

High Farm Price Props Said Harmful

WARSAW, Ind. (AP) — Secretary of Agriculture Benson told a Farmers Day audience Tuesday that farmers, already caught in a cost-price squeeze, are being hurt further by high support prices.

He cited specifically the rigid support on the nation's basic feed grain, corn, and the encouragement of wheat and cotton production beyond the country's demands.

"Artificially high supports for the basic commodities in the face of declining demands," Benson said, "have resulted in continued production at levels far above current market demands. The result is back-breaking surpluses of crops such as wheat and cotton and the necessity for more stringent production controls than most farmers will wish to live with, year in and year out."

Benson said he has recommended that eight million acres of wheat, planted under stimulus of World War II crop needs and maintained under high price supports, be returned to grass. He said it costs about \$700,000 a day to store the present surplus.

He explained that under the administration's plan of flexible price supports a farmer could study market prices and determine for himself which crops would be profitable for him.

This alternative is far preferable, Benson said, than having the government, under a rigid support program, tell the farmer what to grow.

"If farmers kept supplies within manageable proportions," the secretary said, "allowing for normal carryovers, the level of price support would always be at or near 90 per cent under the flexible system."



FROM ALL OVER THE KLAMATH BASIN came entries for the roundup parade July 5, including a group from Fort Klamath led by Lefty Wild Eagle Wilder and his wife Genie pulling a travois. Not pictured but directly behind the Wilders in the parade were three Fort Klamath youths dressed in Modoc War army uniforms followed by the modern youth in a 1954 convertible — illustrating Fort Klamath transportation.

Atom Plant Union Calls Strike Today

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. (AP) — Plans for a strike at the nation's two uranium-235 production plants here and in Paducah, Ky., went ahead early today even as Taft-Hartley law machinery began turning.

About 4,500 atomic production workers were affected. CIO chemical workers union leaders ordered pickets on duty at 8 a. m., EST.

Union officials said President Eisenhower's order for a fact-finding board would not affect the strike plans.

Supervisors were prepared to

keep the vast acres of machinery working at their intricate processes which, they said, would take a year to get going again if once stopped.

An official of Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Co., which operates the

plants for the Atomic Energy Commission, said grimly last night: "We're going to run the plants strike or no strike."

The strike was ordered in support of the union's demand for a

15-cent hourly pay raise. The demand was scaled down from 21 cents after union members rejected a 6-cent raise recommended by a presidential panel.

Suspicious Death Of Heir Investigated In Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — The possibility that Montgomery Ward Thorne was poisoned confronted a coroner's jury today as it resumed its investigation of the death of the 20-year-old heir to a multimillion-dollar mail order fortune.

Dr. Harry Leon, coroner's pathologist, testifying at yesterday's inquest, said he thinks Thorne may have been poisoned.

"This is still a suspicious death," he said.

Leon read a report to Coroner Walter T. McCarron by Dr. W. J. R. Camp, state toxicologist, showing an "insignificant trace quantity of barbiturate, a trace quantity of alkaloid giving color reactions indicating morphine" were found in the youth's brain.

A combination of enough alcohols such as were found in Thorne's body and more dope could have caused his death, Dr. Leon declared. The alcohol, he said, may have evaporated or been dissipated in the body before the autopsy was performed.

A conflicting picture of Thorne was painted yesterday at the inquest centering on these questions:

1. What was the relationship of the dead youth and his mother, Mrs. Marion Thorne?
2. Was Thorne a "drunk" and a "dope addict"?
3. Why was he living in a \$75-a-month apartment on Chicago's North Side out of touch with his family when he was found dead June 19?
4. Why did he change his will leaving half his estate to his fiancée Maureen Ragen and one-quarter to her mother Aileen nine days before his death?
5. Was Thorne being blackmailed?

His mother entered the jammed courtroom with stoic determination. Her chalk-white face contrasted with her black crepe dress and the diamond-crusted cross at her throat.

Bordering on collapse as the barrage of questions wore on, she made these points:

1. She claimed she "barely knew" her son's 18-year-old fiancée who displaced her as chief heir in his last will.
2. She openly doubted that the pair meant to marry, saying, "He certainly had a lot of girls for an engaged boy."
3. She charged that Thorne was being blackmailed when he died and didn't come home for that reason. No details of the blackmail were given.
4. She said Thorne had come home "drunk" once and she had heard rumors he was taking dope but strongly denied she ever had him arrested, accusing him of alcoholism or narcotics addiction.

At one point in the questioning, Mrs. Thorne said: "I was praying for God to send him home. He did, but He sent him to his real home. For two years I traveled the road to Calvary, and now I am at the foot of the cross, and it is up to you people to take over."

"Thank God, I know where he is now," she said, nervously fingering a rosary.

In sharp contrast with her testimony, Sgt. Michael Murphy had told the court that Thorne told him and Detective Walter Binder: "I don't like to say it, but I am living away from home because I don't like my mother."

Murphy also quoted Thorne as saying that his mother called the school Miss Ragen attended and told officials Thorne had syphilis and not to permit any of the girls to go out with him.

Thorne had been picked up at his mother's request, Murphy testified, after a parking ticket issued to Thorne was found in a doctor's car. A medical kit containing narcotics had been stolen from the car.

REST LEAVE
TOKYO (AP) — The addition of another troop ship to the Army rest-leave fleet will make it possible for 600 additional men from Korea to have leave in Japan each week, the Army said today.

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MANILA (AP) — A Pacific typhoon with winds of 80 miles an hour at its center Wednesday was located about 850 miles east of the central Philippines.

MR. Pest Reporter
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We are now checking fields preparatory to dusting for Lygus bug and other insects. Caution is urged in order that a minimum amount of dusting is done. All factors should be considered prior to making an application. We will be glad to check your fields and offer our suggestions. DON'T DUST THE FIELD UNLESS IT'S NECESSARY!

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