

# Senate Banking Committee Votes Down General Rent Hike

**Spurns Proposal by Bricker; 'Home-Town' Board to Do Most of Control Job**

WASHINGTON, March 31 (U.P.)—The senate banking committee today rejected a proposed 10 per cent general rent increase. It approved by unanimous vote a bill to continue rent control until March 1, 1948, on a new "home-town" basis.

The bill would:

ONE: Extend federal rent control to March 1, 1948.

TWO: Transfer OPA's rent functions to housing expediter Frank Creedon.

THREE: Set up advisory rent boards in the 650-odd rental areas to do most of the job. The five-man boards could recommend de-control of an area, or area-wide rent increases. But their main task would be to see that landlords get swift and fair "hardship" relief. A board's decision would be final unless reversed by Mr. Creedon within 30 days.

FOUR: Remove rent controls from newly-rented and newly-built dwellings, luxury housing, and hotel accommodations.

FIVE: Permit states to set up their own rent control systems by passing special laws; and

SIX: Enable landlords to evict "squatters" tenants under state laws.

Senator John W. Bricker (R. O.) moved at the last minute to insert a proviso requiring rents 10 per cent countrywide. His proposal was turned down by voice vote.

The rent program still has to be considered by both the senate and house.

Other congressional developments:

## Sugar and Controls

Congress planned a rush job on legislation renewing sugar rationing and the government's controls on other scarce commodities.

The deadline was only hours away.

Renewal bills must reach President Truman by midnight tonight when present controls—granted under the second war powers act—expire.

Conference-approved bills are ready for final congressional action. They continue sugar rationing until Oct. 31 and extend until June 30 the government's other commodity controls.

Congress already has sent the President legislation renewing rubber controls.

Here are the provisions of the other bills:

SUGAR—Controls go from OPA to the agriculture department, effective when Mr. Truman signs the bill. Consumers are guaranteed a minimum of 20 pounds of sugar

during the next seven months. Prospects are that ration stamps will bring more than that.

All extra sugar must go to housewives—and congress has asked Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson to pass out as much as possible during the canning season.

COMMODITY CONTROLS—A 90-day limited extension of controls now in effect. The bill says controls on scarce foods may be continued only if "certified" by the secretaries of commerce and state as "necessary" to meet international commitments.

## Lilenthal Nomination

The senate was divided sharply on a proposal to sidetrack David E. Lilenthal's nomination to head the atomic energy commission pending an FBI checkup on his fitness.

There were indications that the proposal, offered by Senator John

W. Bricker (R. O.), would reach a vote by midweek. It would be the senate's first test vote in the Lilenthal controversy.

Senate Democratic Whip Scott Lucas of Illinois and Senator Wayne L. Morse (R. Ore.) predicted the motion would be defeated. But Senator Bricker was supported by Senator Styles Bridges (R. N. H.), who said failure to order the FBI investigation would place the senate in a position of "almost deliberate negligence."

Leaders considered holding extra night sessions this week in an attempt to dispose of the nominations to the atomic energy commission before the Easter recess scheduled to begin Friday.

## Strike Control

Chairman Fred A. Hartley Jr. (R. N. J.), of the house labor committee introduced an emergency measure authorizing the government to seek an injunction against the nationwide telephone strike set for next Monday. He said the measure was "drastic" but necessary to protect the public against the "disaster of a general telephone strike."

Meanwhile, prominent members of the house and senate said controls should take no steps against the six-day work stoppage called by John L. Lewis to mourn the victims of the Centrals tragedy.

But Rep. Hartley said that if it developed into a prolonged shutdown, he would introduce legislation to enable the government to deal with it.

## HOUSE FRONT COLLAPSES

LONDON, March 31 (U.P.)—W. Dever shouted at his wife today and then slammed the door. The front of the three-story building collapsed. It had been weakened by bombings during the war. No one was injured.

## Henry J. Biesel Rite Tomorrow

Services for Henry James Biesel, 361 W. Raymond st., will be at 9 a.m. tomorrow in the J. C. Wilson Chapel of the Chimes. Burial will be in St. Joseph's.

Mr. Biesel, a resident here 20 years, died Friday in City hospital. He was 54.

Survivors are his wife, Mabel; four daughters, Sara, Martha, Helen Rose and Judith Biesel; and his mother, Mrs. Minnie Biesel, all of Indianapolis; four sisters, Miss Sara Biesel and Mrs. Thurnap Graves, Indianapolis; Mrs. William Vinmeister, Monroe, La., and Mrs. Joseph Hochadel, Jeffersonville.

## Eats \$7 Dinner—Says He's 'Broke'

O. M. Hall, 62, of 2625 S. Lyons ave., likes chicken dinners.

In fact, he likes them so well he ate \$7 worth Saturday night.

Tonight he appears in Beech Grove Magistrates court on charges of "drunk and disorderly conduct."

When the waiter handed him the check he replied he was "broke."

Services will be at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday in Robert W. Stirling funeral home. Burial will be in Washington Park.

Survivors are his wife, Mrs. Lella J. Sierp; a daughter, Miss Evelyn M. Sierp, Indianapolis; the mother, Mrs. Leota Sierp, Lebanon; three sisters, Mrs. Opal Nichols, Mrs. Geneva Wuerth and Mrs. Eddie Jackson, and four brothers, Wilbur, Dallas, Floyd and John Sierp, all of Indianapolis.

## Ray E. Sierp Dies; Here 37 Years

Ray E. Sierp, 4208 Southeastern ave., an employee of the Allison Division of General Motors Corp.

seven years, died yesterday in Methodist hospital. He was born in Scottsburg and lived here 30 years. He was 46.

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