

# Raps Scout Chief in Camp Sale

By DON GENTILE

The head of a committee to stop the sale of a Nassau Boy Scout camp said yesterday the president of the Nassau Council of Scouts refused to discuss alternate plans with a representative of County Executive Caso.

G. Robert Crockett, a scoutmaster in East Rockaway and head of the Ad Hoc Committee to Save Camp Wauwepex, had asked Gene Turner, a Caso aide, to act as an intermediary with Francis Looney, the council's president. "Turner called me on Tuesday and said Looney would meet with the committee but not with anyone from Caso's office present," Crockett said.

The council's executive board voted on Feb. 25 to sell the 420-acre camp in Wading River to Suffolk County in order to wipe out a \$1-million debt the council has incurred.

Looney said yesterday that a meeting with Caso representatives wasn't necessary. "This is a scout matter," Looney said. "There is no reason for the county to be involved unless they are willing to offer financial aid to wipe out the debt."

Turner said yesterday that as far as Caso's office was concerned the matter was closed. "We offered to act as inter-

mediary, but Looney said the matter was a scout affair," Turner said. "I informed Crockett of Looney's statement."

Crockett said meetings in the past have produced nothing. "They listen to us and never act on our proposals," Crockett said. "That's why we want one of Caso's men there to see how our proposals are treated."

The committee has suggested a fund-raising drive administered

by the council to wipe out the debt and save the camp. Crockett said long-term camping on Long Island for Nassau Scouts would end if the camp is sold.

According to Looney, however, long-term camping has declined rapidly over the past few years. "Arrangements can be made for weekend outings for Nassau scouts on over 5,000 acres of land owned by the council in Nassau and upstate New York," Looney said.

## On The Inside

Hearings end in Manhattan on Long Island Lighting Co.'s bid for a \$19.8 million gas rate hike. Public Service Commission to announce decision early in June.

P. 12B.

Brookhaven Town GOP leader Richard Zeidler faces possible rough sledding in reelection bid as Republican committeeman.

P. 7B.

Two gunmen wait on customers and rob Commack jewelry store of \$50,000 in gems as store owners remain manacled in back room.

P. 1 NS.

Action Line appears following P. 73.