

FARM BILL L.P.-R.G. Wed. May 20-53.

The House passed the Farm Bill this afternoon.

The figure - a billion and a quarter. Which is one hundred and six million more than the Eisenhower Administration wanted.

There was a noisy debate, as Republican advocates of economy tried to cut the total - but the farm bloc won out. Economy amendments defeated - and then the bill was passed by an overwhelming vote.

EISENHOWER - TAXES

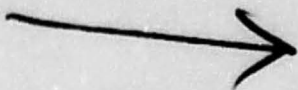
President Eisenhower, today, presented his tax proposals - in a formal message to Congress. Arguing - in favor of what he had to say yesterday. He wants the excess profits tax extended for another six months - although there's much opposition in Congress to ^{that} ~~any extension of that particular law~~ ~~and~~ The President wants various other corporation taxes to be continued, and repeats what he said yesterday- that personal income taxes cannot be reduced until January First of next year.

He declares, in explanation, that all this is necessary to correct what he calls - "unsound fiscal and monetary policies of the past administration." That is, the Truman Administration. ^H The budget must be balanced, to obtain - "the vital financial objective of a sound dollar."

Secretary of Commerce Weeks declares that the business men will back a "sound-money tax program."

EISENHOWER - ECONOMY

The Administration recommends a slash in the budget for the Veterans' Administration. The Truman budget named four billion, five hundred and seventy-four million as the figure for the veterans. Three hundred million to be cut from that - in the Eisenhower program of economy. The Washington dispatch states that the cuts are sure to arouse the wrath of Veterans' organizations - which oppose any reduction of money for former soldiers.



ADD EISENHOWER-ECONOMY

The latest: -/American Legion comes out in immediate
opposition.

CHURCHILL

Prime Minister Winston Churchill declares that he will not invite President Eisenhower to London for a "two power" conference, such as has been proposed. Today in the House of Commons, ^{Churchill said,} ~~a Labor member urged him to ask the President to London - before any meeting with Soviet leaders.~~
~~said,~~
~~Sir Winston replied in the following words:~~

"Few things would give more pleasure to Her Majesty's government and the British people, than that ~~President~~ President Eisenhower should visit us. But I certainly do not feel the differences of opinion between Britain and the United States, at the present time, would require or justify a procedure of such magnitude."

He'd like the President to come over, but not for any "two power" conference. ~~Sir Winston doesn't think the differences between the two countries are important enough for that.~~

(At the same time, the London Foreign Office issues a statement - that no approaches have been made for meeting

POLITICAL JOB

At Johnstown, Pennsylvania, today, two candidates, a mill-hand and a housewife - began campaigning for the juiciest ^{political} job in the country. Joe (Chipper) Tomaskovich running against Mrs. Sadie Salem - for Tax Collector of Franklin Borough.

The population of that borough numbers a mere eighteen hundred. The number of property owners, ~~two~~ ^{only} two hundred and seventy-five. But one of them is the Bethlehem Steel Company, with a giant plant - in Franklin Borough. Bethlehem Steel pays about ninety-seven per cent of the total taxation - kicking in with nearly four hundred thousand dollars a year.

The Tax Collector, according to law, pockets a percentage of the cash he collects - about two-and-a-half per cent. That, levied on the four hundred thousand paid by Bethlehem Steel, makes the income, over a four year term, about fifty thousand dollars. The work on the job consists, mostly, of accepting a check, once a year, from the giant Steel Company. Figured according to working hours, the pay comes to about twelve-thousand, five-hundred dollars per hour.

OATIS

William Oatis of the Associated Press declares that he did not, at any time, commit espionage - not in the meaning of the term as used in Western countries. But ordinary Western news reporting can come under the heading of espionage, behind the Iron Curtain. ¶ Oatis, who was imprisoned for two years in Red Czecho-Slovakia, says he wants to clarify his relations with the U. S. Embassy in Prague. He explains that, upon receiving a news tip, he sometimes went to the Embassy, and asked about it. Not to give information, but to procure information. In asking, he did, of course, pass along the news tip. On that basis, the Reds accused him of doing spy work for the Embassy. ¶ The Associated Press says that William Oatis is exhausted physically, and will need a long rest.

went winging to the Pole, and returned - non-stop, no refueling,
on The Arctic Ice, or Point Barrow, or anywhere.

(Those are hitherto secret facts about the new Jet

bomber, which is now becoming our number one airplane for
carrying the atomic bomb. The Air Force plans to produce more
than two thousand Strato-Jets - at a cost of five billion
dollars.)

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JET PLANES

Here's news about events of weeks and months ago - just made public. The Air Force discloses military secrets - the performance of our new B-47 Strato-Jet Bomber.

That
~~This~~ medium bomber, with six Jet engines - which broke all distance and endurance records for Jet aircraft.

Last year, a Strato-Jet made a twenty-four hour non-stop flight of twelve thousand miles, about half the distance around the world. Average speed - five hundred miles an hour. The Strato-Jet was refueled three times from tanker planes - and, at the halfway mark, dropped a five ton dummy bomb. Just as it might have done on a mission to a target and back - a distant atomic mission, for example.

Last month,
~~In another non-stop flight,~~ two Strato-Jets crossed the Atlantic from Maine to England, in five hours and thirty-eight minutes. Five hundred and fifty-five miles an hour. *Non-stop*
~~They did that,~~ - without refueling.

More than a year ago - the first Jet flight over the North Pole. A Strato-Jet took off from Eielson Air Base, Alaska,

MIG

Another Mig landed in Denmark today. Another pilot of the Polish Red Air Force duplicated the stunt of the Lieutenant who, some weeks ago, fled the Iron Curtain in a Russian-built Jet plane. Both - landing on the Danish island of Bornholm.

In that previous incident, the Polish pilot brought the Mig in undamaged, making an almost miraculous landing. ~~The speedy jet, coming down~~ on a small airfield meant for light planes. Today it's different. The pilot came ^{— again} in at the dizzy speed of Jet. The ground was rough and, when the wheels touched, the plane took a crazy bounce, jumped across the road, and plunged into a grove of trees. That, they say, saved his life - the trees. The right wing of the Mig was torn off, but the impact was cushioned - and the pilot climbed out of the wreckage, uninjured. Asking - for political asylum.

The only news about the Jet war in the air states that our two top aces are - out of it. Yesterday we heard that Captain Joseph Mc Connell, with sixteen Migs shot down, would be sent home - to teach fledgling pilots the tricks of Jets in battle. Today, he was joined by Major Fernandez, whose record of fourteen Migs destroyed was broken by Mc Connell, his former pupil at gunnery school. At ^{they had} seoul, a farewell ceremony for our two top aces - homeward bound.

That's all the news about the war of Jets - nothing doing in the sky. Today, the weather was good for flying, and the Sabrejet pilots were out - hoping eagerly to run up their scores. But - no dice. Not a single Mig ~~appeared~~, coming down from the Manchurian sanctuary. Discouraged, apparently, by the bad luck they were having in the battle on high.

^{Fifty-four} ~~thirty-two~~ knocked out in six days. TH ~~The only direction was~~

~~ground targets, and our planes collaborating with warship guns~~

~~in a day-long bombardment of targets along the northeastern~~

~~coast of Korea~~

TRUCE TALKS

A dispatch from Tokyo states that our negotiators are awaiting word from Washington on a - new proposal that is being drafted - to be handed to the Reds. The speculation is that we'll agree to a political conference after an armistice, to settle the fate of prisoners who don't want to go home. But we'll insist on a - "time limit." So that the Communists won't be able to drag things along indefinitely. If the conference can't reach a decision within the time limit, the prisoners would be placed under the jurisdiction of the United Nations.

This, we hear, would be a "final" proposal, from our side.

BERLIN - SOLDIERS

In Berlin today, two American soldiers told what happened to them in six months behind the Iron Curtain. Private Michalovski of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and Private Night of Los Angeles - who were reported to have asked for political asylum in the lands of Communism.

They told how, by getting aboard the wrong railroad train, they strayed into the Red Zone, and were nabbed. Whereupon they were urged to stay willingly, and were offered money and good jobs. An easy life - if they would sign a statement, that they were taking refuge behind the Iron Curtain. They refused, but the Reds put out the report, just the same - that the two G.I's were ~~refugees~~ ^{Fugitives} from the West.

They were threatened with prosecution for espionage, held for six months - and finally released.

with Soviet leaders. ^a~~the~~ spokesman denies that the Prime Minister has been in touch with the Kremlin for any kind of conference with Premier Malenkov. The Foreign Office declares that no further move has been made since the Churchill speech last week - when he suggested a top level meeting. >

So that's the political plum - the battle for which began in a primary election yesterday. ~~There were six candidates, of whom the two primary winners are the mill-hand and the housewife. There is not much doubt about the winner~~ Chipper Tomaskovich ^{captured} ~~capturing~~ both Republican and Democratic nominations. Mrs. Sadie Salem - nominated on an independent tickets.

Chipper is a steel worker at the Bethlehem plant, and he seems assured of - the juiciest political job in the country.

FLOODS

Down in Louisiana, tonight, hundreds of square miles of land - are an inland sea. The floods have turned great areas of the ~~abyou~~ ^{bayou} country into muddy, swirling lakes. There are seventeen thousand homeless, washed out of their houses, who have taken refuge on higher ground, wherever they can find any place above the level of the ~~iniga~~ deluge.

~~This follows the great storm that swept along the Gulf coast - and, finally, ^{flew} swept out to sea, passing over the Carolinas. Leaving in its wake - a calamity of inundation. Louisiana - hit hardest of all by the tremendous rains.~~

The storm and the downpour have gone, but there's no relief. Rivers in flood, continue to rise. ~~Today, a strong south wind blew from the Gulf of Mexico, pushing up the tides against the coast, Up into the lakes - into which the rivers drain. High water - backing up the swollen streams, pushing the floods higher.~~

The deluge is the worst in the old Cajun country - where the descendants of the Acadians of old are trappers,

fishermen, farmers. The Cajuns are having a tough time, a Red Cross official stating: "They're coming out any way ~~they can~~ they can. Some, in boats, or ~~gums~~ pirogues (boats made of hollowed out logs). Others are just wading out."

That's the picture - deluge in Louisiana.

BROMFIELD

At Wichita Falls, Texas, the Chamber of Commerce is taking action against Louis Bromfield, the author-farmer. They say the model farm he established in West Texas is a joke, such a flop that it makes the whole neighborhood ridiculous. So the Chamber of Commerce will sue to break a seven-year lease on the property.

Well, the story of Louis Bromfield is interesting. He scored a fine success as a novelist, then went back to the soil. (I recall a visit he paid us in Dutchess County, and we discussed a book just out. A new translation of a classic masterpiece, "The Georgics" of Virgil. A poem about practical farming - the Roman methods, two thousand years ago. Bromfield noted that the ways of planting, crop rotation, and so on, which Virgil described in stately verse - were still useful in farming today.)

In Ohio, he established the Malabar Farms - and wrote two successful books about the agricultural experiment. Reaping - crops of grain from the fields, also crops of royalties from the books.

Two years ago, the author-farmer decided to establish a similar model farm in Texas - leasing four hundred acres of land from the Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce. But they say the "model farm" can't produce enough grain to feed the cattle.

Today Louis Bromfield retorted that the land is, in his words - "worn out, over-grazed and ruined by oil. You can't expect to turn a desert into a prosperous farm, in two years," he says.

There was also a Texas windstorm. Something like a tornado, blowing so hard that it knocked over a huge dairy barn, intended to house one hundred and fifty cattle. The big barn was flattened.

~~Louis~~ Bromfield says the Chamber of Commerce won't have to sue to break the lease. He's through down there. He wants no more of model farming in Texas.

Well, I wouldn't want to get into that argument. It's a theme for farmers.

FAMILY

In Buffalo, Emil Noah was let out of jail today - before his prison sentence had expired. Noah, whose name recalls the flood in the Bible, was in for petty larceny. But his wife made such a plea for his release - that even the most hard-hearted ^{of} judges could not have refused. *V* Mrs. Noah told the court that she absolutely needed her husband home - to control the children. They have eight, and those kids have been driving her to a nervous break-down. She described Noah as - "a model husband, who disciplined the children." ~~So~~

~~the paper was put in the calaboose, and the eight young boys were
wild - they were in the calaboose, and they were nipping the
place again~~

Well, you know how a distracted mother says, "You just wait till your father comes home!" But ^{with} father ⁱⁿ ~~was in~~ the calaboose? That persuaded the judge, and ~~home for a year~~ ~~the judge would~~ ~~in~~ ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ - and, Nelson, I'll today, Mr. Noah went home to discipline the children, ~~and I'll~~ bet it was a hot old time for the kids.