

Kefauver Offers Legislation on Drug Industry

Washington - (UPI) - Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) introduced legislation Wednesday which he said would place stiff curbs on the drug industry and reduce drug costs.

Identical legislation was introduced in the House by Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-N. Y.).

Kefauver's bill would require federal licensing of drug manufacturers for the first time.

It also would require the Food and Drug Administration to pass on the "efficacy" of all new prescription drugs before the drugs could be marketed.

Kefauver said he believed his bill would save drug users across the country millions of dollars. He said it was aimed at stepping up competition among drug firms.

Hearings Scheduled

Kefauver's Senate antitrust and monopoly subcommittee, which conducted an investigation of the drug industry last year, will hold hearings on the bill next month.

The Kefauver measure also would:

- Require manufacturers to give detailed, specific information about their products to doctors.
- Strengthen inspection of drug manufacturing plants by federal inspectors.
- Relax patent rights on certain drugs thereby making manufacturing know-how more readily available to competing firms.
- The licensing provision and the requirement of federal testing of new drugs for effectiveness were expected to meet the most opposition.

Under present law, the FDA tests drugs for safety but does not seek to determine whether specific drugs can check sickness and disease.

Scientists Study Douglas Pulping

Corvallis - Reduction of wood cost and increased use of Douglas fir chips from wood residues in production of pulp may result from a study made by the Oregon Forest Research Center, Corvallis.

Pulping of these chips by the Magnefite process produced pulps with excellent values of strength, according to B. M. Samuels, in charge of studies on pulp and paper.

Variability of Douglas fir wood has limited pulping of this species by conventional acid sulfite methods. Recovery of chemicals following processing of pulp pollution abatement, and suitability of only certain species of wood for pulping were problems confronting producers of sulfite pulp in the Pacific Northwest, Samuels stated.

Magnefite pulps of Douglas fir chips proved superior to certain other pulps, both in strength and in yield. With this process, controlling odor would be no problem and recovery of chemicals would be high, said Samuels.

Additional information on optimum conditions for producing pulp by the Magnefite process is needed, Samuels explained. Cooking time and cooking temperature of pulp would be affected by variation of Douglas fir wood. Pretreatments of Douglas fir heartwood could be developed to lower requirements of bleaching pulp.

A severance tax on timber harvested in Oregon supports studies of pulp and paper at the Research Center.

General Motors Indicted by Jury

Washington - (UPI) - A federal grand jury in New York indicted General Motors Wednesday on charges of using its power as the nation's largest manufacturing corporation to monopolize the diesel locomotive business.

The indictment was announced by the Justice Department here. It charged that General Motors has used illegal sales methods to capture more than 84 per cent of the diesel locomotive business and squeeze out competitors.

The New York grand jury has been considering Justice Department evidence on General Motors activities for about 18 months.

The corporation, which had net sales of more than \$12 billion in 1960, was charged with violating the Sherman Antitrust act in a one-count indictment. Upon conviction, the statute provides for fines of up to \$55,000 for each violation.

DEATH INVESTIGATED

Roseburg - (UPI) - Authorities Wednesday investigated the death of Merrill A. Ormsby, 55, Sutherlin, from apparent head injuries.

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