

Controversy By Farmers Over Great Plains

WASHINGTON (UPI)—A House subcommittee studying agriculture appropriations for the next fiscal year reported today a controversy had arisen among farmers over the Great Plains program.

The Farmers Association for Resource Management came out strongly against any extension of the program, which was started in 1958. The National Association of Soil Conservation Districts, however, asked Congress to speed up the program.

Under the Great Plains Act, farmers contract on a long-term basis for a complete resource management program with the Agriculture Department. They are obligated to carry out all the terms of the contract, or face severe penalties. In return, the federal government picks up part of the cost of rehabilitating the farms.

Predict Federal Takeover. FARM told the subcommittee in closed hearings last month a continuation of the Great Plains plan could result in government ownership of farms. It added it had already resulted in placing managerial control of such farms under contract in a government bureau—the Agriculture Stabilization Service.

The organization, which claims membership in 29 states, also said the services performed under the Great Plains Act were duplicated in ASC programs.

Representatives of the Soil Conservation Districts Assn., however, took the opposite position. They said the program has already resulted in greater agricultural stability in the great dust bowl of the 1930s.

"The original Great Plains Act authorized expenditures of up to 50 million dollars through 1971. So far 20 million dollars has been appropriated, and the administration recommended another 10 million dollars in the new budget."

Five-Year Average. "Since these contracts are averaging five years in length," a spokesman for NASCD said, "there are only five more years that contracts can be written under the authorization."

"Contracting at a rate of only 10 million dollars per year will permit reaching only about one-half the total level of operations provided for in the authorizing legislation."

The organization asked that ap-

propriations be stepped up to the level authorized.

A Crowell, Tex., farmer, Grady Halbert, also asked for an expansion of the program. He told the subcommittee the government spent millions for emergency relief a few years ago in the 10-state Plains area during a prolonged drought. He said this relief was fine, but not permanent. He added the Great Plains program would stabilize the area during emergencies.

Purdue Road School In Annual Session

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (UPI)—County road and city street officials met in separate sessions today to study their problems as the 46th annual Purdue Road School entered its second day.

More than 500 persons attended. The crowd increased from the record 400 who attended the opening session Monday and heard several speakers, including an Indiana State Highway Department engineer who said about 95 million dollars in highway work will be placed under contract in Indiana this year.

J.R. Cooper, assistant chief engineer for the department, said the 95 millions will include about 35 million dollars for the interstate highway system, 25 millions for primary roads, 17 millions for secondary roads, 14 millions for urban roads, and 4 millions for resurfacing.

Cooper told the delegates that Indiana ranks 10th nationally in interstate highway construction now underway, including 139 miles of roads costing 63 million dollars and 190 bridges costing 48 millions.

He told of other highway work the state is doing.

"This is quite a change," Cooper said, "from several years back when the late Sam Hadden, then chairman of the Indiana State Highway Commission, returned from Washington and rather ruefully informed us that only Puerto Rico was in a worse position than Indiana in the obligating of federal funds."

"There was, of course, a good reason at that time because there had been no increase in the gas tax rate since 1929 and inflation and highway need had greatly exceeded the ability of available state funds to do the job."

Over 2,500 Daily Democrats are sold and delivered in Decatur each day.

Capital City Cracks Down On Violators

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Indianapolis police and judges cracked down today on traffic law violators in an effort to stem a rising tide of fatalities on city streets.

The drive reached a crescendo after three youths were killed in a drag-race collision on a north side street early Sunday, raising the 1960 traffic death toll in Marion County to 37, more than twice the number killed by this time last year.

Traffic Capt. Dean Schwartz of motorcycle policemen will go on nighttime duty tonight on orders of Traffic Inspector Audry Jacobs. Most of the patrols have been daytime assignments in the past.

Eleven motorcycle patrolmen Monday night made 87 arrests. The city's four municipal court judges also adopted tougher policies in handling traffic violators, particularly those with previous arrest records.

Judge Charles Daugherty referred to the triple fatality accident from the bench Monday.

"In every neighborhood in this city," Daugherty said, "there is some young idiot who tries to kill himself in a convertible about this time of year."

"This accident is a classic example. I do not intend to reflect particularly upon this accident, but this happens year after year. The lesson falls on deaf ears. It is a dilemma, a tragedy."

Earlham Student Reported Better

RICHMOND, Ind. (UPI)—The condition of an Earlham College student, victim of a poisonous snake bite during the weekend, was listed as "fairly good" at Reid Memorial Hospital today, an improvement over his "serious" condition Monday.

The victim, Robert Douglas, 20, a junior from Ann Arbor, Mich., was bitten by a copperhead in a collection of poisonous and non-poisonous reptiles at the Earlham museum, when he reached for it in the mistaken belief it was a non-poisonous species.

James Cope, curator of the museum, said Douglas was the first person to be bitten by a poisonous snake at the museum. Douglas is a veteran of three years in handling snakes at the museum.

Other species of poisonous snakes in the collection include two kinds of rattlers and a water moccasin, Cope said.

Both Parties Seek Good Vote In May Primary

By BOYD GILL
United Press International
INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—The Democratic and Republican state chairmen agreed today that the Indiana presidential preference primaries May 3 should not be considered a "popularity contest" between Sen. John F. Kennedy and Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

The primaries are two weeks from today.

Kennedy, a Democrat, and Nixon, a Republican, have only token opposition in their respective Hoosier primaries, and one would think a big drum-beating campaign might develop among their backers to see which could pile up the heaviest vote.

But chairman Edwin Beaman of the GOP state committee and chairman Charles Skillen of the Democratic organization feel there is no popularity significance attached to the balloting.

"If Kennedy gets a lot more votes than Nixon, I would consider it evidence that he is more popular," Skillen said. "But I don't think the primary in Indiana will be so much a popularity contest between Nixon and Kennedy as it is a contest between county precinct organizations and local candidates."

Few GOP Contests. Skillen said local contests will bring out a heavy vote and Kennedy will naturally profit from it. "I don't think it is a popularity contest," said Beaman, "mainly because there will not be enough votes cast in the Republican primary to give any indication as to Nixon's running ability."

The reason for this is that approximately 30 per cent of the counties have either no contests or few contests of any kind. Therefore, there is likely to be a poor turnout of voters in those counties. On a statewide basis it would be a very poor popularity contest. But in places where there are contests and large numbers of voters turn out, the Nixon-Kennedy vote might be considered a popularity contest."

Beaman said Nixon's "outstanding popularity in Indiana" will undoubtedly bring out many voters that would not go to the polls except for his name being on the ballot.

"If we had contests like we had in 1952," Beaman said, "Nixon would poll a very, very large

vote, but we don't."

Nevertheless, both Skillen and Beaman said they are working on all county chairmen trying to get out a good vote.

No Intensive Campaign. "We are warning everybody there might be a mistaken belief this is a popularity contest and if they don't get out the vote it might give the false impression Nixon is not popular in Indiana," Beaman said. But he added that the campaign for a big turnout was no more intensive than for past primaries.

Beaman said no effort was made to lure Nixon to Indiana to campaign for votes. Kennedy, however, already has toured the state once and is coming back again April 29 to seek support.

Among the Democratic contests on the precinct level which Skillen apparently believes will bring out a heavy vote are those for precinct committeemen, the first step in reorganizing the party organizations for the next two years. Battles here are expected to be tied in with a factional scrap.

A four-way race for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination also may help bring out a heavy primary vote, since delegates to the state nominating convention at which the state standard bearer is chosen will be up for election May 3.

On the Republican side, Lt. Gov. Crawford F. Parker is unopposed for the governor nomination and observers believe there will be no factional battles in the primary to determine convention delegates.

All Teachers Quit Over Paddling Case

VALDOSTA, Ga. (UPI)—The high school at Habersham, Ga., closed today following the resignation of the entire faculty because the County Board of Education failed to back them in a controversy over the paddling of a student.

Principal A.B. Martin resigned Monday night along with about half of the school's 30 teachers. The remainder of the teachers submitted their resignations today.

Hundreds of students who arrived for classes this morning were informed by school authorities that classes were suspended for the day. The students were returned home in buses. They were told it was hoped that classes could be resumed Wednesday.

County Schools Supt. Clyde Meacham called a closed-door meeting at the school, attended by Martin and the school faculty, to negotiate a settlement of the dispute.

The controversy erupted after Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cornelius said Martin and one of his teachers paddled their son, Elmer, 14, twice in one day last week. Martin and Mrs. Dwight Maples were charged with assault and battery for the paddling incident.

Cornelius, a school bus driver, said his son was first paddled by Martin for being downtown at an unauthorized time, and later by Mrs. Maples for being out of the classroom without permission.

Says GOP Ignores City Governments

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—State Sen. Matthew Welsh (D-Vincennes) said Monday night that the GOP state administration is being run by timid, unimaginative officials who would rather talk about state's rights and home rule than do anything about solving local problems.

Welsh, a Democratic candidate for governor, accused the Republicans of violating the "fundamental right" of cities and towns to have a major hand in determining their own future.

"The GOP," he said, "ignores municipal government in its high-way planning and uses the withholding of state services as a political weapon of reprisal for criticism at the polls."

"The pleas for state's rights issued almost daily from the Statehouse and from the platforms at Lincoln Day rallies reach the heights of political sacrilege," Welsh said. "These self-righteous pronouncements are a device to cover the dismal failure of the Republicans to understand that state's rights mean state's responsibilities."

"There can be no state's rights without state responsibilities," Welsh said. "The real destroyer of the rights of the state is that little cluster of fearful men in the Statehouse who either do not understand their responsibilities of office, choose to ignore them, or simply do not care."

Bomb Hoax Case To August Grand Jury

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—The case of Waterman F. Brown, a Michigan City aviation company representative accused of reporting falsely a bomb aboard an airliner last week, will be taken before the August grand jury, U.S. attorney Don Tabbert said today.

Tabbert said he felt the case must be presented to a grand jury because of the great distances of homes of witnesses to the incident from Indianapolis. Tabbert said he felt witnesses should be brought under oath.

"In my opinion," Tabbert said, "Mr. Brown's statements to the press and television cameras that the incident was only part of a conversation with a stewardess will be proven false." Brown contends he used the word "bomb" as a figure of speech, not in actual reference to a bomb aboard a Lake Central Airlines plane en route from Indianapolis to South Bend.

Tabbert indicated he would summons one witness to the incident aboard the plane from his or her home 1,000 miles from Indianapolis. Tabbert said although he did not have the completed FBI report of the incident or the ensuing arrest as yet, he did have enough information to decide to call the Brown case before a grand jury.

Brown was released on \$2,000 bond by U.S. Commissioner Edwin Haerle last Tuesday.



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