

Climb of Wholesale Prices Points To Increases in Cost of Living

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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Stock Prices Firm In Early Trading; Steel Has Support

New York - (UPI) - Stocks firmed in the early trading today, highlighted by strength in steel, auto and electronic issues.

John Day Youth Killed in Crash

La Grande - (UPI) - Lonnie Lester Fleetwood, 16, John Day, was killed when a car carrying three youths went out of control, left Highway 30, and overturned east of La Grande about 2 a.m. today.

State police identified the other two in the car as Richard Weygandt, 20, La Grande, and Paula Johns, 17, John Day. They were brought to a La Grande hospital by a passing truck, and were reported in satisfactory condition.

State police said the west-bound car was traveling at a high rate of speed when it careened from the highway and overturned.

U. S. Steel and Jones & Laughlin met some support, jumping more than a point, and Youngstown, Republic and Bethlehem added a half or better.

Motors, easier most of last week, moved fractionally higher. J. I. Case was active and lost a small fraction. IBM jumped more than 2 and Litton and Texas Instruments more than a point each. Polaroid picked up nearly 3 in the cameras and American Home Products nearly 2 in the drugs. Aircrafts were easier, building equipments mixed.

Law Aimed at Processors Aired

Salem - (UPI) - The pros and cons of an unfair practices law aimed at processors were aired here Saturday before the Interim Committee on Agriculture.

The committee has not taken a stand on the bill, drawn up by the Oregon Fruit and Vegetable Growers association. Herbert Hardy, Portland, of the Oregon Cannery, Packers, Freezers, and Cold Storage Council, said he doubted if the proposed bill is necessary for the formation of a growers' bargaining group. He said the council, representing about 90 per cent of the processors in Oregon, is "violently opposed" to the restrictions set out in the measure.

Among other things, the bill forbids processors to interfere on a growers' bargaining group. It also outlaws so-called discrimination by processors in process, grades, quotas, hauling terms, delivery schedules and loans or credits. About 50 persons attended the hearing.



EASTER PARADE—The bold cross formed by the roof of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City dwarfs marchers in the traditional Easter parade along Fifth ave. Sunday. Balmly weather greeted the million and a half persons who participated in the annual march. —(UPI Telephoto)

Demo Presidential Aspirants Seek To Bury Religious Issue

Washington - (UPI) - Three Democratic presidential candidates sought today through separate moves to bury the religious issue as a factor in the 1960 campaign.

Sen. John F. Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) took steps to keep the issue of Kennedy's Catholic faith out of the West Virginia primary where they clash May 10.

Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), another avowed presidential candidate, said "this country cannot afford bigotry." He promised he would do everything in his power to eliminate the religious issue from the campaign "by writing and talking about how wrong it is."

Symington, who is entered in the primary, said voters in West Virginia should choose between Humphrey and Kennedy on the basis of who would make the better president. Kennedy reasserted his

views on the separation of the church and state in a message to Harold Glen Brown, Portland, Ore., minister and president of the Oregon Council of Churches, a Protestant organization.

Humphrey wrote West Virginia Democratic leaders and members of his campaign committee there that the state's Democrats should vote for the man who can best lead the party, "regardless of religion."

Kingsley Airman Drowns in River

Klamath Falls - (UPI) - Benjamin Lowell Weaver, 24, an airman first class at Kingsley Field here, drowned late Saturday in the Lost river.

Authorities said Weaver was trying to correct a malfunction in a radio-controlled boat and had reached the boat and headed back to shore when he apparently was seized with cramps.

After a holiday in Jamaica, Kennedy returned to West Virginia Sunday night for three days in campaigning in preparation for his second contest with Humphrey. Kennedy defeated Humphrey in Wisconsin on April 5.

Humphrey planned to spend most of this week campaigning for the May 3 District of Columbia primary, in which he is matched against Sen. Wayne L. Morse (D-Ore.), and to return to West Virginia early next week.

His letter to West Virginia Democrats said he was running for the presidential nomination on his own and not as a "front man" for anyone else.

There have been reports that supporters of Symington and Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson would support Humphrey in an effort to stop the front-running Kennedy. Symington also denied he was connected with any such move.

New Round of Price Jumps Seen By Mid-Summer

Washington - (UPI) - Government economists said today that soaring wholesale prices last month may point to a new round of retail price increases before mid-summer.

Their forecast was based on a Labor Department report Sunday night showing that wholesale prices in March climbed to an all-time peak, reflecting higher costs of farm products and food.

The economists said the report means the average consumer's living costs also probably reached a new record high last month.

The wholesale price index jumped six-tenths of one per cent in March - the largest monthly rise in two years - to 120.0 per cent of the 1947-49 average. This equaled the record high set last April.

Blame Winter Weather - Raw winter weather in March pushed up prices of livestock, meats and eggs, and vegetable prices moved up seasonally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said.

It said gasoline costs also rose substantially but other non-farm commodities were unchanged or declined in price.

The increase in the wholesale index came on the heels of a report from a cabinet-level committee which said the wholesale price index was virtually steady for two years and called it "a very useful tool for detecting and analyzing inflationary trends."

Bad for Housewives - The index last month showed falling prices for iron and steel scrap, copper scrap, some cotton goods and fuel heating oils.

But the upsurge in the farm-food category is bad news for housewives, economists said. Low grocery prices have been holding down the consumer price index, another barometer of inflation, for most of the past year.

The upward trend for food apparently confirms fears of Labor Department experts who anticipated a further increase in the cost-of-living index.

A report for March living costs is expected to be released next week.

Pioneer V Satellite Passes Five-Million-Mile Mark on Journey

Washington - (UPI) - America's Pioneer V satellite celebrated Easter Sunday by passing the five-million-mile mark from earth, and appropriately enough it was just over Easter Island at the time.

According to the Air Force and Federal Space Agency, the 94.8-pound sun satellite set the historic mark on its journey away from earth at 1:20 p.m. (p.s.t.).

Actually, the satellite has traveled more than 50 million miles since it was launched March 11. But it is only five million miles away because it is moving through space in the same general direction of the earth.

Pioneer V was travelling at a little over 5,600 miles an hour. At 9 p.m. tonight it will be 5,179,000 miles from earth. The satellite's speed away from earth gradually increases as it falls around the sun.

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