

Touhy May Get Prison Parole

ROBERT, Ill., Feb. 20 (AP)—Gangster Roger Touhy learned today he may get out of prison late next year on parole.

But, he said, he still hopes for earlier freedom—and vindication of the kidnaping for which he served 24 years.

The 60-year-old prohibition era terrorist trembled as he talked to newsmen in the office of Warden Joseph Ragen behind the high walls of Stateville Penitentiary.

He had just heard that the Illinois Pardon and Parole Board approved his parole under the kidnaping term—99 years which had been trimmed to 85 by Gov. William G. Stratton.

The board's action in Springfield meant that Touhy must serve about six months of so-called institutional parole in Stateville, and then start a second term imposed for a jail break which gained him nearly three months respite in 1942. This term, originally 199 years, was trimmed to three years, and he will be eligible for parole after doing one year of it.

Touhy has always contended that he did not commit the crime for which he was sent to prison—the 1933 kidnaping of English-born swindler, John (Jake the Barber) Switzer.

Confidence in Economy Urged By Eisenhower

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Feb. 20 (AP)—President Eisenhower said today the business recession could develop into a "deep and protracted decline" only if "tough-minded confidence in America's economic future is impaired."

That was part of the President's reply to 11 Democratic governors who told him last week that "only enlightened federal action can prevent the recession from deepening and deteriorating further into a depression."

In a telegram to Eisenhower at that time, the governors urged a six-point program, including public works, welfare and educational expansion, further easing of credit, and possibly a tax cut directed to low-income families.

The President responded today in a telegram from his vacation headquarters. It was addressed to Gov. Averell Harriman of New York for relay to his Democratic colleagues.

Cupid's Knot Tied by Long Distance Call

PENSACOLA, Fla., Feb. 20 (AP)—The circuits were clear for Cupid this time and the long-distance telephone marriage of a pretty Mississippi girl and her Alaska-based fiancé was performed Wednesday.

City Clerk Byrd Sims performed the proxy marriage for Miss Lora Cutrer, 23, Gulfport, and George R. Blakeman, 31, of Red Rock, Ariz.

They tried to have the ceremony last night but the circuits to Adak, Alaska, where Blakeman is stationed, were out of order. The couple had wanted to be married before Blakeman returns on leave in four months. He is a Navy machinist.

Miss Cutrer came to Pensacola to have the ceremony performed because Mississippi does not recognize proxy weddings. Florida does.

Witnesses were City Councilman Edward McCullough and Mrs. Helen Myers, a clerk in the City Identification Bureau.

The telephone company said it was charging only \$12 for four minutes. The tolls will be paid by the bride.

Crash of Flying Boat Fatal to 15

PAPEETE, Tahiti, Friday, Feb. 20 (AP)—A Catalina flying boat split apart yesterday in landing on Raiatea Island lagoon, killing 15 persons. Eleven were rescued.

The front section of the boat sank immediately. The rescued were in the rear section of the plane, a Tahiti craft.

Raiatea Island, the largest of the Leeward group of the Society Islands, is about 100 miles northwest of Papeete.

Judge, 98, Files for Another 4-Year Term

PLATTSBURG, Mo., Feb. 20 (AP)—At the age of 98 Judge A. R. Alexander is a candidate for his third four-year term as judge of the Probate and Magistrate courts of Clinton County.

His fellow citizens believe he is the senior active county judge in the nation.

Remain Vigorous

Eisenhower's reply suggested he feels the governors and all others in positions of responsibility should refrain from statements which might undermine confidence in the nation's future.

"I believe the underlying growth factors in the economy remain vigorous and every indication is that they will reassert themselves later in the year," Eisenhower said.

That also was the essence of the special statement on the economic situation which the President put out in Washington last week—the same day the governors wired him.

"Our history shows," Eisenhower said in reply, "that economic recovery and growth is not a matter of Washington stoppages or panaceas. It is as necessary to avoid doing the wrong thing as to do the right one."

"We must actively seek the re-creation of productive job opportunities for those out of work, in ways that will not undermine confidence and thus jeopardize the jobs of more than 82 million Americans who are at work today."

Great Responsibility

Eisenhower went on to tell the governors, "All of us in positions of trust and authority have a great responsibility in these times to help meet the needs of our people, and to do so in a way that will strengthen, and not weaken, a tough-minded confidence in the future."

The President added: "Only if such a confidence is impaired—and thereby the daily decision of millions of Americans adversely affected—can our present difficulties develop into a deep and protracted decline."

The President assured the governors their suggestions will get careful study. He also thanked them for their offer to "consult with him."

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Auctioneer

'Too Much Kefauver Prevented' TV License

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 (AP)—A former mayor of Miami testified today he got advance word that a television license probably would be denied to a friend of his because "there's too much Kefauver in this situation."

Ex-Mayor Perrine (Goetz) Palmer Jr. said he got this information from Federal Communications Commissioner Richard A. Mack shortly before the commission awarded the license to a rival dance yesterday by the House. Following yesterday's hearing, Legislative Oversight subcommittee, Kefauver said, "All I ever asked anyone was to decide the matter on its merits."

He said he had heard rumors that a majority on the FCC had reverse the decision of the FCC examiner who recommended that Kefauver get the license.

"I wanted to see Frank treated fairly," the senator said.

Palmer said he had been doing all he could to get the license worth several million dollars for his friend A. Frank Katzen, owner of Miami radio station WKAT. It went finally to a National Airlines subsidiary.

Katzenline is a friend and political supporter of Sen. Kefauver (D-Tenn.). A letter from Kefauver to Katzenline, introduced in evidence yesterday, introduced in evidence.

Multnomah Demos Exchange Due of U.S., Russ Students

PORTLAND, Feb. 20 (AP)—The Democratic Party has a 26,049 lead in registered voters in Multnomah County, the registrar's office here said Wednesday.

The office said that 140,798 Democrats are registered in the county, compared to 114,749 Republicans.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20 (AP)—The first reciprocal exchange of students between the United States and the Soviet Union was announced today by the Council on Student Travel.

The exchange will send 40 American students to Russia and bring 20 Soviet students to the United States next summer for five to six weeks.

Dr. John A. Wallace, chairman of the council's board of directors, said the agreement was signed with the Soviet Youth Committee, a central U.S.S.R. organization.

The exchange was facilitated by the recently signed cultural exchange agreement between the two countries, Dr. Wallace said.

The program planned for the Soviet students will take them to schools and college campuses, factories, student meetings, museums and concerts and to American homes.

The students going to Russia will spend most of their time with Soviet youths. They will stay at a sports camp, a tourist camp for youths, a student rest home and an industrial establishment where students work in the summertime.

The Americans also will see Soviet collective farms, religious centers, universities and places of cultural interest.

The council announced that it be chosen for visits to Russia students must:

1. Have emotional maturity.
2. Have a minimum of two years of college and a maximum age of 30.
3. Have some background knowledge of international relations.
4. Be a responsible participant in college or community organizations.
5. Have group experience of sufficient duration and intensity to allow some evaluation.

The council said two students of every group of 10 going must speak Russian and each group must have representatives from as many parts of the United States as possible.

Crab Fishermen Reject Buyer Offer

ASTORIA, Ore., Feb. 20 (AP)—Crab fishermen said today they will not take their boats out for a 1-cent-a-pound increase offered by buyers.

The established price was 8 cents a pound. Fishermen, asking 10 cents, some days agone tied up their boats.

About 60 fishermen from Washington and Oregon ports met at nearby Warrenton yesterday, considered a buyers' offer of 9 cents and turned it down.

63 Nations in A-Unit

VIENNA, Feb. 20 (AP)—Sixty-three nations have now become members of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the "atoms for peace" organization, Cambodia is the latest to ratify the agency statutes.

Isotope School Studied

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