

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1948

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Railroads Accused Of Hiking Rates On U.S. During War

Budget Officer Says ARA Ran Traffic Group

Charges Committee Banned Bidding

WASHINGTON, July 8 (UPI)—A federal official said today that the railroads set up a wartime super rate-making committee which eliminated competition that might have lowered the government's freight charges.

The statement was made by Frank L. Barton, transportation expert for the Budget Bureau. He appeared before a House Expenditure Subcommittee investigating the government's annual freight bill.

Mr. Barton said the super rate-making committee was known as the "traffic executives chairman's committee." He said it was established by the Association of American Railroads.

Rail Negotiations

He said the committee ostensibly was set up only to deal with emergency rate matters and problems brought up by Federal agencies. But in practice, he said, it took over negotiations frequently when the government tried to get favorable freight rates from individual rail carriers.

In effect, he said, the arrangement eliminated railroad competition "to the benefit of the railroads and the detriment of the government."

Wants FBI Report

Mr. Barton said that this arrangement permitted the committee to play one government agency against another to obtain rates favorable to the carriers.

Chairman George H. Bender (R. O.) said "about a dozen" railroad executives who served as Army or Navy officials during the war will be called before his subcommittee next month to tell their side of the story.

"I have no doubt that unreasonable rates were charged," Mr. Bender said. "I am going to ask the FBI for a full report on what action has been taken to prosecute those responsible for the overcharges."

Skeletons Found In Clambake Pits

Positions Indicate Torture of Indians

By Science Service

WASHINGTON, July 8—The old but not very elegant lyric that demands to know "Who put the overalls in Mrs. Murphy's chowder?" has a newer counterpart about a still older and grimier mystery:

Who jammed dead Indians in the Delaware clambake pits?

The Smithsonian Institution has just come into possession of several skeletons found in some four-foot-deep pits near Lewes, Del., filled with oyster and clam shells. They were not regular burials, but the distorted positions of the skeletons indicated that the dead men had been forced into holes too small for them.

Turned Up by Plows

Dutch settlements came early to this part of the Delaware coast, yet there is no trace of white men's trade-goods with any of the skeletons. The finds are therefore presumably pre-Columbian.

The pits were discovered in the course of plowing some long-uncultivated land. First thing noticed was the unusually large size of the clam and oyster shells, although they belong to the region.

James Haines, Local Brickmason, Dies

James L. Haines died today at his home, 316 N. Noble St. He was 46. A brickmason, he was born in Scottsville, Ky., and had lived here 10 years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Ruby Haines; two daughters, Mrs. Marjorie Schindler and Mrs. Edith Jefferies; a son, James K. Haines; his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Haines; two brothers, John D. and Robert Haines, and two grandchildren, all of Indianapolis.

Services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. at Moore Mortuaries' chapel, the Rev. H. H. Hazenfield conducting. Burial will be in Indianapolis.

Sylvester W. McDonald

Services for Sylvester W. McDonald, Brazil, district manager of the Southern Indiana-Illinois Michigan district of G. C. Murphy Co., who died Tuesday at the wheel of his car near Cochranton, Pa., will be held tomorrow at Punxsutawney, Pa. Burial also will be in Punxsutawney.

Mr. McDonald, who was 51, became ill while driving and crashed. He had been connected with G. C. Murphy Co. for 20 years and had maintained an office in Indianapolis three years previous to moving to Brazil last December. He was in Pennsylvania visiting his family.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn, and son Daniel 4, who were injured in the crash; two sisters, Clearfield, Pa., and a brother at McKeesport, Pa.

Tulipburgers Latest

MILWAUKEE (UPI)—The John Drees family thought the hamburger sandwiches with sliced onions tasted a little odd, but no comment was made. The next morning, Mrs. Drees discovered she had sliced up some of her husband's tulip bulbs instead of the onions.

Bows To Progress

Until about a century ago, the threads in screws and bolts were cut by hand with a file.



GOOD, OL' SUMMERTIME—The Ohio River, a sunny day and a pretty girl in shorts is all the excuse needed for an eye-taking picture. The river has its attractions, too, but it definitely is enhanced by the presence of Miss Nancy Ann McKay, a Hanover College sophomore from Madison, Ind.

City Seeks Gas For Police Cars

Council Passes Fund Transfer Ordinance

A lack of gasoline funds in the Works Board may force police cars off the streets unless the State Tax Board approves an appropriation ordinance passed by City Council last night.

The ordinance would transfer \$20,000 from the police department's salary fund to the Works Board's municipal garage fund. The garage supplies gas for the police cars.

There was some question of whether the transfer proposal would receive smooth sailing in the state board. The Indiana tax officials have indicated they are not too willing to approve transfers especially in a case like this where the transfer is from the salary fund of one department to the supply fund of another.

Blame Cut Last Year

City officials say the shortage of gasoline funds has arisen because of an insufficient appropriation by the council last year. An original request of \$75,000 for the fund by the Works Board was cut to \$50,000 in the council's budget sessions.

Meanwhile, other financial matters were taking top priority at the City Hall.

There is still an argument over issuing \$426,000 in bonds to pay last year's bills and reduce the deficit.

Stall on Bond Issue

The council last night failed to follow the recommendation of the legal department to pass the bond issue ordinance under suspension of rules. The three Republican members indicated they were against the move and none of the Democratic members were willing to attempt to push the financial ordinance through. It would have taken a unanimous vote to suspend the rules.

Republican councilmen also indicated they did not like the bond plan and would rather see the 1948 tax rate increased to pay off the deficit in one year.

Mayor Al Feeney said "the taxpayers should not be asked to shoulder all the burden of mistakes made by the last administration."

Override Mayor

In other action the council: Passed over Mayor Feeney's veto an ordinance permitting photographers to take action pictures on the streets of Indianapolis.

Authorized a routine \$750,000 temporary loan for the city general fund in anticipation of tax collections.

Zoned for business a section of the city bounded by 18th St., Sugar Grove Ave., 16th St. and Harding St. to be used by United Motors Service Division of General Motors for the construction of a warehouse and service facilities.

Allocated the \$175,067 received from the state cigarette tax for street repair and maintenance subject to the approval of the State Tax Board.

COSTLY PHONE SERVICE

For measured telephone bill in Shanghai, with 85 calls allowed, the monthly telephone bill for a subscriber is \$2.86.

Official Weather

UNITED STATES WEATHER BUREAU

July 8, 1948

Precipitation 24 hrs ending 7:30 a.m. .00

Deficiency since Jan. 1 .21.74

The following table shows the temperature in other cities:

High Low

Atlanta .97 .72

Baltimore .81 .61

Chicago .76 .51

Cincinnati .82 .61

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