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Court Agrees to Delay In Phone Toll Rate Hike

3 Judges To Hear New Plea

The Georgia Public Service Commission, in a vigorous last-minute appeal Saturday, partly wiped out a court order permitting an immediate \$4,700,000 increase in the cost of telephone service.

Superior Judge Bond Almond, who issued the original order Friday, refused a commission plea to dissolve the writ completely. But he modified his order to prevent any immediate increase in long-distance tolls.

He set a hearing Monday afternoon on the plea to rescind the entire order. Superior Judges Walter Hendrix and E. E. Andrews will sit with Almond to consider jointly the complex case.

The Southern Bell Telephone Company demands a \$4,000,000 increase in revenue in Georgia as essential to proper service.

Plus Federal taxes, the increased bill to the public would be \$4,700,000. The Commission, after 15 months deliberation, decided last week that a \$4,142,000 revenue increase would be sufficient.

The Company Friday secured a temporary order from Judge Almond putting the entire requested increase into effect at midnight Saturday.

The order presaged a sharp, possibly lengthy legal battle between the Commission and the Company.

Commission attorneys worked hastily to prepare a motion to wipe out Judge Almond's original order. In a face-to-face conference between the Judge, Commissioners and Company representatives, Judge Almond Saturday was told that his order violated legislative intent because the Commission was not consulted before the writ was issued.

A Commission decision should remain in effect, it was contended, until definite proof that it was improper.

Commission counsel contended the public would begin immediately paying increased long-distance tolls at the rate of \$500,000 annually, and that pay-station tolls never could be refunded to the public if the order was not sustained.

The Commission declared further that taxes on all telephone charges, amounting to 15 to 25 percent of the rates, never could be refunded to the public, once paid.

The Commission agreed after lively discussion that if long-distance rates were not increased at midnight, increases on residential and business phone bills probably would not be paid for several days. Thus no payments would be made under the temporary order until after the hearing at 2:30 p. m. Monday.

Acting Gov. Thompson said Saturday night he would ask Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook to represent the Georgia Public Service Commission in the litigation with the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Judge Almond's original order Continued on Page 10, Column 1



Constitution Staff Photo—Ryan Sanders

"TRAFFIC SIGNAL THAT THINKS"—Is what Police Chief G. Neal Ellis terms the new semaphore which went into operation Saturday on North Side Drive, N. W., at Arden Road. The light gives a continuous "go" signal on North Side Drive unless an approaching motorist strikes the treadle Ellis indicates on Arden Road. This trips the light for Arden Road and then the "go" signal re-appears for North Side Drive. What happens if a car leaving the intersection runs over the treadle? "Nothing," Ellis says, "this light can think."

A GREEN LIGHT WHEN YOU NEED IT

'Thinking Semaphore' in Action

By KEELER McCARTNEY

The Fulton County Commission—has the longest stretch of synchronized traffic control lights in the world.

Most of the equipment already has been delivered for the Peachtree Road system, Ellis said, and it is expected to be in operation within 60 days.

After Peachtree Road, similar safety lights will be placed in South and West Fulton County, Ellis said, as well as other dangerous intersections on North Side Drive.

This system is the same that Ellis vainly attempted to secure for the City of Atlanta several years ago while serving as Atlanta's traffic chief. After being named Chief of County Police, he immediately proposed the system for the street.

The new light at Arden and North Side, North Side gives a green signal for work will begin immediately on a 45 seconds on North Side Drive continuous system for Peachtree and 25 seconds on Arden Road in Road leading from the city limits, road past Buckhead. Electronic control traffic approaches on Arden Road, pany representatives say this will

Tech's Atchley Phones From Coast

Solution to the week-old mystery of a brilliant Georgia Tech student after Richard C. Atchley telephoned his mother and Tech officials from San Diego, Calif.

Her 24 year-old son got in touch with his home after reading a newspaper story of his disappearance, his mother, Mrs. Eugene C. Atchley, advised Dean George C. Griffin of Georgia Tech, from her home.

Police said a man answering Atchley's description had been given free lodging at the San Diego YMCA.

Mrs. Atchley advanced the theory that the campus leader had suffered a temporary breakdown, Dean Griffin disclosed.

"He has apparently recovered," the Tech official added, "and we hope that he will resume his studies here as early as possible."

Young Atchley's father said from Kansas City that the Tech Senior would be back at Tech not later than Tuesday.

His son did not reveal in the telephone conversation to his family, Atchley reported, why he left Atlanta.

The father continued, "I failed to learn from him how long he had been in San Diego, but I do know that he went by plane. He also will fly back to Atlanta. He said he was OK and had money. I telegraphed him some more money, however."

"We only got to talk with him a short while. He said he was feeling fine and sounded perfectly normal. It was a combination of overwork with his studies and a reaction from penicillin he had taken."

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Industrial Shutdown Looms In N. Y. C. Ban on Oil Use

NEW YORK, Jan. 31—(UP)—Mayor William O'Dwyer announced Saturday a priority system for the distribution of fuel oil which may force all nonessential industries in the nation's largest city to close.

Following a meeting at City Hall with representatives of eight major oil companies, O'Dwyer announced: "There is not enough oil in the city, or available to the city, to supply every user."

Therefore, he added, oil would go only to dwellings, hospitals, institutions, public utilities, transportation and communication, food and restaurant stores, school and health facilities.

All other users were to be denied oil after 5 p. m., when the Mayor's directive took effect.

Oil distributing trucks will be escorted by policemen to guarantee that no one not on the priority list receives fuel oil.

Asked to name specifically what places would not receive fuel oil the Mayor said: "Anything not on the list." Then he added that the ban included theaters, "because they're not on the list."

This ruled out the possibility that office buildings, theaters, recreation centers such as pool rooms and bowling alleys or saloons would receive oil.

Appeals for fuel, the Mayor said, can be made to an advisory board, set up to decide on priorities. It will have four members: Fire Commissioner Frank Quivley, Purchasing Commissioner John Splain, Public Works Commissioner Fred Zermulhen and Health Commissioner Harry S. Mustard.



Associated Press Wirephoto

PUP CHEWS THROUGH HOUSE—William Disler, County Dog Agent, removes a young cocker spaniel that somehow became locked in an empty house in Lansing, Mich. The pup chewed its way through a shingle siding, upper left, on the second floor and attracted attention by sticking its head out through the hole and barking.

Thompson for Over-Rail Way

Acting Gov. Thompson announced Saturday a plan to build a multi-million dollar highway over the entire downtown Atlanta railway gulch from Spring Street Viaduct, N. W., to Washington Street Viaduct, S. W.

Thompson said he had taken steps to use Federal and State funds to build the six-block-long highway and until the outcome of this effort is determined he is withholding the State's permission for the City of Atlanta to cover only one block of the stretch—from Whitehall to Pryor, S. W.—by a parkway plaza.

At the same time, Mayor Hartsfield expressed gratification for Thompson's efforts, adding that if a new highway or complete plaza can be built over the entire Spring-to-Washington gulch, the City is all for it and will lend its fullest co-operation.

Meantime, co-operation was extended from another quarter. Ben Massell, Atlanta real estate man, who earlier in the day had announced plans to construct a building on the east side of the Broad Street viaduct said that this project will be held up 90 days to see if Thompson is able to secure Federal aid for the highway project.

Massell estimated the highway plan will cost \$10,000,000.

From still another quarter came a statement from W. S. Hackworth, President of the N. C. & St. L. Railway Company, lessees of the State in part of the railroad gulch, pledging full cooperation in the project provided that the N. C. & St. L. is paid for the rights it has in the property, which, he added, is only fair.

Mayor Hartsfield said that he understands that is what Thompson proposes to do—pay the railroad a fair rate for its air rights over the area.

Before Thompson made his proposal, the City's plan regarding a plaza called for covering only the area from Whitehall to Pryor Streets. Mayor Hartsfield said the Thompson plan would be inconsistent with this plan, since the only reason the whole project wasn't tackled was one of

difficulty in getting air rights and sufficient funds.

"If this new plan can be put through," declared Hartsfield, "we will heartily co-operate, but if not, we shall expect all parties to co-operate with the city in its effort to do at least a portion of the area between Whitehall and Pryor Streets."

Thompson's plan calls for securing accumulating Federal funds for urban areas. He said he wants to explore the possibility of covering the entire downtown gulch before signing an agreement on one block only.

Thompson said he preferred a wide highway to a small park, since it would help solve Atlanta's perplexing traffic problem, and would speed up the flow of traffic on state highways through this congested city. He estimated such a wide street also would provide parking space for more than 1,000 automobiles.

The proposal might mark a precedence in highway construction if it became necessary to condemn property in order to clear the right-of-way. There are business buildings located on the Whitehall Street Viaduct, and Massell has a lease on the properties and air rights over the state-owned railroad. Thompson expressed the belief that the government can condemn for air rights since these are properties.

Thompson said he has asked State Highway Chairman John Beasley to contact the Public Roads Administration and determine if urban funds for public road construction could be used on this project. He also asked for an estimate of the cost.

Since State highways follow Spring Street and Washington Street, a new highway over the gulch would provide a connecting link for State highways and move

State travel faster, Thompson said. From the City's viewpoint, he concluded, a wide street with wide sidewalks would open an entirely new business area in the heart of Atlanta.

The building which Massell announced for the Broad Street viaduct would be a one-story steel-and-concrete structure designed

GROUNDHOG TO RESTORE WASH DAY?

Fair, Warmer Monday Seen as Sleet 'Poops'

Atlanta can hang out the wash Monday, Groundhog Day. Some relief from the capers of the elements is seen for today, the U. S. Weather Bureau predicts, but it'll be Monday before "fair and warmer" becomes the official forecast for an entire day.

By stages the thermometer is expected to behave in this manner:

The 25-degree low this morning will give way to a 38-degree high this afternoon. The mercury will dip back to 24 degrees before Monday at daylight, but will leap up to 45 notches later in the day.

Snow that laid a thin layer over Atlanta buildings Saturday is "out" for the immediate future, the weatherman says. Also vanished is the possibility of rain and sleet for the immediate future, he added.

While rain followed by snow flurries belted the city, the mercury operated Saturday on a 28 to 39 degree range. Several automobile crackups were reported on

rain-soaked streets. Snow was reported falling as far south as Macon during the day and continuing early Saturday night in North Georgia above Ball Grounds, Rains swept over South Georgia. North Georgia roads near B' Ridge and Canton were iced on Saturday night and "unsafe" to travel, the Georgia State Patrol warned.

Although the weatherman did not compile complete statistics for January, he delved deep enough into his records to pronounce the month much colder than usual.

Only eight of the 31 days had automobile crackups were reported on

New \$1,000,000 Plant Set For Atlanta Paper Company

The Atlanta Paper Company will celebrate its 80th birthday anniversary this year by building itself a brand, spanking new million-dollar plant.

This was announced Saturday by Arthur L. Harris, youthful President of the firm, which his grandfather, Isaac Liebman, founded in 1866.

The new plant will be a modern one-story structure of 200,000 square feet and will be built this year on one of several sites under consideration. It will replace the Company's present manufacturing facilities at Moore, King and Hunter Streets.

At the same time, Harris reported that the Company enjoyed its most successful year in 1947. Sales amounted to more than \$13,000,000, an 18 1/2 percent increase over the previous year.

Harris said a preliminary un-

audited tabulation reveals the net profit for the year will be equivalent to \$1.77 per share as compared to \$1.30 per share for 1946.

Harris said under the new building plan all of the Company's manufacturing operations will be housed under one roof on a straight-line production basis.

The Atlanta Paper Company's history dates back to 1868, when it was known as the Elise-May Paper Company, located at Pryor and Mitchell Streets.

Liebman purchased the firm in 1886, changing its name to the Atlanta Paper Company. He became its first president. Ten years later,

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LOUISE SUGGS PUSHES EARLY LEAD TO VICTORY OVER DOROTHY KIRBY, 5-4

Louise Suggs, firing subpar golf in the morning round for a 5-up lead, played steadily enough Saturday afternoon to maintain the advantage and whip her fellow-townswoman, Dorothy Kirby, 5 and 4, in the finals of the Helen Lee Doherty tournament at Miami.

It was the fourth time in the last eight months the two Atlantans have reached the finals of a major tournament and each time Louise has been the victor.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE And Here Is What Came Upon It

What If They'd Bought 15 Cents Worth PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 31—(UP)—Seven young men entered Isidore Lashinsky's grocery Saturday and purchased 10 cents' worth of pistachio nuts.

A half hour later they returned, knocked Lashinsky down, hit him on the head with a loaf of bread, tipped over stacks of goods on the counter and tossed cakes around the store.

They explained on the way out that they didn't like the flavor of the nuts.

Turns Back on Cold, Cold World MILWAUKEE—(P)—Hubert Hilton, 40, is back in the heated house of correction from which he walked away last October while serving a term for larceny.

"It's too cold," he told officers when he gave himself up.

District Judge Harvey Neelen gave Hilton 30 extra days to remain warm.

Woodsman, Spare That Hickory Hash NEW YORK—(UP)—Soon you may be eating wood, the President of a large paper concern predicts.

John H. Hinman, President of the International Paper Company, said it was "quite possible" that edibles could be produced from trees.

"The production of such foodstuffs is now technically feasible," he said. "But it is not yet

Scout 'Crash' In Tennessee

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 31—(P)—The Tennessee Highway Patrol here said Saturday night it had heard a large plane had crashed in flames near Tiptonville, Tenn., but hours later no wreckage had been found.

No commercial or military planes were reported overdue in the area.

Two search parties from the Lake County Sheriff's office scoured the isolated area where the crash was reported and found nothing.

I've Said It, And I'm Glad

Why do some people who have bad colds get right up in your face and tell you that they have a bad cold. They surely are not mean enough to want to give the disease to you. However, that is exactly what they are doing when they sit right down by you and begin telling you all about their bad cold.

They are scattering cold germs right at you when they do this. It would be fine if people with bad colds could be quarantined or else have a sign on their back stating "Danger—I have a bad cold. I do not want to give it away to you. Stay away and I will, too."

JOHN S. GRIFFITH, Atlanta.

And do you, too, have a gripe? Send it to "The Gripe Editor," The Atlanta Constitution, P. O. Box 4357, Atlanta 2, Ga., and we'll help you get it off your chest. But keep it short—not more than 150 words.

MAYBE

You've been looking for some tickets To a concert or a play? You've heard they're all sold out, perhaps. Well—see our ads today. I'm not saying you will find them, but I wouldn't hurt to try . . . Besides you'll see some bargains I know you'll want to buy!

CONSTITUTION WANT ADS WALNUT 6565

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WCOW DISHES UP BIG NAMES TODAY

It's BIG NAME day again for WCOW, the station you get FIRST on your dial.

There's Raymond Massey and Humphrey Bogart and Edward Arnold and Sammy Kaye and Winchell and Pearson and Fidler and Parsons—just look at the radio page for times!

And at 11 this morning, the Rev. J. L. Baggett, of the First Baptist Church of College Park, begins a series of sermons over The Constitution station. For the Bible on the air tune in at 6:30 tonight for "The Greatest Story Ever Told." It's all at 55 on your dial.

Flames Consume Body of Gandhi As Fires of Violence Lick at India

Kolhapur, 300 miles farther south.

Large crowds wandered through Bombay's streets attacking shops and offices of persons known to be members of Mahasabha, the extremist Hindu organization to which Gandhi's assassin, Narayan Vinayak Godse, belonged.

Police imposed a curfew to curb looting and arson. Casualties were comparatively light chiefly because police fired only when necessary to save their own lives.

In the suburbs of Dadar and Hamim, which are almost completely Hindu, mobs set fire to the homes of Mahasabha workers and prevented fire brigades from quenching the flames. The mobs also stoned police. Shops were looted. Bonfires smoldered in the streets—the remains of loot too heavy or not valuable enough to carry away.

In one Bombay mill area, a truckload of Hindus stopped in the main road and began stoning buildings belonging to Mahasabhanites. "It is almost impossible to stop looting," a Bombay police inspector said, "because we can't fire for fear of hitting little children who are everywhere."

But Bombay police were forced to open fire on Girgaum Road to disperse mobs attacking a Mahasabhanite office and similar situations were developing throughout the provincial capital.

Bombay police arrested 15 per-

sons believed to belong to the group that plotted Gandhi's assassination. Officials said it was thought the group conducted a "lottery" to decide which member would be the trigger man to still the Indian leader's powerful voice.

Gandhi's assassin was described by persons who know him as a "maniac." He was editor of the militant extreme anti-Congress Party newspaper Hindu Rashtra in Poona.

The assassin, a medium-built, sharp-featured Hindu, meanwhile sat, unconcerned, in New Delhi's Parliament Street Jail where secret service investigators questioned him continuously, seeking the names of accomplices.

"All he says," a police official told the United Press, "is 'I considered I should shoot him.'"

A reliable source reported, however, that Godse told police he was present in New Delhi at the Marina Hotel when a plot to bomb Gandhi miscarried Jan. 20. He reportedly said five associates fled when that assassination plot failed.

Rioting broke out in Poona, and first reports said two persons were injured and three buildings set afire. Troops were called out to quell infuriated mobs which were attacking alleged Mahasabhanites.

A curfew was imposed on Poona's western sector. At Kolhapur a mob looted and

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