

Years' Extension Proposed in Program To Bring Mexican Laborers Into U.S.

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GREETINGS FOR KING—As President Kennedy looks on, Mrs. Kennedy greets King Hassan II of Morocco as he arrives at Union Station in Washington. At left is Chief of Protocol A. Biddle Duke. (UPI)

Labor Secretary Urges Protection For Domestic Workers

Efforts Urged To Give Job Preference

Washington—UPI—Labor Secretary W. Willard Wirtz recommended today that a controversial program to bring Mexican nationals into the United States to work on farms be extended only one more year.

If extended one more year the so-called bracero program would expire Dec. 31, 1964. Wirtz made the recommendation before a House agriculture sub-committee hearing on legislation calling for extension of the program for two years.

Wirtz also recommended that the program be changed to give greater protection to domestic workers.

"This amendment would require employers seeking to obtain Mexican workers to offer to domestic workers workmen's compensation or occupational insurance coverage, housing and transportation expenses equivalent to that furnished to Mexican workers," he said.

The secretary noted that U.S. unemployment now stood at 6.1 per cent and said migratory farm workers were among those in the "most disadvantaged position."

He said every effort should be made to assure that qualified domestic workers be given preference in jobs. For example, he said, California imported 127,000 Mexican workers during 1962 while at the same time an estimated 395,000 domestic workers were unemployed.

Wirtz said the amendment to provide greater job opportunities for domestic workers would not impose "any onerous burden" upon agricultural employers.

"None of its provisions would require employers to incur any greater expense in obtaining and utilizing Mexican workers," he said.

Wirtz also criticized an amendment proposed in legislation to extend the program which would allow Mexican nationals to operate machinery. This, he said, would "lend itself to subterfuge and abuse."

In testimony before a House appropriations subcommittee made public today Employment Security Administrator Robert C. Goodwin said an estimated 138,000 Mexican workers would be brought into the United States for farm labor between July 1 and the end of the year when the program expires if it is not extended by Congress.

"Hate America" Group Seeks Order

Niteroi, Brazil—UPI—Delegates to a Communist-sponsored "hate America" convention sought today to obtain a court order, and perhaps the help of federal troops, to force local authorities to let them hold meetings in Rio de Janeiro.

Gov. Carlos Lacerda of Guanabara state (Rio and some closely suburban) ruled Monday night that the Reds could not hold sessions there. Tuesday night his state police arrested 53 Brazilians who tried to come from Rio to the convention's temporary headquarters here.

A cordon of Guanabara police stood guard at the ferry landing in Rio, ready to prevent any convention delegates from entering the city.

PPL, Copco Bonds Slated for Exchange

Portland—UPI—New Pacific Power & Light Company bonds will be exchanged April 1 for seven series of outstanding bonds of the former California Oregon Power Company, it was announced by Paul B. McKee, PPL board chairman.

Man Charged With Operating Still

A Rube Goldberg contraption, consisting mainly of a five-gallon cream can, was confiscated and its owner, Orville Edward Daggett, 43, route 1, box 24, Jacksonville, was arrested by Oregon state police and an Oregon liquor control enforcement officer Tuesday afternoon.

Daggett was lodged in Jackson county jail on a charge of operating a still.

In a signed statement to officers, Daggett admitted making one batch of moonshine from corn meal and grain. The still was located in a mine cabin about 10 miles southwest of Jacksonville. Daggett told officers he had made between two and three gallons, which he drank himself.

Pilot Tells Story Of Crash in Yukon

California pilot Ralph Flores, who with Helen Klaben of New York spent 48 days in the cold, wild country of the Yukon Territory when their light plane crashed, tells his story from a hospital bed in Whitehorse, Yukon. His story is on page 2A.

Pearson Burns Incense To Attack Smoking Ban

Salem—UPI—The much battered bill to permit smoking on buses came in for some more attention Tuesday—this time in a lighter vein.

The Senate State and Federal Affairs committee heard testimony on the measure from its author, Sen. Walter Pearson (D-Portland).

The committee room was decorated with "hazardous area, no smoking" signs, and smelled of incense.

The signs were installed by the committee. The incense was an unexpected—and unwelcomed—gift of Pearson.

Pearson also presented each committee member with cigars before he began testimony.

He refused to submit to the committee's request that he stop puffing on his cigarette. Pearson said he was "serious" when he introduced the measure "to show the kind of regulations agencies are making. This no smoking rule is not a state law, it is a Public Utility Commission rule."

He added: "You can smoke on trains, boats and airplanes, but not on buses. That's rank discrimination."

Sen. Thomas Mahoney (D-Portland) agreed with Pearson. The committee considered amending the measure to make it effective only on air conditioned buses, but took no action.

Cost of Living Equals Record

Citrus Fruit, Vegetable Prices Continue Higher

Washington—UPI—Living costs tied an all-time high in February as prices for citrus fruits and fresh vegetables continued to climb the Labor Department reported today.

The department said the price index rose by one-tenth of 1 per cent last month. That put it at 108.1, a figure reached only one time previously. That was last September.

Apparel Prices Higher

The department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said higher prices for apparel also contributed to the increase in living costs.

The index was 1.2 per cent above a year ago.

Food prices rose by three-tenths of 1 per cent in February, largely because of the higher prices of oranges and orange juice concentrates advanced sharply.

Prices of most vegetables, especially lettuce and cabbage, increased substantially in the wake of freezing weather in the producing areas during December and January.

Bananas Decline

But banana prices dropped as supplies returned to normal following the end of the East and Gulf Coast dockworkers' strike. Prices of green beans also fell as the Florida crop was supplemented by shipments from Mexico.

Seasonal increases in the supplies of pork and some decline in beef prices dropped the meat price average but poultry prices were up slightly.

French Railway Workers Walk Out

Paris—UPI—French railwaymen called a series of harassing walkouts today and leaders of 200,000 striking coal miners urged restraint from further violence in the drive for higher wages.

President Charles de Gaulle summoned his cabinet for a report on the labor crisis from Michel-Maurice Bokanowski, minister of industries.

The 350,000 railwaymen scheduled two-hour walkouts at each shift change to back the miners' strike against de Gaulle's wage austerity policies.

Gas and electricity workers called for more walkouts Thursday, and there was talk of a possible general strike by France's 2 million-man nationalized work force unless the government backs down.

Colleges Present Building Plans

Salem—UPI—Plans for more buildings sought by higher education were presented Tuesday night to members of the Ways and Means committee.

University of Oregon President Arthur Flemming urged two science additions to cost \$5.1 million. He said if they were approved, federal funds probably would be forthcoming to help pay for them.

Dr. Elmo Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon college at Ashland, presented plans for a \$955,000 classroom building.

Plans for an \$875,000 science building at Eastern Oregon college were shown by Eastern Oregon College President Frank Bennett, and plans for a \$1.7 million engineering building at Oregon State university were discussed by engineering dean George W. Gleason.

Legislature Sets 'Terry Baker' Day

Salem—UPI—The legislature has designated next Tuesday as "Terry Baker" day, and the Senate approved a concurrent resolution citing the nationally-known football and basketball star from Oregon State University.

WEATHER

FORECAST: Cloudy. Strong southerly winds diminishing by midnight. Rain tonight. Showers and cooler Thursday. Low tonight 48-45. High Thursday 48-53.

Highest Yesterday 50
Lowest This Morning 42
Prec. to 10 a.m. Today .18

Our Skies Tonight

Sunset tomorrow 6:36 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 4:53 a.m.
Moonset tonight 9:32 p.m.
First Quarter March 31

MORNING PLANETS

Venus, rises 4:44 a.m.
Saturn, rises 4:57 a.m.
(Saturn circles the Sun every 29.5 days at 21,466 miles per hour. Venus circles the Sun in 225 days at 78,480 miles per hour)



ARRIVES FOR TALKS—Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin steps from his limousine at the State Department in Washington as he arrives for a new round of exploratory talks on the Berlin issue with Secretary Dean Rusk. (UPI)

District Attorney Given Non-Support Special Investigator

The Jackson county budget committee allowed District Attorney Alan Holmes his special investigator yesterday afternoon for checking on non-support cases.

Salary was set at \$5,148. More than 14 applications have been received.

The committee stipulated the investigator would be hired on a one-year trial basis with a special report due the budget committee at the end of the year.

The committee trimmed the requested county allocation to the deputy district attorneys' salaries. The investigator would cut some of the work load, the committee said. It also cut \$1,000 off the district attorney's proposed salary allocation of \$3,000.

Pays Attorney's Salary

The state pays \$11,000 of the district attorney's salary, part of the chief deputy's salary and the county pays all of the second deputy's salary.

The chief deputy received a \$228 increase and the second deputy a \$296 increase.

The revised district attorney's budget was approved at \$34,936, up \$7,945 over the current year.

The committee also approved a revised county health department budget of \$99,592. This budget is down \$3,838 from the current year's total of \$103,430.

County Judge Earl M. Miller noted earlier that Dr. A. Erin Merkel, public health officer, had a nurse recruiting problem so the committee granted nurse pay raises ranging from \$120 to \$240 a year.

Library Budget Unchanged

In spite of a plea from the library board for a budget increase, the budget committee left the county's share of the budget the same as the current year for the Public Library of Medford and Jackson County, \$73,943.04.

Judge Miller noted that 65 per cent of the proposed library budget consists of salary increases. Earlier the budget committee opposed the Medford revised salary scale for library personnel, Ashland

and Rogue River libraries receive allocations of \$7,497 and \$516.20, respectively, the same as the current year.

The county emergency fund was approved at \$50,000. The budget committee also approved a revised assessor's budget at \$168,706, up \$11,528 over the current year's \$157,178.

Limbs were reported blowing off trees, but there were no other immediate damage reports.

Local officials said the 55 mph winds compared with those of 65 miles per hour which struck here during the Columbus Day storm.

The weather bureau issued a revised forecast for the Ashland - Grants Pass - Medford area at 10:30 a.m. calling for southerly winds with gusts reaching 50-55 mph in a few places.

Small craft warnings were hoisted along the coast.

Intermittent rain was expected over most of Oregon through Thursday.

The weather man forecast increasing winds for the Willamette Valley this afternoon with gusts to 40 mph at Salem and to 34 mph in the Portland area.

The Pendleton area in Eastern Oregon was expected to get westerly winds to 40 mph this evening.

PLANS ABANDONED

Salem—UPI—Plans to speed processing of bills in the House through use of a consent calendar for uncontested measures have been abandoned.

He said another development strengthening this theory was that since the 12 certificates were discovered missing there had been an interest payment date, but the coupons were not presented for the payment.

Senate Votes Property Tax Relief for Senior Citizens

Salem—UPI—The Senate voted 28-1 today to grant property tax relief to Oregon's senior citizens. The measure now goes to the House.

The bill provides a percentage exemption for persons over 65 who do not earn more than \$3,000 a year.

The exemption would apply to the first \$10,000 of the true cash value of the taxpayer's principal personal residence.

Exemption Increases

To age 68 the exemption is 10 per cent; up to 71, 30 per cent; to 74, 50 per cent; to 77, 70 per cent; 79, 90 per cent; and over 80, 100 per cent exemption of the first \$10,000 value.

Sen. Vernon Cook (D-Gresham) opposed the measure because it would narrow the property tax base and "subsidize children unwilling to support their elderly parents." He suggested a pension to the elderly as an alternative.

Sen. Alfred Corbett (D-Portland), Edward Fadelley (D-Eugene), Walter Pearson (D-Portland), Boyd Overhulse (D-Madras) and Walter Leth (R-Salem) argued for approval.

Fadelley and Leth warned of the danger of narrowing the property tax base, but said the measure should be approved.

Corbett termed the bill "a self respecting measure for self respecting people who want to stay off the welfare rolls." Overhulse said it would benefit those who were "poor but proud."

The Senate also approved a measure allowing school districts to provide transportation to public high schools "other than the nearest one," with parents to pay the additional transportation costs.

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