



An audience selected to match the demographics of the Northwest joined with Steve Allen in Portland to tape audience participation segments for "Electric Energy Test"—a six-state regional network energy special to be aired September 12th. Television viewers in Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming will be asked to take a family energy quiz while watching the show. Answer cards appear in this week's "Observer" on page 5.

Finding racism in Salem

Continued from page 1 column 6)
 darkness was a nigger."
 A Black woman told me that once some white men in Salem had threatened her at knifepoint.
 Other Blacks said they have become accustomed to being called "nigger."
 I noticed that the majority of the Blacks I talked to that live here are not planning to stay in Salem permanently. They came to the city to take advantage of job opportunities.
 Aside from the racism I encountered, my biggest complaint about Salem was its lack of a visible Black community—that is until I learned it has one. That was probably the most depressing day of my life.
 When I toured Oregon State Penitentiary at the end of July I saw Black people everywhere. A tour guide told me that Blacks constitute 16.3 per cent of the inmate population. But Blacks make up less than

two per cent of the state population.
 My three-month visit to Salem has not been all grim. I've met several nice people, who showed some sensitivity and understanding about what a young Black person has to deal with here.
 I've also enjoyed some pleasant experiences, but this does not compensate for the man who tried to molest me at a local disco, or the other people who made my stay unpleasant.
 I know that regardless of geographic location, racism is everywhere, but I hope I find no city more blatantly racist than Salem.
 (Editor's note: Gail Harris, a 21-year-old senior journalism student from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, took a position with the Oregon Statesman this summer. Here she has related some of her experiences during her stay in Salem.)

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PP&L airs 'Electric Energy Test'

Regional energy problems will be given major attention in a 6-state television special to be aired September 12th by Pacific Power & Light Company and hosted by popular performer Steve Allen, whose Emmy Award-winning show "Meeting of Minds" is currently being seen on national public television.

Called "Electric Energy Test," the one-hour program will focus on present and future power demands in the Northwest, dramatizing the options, limitations, and implications of the issue through direct viewer involvement.

Steve Allen—coming to Portland to head the energy special—has won honors and applause in so many creative endeavors that the term "Renaissance man" has often been applied to him. He has been a writer of short stories, plays, and scenarios; a composer, singer, pianist, and recognized figure in jazz; an actor, director, producer, teacher, master-of-ceremonies; and one of the first stand-up comedians to innovate in late-night talk shows for both radio and television.

In order that the informational flow of the program might not be interrupted, there will be no commercials within the body of the special. The PP&L sponsorship will be indicated only by special messages at the open and close of the broadcast.

Under the direction of Emmy Award winning producer Jim Gates of Hollywood, the quiz-format program will include divergent viewpoints by energy specialists, opposing opinions by environmentalist spokespersons, and man-on-the-street interviews captured on location throughout the Northwest region.

Incisive questions based on the electrical energy challenge will be posed. Studio and home audience members will then compare their answers with those both of the experts and of research specialists in the field.

"We are deeply concerned about future regional electric energy supplies," says PP&L chairman of the board Don C. Frisbee. "On this television special—the largest public information program we have yet attempted—we hope to show why we are concerned. New electric customer growth continues at record levels. Difficult decisions must be made.

We want our customers to be an active part of those decisions—and the television special will provide basic background facts, simply and clearly stated, to help the public participate."

"We know that many electric customers in the Northwest are confused about this whole, big subject," Frisbee adds. "Many don't know the history of the problem, its implications, or what the options might be. That's why we are producing this program. We want to help the electrical power users in our region—and that's all of us—catch up on their homework on this issue as they're called upon to help with the major decisions."

Featured contributors to the quiz include: (roughly in the order seen) George Gwinnutt, population forecaster for Bonneville Power Administration; population specialist Edward Schafer of Portland State University; John Ellis, president and chief executive of Puget Sound Power; Merrill Schultz, coordinator for Northwest Power Pool; Washington Congressman Mike McCormack; Kristie Duyckinck of Trojan Decommissioning Alliance; British Physicist Amory Lovins; Irwin Stelzer, president, National Economic Research Association; Coal deposit plant expert Dick McCarthy of Centralia, Washington; Kate KeKeon of Oregon Fair Share; Bill Parrett of PP&L's Medford office; BPA Administrator Sterling Munro; John Platt, executive director of Oregon Environmental Council; Oregon Governor Vic Atiyeh; Washington Senator Henry Jackson; Norma Jean Germond, President, Oregon Chapter, League of Women Voters; Lloyd Marbet, Forelaws on Board; and others.

The program will be seen and heard in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and California—via cable connections and through direct broadcasts from stations in four states. Participating in this energy special network are: KOIN-TV Portland, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

"The problems that must be faced in keeping up with electrical energy demand are problems that cannot be met by the utilities alone," Frisbee says. "That is why we want to broaden the base of participation in the issue. And that's why we are sponsoring this program."

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