

Gives NIPSCO's View On Dispute

(Editor's note: The following release, from NIPSCO, which serves this area as the distributor of natural gas, purchased from the interstate distributor, Panhandle Eastern, gives NIPSCO's side of the story in its dispute over who would serve a proposed Corning Glass plant at Bluffton. The problem involves an Indiana statute which prohibits interstate corporations from direct-service utility operations in Indiana. Otherwise, large out-of-state corporations, like Panhandle or American Electric Power, could keep their records in New York or other distant places, and complicate the assessment and collection of taxes on wealth in the state, and income from the state of Indiana.)

Dean H. Mitchell, chairman and president of Northern Indiana Public Service Company said today that plans of Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line company to directly serve gas to a proposed Corning Glass plant at Bluffton, Ind., is not "in the public interest," and that such direct sales to industry have previously been condemned by the federal power commission, the supreme court of Indiana, and the United States supreme court.

"Panhandle Eastern's request to directly serve industry has been denied by these judicial and regulatory bodies," Mitchell said, "and in each instance, their decision has been based on the adverse effect this would have on the public interest."

Decisions Quoted

Mitchell referred to a decision in the Anchor Hocking Glass case of the public service commission of Indiana vs Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line company which said: "Local utilities whose costs per unit of gas have been increased by the reduced volume of sales caused by the direct deliveries from the pipeline will be entitled to higher rates."

A decision in the case of Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line company vs Michigan public service commission stated:

"Obviously, Panhandle seeks to skim the cream off the local market for natural gas in the municipality where the intervening defendant now provides such services... without regard to the public convenience and necessity for natural gas by other users in the Detroit area, particularly for domestic use. If Panhandle is free to compete at will for such local markets, and take the cream of the business, any other utility providing the same service in the same area might be forced to obtain higher rates for its services when it must obtain its natural gas from Panhandle."

Public Interest

In addition to these decisions of the Indiana and Michigan supreme courts, which later were affirmed by the supreme court of the United States, the federal power commission has also ruled that direct sales of natural gas to industrial customers by pipeline companies are detrimental to the public interest.

Quoting from recent federal power commission decisions, Mitchell cited the following from 20 FPC reports, page 588:

"We are of the opinion that the direct sales to the steel companies in the Chicago-Gary area as proposed—would be a detriment to consumers in that area and not in the public interest... The steel sales are important to the distributors, for such—sales improve the load factors to the benefit of the commercial and domestic consumers—loss of the steel sales might require the distributing companies to raise their rates."

In Southern Natural Gas company, the federal power commission said:

"In principle, lines of interstate transmission companies should not be laid down on top of local distribution lines for the service of profitable industrial load that can be served by the local distributor. On the contrary, such load, should be served by the distribution company, to the benefit of the local consumers."

"Development in Bluffton. We are vitally interested in the industrial development of the Bluffton area," the utility chief executive said, "but we are also interested in protecting all our Bluffton customers against any action that would increase their gas rates."

There are three types of gas customers—residential, commercial,

and industrial—each bearing their proportionate cost of the millions of dollars in pipelines and equipment needed to serve natural gas. Industrial customers pay a large share of the cost. Residential and commercial customers benefit greatly when industry helps pay the bill.

"But when industrial customers are taken away—or when we are denied the right to serve industry—the residential and commercial customers will bear a greater share of the cost of service, through increased rates. And that we will not have!"

Only Source

"We are the only gas company that can provide Corning with a firm supply of natural gas," he said, "and we are ready, willing and able to serve this customer or any others that might wish to move here at rates subject to the approval of the public service commission of Indiana. In fact, we already serve some of the largest industrial customers in the United States," the utility chief executive said, "with 45 million cubic feet per day going to The Inland Steel Company at East Chicago, and 36 million cubic feet per day to the United States Steel Corporation at Gary."

"By intervening in our petition for a certificate of convenience and necessity to serve the rural area southwest of Bluffton, Panhandle has asked that the February 6 hearing be postponed or continued for no less than twenty days, thus further delaying a determination of this matter."

"We want to make one thing clear," Mitchell said. "We have always stood on the principle that the direct supply of natural gas to industry by pipeline companies is not in the interest of our customers. We have fought every pipeline company's plan of direct service to industry, and in the interest of our customers, we will continue to do so."

Church Council To Pay On Sales Tax

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — The executive council of the Indiana Synod of the United Presbyterian Church has voted to disregard its religious exemption status under state sales tax regulations, partly on grounds exemption may "tend to weaken the voice of the church when it desires to speak on issues on which it believes the state is pursuing an un-Christian course."

Synod's Council voted to pay the state sales tax for the present on approximately \$32,000 worth of supplies bought annually for its offices and agencies. The council recommended its action be made permanent policy by the Synod at an annual meeting in June.

The decision does not bind any of the states 420 local churches and benevolent and charitable institutions connected with the denomination. But the council said "they are encouraged to consider the recommendation carefully."

Dr. Ware W. Wimberly, Wabash, Synod moderator, said that although the law authorizes church agencies to receive tax exemption the council felt its policy was in line with recent studies and pronouncements of the denomination's 175th General Assembly at a meeting last spring in Des Moines.

"There is a growing recognition that the church should review its position of being a tax-exempt institution," Dr. Wimberly said.

He said questions prompting that attitude included whether acceptance of exemption violates the principle embodied in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"Does not the acceptance of tax exemption tend to weaken the voice of the church when it desires to speak on issues on which it believes the state is pursuing an un-Christian course?" was cited by Dr. Wimberly as another question.

The council's position would mean the state would receive about \$640 in sales tax revenues on the estimated \$32,000 annual purchases.

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Accused Killer Of Policemen Under Arrest

CHICAGO (UPI) — Police today held the accused slayer of two Los Angeles policemen captured after a manhunt that started four days ago in a crowded West Coast department store and ended Wednesday night on a quiet Chicago street.

Leaman Russell Smith, 31, a husky ex-convict from West Los Angeles, Calif., was apprehended at gunpoint by a Chicago police officer moments after a companion, Jay Elsen, 28, Aurora, Colo., was captured in a bowling alley.

Smith had been the target of an extensive search by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents since he allegedly shot to death Los Angeles police Sgt. Charles P. Monaghan and Robert M. Ender in a Sears, Roebuck department store last Saturday.

Police were summoned to the Los Angeles store when a clerk became suspicious of Smith's attempt to cash a payroll check. Another policeman and a clerk were injured during the shooting.

Traced By FBI

Smith's flight across the country, including a stop at Denver, Colo., where he picked up a rented car, was traced by FBI agents who alerted Chicago police.

Traffic officer Joe Bertucci spotted Smith's rented car making an illegal turn onto a North Side street shortly after 8 p.m. CST. Bertucci stopped Smith and warned him about traffic safety.

Then the police officer followed Smith to a bowling alley and radioed for help. All police canine units, an elite task force, detectives and a fireboat converged on the scene. A half-mile square area was cordoned off.

Elsen, who was released from the Leavenworth (Kan.) federal penitentiary Saturday, was captured at the bowling alley. Smith said later he sensed something was wrong and fled before Elsen was apprehended.

Arrested On Street

Officer Ronnie O'Hara, searching the area, spotted Smith walking along a quiet street. He pulled his patrol car alongside, poked his revolver out the window and said, "You're under arrest."

Smith, his clothes torn on his hands bleeding after a scramble along the north branch of the Chicago River, surrendered. He was carrying a .38-caliber revolver and 50 rounds of ammunition.

He was taken to FBI headquarters here where agents said he admitted the Los Angeles slayings.

He was to be arraigned today before U. S. Commissioner C. S. Bentley Pike on a charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

Four other persons were held in connection with the case in Los Angeles, where Sears established two \$10,000 trust funds for the families of the slain police officers.

Lancaster Student At Youth Seminar

Tim Mann, a junior at Lancaster Central high school, is among the 83 youths from this region attending a youth seminar sponsored by the Church of the Brethren.

They will visit Washington, D. C., also the United Nations in New York City. Mann is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Mann of Ossian route 2, and attends the Pleasant Dale Church of the Brethren.

Pre-Lenten Party Scheduled Sunday

As a windup for the membership drive for this year, the Maria Stein retreat house helpers will have a pre-Lenten party Sunday at the K. of C. home in Minster, O., starting at 7 p.m.

Games of various types will be played and lunch and refreshments will be served. Members and their wives are urged to attend. Annual membership is \$1, and is confined to men 18 years and older. Board members and committees are now planning for the festival to be held at the Shrine of Holy Relics Aug. 15-16.

Counsel Caution In Economizing Move

By LYLE C. WILSON
United Press International

Sen. Harry F. Byrd D-Va., has stated in the fewest possible number of words the federal spending trend of the past several years which President Johnson says he can and will reverse.

Johnson is being acclaimed as a great economist. There are persons, however, who counsel caution. They suggest that acclaim for the new President be withheld until the end of the 1965 fiscal year when his promises may be measured accurately against his performance.

It is ironical, maybe, that the new Johnson administration pledge to carry out the policies of the late President Kennedy was accompanied by a reversal of the Kennedy policy that was basic in JFK's whole program. That was his spending policy. JFK was a big spender. Harry F. Byrd thumbnailed it like this:

"If federal taxes are too high—and they are—it is basically because federal expenditures are too high. Reduction in both is long overdue."

Continue To Rise

"Starting at \$76.5 billion in the (Eisenhower) fiscal year 1960, federal expenditures rose by \$5 billion in (JFK's) 1961. They went up \$6.3 billion in 1962. They went up \$4.9 billion in 1963. And in the current (1964) fiscal year they are increased by \$5.8 billion."

Byrd discussed Kennedy's spending record in a Senate speech opposing the pending tax reduction bill. He said he was against the bill because the effect of it would be to charge tax reduction into the federal debt, to borrow money to reduce taxes.

The senator is among those who are skeptical that President Johnson will be able to keep his date with economy in fiscal 1965. Byrd explained why he is a doubter:

"Contingencies involved in (Johnson's) \$97.9 billion expenditure figure include enactment of new legislation, market conditions for the sale of government-held assets, effect of weather conditions on agriculture, reduction in the postal deficit and so forth."

And Byrd took a swipe at

those chuckleheads who accept the government's deficit spending operations as a necessity of the cold war. Byrd said it was easy to blame war and national defense for the excesses of political spending. But he said that since the Korean War the federal spending total has increased from a fiscal year figure of \$67.5 to the \$97.9 estimated to be spent in fiscal 1965. The hike of roughly \$30 billion represents \$7.5 billion for military and related activities and \$23 billion for domestic civilian activities.

Baying Power Drops

The senator remarked that deficit spending and increasing public debt since 1939 had reduced the purchasing power of the dollar to 45 cents as of today.

"It dropped 23 cents in World War II," Byrd said. "It has dropped nearly 7 cents since the Korean War. It has dropped 2 cents since 1960 (the Kennedy pennies). It dropped more than half a cent last year."

Byrd's Senate speech was a sturdy defense of what the administration's chief economist, Walter Heller, scorns as a puritan ethic. Ethic means character or the ideals of character manifested by a race or a people.

The pay-your-bills - on-time and live-within - your-income puritan ethic has gone out of style. It is square. But it worked pretty well for the U.S. government from the beginning until the late spring of 1933.

COURT NEWS

Marriage Applications

David Vincent Omlor, 216 S. Fourth St., and Linda Sue Reidenbach, 308 Marshall St.

Barry Kent Ellis, Homestead 46, and Ruth Ann Soliday, 323 S. Fifth St.

Richard Dean Feierstein, Greenville, O., and Meda Belle Waterman, Ohio City, O.

Lewis Herman Walker, Crawford, O., and Bunny C. Potter, Crawford, O.

Thomas Arthur Fielder, route 10, Fort Wayne, and Karen Sue Biebrich, Preble.

James Herbert Helm, route 5, Decatur, and Dora Jean Donica, 222 N. Fourth St.

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FINE OLD HOME, which has served as the Methodist parsonage in Monroe for many years, will soon be replaced by a new one-story smaller home for the Methodist minister and his family. The new home will be just behind the church building, on the Tile Mill Road. This home is across the street and northwest from the church.—(Photo by Teeple)



NEW METHODIST PARSONAGE in Monroe, being built by Enos Schrock, contractor, will be completed this spring. The building was started Nov. 25, and will include a two-car attached garage. The home is located just behind the new addition of the church.—(Photo by Teeple)

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You, Your Child And The School

By DAVID NYDICK
UPI Education Specialist

All parents should take steps to protect their children from individuals who might commit crimes against them. They needn't become panicky nor should they frighten their children. They should take normal precautions and instruct the children accordingly.

The young child tends to be friendly with everyone he meets. The criminal and deranged person take advantage of this situation. This shouldn't discourage friendliness, but should lead the child to observe several rules for his protection.

The best protection is actually prevention. Once an incident has occurred the physical or psychological harm has been done.

An older child faces similar problems. Teen-agers are more capable of protecting themselves and preventing incidents. On the other hand they are also more open to criminal attack since they are not as closely supervised. They are also outside at later hours and in more dangerous places.

Must Understand Dangers

What advice should be given to children? It is important that they understand the dangers, but should not become constantly tense and frightened. With this in mind, you should consider making the following recommendations to your child with appropriate adjustments for his age:

Never hitch hike to accept a ride from a person you do not know. Politely express thanks, but refuse the ride. If possible obtain the license number and a description of the car and person. The offer of a ride from a stranger should be reported to parents, police, or teachers.

Don't Accept Gifts

Don't take money, candy, or gifts of any kind from a stranger. The promise of some exciting gift is often used to tempt someone into an improper or dangerous act.

Avoid going with a stranger who asks for directions. It is even advisable to avoid getting into a conversation with a stranger. This would eliminate any problems.

Parents should always be informed of visits to another person's home. In addition, parents should check carefully before their children do any kind of work for a stranger.

"It is dangerous to play alone in alleys, in woods, on the beach, or in other deserted areas. Try to be with one or more friends when going to playgrounds, to movies, on hikes, etc. there is greater safety in numbers."

Don't Be Straggler

Don't stay around public toilets, schools, theaters, or other public buildings. Always leave immediately. Individuals who wish to do harm of any kind will often wait around public places looking for stragglers. If you remain in school past the normal hours arrange for your parents to pick you up. In other situations, always call

ahead, when detained for any reason.

Never allow a stranger to touch you. Parents should be told immediately of any such attempt.

It is also a good idea to report the presence of any strangers who might be loitering in a neighborhood with no apparent purpose.

Any of the above or other suspicious incidents should be reported to the police.

Children cannot be supervised all of the time. It is therefore necessary that they be instructed concerning proper safety measures.

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