

Washington Farm News

NEW FOOD LAW INCLUDES DRUGS. REGULATES COSMETICS. BIG IMPROVEMENT.

(Hugo S. Sims, Washington Correspondent.)

With the Department of Agriculture, as its name implies, deals with the problems of the nation's farmers, it also handles other matters, such as highway grants to the states, and enforcement of the food and drug law.

The recent passage of a Food Drug and Cosmetic Act, which has been signed by the President, is characterized by Secretary of Agriculture Henry A. Wallace as a great step forward in the protection of the American public. "It broadens the scope of the old law and, in many respects, reinforces those provisions which have stood the test of time," says Secretary Wallace. "It will benefit also the honest manufacturers who are entitled to governmental protection against unethical competitors."

"The Act will stand as a legislative monument to the memory of the late Senator Royal S. Copeland of New York, who fought for a really effective measure throughout the five-year struggle over revision of the Act of 1906. Credit must also go to many other members of Congress, to consumer groups, and to those enlightened trade organizations which had an interest in the welfare of the consumer."

"Because of the five-year struggle to get the new bill through Congress, many persons are confused as to its merits," the Secretary said. "This is not surprising," he added, "as there have been many versions of the bill, some of which contained provisions wholly unsatisfactory. While the bill is not perfect, the Conference Committee corrected the principal points of difference in such a fashion that I wholeheartedly recommend that the President sign the bill."

The new act goes much farther than the old law in that it contains positive requirements for informative labeling in the interest of consumers in addition to the negative prohibitions against mislabeling contained in the old statute. The new act amplifies and strengthens the provisions designed to safeguard the public health and prevent deception, and extends the scope of the law to include cosmetics, therapeutic devices, and certain drugs that now escape regulation.

The general provisions of the new law become effective one year from the date of its signature by the President. Certain provisions, however, become effective immediately. These include the prohibition against the introduction of new drugs before they have been tested; the prohibition against drugs which are dangerous to the consumer when used as prescribed on the label; the prohibition against cosmetics which may be injurious to users.

Important respects in which the measure differs from the present law are:

(1) The new law has jurisdiction over all cosmetics except toilet soaps. This means that the American public will be protected against dangerous cosmetics such as eyelash dyes that have been known to cause blindness.

(2) Brings therapeutic devices under control. In the past, many curative claims have been made for devices such as electric belts which have no value.

(3) Regulates drugs intended for diagnosing illness or for remedying underweight or overweight or otherwise affecting bodily structure or function. Included in this group are the so-called "slenderizers," many of which have caused blindness and death.

(4) Requires adequate testing of new drugs for safety before they are put on the market. The elixir of sulfanilamide which caused the death of nearly 100 persons last year emphasized dramatically the need for this provision.

(5) Provides for the promulgation of definitions and standards for foods. The old law contained no such authority except for canned foods. This means that the definitions and standards which under the old law were not binding, but merely advisory, will now have legal force and effect.

(6) Increases penalties for violations. Under the old law the maximum fine for the first offense was \$200. Under the new act a first offense may be punished with a fine of \$1,000 or one year imprisonment or both. For subsequent offenses under the old law the maximum fine was \$300 or one year imprisonment or both. Under the new law this penalty is increased to a maximum of \$10,000 or three years imprisonment or both. Even for first offenses where the court finds evidence of fraud or deliberate intent to violate the act the maximum penalties are \$10,000 fine or three years imprisonment or both.

(7) Provides authority for the Federal courts to restrain violations by injunction.

(8) Eliminates the necessity for proving fraudulent intent in the labeling of certain medicines. Under the new law any such medicine proved to be worthless may be removed from the market.

Looking at Washington (Continued from page one)

for some time. The Landon faction is understood to be opposed to Chairman Hamilton and extremely cool toward the aspirations of Senator Vandenberg, of Michigan. Mr. Hoover, on the other hand, is represented as being more interested in party principles than prospective candidates, believing that the right program will rehabilitate the Republican cause and bring about success.

It is expected that both Mr. Hoover and Governor Landon will make speaking trips this year. The Kansas proposes to arrange his program without assistance from the National Committee. The former President says he "undoubtedly" will make speeches for Republican senatorial, gubernatorial and congressional candidates. It is plain that Mr. Hoover desires an active part in the campaign but, just the same, Republican State officials are evidencing a willingness to carry on their campaigns without "out-of-state speakers."

Does Surprising Stock Market Rise Mean Business Boom and Prosperity?

Business, financial and industrial leaders are still at a loss to explain the surprising and astonishing upsurge of the stock market in the last weeks of June. No adequate explanation is at hand for the sudden outburst of energy on the stock exchange, which began on June 20th and in five trading days recovered all losses sustained in the past three months. An idea of the magnitude of the change is seen when one realizes that previous days averaged about 336,000 shares, but when the upward swing started, the daily average exceeded 1,000,000 shares.

Buying Fever.

The buying fever spread so rapidly that the fourth day of the rise saw 2,400,000 shares change hands. After the week-end, there was a failure of prices to run into substantial sell-offs, and the buying stampede pushed the sale of shares almost to 2,700,000 on one day in the second week of the advance.

Whether it proves permanent or not, the boom made history. Wall Street historians have to go back five and six years to find an equivalent market rise. The week's end was unequalled in any week since July, 1932, and was about equal to that of April, 1933, when, after the banking moratoriums, the gold devaluation bull markets declined. The vigorous rise inspired confidence in business men, exerting a powerful psychological effect.

Wall Street Cheered.

The upward march of stock prices continued during the following week, with unmistakable signs of optimism on Wall Street. Some authorities attributed the upward movement to foreign buying and the speculative stimulus of the dollar devaluation rumors, but this explanation does not seem sufficient. An enduring upturn in commodity prices is expected to follow as Government spending clears up inventories and starts reproduction.

Hard To Explain.

Almost without reason, so far as the experts can ascertain, there was a resurgence of the intangible but necessary "business confidence." It followed months when business indices dropped to low levels. There was no upturn apparently in sight nor reliably expected. Three pessimistic business forecasts by authorities had received wide publicity. Moreover, in previous weeks, traditionally bullish influences, such as pump-priming, liberal banking regulation and gold devaluation rumors failed to budge the market.

Of course, no one knows how far the upswing will go. At the same time, many business men believe that activity had slumped so far that it had reached the bottom. The opinion was current that stocks had been "sold to a standstill" and that there was only one way in which business activity could move, and that was up. Many operators saw a favorable sign in the upswing that began without conspicuous favorable news and the very heavy volume in the bond market substantiated optimism.

The Background.

In the background, of course, has been a widespread view that this summer would see the low in business. As far back as last fall, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics predicted something like a downturn the first half of 1935, with recovery the second half of the year. According to other calculations, the upturn was due between July and October. Earlier, Secretary Hooper had expressed the belief that the recession was "scraping the bottom." He placed the responsibility for recovery on private enterprise and other officials pointed out that "fears and uncertainties" had become "artificial barriers" to recovery.

synthetic label-forming substances, or any derivative of any such substance which possesses the same properties.

FARMVILLE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

WEEK STARTING JULY 10

SUNDAY and MONDAY

Robert Taylor-Margaret Sullivan-Robert Young in

THREE COMRADES

TUESDAY ALICE BRADY-CHAS. WINNINGER-TOM BROWN

GOODBYE BROADWAY

WEDNESDAY PETER LORRE AND ROCHELLE HUDSON in

MR. MOTTO TAKES A CHANCE

\$160.00 -- BANK NIGHT -- \$160.00

THURSDAY and FRIDAY

Mickey Rooney and Freddie Bartholomew in

LORD JEFF

SATURDAY ROY ROGERS AND SMILEY BURNETTE in

UNDER THE WESTERN STARS