

Says it's U.S. problem

Clayton backs parity

United Press International
AUSTIN, Texas — Striking Texas farmers last week applauded the support they received from high ranking state officials in their bid to attain 100 percent parity for their farm products.
But Texas House Speaker Bill Clayton, a Panhandle farmer and one of those most vocal in endorsing the farmers' demands, concedes there is little state officials can do to help the farmers. And Clayton said he favors the 100 percent parity goal only if it can be achieved through the free market system without any government subsidies or controls.
Clayton met with farmers at the governor's mansion then testified in support of their cause before a Senate subcommittee hearing.

While the speaker supports the goal of an adequate profit on farm products, he does not support the idea of a strike and work on his farm has not lessened since the nationwide farm strike began.
"I told them I support the movement to reach 100 percent parity, but I don't support the strike," he said. "I certainly would not go along with hampering anyone else and I don't condone those activities. No matter what type movement you get going, there are always a few who get over excited."
Clayton said the farmers with whom he met insisted they want to achieve 100 percent parity without government controls or subsidies.
"I really believe if we had access to a free world market and prices

were not controlled by statistical information put out by the government farmers could come close to attaining their share of parity," Clayton said. "I'm certainly not for a controlled economy and attaining 100 percent parity through control measure."
Both he and Briscoe contend 100 percent parity on farm prices would have little impact on consumers because most of the cost involved in agricultural products comes from shipping and processing.
"It would have an extremely insignificant effect as far as the consumers are concerned," Briscoe said.
What can state officials do to help the farm situation?
"At the state level you can't do

First women, blacks picked as astronauts

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The space agency announced Monday the selection of 35 new astronauts, including the first six women and the first three blacks, in America's space corps.

An oriental from Hawaii also was selected as one of the 35. The new list breaks sex and race barriers that have existed since the National Aeronautics and Space Administration selected its first Mercury as-

tronauts in 1959. The astronauts will report for duty at the Johnson Space Center in Houston July 1, joining 27 other space pilots on active duty. They will train to fly the space shuttle in the 1980s.

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Reds prepared as Italy minority premier resigns

United Press International
ROME — Premier Giulio Andreotti resigned as head of Italy's 50th postwar government, opening the way for a possible role for the powerful Communist Party in Italy's next government.
The resignation of Andreotti's minority government — after 17 months in power — followed a brief, final cabinet meeting.
The move came after a two-month campaign by the Communists and their allies to win seats in the next cabinet.
The premier's Christian Democratic Party had rejected the Communist demand which was strongly opposed by the U.S. State Department.
Andreotti handed in his resignation to President Giovanni Leone after the cabinet session.

Reds prepared as Italy minority premier resigns

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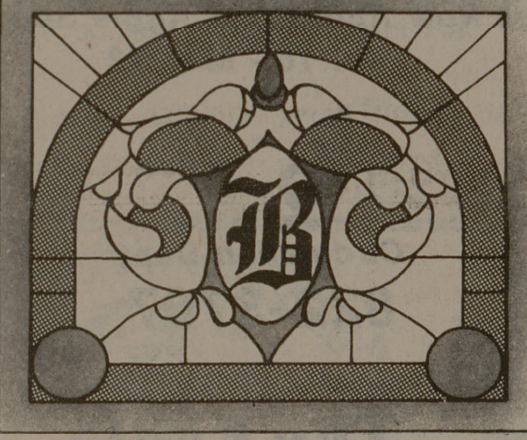
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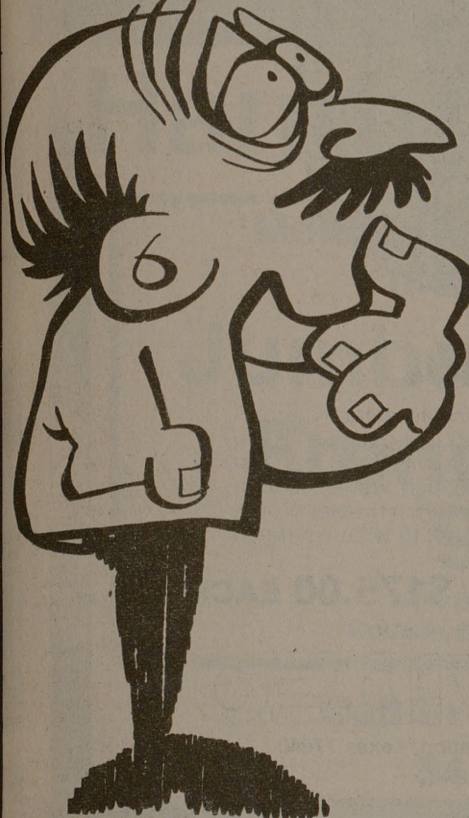
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