

Nixon Pushing To Keep Wage-Price Regulatory Right

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon now is pushing to keep on the books the wage-price control law that he battled in Congress three years ago with the claim he didn't want the power and never would use it.

Congress is expected to complete action on a one-year extension of the law when it returns from its Easter recess Monday.

Unless it acts, the President's power to control wages and prices will expire at midnight Monday, meaning that his largely voluntary system of economic restraints would have to be abandoned.

The Economic Stabilization Act

was born in the inflationary boom of late 1969 and early 1970, but Nixon resisted pressure from the Democratic-controlled Congress to impose any kind of controls on wages, prices and rents until Aug. 15, 1971, when the White House dramatically reversed its economic policy.

Congress passed the legislation to give Nixon standby powers to control wages, prices and rents in mid-August of 1970. But the White House made it clear in February that it had no intention of using them.

But less than six months later, Nixon finally used the powers that Congress had given him.

In freezing wages, prices and

rents in August of 1971, Nixon thus conceded that his old policies had not worked to bring inflation under control and cut the jobless rate. He asked for an extension of the Economic Stabilization Act to April 30, 1973 and the power to control interest rates as well.

Congress approved the extension pretty much as Nixon requested, including the interest-rate provision, which Nixon has not yet used.

The wage-price freeze dramatically slowed the rate of inflation during the 90 days it prevailed. But it did not halt all price increases. Raw agricultural products were exempt, for

example. Afterwards, when the administration moved to the mandatory control system known as Phase 2, prices began accelerating again.

During the 14 months of Phase 2 ending in January, consumer prices went up by more than 3.5 per cent.

The biggest challenge to the program was the sharp increase in food prices.

The administration began to counter seriously the food price problem when it announced the largely voluntary Phase 3 program on Jan. 11. It took steps to increase supplies by making far-reaching changes in government

agricultural policy. The original law provided that the President could stabilize wages, prices and rents at not less than their May 25, 1970 levels. The law was being seriously debated in Congress at that time. When Nixon requested the latest extension to April 30, 1974, he asked that Congress grant a simple extension without trying to mandate controls of its own. The measure got through the Senate in about the form that Nixon wanted, but the House Banking Committee adopted amendments that would have forced Nixon to roll back prices to their March 16, 1973 levels. The President threatened to veto if this provision was finally approved.

Petition

(Continued from page 1) summer session will not be required to pay this fee.

"However, such students may elect to pay the required fee in order to have access to the Health Center and its services. Full-time employees of the Texas A&M University System shall be exempt from this fee."

The Shuttle Bus proposal, involving a combination of allocated student services funds and a user fee, will also come before the Board. This proposal asks for the authorization of a bus user fee as follows: individual student user—\$18 per year, student husband and wife—\$24 per year and faculty-staff—\$22 per year.

In the interests of being fair with students and also with the ease of administration and enforcement, the Shuttle Bus Committee and Traffic Panel have suggested special parking permits for Shuttle Bus users.

This includes "all students who pay the semester shuttle bus fee will be issued, without charge, a permit to park on the main campus on weekdays between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. and all day on weekends and holidays."

A special option will be allotted for those students living in University-owned apartments. This option allows them to purchase a parking permit at a reduced price, \$3.50 per semester, \$6 per academic year and \$3.50 per summer session, allowing them to park in apartment areas at all times and on the main campus at the times mentioned above.

Kunze Named To Advisory Committee

Dean George W. Kunze, dean of A&M's Graduate College, has been appointed to an advisory committee of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States.

The committee meets annually with members of the Institute of International Education and provides views and information about graduate education as related to the university as a whole and U. S. higher education in general, with emphasis upon the foreign student.

The advisory committee will meet with members of the IIE in New York May 18.

Other members of the committee include graduate school representatives from the University of Minnesota, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Michigan, Columbia University and the University of California at Davis.

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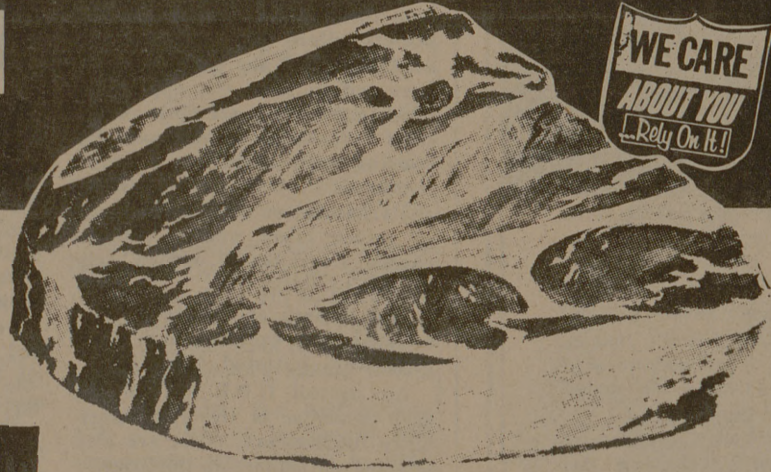
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