Governors Call for Survey Of U.S. Highway Needs

BOLTON LANDING, N. Y. (AP) —A Democratic supporter of President Eisenhower, Gov. Robert F. Kennon of Louisiana, heads the Governors Conference for a year that may bring some significant changes in relations of the states with the federal government.

Kennon was elected chairman to succeed Republican Gov. Dan Thornton of Colorado as the final conference sessions here Wednesday.

The group approved a resolution calling for a survey of road needs in connection with Eisenhower's proposed 10-year, 50-billion-dollar highway construction program.

The conference agreed to meet next year in Chicago.

SUPPORT FOR IKE

Although the members avoid all outward appearances of politics and alternate the chairmanship between Republicans and Democrats, the choice of Kennon as titular head for the next 12 months was regarded in some quarters as indicating widespread support for Eisenhower.

Kennon is known to have had the backing of Gov. James F. Byrnes, South Carolina Democrat who announced here that he is continuing the support he gave Eisenhower in the 1952 presidential campaign.

Most of the Republican governors were glad to vote for Kennon, another Democratic bolter in that campaign, as were many of the Southern Democrats.

While everyone concerned denied politics played any part, some significance was read into selection of Kennon instead of Gov. Lawrence W. Wetherby of Kentucky, a regular Democrat.

NEW RULE

Gov. G. Mennen Williams, Michigan Democrat, who hasn't been on friendly political terms with Byrnes, apparently was kept off the conference executive committee by a new rule against naming as members of that group governors seeking re-election.

Byrnes headed the nominating committee which put the rule into effect. Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, New York Republican, was reported to have told the conference in a closed session that it was making a mistake because such a rule eliminated veteran members from consideration.

Wetherby was chosen as a member of the executive committee. Others named to that group, headed by Kennon, include J. Hugo Aronson of Montana, J. Caleb Boggs of Delaware, George N. Craig of Indiana, Arthur B. Langlie of Washington and William G. Stratton of Illinois, all Republicans; and Phil M. Donnelly of Missouri and Thomas B. Stanley of Virginia, Democrats.

STATE CONTROL

Kennon is an advocate of increased state control over road building, an issue that may come to a head in a projected post-election conference of the governors in November.

But the President's proposal for a vast system of coast-to-coast superhighways appeared to call for federal direction in linking these up and the governors knew it, even though they were reluctant to admit it publicly.

The upshot of three days of discussion of the issue was adoption of a resolution calling for a study of highway needs which could be laid before Eisenhower later in the year.

If the governors can come up with some plan to let the states control the construction of such a system, many of them will feel that they have taken a significant step toward regaining some of the powers the states have lost to the federal government.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PAUL REVERE RIDES—Governor Christian A. Herter of Massachusetts, left, retells the ride of Paul Revere to Governors Lee E. Emerson, Vermont, center, and Robert B. Meyner of New Jersey. Herter presented all governors attending the 46th Governors' Conference now in session at Bolton Landing, N.Y., with Paul Revere hats such as the trio are wearing.

Vienna Hit by Epidemic Of Children's Suicide Tries

VIENNA (AP)—Helmut K., 12, hurled himself out of a school window in Vienna 18 months ago after writing a note saying he feared bad marks.

The boy survived, but since then there has been a marked increase in suicide attempts among children in the Austrian capital.

City police record 48 cases (six died) among children in the last 18 months, 50 per cent more than in the previous year and a half. This is a count only of cases treated in city hospitals. Prof. Hans Hoff, who heads Vienna's Psychiatric and Neurological Clinic, says private doctors may have handled scores more.

NOT NORMAL

"The epidemic," says Hoff, "is unnatural. Suicide is not the normal reaction of a child to a problem. He runs away, or dreams of death, but doesn't actually try to kill himself."

Hoff blames homes shattered by war and economic distress and a breakdown of family life.

The children themselves give many motives: A boy, 11, died because he was "tired of life." A 16-year-old girl was "disappointed in love." A boy, 13, feared he would be sent to a police home, A girl, 15, was forbidden to smoke.

Hoff and his assistants, after a study, say these are just the final motivations.

"Children who try suicide invariably have had life histories of insecurity and a lack of love," he says. "Frequently only one single person is left whom the child believes has confidence in him or love. If the child feels this person has let him down or is against him, then his small world collapses.

ONLY WAY

"He may consider suicide as the only way to get the attention, the sympathy or the love he wants.

"Boys and girls don't commit suicide because they get poor marks in school. The boy who set off the current epidemic felt he was rejected by his class, his teachers and his mother. By suicide, the children hope to change things, not escape them, and often they fantasize they will survive their own death. It is quite impossible for a child up to 14 years old to conceive of the finality of death."

With the aid of the city administration, Hoff and his assistants are lecturing parents and teachers to watch for danger signals: withdrawal by the children, a change of behavior, hysterical fits.

Housing Probe Hears Builders

Levitt, Gross Two Of Several Witnesses

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senators investigating housing scandals Thursday summoned William Levitt, one of the builders of Levittown, Long Island, for questioning on the financing of rental homes built with government-insured loans.

Levitt and Alfred Gross, one of the sponsors of the huge Glen Oaks apartment project in Jamaica, were two of several witnesses scheduled before the Senate Banking Committee, which is investigating alleged irregularities in government-backed housing construction.

One of the principal targets of inquiry to date has been alleged windfall profits reaped by apartment builders who got government-insured mortgages larger than construction costs, then pocketed the difference.

Levitt is a member of the firm of Levitt and Sons, builder of Levit-town. The community is considered by some a model operation for new building techniques.

Some 6,000 homes in the planned community, it was reported, were built for rental and the balance for outright sale under sections of the National Housing Act.

The Senate probers, headed by Sen. Capehart (R-Ind), Wednesday heard a tale of home repair salesmen being "trained and schooled" in ways to defraud small home owners under another section of the housing program.

Andrew Nicol, an investigator for the Bergen County, N.J., prosecutor's office, said such schools were set up all over the country to teach salesmen how to take advantage of Federal Housing Administration loan insurance offered for repair and modernization of homes.

S & H GREEN STAMPS on watch repairing at SKEIES.

American Soldiers Freed by Czechs

WAIDHAUS, Germany (AP) —Seven American soldiers, held in Communist Czechoslovakia since American Independence Day, crossed the border to freedom Thursday at 12:08 p.m. (3:08 PST) after 12 days in captivity.

The seven, six enlisted men and a captain, were turned over at this West German-Czech border point where Associated Press correspondent William Otis was freed more than a year ago.

They were met by a detachment from the U. S. 2nd Armored Cavalry, which is stationed along the East-West frontier.

An Army spokesman said earlier that "after a routine interrogation, a news conference will be held," probably Saturday.

FOOD WAS GOOD

U. S. Army authorities said the men appeared to be in "good condition" and that they reported "the food was good."

The seven were taken while on a holiday inspection of Europe's grim frontier with communism.

They were brought to the border in a dusty Czech bus. As they climbed out, some of them appeared red-eyed and nervous—but in good health.

Capt. Jack Davis of Raytown, Mo., spoke briefly for the group.

"My men are very tired and very nervous," he said. "The treatment was satisfactory. The food was sufficient and the billets were adequate."

Davis himself appeared nervous. His hands trembled as he spoke.

Two of the men were carrying the cameras they apparently had taken with them on their July 4 sight-seeing trip to the border.

The Americans had driven to the Czech border in a weapons carrier truck July 4. As they neared the poorly defined frontier, they stopped a German and asked him where they could find the demarkation line.

GAVE WARNING

The German later told police he had warned them to be careful, but that they drove on. Later border patrols found the abandoned Army vehicle near the border on the German side.

In a protest note delivered several days later, the Czech authorities said the Americans had penetrated deeply into Czechoslovak territory. They claimed the soldiers carried cameras and took forbidden pictures.

The U. S. State Department, in a sharp note, replied that the men were "abducted" and demanded their immediate release.

Board Limits T-H Cases

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Labor Relations Board has again tightened its rules on cases it will accept under the Taft-Hartley law, in effect turning more labor disputes involving small firms over to the states.

The action announced Wednesday night, together with a similar move taken June 30, is estimated to cut the number of NLRB cases by about 15 per cent.

The board fixed standards of size applying to retail stores, newspapers, radio and television stations, utility and transit systems, and national defense plants.

For example, it henceforth will handle cases arising from newspapers only if they have at least $500,000 yearly gross revenue, or from radio and TV stations if their annual gross is at least $200,000. Previously there were no such limits if operations affected inter-state commerce.

BEY'S DOCTOR SHOT

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) —Dr. Abderrahman Mami, personal physician to the bey of Tunis, died Wednesday a few hours after he was shot by terrorists in a Tunis street. He was one of the sovereign's closest advisers.

Play Choices In 4-Way Tie

Ballots for the Very Little Theatre's "Show I Would Most Like to See Again" contest have resulted in a four-way tie.

Competing for top popularity are "Bell, Book and Candle," the sophisticated comedy about a modern day witch by John van Druten; "Able's Irish Rose," popular folk comedy of this season; "Life with Father," the long-run comedy of a few seasons back, and "The Drunkard," an old-time melodrama last presented by the VLT in 1941.

Theater-goers were recently asked to vote for the three of which the VLT has presented its 25 years which they most like to see again.

One of the winning plays be presented by the VLT season. The selection will be nounced shortly.

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1.49 Plastic Cake Cover Set	1.00
1.29 Glass Dessert Set 8 Pc.	1.00
1.19 Jadeite Mix Bowls	1.00
28c Box 300's Kleenex	5/1.00
59c Cot. Merc. Hose Ladies'	2/1.00
35c Eng. Rib Anklets Girls'	3/1.00
25c Tea Towels Sugar Sack	7/1.00

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