This Week in Washington

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Although President Truman did not have much luck in getting legislation through congress during his first year in office, which ends April 12, the real measure of his success or failure will come during the next few months.

Here is the status of some of President Truman's favorite legislative proposals:

Minimum Wage Bill—The senate passed a measure to increase minimum wages to 60 cents (the President had asked for 65 to 75 cents), but added a rider to the measure to increase farm parities, which the president strongly opposes.

Health Insurance — This measure has finally reached the point where hearings before the senate labor committee, but it is unlikely that the senate will make much headway for some time to come. The chances are that it will never pass without drastic revision.

Housing — Both the senate and house passed a housing bill. The differences in the two bills can be compromised. The senate bill has a provision for federal subsidy to encourage building materials. The house opposed the subsidy. The senate and the house conference on the provision, which is the most important of the bill calling for the building of new houses on publicly owned lots.

Price Control — The house has approved a one year extension of price control. The senate is expected to approve a measure with some restrictions. The senate bill would limit the administrative powers of the OPA and would give its powers to a new agency.

Labor Legislation — The President has asked for a measure to settle labor disputes, boards and cooling off periods before strikes, but this measure has been forgotten in the rush to repeal the Case bill, which was passed for curbing labor abuses. This measure is now on the floor of the senate and it is expected that any labor legislation that amounts to anything will be delayed before the next election.

Merger of Armed Forces — This bill is before the senate military affairs committee but it is not likely that any action will be taken for months.

Unemployment — A measure revised considerably from the proposal of the administration, did pass the senate but seems to have been permanently shelved in the house.

Continuation of Selective Service —This measure, with amendments, has been approved by the military affairs committee of the senate and is likely to be passed by both houses.

Loan to Britain — This is being heard before the senate banking committee and will probably pass eventually—although it is the subject of bitter debate.

NEW CANNED FOODS DUE DURING 1946

Citizens of this county can anticipate dramatic developments in canned foods during 1946, many of these products having first been packaged for the armed forces, according to W. C. tolk, vice-president of the American Can Company.

Mr. Stolk said that the approximately 1,522,000 cans of food opened annually by residents of the county undoubtedly will be largely increased with the arrival of the new canned items. It will be no trick at all, he said for a housekeeper to put together a three or four course meal by making use of the canned foods she should shortly find on grocery shelves.

Among the new foods he listed are such items as canned hamburgers, canned bacon and salads in cans, as well as a long list of meats new to a can, among them chicken stew with dumplings, beef and gravy, pork with apple sauce, ham with raisin sauce and boned turkey.

SHOE OUTPUT HITS RECORD

With a production of approximately 125,000,000 pairs of civilian shoes during the first 1946 quarter, the manufacturing industry has set a new high record for the period, the Sole Leather Bureau of the Tanners Council of America, declared this week. The figure is several millions more than early-year estimates of output for the three months.

Industry spokesmen said the production level indicates that tanners are shipping a record volume to shoe producers and that statements made some weeks ago regarding slow deliveries have proved incorrect. It also was pointed out that "official" Bureau of the Census figures on shoes manufactured do not include output of about 200 "new" manufacturers, with an average monthly production of some 1,000,000 pairs.

FARM PRODUCT PRICES HIGHEST SINCE JULY, 1920

Major advances in meat animals, fruits and cotton prices lifted the general level of farm product prices in April to the highest since July, 1920, the Agriculture Department reported today.

The level was 212 per cent of the 1909-14 average, compared with 209 in March and 203 in April last year.

The April prices averaged seventeen per cent above parity, compared with sixteen per cent for March and with seventeen per cent a year ago. Under farm legislation, parity prices are prices deemed to be fair to producers and consumers alike.



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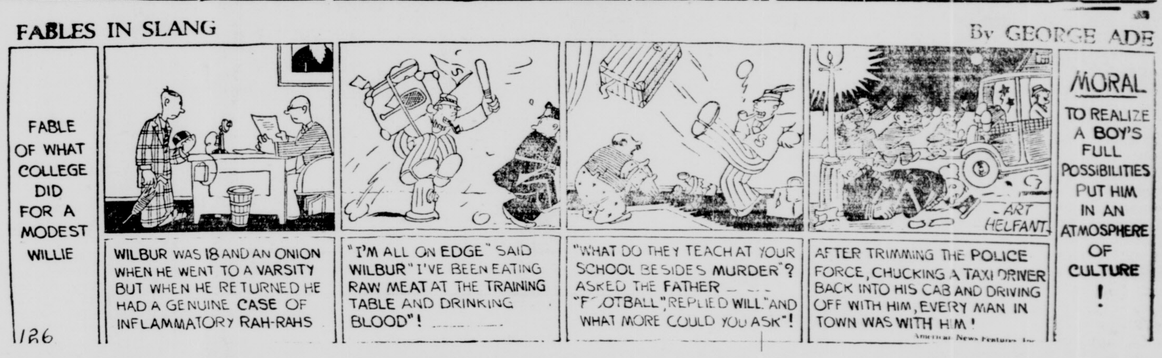
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