

Benson's Farm Policy Criticized by Democrats

Foes Call Soil Bank Plan Too Old, Too New

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson underwent a cross-fire of ridicule today from hostile House Agriculture Committee members.

Flushing an unaccustomed pink on occasion, Benson heard the administration's farm program called late, nebulous and political.

The secretary, already given a rough time by the Senate Agriculture Committee, was summoned before the House group to outline the administration's farm proposals—including flexible price supports and a "soil bank" for taking surplus cropland out of production.

Farmer System Junked
The House committee last year voted to junk the flexible support system for a return to high rigid price supports. The Senate committee has voted likewise this year.

Chairman Harold D. Cooley (D-N.C.) at the outset accused Benson of ignoring the committee in submitting specific proposals, and ordered him to have the program ready in legislative detail "by Monday."

"You've been in office three years and to this day we have never had an official bill," Cooley declared, and in evident sarcasm told Benson to "advise with your attorneys so you won't request authority you already have."

Under Cooley's prodding, Benson acknowledged the soil bank feature of the program is not new, and that the Department of Agriculture had rejected similar proposals contained in two House bills as recently as last July.

Cooley Fires Back
"You admit it's not new with you," Cooley fired back. "Then why did you come so late?"

Benson agreed the soil bank idea went back to Biblical days of Joseph in Egypt. He said that his program took the best features of proposals that have been made, and combined them.

Rep. W. R. Poage (D-Tex) said the GOP was advertising it as "the Eisenhower-Republican farm program," and remarked that he didn't think Joseph disclosed his party affiliation when he went to get the corn out of the Egyptian granaries.

Hagerty Flares at Newsmen On Second Term Question

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Feb. 21 (AP)—A usually well-bridled Irish temper got away from James C. Hagerty today in dealing with a fresh barrage of questions about whether President Eisenhower will seek re-election.

Hagerty, White House press secretary, bluntly told newsmen they had better lay off a bit or the President might decide to make his big announcement somewhere other than at a news conference.

On Feb. 8 at a Washington meeting with reporters Eisenhower said he would like to announce his political plans at a news conference and that he probably would.

The President indicated at the same time he would be ready about March 1 to say whether he will run again. But he declined to rule out an earlier or later announcement.

Today at a news conference a reporter asked Hagerty about the possibility of Eisenhower announcing his political plans at his next Washington meeting with newsmen, probably a week from tomorrow.

"There is absolutely no reason to believe that one way or the other," Hagerty shot back. He apparently meant that while the announcement could come then, it might not.

The next question was whether there was any reason to believe it won't come then, in the light of Eisenhower having indicated he would be ready about that time. It was at that point the Hagerty temper flared.

Hagerty announced the President will fly back to Washington Saturday, arriving in the capital sometime in the early afternoon.

Death Toll Rises To 747 in Europe

LONDON, Feb. 21 (AP)—Heavy snowstorms brought new hardship tonight to Europe's shivering millions in their record 22-day frigid siege.

The death toll rose to 737. Weathermen promised no immediate relief, but there were some brighter spots.

Ag Eng Society to Meet

The American Society of Agricultural Engineers will meet at 7 tonight in 105 Agricultural Engineering.

Indian-Pakistani Border Clash Wounds Three

BOMBAY, India, Feb. 21 (AP)—Official Indian sources said today Indian and Pakistani forces clashed Sunday in a disputed border area on the west coast near the Arabian Sea. Three Indians were reported wounded.

The informants said a large contingent of Pakistani troops had seized control of a small island both countries claim in a bog called the Rann of Kutch. It is a large salty wasteland straddling the international border. The Indian informants gave this account:

About 50 Indian soldiers went to the island, Chhad Bet, to investigate reports of a Pakistani incursion. The Pakistanis machine-gunned the Indians. The Indians returned the fire, then withdrew.

This border dispute may reflect tensions between India and Pakistan over other matters such as Kashmir.

Air Force Plane Crashes; 5 Killed

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 21 (AP)—A Boeing KC97 Stratofreighter crashed and burned near the Palm Beach Air Force Base late today and all five crewmen aboard were killed.

Eyewitnesses said the ship burst into flames along the fuselage as it was coming in for a landing.

One witness said the flaming ship struck the ground on the north side of Belvedere Rd., nosed into an embankment and flipped over on its bank to skid across the road and into an adjacent field where it was enveloped in flames.

Senate May Probe For Illegal Lobbying

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP)—The Senate today took up a resolution to authorize what is being billed as a far-flung search for "improper or illegal" lobbying and political contributions.

A vote was put over until tomorrow.

The measure to set up an eight-man investigating committee of four Democrats and four Republicans was sponsored jointly by Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas and Republican Leader William F. Knowland of California.

Behind it were unanimous endorsements of the Senate Republican and Democratic Policy Committees.

Senate Was Pushed

Yet the Senate was sort of pushed into the whole thing as a result of reverberations set up by the disclosure of Sen. Francis Case (R-SD) that he had been offered, and spurned, a \$2500 campaign contribution during the Senate scrap over the natural gas bill.

Around the Capitol there has been no little speculation as to just how deeply the Senate might dig in this election year for evidence of any improper attempts to influence it or its members on the gas bill or other subjects.

Sen. Herbert H. Lehman (D-NY) put it into words today on the Senate floor: "I have that feeling," he said, "that it is necessary to make very clear that the Senate is not going to pussyfoot on this situation or whitewash anybody."

Lehman Speaks Out

Johnson declared the committee would have but two objectives:

"To expose and bring it light any wrong-doing" and to "put teeth into the lobby bill," propose other legislation and not produce "headlines, heroes and white knights."

Bomb Explodes In PRR Station

NEW YORK, Feb. 21 (AP)—A phantom bomber struck again today, planting a timed explosive in a lavatory of Pennsylvania Station's lower level. An attendant was injured.

It was the 26th time the phantom has hidden a bomb in crowd centers around the city.

The latest blast occurred about an hour before the start of the evening rush hour, when all facilities of the big terminal are crowded.

Tank Sale Arouses Ire In Senate

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21 (AP)—Democrats agitated over the tank sale to Saudi Arabia and other aspects of U.S. foreign policy today prepared to give Secretary of State John Foster Dulles a not-so-warm welcome home from a vacation in the Bahamas.

Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.) announced Dulles had agreed tentatively to go before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Friday.

Other senators reported the meeting would "cover the waterfront" of foreign affairs controversies. This would let Dulles in for a quizzing on at least these issues:

1. Shipment to Saudi Arabia of 18 light tanks with the lifting of a short-lived embargo last week on sending war equipment to the Middle East.

2. Israel's expressed shock over the deal and renewed demands for consideration of her appeal for U.S. arms.

3. Complaints of Democrats that the Eisenhower administration has failed to take them into confidence on key foreign policy decisions.

4. What new strategy may be planned to prevent war in the Middle East and keep peace elsewhere in the world, particularly in light of President Dwight D. Eisenhower's recent conference with British Prime Minister Eden.

5. The administration's foreign aid program, due to be presented to Congress next week.

6. Dulles' "brink of war" interview in Life magazine.

Dulles is due in Washington tomorrow from a two-week Bahamas fishing trip.

Players Ad Crew to Meet

The advertising crew of the Penn State Players will meet at 7 tonight in the loft of Schwab auditorium

Bulganin Claims Atomic Leadership

MOSCOW, Feb. 21 (AP)—Premier Nikolai Bulganin told the 20th Communist party Congress today Soviet Union leads other countries in peaceful uses of atomic energy and must keep its lead for the building of communism.

The Premier, formally introducing the sixth Soviet five-year plan, also assured his audience there will be no return to the cult of individualism—such as prevailed in the Stalin era—and that the Soviet Union will continue under a collective party leadership.

He asked approval of the new five-year plan, which calls for big increases in industrial and farm production.

In his 3½-hour speech, Bulganin said the era the U.S.S.R. now is facing differs from the prewar era because "no longer is it the case of one Socialist Communist country competing with a capitalist world, but that of peaceful economic competition between two world systems—Socialist and capitalist. Nearly half the population of Europe and Asia have definitely and irrevocably broken with capitalism; more than a third of the human race has firmly taken the path of Socialist construction."

He asserted that cooperation among them is contributing to the growth of the Socialist countries

and that the Socialist world system is "immune to crises of unemployment and other incurable maladies inherent in the capitalist system."

"The increase of production in capitalist countries is due to temporary, transient factors—that is, one-sided, extremely unstable and extending mainly to those branches of industry which in one way or another are connected with militarizing the economy," he told the Congress.

He said the 20th Century is becoming the atomic age and Communists must place this discovery at the service of building communism.

"In the peaceful uses of atomic energy our country is well ahead of other countries," Bulganin declared. "This lead we must keep in the future as well."

There appeared little doubt the party Congress delegates would vote promptly their approval of the five-year plan. This new development scheme calls for rises in heavy industrial and farm production and development of nuclear power stations. Among its provisions are a 70 per cent boost in steel output by 1960 and increases from 85 to 154 per cent in basic food crops.

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Bermuda...

After much clash and controversy, we've finally settled on the manner of selection.

First of all, to be eligible for that all expense paid weekend to Bermuda, the contestant must be a co-ed, have her picture used in our weekly column OR her name mentioned in the column as having been noticed at some party we photograph. Retroactive from this past October 1st to this May 25th.

Names of all contestants will be placed in a box and from it, winner's name will be drawn. To guarantee impartiality, Collegian staff will arrange the names in a box and may select someone to draw winner.

bill coleman's lion studio