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## Public Utility Hearings Take Limelight Now

Free Power Devotees in Their Glory Though Results are Nil

## Holman Feeling Stronger in Re-election Drive; Mahoney Face Red

By SHELDON F. SACKETT  
The "crowd" are coming out these days for the public utility district hearings held in the valley and at the coast. Not that anything is determined before these audiences while the hydro-electric commission gravely listens to the thundering orations against the power trust or is duly alarmed over the possibility of increase in public debt. The real topic is that well-known rallying point in Oregon: power, with no cost to the taxpayers, and that is cause sufficient to bring out the big audience. The most ardent supporters of publicly owned power lines have gone on the road, and are to be found at each of the hearings the commission conducts.

When the testimony—such as it is—has been assembled, the hydro-electric commission has 120 days in which to declare whether or not it thinks the proposed seven-county utility district sound. No matter what the findings are—whether the commission declares the proposed power district unjustified, too costly or too extended—voters in the seven counties, if they see fit, can by majority ballot get into the power distribution business, under existing Oregon public utility law.

**Factual Evidence Largely Missing**  
The odd thing about the hearings on the utilities districts is the dearth of factual evidence, proponents of public-owned power lines present. No one makes any showing on the cost of the lines the district proposes to erect, or the rates to be charged, or the feasibility of using or paralleling the lines of the private utilities. The gist of the argument presented by the public power proponents in the various counties is that the private companies, the great bon Bonville will be to the farmers, the present high cost of rural electric line extensions and the ability of cooperative associations to make good in any undertaking.

Until Bonville power rates can be determined by the federal government and decision made on whether or not transmission lines will be built by Uncle Sam, discussion about the actual distribution of power to country users is a bit beside the point. However, long-time proponents of "free power without cost to the taxpayers" men like Sam Brown and Peter Zimmerman and Morton Tompkins, are enjoying the hearings to the full and setting up a case which draws much applause when they sketch the advantages of farm-owned lines where financing will be done entirely by revenue certificates.

The fact that the utilities districts subject the taxpayer to a bond issue which may reach 10 per cent of the assessed value of the property is non-deterrent to the utility district enthusiasts. Young George Joseph, whose father made such a name for himself in the Columbia river development and free power, presides gravely at the hearings, but does not enter into the discussions with any of the vigor and vehemence which marked his father's onslaughts on the "power barons."

The much-heralded budgetary control plan through which the executive department of the state government will watch the pennies and dimes of the various departments is about to be started at the capitol. The theory of this control is that the legislature proposes what each department shall spend but the governor disposes—through his budget department—down to the last penny.

Carl Cover, industrious assistant to D. O. Hood and mentioned as executive secretary to Governor Martin, has been working for months preparing the forms each department will use in checking up with the administration. No less than nine large forms go each month to the head of each state department. Thereon he must list his actual expenditures for the nearest prior month, his estimated expenditures for the month the report is made and his requested expenditures for the following month. To this data he must add the actual expenditures for the three months prior to the former year. The budgeted figures are not lump sum estimates; they are detailed accounts down to the last electric light bulb and postage stamp.

**No Warrants This Department Approves**  
The budget department approves these expenditures; the secretary of state will not be allowed to draw warrants. After the expenditures are approved no warrants can be drawn in excess of the monthly budget allowed a department or a state institution. Thus the budget department is to become a financial master of cere-

## Elderly Gervais Man Hurrying Home With Milk, Killed by Car

Runs Into or is Struck by Auto Driven by Follis of Salem; Alvah Woolery, 78, Leaves Widow Whom He Married Six Months Ago

GERVAIS, Jan. 18.—(Special)—Hurrying home with a pail of milk, Alvah Woolery, 78, of Gervais route one, met apparently instant death about 6 o'clock tonight when he either ran into or was struck by a sedan driven by Gibson Leroy Follis, 29, of 260 Marion street, Salem, on the Pacific highway three-quarters of a mile south of here.

## Willamette Play Artistic Success

"Outward Bound" With Its Philosophic Theme Is Well Presented

Realistic performances of deeply human roles made outstanding the presentation of "Outward Bound." Willamette university Little Theatre Guild and Theta Alpha Phi production staged last night at the Salem high school auditorium. Unlike spotlights and colorful settings added to the effectiveness of the production.

The play is a well-desired fantasy by Sutton Vane, with all save two of the characters, on their "outward bound" journey to another world. As Henry and Ann, lovers who plan to escape life by asphyxiation, Malcolm Watson and Mary Elizabeth Kells, are key performers who are reconciled through the revelations of the fanciful journey, to return to a world of reality in preference to a world where there could be no forgetting.

## Hayesville Host To Joint Program

HAYESVILLE, Jan. 18.—Eddie Ahrens, president of the Marion-Polk county federation of community clubs, presided at the program held here Saturday night. The north district put on the following program, with Luther Chapin in charge: Piano solo, Lorraine Russell, song and dance by Gloria Ann and Barbara Lee McClintock, Middle Grove; skit by Buena Crest; solo by Luther Chapin of Clear Lake; duet by Eleanor and Joan Smith, Central Howell; skit by Hayesville and singing and dancing performances by Guy Ray. Refreshments were served by the 4-H club girls.

## Hundreds of Farmers Will Open Parley Here Monday

Four hundred to 600 farmers are expected here tomorrow when Marion county will be host for the first agricultural outlook conference to be held here. The meeting will convene at 9:30 o'clock in the Fraternal temple here. A two-day program has been arranged, according to Harry Riches, county agent.

## Big Crowd Out At Dallas For Power Hearing

Courtroom is Crowded; Fear of Heavy Debt Opponents' Point

## Inability to Get Lines to Serve Them Cited by Some Farmers

DALLAS, Jan. 18.—(Special to The Statesman)—Five hundred people turned out here today to hear pros and cons of the proposed seven-county utility district which would provide townspeople and farmers alike with energy from the Columbia river harnessed at Bonneville.

The hearing, presumably before the hydroelectric commission which within 120 days from the time the "circuit" of discussion is completed, must recommend for or against the proposed district, was directed to the commission, technically, but the majority of speakers addressed the large audience. Applause was frequent, particularly on behalf of the advocates of public ownership of power distribution lines.

George W. Joseph II, vice-chairman of the commission, presided at the three-hour hearing. He warned against personalities and as a result the gathering was less emotional than the initial utilities district session held at Mt. Angel in December. Many Unable to Enter Courtroom

## Kipling May Rest In Historic Abbey

Own Wishes to Rule; Many Honors Heaped on Him Following Death

LONDON, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Rudyard Kipling, Great Britain's poet and story teller of empire who died dearly today, may be buried in Westminster Abbey among the nation's greatest sons.

## Bladine Will Head Press Conference

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 18.—(AP)—Lore Bladine, publisher of the McMinnville Telephone Register, will head for Crocker the editorial conference for 1937, as result of the election held at sessions here today.

## Another Storm in Sight For Oregon

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 18.—(AP)—Southeast storm warnings again flew on the coast tonight—a week after the steamship Iowa crashed to the sands of Peacock Spit with a loss of 34 lives.

# King George Weaker

## Campaign Gets Down to Real Bedrock Basis

Demos Fear Strife With At Smith's Attitude Important Factor

## Borah Spreads Out Into More States; Dark Horse Predicted

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Political strategy in both major parties appeared tonight to be approaching a bedrock basis at last.

## Bonus Vote Laid Aside to Monday

Sudden Decision Is Made Late in Day; Currency Amendment Defeated

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—(AP)—After turning down by a decisive margin a proposal to pay the soldiers' bonus in new currency, the senate late today deferred until Monday the virtually certain passage of the coalition bill to discharge the \$2,000,000,000 debt in cashable small bonds.

## Bandit Who Hits Woman Is Sought

A youthful thug who twice struck Mrs. Anna Vanderhoff, 1945 Broadway, and attempted to wrest her purse from her was sought by city police last night.

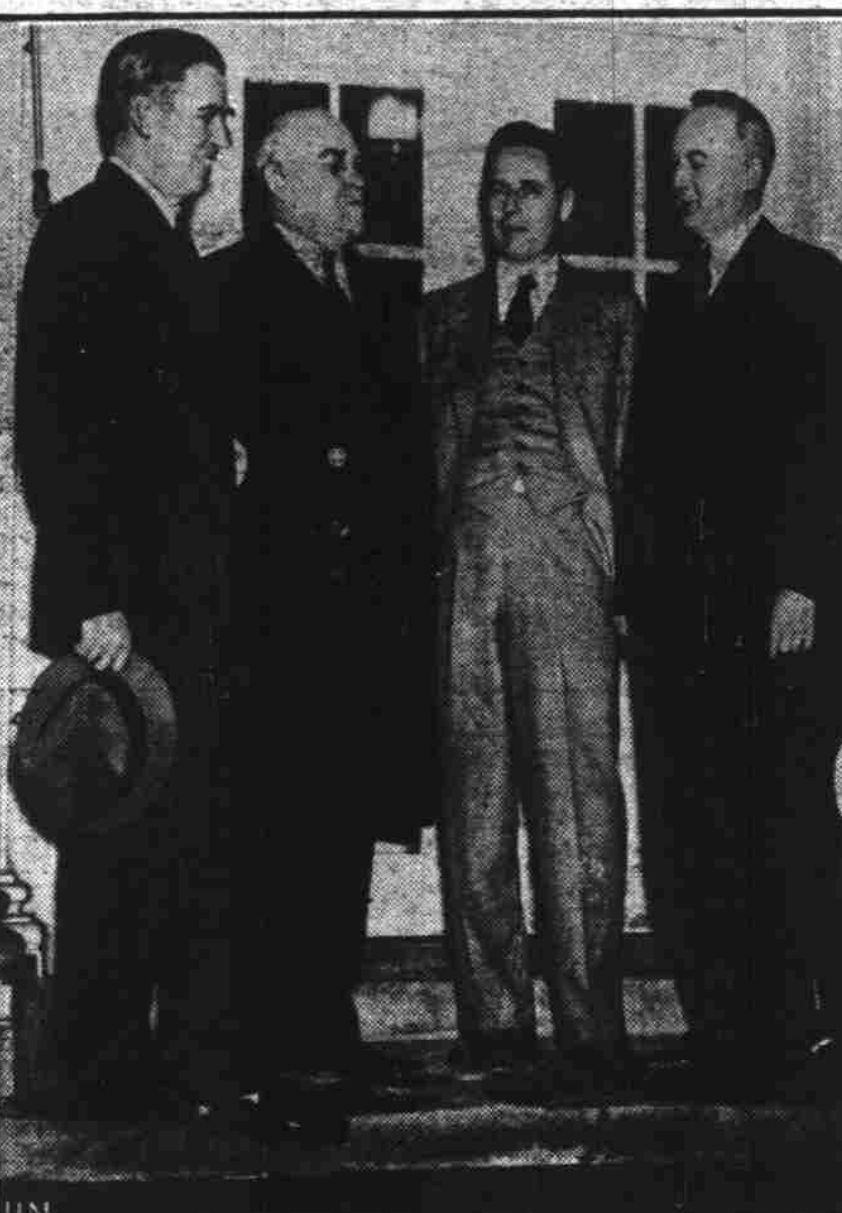
## Council Business Is Mostly Minor

New developments in city affairs were likely to be the order of the month, Monday night, approached. The only important carryover measure, an ordinance transferring to the recorder the duties of the city clerk, is due to come up on final passage at this meeting but it appeared likely yesterday that it would be tabled for at least two weeks.

## California Little AAA Hit in Court Order to Delay Its Enforcement

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 18.—(AP)—A restraining order against the California Little AAA was issued here today by Superior Judge Emmet H. Wilson.

## Leaders in Program to Enact New Legislation to Succeed Lost AAA



From left, Henry A. Wallace, secretary of agriculture; Senator John Bankhead of Alabama, chairman of the senate agricultural committee; William Myers, governor of the federal farm credit board; Congressman Marvin Jones of Texas, chairman of the house agriculture committee, who took the lead in calling the recent conference to outline legislation to succeed the AAA after it was declared unconstitutional.

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## Entire Nation Watches With Great Anxiety

Cardiac Difficulty More Serious, Declared in Latest Bulletin

## Crisis Within 48 Hours Expected; Council of State is Planned

SANDRINGHAM, Eng., Jan. 19.—(Sunday)—(AP)—King George V, suffering from a cardiac weakness and a bronchial ailment, was sleeping peacefully at an early hour this morning.

As members of the king's family gathered at Sandringham House, the royal residence, a high source said a crisis might be expected within 48 hours.

## Bankhead Sponsor Of New Farm Bill

Appropriate 350 Millions For Compliance Fund; Wallace to Direct

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—(AP)—Senator Bankhead (D-Ala.) announced tonight he would introduce—probably Tuesday—legislation for a new \$350,000,000 farm program representing his interpretation of the administration's views.

## Runaway Portland Lad Stopped Here

Forewarned that nimble feet were in order, Salem police caught 13-year-old Marlowe Pappé, runaway Portland lad, at a Southern Pacific freight train drawn into the yards here early last night.

## Vikings Rally And Win Over Cheesemakers

TILLAMOOK, Ore., Jan. 18.—(AP)—The Salem high basketball team, trailing at half time 17 to 15, defeated Tillamook high 35 to 24 tonight in a rough, fast game.

Neither team was far ahead at any point in the contest. Near the end of the game, when the scored 20-all, Tillamook had a chance for four free throws but missed them all.

The Duke of Gloucester was the only one of the King's sons remaining in London. He was at Buckingham palace suffering from a sore throat.