## MERCER COUNTY

## SEPTEMBER 9, 1974- SEPTEMBER 16

- A. MILLER, RICHARD PennDot employe and Mercer C. Demo. Chairman
  - Held controlling interest in the now definite Connoguenessing Trucking Co. falsigied informatio in 1972 to get State snow removal contract, hid ownership in State disclosure forms, did not comply with the law requiring the owner to comply with the law register with the State.
  - 2. Both Miller and Connoguenessing are under investigation by Department of Justice.
  - 3. Miller returned \$410.00 to PennDot and apparent overpayment This adjustment was due to work performed, not by C., but by another Mercer Co. contributor. Ronald Arnold denies his truck was ever used by Miller's Company.
  - Ownership disclosures show Mrs. Linda H. Childs as owner and President. Mrs. Childs, a family friend of Miller, stated she never owned any part of the trucking company.
  - 5. Howery, and Linda Childs testified that Miller did manage two dump trucks for them for 5 months in 1972. They stated Miller never told them of the Connoguenessing Trucking Company.
  - 6. During a 11 month period leasing to the State, the Childs earned \$9,->10,000. Miller was paid \$450. for managing fees. The company received \$2,817.00 for non-bid snow removal with Penn-Dot in 1973.
  - 7. Miller later testified that the erroneous contracts were the result of a "mistake" because he merely filled in blank copies with Mrs. Child's name under their earlier agreement. He also state information had been filled in by Lloyd Harpst, now deceased, then district PennDot superintendent.
- B. ROLLINSON, THOMAS Contractor LARK, DONALD, JR. - Contractor HAZEN, GEORGE - Contractor Dout, Robert E. - Contractor
  - All stated they were asked in 1972 to contribute 5% to 10% of State rental fees. The requests came from three Co. assistant highway superintendents, Jack Beshwick, Hutch Monteson, Herbert Vanderslice.
  - 2. Freind stated that the \$1,700 in cash payments were not reflected in the Democratic Party financial disclosures.

- C. AMON, FRANK PennDot foreman
  - Testified he asked a Mercer County Contracter (John McDowell) to contribute \$200.00 to the Democratic Party, under instructions from PennDot assistant superintendent John Beshwick.
    - 2. McDowell refused to pay; Beshwick ordered Amon not to call out McDowell's truck.
  - 3. In later testimony Beshwick denied asking contractors for any fixed percentage of their rental fees. He stated he was involved in fund-raising "as a Democrat, not as an assistant superintendent." He did contact lessors to contribute, but denied any pressure was involved.
- D. MONTESAN, ANTHONY "HUTCH" Suspended Highway Superintendent
  - 1. He denied allegations that he had ever pressured contractors to contribute to the Democratic Party or had threatened them with the loss of PennDot work.
  - 2. He did admit that he tried to obtain contributions of 5% of a contractors rental fees.
  - 3. Montesan was suspended in June by Secretary Kassab.