

Speed Preparations To Collect State Sales Tax Following Court Ruling



SOOTHING TO A SONGSTER—Gangland informer Joseph Valachi, hoarse from hours of testimony before a Senate investigations subcommittee in Washington, soothes his throat with lemon juice from a plastic container.

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI)—Indiana moved full speed ahead today with preparations to collect a two per cent sales tax beginning Oct. 22, while the labor-union leader who challenged the tax law studied whether a further delay will be sought.

The Department of Revenue went to work immediately with the blessing of the Indiana Supreme Court, which ruled the tax law constitutional and authorized the state to collect the tax after a 20-day wait to see whether a rehearing would be sought.

The tax originally was scheduled to net the state about \$192 million in a two-year period. However, a four-month delay in imposing the tax because of a suit by Dallas Sells, president of the Indiana State AFL-CIO, and Marion Circuit Judge John L. Niblack's ruling the law was invalid, and exemption of sales below 25 cents by the high court, will slash the expected net revenue from the tax to between \$145 and \$380 million this biennium.

Sells said today no decision will be made before Monday on whether he will let the ruling stand, ask for a rehearing, or appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Either of the latter two alternatives could further delay imposition of the tax.

Sells said a conference will be held Monday morning and a decision announced shortly after it ends. He said if a rehearing is asked, it might be requested shortly or near the end of the 20-day period.

Although the court's ruling will not go into effect until after that deadline passes, the ruling included a stay of the injunction issued by Niblack against any action by the Revenue Department to set up machinery for collection of the tax. The stay allowed the department to begin immediate preparations.

Ready to Collect
Deputy Revenue Commissioner Robert Hale said the department expected to be ready to start collecting the tax as soon as the deadline passes. He said much of the necessary work had been done before Niblack's ruling was issued in June.

Although the high court held the tax constitutional, it struck down a portion of the act giving the department authority to set the brackets at which the tax should be collected and interpreted another section to mean that no tax should be collected on sales of less than 25 cents.

The State Budget Agency hoped to have revised revenue estimates today based on the loss of taxes on sales of less than 25 cents but Commissioner John Hatchett of the State Department of Administration, a former budget director, estimated the reduction at 5-10 per cent.

Governor Welsh, in a statement telephoned to his office from Chicago while changing planes en route back here from a trip to Canada, estimated the loss at \$15-\$16 million in addition to the approximately \$32 million lost because the tax did not go into effect July 1 as scheduled.

While the sales tax originally was meant to raise \$220 million in a two-year period, officials guessed it will produce only \$177 million or less in the remaining 20 months. The downward revision was based on the fact the added gross income tax permits a \$6-per-person credit each year for taxes paid on food and medicine, the fact that collection will start four months late, and the fact the high court exempted sales below 25 cents.

The loss of revenue precipitated one of the worst financial crises in Indiana history, resulting in spending cutbacks on the state level and reduced state aid to local school corporations.

Local school officials, faced with the loss of millions of dollars in state funds, proposed unprecedented local property tax rates to make up for the loss. Even then, some said they might have to cut short the school year.

Welsh Hails Decision
Both Welsh and Lt. Gov. Richard O. Ristine hailed the decision for its effect on state revenue and for the relief it will provide local property taxpayers.

Convincing Evidence Offered By Valachi

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Underworld informer Joseph Valachi is offering "convincing evidence" that a secret gangland government menaces the U.S. society, Sen. John L. McClellan, D-Ark., said today.

McClellan is chairman of the Senate investigations subcommittee which has been listening to Valachi's lurid description of the Cosa Nostra crime combine. With the hearings recessed until next week, McClellan gave a short appraisal of the testimony to date.

He noted that much of the testimony by ex-hoodlum Valachi is "not especially new." But, he commented, authorities in New York and elsewhere are currently following up leads from Valachi's narrative of gangland warfare of the 1930s.

Sen. Karl E. Mundt, R-S. D., the top Republican member of the subcommittee, said he began the hearings feeling somewhat skeptical about Valachi as a witness but had come to believe that his testimony was essentially solid.

Hopes To Expedite Testimony
McClellan said he hoped to expedite Valachi's testimony when the squad Cosa Nostra alumnus returns to the witness table next Tuesday.

He said he believed another day or day-and-a-half would complete the testimony unless Valachi, currently serving two long jail sentences on narcotics counts, proved to have a lot of information on narcotics traffic.

"Whether it is called the Mafia, the syndicate or something else, I think he is giving convincing proof that such an organization does exist," McClellan said. McClellan said that testimony from one "who was actually present and knows" gave credence to the idea that such a combine is "a menace and that it is a government beyond the law dispensing life and death according to its own law."

Needed Corroboration
He said Valachi's testimony would need corroboration to be useful in a court of law. He said, however, that certain statements made to Valachi by participants in criminal acts might be construed as voluntary confessions of guilt.

Valachi, in his third day as the subcommittee's featured witness before television cameras in the Senate caucus room, sipped lemon juice to relieve a sore throat as he rasped out his narrative of the Italian-Sicilian gang war of 1931.

He testified that Albert Anastasia, underworld leader who was killed in a 1957 barber shop killing, and Frank Scelzo — sometimes known as "Cheech" — peddled Cosa Nostra memberships in the 1950s for up to \$40,000.

Valachi said that Ciro Terranova, the gangster "artichoke king" of New York, died in disgrace of a "broken heart" because of his nervousness over the slaying of a top Cosa Nostra boss at Coney Island.

Monday Deadline For Voter Registration

Monday is the final day to register for the city election, Adams county clerk Richard Lewton reminded local voters today.

The clerk's office will be open until 4 p. m. Monday, as it is each Monday through Friday, and until 12 noon Saturday.

Anyone who voted in the primary election this spring, or in either the primary or general election last year, is still registered. Anyone who did not vote in either election last year, nor the primary this spring is not registered and will not be able to vote in November.

Voters may also register at either of the party headquarters. Democrat headquarters is located in the former Boston store at Second and Monroe streets, while Republican headquarters is in the former Rice Hotel coffee shop.

Absentee Voters
Persons wishing to vote by absentee ballot may do so now, Lewton also said.

Anyone who will be out of town on November 5 for business reasons, or who will be confined due to an illness, must make application for absentee ballot in the clerk's office in the courthouse, or by writing the clerk's office.

Application blanks may be obtained until and including Saturday, November 2, but will not be given out after that date.

After application is given, the voter must fill it out and return it to the clerk's office, and his or her ballot will then be mailed back to the person.

Three Large Windows Are Broken By Rocks

An incident at the Indiana & Michigan Electric Co. plant, at Dayton and Dierkes streets, was reported to the city police today. Three large windows on the south side of the building were broken out by rocks, apparently thrown from the area of Seventh St., or along the Pennsylvania railroad tracks.

The police were informed that in the past year and a half, eight windows on the east side of the building were also broken out by rock-throwers.

Forty Hours Opens Saturday Morning

The annual observance of Forty Hours devotions will be held at St. Mary's Catholic church Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

Services will open at 9 o'clock Saturday morning with a solemn high mass, with the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Simeon M. Schmitt as celebrant, the Rev. Charles J. Ueber as deacon, and the Rev. Eugene A. Fekete as subdeacon. Following the mass will be a solemn procession through the church and the chanting of the litany of all saints. The high school chorus and students will sing the mass and chant the litany.

Public services will be held Saturday evening at 7:30 o'clock, with sermon and benediction. Sunday masses will be the usual hours. There will be a holy hour Sunday evening at 7:30, with devotions to the blessed sacrament.

Solemn closing of the devotions will take place Monday evening at 7:30, with the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus, the St. Mary's men's choir, the knights of the altar, and a large number of priests from neighboring parishes participating. The sermon at the closing exercises will be given by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph Crowley, editor of Our Sunday Visitor.

Msgr. Schmitt extended a general invitation to the public to attend any of the services of the Forty Hours devotion.

Butcher Appointed As Highway Head

Governor Matthew E. Welsh announced this morning the appointment of Walter T. (Pete) Butcher, 58, of 112 N. Ninth St., as superintendent of the state highway department's Bluffton sub-district.

Butcher, who has been general foreman for the sub-district for the past two and one-half years, will fill the vacancy created recently by Leonard Warner's retirement.

Butcher was formerly employed by this county's highway department and also worked at the local sewage treatment plant. His appointment is effective immediately.

To Observe Business Women's Week Here

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club, Inc., has designated the week October 6 to 12 as "National business woman's week."

The Decatur Business and Professional Women's club will start the week with a "fellowship tea" Sunday from 2 to 4 p. m. at the American Legion home. All working women, members and non-members, are invited to attend this tea.

The 1963 Business and Professional Women's Club "career women of the year, selected by the members of the club, will be presented at 3:30 p. m.

The BPW career woman is selected for the outstanding contributions for BPW, during the year. Miss Rosemary Spangler, county recorder, was honored as career woman in 1961, and Mrs. Mary Howard, office manager, Adams ASCS county office, was honored as career woman of 1962.

The Business and Professional Women's club is a non-profit civic organization. At the present time, the Decatur club consists of 41 members representing many vocations and professions of the working women of Decatur.

The 1963-64 national theme, "Responsibility of full partnership," is important to all working women, both members and non-members of the club.

"Full partnership in all relationships whether it be at home, on the job, in club work, in the state or in the Nation with our colleagues, both men and women is important to success in any type of work."

The officers of the Decatur club represent five important types of employment: Janice Kauffman, the 1963-64 president is employed as an audit clerk at the Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., Fort Wayne; Mary Jane Miller first vice president, is a nurse at the Adams county memorial hospital; Jane Daily, secretary, at the First State Bank; Eileen Buckley, recording secretary, serves as saleslady at the Jani Linn Store; and Carolyn Steele is a bookkeeper at the First State Bank.

Standing committees are appointed by the officers and play an important role in club activities.

1963-64 chairmen of these committees are: personal development, Lucile Beavers, teacher at Adams Central school; public relations, Betty Bucher, clerk in the Allen ASCS county office; Fort Wayne; finance, Mary Catherine Spangler, abstractor at Bierly's Abstract, Inc.; world affairs, Maxine Ford, clerk at the ASCS county office; legislation, Rosemary Spangler; county recorder; Civic participation, Vera Van Buskirk, teacher, at Northwest school, and membership, Clara Ellen Hitchcock, secretary at Suttles company.

For the most part, local talent is utilized in Decatur club meetings.

Surveyor Is Injured When Hit By Ladder

Herman Moellering, Adams county surveyor, is reported resting comfortably in the Adams county memorial hospital today after a freak mishap at his home on route 1, Decatur, last night.

Moellering was injured when a ladder on which he had been working fell and struck him on the head, as he was walking away. He was rushed to the hospital for treatment and was expected to remain there at least the rest of today.

The surveyor was repairing some wiring leading to the barn at his residence about 6:30 p. m. Wednesday when the mishap occurred. The 18-foot extension ladder was resting on the barn.

He had climbed down and was walking away when the ladder fell and hit him on the head. The impact knocked him to the ground and the side of his face was bruised as he struck the ground. The blow opened a laceration on the top of his head.

He is in room 217 at the hospital. The second floor is normally used for maternity cases, but the hospital is unusually busy at present.

INDIANA WEATHER

Continued fine weather through Friday. A little cooler this afternoon, warmer again Friday. Low tonight in the 40s. High Friday 75 to 83. Sunset today 6:25 p. m. Sunrise Friday 6:44 a. m. Outlook for Saturday: Fair with little temperature change. Lows in the 40s. High 75 to 82.

Boy Scouts Are Aided By Community Fund

The Boy Scouts of America are one of the ten agencies in the Decatur Community Fund and have submitted a budget request of \$4,625 of the \$27,993 fund goal.

The Boy Scouts of America are a 53-year-old organization which has enjoyed success and public acclaim for its part in training American youth in character values, citizenship skills and attitudes and physical fitness.

About 375 Decatur youths are involved in scouting — 175 in Boy Scouts and 200 in Cub Scouts. There are five Cub packs, six Boy Scout troops and one Boy Scout Explorer post.

These groups are sponsored by various local churches and organizations. The six Cub packs are fostered by the Zion Lutheran church, Lincoln PTA, Southeast PTA, Northwest PTA and St. Mary's Catholic church, and are led by Martin Bultmeier, Judge Myles Parrish, Leo Feasel, Cecil Shaffer and Jerome Reed.

The seven Boy Scouts troops are sponsored by the Zion Lutheran church, the Rotary club, the Lions club, the American Legion, St. Mary's Catholic church, the EUB church, and First Baptist church. The leaders of these troops are Bob Baker, Ronnie Secaur, Charles Stonestreet, Dr. Richard Parrish, Medford Smith, Herald Hitchcock and Jerold Lobsiger.

Boy Scout Explorer post 2062 is sponsored by the Elks club and headed by Dave MacLean.

Many Activities
The Club Scouts and Boy Scouts meet every week and the Explorers meet every other week. Besides the regular meetings there

are special activities such as camping trips and field days. This spring all the Boy Scout troops attended the spring camporee at the state park in Bluffton. The Explorers have an annual "deep freeze" winter camping trip. The various groups also attend "field days" where they participate in contests of various scouting skills.

Local directors of the scouting program are: Bill Spice, Limberlost district scout executive; Carl Braun, county vice chairman; Steve Everhart, assistant district commissioner; Gene Rydell, district organization and extension chairman; Jack Rieff, district camping chairman. The five-man board of directors includes Herman Krueckeberg, Clarence Zinner, W. Guy Brown, Carl Pumphrey and Gene Rydell.

The local Boy Scout council is described by scouting leaders as a community resource which contributes to the welfare of the whole community, just as does formal education. The entire community benefits as a result of the training imparted to its young men by the scouting movement.

Scouts and their parents pay the major costs of the scouting program including cost of uniform, insignia and equipment, camp fees, unit dues, transportation costs, handbooks and the national membership fee. The boy is taught and encouraged to earn his own expenses as far as possible, but additional help, which can be provided by contributions to the Decatur Community Fund, is needed to continue the extensive work of the scouting program.

Honduras Army Seizes Power

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — (UPI)—The armed forces today deposed President Ramon Villeda Morales and seized power. Heavy fighting followed and there were reports of "many" dead and wounded.

Military leaders ordered a 7 p. m. to 6 a. m. curfew and instructed residents to remain in their homes. The civil guard and all armed civilian groups were placed under military control. Civilians with arms and munitions in their possession were ordered to turn them in immediately to the nearest army post.

An Army communique from the 3rd Military Zone said Villeda Morales was overthrown to put a halt to "restlessness and anarchy" in the country and halt "flagrant violations of the constitution and obvious communist infiltration."

It was the second military coup against a constitutional government in Latin America in eight days. The Dominican regime of President Juan Bosch was toppled last week.

Villeda Morales was deposed just 10 days short of completing six-year mandate. General elections for his successor were scheduled for a week from next Sunday.

Sharp clashes were reported between revolting troops and

civil guardsmen defending Villeda Morales. Shooting was frequent in the streets many hours after the coup.

In addition to the shooting in Tegucigalpa, "various disorders" were reported in the north coast port towns of San Pedro Sula, Cortes, Tela and Progreso.

(In Washington, the State Department said the embassy in Tegucigalpa had informed it a military coup was "in full swing" in Honduras, but that the outcome was "not yet known.")

Army troops were visibly in control in Tegucigalpa at midday. They held the public utilities and surrounded the presidential palace. Army regulars were all over the city, armed with tommyguns.

Rumors circulated that a military junta had been formed with armed forces chief Col. Osvaldo Lopez Arellano at the head. This could not be confirmed immediately.

Villeda Morales was reported a prisoner in the palace with his family.

Cars with Red Cross emblems raced through the city to pick up the dead and wounded. Most of the casualties seemed to be among the civil guard, which was defending Villeda Morales.

Owen Wemhoff To Detroit Position

Owen C. Wemhoff, executive director of the Johnny Appleseed school and training center in Fort Wayne for the past six years, has resigned the position to become executive director of the Detroit metropolitan advisory committee for retarded children.

Wemhoff will assume his new duties next month. He is a native of Decatur, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wemhoff. He graduated from the Decatur Catholic high school, and was a teacher in the Decatur high school before accepting the Fort Wayne post.

As executive director for the Detroit area, he will be responsible for the programming and public relations for seven mental health programs encompassing a three-county area.

During his six years in Fort Wayne, Wemhoff helped establish a program that now provides training and rehabilitation for approximately 140 retarded children of Allen county. He also is currently serving as chairman of the post school committee for the Indiana association for retarded children.

Reverse Conviction Of Union's Leader

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — The Indiana Supreme Court Wednesday reversed the highway scandal conspiracy conviction of Carpenters Union President Maurice Hutcheson on grounds of insufficient evidence.

Hutcheson and two other top union officials were found guilty three years ago of conspiracy to bribe Harry Doggett, who was then assistant director of the right-of-way department of the State Highway Commission.

The three were accused of making a \$79,681 profit in a land-purchase scheme involving the acquisition of property along highway routes and selling it to the state in a conspiracy with Doggett.

They were sentenced by Marion Criminal Court Judge M. Walter Bell to 2-to-14 years in prison but were freed pending appeal. The other union officials, Vice President O. William Blair and Treasurer Frank Chapman, have since died.

Yankees Seek Series Evener

DODGERS WIN AGAIN
NEW YORK (UPI) — The Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the New York Yankees, 4-1, today in the second game of the World Series.

Johnny Podres, starting hurler for the Dodgers, was lifted in the ninth inning with one out and a runner on second. Ron Perranoski, ace relief hurler, yielded a single to Elston Howard for the Yankees' lone run but retired the side to preserve the Los Angeles victory, the second straight. The Dodgers scored two runs in the first inning and single tallies in the fourth and eighth.

NEW YORK (UPI)—Manager Ralph Houk of the New York Yankees called on Al Downing, a 22-year-old southpaw, today to oppose crafty Johnny Podres of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the second game of the World Series.

Baffled by the curves and fast balls of strikeout king Sandy Koufax Wednesday, Houk relied on Downing to get the Yankees even in this 60th World Series.

The betting was 7-5 in favor of the Yankees for today's game although Downing never has pitched in a World Series. Podres, on the other hand, has won three series games against one loss, two of his triumphs coming over the Yankees.

Another ideal baseball day was forecast. The skies were overcast as first the Yankees and then the Dodgers held their hitting drills, but the sun was starting to peek through the clouds and the skies were expected to clear by game time.

The lineups:
Los Angeles
Wills ss
Gilliam 3b
W. Davis cf
T. Davis lf
F. Howard rf
Skowron 1b
Tracewski 1b
Roseboro c
Podres p
New York
Kubek ss
Richardson 2b
Tresh lf
Mantle cf
Maris rf
E. Howard c
Peppone 1b
Bayer 3b
Downing p
Umpires — Gorman (NL) plate; Napp (AL) 1b; Crawford (NL) 2b; Paparella (AL) 3b; Rice (NL) right field foul line; Venzon (NL) left field foul line.

Decatur Ministers Will Meet Monday

The Decatur ministerial association will hold its monthly meeting Monday at 9:30 a. m. at the United Church of Christ. The Rev. William Feller will lead the devotional period.

Youth Confesses To Kidnap Story Hoax

An 18-year-old Fort Wayne youth has admitted to police in this city that a kidnapping story he contrived Tuesday was only a hoax he had made up to draw attention to himself.

Fort Wayne authorities, continuing investigation which began Tuesday evening and encompassed Adams county, took a statement from Stephen A. Henning, 18, of Fort Wayne, who admitted fabricating a kidnapping story just to draw attention to himself.

The youth's story was that a man had hidden in the rear of his car Tuesday and forced him to drive at knife-point around the eastern edge of Allen county.

Farmers in the Monroeville area found the youth, with his hands tied, wired to the steering wheel of his auto just inside the Adams county line, north on state road 101.

Search Here
Deputy sheriff Harold August of this county and state trooper Alan Copes were among several officers in this area who were called in to investigate and search for the make-believe kidnaper. The youth's mother brought him to Fort Wayne police Wednesday morning and the story was repudiated.

Henning said he had given a hitchhiker a brief ride, and then used the man's description as his assailant. Then he drove to the south of this county where he bound himself with wire and a dog collar chain.

He told police how he had "managed to kick on the ignition of his car and put the car in motion," while still bound to the steering wheel.

Officers quoted the youth as saying he thought he family didn't care for him as much as he felt they should. He believed if he made up a story about being in danger, the resulting sympathy would bring him more attention.