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Ford encourages groups attempting to lift boycott

President Ford has asked all parties opposed to U.S. grain sales to Russia to "cool it," according to Nebraska State Sen. Loran Schmit, chairman of the Legislature's Agriculture and Envirohment Committee.

The President made the request in accordance with attempts being made by state governments and farmer's groups to lift the bocott imposed by longshoremen who refuse to load the grain onto ships.

The state Agriculture Committee met in in a public hearing Tuesday to discuss the problems in grain marketing and to listen to testimony from farmers and stock growers.

Grain backed up

The International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) has boycotted the grain loading for several months. According to Harry Jordan, representative of the Nebraska Grain Feed Dealer's Association, the grain is backed up in train terminal storage "from the Gulf to Topeka, Kan.

"A car shortage is inevitable," said Jordan in his address to the committee. "A workable substitution of trucks for the grain (as opposed to railcars) has yet to be effected," he said.

State Sen. John DeCamp, committee vice chairman, said several committee members, including he and Schmidt, have investigated laws in regard to Farm Bureau members and representatives loading the grain for shipment themselves.

DeCamp said he telegrammed a request to Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz to "confer with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to determine whether the Farm Bureau members could load the grain on the ships themselves." Only the

United States attorney general or the NLRB have the power to authorize such a move, DeCamp said.

Not shut up

Schmit said he received a letter last December from Meany concerning the longshoremen's refusal to load the grain to be shipped to Russia. According to Schmit, Meany said in the letter that grain is being loaded on the ships now, and that they were looking for a satisfactory solution to the problem.

-According to Schmit, Ford and Meany have had several meetings concerning the ILA boycott that excluded Secretary Butz. Schmit said he asked Butz to discharge himself from his post if he could not be a better representative.

"I feel that the secretary should resign if he can't support the 200,000 farmers and ranchers he is supposed to represent," Schmit said. "He supports them while he's in the Midwest," said Schmit, adding he wasn't certain what position Butz held while in Washington.

Interference opposed

Calvin Colter, representative of the Nebraska Stock Grower's Association, testified to the committee that the NSGA was "opposed to union interference in the grain sales. The ILA is not justified in attempting to set up U.S. export policy," he said.

"The livestock people see problems for themselves," said Colter, "especially if the government itself becomes a grain dealer, or if an excessive amount of grain is dumped on the market."

Colter recommended the return to a free market system in grain export trade without union or government interference.



State Sen. John Decamp of Neligh.

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Wesleyan dormitories Policy OK's liquor use

Alcohol on campus? The Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) student senate and Board of Governors do not advocate it, but they have passed a policy change granting NWU students the right to it.

A bill approved by the school's Student Affairs Senate (SAS), a faculty committee and the governing board now allows consumption of alcohol beverages in residence hall rooms.

The measure, passed Sept. 11, includes a statement that neither the senate nor the NWU administration advocate the use of alcohol, said Channing Dutton, SAS president.

"What we wanted to do was acknowledge the fact that the students were adults, with the ability to make their own

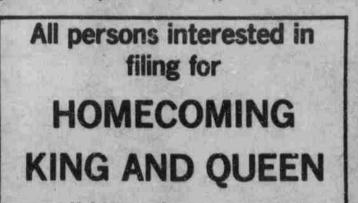
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choice concerning alcohol," Dutton said.

Before the policy change was passed by the Board of Governors, alcohol was prohibited in NWU residence halls and at Wesleyan-sponsored functions, he said. Dutton cited a NWU dance in February as the impetus for a seven-month study of the old policy.

Liquor was served at the dance, Dutton said, and the campus group that sponsored said, and the campus group that sponsored the function subsequently was "called on the carpet." He said the incident drew attention to "a fallacy between what the rules said and what was being allowed." He said NWU administrators had not been enforcing the no-alcohol policy in residence halls. Under the new policy, alcohol is negatived in rooms but still

alcohol is permitted in rooms, but still prohibited in halls and lounges.



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