

# Farm Bill Blasted By House Democrat

Washington—(U.P.)—The new farm bill passed Friday night by the Senate came under immediate attack Saturday by a House Democratic farm leader. Weary senators shouted passage of the bill after two days of debate and returned it to the House. The action was both a victory and a defeat for President Eisenhower.

The bill—a modified version of one passed by the House—contained the President's \$1.2 billion soil bank. But it did not contain his plan to make advance payments this year to farmers who promise to take part in the soil bank program next year.

**Blasts Provision**  
The Texas Congressman, No. 2 Democrat on the House Agriculture Committee, centered his fire on a provision that would leave it up to Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson when the soil bank goes into effect.

"If it is left discretionary, politically doubtful states will get soil bank payments this year and others won't," Poage told a reporter.

Other major features of the Senate bill included a compromise boost in feed grain prices,

a discretionary two-price plan for rice, and an increase in the corn acreage allotment from 43 million to 51 million acres.

Cotton acreage would be increased by 100,000 acres to 17.5 million acres for the next two years with the increase going to small farmers. In any changes in state allotments, a state's allotment could not be cut more than one per cent a year.

**Additional Half Billion**  
Another \$500 million a year would be authorized to support prices of perishable farm commodities and additional funds also would be authorized for distribution of surplus foodstuffs to needy persons abroad.

Parity prices for corn, wheat and peanuts would be frozen at present levels for another year. As passed by the Senate, the bill had only one major feature to which the administration objected strongly. It would require export sales of surplus cotton at world market prices.

The administration had softened its objections to some other provisions and accepted compromises.

## Reservoir Dam Gives Way; Damages Farms

Baker—(U.P.)—Officials Saturday were investigating means of repairing Goodrich reservoir dam, the source of Baker's water supply. The dam gave way Friday afternoon, spilling tons of water down the mountainside, seriously damaging farm lands and 2 winding out three county roads.

City officials said the break let loose about two-thirds of the water in the reservoir and if the break isn't repaired soon, the city might face a water shortage later this summer.

There was no immediate explanation for the break. But city officials said there could have been a small leak in the dam which widened under pressure of the water back of the dam. Also, officials said, a heavy snow melt in recent days could have added water to the reservoir to force the dam to give way.

City officials said there was no estimate of amount of damage done by the cascading water. Work crews were scheduled to

## Parade, Displays Mark Armed Forces Day Observance

A half-hour parade in the downtown area, an exhibit of military equipment and a defense exercise at Hawthorne park highlighted the Armed Forces Day celebration in Medford Saturday.

A fair sized crowd of residents witnessed the 11 a.m. parade, which featured military marching and mobilized units, bands, fire engines, Cub Scout packs, the Ground Observer corps, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Civil Air patrol, the Jackson County Disaster Car and promoters of the Phoenix May festival.

Bands participating in the parade were from Medford Senior High School and McLoughlin and Hedrick Junior High schools. Fire departments represented were from Central Point, Elk Lumber company and Medford.

**Equipment Display**  
After the parade, the crowd moved to Hawthorne park to see the equipment display and defense exercise. The exercise showed resistance against a simulated attack on the Rogue valley with defense positions along the east side of Bear Creek in the park area.

Sponsoring displays were Headquarters company and company A, 186th infantry division, Oregon National Guard, of Medford and the 732nd anti-aircraft artillery guard and battalion, Ashland, and other reserve and military units.

Attracting considerable attention at the park was an Army helicopter, which also flew over downtown Medford during the parade.

## State Prison Warden Dies of Heart Attack

Soledad, Calif.—(U.P.)—Bert O. Webb, warden at the Soledad state prison since 1946 and a veteran federal prison officer, died of a heart attack Friday night. He was 55.

Webb came to Soledad in July of 1946 after serving as warden at the Washington State prison at Walla Walla, Wash. Prior to that, he was with the Federal Prison Service for 12 years.

He is survived by his widow and a son.

make surveys of the damage in the dam and begin repairs as soon as possible.

## Temperatures Drop 24 Degrees in Hour In Thunderstorm

A violent thunderstorm struck the Rogue valley about 5:30 p.m. Friday.

In the course of an hour the temperature dropped 24 degrees—from a high of 80 at 5:30 to a low of 60 at 6:30.

Winds reached a gust velocity of 53 miles per hour at the weather bureau.

About 1½ inches of rain fell—most of it in a period of about 40 minutes, when .9 of an inch was recorded at the weather bureau.

**Orchards Lashed**  
Wind-whipped rain lashed the valley's pear orchards, but C. B. Cordy, county horticultural agent, said he had received no reports of any serious damage to the fruit. He said the tiny pears—now about a half-inch in diameter—may have had some leaf scarring, which could russet them as mature fruit, causing a down-grading. But he said he does not expect any serious damage.

There were no reports of hail anywhere in the valley, which would have offered a much more serious threat to the fruit.

There were four fire alarms in a period of less than 40 minutes, which kept city firemen hopping, but caused little serious damage.

The first alarm was at 6:02, when lightning struck the Max Kulbe home at 120 Genessee st. The bolt, firemen said, came down the flue and flipped the lid off the stove, but did no other damage.

**Short Reported**  
At 6:15, road station KYJC reported a short in a fluorescent lighting fixture, caused when lightning struck nearby. Damage was confined to the fixture.

At 6:20, two pumper trucks answered a mill-fire alarm at Timber Products company, after wind had whipped a spark from the mill burner into the upper portion of a nearby building. Damage was confined to one end of the building, where a foot-round hole was burned. The fire was out by the time firemen arrived.

To wind up the late-afternoon excitement, an alarm came in from the Hale Wheeler home at 307 Genessee st., two blocks from the earlier lightning strike,

where a porch lighting fixture had shorted out—possibly because of fluctuations of power in the lines.

Power was off in portions of east Medford during part of the storm, which came in from the south and southeast, across the Siskiyou mountains, in two waves—a similar one followed by a larger squall.

## Attorneys Claim Error Kept Stroud In Confinement

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Attorneys for Robert F. Stroud, famed "bird man of Alcatraz," charged Friday that an error by a former U. S. attorney-general kept their client in solitary confinement illegally for the past 40 years.

The attorneys, Kneeland H. Lobner and Richard N. Little, both of Sacramento, asked the U. S. District Court here to order prison officials to place the 66-year-old convict in ordinary custody and to forbid them from ever placing him in lone confinement again.

Strouds has been in prison since 1909 when he was sentenced to 12 years for the slaying of a bartender in Juneau, Alaska. He was 19 years old at the time. The sentence was changed in 1918 to death by hanging for the killing of a guard in the prison mess hall.

**1918 Court Order**  
The convict's attorneys said Friday's petition that a 1918 court order placing Stroud in solitary confinement until his execution touched off his 40-year incarceration.

After President Wilson commuted his sentence to life imprisonment in 1920, the attorneys said, the U. S. attorney general, A. Mitchell Palmer, "chose to construe" the commutation to mean that Stroud had to continue serving his sentence in solitary confinement.

In all the attorneys said, Stroud has been "in isolation" since 1918—the year he killed the Leavenworth guard.

He remained at Leavenworth until 1942 when he was transferred to Alcatraz where he was again placed in solitary.

**Hospital Attendant Admits Abortion**  
New York—(U.P.)—A Brooklyn hospital attendant pleaded guilty to manslaughter Friday in the Christmas Eve abortion death of pretty Jacqueline Smith because he could no longer bear the grisly testimony or look at the girl's grieving father.

Leo Pijuan, 46, the attendant, changed his plea 12 days after the beginning of the trial, admitting his part in the fatal operation and hacking up and disposing of pieces of the body in trash cans.

The admission left Miss Smith's lover, Thomas G. Daniel, 25, the sole defendant. The state charges that the abortion took place in Daniel's East Side apartment.

The guilty plea was made by Pijuan's attorney, Oscar G. Suarez.

"The defendant is a victim of circumstances not of his own making, and feels so repentant that he could no longer stand more hours of reliving this memory," Suarez told the court.

"He also could not stand the presence in the courtroom of an aggrieved father."

Suarez said the nature of the case was such that "I could not induce myself to believe we had a chance with the jury."

Chester D. Smith, of Lebanon, Pa., father of the 20-year-old textile designer, was absent Friday when Pijuan admitted his guilt. Smith was also absent Thursday but had attended the 10 previous sessions.

## Annual Teachers, Parents Confab Opens

San Francisco—(U.P.)—The 60th annual convention of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers opens here Sunday with more than 3000 delegates attending the four-day event.

The theme of the convention is "The family and the community: Each shapes the other. The PTA serves both for healthy children in healthy communities."

The national president, Mrs. Rollin Brown of Los Angeles, will open the convention with an address on "Variations on a theme."

## Eisenhower to Have Two More Physicals

Washington—(U.P.)—The White House said Saturday that President Eisenhower will have one or two more medical examinations before the end of this year.

White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty made the statement when asked specifically if Mr. Eisenhower would undergo another examination either before the Republican Convention or before the start of the presidential campaign or both.

He said it is a "fair assumption" that the examination will deal more specifically with the president's heart than the "head to toe" general physical examination last week. This showed the President is in "excellent" shape generally.

## Khrushchev Refers To 2nd World Power

Moscow—(U.P.)—Communist Party Secretary Nikita S. Khrushchev Saturday referred to Soviet Russia as "the second greatest world power."

He did not name the first. Khrushchev's remark was made in a conversation with the Egyptian ambassador at a reception following the Franco-Soviet talks.

"We are those who fight for liberation," Khrushchev said. "People say that some people of some countries cannot govern themselves. We laugh at them. Why Russia has been able to, and has become the second greatest world power. Why cannot the Arabs?"

## New Central Point Grade School Named

Central Point—Central Point's new primary school, scheduled to be open for classes in September, will bear the name of H. P. Jewett, superintendent of schools in district 6.

The district board of directors made the decision last week on recommendation of the Central

Point Parent-Teacher association. Mrs. Stanley Parrish and Mrs. Chester Ashton, ingoing and retiring presidents, represented the P-TA at the board meeting.

The recommendation was made in a letter read to the directors. The board cast a unanimous vote favoring the proposed name. Jewett has a long record of service as a supervisor and educator.

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## Roach Resigns as Convention Chairman

Chicago—(U.P.)—William Neal Roach Friday night admitted he has resigned as convention manager for the Democratic National Committee.

He said he quit the position two weeks ago after organizing Democratic conventions in 1948 and 1952. At the time of his resignation, Roach had preparations well underway for the August convention in Chicago.

Roach, 43, of Bethesda, Md., refused to explain the reason for his resignation. He also declined to say why he was in Chicago, but said he would return to Bethesda today.

In Washington, a spokesman for the Democratic National Committee said Roach resigned for "strictly personal reasons." He said everyone on the committee was happy with Roach's work. It would be up to Roach, he said, to say what the "personal reasons" were.

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