

High Court Rules Against States In Trucking Case

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court ruled yesterday that states may not bar interstate trucks from their highways, even for repeated illegal overloading.

And that decision set off a new round of discussion today on the effect of heavy trucks on the nation's highway system, and how to enforce weight limits imposed by states.

Two influentially placed Democrats—Sen. Monroney of Oklahoma and Rep. Harris of Arkansas—said the new Congress may consider giving states more police power. But a spokesman for the American Trucking Associations said present laws are quite adequate.

The Supreme Court, in an Illinois case, declared that only the Interstate Commerce Commission can grant permits to truck companies for traffic involving more than one state. And so, the court held, only the ICC can abridge that permit.

The 8-0 decision voided part of an Illinois law which provided that the state could suspend an interstate trucker from its highways for 90 days upon 10 loading violations, or one year and 90 days after another 10 violations.

The court said that states, to enforce their weight limits, may (1) still impose fines or other penalties for violations or (2) ask the ICC to take away the permit of habitual violators.

The opinion, written by Justice Black, said the ICC itself requires trucking firms to comply with proper state laws and regulations, so there is no reason why the ICC may not protect the state's interests on its own initiative or on complaint by the state.

Illinois, joined by Indiana and

the American Automobile Assn., had argued that loss of the state's power to suspend truckers from its highways would leave a state without sufficient means to compel compliance. State officials contended that trucking companies

could make more than enough money off of excessive loads to pay for mere fines.

Peter T. Beardsley, director of the law department for the trucking associations, today called this a "ridiculous contention." He said fines and other penalties already

provided in state law are more than adequate to deter any would-be violators, if properly enforced.

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Board Okays Union Contact

SALEM (AP)—The State Board of Control advised American Federation of Labor officials Monday that it would permit organizers of the AFL's Oregon Public Employees Council to contact employees of state institutions.

The board members wrote to institution superintendents July 14, 1953, advising them that organizers for the AFL and for the Independent Oregon State Employees Assn. could attempt to organize the institution employees. However, these efforts could not be made during working hours.

The AFL officials told the board Monday that they haven't received cooperation from supervisors in some institutions, and they asked that this letter be posted at the institutions. The board said it would do this.

The union leaders attending the session were J. D. McDonald, Portland, president of the State Federation of Labor; Leo E. Butts, Portland, president of the Oregon Public Employees Council; H. E. Barker, secretary of the Salem Trades and Labor Council; and Charles R. Smith, Portland, an AFL organizer.

State Jobless List Reported

SALEM (AP)—Oregon has 40,700 unemployed persons, or 5,200 fewer than a year ago, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission reported Tuesday.

There were 10,300 persons who lost their jobs during November. The commission said that the Corvallis, Lebanon, Eugene, Coos Bay, Toledo, Grants Pass and Roseburg areas have less unemployment than a year ago.

The commission paid out \$1,486,847 in jobless benefits in November. That was 40 per cent more than the October total, and \$49,209 more than in November, 1953.

The total benefits during the first 11 months was \$21,893,600. That is the highest in history, and is greater than the total for any full year.

AGREEMENT

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Parliament began consideration Tuesday of the Soviet Union's new agreement to pay Iran about 21 million dollars for World War II debts and to settle century old frontier tangles.



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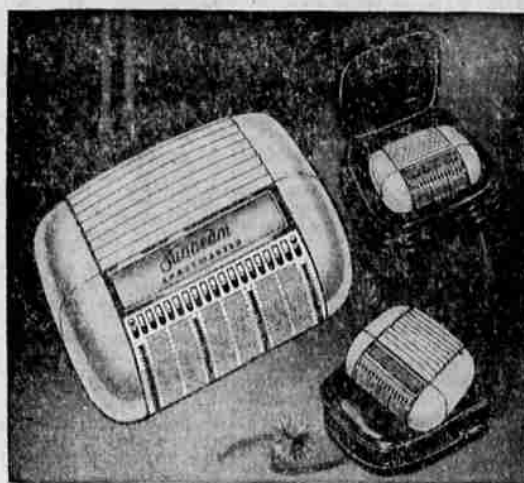
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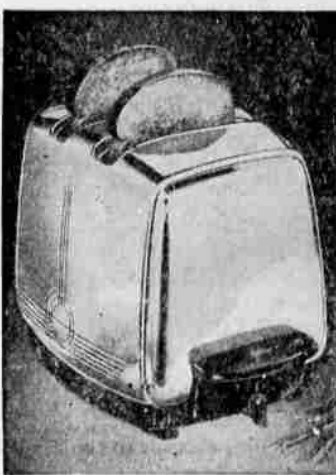
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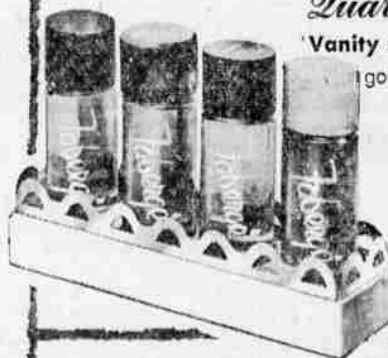
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