, to salvage a few top grade spuds for my customers."

Photos Said Taken During Elliott Regime
Portland, Ore., Mar. 2—(U.P.)—Multnomah County Sheriff Terry D. Schunk said Wednesday the photographs of 30 Portland newspaper men and women found in a bawdy house last month were taken during the regime of former Sheriff Marion (Mike) Elliott.

Elliott was recalled from office last autumn for allegedly falsifying personal qualifications for office. The photographs matched those taken for press cards.

Schunk said he got his positive evidence from an informant who said the photographs first appeared in the house during the latter part of last July. Schunk said investigation on the matter would continue because several other developments had been turned up in the investigation.

French Protest Of Coca-Cola Brings Dispute In Georgia

Washington, Mar. 2—(U.P.)—The Georgia congressional delegation advised the French national assembly today to take the pause that refreshes before voting any ban on coca-cola.

The legislators said a proposal by French communists and the wine-growing bloc to ban cokes as a hazard to health "strikes a blow at the heart of Georgia."

James A. Farley, one-time postmaster general who now bosses the coca-cola export program, said the proposal was the "weirdest bit of political shenanigans I've ever encountered—and that covers a lot of territory."

Armugent Pooh-Poohed
Among other things, he pooh-poohed the health argument pointing out that coke-drinking is liberating France.

Son, Richard B. Russell, (D. Ga.), agreed. He told reporters doctors now prescribed cokes for "children's tummy-aches."

The Georgians got some support from democratic leader Scott W. Lucas, (Ill.).

"It's hard to believe that French babies will be any healthier if they are reared on red wine," he said.

The biggest blast of all came from Rep. James C. Davis, whose Georgia district embraces Atlanta—the home of coca-cola.

"They'll just go to bootlegging it over there," he said. "I'm not surprised the communists are against it," he said.

One Georgia source suggested some "tariff adjustments" on French perfumes as a retaliation.

The Grange
Central Point Grange

Robert Wolff will be in charge of the program at next regular meeting of Central Point Grange, Friday, March 3. He will talk on tree conservation and Otto Bonnett will talk on soil conservation. Members are asked to bring any tree products for the display table.

All members of Juvenile Grange are asked to come promptly at 7 o'clock to practice for the graduation.

Refreshment committee will be Mr. and Mrs. Julius Dobrot, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jantzer and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dunn.

CONFIRMATION WAITED
Washington, Mar. 2—(U.P.)—The nomination of Robert F. Hale of Portland for consul general in the United States foreign service is now before the senate foreign relations committee for confirmation.

Dead line Sunday Classified in A Noon Saturdays

Big Ice Jam Defies Blasts Of Dynamite

Granger, Wyo., Mar. 2—(U.P.)—A massive ice jam defied a series of dynamite blasts today and continued to back icy river water into this town of 250.

An early season thaw sent the ice pack crashing down the Blacks Fork river last Sunday. It became lodged in a narrows just below town, forming a natural dam. The heavy run-off flow of water and ice jumped over the river banks and flooded the town's lowlands almost immediately.

The first effect of the flood was felt when the town's water quaps were put out of commission, cutting off supplies of fresh water.

Later, power lines began going down. One man was electrocuted as he attempted to patch a broken line.

While dynamiters concentrated on trying to break the main ice jam, small packs of ice downstream were blasted away to clear the path for the big mass when it is broken free.

Yoncalla Pair Held For Cafe Robbery

Roseburg, Ore., Mar. 2—(U.P.)—State police today were holding Elmer Adrian Davis, 32, and Carl Jack Carlton Keeling, 29, both of Yoncalla, Ore., following a cafe robbery north of here yesterday of about \$35.

One of the men fired a shot as he left the cafe to warn witnesses not to follow. However, a woman bystander relayed a portion of the license number to the state police office, and the car was found where Davis and Keeling were staying.

They were captured while still in bed, four hours after the holdup occurred. Sheriff's officers assisted state police in the capture.

WHO TOOK WHOM?
Fort Worth—(U.P.)—Robert G. Jones, a commercial photographer, went to take a picture of the "continuous membership" committee of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. He got it, but when he left he also was the latest Chamber of Commerce member.

Omaha—(U.P.)—The Omaha World-Herald each year received a contribution of \$3.65 for charity from Bill Tillotson. Tillotson is a prisoner at the state penitentiary. He saves a penny a day from his meager cigarette allowance.

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