

Antitrust Charges Made On Firm Price Fixing

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Governmental agencies and private utilities, stirred by the bust-up of electrical firm price-fixing and bid-rigging, yesterday studied prospects of recovering millions of dollars in alleged overcharges through antitrust civil suits.

The threat of massive legal actions, made by officials from coast to coast, came in the wake of the successful federal prosecution on antitrust charges of 29 of America's biggest electrical manufacturers and 45 of their top executives.

The companies were fined a total of \$1,787,000 for the illegal conspiracy to destroy free competition in the sale of equipment used to light homes and power battleships, among everything else electric.

The 44 executives—one will be sentenced later — were fined \$137,500 and seven were ordered jailed for 30 days. Total fines imposed by U.S. Dist. Judge J. Cullen Ganey, in the mass sentencing Monday and Tuesday, were \$1,924,500.

President John F. Kennedy noted at his news conference yesterday the efforts made by the electrical firms to defraud the government. He condemned "conflicts of interest and monopolistic practices, as well as immoral practices conducted in the American business community."

The President suggested business might well consider establishing a code of ethical practices, just as unions have done. Speaking out for the unions, James B. Carey, president of the International Electrical Workers said if the major electrical companies were capable of criminal behavior against the government they won't hesitate to act the same way against their employees.

George Kennan Named Yugoslav Ambassador

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Kennedy has chosen George F. Kennan, former U.S. envoy to the Soviet Union, to be ambassador to Yugoslavia.

Kennedy also announced the selection of Livingston T. Merchant as ambassador to Canada.

Merchant served as envoy to Canada and later as undersecretary of state for political affairs. Kennan now is a professor at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University.

Chimp Stars in Space Film

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ham the chimpanzee lived up to his name, hamming it up for all he was worth in a motion picture of his recent rocket ride into space.

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JFK Gives Views In Four Areas

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS President John F. Kennedy, yesterday in his news conference, gave his views in these fields—

• Civil Rights—Kennedy once more pledged—as he did in his campaign—that he will use the "moral authority, or position of influence of the president," to help bring compliance with court orders on the racial integration of schools.

"I want to make sure that whatever I do or say does have some beneficial effect and, therefore, it is a matter which we are considering," the President said.

• Tax Reduction—Kennedy said he does not plan to ask Congress now to cut taxes as a recession antidote. The administration will take another look in April, he said, to see whether recovery is in sight.

But he indicated that, if he does later ask a temporary tax reduction to spur business, it probably will amount to \$4 to \$5 billion. That would represent about a 10 per cent cut in individual income taxes.

• Economic Program—Regardless of the coming April reappraisal of the economy, Kennedy said, Congress should act promptly on the economic proposals already made, "most especially the unemployment compensation payments." He has asked an emergency, federally financed 15-week extension of jobless pay.

• U.S.-Soviet—The President said Soviet activities in Laos and the Congo are among the problems that must be solved before further progress can be made toward Soviet-American understanding.

Unemployment Rises By 71,000 in Penna.

HARRISBURG (AP) — Unemployment increased by 71,000 to 504,000 persons between December and January, the State Labor and Industry Department reported yesterday.

During the week, a total of 293,607 checks amounting to \$9,261,094 were issued.

State Senate Passes Discrimination Bill

HARRISBURG (AP)—A previously defeated proposal to outlaw national, racial or religious discrimination in the sale or rental of some housing was revived and approved by the Senate yesterday.

Five Republicans joined with the 25-member Democratic majority to push the proposal across 30 to 16. It now goes to the House where it is expected to win quick approval.

A measure to ease referenda requirements for Sunday liquor sales in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia hotels was barely approved 26 to 20 as senators crossed party lines. It, too, goes to the House.

Action on the two bills consumed most of the brief session. The Senate adjourned until Monday, deferring until next week at least a decision on Gov. David L. Lawrence's \$105.7 million in business tax proposals.

The House met in token session to permit Speaker H. G. Andrews to sign bills hiking the five-cent gasoline tax to seven cents a gallon, and increasing the borrowing capacity of the Highway and Bridge Authority by \$300 million. These measures and a number of lesser bills were approved by the Senate Tuesday night.

All now go to Gov. Lawrence for his signature. He is expected to sign them into law in a day or two.

The \$74 million increase in the gasoline and diesel fuels taxes go

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