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FEDERAL SAWMILLS NEXT?

Charles V. Stanton

Action by the Federal Power Commission in giving its approval to the three-dam private power project on the Snake River is certain to stir up a political hornet's nest. Public power advocates will be loudly vocal in their denunciations. Proponents of private power, on the other hand, will be equally demonstrative in their claims of a reversal of socialistic trends and a move back toward free enterprise.

The public, sitting in the middle, probably will be somewhat confused by all the shouting and, for the most part, will believe what it wants to believe. Those people who believe that power resources should be the exclusive prerogative of the federal government will side with the public power advocates, while believers in free enterprise will join the chorus on the other side.

Because the Snake River, lying along the northeastern border of Oregon and Idaho and reaching into Washington, is far away from Douglas County, the issue hasn't created as much stir here as in many other parts of the state. Its political implications, however, are just as much an issue in Douglas County as elsewhere.

Insofar as the claims and counterclaims pertaining to the project are concerned, few people in this area, I imagine, have examined the details exhaustively.

Local Example Presented

But Douglas County contains perhaps the best parallel to the Snake River situation to be found anywhere.

Public power advocates want the federal government to build a high dam in Hells Canyon. The Idaho Power company, a private utility, made application for authority to build three low dams.

Hearings, extending for more than a year, have produced great volumes of conflicting and confusing material, from which one gathers that the federal dam would produce somewhat more power than the combined units proposed by the private utility but at considerably more cost and with much longer delay. But public power advocates have insisted upon the high dam as a matter of principle that generation of power is the function of the federal government, to which probably exaggerated claims are made that the flow of the Snake River would never fill the reservoir proposed to be created by the high dam, because of evaporation and seepage.

A good idea of what is involved physically in the Hells Canyon controversy may be found in a look at Copco's development on the upper North Umpqua River.

The river flows through a very deep canyon in the Cascade section of the north fork. Had the federal government undertaken this project, following the plans generally utilized elsewhere, it doubtless would have built a dam some 600 or 700 feet high. Copco, however, has built a number of low dams, utilizing the water over and over again through a series of small generating units, rather than at one huge station below a high dam.

Probably a high dam would give more power. It would also inundate many thousands of acres of timber crop land. As a benefit, it would create a lake of great recreational value. But the cost would be enormous compared to the quite modest investment, as those things go, by the California Oregon Power Co.

Consistency Lacking

Copco sought only a 25-foot dam at its Toketee project. A dam of such height, it was contended, was ample to divert all needed water. But back in Washington a dam of such minor character couldn't be envisioned. Copco was ordered to build a dam 75-feet high, 50 feet more than needed. A compromise finally was reached, splitting the difference, and the existing dam is 58 feet high, or more than twice the actual necessary height.

Looking at the Umpqua picture, it is not hard to envision the issues involved in the Hells Canyon controversy, where physical conditions are very similar.

Public power advocates would be on more solid ground if they were to be as insistent that all natural resources be utilized as fully as proposed for the water resource.

What if we applied the same theory to timber? The federal government holds vast areas of timber in public domain. Should the federal government then take over the timber industry, competing with privately owned sawmills, while paying no taxes and collecting the cost of capital investment from taxpayers? The federal government, with unlimited funds, could give full utilization—a crying need in the industry. Private industry is extremely wasteful of the resource.

Would the advocates of socialistic utilization of our resources be nearly as popular with the public if they wanted to take over the timber resource as they are when they use the plea for federal development of water?

Hal Boyle

By ED CREAGH

For Hal Boyle

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (AP)—If part-time farmer Dwight D. Eisenhower holds onto that city job in Washington for another five years or so, he may have to move out of his farmhouse.

The way people keep giving him things for the 189-acre farm, the time could come when there wouldn't be enough room left for the President, his wife and his golf clubs. Cows, farm equipment, furniture—most everywhere the President goes somebody gives him something. And like Eisenhower goes a lot of places.

Nobody has troubled to keep books but it's known that the President has received at least eight head of livestock, most Black Angus, since word got around he was interested in building a herd.

This in addition to, among other things: Two pigs, one of them named Pansy.

A flock of chickens. A chain saw. A piece box for Mrs. Eisenhower.

An antique sofa and an equally antique fireplace mantel, both presented by the White House staff.

A 30-foot flagpole and a hand-carved Maine pine American eagle.

A silver Paul Revere bowl. And, most recently, from the American Legion Boys Nation, a 2½-horse power cultivator.

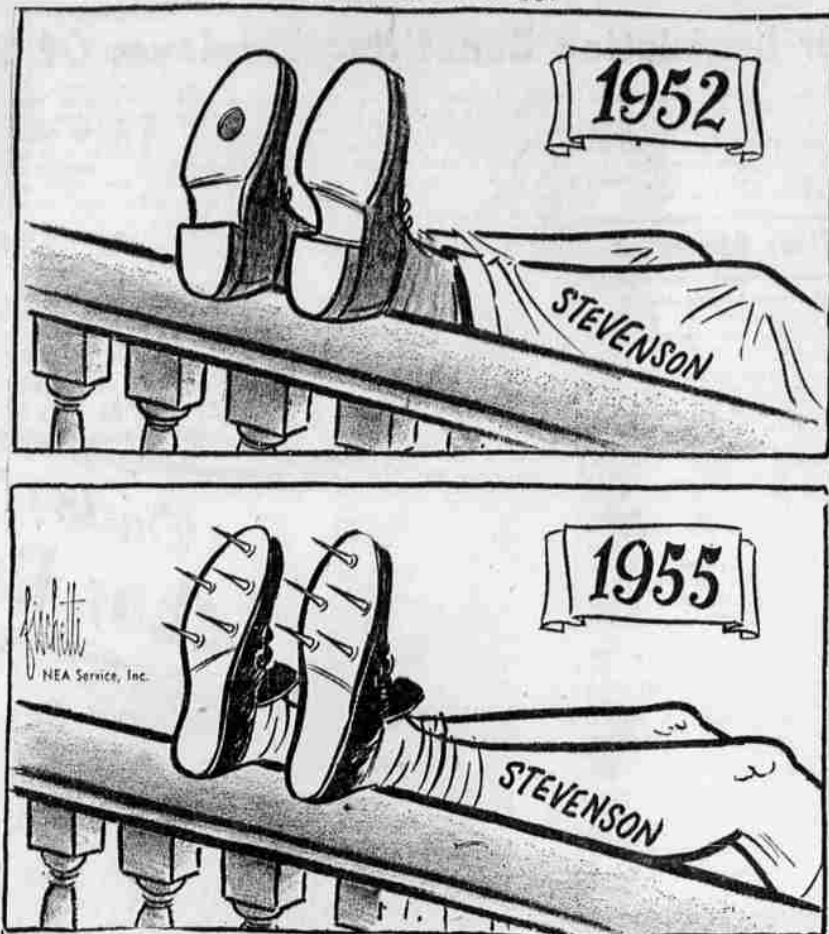
Probably the most elaborate gift has been a complete flower garden, set up at a Washington flower show last year and later moved in toto to the Eisenhower farm on the edge of Gettysburg Battlefield.

Right pretty one, too. Serpentine brick wall and everything.

Even Democrats Give

All sorts of people bestow gifts on the President—livestock breeders, Republican clubs—even Democrats. The latest Black Angus heif-

Older and Wiser



Drafted Atomic Reactor Projects Get Federal O.K.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The government Monday approved two privately drafted atomic reactor projects and said they give promise of "significantly advancing" power reactor know-how.

The projects were proposed by Detroit Edison Co. and Associates and what is known as the Nuclear Power Group, led by Commonwealth Edison Co. of Chicago.

Dr. John von Neumann, acting chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, said the planned undertakings provide "an acceptable basis for negotiation under the power demonstration reactor program." That program was created to encourage wider participation in developing nuclear power technology and to "advance the time when nuclear power will become economically competitive."

AEC's announcement came on opening day of the United Nations' atomic energy conference in Geneva, where Russian delegates showed movies of the reactor in

a Soviet atomic power station. A Soviet physicist said the facility could produce 5,000 kilowatts of power at costs competing with small plants using conventional fuels.

U.S. Behind Russia

Russia thus became the first nation to claim such competitive power production, although U.S. experts noted this country has lacked the stimulus of not having other fuels readily available at relatively low cost. The United States is constructing a 60,000 kilowatt plant near Shippingport, Pa.

An AEC spokesman said negotiations with the two power groups

would cover "technical details of getting them under way." These would include licensing and provision of materials. No question of government financial aid is involved at this point, the spokesman said.

Georgia-Pacific Plywood Obtains California Plant

PORTLAND (AP)—Georgia-Pacific Plywood Co. Monday announced the purchase of Feather River Pine Mills, Inc., Feather Falls, Calif., for about 7½ million dollars.

At the same time O. R. Cheatham, Georgia-Pacific president, said the National Wood Treating Corp., a subsidiary of Feather River Pine Mills, had been sold to Koppers Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Fred C. Foy, Koppers Co. president, announced plans to expand the treating plant to meet the diversified requirements of the San Francisco market.

In the transaction with Feather River Pine, Georgia-Pacific obtained 35,000 acres of timber, mostly pine, to bring its timber holdings to about 4 billion feet.

Lumber sales from the new California operation will be handled through Georgia-Pacific's headquarters here, Cheatham said.

The purchase also included the Feather River Railroad, a common carrier.

Washington's Ex-Gov. Martin Nearing Death

CHENEY, Wash. (AP)—Clarence D. Martin, 70, former governor of Washington, was in a coma at his home here Monday and not expected to live, the attending physician said.

Martin has been ill for several years and had suffered several relapses recently.

Martin was governor of Washington from 1933 to 1941. He was state chairman of the Democratic party before becoming governor and served by appointment as a representative in the special session of the legislature in 1944.

Earlier this year, Martin resigned as a member of the board of the Seattle First National Bank.

Martin, until recently, had continued active in local civic affairs. In 1950 he was elected to a two-year term on the Cheney town council.

The former governor was last in the news in the spring of 1954 when an exhaust pipe fell from an airplane and splintered the door of his \$50,000 home.

2 Men Pay Woman's Rent; Gun Ends Status

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—One man fell dead as gunfire flared Sunday when two men discovered that both were paying the rent on an apartment for the same woman.

Charged with murder was 52-year-old William Ballinger. Ballinger told homicide detectives he found Shirley Lee Mays, 25, Jeffersonville, Ky., alone and asleep at the apartment of the 35-year-old woman early Sunday.

Ballinger said he fired a .38 caliber pistol when Mays started toward him.

Detectives quoted the woman, identified as Miss Vivian Cotton, as saying she had spent the night at her father's home.

Patterson Attending Governors' Conference

SALEM (AP)—Gov. Paul Patterson left Monday for Chicago to attend the National Governors' Conference. He will return Aug. 15.

In his absence, Senate President Elmo Smith, John Day, will be acting governor.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

confidence in communist Russia's peaceful intentions.

But — IF the Russians will in the future, over a sufficient period of time, do the things that will cause us to have confidence in them, we CAN get together on a plan for peace and armament reduction.

That's about the size of it.

Let's get closer home: The Portland city council has passed by a four to one vote a sweeping ordinance to ban A.L.L. mechanical amusement devices that have an element of GAMBLING.

Portland's councilmen must have been reading the constitution of Oregon — which declares (Article XV, Sec. 4):

"LOTTERIES, and the sale of lottery tickets, FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER, ARE PROHIBITED, and the legislative assembly shall PREVENT the same by penal laws."

Members of Oregon city councils (along with a wide range of other public officials) must take an oath to support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Oregon. It is a solemn oath, ending with the pledge: "So help me God."

One can imagine that a member of an Oregon city council reading the constitution of our state and recalling the oath he took when he assumed his office, would be considerably disturbed in his conscience every time he looks a money-paying (or merchandise-paying) slot machine of any description in the eye.

What is a lottery? Webster defines it as "a scheme for the distribution of prizes by lot, especially such a scheme in which lots, or chances, are sold."

Put it to yourself this way: When you put a coin in the slot of a machine that offers a prize (money or merchandise) you BUY A CHANCE. I suppose that when the founding fathers of our state adopted our constitution they thought of a "lottery" as putting numbers in a hat. But that was before the machine age.

Logical reasoning must lead to the conclusion that when you put a coin in the slot of a machine that offers a prize you are BUYING A CHANCE.

That the constitution of Oregon forbids.

The constitution is the SUPREME law of our state.

Public officials in Oregon (including city councilmen) take a solemn oath to support Oregon's constitution.

Reader Opinions

Trucker Held Blameless In Fatal Highway Crash

MYRTLE CREEK — I would like to know why you have to print such headlines as this: "Logs Crash Cars, 4 Dead" and then in the next sized type you print: "Two Children of Dead Pair Seriously Injured, Logs Flip Off Trailer Onto Cars."

Two-thirds of the people just read the headlines of a paper and that is all. And when they read something like that, the first thing they say is that the trucker is to blame.

Why couldn't you have said, "Car Passes on Blind Curve, Wrecks Logging Truck, 4 Dead?" Then the public would know what happened. But, no, you couldn't do that. You have to plaster it out so it appears it is the fault of the truck driver.

All we hear any more is "those logging trucks!" I must admit that some of us are bad. But that doesn't mean we all are. And we are not all perfect. Show me anyone who drives as much as the log trucker does and who can say that he has never been over the center line. I don't think anyone can say that truthfully.

What would the people of Oregon do, however, if it were not for the logging trucks? Two-thirds of them would starve to death.

If I drive my truck down the road 25 to 30 miles per hour, I would have cars stacked up from Frisco to Bellingham. And they would be trying to pass me on curves and every place else, along with cussing me. So if I drive 45 miles an hour, they scream their heads off about how wild I am.

If anyone doubts this, he is welcome to come to Myrtle Creek and make a trip or two with me, and I'll prove my statements.

Jim Faught

A Log Hauler

Myrtle Creek, Ore.

Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (AP)—When the last word is written on the controversial Dixon-Yates contract and cancellation mess with the Budget Bureau, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Atomic Energy Commission, the big brains of the private power industry aren't going to look too good. Their high-powered public relations counsel will have to do a lot of scratching to cover up.

By the time Senator Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.) and his Senate Anti-Monopoly subcommittee get through with their investigation, they will have set back the cause of the private power industry in its battle against public power by at least a couple of years. And the private power industry's ambition to curb TVA development may have been set back 10 years, a generation or forever.

It is admitted by even TVA's staunchest supporters that it is not a perfect organization, in spite of

U.S. Hands Spy Job In Europe To W. Germany

BONN, Germany (AP)—The United States has quietly turned over Western Europe's largest spy network to the West German government.

Senior German officials disclosed Monday the powerful espionage service headed by Reinhard Gehlen, a former Wehrmacht lieutenant general, has been placed under the direct control of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer.

For the last eight years the United States has financed the "Gehlen Organization", paying six million dollars a year. The transfer follows the emergence of West Germany as a sovereign partner in the Western defense lineup.

With 4,000 agents, this organization is widely regarded in Europe as the most effective Western intelligence service in collecting material on the Soviet Union and its East European satellites.

While under American control, Gehlen funneled his intelligence information on the Soviet bloc to the Pentagon and to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Washington.

German officials said the network is now being temporarily financed by Chancelor Adenauer's special emergency fund.

Parliament will be asked to appropriate 25 million to 30 million marks (\$5,550,000 to \$7,140,000) to finance its operations when the deputies return in September, these sources said.

Dr. H. H. Harris Quits Detection Laboratory

PORTLAND (AP)—The resignation of Dr. Homer H. Harris as head of the Oregon state police crime detection laboratory at the University of Oregon Medical School became known Monday.

Dr. W. E. Blair, dean of the school, and H. G. Malson, state police superintendent, made the announcement jointly. They praised his work in more than four years as director and expressed regret at the resignation, effective Sept. 1.

Harris plans to enter the private practice of pathology in Portland.

all the good it has done. There are legitimate grounds for demand that TVA should be required to make greater payments in lieu of taxes and to pay a higher interest rate for its money.

THE FACT THAT the Authority itself has come up with a new plan now before Congress, to finance its future expansion by bond issues, is evidence that the agency recognizes it should change some of its business methods.

If it operated more like a government corporation, it would be competing on more even terms with private power companies. Judging by its past record, TVA could still beat many private power operations, its engineers claim.

Granting that all these conditions now exist, how did the private power industry go about meeting the challenge?

Instead of promoting a straightaway deal between Atomic Energy Commission and a new private power company, the Bureau of the Budget goes around behind the barn and cooks up a complicated contract. It was made to appear that AEC was curbing TVA.

The business of calling in the First Boston Corp. and one of its vice presidents, Adolph H. Wenzel for advice and counsel was hidden. Trying to cover up their tracks, as now exposed by the Kefauver committee, the right back to the methods of the Insull and Hobson holding company empire scandals of the 1930's.

NONE OF THIS REFLECTS any credit on the private power industry as a whole. It is regarded by some businessmen as a throwback for the private enterprise system. And it is a sad setback for the Republican party.

GOP Congressmen are inclined to say that all this will be dead and forgotten before the 1956 elections.

Their Democratic opponents are determined to keep it alive. Here was a new administration in Washington in 1953, pledged to show that methods of private enterprise were far better than the ways of what they chose to call creeping socialism.

On almost their first try at stopping this evil, the reformers themselves were caught in a shady deal. The methods were more reminiscent of under-the-table old guardism than of a new crusade.

ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS to cover up for mistakes of bad advice given by private power industry consultants have so far only served to make matters worse.

The doings of Wenzel were omitted from the record. The Assistant to the President, Gov. Sherman Adams, is revealed to have interfered in the proceedings of the supposedly independent, quasi-judicial Securities and Exchange Commission investigation of certain phases of the matter.

But the primary responsibility is now being placed at the door of the private power industry moguls who allowed the administration to be led into this elephant trap in the first place.



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