

Thursday, October 7, 1971

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

Coming up in just a few minutes - the story we've all been waiting for - President Nixon's report on Phase Two of his new economic program; scheduled for nationwide broadcast at 7:30 Eastern time; a blueprint hopefully, for spurring the nation's economy - while at the same time stemming inflation; and you can hear it live - right here on many of these CBS stations.

PRICES FOLLOW WHITE HOUSE

In the meantime - at least one encouraging sign. According to Government figures announced today - wholesale prices last month had their biggest drop in five years; a decline of four-tenths-of-a-percent. This coming in the first full month of the President's wage price freeze; which could mean - a corresponding drop in retail prices just ahead. In any event, the director of the President's new cost of living council - Arnold Welber - calling the report "good news for all of us". The President's chief economic adviser - Paul McCracken - adding that the President's program "is showing tangible results."

CONNALLY follow PRICES

A related item: Treasury Secretary John Connally today testifying before the Senate Finance Committee; challenged as "old dogma" - the notion that the House-approved tax cut shows too much favoritism to corporations. If anything - said Connally - the Government "has gone too far" over the past five years "in cutting the income taxes of individuals." And this - said he - at the expense of corporate growth, productivity, and international competitiveness that might have accrued from business tax cuts.

PARIS

At the peace table in Paris - the U.S. again pressed the Prisoner of War issue. U.S. Ambassador, William Porter, noting that the House passed this week - unanimously - a resolution urging North Vietnam to treat U.S. prisoners more humanely. Porter further telling the communist side: "As you are constantly advancing your views on American opinion - I trust that you will give this unanimous resolution your most careful consideration.

Unfortunately - it was not to be. Instead, the communist side accusing the U.S. - of master minding President Thieu's landslide - re-election in South Vietnam. Adding that said election had "shattered the sign boards of democracy and self-determination - that the Nixon administration" had put up for it.

To this - Porter replying, in effect, "rubbish." Adding that if anyone tried to rig the election - it was the Viet Cong. "Just last Sunday" - said he - on Election Day you selected the city of Saigon and other cities as targets;

PARIS - 2

and a number of civilians died as a result." And so it
drones on at Paris.

BORLAUG

One of the creators of that so-called "green revolution" Nobel prize winner Norman Borlaug - a witness today before The Environmental Protection Agency. Urging the U.S. not to ban DDT - for fear that less developed countries might then follow suit. If they did - said Borlaug, it would lead to "disease and disaster;" and soon we would have, world wide, said he: Some two hundred and fifty million people with Malaria. Next question: Would the witness still support the use of DDT - if it meant extinction for certain birds, fish and wildlife? To which Borlaug replied: "I would not like to make that choice^c - but if I must, I'll vote for man."

WASHINGTON

Elsewhere in Washington - a boost today for Senator Muskie of Maine. Endorsed for the Democratic Presidential nomination - by Governor Hearnes of Missouri; and also, by that states' two U.S. Senators - Senators Symington and Eagleton.

In a joint statement, the three Missourians calling Senator Muskie - "the best qualified" of all possible candidates; based, in part, on his showing as the Democratic Vice-Presidential nominee - back in Sixty-Eight.

While "others were being shouted down" - they said - "it was Edmund Muskie whose quiet, straight forward manner enabled him to be heard."

SENATE

The Senate again - a proposed constitutional ammendment was introduced today - by Senate Republican Whip Robert Griffin. This seeking to ban the busing of children solely to achieve school integration. Senator Griffin saying: "When a court orders long-distance busing of children because they are black or beccause they are white - the court disregards and ignores a fundamental truth - that two wrongs do not make a right." So says the Senate Republican Whip.

LONDON

Over in London - an old war wound has finally been healed. Earl Montbatten of Burma - who was earlier ~~accused~~ accused of snubbing visiting Emperor Hirohito of Japan - setting it all straight. Requesting - and getting - a private audience. The man who accepted the Japanese surrender at Singapore in World War II - and his erstwhile foe - chatting for half an hour.

Indicating clearly that they have let bygones be bygones.

ADELAIDE

At Adelaide, Australia - one of those arguments that athletes sometimes have. "My sport is tougher than yours." "Oh yeah, let's see you prove it."

Except in this case - one of the men was a karate whiz, and the other - a judo expert. Frank Fioretti - age twenty-five - and Fred Kirk - age forty six - finally deciding to fight it out.

It really wasn't much of a battle though. After a few feints - the younger man delivering a karate chop to his opponent's left ear; and then - as the later reeled backward, a quick throat kick and it was all over. Fred Kirk - the judo man - dropping like a sack. Frank Fioretti - the karate man - proving that here, at least, karate was far superior.

It was a costly victory, though. The loser Fred Kirk never regained consciousness - his wind pipe was crushed. And the "winner" - Frank Fioretti - now faces a charge of murder. So, for him it wasn't a triumph!

WILMINGTON

This next - from Wilmington, Delaware; where a bill has just been passed in the State Senate - legalizing Bingo; but, only on Sundays - and only after one-thirty in the afternoon.

The bills sponsor - Senator Cicone - explaining that "After all - Sunday Football widows do need some recreation, too," don't they? I'm sure my wife would agree.

MOSCOW

Here in Providence - where I'm broadcasting tonight from WEAN - here a fall spectral of color is flashing across the landscape. While some ten hours flying to the east of us, at Moscow - also, Leningrad - early snow this week; the Russian news agency calls it one of the earliest lasting snows - in all Russian history.

Moscow alone has more than four thousand snow plows - ready to deal with any emergency. And far from complaining - the Russians are enjoying their early snowfalls. Our CBS office in Moscow - says the Muscovites love it. Early snow to go with their ballet and vodka.

CHEPERD LEAD-IN (to be taped for later use)

From the White House - just a few minutes ago -

"Phase II" of the President's new economic program. Details

- from my CBS colleague Gary Sheperd.