

Mr. POTTER. If enactment of H.R. 4769 brought about unionization of the majority of dairy, fruit, and vegetable workers, there might well be some price increases, but assumptions regarding the degree of unionization that would result are pure speculation at this point.

Mr. CAREY. Thank you.

Mr. THOMPSON. In essence, your question answers itself. If it is a fact that the feed grain industry, dairy industry, the meat-growing industry are either the most automated or use the fewest workers, then obviously these industries are not going to be greatly affected by H.R. 4769.

I think that the hearings held by my colleague, the junior Senator from New Jersey, Senator Williams, showed in the case of lettuce, for instance, that there was nothing like a proportional increase in the price of the agricultural product as a result of the increase in its cost of production. Anything that you can provide for us along this line will be valuable.

(The information requested follows:)

CHANGES IN WAGE RATES, FIELD LABOR COSTS, AND PRICES FOR SELECTED CALIFORNIA CROPS, 1964 AND 1965

Crop	Wage rates		Field labor costs		Price paid producer ¹	Retail price ²
	Preharvest hourly	Harvest piece	Wholesale unit	Retail unit		
Asparagus—Fresh market:		30-lb. crate	30-lb. crate	Pound	30-lb. crate	Pound
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.10	\$1.00	\$1.15	3.8¢	\$4.41	29.9¢
1965.....	\$1.25	\$1.15	\$1.32	4.4¢	\$5.01	36.9¢
Percent change.....	15-25	15	15	16	14	23
Cantaloupes:		88-lb. crate	100 lbs.	Size 36 melon	100 lbs.	Size 36 melon
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.15	25¢	\$1.09 av.	2.5¢-2.8¢	\$4.24	28
1965.....	\$1.10-\$1.40	50¢	\$1.51 av.	3.4¢-4.0¢	\$5.00	30
Percent change.....	10-40	100	39	39 av.	18	7
Celery:		30-lb. crate	100 lbs.	Pound	100 lbs.	Pound
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.12	10¢-25¢	86.4¢ av.	.86¢	\$4.38	15.7¢
1965.....	\$1.05-\$1.40	10¢-25¢	90.8¢ av.	.91¢	\$4.39	15.6¢
Percent change.....	5-40	No change	5	5	(4)	-0.6
Lemons:		53-lb. box	75-lb. box	Pound	75-lb. box	Pound
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.25	25¢-95¢	\$1.20	1.6¢	\$3.50	21.2¢
1965.....	\$1.10-\$1.50	35¢-1.25	\$1.57	2.1¢	\$4.34	23.6¢
Percent change.....	10-50	32-40	31	31	24	11
Lettuce:		Crate-24 head	Crate-24 head	Head	100 lbs.	Head
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.15	22¢-24¢	36¢	1.5¢	\$4.04	24.6¢
1965.....	\$1.25	31¢-34¢	48¢-50¢	2.0¢-2.1¢	\$4.04	25.5¢
Percent change.....	9-25	29-55	33-39	33-40	0	4
Strawberries—fresh market:		12-lb. tray	12-lb. tray	1-lb. pint	1-lb. pint	1-lb. pint
1964.....	\$1.00-\$1.05	50¢-70¢	65.7¢-86.4¢	5.5¢-7.2¢	24.4¢	35¢
1965.....	\$1.40	65¢-85¢	86.9¢-1.07	7.2¢-8.9¢	26.0¢	38.8¢
Percent change.....	33-40	4-70	0.5-62	4-62	7	11
Tomatoes:		50-lb. box	100 lbs.	Pound	100 lbs.	Pound
Fresh market:						
1964.....	\$1.05-\$1.15	16¢-18¢	\$2.59 av.	2.59¢ av.	\$9.15	33.2¢
1965.....	\$1.40	19¢-28¢	\$3.32 av.	3.32¢ av.	\$10.64	34.3¢
Percent change.....	22-33	19-75	28	28	16	3
For canning (#303 can):		50-lb. box	Ton	#303-1.5 lbs.	Ton	#303 can
1964.....	\$1.05-\$1.15	15¢-22¢	\$11.03 av.	.83¢ av.	\$31.30	16.0¢
1965.....	\$1.40	26¢-28¢	\$15.43 av.	1.16¢ av.	\$41.30	16.1¢
Percent change.....	22-33	18-87	40	40	32	0.6

¹ "Vegetables—Fresh Market," U.S. Department of Agriculture 1965, or "Vegetables—Processing," U.S. Department of Agriculture 1965.

² "Estimated Retail Food Prices by City," Bureau of Labor Statistics.

³ Unofficial estimates.

⁴ Less than 0.5 percent.

⁵ "Agricultural Prices," September 1965 Supplement, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Source: Taken from Farm Labor Developments, April 1966.