

Cheap Power Said to Protect U.S. Aluminum

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Statesman Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The U. S. aluminum industry is beginning to raise its eyebrows and troop to Washington, D. C., about the prospect of foreign imports taking a bite out of America's booming aluminum market.

This hasn't happened in so many years that the industry had all but forgotten to keep its guard up against competition from abroad for sales to American builders and manufacturers who are finding new uses for aluminum every day.

Most foreign producers and fabricators were prostrate when World War II ended, and in the immediate post-war period when they were regaining their footing, they had a heavy demand in their own countries to fulfill before looking elsewhere for new markets. Britain even clamped an embargo on aluminum exports until mid-1952.

U.S. Market Attractive

That overseas demand has now been largely met — but America, gobbling up aluminum for heretofore furnished civilian production, still looks like a healthy market to producers across the waters.

This market appraisal was confirmed only last week by the Aluminum Association, which reported that American producers have no worries about overproduction. But simultaneously, the Association, which includes in membership Alcoa, Kaiser and Reynolds Metals plus semi-fabricators who account for 85 per cent of domestic output, registered a strong protest at the Pentagon.

Protests Entered

The protest was based on the following score:

1. The Defense Department has exempted aluminum from the protection of the Buy America act, a depression-enacted law which requires all government agencies to purchase whatever materials and products they need in the domestic market unless prices are "unreasonable" compared with the price of foreign products of the same quality. Today's interpretation holds that if the domestic product costs over 25 per cent more than the foreign product, that's unreasonable and the government is free to buy abroad.

2. When the Defense Department buys aluminum abroad, the price tag does not include the American tariff of 1.5 cents per pound on pig and three cents on semi-fabricated aluminum.

Seeks Cut in Costs

The Defense Department, oft called the world's most gigantic business with its annual budget now topping \$45,000,000,000, is looking for means of slashing the high cost of natural security. It foresees a possibility of buying less expensive aluminum from allied nations that would also benefit by the transaction.

Britain is the most likely prospect in Europe to step into the American marketplace and make a sale. She has already produced this year in eight months more aluminum semi-fabricated goods (sheets, rods, plates and bars) than in 1950, 1951 and 1952 combined. And it is semi-fabricated goods that the military establishment is most likely to buy as the raw material for aircraft plants.

Others Push Up Output

Other nations — France, Italy, West Germany, Austria, Japan — are pushing up their output, but most with less success than the United Kingdom. Greatest producer in the UK is Canada which supplies both England and America with pig aluminum.

However, many foreign countries cannot compete price-wise with America's own domestic industry. Japan, for example, would like very much to sell aluminum here, but her price is over 30c per pound, compared with 21.5c for American-smelted ingots.

Power Protects Industry

This is a clear instance in which cheap hydroelectric power from the Columbia River, which has cut aluminum production costs here, is giving the American aluminum industry low price protection from foreign producers, despite the customary disparity in wage rates.

The favorable price of aluminum also helps account for wider use of the metal today, replacing other metals in construction and manufacturing. The Bureau of Mines reports that since World War II the price of aluminum has risen 31 per cent compared with zinc 54 per cent, steel 88 per cent, copper 105 per cent and lead 122 per cent.

Little London of U.S. to Disappear

NEW YORK (AP)—A picturesque little bit of London in a corner of New York will be replaced soon by a modern garage. The new structure will wipe out Arden Court, a byway that could have stepped from the pages of one of Charles Dickens' books.

The court, with iron gates at each end, was lined with antique shops with old fashioned exteriors and small paned windows.

Richard Croker, once boss of Tammany Hall, the Manhattan Democratic organization, visited London near the turn of the century and built the lane on his return to this country in an effort to recapture the charm of the old English city.

They'll Do It Every Time



ENERGY
NEW YORK (INS) — It is estimated that by 1960 the United States will rely on oil and natural gas for about two-thirds of its energy.

Nine-tenths of American women who reach age 40 will live 20 years longer.

Phone Operators Fashion Experts

NEW YORK (INS)—Hotel telephone operators not only have to be skilled in making and receiving calls but also have to be "fashion experts."

A survey taken by New York's Hotel Edison showed that the most popular question asked by guests of phone operators is: "What type of outfit does a person in this city wear on a day like this?"

To facilitate their work, Irwin Kramer, hostelry owner, supplies them with continued weather reports and fashion publications.

Convict Back From Frisco

Raymond H. Smith, 44, Oregon State Prison convict who talked himself back into his cell from a San Francisco telephone booth early Friday morning was back at the penitentiary Tuesday.

Warden Clarence T. Gladden said Smith was returned by car from San Francisco by two prison guards. Gladden said charges of escape would be filed against Smith in Marion County Circuit Court.

Smith, who escaped from the

Judge Ponders Stock-Selling Case Verdict

PORTLAND (AP) — A federal court case involving Salem men in a stock-selling enterprise now is under advisement of Judge McCulloch.

He closed a hearing on the case after the Securities and Exchange Commission requested an injunction to prevent the men from selling securities by misleading statements and in some cases to return money to investors.

Involved are three timber co-operatives and the men who organized them, including: Edgar R. Erion, Independence; Glass R. Munkers, Charles Williams, Dwight Holdorf and Archie L. Bones, all of Salem; and Thomas A. O'Connell, Seattle.

The co-operatives are Beaver Plywood, National Blywood and General Timber.

Attorneys representing the defendants objected to the SEC request for an injunction, and also protested a proposed SEC finding that the men had converted investors' money to their own use. The attorneys contended there was no evidence of this.

Walter S. Lamkin, Salem, one of the attorneys for investors in Beaver Plywood, asked the judge to allow state courts to wind up the affairs of the co-operative.

Earlier in the hearing some investors testified they had been led to believe the promoters would apply to a Spokane bank for a loan to build a \$750,000 mill at Independence; that they held large peeler-log tracts in Lincoln and Tillamook counties, and that they had available a patent for putting a special finish on plywood panels.

All of these things turned out to be incorrect, they testified.

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Economy Mileage	GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	FAIR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD
Full Power	GOOD	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	GOOD
Rust & Corrosion Protection	GOOD	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR
Smooth Acceleration	GOOD	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR
Quick Starting	GOOD	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR
Fast Warm-Up	GOOD	GOOD	POOR	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	POOR
Vapor-Lock Prevention	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR
Area Blending	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR

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CHEVRON SUPREME GASOLINE

What's the score on today's gasolines?

Many gasolines feature one performance quality—even two or three. But it takes far more to bring out the best in today's high-compression engines. That's why new "wide-range" Chevron Supreme is a scientific balance of all the qualities your car

needs from a gasoline. It's right for your kind of driving, any season, any place in the West. Pep for traffic, reserve power for hills, bonus mileage on the road—you get these and many more! Make the Supreme test... and find out what a pleasure driving can be.



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