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MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

STATE CAPITOL • HELENA, MONTANA 59601 • TELEPHONE 406/449-3750

PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, LABOR AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

Place of Meeting: Senate

Date Meeting Held: 2/10/72
Hour Meeting Held: 8:10 a.m.

Committee Chairman: George B. Heliker

MINUTES OF THE Twenty Fourth MEETING OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH
WELFARE, LABOR AND INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT OF MEETING: Proposal #76

Roll Call:

George B. Heliker, Chairman	<u>Present</u>
Jack K. Ward, Vice Chairman	<u>Present</u>
Charles H. Mahoney	<u>Present</u>
Joseph H. McCarvel	<u>Present</u>
Don Scanlin	<u>Present</u>
R. J. Studer, Sr.	<u>Present</u>
William H. Swanberg	<u>Present</u>
Edith Van Buskirk	<u>Present</u>

DISCUSSION

Witnesses appearing:

Jay W. Preston, Ronan Telephone Co. #76 - Con
Edwin S. Booth, Montana Railroad Association #76 - Con
Senator Lee Metcalf, #76 - Pro and con.
Selden S. Frisbee, Representing self & Cut Bank Gas Co. #76 - Con
Joe L. Curtis, Hysham Telephone Co. #76 - Con
Ian B. Davidson, Representing self & D. A. Davidson Co. #76 - Con
Paul J. Briesh, Treasure State Telephone Co. #76 - Con
Ward F. Junkermier, Cut Bank Gas Co. & self #76 - Con
C. M. Wall, Montana Citizens Freight Rate Association #76 - Pro

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Heliker, and committee members introduced to the witnesses.

Mr. Jay W. Preston, President, Ronan Telephone Company disputed any constitutional establishment of matters concerning the public service commission. Exhibit #1

Mr. Edwin S. Booth, Attorney for the Montana Railroad Association opposed delegate proposal #76. Exhibit #2

Mr. C. M. Wall, representing the Montana Citizens Freight Rate Association spoke in support of establishing one commissioner for the Railroad and Public Service Commission, and was in support of supporting the commission with adequate staff.

United States Senator Lee Metcalf spoke on proposal #76 and said he was in support of the basic rights of the consumer in regard to public utility regulation as constitutional issues. He cited those rights to be the right to be informed, to be heard, and to choose. Exhibit #3

Seldon S. Frisbee, Attorney for Cut Bank Gas Company questioned the philosophy expressed in proposal #76. Exhibit #4

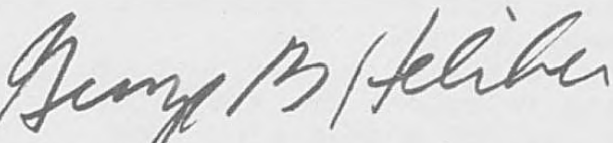
Joe L. Curtis, representing Hysham Telephone Company opposed delegate proposal #76. Exhibit #5

Ian B. Davidson, President D. A. Davidson Co. outlined the detrimental results which Montana Utilities would experience if proposal #76 were adopted. Exhibit #6

Paul J. Briesh, General Manager, Treasure State Telephone Company suggested the harmful results he felt might occur for individual telephone companies operating in Montana if proposal were adopted. Exhibit #7

Ward F. Junkermier, Certified Public Accountant outlined his opposition to proposal #76. Exhibit #8

The hearing was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. and a committee meeting was established for 3:00 p.m. on the same day.



George B. Heliker, Chairman