

one chairmanship at a time. Patman was explicitly cited by the New York Times as the next one to go, after Wilbur Mills: "He is a prime example of the way the seniority system gives excessive powers to long-term representatives," wrote the Times, quoting a Young Turk.

REPORT OF "BOOTLEGGING" FERTILIZER HEIGHTENS U.S.-CANADA BORDER TENSIONS

Dec. 7 (IPS)--The influential Financial Post of Toronto reported last week that "secret traffic in bootleg fertilizer" is jeopardizing Prairie agriculture and sending fertilizer prices through the ceiling in the United States. The Financial Post stated in a front-page article Nov. 30 that independent truckers are believed to be carrying nitrogen fertilizer from the Canadian prairie provinces and selling it directly to farmers in Montana and the Dakotas.

Although legal, the traffic threatens to exacerbate the already precarious fertilizer situation in a scenario that pits U.S. farmers against Canadians over dwindling supplies.

Rumors are reportedly circulating as far north as Peace River, Alberta about "stealthy Americans who, working by moonlight, load their two-ton trucks" with fertilizer supplies which cost about \$190 on the Prairies and get about \$300 per ton across the border. The Financial Post reports that the "bootleggers" began buying from country retailers, but when the retailers cut them off, the truckers began offering local farmers \$20-30 a ton to make the purchases. Canadian agriculture officials are warning that these desperate farmers may find themselves seriously short of fertilizer supplies next March as a result of these deals.

Canadian officials have announced their reluctance to consider export controls to end this unusual traffic for fear that the United States would retaliate by withholding supplies of phosphate rock. The phosphate rock is the raw material needed to produce phosphate fertilizer, and Canada depends entirely on Florida phosphate mines for its supply.

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PUSHES "EAT LESS" CAMPAIGN

Dec. 7 (IPS)--The Italian government backed a recent national television series aimed at convincing Italian workers to eat less. According to the Washington Post, the Italian Agriculture Department "has set aside \$9 million for a massive brainwashing campaign espousing the virtues of protein from cheese and praising chicken at the expense of beef."

Based on extensive postwar psychological profiling of Italian society by Rockefeller think tanks, the television series locates the Italian workers' specific vulnerability in his domination by the Catholic "Mama." Honing in even on this last bastion of authority, the series makes "Mama" the prime butt of its crusade against "gluttony." Says the Post, "Mama is a frequent subject. She is held responsible for trying to make sure that there is enough for second helpings and even thirds, and for rewarding well behaved youngsters with rich cakes."

The television program is an insult to workers' intelligence rivalled only by Italian President Aldo Moro's proposal that Italians give up meat one day a week. Most Italian workers are lucky if they can afford to eat meat one day a month.

To top it off, the West German financial paper Handelsblatt reports that Italian pork producers plan to cut their output by 95 per cent in response to collapsing prices and a "glutted" world market.

ONTARIO NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION LEADERS PROTEST LAND TENURE POLICY

Dec. 7 (IPS)--The presidents of three Ontario locals of the Canadian National Farmers' Union (NFU) resigned from the farm organization during the NFU's annual conference in Winnipeg last week. The Ontario farm leaders were protesting the NFU's endorsement of a land tenure policy under which the government will buy up land and lease it back to farmers.

Such a policy, long advocated by Jane Abramson, an editor of the fascist Tavistock Institute's journal Human Relations, is already in effect in Saskatchewan province. The land tenure policy allows the culling of "less productive" farms and the mass recycling of farmers into slave labor industrial jobs. The remaining farmers will be put to work on large government-owned farms, administered by the corporatist Local Agricultural Manpower Boards (LAMBS) presently being set up throughout Canada with trade union participation.

Local farm leaders Leon Meersseman of Leamington, Hector Bastien of Essex and Lyle Dawson of Tilbury resigned in anger over the NFU convention's adoption of the new land tenure policy. Canadian newspaper reports indicate the conference was sharply split on the issue. The Toronto Globe and Mail stated, "Strong feelings were expressed on both sides before the policy was approved."

The NFU was formed in 1969 under the leadership of Roy Atkinson, with national headquarters in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Representing only about 100,000 of Canada's farmers, or about