

# Senate wrangles over combining farm bills

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — The Senate Tuesday wrangled over whether to combine three separate multi-billion dollar farm aid plans into a single bill in hopes of getting relief to distressed grain and cotton farmers before spring planting ends.

The Senate, which interrupted its Panama Canal debate to deal with the farm relief issue, was expected to pass the package later Tuesday, hoping that a Senate-House conference could produce a final bill before the House begins its Easter recess Wednesday night.

The outlook for House action was uncertain, but the House Agricultural

Committee scheduled a meeting for early Wednesday to consider the situation. Its chairman has sponsored a bill to boost support prices and provide land-idling payments to farmers.

Sen. Edmund Muskie, D-Maine, denounced the Senate plan as a "three-headed monster." He said heatedly that nobody, at this point, can predict what it will do to food prices or government spending.

However, Muskie said, one part of the proposed package — a section sponsored by Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan. — would raise food costs for a family of four \$100 a year by 1979 and twice that much by 1981.

Dole proposed combining his "flexible parity" plan with a measure by Sen. Herman Talmadge, D-Ga., which would make land-rental payments to farmers who idle up to 46 million cropland acres.

Dole's plan would allow individual grain and cotton farmers to decide for themselves what price support target rate they want for their crops this year. The more land an individual farmer idled, the higher his individual support guarantee would be, up to 100 percent of the federal parity standard.

That move followed approval by 58-35 of a move by Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., to fold an increase in price support targets and loan rates for grains and cotton into the Dole-Talmadge package.

Sen. Dick Clark, D-Iowa, who backed Talmadge's plan for land-idling rental payments to farmers, said combination of the Dole and Talmadge plans into a single package would be a "cruel hoax." Clark predicted House members would refuse to accept the Dole measure, and he said President Carter would veto it if it did pass.

## Boy finds liquor, finds out scotch too much for him

United Press International  
DERBY, England — Too much of the "hard stuff" on the eve of his birthday landed Andrew Heaps in the hospital, dead drunk. Andrew turned 5 Monday.

Derbyshire Children's Hospital officials said Andrew apparently found half a bottle of Scotch whiskey in a field near his home

during the weekend. A playmate later told his mother Andrew had passed out.

"I carried him inside and laid him on the sofa," Mrs. Heaps said. "I was really frightened. We had no idea what was wrong with him. When I opened his eyes all I could see was the whites."

Andrew was taken to the hospital by an ambulance and his

stomach was pumped. He slept for 24 hours.

"He's fine now and running about," a nurse said Monday. "He came in smelling of whiskey and was completely confused."

Andrew sipped only lemonade and Coke with the cake at his birthday party later in the day. "His drinking days are over until at least 1990," his mother said.

## Harvey was no Peter Cottontail

United Press International  
NEW YORK — Harvey, the vicious rabbit with a mixed-up childhood, died Saturday after a short illness. He was 3 years old.

The Easter bunny, who was turned over to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals last year because of his nasty temper, died of an ear infection, the ASPCA said Monday.

During his stormy life, Harvey's habit of biting everyone who came near him made him something of a celebrity. He visited schools and fund-raisers with ASPCA employees who used him to demonstrate why animals should not be abused. They might become nasty.

The ASPCA said Harvey developed his disposition because he had been abused by his former owner.

During his tenure with the ASPCA he became known as the "attack rabbit" and was jokingly referred to as the night guard of the association's New York office where he lived.

Burial arrangements were not disclosed.

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## Building delays worry Consol school board

A motion expressing concern with construction delays at South Knoll and College Hills elementary schools was passed unanimously by the A&M Consolidated School Board Monday.

A report to the board from Houston architect Bruce Simmons shows that although 40 percent of the construction time has passed, only 26.6 percent of the work on new facilities at the schools has been completed.

In other building matters, the trustees agreed that a master plan for the high school and middle school is needed. These would show building, playfield and parking lot locations which would allow for planning of future growth.

The long range planning committee is in charge of the matter. Trustees also passed a unanimous motion to sell two sections of property located on Anderson and Holleman. The property totals about 10 acres.

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