

Dems Leave Little Doubt Benson Will Be Target

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats left little doubt today they will continue to make Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson a political target despite their loss of an Iowa House seat.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) disputed the contention of GOP National Chairman Thruston B. Morton that the results in an Iowa corn-hog area showed farmers don't blame Benson solely for low prices and other agricultural ills. Mansfield is assistant Senate democratic leader.

"Both candidates in the House contest said they were opposed to Benson's farm program so that hardly could have been the deciding issue," Mansfield said.

Instead, he conceded that a Republican upswing is on from the low mark the GOP reached when the Democrats won landslide vic-

tories in Senate and House races in 1958.

Morton and Vice President Richard M. Nixon saw the beginning of a GOP comeback in the election of Republican John Kyl over Democrat C. Edwin Gilmour in Iowa's fourth district special election.

Nixon called it "dramatic evidence" of a GOP upturn that should encourage the recruiting of strong party candidates and give incumbents in marginal districts a shot in the arm.

"I have felt there have been substantial gains in Republican strength beginning in the latter part of the summer and early fall," Nixon said. "This election demonstrates that that is the case."

"If we can continue this rate of progress, this means that the hopes that have been expressed for a Republican House of Representatives in 1960 are based on a solid foundation."

Morton told a news conference Wednesday his own observations on a nation-wide tour, plus the Iowa results, have given him new hope that Republicans will hold their lines in midwestern senatorial contests and perhaps knock off some Democrats.

He said this optimism is based primarily on the belief that there is widespread voter support for "President Eisenhower's dynamic leadership in the field of foreign affairs" and on the belief that Republicans "are better qualified to expand the economy."

While he conceded that some Republicans don't like Benson's flexible price support program, he said he is convinced there is "a strong realization that responsibility for the farm situation does not rest in one man, as the Democrats have tried to say."

Partly because of this, Morton said, he now expects Republican senators to hold on to their jobs in Iowa, Kansas, South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado and Idaho. He said the party expects to retain the North Dakota seat occupied by the late Sen. William Langer in a special election next June 28.

Morton listed Wyoming, Montana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Rhode Island as states where the GOP will try the hardest to defeat incumbent Democrats.

But he made it clear he has no illusion that the Republicans can regain control of the Senate. They now are outnumbered 65-36 in that body.

Irises bloom at the edge of the Arctic. But, they will not grow near the equator.

"DENNIS THE MENACE"



REMEMBER... NO CLOTHES!

Record Year Predicted For Industry, Commerce

By ELMER C. WALZER
UPI Financial Editor

NEW YORK (UPI) — Prentice-Hall in its 1960 outlook for industry and commerce foresees a record year in 1960 with practically all lines rising, and making their best showing in the first half.

Late in the year, the firm finds prospect of some slowing down.

In line with other recent forecasts this one places gross national product at \$301 billion to \$310 billion, a rise of 5 to 7 per cent. It looks for a 1 to 2 per cent rise in the cost of living and but a tiny change in wholesale prices.

About the only place where a decline is anticipated is in housing starts, but overall construction is expected to set a record high.

Among the records anticipated are steel, construction, chemical and plastics, textiles, retail trade, electric utilities, electrical equipment and electronics, rubber, tobacco, apparel, appliances, home furnishings, meat and poultry, and paper and paperboard.

Automobile production is expected to attain its second best year. Coal is expected to make a good gain. So are the railroads.

The service looks for a rise over 1959 of about 3 per cent in advertising and publishing.

Agricultural equipment faces curtailed volume, with farm income slated to decline.

Good gains are looked for in beverages, with distilled spirits up 15 per cent after a 25 per cent rise in 1959.

Cuts in housing are expected to trim shipments of lumber, cement, plumbing supplies, brick and tile, but surging industrial construction will bolster the 1960 outlook for structural steel, glass and paint, Prentice-Hall says.

All packaging segments are predicted on the upbeat in 1960. Dairy products are expected to rise with milk, butter, and cheese leading an upturn in prices.

Further increases in 1960 are

looked for in drugs and toiletries. Growing population and higher incomes are seen aiding food processors. Natural gas sales, up 10 per cent in 1959 are expected to duplicate that rise in 1960.

The first half of 1960 is expected to be the best. The second half may see some resistance to the recovery.

The tight money squeeze, says Prentice-Hall, "will eventually topple the Wall Street Bull market."

"And that's likely to push the 1960 business boom—ripe for topping out in any case—into a moderate decline, running into 1961."

"Uncertainties about changes which a new administration—Republican or Democratic—will make in such vital areas as defense spending, tax rates, and labor legislation will add to prevailing business and investor uncertainty toward the end of 1960."

After this slowdown, Prentice-Hall expects another new auto, housing, consumer durables, capital goods, and stock market boom—marking the start of a big new business upthrust for the surging sixties.

The firm injects a warning that applies to the coming year and beyond:

"We still haven't found the answers to the double threat and challenge that continue to cloud the promising long-term outlook."

"The unchecked threat of chronic creeping inflation could eventually force devaluation of the dollar. And the challenge of Russian and Chinese Communism on an economic, political, scientific, and—possibly—military rampage has yet to be squarely confronted."

SET BLOOD DONOR RECORD
MARIETTA, Ga. (UPI) — The Georgia Division of Lockheed Aircraft Corp. said it set a national record as the largest industrial blood donor Wednesday when 693 workers gave blood to the Red Cross.

Many American Families Practice Birth Control

Editor's Note: This is the second of three background dispatches on the current controversy over birth control. It reports on the actual practices of American families, and on legal restrictions.

By LOUIS CASSELS
WASHINGTON (UPI)—A large majority of American families practice some form of birth control.

That fact has long been obvious from the U.S. birth rate, which consistently remains far below the biological maximum. It has been confirmed by study conducted jointly by the University of Michigan research center and the Scripps foundation for population research.

The researchers interviewed 2,713 white married women between the ages of 18 and 39. Except for the fact that no Negroes were included, the women interviewed were a scientifically-selected sample of the nation's population, with all religious

groups and economic brackets included in the right proportions.

The findings, recently published, show that 82 per cent of the women expressed "unqualified approval" of birth control, and an additional 12 per cent approved with some qualifications.

The initial question was so worded that all forms of birth control — including the "rhythm method" approved by the Catholic Church—were included.

The researchers then asked about the methods of birth control used.

They found that standard contraceptive devices were used, occasionally or exclusively, by 89 per cent of the Protestants and 95 per cent of the Jews who practice birth control.

While the rhythm method was most widely used among Catholic wives, the research team said that a "very significant" percentage of Catholics acknowledged regular or occasional use of contraceptives. The number who admitted using methods condemned by their church constituted 30 per cent of all the Catholic wives covered by the survey, and more than 50 per cent of the Catholic wives who had said they practiced some form of birth control.

Although few Americans realize it, there is a federal law, still on the books, which makes it a crime to import, mail or transport in interstate commerce "any article for the prevention of conception."

This law is called the Comstock Act in honor of Vice Crusader Anthony Comstock, who pushed it through Congress in 1873. Many states adopted "little Comstock acts" during the same period, banning the manufacture or sale of contraceptives or the dispensing of birth control advice.

Enforcement of the federal law has been invalidated by a famous court decision rendered by Judge Learned Hand in 1936. All but two of the state laws have been repealed. Connecticut and Massachusetts still have anti-contraception laws.

The Massachusetts law permits druggists to sell appliances "for the prevention of disease" and the state officially closes its eyes to the fact that these appliances can also be used to prevent conception.

Criminal Case Goes To Jury For Verdict

NEW YORK (UPI) — The federal government's most massive effort to break the rackets syndicate since the days of Al Capone goes to the jury today in the trial of 20 accused conspirators at the notorious Apalachin, N. Y., meeting of 1957.

U.S. District Judge Irving Kaufman was to instruct the eight men and four women jurors before they receive the case.

Prosecutor Milton Wessel wound up his case Wednesday night with the charge that the defendants were so bound in silence that "grown men cry" rather than reveal what happened at the Apalachin home of the late Joseph Barbara two years ago.

Most of the defendants have criminal records ranging from narcotics and illegal gambling to white slavery and suspicion of murder. It is widely believed that Apalachin was a meeting of the "board of directors" of the rackets to discuss national problems.

But the federal government charged them only with conspiracy to obstruct justice by lying about what did occur. The offense carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment.

"We have not, cannot and do not prove what was going on at the Apalachin meeting," Wessel said. "The conspiracy was successful."

"People may ask, 'what kind of conspiracies can't be beaten by the federal government, by the FBI?'"

"It is the kind that binds these people together so tightly in silence that grown men cry. They are bound by bands so strong to lie that it will take a verdict of guilty to break those bands."

All the defendants are of Italian descent and there have been suggestions that most were members of the Mafia, the Sicilian terrorist society whose code is silence to the death.

The meeting occurred only a few weeks after racket kingpin Albert Anastasia was shot to death in a New York barber's chair.

State Police Sgt. Edgar Crosswell was the man who spotted the gathering of about 60 men driving gleaming limousines at the hill-top home near the tiny village. After he summoned reinforcements and set up road blocks, Barbara's "guests" took off by foot through the fields and woods.

Not a single defendant testified in his own defense.

Most of them previously told a grand jury and investigating officers they "just happened" to drop in on old friend, Barbara, because they had heard he was ill.

SUSPEND 11 GUARDS
RAIFORD, Fla. (UPI)—Eleven guards, under indictment for alleged brutality to prisoners, were suspended Wednesday at the Florida state prison here. The eleven were among 14 men indicted Tuesday by a federal grand jury on charges of brutality.

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