

# In The Day's News

**DAY'S NEWS**  
By FRANK JENKINS  
The department of agriculture has reported that farm prices went up an average of 2 per cent between the middle of February and the middle of March. That brought them to a level nearly 3 per cent above farm prices prevailing at the beginning of this year.

But—  
Despite this increase—  
Farm prices in mid-March were about five per cent BELOW those of a year ago at this time. They are nearly 27 per cent below the record high reached in 1951.

LET'S be realistic—even if this is a political campaign year. Farm prices can't go very high as long as vast stored-up surpluses hang over the markets like a dark thundercloud. As long as these surpluses exist, there will be the ever-present possibility of some new shift in the political winds that will cause them to be thrown on the market for whatever they will bring.

This fact—and it IS a fact—will exert a constant downward pressure on the market. If farm prices are to rise, the surpluses must be disposed of.

BUT the subsidy system ENCOURAGES AND PROMOTES surpluses by making it profitable to produce more of

the subsidized crops than the consuming markets will absorb. It can be stated flatly that as long as we have subsidies we will have surpluses.

And as long as we have surpluses farm prices will remain low.

THAT brings us to the present farm bill and the disgusting and disillusioning political antics that have accompanied its progress through the two houses of the congress.

American agriculture is plagued by surpluses. The surpluses are the result of subsidies that have encouraged the production of more of the subsidized crops than the markets will absorb. Common sense tells us that the way to cure this evil is to REDUCE the subsidies, thus removing the incentive to overproduce.

But in the face of this obvious conclusion the political farmers in the congress of the United States are proposing to EXPAND AND INCREASE the subsidies instead of reducing them!

THE political strategy is obviously to bat up to Ike a bill he'll have to veto.

That will take courage. A careful and impartial survey just conducted by the Wall Street Journal in the big midwest farm states points to the startling conclusion that of every five farm-

ers there who voted Republican in 1952, THREE ARE GOING TO VOTE DEMOCRATIC THIS YEAR.

WHY? The answer is quite simple. They're MAD. They are mad, basically, because while prices of what the farmer has to sell have been going steadily down prices of what the farmer has to buy have been going steadily up.

When people are mad, they don't always act logically and intelligently. They want to HIT SOMEBODY. If they are mad enough, they are apt to go against their own long-range best interests just for the satisfaction of hitting somebody on the nose.

THE political farmers in the congress and elsewhere are banking on the hope that in the politically critical big farm states enough farmers will be mad enough this year to vote Democratic because a Republican President who is seeking a sound LONG-RANGE solution of the farm problem felt compelled to veto a farm bill that was loaded to the gunwales with unsound and uneconomic subsidies payable RIGHT NOW—this year.

That is about the long and the short of it. It is disgusting. But there it is.

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads  
Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday 10 a.m. Monday for Monday other days 5:30 previous day.

## McNary Dam Gets 12th Big Generator

Umatilla—(U.P.)—Kilowatt output at McNary dam reached the \$1,000,000 mark yesterday with the installation of the 12th of the dam's complement of 14 huge 70,000-kilowatt generators.

The final two generators are scheduled to be installed and cut into the Bonneville power administration's power grid within 180 days.

First generator of the \$285,000,000 power dam was cut into service Sept. 23, 1954, when President Eisenhower threw the switch at dedication ceremonies.

## Hitchcock Report Broadcast Tonight

Two Jackson county radio stations will carry Phil Hitchcock's second "report to Republicans" interview broadcast today. Station KMED will carry the interview at 5:55 p.m., and KWIN in Ashland will broadcast it at 8:30 p.m.

In the second in the series, Hitchcock, who is seeking the Republican Senatorial nomination, outlines his conservation plank after denouncing "Morse's vicious attacks on Eisenhower's personal integrity," according to Paul Hebb, chairman of the Hitchcock for senator committee.

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