

Hearings Start on Farm Price Props; Farmers in Midwest Declared Divided

Committee Also Hopelessly Split, Mundi Maintains

Des Moines — (U.P.) — The Senate Agriculture Committee opened hearings on government farm price props in this farm belt capital today with a warning from one of its own members that farmers are "hopelessly divided" over the issue.

Sen. Karl E. Mundi, a Republican from the farm belt state of South Dakota, added that the committee itself is hopelessly split between advocates of the administration's flexible farm support program and of the old Democratic program of high, rigid supports.

'Other Answers' Sought

"But there are other answers and we must find them," Mundi told an audience of Des Moines businessmen and Iowa farm leaders at a dinner Tuesday night.

Today's hearing is the third in a series scheduled by the Senate committee, which plans to write new farm support legislation in January. At Worthington, Minn., Tuesday, the senators heard an excited audience cheer demands for the removal of Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson and a return to high supports on hogs and other farm products.

Iowa Shows Split

Low hog prices have also stirred up farmer unrest in this state, where the newly-organized National Farm Organization has called for Benson's resignation and asked for a government floor under hog prices. But the administration farm program also has staunch defenders in Iowa in the leaders of the powerful Farm Bureau Federation.

Mundi's mention of "other answers" to the politically touchy problem of farm income was a reference to his earlier statement that a solution might be found in government land rental payments to farmers. Such payments could keep farm income up and surplus production down, he said.

Sen. Edward J. Thye (R-Minn.) appealed to his colleagues to leave politics aside and write a new farm bill quickly when Congress reconvenes in January.

They, who listened with other committee members to some 150 witnesses in earlier hearings this week at Worthington and St. Paul, Minn., told the dinner audience "we can get exceedingly serious listening to these problems. We mustn't stuff them off as chronic farmer complaints. It's far more serious than that."

At Worthington Tuesday, an overflow crowd of 400 farmers and small town businessmen booed a late witness who denounced the senators for bring-



BEAMING WITH HAPPINESS following Chicago wedding ceremony are Author James Michener and Mari Yoriko Sabu-sawa, assistant editor of the American Library Association Bulletin. The noted writer and his American-born bride plan to tour the world on their honeymoon. (International)

Guidance Clinic Membership Drive

The Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic association's annual fall county membership campaign is making good progress, according to Mrs. Earl Lawson, county membership chairman.

The annual fall campaign is conducted outside the area served by the United Medford Crusade. The association is a UMC member organization.

The number of association members in Gold Hill has doubled, Mrs. Lawson said. Mrs. C. Norman Gail is local chairman for the Gold Hill area. Teachers at a Gold Hill school have a 100 per cent membership in the association.

ing their hearings directly to farmers.

Douglas G. Vandegrift of Albert Lea, Minn., a Farm Bureau member, said the committee should get advice from farm organization spokesmen in Washington.

"You are showing contempt for farm organizations when you ignore them and hit the road like this," he said.

"Farmers are much better off to depend on themselves rather than some salaried lobbyist in Washington," Sen. Milton R. Young (R-N.D.) snapped as the crowd cheered.

Mrs. Lawson explained that the membership drive is three-fold in purpose. She listed the aims as creation of interest for new members in the clinic through educational materials; keeping the interest of current members in continuation and expansion to meet growing needs in the community; and helping finance the clinic. The clinic is financed in several different ways.

Local chairmen in the various communities are the Rev. Ross Knotts, Ashland; Mrs. John Bohnert, Central Point; Mrs. W. H. Young and Mrs. Glenn Hale, Eagle Point; Mrs. Jim Sawyer, Elk-Trail; Mrs. Gail, Gold Hill; Mrs. Irving Thomas, Phoenix; Mrs. G. A. Hubbard, Prospect; Mrs. Phil Engle, Rogue River-Evans Valley; Mrs. William Ziegler, Ruch and Applegate; Mrs. Frank Straus, Sams Valley; Mrs. Ann Briggs, Shady Cove, and Dr. Loren Messenger, Talent.

More than 1,500,000 Americans live in trailers today, most of them staying in the 7,500 trailer parks which provide for parking space, electric connections and sanitary facilities.

More than 100 professional puppet companies tour the U. S. every year.

Sen. Russell Demands Congressional Crackdown on Free Travel in Government Airplanes by Federal Officials

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.), demanding a congressional crackdown on free travel in government planes by federal officials, said today airplanes are available for personal use of "30 to 40 assistant secretaries" of the Defense Department any time they want to use them.

Russell said these planes often carry only a few officials per trip and that it costs as much to haul them as congressmen.

The assistant secretaries generally are heads of sections within the Defense Department. According to Russell, planes will take them to Europe or wherever they wish to go.

He did not say whether the assistant secretaries had abused their privileges but only made known that free transportation was available.

Chides Executives

Russell's call for a curtailment of free travel by government officials at the taxpayers' expense was directed to other departments in the executive branch as well as the Defense Department.

Russell told newsmen executive agencies use government aircraft far more than Congress does.

His comment was an outgrowth of a Defense Department charge, later retracted as an error, that two senators had demanded plush air transportation to return them from European inspection tours.

The senators, John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) and John Stennis (D-Miss.), returned on a regularly scheduled military flight rather than on a special plane flown from Washington to pick them up in Madrid.

Wives Given Trips

It was learned, meanwhile, that the Defense Department provided free transportation to the wives of McClellan and Stennis and two other senators and two committee staff members for a month-long tour of U. S. military bases in Europe.

In addition to Mrs. McClellan and Mrs. Stennis the free plane travel was provided for the wives of Sens. Harley M. Kilgore (D-W. Va.), and Dennis Chavez (D-N.M.), and committee staff members Arthur T. Hannett, the group's legal counsel, and Harold E. Merrick.

McClellan and Stennis said they plan to pay at least part of their wives' expenses although this is not required by the Defense Department. An aide said Kilgore also expects to pay his wife's transportation costs.

Chavez and his wife are still in Europe and were not immediately available for comment.

Expanded Water Resources Plan Asked by Army Engineers Chief

Lincoln, Neb. — (U.P.) — The chief of the Army Engineers called today for a revitalized, accelerated and expanded water resources program to combat the "growing menace" of both shortages and floods.

"We can no longer afford the luxury of procrastination," Lt. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis said in a speech before the National Reclamation association here.

"I believe the time has come when America must decide whether it is to permit its water resources to be developed separately and piecemeal as expediency and pressures may dictate, or whether it will recognize that water resources needs are not separate and divisible," he said.

Nationwide Problem

Sturgis said the problems are "nationwide in scope and must be planned for and accomplished as elements in a unified, comprehensive plan."

Election of officers and adoption of resolutions were scheduled for later in the day.

C. Petrus Peterson, Lincoln, President the last four years, was not expected to seek reelection, despite strong support.

Salt Lake City was the favored

contender for next year's convention.

Sen. Arthur Watkins (R-Utah) told the group last night that reclamationists "must go positive in arguing their case before the people."

Cost is Repaid

It is dangerous to assume that Congress and the American people understand these principles," Watkins said. The whole burden

of reclamation, he said, "should not be carried by a few dedicated men."

"We should make clear that one of the substantial financial supports for the reclamation program comes from resources held in trust by the federal government for the people of the public land states," Watkins said.

The senator referred to the income from sale and lease of public lands within the 17 reclamation states. He said the income was authorized by Congress to be paid into a revolving fund for reclamation purposes.

Letter From Eisenhower

Repayments by beneficiaries of the program of the cost of construction also were allocated to this special fund, Watkins said. When the people realize this fact, he said, they will understand "how false the charge is that all money appropriated for reclamation development burdens all taxpayers."

Fred A. Seaton, administrative assistant to President Eisenhower, appeared at the convention last night and read a letter from Mr. Eisenhower to the group.

The President outlined reasons why the nation "must turn toward the maximum practical use of our water."

The letter listed an increased population, expanded irrigation and industrial needs as among the reasons.

Help Enlisted in Search for Slayers

Chicago — (U.P.) — Authorities enlisted school children, utility workers and suburban officials into the hunt for the slayer or slayers of three young boys today.

The sheriff's office, state police, and city police, despite the support represented by reward offers totaling \$30,000, were at the start over stage of their efforts. They admitted little progress in their hunt for those responsible for the deaths of Robert Peterson, 13, John Schuessler, 13, and his brother, Anton, 11.

Sheriff Joseph Lohman called upon the police chiefs of 11 suburbs to meet with him as a coordinating step. Presumably, Lohman planned to seek closer cooperation with them in a hunt for sex deviates believed responsible for the crime.

Potomac River Pollution Worries

Washington — (U.P.) — Pollution in the historic Potomac river is a growing problem.

The situation was underlined this fall when swimming and diving exhibitions at the annual President's Cup Regatta were called off at the request of the district health director, Dr. Daniel I. Seckinger, to safeguard the health of the performers.

Dr. Seckinger said he was "shocked that such exhibitions were planned."

Pollution of the river is even greater this year than it was last year," he added.

The downstream stretch of the Potomac that lies between the nation's capital and the Virginia communities of Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax receives thousands of gallons of raw and partially-treated sewage daily.

A recent editorial in the Washington Post and Times-Herald described the river as "... a foul, disease-laden conduit for sludge, little better than an open sewer." The newspaper called for a conference of the district commissioners and governments of nearby Potomac communities to discuss the problem.

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), appearing on a local telecast called "Our Beautiful Potomac," said he was "shocked at the pollution I saw and smelled."

"Come January, 1956, I am going to make the pollution of the Potomac one of the major issues of the District of Columbia committee in the Senate," he said.

Rep. Joel T. Brophy (R-Va.) of nearby Alexandria announced on another TV program that he will introduce a bill in the next session of Congress to create a metropolitan Washington sewage disposal authority "to eliminate pollution 100 per cent."

Weed Control Technique Saves Rose Men Money

Riverside, Calif. — (U.P.) — A new weed control technique expected to save commercial rose growers thousands of dollars has been developed on the University of California campus here.

A single application of the new chemical has been found to provide effective control of weeds during the spring months when growers normally are forced to weed by hand.

The chemical, CMU, was selected after hundreds of tests involving 15 herbicides, and its use cuts costs from a normal \$60 per acre by hand to about \$5 per acre through the chemical treatment.

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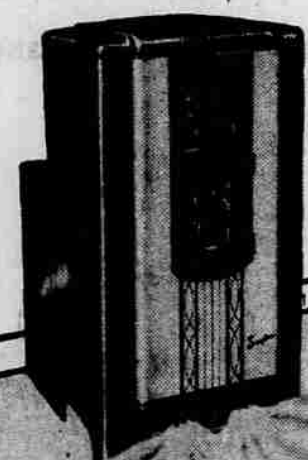
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