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THE HYDROELECTRIC BILL.

The most complicated as well as controversial issue on the forthcoming election ballot, in our opinion, is the *Bill Amending Licensing and Acquisition Provisions of the Hydroelectric Commission Act*. Pivot of the debate is the Oxbow vs. Hell's Canyon power development project on Snake River at the Oregon-Idaho boundary in Baker County. The actual conflict, however, lies in the struggle between private and public power—private industry vs. public ownership.

The ballot measure originated in the last legislature as Senate Bill 99. Passed by the legislature, the bill was vetoed by Governor Earl Snell, who labeled it as a "power grab," but it was re-passed over the governor's veto by a substantial majority. Through efforts of the Oregon State Grange, the bill was referred to the people.

Oregon's present law provides that the state may take over a privately-owned power project by paying the "net investment" together with contracts, etc.

The amendment would prevent seizure during the period of the license, normally 50 years, except through condemnation following two years' notice. In this connection, it is held by some persons that in condemnation the state could be required to pay, in addition to the net investment and other costs, the anticipated revenues for the license period. On the other hand, it is pointed out that the amendment would bring the Oregon law into conformity with federal license provisions.

The change was requested by the Idaho Power Co., an independent operating utility, supplying electricity to a large area in Southern Idaho and Eastern Oregon. Its generating plants are in Eastern Idaho and it wants a generating plant on the western part of its system to balance the load. It proposes to install a \$26,000,000 power plant at Oxbow on the Snake River to generate approximately 140,000 kilowatts. The Idaho Power Company has a very enviable reputation for service to the consumers in its area.

Below Oxbow, the federal government proposes to build the world's highest dam—742 feet—in Hell's Canyon. This dam would create a 90-mile reservoir, completely engulfing Oxbow's 150-foot dam. The federal power project would cost about \$314,000,000 and would generate from 850,000 to 1,000,000 kilowatts. If Oxbow dam should be built, it will prevent construction of the 10-times-larger Hell's Canyon project, unless additional funds should be provided to condemn, after two years' notice, the privately-owned plant, and that raises the question of what might be required in the way of compensation in addition to net investment.

Proponents point to the necessity for immediate additional power in the Idaho-Oregon area served by the Idaho Power Company. The privately-owned project is ready for immediate construction. It is claimed, but private capital cannot be interested so long as existing state law subjects the property to seizure. Also on the proponent side is the general preference for free enterprise as contrasted with public investment. Another strong argument lies in the quality of service given by the utility. The thought is offered that the existing Oregon law is unfriendly to private power development and that it should be brought into accord with the federal licensing regulations. It is called to attention that while the Oxbow project is ready for immediate action, the Hell's Canyon project must await congressional approval. On this latter claim, however, there is some dispute, opponents claiming that Oxbow has not been engineered as fully as represented, Hell's Canyon project has been engineered both by the Bureau of Reclamation and Army Engineers, each having a different proposal. It is said, however, that the final plan will be ready for submission to the next Congress. Another argument favorable to Oxbow lies in the fact that the plant would go on the tax rolls and thus produce revenue for the counties served by the utility, while the federal project would pay nothing in taxes.

On the opposing side is found the argument that a small project should not be permitted to block a major development, 10 times larger, particularly in view of the great need for more power in the Pacific Northwest. It is also contended that many utilities have found they can buy power cheaper from large federal generating units than to produce it themselves, and that the Idaho Power Company could balance its load by purchasing power from the Hell's Canyon plant and limit its investment to distribution service. The Hell's Canyon project also contains a flood control provision, which, it is claimed would greatly reduce danger of disaster in the Lower Columbia. This is achieved by taking water for generating purposes about 200 feet below the top of the dam, thus leaving the top 200 feet of the reservoir for flood control use.

Our own observation is that there is more to this controversy than appears in the printed argument. There seems to be in the Oxbow plan a deliberate move to block the federal program. This impression is heightened by the fact that the Idaho Power Company has three alternate power sites in the same general area—Sturgill, Bayhorse and Brownlee, all in Baker County—but picks Oxbow as the first to be put into production.

From the conservation standpoint, neither project would cause material damage. Because of use of water from the Snake River for irrigation there exists little migratory fish run above the Salmon River, which is below the Hell's Canyon damsite. In fact, the Snake River is virtually dry in three separate sections, because of removal of water for irrigation. Recreation created by either of the reservoirs would exceed that now available.

"Hey! Which Way Did the Parade Go?"



While we believe firmly in preservation of free enterprise, we also recognize the need for more extensive development of our hydroelectric resources than can be accomplished immediately through use of private capital. We believe that the Pacific Northwest must have power in large blocks at the earliest possible moment and that this can best be achieved through public development.

We believe the evidence is so strong that Oxbow is a deliberate attempt to block a federal power project vitally needed by the entire Pacific Northwest that further investigation should be made to determine fully that the proposed amendments to our Hydroelectric Commission Act will not jeopardize the program of future public power development. For that reason we recommend a "No" vote.



Navy Day! But every day is Navy Day to thousands of parents, wives and sweethearts who received telegrams during the War saying "while in performance of duty . . ." or who still visit hospitals, or have loved ones who paid the price asked, perhaps in a way not even visible to the casual glance but a cross, cheerfully borne, nevertheless. Surely all Americans are dedicated to Peace, regardless of what the last War meant to them! Whatever creed or race or color, Americans all, we pray to the same Father.

Years ago I requested from a radio program a copy of "The Seaman's Version of the Twenty-Third Psalm" by Captain J. Rogers. I cannot recall the program.

"The Lord is my Pilot; I shall not drift. He lighteth me across the dark waters. He steereth me in the deep channels. He keepeth my log. He guideth me by the star of holiness for His name's sake.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

In the Balkans, when an Austrian archduke was shot by an angry Serb, and a lot of us felt that maybe the blood and carnage of that war were justified by the wrecking of the Hapsburg dynasty.

When we look today at the Communist-ruled Balkans and see in pictures or at first hand the gloomy wreckage that is all that is left of Vienna and Budapest, we are inclined to think the Hapsburgs must have been a pretty decent lot.

WHEN Lehar's "The Merry Widow" hit the corn-fed Middle West, it was pretty generally frowned upon by the elders of that generation, and many a now-graying oldster will remember having been forbidden to see it. Just why, it would be hard to say—except that in those days anything light and pleasant and frivolous was held to be inherently wicked. We were then supposed to take our pleasures like we took our medicines. If they were pleasant to the taste, they were bad for us. Our elders had grown up on a dramatic diet of East Lynne, The Face on the Bar Room Floor and Uncle Tom's Cabin—much as they had grown up on asafetida bags worn around the neck (under the red flannel underwear, next to the

Help Rushed To Crippled Tanker

SEATTLE, Oct. 27.—(AP)—Crippled by a damaged boiler and condenser, the tanker Santa Cruz is reported by the Coast Guard to be battling heavy seas 130 miles west of Cape Spencer, Alaska, today.

The Coast Guard cutter Unalga is expected to reach the vessel about noon and the tugboat Santrina from Juneau should reach it about 9 p. m.

The Ketchikan Coast Guard base reported the Santa Cruz radioed for aid last night saying its condensers were giving trouble, that its port boiler had gone and that the starboard boiler might follow at any time.

If the boilers ceased to operate, the Coast Guard pointed out, the Santa Cruz would become a "dead ship" at the mercy of the storm. Winds of 35 to 45 miles an hour are predicted for the area.

The ship is listed by the Bureau of Shipping Records as belonging to the U. S. Maritime Commission and owned by the Santa Cruz Steamship Co. of San Francisco. She carries a crew of 34 and is 525 feet long.

The Coast Guard did not know how many passengers are aboard, or to where the Santa Cruz is bound.

Cape Spencer is about 100 miles west-southwest of Juneau.

Oregonians Urged To Go to Polls November 2

As citizens of a state which has been a leader in the use of initiative and referendum measures Oregonians should "turn out to vote" in the forthcoming general election, Mrs. Cecelia P. Gale, attorney of Sweethome and Lake Grove, Ore., said at the Roseburg Business and Professional Women's Club Monday night.

Mrs. Gale, who practices law with her husband, discussed the measures to appear on the ballot at the Nov. 2 election and declared that "as usual, members of the Ancient Order of Non-Voters will win the election."

She pointed out that in some countries, such as Australia, certain South American nations, and in Europe, "as high as 90 per cent" of the eligible voters take part in elections.

"We in Oregon should turn out to vote," she urged, "because Oregon is a leader in the use of the initiative and referendum, something which not every state has."

TONIGHT A radio address by U.S. SENATOR GUY CORDON (Republican)



8:30 P. M.
KEEP HIM WORKING FOR OREGON

Cordon for U. S. Senator Committee
Geo. F. Johnston, Exec. Secretary
Room 234 Imperial Hotel, Portland, Ore.

Salvation Army Work Will be Told To Advisory Board

A complete report on Salvation Army participation in the Vanport flood disaster will be given delegates to the second annual Divisional Advisory Board conference at Portland Saturday, Oct. 30, Ralph Easter of Hillsboro, chairman, has announced.

The conference, called at the invitation of Brigadier H. B. Collier, divisional commander for the Oregon-Southern Idaho division of The Salvation Army, will meet at the headquarters building beginning at 1:30 p. m. Delegates from all Salvation Army service committees and advisory boards in the state will be in attendance.

Jack Fariss will represent the Roseburg advisory board at the conference.

It was at the first meeting of the Divisional Board last November that a skeleton disaster committee was formed and proved to be of untold benefit in caring for refugees of the flood. At the time, little thought was given to the immediate need for such an organization, but the foresight in its establishment can now be judged by the effective work done.

To Review Year's Service
In addition to further strengthening of the disaster committee throughout the state, the conference will take up matters pertinent to Salvation Army social and welfare work. Reports of various committees dealing with these problems on a local level will be heard and Major Fred Stevens, committee coordinator and field secretary for this unit of Salvation Army service, will present an overall picture of the year's accomplishments.

Delegates and their wives will be guests of the Portland Advisory Board at dinner on Saturday evening, Easter said. The Portland Board is under the chairmanship of Robert C. Notson, Managing Editor of the Portland Oregonian, who will speak during the conference.

Speaker at the dinner to be held in the Multnomah Hotel, will be Lt. Colonel A. J. Gilliard, field secretary of the Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters in San Francisco. Gilliard is former editor of the International "War Cry" and has had world-wide experience in Salvation Army circles. Stationed in London throughout the war, Colonel Gilliard joined Salvation Army relief corps in Europe where welfare stations for displaced children and shelters for bombed out families were set up.

Arab War Refugees To Get Red Cross Help

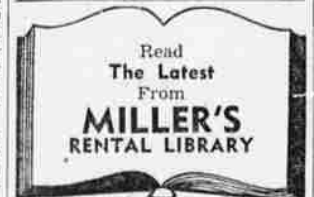
WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—(AP)—The American Red Cross said it will send additional relief supplies into the Middle East to help 330,000 Arab refugees from the Palestine fighting.

The relief agency notified the State Department it had decided to expand its operations in the area because of the destitute condition of refugees in the Arab states.

Polish Women Enlisted For Propaganda Service

WARSAW.—(AP)—Polish women are taking a big role in pushing the propaganda campaigns of the Polish Communist Workers party among this country's 24,000,000 people.

Figures released by Communist headquarters in Warsaw show women make up nearly 30 per cent of the party's entire membership.



A bonanza in new books! These have just arrived and are available for rental:

The Plague and I
Betty McDonald

Toward the Morning
Hervey Allen

Songaree
Frank Slaughter

Captain for Elizabeth
Jan Westcott

Shining Mountains
Dale Van Every

Nobody's Fool
Charles Harrison

The Wild Country
Louis Bromfield

Catalina
W. Somerset Maugham

Mr. Adam
Pat Frank

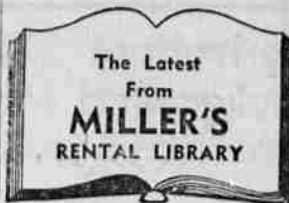
The Crusaders
Stefan Heym

Rental of these and other books is 3c and 5c per day, the most economical and fascinating recreation we know.

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of approximately 1,000,000. A total of 190,717 women are members of the party, commonly referred to as the "PPR," meaning Polish Workers Party.

Like male members, they have to march in parades, attend party rallies and give information to party headquarters of any member showing a "rightist or nationalist" tendency.



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OREGON'S RIVERS BELONG TO YOU



EX-GOVERNOR SPRAGUE SAID NO
LEADING NEWSPAPERS SAID NO
LATE GOVERNOR SNELL SAID NO
—But the Oregon Legislature overrode the Governor's veto and the bill will become law unless...

YOU SAY NO

THE Oregon State Grange, now 75 years old, would be derelict in duty to its 32,000 members and to more than one million Oregon citizens if it did not point a finger of alarm and warning at an attempt by the Idaho Power Company to strip Oregonians of their fundamental rights in hydroelectric resources.

At issue is a bill (S.B. 99) amending licensing and acquisition provisions of the Oregon Hydroelectric Commission Act. Such an amended Act would permit the Idaho Power Company to erect a dam on the Snake River in eastern Oregon under conditions immediately favorable to it and entirely unfavorable to the long-range development of hydroelectric power for all Oregonians.

Unless you prevent such an attempt by a NO vote on November 2, a wise and just law that has been in force since 1931, and that has protected Oregon's river resources for Oregonians, will be changed and weakened to the point where your fundamental rights will forever be in jeopardy.

Oregon's rivers belong to you — Vote 307 X NO.

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