

# DEFER FARM STRIKE ON ROOSEVELT PLEA

Holiday Leaders Decide at St. Paul to Delay Plans Until New Program Is Tried.

## OLSON REQUEST A FACTOR

Minnesota Governor Asks Backing for the President—Wisconsin Milk Group to Go Ahead.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ST. PAUL, May 12.—Officers of the National Farmers Holiday Association announced after a long conference this afternoon that the nation-wide farm strike planned for tomorrow had been indefinitely postponed.

Milo Reno of Des Moines, president of the association, explained that the postponement had been taken in view of President Roosevelt's signing of the farm-inflation bill and his statement urging holders of mortgages to be lenient toward their debtors.

He said that telegrams would be sent to all State holiday associations informing them of the postponement.

"The President's statement," he continued, "should be respected by all Governors and all courts. It is a patriotic duty of the Farmers Holiday Association to see that it is respected."

"We have, in deciding to extend the time of declaring our holiday, in no way receded from our fundamental demand for production costs. This action is taken out of respect for the President and a regard for the opinion of the general public. We believe in giving the Federal administration an opportunity to redeem pre-election promises to farmers."

Earlier in the afternoon Mr. Reno had asserted that the President's statement made no difference in the farm holiday plan. He declared that the recommendation of leniency was insufficient, and that he would have been better satisfied had the Chief Executive made a demand of no farm foreclosures.

### Farm Bill Held Inadequate.

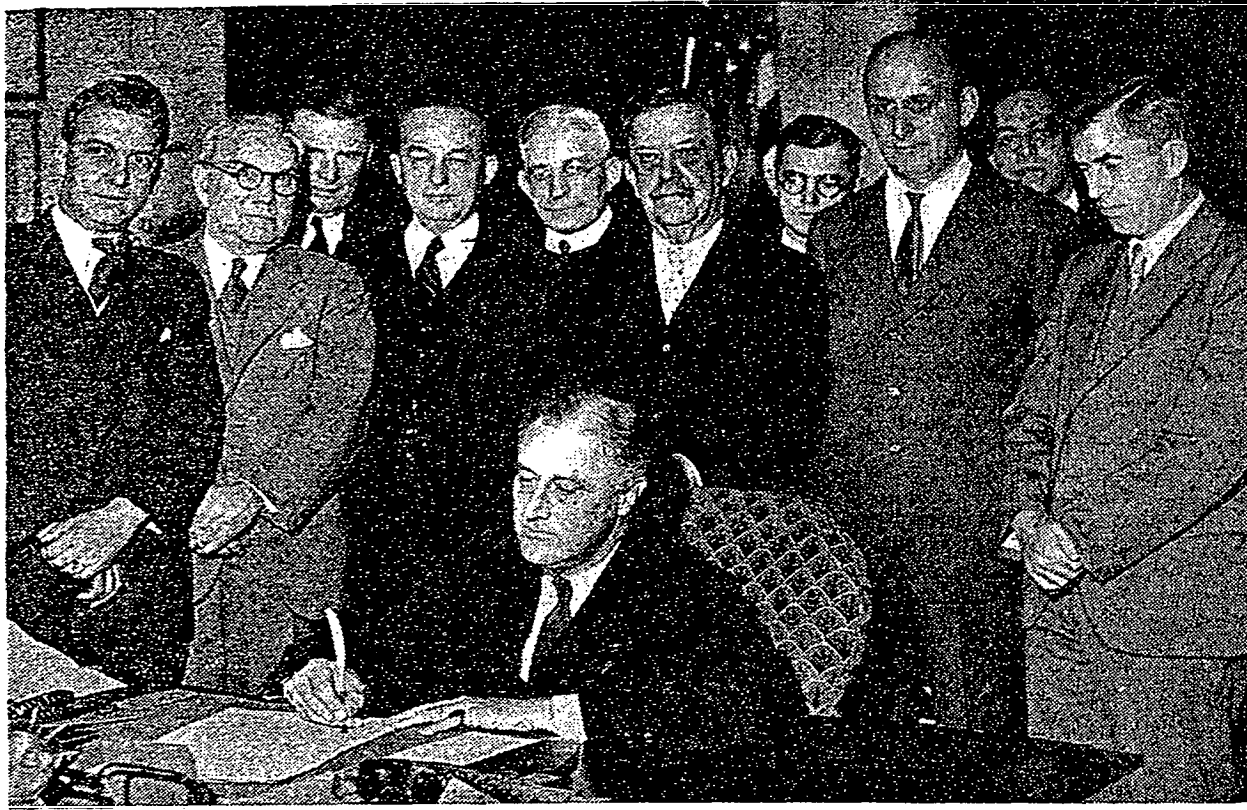
Also, he said, the farm bill was unsatisfactory in that it did not assure farmers the costs of production. A third point he made was that he and the others meeting here were not authorized to call off the strike, which had been ordered by the entire board of directors.

His change of front came after Governor Olson of Minnesota had sent him a message urging postponement.

It is expected that several milk strikes, already projected to start tomorrow, will go into effect. The decision to strike or not to strike in such instances, it was indicated, would be left to the individual bodies affected.

Mr. Reno will soon call a meeting of the holiday association directors at Des Moines to discuss the President's message and determine whether the strike will be started later or definitely abandoned.

It was apparent during the afternoon that while the strike had the approval of a large number of farmers, the movement had spread only to proportions that would be negligible on a national scale.



Associated Press Photo.

The President signing the bill. Others in the group, left to right, include Representatives Doxey, Mississippi; Fulmer, South Carolina; George Peek, Illinois, who will administer the farm enterprise; Jones, Texas; Louis J. Taber, head of the National Grange; Senator Smith, South Carolina; Henry Morgenthau Jr., farm credit director, and Secretary Wallace, of Agriculture.