

President Seeks Way To Stabilize Sugar Prices

Trying To Work Out A Plan To Protect Consumer Against Return Of Such Sugar Panic As That Which Followed In Wake Of World War Says David Lawrence

By DAVID LAWRENCE
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Washington, Feb. 1.—President Harding is trying to work out a compromise between the various sugar producing interests of the United States and Cuba whereby the price of sugar to the consumer shall never again go to the heights that were reached during the war.

The President is constantly discussing the problem with Secretary Hoover, Senator Smoot and agricultural senators on the one hand and the representatives of Cuban producers on the other.

The big question underlying the whole thing is whether the slight increase in the cost of sugar to the consumer which the producers say is inevitable if their industry is to be preserved will cause such dissatisfaction as to be politically dangerous this year.

Back of the sugar problem is the vivid recollection of inordinate prices after the war when the government let go and ceased regulation. The administration knows that few things come closer home than the price of sugar and it is therefore anxious to work out a compromise that will satisfy the sugar producers and the farmers and will not rouse the ire of the public as a whole.

All the various interests concerned—both producers and refiners—are of the opinion that whatever solution is worked out the price of sugar must go up slightly—possibly four-tenths of a cent a pound—as it now is being sold at less than their cost of production. During the war when the government controlled the beet sugar industry through its ability to fix the price, the American people bought sugar at a lower rate than did the peoples of other countries. It was only after the war when the Cuban producers thought there was a world wide shortage and when the government at Washington declined to purchase the Cuban crop but did control the American domestic output that prices went up. It is realized that as long as Cuba furnishes fifty per cent of the sugar consumed by the American public, some balance must be preserved between Cuban and American production.

American beet sugar producers claim that the Cubans extended themselves and really imagined that the high prices of sugar would continue indefinitely. While they were holding for higher prices, something like 800,000 tons came into the United States from forty-four different countries and even though the full duty a pound was paid, the imported sugar found a ready market. This, however, caused the accumulation in Cuba of a surplus of about 1,200,000 tons. It's this surplus carried into the present grinding season in Cuba which is the monkey wrench in the whole situation. If somebody tomorrow could wipe out that surplus and leave the Cuban producer without any loss everybody would be happy and the question of a duty to be imposed in the future wouldn't be complicated.

But so long as the surplus remains, the American producers claim they are menaced and that unless some other solution is found a higher duty than that now existing is necessary to enable the American producer to grow fifty per cent of the amount normally consumed. Of this fifty per cent, twenty-five comes from the beet and twenty-five from the cane in Louisiana and Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines.

Secretary Hoover who had a good deal to do with the sugar situation during the war and who insists that if the Cuban crop had been purchased after the war there would never have been high prices is insisting upon a plan whereby the Cuban crop would be limited for one year so as to absorb the existing surplus, and restore the balance between America and Cuba.

The situation touches the heart of Cuba and General Crowder who has just returned from there has reported that there is a direct relationship between stable political conditions and the settlement of the economic factors involved in the sugar tariff. The entire administration is agreed that if Cuba will pass a law restricting her production to 2,500,000 tons during the year 1922, this together with the surplus of 1,200,000 can be absorbed by Europe

FILM DIRECTOR IS SHOT IN THE NECK

Los Angeles, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—William D. Laylor, director of a large film company, was found dead today. He was shot in the neck and is believed to have been murdered.

FRANCE REPRESENTED AT GENOA CONFERENCE

Paris, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—France will be officially represented at the international economic and financial conference in Genoa.

Five Miners Killed In Mine Explosion

Gates, Pa., Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—Five miners were killed and twenty-two injured today as the result of an explosion in the Gates mine of the H. C. Frick Coke Company.

Nine miners' bodies have been brought out. Twenty are still entombed.

MAY TRANSFORM SITE INTO MEMORIAL PARK

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The House Committee is considering a proposal to transform the Knickerbocker Theater site into a park as a memorial to the dead.

Bonomi Government Decides To Resign

Rome, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The Italian government of Premier Bonomi has decided to resign, according to semi-official reports today.

and the American people without change in the existing tariff of \$1.60 per hundred pounds against Cuba. After this is once absorbed normal conditions, it is claimed, would be restored and there will be no need for an increase of the tariff to \$2.00 per hundred pounds. If the Cubans decline to limit their own production and insist upon carrying over each year the present surplus the American producers say they will not be able to compete with Cuba unless a duty of \$2.00 is imposed against Cuban sugar.

It seems certain that if Cuba doesn't restrict her production for the year 1922 only—for there would be no desire to restrict it afterwards—the duty of \$2.00 per hundred will pass both Houses of Congress. President Harding is anxious to avoid this higher duty and believes it can be done if the Cubans will do their part. In fact, there is a good chance of the present duty being reduced to \$1.50 per hundred pounds and this duty retained permanently if Cuba will meet the 1922 emergency. Should Cuba fail to respond, the President is determined to take the side of the American sugar producers. The influence of the agricultural bloc would be exerted in that direction any way as the beet sugar business is essential agricultural and the farmers are guaranteed a fixed price for beets and even benefit by ascending prices after they have delivered their crop.

The Western states dominate the present Congress so it is a foregone conclusion that Cuba must restrict her crop or have a permanent tariff imposed against her higher than ever before. As for the American public, the administration seems to recognize as inevitable a slight increase in the cost of sugar but the producers here insist that it will be as much to their interest as anybody else's to see to it that sugar doesn't ever get beyond six cents a pound.

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, distress and destitution, beyond measure and beyond description, prevail among the Jews who survived the World War in the countries of Eastern Europe; and

Whereas, the numbers who suffer and the numbers who must die for the lack of food, unless America hears and heeds the call for aid, challenge belief and appall the imagination; and

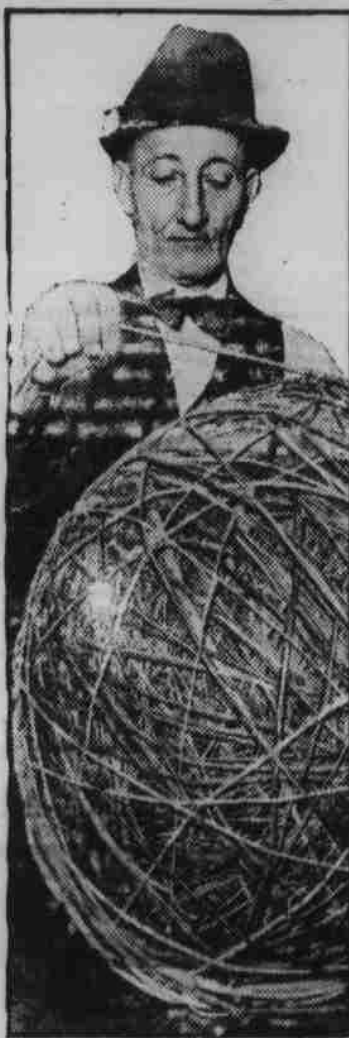
Whereas, an appeal is made to the citizens of Elizabeth City to give of their substance that the Jews in the war-devastated regions may have a chance to live; now, therefore,

As Mayor of the City of Elizabeth City, I call upon all citizens to give expression to their sense of human kindness by responding to the cry of distress from the starving millions of Jews—the rich, by giving of their abundance as a favoring Providence has blessed them; the poor, by giving their mites—that all may know the joy of contributing to the welfare of the many whom war's horrors have left desolate. In the week beginning Monday, February 6, and ending Sunday, February 12, let all good people give liberally and spontaneously, that they may realize from experience that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

W. BEN GOODWIN, Mayor.

February 1, 1922.

World's Largest



The ambition of C. H. Stall, Cincinnati, is to have the largest ball of twine in the world. He now has one that's two and a half feet in diameter and weighing 88 pounds. He is adding to it every day.

Ireland Has Trouble On Boundry Question

Dublin, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—A serious situation has arisen over the boundary question between Ulster and South Ireland, it is officially stated.

Policemen Are Placed On Portsmouth Cars

Portsmouth, Va., Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—After attacks on street cars last night, policemen were placed aboard all cars operated in the city by men imported to operate the cars tied up fourteen days by the strike of platform employees.

Would Make Map Of Elizabeth City Soon

Civil Engineer Of Newport News Talks With Local Business Men On His Plan

J. M. Cochran, civil engineer of Newport News, was in the city Wednesday and Thursday to talk over with business and professional men a plan to make an accurate map of Elizabeth City, giving street widths, the dimensions of lots and business properties, the location of public buildings, offices and stores, elevations in all parts of the city, and all information necessary for staking out lots, for routing water and sewer mains, and for general construction purposes. Every part of the city would be shown on Mr. Cochran's proposed map, which would be on a scale of 250 feet to the inch, and care would be taken to assure the accuracy of every figure given. There is no such map of Elizabeth City in existence at present, though every city of consequence on the Atlantic Seaboard has one, according to Mr. Cochran, and its value is readily apparent.

To make a thoroughly accurate map of the type described will cost, in Mr. Cochran's opinion, around \$750, and will require about three months' work. His idea to finance the plan is to have the city, the County, local business men and others obligate themselves to take the maps in quantities sufficient to bring the cost of each map down to a reasonable figure. After the completion of the original map, copies would cost very little, he says, and could of course be made in any quantities desired.

Mr. Cochran returned to Newport News Thursday, expecting to come back to Elizabeth City in the near future, perhaps in time to bring the plan before the City Council at its regular meeting next Monday night. He is at present connected with the Old Dominion Land Company, of Virginia, but expects to terminate his connection with the company by the first of March, when he would be in a position to start work on his proposed map of Elizabeth City. Local business men with whom he has talked have expressed themselves as heartily in favor of the making of the map.

CITY OFFICERS ARE MOVING

The officials of the city government are now moving from the city hall, recently turned over to the fire company, to the suite of three offices over the First & Citizens National Bank that will become administration headquarters in the next few days. Police headquarters were moved Wednesday, along with the city manager's office, and the city auditor and tax collector expect to complete the ordeal of moving by Monday morning. The telephone numbers of the various offices will be the same as heretofore.

WILL ELECT NEW POPE WITHIN NEXT TWO DAYS

Rome, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The Sacred College conclave today began its sittings to elect the new Pope. Fifty-two cardinals are cut off from the outside world until the task is finished. The Pope is expected to be elected within two days from the moderate section of the Sacred College.

WEEKS & SAWYER SURELY KNOW HOW TO FETCH 'EM

An advertisement bound to attract attention and buyers is that of Weeks & Sawyer in this issue. This wide-awake firm is offering a pair of specials for Saturday and Monday, two days only, that will appeal to every well-dressed man in the city. To mention 'em here would be advertising, and Weeks & Sawyer are not 'paying for this space, but if you'll find this firm's advertisement it's a ten to one bet that you'll be interested.

IN HANDS OF JURY

San Francisco, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The case of Roscoe Arbuckle, accused of causing the death of Miss Virginia Rappe, is in the hands of the jury today.

H. B. Cartwright, of Jacksonville, Fla., is visiting his sister, Mrs. R. H. Commander, on West Main street.

Harding's Cobbler



President Harding is setting an example in economy by having his shoes re-soled. He sends them to E. A. Spady, Emporia, Kan., who has such an enviable reputation as a cobbler that his fame has spread all the way to Washington.

Declares Railroads Could Reduce Costs

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The cost of operation of the nation's railroads could be enormously reduced and efficiency greatly increased by a well directed and unified system of operation under private control, William G. McAdoo, war-time railroad director general, told the Interstate Commerce Committee today.

ESTABLISHES WORLD RECORD

New York, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—Jole Ray today established the world's record for a mile and a half in the special Rodman Wanamaker mile and a half run, his time being six minutes, forty-two and two-fifths seconds.

PREPARE FOR WEDDING OF THE PRINCESS MARY

London, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—Arrangements for Princess Mary's wedding to Viscount Lascelles at Westminster Abbey the last week in February are beginning to take form.

The Lord Chamberlain, the Duke of Atholl, has been commissioned by the King to draw up a sketch of the proposed ceremonial and the State Chamberlain, Sir Douglas Dawson, will prepare the program.

The sending out of 2,000 invitations is the task of the Ceremonial Department at St. James' Palace. A fortnight's notice is usually considered sufficient for such occasions. The King and Queen as a rule invite personally their own relatives from abroad.

Not all the guests at Westminster Abbey will be able to see the ceremony. The choir and the transepts will be set apart for the royal family, the diplomatic corps, personal friends of the Viscount and Princess and the members of the royal households and suites. The other will have to be content with a view of the procession.

The wedding will be solemnized by the Archbishop of Canterbury, or in his absence, by the Archbishop of York.

A wedding reception will probably be held in the ballroom at Buckingham Palace, at which the famous royal gold plate service will be displayed.

The confectionery for all the state functions is made by the confectioners at the Palace and it is presumed they will make the wedding cake.

POPULATION OF SOVIET RUSSIA HAS DECREASED

Washington, February 2 — The population of Soviet Russia has decreased by eighteen million since the war according to a Commerce Department statement today.

L. G. Perry returned to Washington, D. C., Thursday after spending his vacation in Currituck on a hunting trip. Mr. Perry is with the government Department of Foreign Affairs.

ARMS DELEGATES SIGN TREATIES

And Italian Delegates Say Their Government Has Not Notified Them To Withdraw From Conference

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The four American delegates to the arms conference set a new example of democracy today when they described themselves as citizens of the United States in affixing their signatures to the treaties.

The Italian delegates said today that they had not been advised of their government's reported decision to resign. This report was probably due to some opposition here to half masting flags when the Pope died.

Shaughnessy Dies Of Injuries Today

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—Second Assistant Postmaster General Shaughnessy died today of injuries received in the Knickerbocker Theater disaster. This brings the total number of deaths officially recorded by the police to ninety-eight.

DEPARTMENT JUSTICE WILL PREPARE FOR COAL STRIKE

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The Department of Justice is working over plans to cope with the situation in the event of a coal miners' strike.

Indianapolis, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The scale committee of the United Mine Workers will meet here next Wednesday to formulate the demands of the miners to replace wage agreements expiring April first.

BRUNSWICK BANK PRESIDENT IS GUILTY

Brunswick, Ga., Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—L. Carter, president of the Jesup Banking Company, charged with fraudulent insolvency, was today found guilty and sentenced to not less than six nor more than eight years in the penitentiary.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—Will Thrasher, negro, alleged to have attempted to attack a white school teacher, was lynched here today.

SWEDISH PHYSICIANS ARE NOT COMPELLED TESTIFY

Stockholm, Jan. 11—Physicians in Sweden like those of America, cannot be compelled hereafter to give evidence in court against their will in medical cases with which they have been professionally connected, under a decision just given by the Lower Court of Appeals of Stockholm. This court has just reversed a decision given by a magistrate court which would have compelled a physician to testify. In fact this has been the practice in Sweden.

The case which evoked this ruling placing the Swedish physician on a par with the American doctor attracted wide attention in Scandinavia and on the continent, while it was being fought in the two courts and was closely watched by lawyers as well as physicians.

Although the case may yet be appealed to the Supreme Court, no notice of such action has been given.

Should Pay Bonus With Special Taxes

Washington, Feb. 2 (By The Associated Press)—The soldiers' bonus should be paid out of special taxes such as increased first and second class postage and tobacco levies. Secretary Mellon declared before the House Ways and Means Committee today.

Shoes Are Moving

Shoes are moving at Owens Shoe Company, really and truly. That's why this store's window display with its merry-go-round of stylish shoes is so appropriate. "It's the prices that move them," says Cliff Sawyer. "We have featured such valuable and reasonable bargains. And we still are offering very attractive money-saving values. It will pay everybody to buy."