

Bus Firm Fuel Tax Exemption Plan Likely Doomed

By WILLIAM H. WILLIAMSON City Hall Reporter
A plan to avert the cancellation of bus service here by obtaining an exemption from all state gasoline and diesel fuel taxes for the Portland Coach Co., may be on the rocks before it's ever officially outlined to the company.

any further gas tax exemption for the company without a complete study of the whole situation, and the effect that such a move would have statewide.
The tax exemption idea was worked out by a subcommittee of the Area Committee on Transportation (ACT). It was kept a secret, but a reliable source brought it to the attention of the press Friday.

mean a saving of about \$13,000. This is much less than the \$100,000 in increased revenues being sought by the bus company.
It has proposed that area cities double their contribution for subsidized school bus riders, and pick up the tab for students who now ride at their own expense. This would mean a cost to Portland and South Portland alone of more than \$100,000.

officials Monday, at a special meeting in City Hall. But he said he couldn't talk about other specific proposals before that time.
And he said he is still hopeful that state help of one sort or another will still be forthcoming, even if the tax exemption plan falls through.
Snow said the likelihood that legislators will be wary of a tax exemption move now doesn't mean that they don't want to help solve the problem through other means — all of which mean money.

and that he feels Childs will agree with him that a gas tax exemption without thorough study would be unwise.
KNOW SAID, HOWEVER, he is sure all legislators will be anxious to find emergency funds to ease the situation until a permanent solution can be worked out.
"Is it possible that elimination of the gas tax may be the ultimate solution," Snow said, "but any such move would require much more study than has been possible in such a short time."

possible to grant the Portland Coach Co. such an exemption without granting all local bus companies in the state the same tax break.
And he said this would raise a question as to whether or not intercity buses shouldn't also be exempted.
For years, many communities have tried to get gas tax exemptions for their school buses without success. Although Snow didn't mention it, this question too could be reform if the ACT plan is implemented.

Highway Commission. Any state reduction in these could have a detrimental effect on carefully budgeted highway projects over the next two years, he said.
Gov. John H. Reed was briefed on the gas tax exemption Thursday by Portland Corporation Counsel Barrett J. Hour, when it was still a well kept secret. He refused to divulge its details then, and again declined comment Friday.
But Reed apparently was in favor of the proposal. After conferring with Hour on Thursday, he said he felt it was a continuation on Page 11; 4th Col.

President Views Damage Caused By Hurricane In New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—Hurricane Betsy swirled north into Arkansas Friday leaving behind a growing toll of death and destruction in New Orleans, Baton Rouge and along the Gulf Coast.
President Johnson flew to New Orleans with members of the Louisiana congressional delegation to view the damage wrought by the vicious storm.

with eight killed by the storm earlier in Florida.
Many were missing and the death toll in Louisiana was expected to rise.
President Johnson's plane circled over the stricken city to give the presidential group a look at the damage. When the plane landed at New Orleans International Airport, the President said, "I have put aside all other problems on my desk to come personally to Louisiana."

officials with him saw a city already cluttered with wreckage and debris and trying to get back to normal.
"I have come here to pledge the full resources of the federal government to Louisiana to help repair as best we can the injury done by nature," Johnson said.
The President rode into the city from the airport in a closed car with a police escort. He got a close look at the damage.
There were few people on the

streets to cheer or even to look at the President. They were too busy trying to get back into business or to clean up their homes, many of which still were without electricity or gas.
It was a sad sight.
Acres of the city were flooded at one time. Three thousand boatshoeders and their families were trapped by flood waters.
A late report from the devastated Gulf Coast said the Louisiana resort town of Grand Isle was 90 per cent destroyed.
Some 81 children were safe at a Coast Guard station.
The little community of Shell Beach, on Lake Borgne east of New Orleans, was reported wiped out by wind and water.
At least 150 residents were removed to safety Thursday night.

assumed drowned aboard a sink-destroyed. An unidentified man was killed by a collapsing house in Marrero, La. Two persons died in a two-car crash on rain-soaked U. S. 90 near Delc. La. One man was found dead in a shack in storm-battered Baton Rouge.
Gov. John J. McKeithen surveyed the stricken region by plane as Betsy roiled north. His winds down to 50 miles an hour as it approached eastern Arkansas.
The mayors of New Orleans and Baton Rouge asked that their cities be declared major disaster areas.
"The sugar cane crop looks awful," officials reported in Baton Rouge. "The stalks are twisted in all directions."

For example, an \$800,000 cane crop at the Angola State Penitentiary was believed wiped out. The 2,300 prisoners all survived Betsy unharmed.
A third of New Orleans was flooded and rains continued into the night. People trapped in attics and on rooftops in some flooded areas along Lake Pontchartrain were being taken out in amphibious vehicles. Boat-owners were urged to join the rescue fleet.
National Guardmen backed the Continued on Page 11; 3rd Col.



Betsy's Erratic Course

Pakistani Push Dims Hope Of Quick Victory By India

NEW DELHI, India (AP)—India's hopes of a quick victory with Pakistani officials Friday over Pakistan dimmed Saturday.
Defense Minister Y. B. Chavan acknowledged the Indian reversal before a combat Pakistani artillery was disclosed that Pakistani artillery was shelling Ferozepore, 10 miles inside India's Punjab State.

Although Chavan did not say so, his statement appeared to support Pakistani claims that Pakistani troops had broken across the border in a drive aimed at the Sikh holy city of Amritsar, 20 miles inside India and 30 miles north of Ferozepore.
The President and the other

A thousand miles to the east, Pakistani planes attacked a key air base in eastern India and Pakistani artillery opened fire in three areas near the East Pakistan-India frontier, Indian officials said.
After nightfall, an estimated 300 Pakistani paratroopers dropped east of Darjeeling in Assam State along the main supply route to Indian troops facing the Chinese Communist in the northeast frontier, an Assam government spokesman said.
The paratroopers landed between Gauhati, a major port on the Brahmaputra River, and Shillong, Assam's capital, the spokesman said. Other Pakistani airborne troops were reported to have landed around Shillong and near Bagdora, in Indian West Bengal.

Most of the storm victims drowned. Coast Guard planes sighted two men dead aboard a drifting boat. Another man was dead aboard a third vessel, the Coast Guard reported.
Mrs. Joan Mayaux, 25 of New Orleans, drowned in flood waters at Franklin Ave. She was reported carrying a baby nephew. The child was not found and was feared dead.
A crewman was lost and pre-

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By NATALIE H. TIMBERLAKE, Area Correspondent
ALPHEUS—One of the country's foremost mountain climbers, and a companion emerged Friday afternoon from a cave at the base of small Elephant Mountain here after being missing on the mountain nearly 24 hours.
Mrs. Marjann Underhill, 67, who scaled the treacherous slopes of the Matterhorn 36 years ago without a guide, and a companion, Miss Louise Baldwin, were picked up by a motorcade as they were walking along Route 17, north of Roxbury Notch, ending a search which began late Thursday.

U. Of M. Working On Plans To Expand Into Dow Base
By RALPH A. BARNES
ORONO, Maine (UPI)—University of Maine officials are working on plans to acquire certain land and buildings at Dow Air Force Base in Bangor for future use as student housing, dining, classroom and other facilities.

Rockland Gets 3rd Loan To Help Develop Harbor

Prose Herald News Bureau
WASHINGTON — A \$120,000 Small Business Administration loan has been granted Knox Barge, Inc. of Rockland, Me.
The loan is the third by the SBA to help Rockland develop its harbor; the first was \$241,000 to build an ocean barge terminal, the second was \$200,000 to build a grain feed mill.

operative Farmers Division of United Cooperative Farmers.
ANOTHER PHASE is to have one or more large barges which will be sent to southern ports for advantageous purchases of poultry feed grains which will be ground into feeds at the Rockland mill.
The barge company is headed by John H. McLean, Rockland Harbor Master. Bertram Snow recently inspected a suitable all-metal barge on the Great Lakes which could handle grain in amounts needed for the mill.

Veteran Woman Climber, Pal Safely Off Mountain

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News, Features On The Inside

The Weather
Fair and mild Saturday, cloudy, cool, rain Sunday.
Full report on Page 16.
NEGRO CHILDREN PEACEFULLY ENROLLED at six predominantly white schools in Boston.
U.S. B52s, making their 21st raid of the Viet Nam war, hit suspected Viet Cong stronghold in central highlands.



Quelling Blaze At Sea
Coast Guardmen show how they dealt with a fire at sea off Portland's State Pier Friday afternoon for the benefit of the Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters, holding their annual convention here. The cutter put men aboard the smoking small craft and then backed off to bring its high pressure pumper into action.
Today's Chuckle
Sign on the back of a truck: "Please don't hug me. I'm going steady."

U Thant Getting Nowhere On Kashmir Truce Quest

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan (AP)—U. Thant made no headway in his quest for a truce in the first phase of his urgent mission to Pakistan and India.
When the U.N. secretary-general emerged from talks with Pakistani leaders, a spokesman said: "We do not appear to be closer to a cease-fire than we were when we last met."

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Prayer For Today

Drive Teacher, as the many millions of young people enroll this fall for another school session.
The guidance and direction will be needed every day.
We thank thee for the greatest of all wealth.
May teachers and parents join in prayer to make the presence felt through individual education even if formal worship is not possible.

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