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U. S. Attorney Asks Probe Into Milk Price Boosts Here

Local Dealers Report Slump In Meat Sales

Buyers' Resistance Movements Gain

Mounting food prices brought two developments here today:

ONE: District Attorney B. Howard Caughran sent out a call for federal trust-busters to investigate two milk price increases within 16 days of each other.

TWO: Local meat dealers—

packers and retailers—reported

sales curtailed below the normal

seasonal slump level as a result

of growing resistance to high

prices. However, as yet no sign

of organized buyers' resistance

movements such as are springing

up over the rest of the country

was seen here.

Questions Price Hikes

District Attorney Caughran sent out a request to the federal anti-trust department suggesting an investigation of possible price-fixing combinations here after most Indianapolis milk companies raised milk to 20 cents per quart on July 15. This followed another 1-cent raise last week.

"The apparent uniformity and unanimity of the increases leads me to believe there should be an investigation of whether there may be an agreement between companies to raise prices just to be raising prices, or if these increases are based on necessity," Mr. Caughran said.

His request went to the Anti-Trust Division of the Justice Department in Washington. This department secured evidence leading to the indictment of officials of eight Chicago milk distributors last week on charges of violating the Federal anti-trust laws.

Housewives Rebel

Elsewhere in the country the same resistance as increased meat costs. In many parts of the nation housewives were in organized rebellion against buying either.

In Indianapolis dealers reported no organized resistance to meat or milk. The high prices have, however, curtailed buying.

Only organized stand among local women was that of a committee from the Indianapolis Council of Women which announced it would conduct interviews to attempt to find out reasons justifying the latest milk increase.

The committee will join another committee to be appointed by Judge Paul C. Wetter, president of the Indianapolis Federation of Civic Clubs to meet with Mayor Al Feeney, who already has gone on record opposing the increases.

Housewives Organize

Throughout the nation, housewives organized buyers' strikes. In some cases, meat dealers pitched in too, a United Press news service showed.

The campaign appeared to be having some effect. Wholesale meat sales fell to the lowest point in months yesterday at New York, although prices remained steady. The Safeway Stores at San Francisco reported an "unexplainable" drop in purchases of certain high priced cuts.

The fight was waged strongest at its point of origin in Texas, one of the nation's biggest meat-producing states, where Mrs. R. D. Vaughn of Dallas first set out to show that the law of supply and demand works in two directions.

At Cleveland, O., one grocery chain and most dairy stores offered milk in four- quart lots at two to three cents below the price listed for a single quart, after housewives began cancelling orders for milk delivery today.

The unorganized price strike began yesterday when dairies in the Cleveland area boosted milk prices to 22 cents a quart, an all-time high.

WINS RENOMINATION

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 4 (UPI)—Sen. A. Willis Robertson of Virginia today won renomination to his U. S. Senate seat in a primary election that added prestige to the conservative state Democratic organization headed by his Senate colleague, Harry F. Byrd.

Robertson, 61, a former

lawyer, was nominated by the

Democratic state convention

held Saturday.

He defeated Rep. John W.

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