

Should Post Office Be Self-Supporting Company?

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

WASHINGTON -- A special Presidential Commission has suggested the U.S. Postal Services be taken over by a self-supporting, federally-owned corporation.

The plan would drop the post office as a cabinet post, and would make all appointments and promotions non-political.

The proposal follows recent cutbacks in postal services being felt in all areas of the nation.

Key members of Congress immediately expressed doubt about the plan but President Johnson said the plan deserves study.

Postmaster General Marvin Watson said he would appoint a top-level task force to study the report.

WASHINGTON -- The Poor People's campaign will send delegates to both national conventions next month, Rev. David Abernathy said.

He said they would mount no demonstrations at either gathering of national delegates. But, he cautioned, the group would work to defeat congressmen unfriendly to their demands.

NEW YORK -- Billionaire Howard Hughes' bid for 43 per cent control of the American Broadcasting Corp. failed by 400,000 shares.

The publicly-shy reclusive received 1.6 million shares for his tender offer issued through a broker; he wanted to buy two million shares at \$74.25 each.

WASHINGTON -- Sen. Edward M. Kennedy will be the chairman of the Massachusetts delegation to the Democratic Convention in Chicago. He was elected at an organizational meeting.

WASHINGTON -- The Senate Appropriations Committee has sent to the floor a revised public works bill totaling \$4.7 billion.

The amount was about \$180 million under President Johnson's request, but \$228 more than that of the House.

WASHINGTON -- Federal aid to education bills are now before the House and Senate. Federal aid to education through 1971 at a cost of \$14 billion cleared the Senate early in the week.

In the House, lawmakers voted 309-0 on a \$1.2 billion budget for a two-year program of vocational education.

In each case the other chamber of Congress is considering legislation along the same lines. Differences will have to be worked out in conference committee.

MIAMI -- The ninth hijacking this year took a National Airlines commercial jet to Cuba when a man armed with a grenade threatened to blow the plane up.

He seized control of the plane over Texas, and held control while the craft refueled at New Orleans.

The DC-8, with 57 passengers and seven crewmen, landed in Havana. Normally the crews and passengers are returned quickly, but the apparent illness of a crewman or a passenger delayed the return.

MEMPHIS -- The accused assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. dropped his appeal in the extradition order that would have taken him from London.

American authorities here said the next news of James Earl Ray will probably be that he has arrived in Memphis. Ray's quick and secret return brings to a close a chase that began three months ago.

The 40-year-old prisoner, an escapee from a Missouri prison, denies he killed King.

GREENSBORO, N.C. -- Three teen-age girls were freed by police after being held hostage for 24 hours by Edward Thompson Jr., an accused kidnaper and thief.

The father of one of the girls and the mother of another were found shot to death earlier.

Thompson, arrested by Greensboro police, was wanted on six counts of kidnaping, three of rape, and one each of armed robbery, car theft and assault on an officer.

SANFORD, Maine -- Ralph Goodwin held his wife hostage for more than six hours and then fatally shot her, apparently accidentally, while holding a gun to her head.

Police say Goodwin emerged from a house to talk to neighbors and, tripped and fell down the steps, discharging the gun.

Goodwin, an unemployed ma-

chinitist, had locked himself inside the home of his brother, after forcing his wife to accompany him to Maine.

"I know I'm sick. I know I've done wrong," Goodwin said moments after the shooting.

PITTSBURGH -- While the war in Vietnam must be stopped, urban racial riots are an

even more pressing problem, Sen. Eugene McCarthy said in Pittsburgh this week.

McCarthy was speaking to four young Negroes in an on-the-spot exchange. They challenged his civil rights credentials as he toured an art gallery in the heart of a Negro section.

"I think you've got to stop

the war, but the domestic thing is much more important," he said.

Secret Service body guards continued their close watch on McCarthy, as well as all other presidential contenders.

PITTSBURGH -- Local steel union leaders around the country predicted 98 per cent

of the United Steel Workers members would vote July 23 to strike the nation's basic steel industry.

The vote will be the first in history for the 450,000 men but does not necessarily mean workers will leave their jobs August 1.

"We are saying quite frankly that time is running out," L.W.

Abel, president of the unions said.

Industry-wide bargaining began the first week in June, but no progress on wages has been made, according to Abel.

Local leaders are even more vocal. "The companies have a shock coming. Our guys are ready to go," one said.

PHILADELPHIA -- George Wallace's third party bid for the presidency can hurt Republican chances, says Richard M. Nixon.

Nixon conceded Wallace might win Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and even Georgia.

But he stated flatly that Wal-

lace would have no leverage in determining who would be president and said that, if the race goes to the House, southerners would vote for a Democrat, not Wallace.

The House could be forced to decide the presidency if neither major party won a majority in the electoral college.

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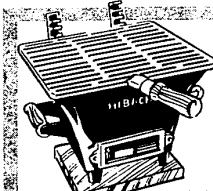
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