

# Neuberger Urges End To Federal Excise Tax on Transportation

Washington — End of the Federal excise tax on transportation was urged by Senator Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon because "it places a wholly disproportionate burden on the people and the economies of Western states."

In a statement to the House Subcommittee on Excise Taxes which is now studying revision of special taxes, Neuberger emphasized that "the geographic discrimination inherent in the excise taxes on transportation goes beyond any inequities which may exist in respect to excise on particular goods and services by falling more heavily on the people of some states and regions."

Neuberger pointed out that "the inequitable impact of the transportation taxes on the people of Oregon is obvious at first glance," and cited cases to show Western shippers and consumers are victims of a discriminatory Federal excise tax which penalizes them for the "uncontrollable factors of our country's size and physical geography."

Oregon canners shipping canned fruits or vegetables to eastern population centers may pay transportation charges of \$2.62 per carload, compared with perhaps \$264 per carload shipped by a midwestern food processor," he explained. "The midwestern shipper will pay a tax of \$7.92 but the Federal government will charge the Oregon shipper a transportation tax of \$10.06—almost four times greater."

Shippers of Oregon grain to eastern markets pay a Federal transportation tax "over 2 1/2 times the tax on grain from central United States," while Oregon housewives are "taxed four times more on washing machines than are the majority of



**HERE'S A SWITCH**—Phyllis McMeen of Los Angeles, enjoying the warm sunshine at Miami Beach, Fla., won a movie screen test on a strike program. She refused the test but accepted a job as Hollywood movie publicity woman for Universal-International Studios. Here's Phyllis doing her job.

# Rodney Dee Brodie's Chances Called Good

Ferris, Ill. — (U.P.) — Little Rodney Dee Brodie's chances of living a normal life were described as good today on the fourth anniversary of the "miracle" operation that separated him from his head-joined Siamese twin, Roger.

Rodney and Roger, were 15 months old when they underwent the historic, 12-hour and 40-minute operation on Dec. 17, 1952.

The operation was only a partial success, however, although both boys survived the surgery. Roger never regained consciousness and died 34 days later.

But Rodney responded to treatment and gained strength after the operation. One of his physicians said Rodney now is "coming along but good."

The Persian Gulf is less salty than other seas, the National Geographic Society says. Fresh waters from Iraq's Tigris and Euphrates Rivers pour into the Gulf, and its juncture with the Gulf of Oman, is so narrow and crooked that little salt water enters.

About 305 South Dakota schools are participating in the milk program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The children are expected to consume some six million half-pints of surplus milk.

Julius Caesar imported the first giraffe to Europe in 48 B.C.

The Bureau of Census reports that four-fifths of the value of South Dakota farm products sold in 1954 came from about one-half of the state's farms.

No small area in the world is known to have a greater variety of minerals than are found at Magnet Cove, Ark. Some 80 different minerals can be found there. Barite mining is the biggest industry.

**LEWIS AND CLARK WIN** — Ellensburg, Wash. — (U.P.) — Lewis and Clark of the Northwest Conference handed Central Washington of the Evergreen Conference a 57-51 basketball defeat here last night. Don Ward of Lewis and Clark hit 17 points for game honors.

# Yellow Fever Science Target

Austin, Tex. — (U.P.) — University of Texas scientists and federal authorities are cooperating in a project aimed at guarding against possible threat of a yellow fever epidemic in the United States.

Jungle mosquitoes of the type that transmits the yellow fever virus were found last fall in Texas Rio Grande Valley, an area that adjoins the Mexican border.

In an effort to block reappearance of the dread disease in the United States, the office of the U. S. surgeon general provided \$9,243 for University of Texas research on the biology and distribution of the Haemagogus mosquito.

Though no longer common in humans, jungle mosquitoes and infected animals have kept the disease alive in Central and South America.

Dr. O. P. Brelard, a university zoology professor in charge of the research project, said in the last few years, it has been noted that the yellow fever virus "is progressing northward" and "it is possible, if the progression continues, that the virus will reappear in this country."

Brelard pointed out that though only a few jungle mosquitoes have been found within U. S. borders, they constitute a threat because the virus could reach epidemic proportions if transmitted to the common mosquito, Aedes aegypti, found in large numbers in this country.

# Thornton Not To Face Contempt

Portland — (U.P.) — Ten Multnomah county circuit judges, while critical of Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton's choice of campaign literature, ruled it did not justify contempt of court charges. The contempt charge had been sought by Multnomah County District Attorney William Langley.

Presiding Circuit Judge Frank J. Lusterigan signed the memorandum opinion yesterday. Langley's motion for contempt stemmed from reprints of newspaper stories in the Voters pamphlet. He contended that the material, which went to prospective jurors in the state, jeopardized his right to a free trial. Langley is under indictment for conspiring to open up the city to gambling and malfeasance in office.

The judges wrote in their opinion: "It was not the best part of good judgment by the attorney general, who was then a prosecuting attorney, to have published what he as prosecutor would unquestionably rely on as evidence in a prospective criminal prosecution."

The memorandum continued, however, that the allegation does not have support as having been done by Thornton in his capacity as attorney general, as an attorney or a prosecuting attorney, but more in the nature of a political contest.

# Nixon Takes Off For Austria Tour

Washington — (U.P.) — Vice President Richard M. Nixon prepared for a flight to Austria today for a quick first-hand inspection of the Hungarian refugee program.

Nixon was scheduled to depart from Washington at 4 p.m. (EST).

On his return, the vice president will report to President Eisenhower and to Congress on what new steps the United States should take to help Hungarians who have fled from Soviet oppression in their homeland.

Mr. Eisenhower, while still on his work-and-play vacation last week at Augusta, Ga., assigned Nixon to the special mission.

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# Cattlemen Elect

Prineville — (U.P.) — A 32-year-old Malheur county cattleman, Tom McElroy Jr., was named as Oregon Cattleman of the Year last night by the Oregon Cattlemen's association.

McElroy operates a ranch outside Vale with more than 360 acres under cultivation and four sections of range land.

Selection of McElroy for the honor was made from a field of four. Others in the final quartet were Eric Fisher, Clackamas county; Irvin Mann Sr., Umatilla county, and Charles Congelton, Crook county rancher.

# Portland Traffic Toll Reaches 41 for 1956

Portland — (U.P.) — Portland's 1956 traffic death toll rose to 41 today with a finding that Earl Elmer Rukes, 68, died of injuries suffered when his car hit a power pole last week. It was first believed Rukes might have suffered a heart attack.

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