

Tax Case Said Handled Outside Channels for Speedy Settlement

Washington—(U.P.)—House tax scandal investigators heard testimony today that a \$21,000,000 tax refund case involving Universal Pictures in 1948 was handled outside regular channels because then Treasury Secretary John W. Snyder wanted a speedy settlement.

A. Frederick Olsen, internal revenue agent in the Upper Manhattan district of New York, said the recommendation for a \$21,000,000 settlement was sent directly to Washington, without the customary "certification," or review, by a board in New York. The case was finally settled in 1949, and Universal Pictures got a refund of only \$3,000,000 instead of the \$21,000,000.

Counsel John E. Tobin of the House subcommittee investigating tax cases said Olsen was responsible for that and saved the government "a large sum" by forcing an "extra careful" review of the case in Washington. Chairman Robert W. Kean (R-N.J.), winding up the hearings for the present, said some information on the Universal Pictures case was obtained from a "log" of telephone conversations kept by Charles Oliphant, then chief counsel of the Internal Revenue Bureau.

Kean charged Snyder was "most anxious" to keep the log away from subcommittee hands and "at one point" last fall told Internal Revenue Commissioner John P. Dunlap not to accept a committee subpoena for the documents.

"Today's hearings show why," Kean said. Olsen testified that by-passing of the New York field committee for a review of the Universal case "violated" a "fixed rule" of the Treasury Department. He said he knew of no other cases in which such unusual procedure was followed.

Wed Snyder's Daughter
Tobin put in the record transcripts of telephone conversations showing Snyder made several calls to Oliphant seeking speedy action on the Universal case

while it was pending in Upper New York Internal Revenue District.

John Horton, who married Snyder's daughter, Druce, in January, 1950, went to work for Universal Pictures as Washington representative in February, 1950. This was not developed at today's hearing. Horton has said frequently in the past that he got the job on his own.

Even though announcing no further hearings are scheduled, Kean said the subcommittee will remain "in being" through 1954 and "will not hesitate" to resume its work if "new matters" develop.

Kean said "we hope cases like this will not occur again." He said this week's hearing showed that Snyder and other high treasury officials in the Truman administration "influenced rulings on technical matters which should have been decided entirely on the merits by officials of the bureau."

He also said "certain taxpayers" by-passed regular channels to get tax benefits by going directly to Snyder himself.

He made the remark during a hearing yesterday which disclosed that Monsanto Chemical

Co., with headquarters at Snyder's home town of St. Louis, got a favorable ruling in 1948 shortly after Snyder inquired about the case.

Tobin said the 1948 ruling saved Monsanto \$1,000,000. It involved tax liability on insurance proceeds from the 1947 Texas City, Tex., disaster in which one of the company's plants was destroyed.

SPORTS

U.S. Net Aces Meet Aussies In Eastern Play

South Orange, N. J. — (U.P.) — It's the United States vs. Australia in three of the four quarter final matches today in the men's singles in the eastern grass court tennis championships, with the Davis Cup team selectors watching carefully.

Wimbledon champion Vic Seixas of Philadelphia, currently the world's No. 1 amateur, was matched against Aussie Rex Hartwig in one quarter final, but that was expected to be routine affair with Seixas winning easily.

The Davis Cup folks are much more interested in the matches which send Gardner Mulroy of Miami, against 18-year-old Lewis Hoad of Australia, and Tony Trabert of Cincinnati, O., against 18-year-old Aussie Champion Ken Rosewall.

The fourth quarter final, an American match, brings today national collegiate champion H. M. Richardson of Baton Rouge, La., and the surprising Noel Brown of Los Angeles.

Worsham Pacing Golf Tourney

Chicago — (U.P.) — Low Worsham paced the field into the second round of Tam O'Santer's "World Championship" of golf today after a flashy 67 in the opening tour.

Trailing by two strokes was Ted Krohl, New Hartford, N. Y. Patty Berg, Chicago, and Betty Jameson, San Antonio, Tex., came through with record nudging rounds yesterday in the women's pro group. Miss Berg equalled the course record of 70 set by Babe Didrikson Zaharias in 1950. Miss Jameson, who had a first nine 41, came home in 33, believed to be the lowest nine hole total ever fired on the course. She birdied five of the last six holes.

Mrs. Zaharias shot a 74, her best round since her cancer operation April 19.

Joe Conrad, San Antonio, Tex., took the lead with a two under par 70 in the men's amateur division.

Florida Girl Leads Swimmers

Portland, Ore. — (U.P.) — Dark-haired Carolyn Green of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., was the girl to beat today for the mile freestyle swimming title of the 1953 National Women's outdoor swimming and diving championships.

The Florida lass swam the mile in 23 minutes, 17.3 seconds last night, just 2.3 seconds off the American and meet records set in this same Jantzen Beach pool by Mary Ryan of Louisville, Ky.

She also gave indication of capturing the finals by beating by nearly 40 seconds the closest of the seven other qualifiers, Dolores Dineen of Portland's Multnomah Athletic Club, who turned in a time of 23 minutes, 56.1 seconds.

This afternoon the girls will qualify in the 110-yard freestyle, the 330-yard individual medley and the 200-yard backstroke. Finals of these events will be held along with the mile tonight.

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Savage Rapids Dam Highway Raising Given Approval

Portland — (U.P.) — The State Highway Commission reported today that truck overloadings have dropped sharply since stiff fines have been imposed.

The commission said weighmaster reports showed overloading violations have dropped from 20 per cent to 1.15 per cent.

In other action at its meeting here yesterday, the commission approved surveys for relocations of The Dalles-California highway from four miles south of Bend to Lapine; Blackwell Hill - Medford section of Highway 99; Rocky Point-Brush Creek section of the coast highway and Forest Boundary-Flora junction section of the Enterprise-Lewiston highway.

The commission approved a program for raising the level of Highway 99 at Savage Rapids dam near Grants Pass to avoid flooding, the project to cost \$75,000.

Woman Given Change After Paying Killer

Chicago — (U.P.) — A mother of 11 children told police today she paid a person \$90 to beat her divorced husband to death and the killer gave her \$40 change.

Mrs. Sally Vaughn, 43, made a statement about the death of her ex-husband, Charles Vaughn, 54, after her arrest last night.

The plasterer was found dead in his basement apartment yesterday, and police said a heavy hammer was near the body.

Mrs. Vaughn said that Vaughn, whom she divorced 10 years ago, had threatened to kill her and her children.

Grand Opening Slated By New Paint Store

A grand opening Aug. 6 through 16 at Taylor Paint and Wallpaper company store was announced today by R. L. Taylor, owner. The new store is located at 906 North Riverside ave.

Taylor has operated as a painter and contractor for many years and is well known in this area. For the grand opening Taylor is offering numerous specials to his customers.

Chicopee, Mass. — (U.P.) — The parents of four boys chipped in a total of \$125 to pay for 64 windows their sons broke at Chicopee Trade High School.

OIL WRONG
Holyoke, Mass. — (U.P.) — After 18 years, Lucien Gelineau of Holyoke has given up his gasoline station. Doctors told him he was allergic to petroleum.

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