

Hatfield Confined To Hospital in Portland

Regional Edition

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Kennedy Asks Scheduled Gas Tax Cut Be Cancelled

Increased Levies On Heavy Trucks Urged in Message

Federal Highway Program in Trouble

Washington — (UPI) — President Kennedy asked Congress today to cancel a scheduled one-cent cut in gasoline taxes and raise other levies, chiefly on heavy trucks, to get the federal highway program out of financial trouble.

The President said in a special message that "our federal pay-as-you-go highway program is in peril." He said the \$41 billion superhighway program would fall five years behind its 1972 target date unless it gets \$900 million more annually.

"Passenger cars are paying more than their fair share" of the cost of the 41,000-mile highway network, Kennedy said. He requested higher taxes on diesel fuel, trucks over 26,000 pounds, tires, inner tubes and rubber used for retreading.

Kennedy said Congress should continue the gasoline tax at the present level of four cents a gallon. It is scheduled by law to drop to three cents on July 1.

Opposes Outback

The President declared he was "wholly opposed to either stretching out or cutting back" the highway program. He also said it should not be financed by borrowing or charging tolls, but should be kept on a pay-as-you-go basis by increasing highway "user" taxes.

Congress authorized the system of limited-access, multiple-lane highways in 1956. The federal government pays 90 per cent of the cost, the states 10 per cent.

Administration officials said Kennedy was not proposing "anti-recession" measures but was merely trying to keep the highway building program on schedule.

The President took critical aim at billboard advertising and raised the possibility of a federal levy on billboards if the states do not control their placement more strictly.

Kennedy's message bristled with arguments in favor of his tax proposals and against alternative financing plans which have been advanced in the past.

He said \$600 million a year could be provided for the highway program by Congress preventing the reduction in the gasoline tax. He calculated the value of his other tax proposals at \$300 million a year.

Increases Sought

Kennedy proposed these increases in existing taxes:

- Diesel fuel, from four to seven cents a gallon.
- Trucks over 26,000 pounds, annual license fee of \$5 per 1,000 pounds instead of the present \$1.50.
- Motor vehicle tires, from eight to ten cents a pound.
- Inner tubes, from nine to ten cents a pound.
- Tread rubber, from three to ten cents a pound.



FACT-FINDER, KASAVUBU MEET — G. Mennen Williams, left, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, chats with Leopoldville, Congo, leader of the Central Congo, Katanga and South Kasai governments. Williams is on a fact-finding trip through Africa. In an effort to crush

No Need for Surplus Food Allocation in County, Miller Says

"Now that we are nearing spring with increased opportunities for employment I see no need for establishing the surplus food allocation program here at this time," County Judge Earl Miller said this morning.

County Commissioner Chester Wendt agreed. Miller explained that the surplus food allocation would be in addition to the money grants allowed welfare recipients for food.

According to the plan, the county court would assume responsibility for requisitioning the food from the state department of finance and administration. The county court would be responsible for packaging, re-distribution, refrigeration and storage of the food.

The Jackson County public welfare commission staff would certify people eligible to receive the food, Public Welfare Administrator James Pullman said today.

"This program would affect 3,000 individuals now on public welfare, or three of every 75 persons in this county," Pullman noted. "This allocation, according to law, cannot be used to substitute for the minimum subsistence food allocation now allowed."

The list of surplus foods under the federal program includes dried milk, flour, corn meal, rice, lard, butter, dried eggs, pork and gravy, peas, beans and peanut butter, Pullman said.

Pullman explained that the current welfare allocation for food provides 65 to 80 per cent of the minimum diet considered necessary for the average person. "This makes it pretty difficult for people to buy meat and fresh milk," he admitted.

Under the current welfare program, a single person living by himself is allowed \$6.30 a week for food. A family of two adults and three children from three to five years old would receive \$16 to \$18 a week. Pullman explained the current food allocation is based on the number of persons in a family and their ages.

Darrin was arrested in Medford Feb. 24. While serving a two-day jail sentence, he developed a ruptured ulcer, police said, and was taken to the hospital for treatment. Police said today that no additional charge will be filed against Darrin.

ever it is anticipated that these obligations will be met through the balance of unpaid pledge payments remaining from the building fund drive conducted in 1958.

Ultimately the new wing structure will house, in addition to the basement level costume shop, all of the theater's dressing rooms, the scene shop, and a "green room" rehearsal space. These functions have been temporarily located in the stage house where they interfere with the preparation and presentation of the plays.

Since the Festival season has been lengthened over 30 per cent in the last two years, it has become imperative that the work space be increased in order to meet the earlier opening, the spokesman said.

Appling Denies Extravagances at State Hospitals

Wasteful Practice Charges Answered

Salem — (UPI) — Secretary of State Howell Appling today denied charges that wasteful extravagances were involved regarding tubs, hogs, a bakery and a bedspread at state hospitals.

Appling wrote Rep. Norman Howard, chairman of the House State and Federal Affairs Committee, that the following charges were made at the committee's Feb. 15 meeting when Appling criticized abolition of the Board of Control:

1. Costly hydrotherapy tubs were installed at Dammasch State hospital and it was later found they were unnecessary.
2. Eastern Oregon State hospital has a wasteful practice of sending its hogs raised at Pendleton to Baker for slaughter, the hams to LaGrande for curing and then returning the meat to Pendleton for consumption.
3. Dammasch has an expensive bakery that may never be used.
4. The board authorized a \$50 bedspread for the private residence of the Mid-Columbia Home superintendent because it matched the drapes.

To the first item, Appling said professionals agree with the wisdom of installing the tubs even though hydrotherapy is on the decline. He pointed out that the tubs also can be used for regular bathing.

The hog process is carried out at no extra cost to the state, Appling said, and has resulted in a greater return because of more and better meat.

As for the bakery at Dammasch, Appling said it is difficult to predict in advance the "ultimate scope of its production." He pointed out Dammasch doesn't open until Friday.

Like Criticizing Ford This complaint is "somebody like criticizing Henry Ford for inventing the automobile because it made bugs obsolete," Appling said.

Speaking of the bedspread, Appling admitted it was purchased but said the matching spread "relieved the state of the necessity of supplying complete furnishings" for the quarters and therefore was a "very inexpensive alternative."

Mrs. Connell was thrown out of the car by the impact. Officers said Connell apparently lost control of the car by the Rock Point bridge. It went onto the right shoulder, and went across the highway and rolled over.

Police received a call from a service station at 6:19 p.m. yesterday that the car was upside down by the bridge.

WEATHER
FORECAST: Thickening clouds tonight with chances of occasional rain Wednesday. Low tomorrow morning 38. High tomorrow 55.
Temp. Highest yesterday 54. Lowest this morning 32.

Our Skies Tonight
Sunset today 6:00 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 6:48 a.m.
The Moon rises 4:31 p.m. today and sets 6:22 a.m. tomorrow. The star seen near it tonight is Regulus.
Full Moon Thursday a.m. Note: The Moon will pass in front of Regulus several times this year and next.

"Traffic Control Center"



Living Costs in January Record Slight Decline

Washington — (UPI) — Living costs fell by one-tenth of 1 per cent in January for the first decline in a year, the government reported today.

Lower prices for clothes, new and used cars and food were responsible for the decrease.

Despite the decrease from December to January the Labor Department said its consumer price index was set at 127.4 per cent of 1947-49 prices or 1.6 per cent above a year ago. This figure means that it cost the average consumer \$12.74 to buy the same goods and services today that cost \$10 in the 1947-49 era.

The decline means that nearly one million workers in the automobile and farm equipment industries will not get wage increases next month. Their wages are geared to the rise and fall of the index and it did not climb enough since last October to justify a wage hike.

But the department said about 61,000 workers, including those at Caterpillar Tractor Corp. plants, will receive penny-an-hour pay increases based on a different formula from other auto workers.

The take-home pay of factory workers — earnings after federal taxes — held steady from December to January. The average factory worker with three dependents had spendable earnings of \$79.97 a week and the buying power of these earnings also were virtually unchanged from December to January.

Buying Power Reduced

But the department said that take-home pay of factory workers has declined about 2.5 per cent since January, 1960, because of shorter hours. The lower wages, combined with the impact of higher prices, has reduced buying power of the factory employee by about 4 per cent over the year.

The buying power of the average consumer's \$10 bill increased by one cent last month. The Labor Department said the value of the dollar compared to 1947-49 prices was .785 cents.

District Attorney Alan B. Holmes said he will call the grand jury to consider the evidence against McGahuey early next week. A circuit court hearing will follow.

Lewis County Sheriff O. R. Amondson, Chehalis, Wash., said he and his undersheriff, W. Al Murray, will return home today without obtaining a definite statement from McGahuey regarding a 1957 murder in Lewis county.

"He said he was not in the area at the time of the murder and could not remember it," Amondson said this morning. "However, he would not deny the possibility of committing it and blacking out."

\$3,115 Collected In Heart Drive

A total of \$3,115 was collected during the house-to-house Heart Sunday solicitation which covered 6,792 homes Sunday, Mrs. Earl Johnson, chairman, has reported.

The total does not include mail-in contributions, she noted. Solicitors left pre-addressed envelopes. If volunteers found no one at home, Mrs. Johnson encouraged persons who have envelopes to mail them with their contribution.

In commending the 640 volunteers, Mrs. Johnson noted that the largest amount turned in by a single blockworker was \$35.55 collected by Mrs. Edd Rountree, Ashland, and the highest total recorded by a captain was \$231.59 received from Mrs. Paul Antony and a team of 15 Ashland volunteers.

One of the transients, Melvin Horace Murch, 51, was found sleeping in a car Sunday night by the car's owner, Kenneth Raymond Williams, Jackson hotel. Murch entered a plea of guilty in municipal court to a charge of vagrancy (sleeping in an unauthorized place), and was sentenced to 20 days in the county jail.

Williams had earlier reported to police that transients sleeping in his car in recent weeks had made a considerable mess of the interior of the car.

Last night, city police arrested Bernard Harold Bommel, 54, who was also found sleeping in a parked car. Bommel, too, pleaded guilty to a vagrancy charge and was sentenced to 50 days in the county jail.

More Rain Falls on Flooded Southland

Rains dripped across the floodlands of the Deep South today and a new snowstorm left Ohioans and Indiana residents wading around in a blanket of slush.

Authorities in the South estimated that about 37,000 families had been displaced from their homes during the 10-day siege of floods that had brimmed the Pearl river in Mississippi, the Chattahoochee in Georgia, and the Alabama. Federal aid was given to the hardest-hit counties.



GOV. MARK HATFIELD Spent Good Night

Proposals Heard For Stimulation Of State Economy

Salem — (UPI) — Delegates to the second phase of a governor's economy conference poured out proposals this morning to stimulate Oregon's economy both on a short term and long range basis.

Among the recommendations were release of highway funds and higher bonding limits, tax reform, stabilization of farm labor, and a stepped-up campaign to start Oregon consumers on a buying spree.

Gerald Frank, chairman of Gov. Mark Hatfield's advisory committee on planning and development, presided over the meeting in place of Hatfield, who was hospitalized Monday with fatigue.

Industrial State Eyed

Fred Brunner, a Eugene businessman, said most of the proposals concerned long-range efforts to push Oregon nearer the ranks of foremost industrial states.

But to alleviate the immediate slump, he proposed a full scale campaign to encourage Oregonians to go out and buy something — both to take advantage of lower prices, and to carry out their "patriotic duty."

"Nothing will get the ball rolling any faster," he said. Don Ellis of Tektronix, Inc., said Oregon's economic climate for new businesses would be improved if unemployment compensation levies on employers were reduced, and if the personal property tax were repealed.

He joined with a spokesman of Omak Industries in making another proposal: increased emphasis and availability of advanced study and degrees in Oregon, they said, would serve as a gravitating point for research industries.

Pressure for Contracts

Other proposals included: —Pressure to win more government contracts;

—A shift in highway bond limits to true cash value, which Verne Ayres, Oregon Coast association, said would make an additional \$100 million available for Oregon road projects;

—Lower interest rates, to encourage housing and thus boost the lumber industry.

—Efforts to end the Portland newspaper strike, urged by labor spokesmen.

—Expanded marketing research to improve the selling situation for farmers.

Governor Said To Be Suffering From 'Fatigue'

Diagnosis Said To Be Continuing

Portland — (UPI) — Gov. Mark Hatfield's doctor said today the governor is suffering from "fatigue more than anything else" and is recuperating satisfactorily in the University of Oregon Medical School hospital.

The 38-year-old Republican chief executive was admitted shortly after 7 p.m. Monday shortly after 7 p.m. Monday rest and observation.

Release Date Undetermined

Dr. Ralph Purvine said Hatfield could be released late this week but this has not yet been determined. He said a diagnosis of the governor's condition is still continuing.

Purvine told newsmen in Salem Hatfield had a good night, slept well, and ate a good breakfast this morning. "He feels very good today," he said.

Travis Cross, news secretary, said Hatfield's appointments have been cancelled through Friday.

Purvine said the governor's temperature, pulse and blood pressure were normal. He added that this is about the time for Hatfield's annual physical checkup anyway and most of this is being done now.

Presides at Conference

Gerald W. Frank, Salem business executive and head of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Planning and Development, presided over Hatfield's economic conference today.

Frank, a close personal friend of Hatfield's, told the conference that the governor is suffering from a "good case of exhaustion."

A ceremony for signing of higher education bonding bills this afternoon was to be held and Cross said it was hoped Mrs. Hatfield would preside. The governor was to sign the bills at his hospital bed.

Assured 'Complete Rest'

Purvine said there was no particular reason to hospitalize the governor in Portland rather than Salem except that having him in Portland away from the capitol will assure him of "complete rest."

Cross said Hatfield was hospitalized as a "precautionary" measure after he complained of dizziness. It was thought he had a severe case of flu.

549 Dog Licenses Sold from Office

A total of 549 dog licenses were sold from the county clerk's office yesterday, it was reported.

Tomorrow is the deadline for buying licenses without paying a penalty or additional charge.

Personnel in the county clerk's office said they took in \$1,150 in license fees, most of the money came from the sale of \$2 licenses for males and spayed females. A few \$3 licenses for unsprayed females were sold.

Chris Hagler, county dog control officer, told the clerk's office this morning that sales in outlying areas also are holding up well.

Excavation To Start on Wing To Ashland Theater

Ashland — Excavation is scheduled to start this week on the basement section of a new wing for Ashland's Shakespearean theatre. The wing is part of a long-range construction plan announced by the Festival association in 1957.

Only the basement portion of the new wing will be completed at the present time, a festival spokesman reported. It will house the costume workshop and will be decked over at ground level to provide additional rehearsal space.

Funds for the present construction have been provided by a special grant from a Foundation.

The Festival association has not been relieved of its outstanding indebtedness on the existing stage structure. However it is anticipated that these obligations will be met through the balance of unpaid pledge payments remaining from the building fund drive conducted in 1958.



STORM DAMAGE—A Montreal, Que., street lined with blown-down trees is typical of damage caused when snow, ice and sleet wrecked communications throughout Montreal, left thousands without light and heat and closed most schools. (UPI Telephoto)