



BREAKING THROUGH CORDON of paratroopers, Algiers mob of teen-agers riot at residence of outgoing minister, Robert Lacoste. Demonstrators are supporting "Committee of Public Safety," set up after army took control of country. (International)

Living Costs Pushed To All Time Peak In April

Washington — The Labor Department reported today that record-high food prices pushed living costs to a new all-time peak in April. The department said substantial price increases for fruits, vegetables, meats, poultry and fish sent the index up two-tenths of 1 per cent last month.

The April index rose to 123.5 of average 1947-49 prices. This was 3.5 per cent higher than a year ago.

There was some good news for housewives, however. Ewan Clague, commissioner of labor statistics, said the big increases are over and overall living costs were "peaking out."

The department said some foods—bananas, green beans, tomatoes and onions—declined sharply in May.

Steady Increases

Clague said prices may creep up further during the summer but that August is the most logical month for a drop. The government's cost of living index has gone up in 18 of the past 20 months. It was unchanged in the other two months. It last showed a decline in August, 1956.

About 500,000 workers will get wage increases as a result of pay-escalation clauses in labor contracts. About 250,000 workers in farm implements, auto and auto parts firms will receive two cents an hour. Another 180,000 will get boosts of three cents an hour.

Clague said he was not including the auto workers at the "big three" firms in the calculations, even though they have cost of living clauses in the contracts, since their contracts expire and it is doubtful if they will receive the June increases.

Clague said some prices declined in April. New car prices fell seven-tenths of 1 per cent. Gasoline prices dropped more than 1 per cent to the lowest level in 16 months.

Post-Easter clearance sales reduced prices of women's coats, suits and rayon dresses. But men's slacks, suits and shoes went up.

Food Prices Higher
Chicken was cheaper but bacon, hamburger, chuck roast, round steak, frankfurters, rib roast and pork chops all went up.

Egg prices and dairy prod-

ucts declined seasonally.

Food prices were 6.9 per cent above the level a year ago.

Rents, gas and electricity and house furnishings pushed up housing costs. Higher in-

Weyerhaeuser Votes I. W. A.

North Bend — Workers at the Weyerhaeuser Timber plant here voted 442 to 224 in favor of the International Woodworkers of America over the Lumber and Sawmill Workers union as their bargaining agent.

Balloting in the two-day National Labor Relations board election ended Wednesday evening.

The vote means the IWA will negotiate a new contract covering 825 hourly wage workers at the plant. The workers recently struck over moving of a truck driver from his truck to another job and returned to work Monday.



LIKE ANGRY—President Eisenhower was reported to be as angry over Vice President Nixon's ordeal in Venezuela as he has been at anything in recent years. Ike looks grim here as he walks from White House for press conference.

terest rates on GI mortgages made home ownership more expensive despite a decline in fuel prices.

The average take-home pay—earnings after federal taxes—for a factory worker with three dependents was \$73.67 in March. This was about 50 cents lower than the preceding month. Some reduction is usual at this time of year.

In other economic developments:—A tug-of-war was reported going on within the administration over whether President Eisenhower should recommend or oppose some immediate reductions in excise taxes. Informed sources said the President, faced with conflicting advice from top aides, hasn't decided what to do.

Approval Seen

—The Senate Finance Committee today was expected to approve the administration's House-passed unemployment compensation bill and reject a bid to liberalize it. The bill would lend states money to extend unemployment compensation payments by 50 per cent. It falls short of Democratic proposals to make the extension a flat 16 weeks.

The cost of living index has gone up every month since December even though unemployment has risen to above 5 million in the same period. Government economists said this was not unusual because most of the increase in prices has been due to record-high cost of foods.

Farming is not related to the general economy, they maintain.

Consumer prices dropped only once in a steady upward spiral which began two years ago. The index hit new records in 17 out of the past 19 months. In the other two months it was unchanged. The index measures the change in price of 300 goods and services bought by the average city wage-earner. Prices in 46 cities are gathered to arrive at the monthly figure.

PICKLE OF A DRINK
Chicago — Drinkers in Chicago and New York today will be able to really get pickled on their martinis. A restaurant chain in the two cities will serve a new drink to observe National Pickle Week—the "picklini"—a martini with a pickle.

Calls 'Wagon Train' Play Silly Taffypull

By WILLIAM EWALD

United Press Correspondent
New York — John Drew Barrymore turned in a competent performance as a nutty killer on Wednesday night's NBC-TV "Wagon Train," but the play itself was a preposterous taffypull. It strikes me over the months that I've been watching "Wagon Train" that the people on board have more emotional problems than the entire population of Greenwich Village.

Writer Arthur Hailey has proved himself a pretty dependable craftsman in the

past, but his "Hour of the Rat" on CBS-TV's "U.S. Steel Hour" Wednesday was absurd. To compound the foolishness, Dan Duryea was cast in the role of an English diplomat and he turned in a terribly awkward portrait. I won't burden you with the details.

The Channel Swim: Talks are being held in the CBS-TV upper regions about shifting Arthur Godfrey's Monday night "Talent Scouts" to a Wednesday slot. Patricia Benoit of the old "Mr. Peepers" show and Patrick O'Neal of

"Dick and the Duchess" will co-star in the new NBC-TV afternoon show, "Today Is Ours," which uncorks on June 30.

There's a good chance the NBC-TV's "Omnibus" may wind up as a weekly offering if it shifts to CBS-TV next season. Betsy Palmer of CBS-TV's "I've Got a Secret," signed on for the movie, "The Last Angry Man." William Leicester, who'll act in next Monday's "Alcoa Theatre" episode on NBC-TV, is also a writer—he's turned out 20 of the

scripts for NBC-TV's "Wells Fargo." To those fans of NBC-TV's daytime "Tic Tac Dough" who have been writing in to emcee Jack Barry to complain about his habit of continually scratching his left leg, Barry would like to point out: he isn't itchy, it's just that his mike extension cord runs inside his pants leg and he has to keep yanking it to keep from tripping.

London — Horse trainer Keith Grange, 45, was fined 10 shillings (\$1.40) Wednesday for drunken riding.

Council Organized To Fight Head Lice

Portland — A group of mothers has formed a council to battle Portland's growing head lice infestation. Mrs. Betty Ream, a spokesman, said the group seeks about 200 members. They were to attend the city council meeting today and urge that the U.S. Department of Health be called into the lice battle and that the University of Oregon medical school be asked to provide teams of three or four persons to help check lice.

Smith College was founded in 1871.

About two-thirds of all families in the United States have at least one automobile, and about one in 12 has two or more.

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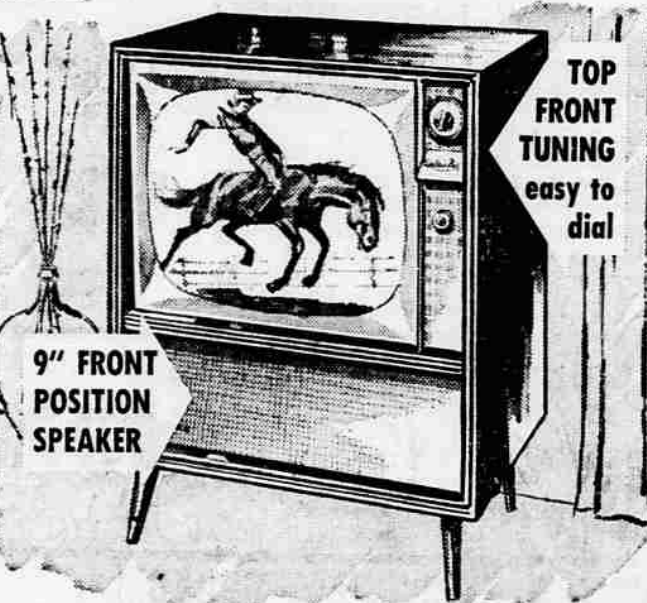


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