

Seen to Tell Plans Further USDA Changes

BY A. HANSEN
WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan today announced that he will submit to Congress a series of proposals for changes in the department's 20 bureaus in four groups.

Brannan has said that he will be guided by a desire to save money and to take the government out of agriculture to the fullest extent possible permitted by the interests of the nation and of the farming industry.

Many queries about Brannan's plans have come from farm-minded congressmen, some of whom have been critical of the new secretary because of his refusal to go into detail at a recent Senate Agriculture Committee hearing, about what he intends to do.

The new secretary cannot go far in changing present programs and activities without Congress' consent. Many such programs are required by law. In this class are the controversial farm price support activities which this year may require the disbursement of 2 1/2 billion dollars in government funds for loans and other operations.

Likewise, virtually every activity carried on by the department has strong backing from strong commodity or regional groups of producers and distributors.

Some of Brannan's appointments have in themselves suggested possible sharp shifts from present farm policies and programs. Strongly represented in those appointments are groups which were unfriendly to former Secretary Charles F. Brannan and to programs established by the Roosevelt-Truman administrations.

Those groups include the powerful American Farm Bureau Federation and the state-controlled land grant colleges and extension services.

Furthermore, Brannan's plans to trim department activities come at a time when farm prices and incomes are going down and when some congressional farm leaders contend that there is need for greater government aid for agriculture rather than less.

Questions being asked by farm leaders in and out of Congress as a result of Brannan's statements and appointments include:

Will he recommend a drastic cut in the present 20 billion dollar annual soil payments program? Under it subsidies are paid farmers who carry out approved farming practices.

What will happen to the system of 90,000 farmer committees who help administer farm programs? They work on a part-time basis. The system has been criticized on the ground that it constitutes a powerful pressure group for farm policies.

Will there be considerable decentralization of programs involving research, administration of price supports, production controls, and education with the state-controlled land grant colleges and extension services getting major roles?

Will such government credit agencies as the Farm Credit Administration and the Farmers' Home Administration be divorced from the Agriculture Department?

Men To Well

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP)—Army officers today on a multi-engine plane will fire rockets at 10 miles off the coast to the Gulf of Mexico to divert the search from three remaining planes to test from the center of the Gulf.

One of the planes, a C-47, was shot down by a rocket from the C-54, the other two were seen to be in the Gulf.

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Men To Ad Fight

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The State Liquor Commission today heard arguments in support of a bill to prohibit the sale of liquor to men who are addicted to gambling.

The bill, which would prohibit the sale of liquor to men who are addicted to gambling, was introduced by Rep. J. J. O'Connell.

Reds Claim Ace Capture

TOKYO (AP)—Red China claimed today that Lt. Col. Edwin L. Heller, a leading U. S. Sabre jet pilot, was captured after his plane was shot down Friday.

Peiping Radio here, said Communist MIG jet cannon fire downed Heller's plane in Manchuria, near Pecheng (possibly Fengcheng, across the border from Uiju in North Korea).

The Air Force had announced that Heller, of Wynnwood, Pa., was shot down Friday, one day after he destroyed two Red MIGs and was promoted from major.

Far East Air Force said Heller's plane was shot down by a Red MIG jet about three miles south of the Yalu River boundary near Uiju, engaged with Communist aircraft. The Air Force did not rule out the possibility that his plane crashed in Manchuria.

In a broadcast last week, Peiping said a U. S. B-29 Superfort was shot down Jan. 12 over Manchuria. The Air Force said the bomber was over North Korea when hit.

Heller, credited with shooting down 3 1/2 MIGs in Korea, also was a leading ace in World War II with 19 1/2 German planes.

The Defense Department in Washington declined to comment on the Peiping claim that Heller had been captured.

Legislature TV

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Oregon Legislature today passed a bill to finance two new TV stations in Oregon.

The bill, which would finance two new TV stations in Oregon, was introduced by Rep. J. J. O'Connell.

LOOK! Who's Coming To Our House

R. C. S. Miller's
SHOE DEPT.



NEW RECREATION HALL at the Klamath Nursing Home has plenty of room and lots of people to use it, as the picture shows. But it is in dire need of furnishings. Klamath people who may have excess pieces of furniture and wish to give them to the home are asked to contact Supt. or Mrs. Jack Smith at the home on Summers Lane. The new hall is an addition to the main buildings on the homestead.

Hand Power Turns Bridge

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—A tow-er piling driver aboard a barge is on its way up the Arkansas River after being stymied here for three days by a low railway bridge.

Rock Island Railway officials hand-cranked the rotating bridge mechanism yesterday to allow the barge and its 63 foot 8 inch pile-driver to continue upstream toward Menifee, Ark., about 40 miles north of here.

All previous efforts to rotate the 55-year-old bridge—including electricity, tugs, grease and manual labor—had failed. The bridge is less than 50 feet from the water. The railroad said the bridge hadn't been turned since 1938 and its power mechanism had rusted.

Baltimore Wins Civic Award

BALTIMORE (AP)—A recipe for slum clearance: "Regulatory controls and public improvements must be transformed from book-shelf surveys and legal archives into action."

That's the core of the "Baltimore Plan" for eradicating slums and preventing their spread.

A branch of G. Yates Cook, director of the Baltimore health department's housing bureau, the Baltimore Plan has been pointed out as a model of community action.

Its most recent praise came yesterday from the National Municipal League, which named Baltimore one of 11 "All-America Cities" for self-improvement work through "citizen action."

The Baltimore Plan is not a cure-all.

Cook, who fathered the program, sees it as an "aggressive action reverse the forces of neglect that deteriorate and destroy property and people."

The plan calls for a house-by-house, block-by-block, neighborhood-by-neighborhood deconditioning, spurred where necessary by stiff law enforcement, but based primarily on the will of the individual property owner or tenant to improve his lot.

It is only one prong on a three-prong rake Baltimore is applying to the blighted areas that comprise a sizable part of this city of nearly a million.

Public housing and redevelopment programs are the other two.

When Cook joined the health department 12 years ago, he was the lone inspector in search of sub-standard housing. Today, his bureau has 40 full-time inspectors, an educational director, assistant directors for public information, housing law enforcement and others.

Cook began his block-by-block

BOAC Soon To Resume Flights

LONDON (AP)—The British Overseas Airways Corporation says its grounded fleet of 10 strato-cruisers will be flying again in a few days.

BOAC announced American aircraft experts, flown here to inspect the liners' Pratt and Whitney engines, had determined faulty lubrication caused the 13 engine failures which resulted in grounding of the planes Jan. 22.

The line's announcement said suspicions of sabotage had been ruled out.

Ford to Aid State's TV

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—Charles D. Byrne, chancellor of the State Board of Higher Education, reported Monday that the Ford Foundation has agreed to extend its offer of financial aid for educational TV stations in Oregon to March 1.

The original deadline was Jan. 3.

The State Legislature is being asked to set aside funds for two TV stations—one on Mary's Peak near Corvallis and the other in Portland—by a citizens' committee headed by Elmer McClure, stage Grange master.

If the state puts up its share, the Ford Foundation is expected to help finance the program with \$100,000 contributions for each station.

Polish Reds To Sentence Priests

LONDON (AP)—Warsaw radio will pass sentence Tuesday on five Roman Catholic priests, a layman and a woman accused of spying for the Vatican and the United States.

In the five-day trial at Krakow, Poland, the seven defendants were accused of being mixed up in a U. S.-directed espionage ring aimed against Poland's Communist government.

African Natives 'Take to Air'

JOHANNESBURG South Africa (AP)—New tales of wonder are told by Africans returning to their homes in the wilds of Ngamiland and Nyasaland after working in the Witwatersrand gold mines.

They are tales of Lumbungulu (the star) and Kenge (the bird), their names for the airplanes in which they have flown to Francistown, on the edge of the Bechuanaland protectorate.

These natives have taken eagerly to air travel. Some have been known to walk 150 miles out of their way to the landing strip so that they can boast they have traveled by air.

The gold mining industry has been running the air services to Francistown for more than a year and 13,500 natives have been carried. They are also flown on their homeward journey from the mines.

The first plane to take off from Mobeemo, in Ngamiland, was called the Star because the tribesmen thought the flight would continue into the night and they would be able to see into the stars.

Natives recruited for the Rand mines are vaccinated, inoculated against yellow fever and issued clothing; and while waiting eight days for the inoculation to take effect are entertained with movies, music, and games.

At the airfield they examine the plane minutely. Some pace out the wingspan and length of the fuselage the better to describe it when they return home. Others prod the plane with their fingers as if it were a gigantic breed of cattle. The native conductor who travels on every flight is piled with questions. The conductors' explanation of the principles of aero dynamics is often diverting.

An hour before takeoff the 32 passengers get air-sickness pills. In the plane they strap themselves in their seats and the conductor gives a vivid demonstration of the use of the paper bags. There is a babel of chatter until the plane is airborne, when the travelers begin singing; sometimes mission-

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