

# ICC Outlaws Segregation For Interstate Travelers; South Faces Complex Problem

Atlanta — (U.P.)—The South today faced a complex problem of freeing Negroes traveling across state lines of their "Jim Crow" status while enforcing local segregation laws for other Negro travelers.

This prospect emerged from the order handed down by the Interstate Commerce Commission Friday outlawing racial segregation of interstate passengers on trains and buses, and in waiting rooms.

In the sparse immediate comment by state officials and transportation executives many indicated they would not be able to foresee full implications of the order until after giving it further study.

Georgia's Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook declared his state will continue to enforce its segregation but admitted the job would be a complicated one.

Mississippi officials said, on the other hand, that they felt the order was "not too important" inasmuch as many carriers have already lowered the color line on interstate travelers.

**Banned on Trains**  
The U. S. Supreme Court in 1951 ordered pullman and dining cars integrated and the railroads ended the practice of shunting Negroes into "Jim Crow" coaches as the trains entered the South.

Segregation on most buses remained intact, however, and both rail and bus lines are equipped with dual waiting rooms and toilets in the South, with their segregated use controlled by state and local law.

But under the ICC ruling the Negroes pausing in their interstate travels or those arriving for trips beyond borders of their state cannot be forced to use the facilities set aside for them.

Officials of several of the 13 railroads directly involved in the order were not prepared to say just how they will meet the problem. The order becomes effective Jan. 10.

The Carolina Coach Co., the bus line directly involved, said it had discontinued the practice of segregating interstate travelers several years ago but it must continue segregating other passengers.

R. C. Hoffman Jr., president of Carolina Coach, in a statement at Raleigh, N.C., pointed to the key words of the problem—"Interstate" (between states) and "Intrastate" (within one state).

**Required by State Law**  
"We are required by state laws in North Carolina and Virginia to segregate passengers in intrastate commerce," he said.

Thus the South, its state segregation laws unaffected by the ICC order, will have two groups of Negro travelers—the inters and the intras—each with its

own legal status.  
Intrastate travel has become involved in a segregation suit in one state—South Carolina—in a case that is already headed toward a Supreme Court decision.  
In that case a Negro woman in a suit against the South Carolina Electric and Gas Co. several

months ago won a decision by the Fourth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals outlawing segregation in intrastate buses.  
Gov. George Bell Timmerman Jr., after conferences with company officials and state attorneys, decided to appeal the ruling to the highest court.



TOP O' THE MORN—President Eisenhower tips his hat in greeting to a crowd of well-wishers gathered in front of his office in Gettysburg, Pa.

## Sherry Fong Trial Completes Second Week in Portland

Portland — (U.P.)—The Sherry Fong murder trial sputtered to the end of its second week Friday with testimony about fear and a "body in the basement."

After cancelling the morning session Friday Circuit Judge Alfred P. Dobson read a prepared statement in which he sought to end legal wrangling that has delayed proceedings.

The judge said that from now on until end of the trial the court will adhere to a court rule providing that no argument will be allowed on an objection or motion except when the judge asks attorneys for their views.

First state witness Friday was Sherman Marriott, a restaurant operator. He testified that he and his wife met Sherry Fong in a bar Jan. 20, 1954. He said she described her life as "fantastic."

**Found a Body**  
"I even found a body in my basement," Marriott quoted Mrs. Fong as saying. He later qualified this by adding "Or maybe she said someone found a body. Anyway, it was something about a body connected with her basement."

James Whitmore told the court he was with Mrs. Fong at a night club the night of Feb. 26, 1954, a short time after the body of 16-year-old Diane Hank had been found near Washougal, Wash.

Asked if Mrs. Fong said anything to him about murder, Whitmore replied: "Yes, she said she was afraid she might be arrested. I asked her why, and she said I would see it in the papers."

Mrs. Fong and her husband, Wey Him, are under joint indictment for the murder of the Hank girl, but they are being tried separately.

## Legalized Gambling Heads for Rich Year

Carson City, Nev. — (U.P.)—Nevada's legalized gambling industry is headed for a \$100,000,000 year—richest in its history.

But it may not be the most profitable year for the 34 major casinos. Last year the state tax on gross winnings was two per cent; last spring the Legislature virtually doubled the gambling tax.

The State Gaming Control board reported Saturday that the Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe casinos separated \$11,000,000 more from their customers during the first nine months of this year than during the same period in 1954.

Last year the state's casinos reported approximately \$91,000,000 gross winnings.

Preliminary figures for 1955 indicate the new gambling tax will net the state \$3,955,532, or slightly more than double last year's returns.

## Northern Pacific Tells Plans for Improvements

Portland — (U.P.)—Northern Pacific railroad Saturday announced plans to spend \$32,000,000 for improvements and new equipment next year.

NP President Robert S. Macfarlane said the amount represented a 4 per cent increase over the 1955 budget.

Largest item on the budget was \$13,000,000 for 79 diesel locomotive units. Included was \$4,000,000 for construction of freight cars.

mission and by the state engineer's office.

The water board contended the projects would actually enhance recreational values by creating three permanent lakes where only temporary bodies of water now exist.

The board will build three dams in the project—one at Fish lake, one at Clear lake, and one at Beaver Marsh where the 30,000-kilowatt power house will be located.

## Workers Return As Riddle Strike Settled

Riddle, Ore. — (U.P.)—A Wildcat strike that halted both production and construction work at the sprawling Hanna Nickel Company Smelter here came to an end late Saturday in an agreement to handle strike issues through normal grievance procedure under the union contract.

Nickel Plant General Manager Earl Mollard and CIO steelworkers' business agent John Rusen said an amicable agreement was reached after an all-day meeting.

**Back to Work**  
Mollard said some 350 employees of the Hanna Company and 200 employees of the Bechtel Company which was installing new furnaces in the plant would return to work immediately. He said the plant would be in full production by 11 p.m. Sunday night.

Six Douglas county sheriff's officers under Sheriff Ira Byrd patrolled the plant area Saturday but no violence resulted from the walkout.

Byrd said the walkout, which was not sanctioned by the union,

## Reyes Moved to Albany To Await Murder Trial

Albany — (U.P.)—Martin B. Reyes, 23, Friday was moved from the Benton county jail at Corvallis to the Linn county jail in Albany to await trial on a charge of murdering Jimmy Applegate of Corvallis Oct. 25.

Reyes was one of a pair of Eugene jail escapees who held several persons captive during their flight through the Willamette valley. Applegate was shot while trying to capture Reyes in Corvallis.

Trial has been set for Dec. 6 at Corvallis.

## Water Board Said Not Against Dam

Eugene — (U.P.)—A spokesman for the Eugene Water and Electric Board Saturday denied a statement by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) that the board had once opposed a high dam on the Snake river at Hells Canyon.

The spokesman said the board had opposed only certain features of the Hells Canyon bill, such as financing methods.

In reply to Sen. Neuberger's statement yesterday that licensing of the board's Beaver Marsh projects on the upper McKenzie would damage scenic and recreation values, the spokesman said those considerations had been carefully studied in hearings both by the Federal Power com-



VATICAN ANNOUNCES Pope Pius XII saw vision of Christ during critical moments of grave illness last winter. Picture was made recently when His Holiness granted audience to 800 Italian shepherders at Castel Gandolfo. (International)

## Small Tract Owners Hold New Crop Key

Salem — (U.P.)—Farmers and owners of small tracts of forest lands may hold the key to half the problem of growing a new crop of trees, Charles H. Ladd, chief forester for the State Forestry Department, said here Saturday.

"The small woodland owners hold over 4,900,000 acres of our finest commercial timberlands," Ladd said.

More than 35,000 owners are

involved. Ladd said the treatment these lands receive will have a great influence on the future forest economy of Oregon.

Ladd estimated that 4,000,000 board feet of timber was harvested from these small "woodlands" in 1954.

Whether or not a new forest crop can be harvested from these small holdings depends upon the owner and his forestry program. Ladd said, adding: "The timber from the farm woodlands must meet part of our future needs and offset losses resulting from fire, insects and disease."

Malaya and England have about the same areas.

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