

Around the Nation

Justice Department Ends Inquiry on Gov. Thomson

CONCORD, N.H., Aug. 27 (UPI)—William Shaheen, United States Attorney, said today that the Justice Department had concluded an investigation into allegations that the administration of Gov. Meldrim Thomson Jr. of New Hampshire misused Federal funds. He said that no further action would be taken.

Mr. Shaheen said that the Justice Department had been reviewing transcripts of grand jury testimony taken May 31 and June 22 from several former and current Thomson aides.

Three of the Governor's top aides, Marshall Cobleigh, Jay McDuffee and Peter Thomson, the Governor's son and administrative assistant, were among those who testified.

The allegations were made by a former energy office worker, Peter Weeks of Portsmouth. He charged that employees who were paid with Federal funds did political work for the Governor. Several Federal agencies conducted their own investigations into the allegations last year, but found no evidence of wrongdoing.

The Justice Department began its investigation in December after the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced it was reopening the investigation.

Marshall Asks Farm Union To Back Carter Plans

FRESNO, Calif., Aug. 27 (AP)—Labor Secretary Ray Marshall urged the United Farm Workers of America today to support Administration proposals that would grant amnesty to some illegal aliens and include farm workers under the National Labor Relations Act.

Mr. Marshall told delegates to the union's third constitutional convention that President Carter's amnesty plan, would be "a first step in dealing with this difficult problem."

At a press conference with Mr. Marshall, Cesar Chavez, the United Farm Workers president, said the union does not support the amnesty plan because it would require alien farmers to register but would give them no guarantee of amnesty.

Mr. Marshall said the Government wanted next year to remove the exemption of farms within 10 or fewer employees from the Occupational Safety and Health Act and extend coverage of farm workers under the National Labor Relations Act, a move the union also opposes.

The Labor Secretary said he favored changes in the act to make it "more expensive for people to violate the law rather than obey it."

11 Arrested for Selling Millions in Stolen Drugs

Special to The New York Times

DALLAS, Aug. 27—Federal agents arrested 11 persons yesterday and charged them with being involved in a drug ring that annually sold millions of dollars of drugs stolen from pharmaceutical concerns. Six of the 11 were also charged with selling heroin and cocaine.

Ed Heath, deputy regional director of the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration, said that three of the 11 arrested were top officials of pharmaceutical distributing concerns in Dallas and Phoenix. Some of those arrested were salesmen for the drug concerns and others were pharmacists. All 11 were arraigned before Federal Magistrate Patrick Muloy and released on cash bonds ranging as high as \$50,000.

Federal investigation of the drug trafficking operation began in November 1976, and involved the selling of amphetamines and barbiturates taken from the pharmaceutical companies and several pharmacies in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Mr. Heath said.

U.S. May Allow Adding Scraps and Bones to Meat

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27 (AP)—The Agriculture Department intends to again propose that meat processors be allowed to add ground-up bone and scraps of meat to hot dogs and other processed food.

Almost a year ago, after consumer groups obtained a court decision, the department canceled its interim approval for the use of "mechanically deboned meat" in food products and withdrew plans for changes in Federal regulations to permanently allow the practice. But a 12-member panel of government experts has given its approval for the process to be resumed.

Carol Tucker Foreman, Assistant Agriculture Secretary, said that the proposed rules would probably be announced next month.

Department officials had argued last year that mechanical deboning allowed the salvage of much beef and pork attached to neck bones, ribs and other parts of cattle and hog carcasses. But critics said that the process resulted in so much finely ground bone in the product that it might be harmful to health.

Judge Limits Trial Scope In School Bus Kidnapping

OAKLAND, Calif., Aug. 27 (UPI)—An Alameda County Superior Court judge has ruled that only the injuries to the bus driver and four children could be considered in the trial of the three confessed Chowchilla, Calif., school bus kidnapers.

Judge Leo Deegan also yesterday set Nov. 1 for the beginning of the nonjury trial to determine whether the three defendants inflicted bodily harm on their victims. James Schoenfeld, 25 years old, of Atherton, Calif.; his brother, Richard, 22, and Frederick Woods 4th, 25, Portola Valley, Calif., pleaded guilty to charges of kidnaping Ed Ray, a bus driver, and 26 Chowchilla school children for ransom.

The ransom charge carries a penalty of life in prison, but the defendants would be eligible for parole in seven years. The bodily harm charge carries a life term without the possibility of parole.

Defense lawyers argued that "mental anguish and anxiety" suffered by the victims did not constitute "bodily harm" under California law. The judge, however, said that such arguments were "premature."