

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

The Department of the Interior, which has been raked free and aft by public power proponents in the Northwest for running out on a federal Hells Canyon dam, is under fire in the Midwest for alleged desertion of REAs.

The latter attacks stemmed out of an order for the latter to estimate their power needs from government projects and contract for them by Jan. 1, 1954. Any surplus after that date would be sold to private distributors.

Immediately the REAs and their political allies screamed to high heaven that they were being crucified. The department made a partial retreat by extending the time for decision and making revisions of demands which didn't end the clamor, however, and presumably it will be amplified in the coming political campaign.

The REAs have a friend in court in the person of Sen. Bill Langer of North Dakota who not only cultivates controversy but thrives on it, especially if it gives him a chance to pose as the farmer's friend. In this instance he was a ready accomplice because the spokesman for the Interior Department was Fred Aandahl, former governor of North Dakota who gave Langer a pretty good race in the last senatorial election. While Langer was coaxed off objecting to Aandahl's appointment as assistant secretary, he could see in the (Concluded on Editorial Page 4)

Foes of Grid Lead But Slip In Percentage

The battle-of-the-votes on Salem's one-way traffic grid was almost a standoff Thursday. Of the 506 new ballots cast, 286 opposed the grid and 220 favored it.

The one-day count left opponents still well ahead in the overall tally. It was 1499 to 1185. But their margin stood at 55.8 per cent instead of the 57.6 per cent of the previous day—a drop of 2.2 per cent.

An increasing number of votes were thrown out Thursday because of duplications or other irregularities.

Of the 1499 votes urging that the grid be abolished, 308 were cast by persons residing more than 5 miles from Salem.

Of the 1185 votes favoring retention of the grid, 129 were cast by persons residing more than 5 miles from Salem.

Several votes came to The Statesman office in the form of a petition. One, representing an informal luncheon "club," had 28 signatures. One business office had another with seven.

The ballot for The Statesman's informal poll appears for the last time today (page 10, section 1). Deadline for voting is midnight tonight. Ballots postmarked or brought to The Statesman office after that hour will not be counted. Final results will be given in The Statesman Sunday.

Johnny Cries At Divorce

JUAREZ — Crying Johnny Ray wept Thursday as his wife Marilyn Morrison Ray was granted a Juarez divorce.

The singer broke into tears as Miss Morrison filed her petition charging incompatibility. The divorce was granted in Juarez First Federal Court by Judge Fernando Romero Figueroa.

"I don't think any man likes to see a marriage go on the rocks," Ray said. "I hope some day to marry again and have a home and kids."

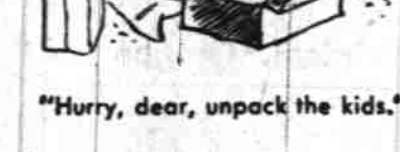
Miss Morrison said the divorce was very unpleasant. "This will be my first and last," she said.

Asked if she planned to marry again, she said "we'll see."

Redmond Winds Cause Damage

REDMOND — A 45-mile an hour wind with gusts to 65 hit this area just before noon Thursday, causing minor power line breaks. The blow preceded the first of a series of cold fronts expected in Central Oregon. The temperature, which was 42 Wednesday night, dropped to 35 and wet snow started falling.

Animal Crackers



"Hurry, dear, unpack the kids."

The Weather table with columns for Max, Min, Precip. and rows for Salem, Portland, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Willamette River 2.4 feet.

First Graders Check Their Guns at the Door



Checking guns at the door of their first grade class room was one of the first activities pupils at Hoover School took part in during "Cowboy Day" Thursday. Originator of the "Cowboy Day" idea, Mrs. Wayne Jordan, first grade teacher, is shown above relieving first graders Beverly Loomis and Robert Foote Jr., of their six shooters before starting the day's studies which emphasized cowboys and ranch life. (Statesman photo.)

Ike Asks Social Security Expansion Solons Vote Tax Cut for Dividends

WASHINGTON — President Eisenhower urged Congress Thursday to boost social security benefits quickly for America's older citizens and give 10 million more people protection from "the fear . . . of destitution."

Eisenhower also asked that the amount of income taxed for pension purposes be raised from \$3,600 to \$4,200, and that retired persons be allowed to earn more at part time jobs without losing social security benefits.

The President proposed that a beneficiary be allowed to earn up to \$1,000 a year and still get his pension. Above that, he would lose a month's benefits for each extra \$80 of earnings.

Changing the tax base would mean that workers making more than \$3,600 would find up to \$12 more a year in social security deductions coming out of their pay checks. Their employers would have to match the amounts. (Additional details on page 2, section 1.)

Nash, Hudson Consolidation Plan Approved

DETROIT — Consolidation of Nash - Kelvinator Corp. and Hudson Motor Car Co. was approved Thursday by directors of the two companies subject to stockholder approval. Stockholder meetings will be held in March.

The resulting corporation will be known as American Motors Corp.

Under the plan, Nash, Hudson and Kelvinator will operate as separate divisions of American Motors. The dealer and sales organizations will retain their separate identities.

Hudson and Nash - Kelvinator together had assets of more than \$35 million dollars and working capital in excess of 100 million as of last Sept. 30. Their combined sales for the year ended last Sept. 30 were in excess of 680 million.

The Nash - Hudson consolidation, if completed, will be the second move of its kind in the auto industry during the past year. Last spring Kaiser Motors purchased Willis - Overland Motors for \$2 million.

That leaves only Packard and Studebaker as single entities among the car makers.

McMinnville Gusts Black Out Town

McMINNVILLE — The entire city of McMinnville was blacked out for 24 minutes shortly before 4 a.m. Thursday, when wind gusts shorted two 2,400-volt power lines, burning outlines in two spots.

Typelanes were affected and the West Coast phone company switched to batteries until repairs were completed.

Do You Drive a Car or Herd It?

(Starting today The Statesman is posing questions, both common and uncommon, to which drivers should know the answers—and apply them. Both questions and answers are checked with traffic experts.)

One Vehicle Tows Another Away After Two Collide

Two vehicles collided at Liberty and Center streets late Thursday afternoon and one obligingly towed the other away. It happened to be a wrecker.

The wrecker, owned by Davidson's garage, was driven by Donald M. McCue, 4805 Bailey Rd.

Police said a car operated by John Roop, 1365 N. 18th St., hit the side of the wrecker and received a smashed front end. No one was hurt.

The wrecker, which received minor damage, then towed the car off to a garage.

Wilson New President of Salem Chest

Otto J. Wilson was elected president of Salem Community Chest Thursday as the chest board of directors plunged into its 1954 program. (Pictures on page 2, section 1.)

The board whittled down agency funds in final approval of the current funds distribution; decided to expand the annual tours to state chest-supported agencies for child care and other functions; agreed to ask national chest leaders to confer with local officials; initiated organization of the 1954 fund campaign.

Other officers elected are Harold D. Robertson, first vice president; Herbert E. Barker, second vice president; Arthur B. Bates, treasurer. C. A. Kells was re-elected executive secretary.

The current fund report showed \$119,615 has been raised for this year's support of the various youth and character building organizations.

On the basis of this fund report and the expectation that some additional donations will be received, the board approved allocation to local agencies which are the same as each group has received from the chest in each of the past two years, plus a distribution of \$4,442 which was overpaid last year and must come out of the current fund.

Two special appropriations were \$2,000 for the YWCA which will need more operating revenue when it opens its new building, and \$700 for Salvation Army emergency relief fund.

Leaders also reported the new Christmas Bureau established with chest offices as headquarters last month provided clearing house for a list of 374 needy families. Six individuals and 21 organizations used the list in directing their Christmas charities.

The bulk of funds raised by the chest goes to these Salem groups: YMCA, YWCA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Camp Fire Girls.

Gamma Globulin Fights Polio in Aleutian Isles

NEW YORK — The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis said a lone doctor in the tiny Aleutian island of St. Paul began Thursday injecting the entire population with gamma globulin to combat a rising polio epidemic.

There have been two polio deaths among the 360 Aleut seal hunters and U. S. agents on the island, 800 miles west of Anchorage.

Dr. C. Earl Abrecht, territorial health officer at Juneau, Alaska, told the foundation by telephone that the ex-guards' iron lung and 3,000 cc's of the scarce blood fraction were flown directly to St. Paul from Anchorage Thursday.

Later 3,900 cc's and other supplies were rushed from New York to Anchorage to be landed or parachuted onto the island.

Missing Prison Guard Worked On Illinois Sanitarium Farm

Missing State Prison guard Victor Harry Williams, 40, worked as a farm hand at Merceyville Sanitarium, Aurora, Ill., for a short time after his mysterious disappearance from Salem last April 3, state police said Thursday.

State police Capt. Ray Howard said he received a telegram yesterday from the institution stating that Williams worked there from July 14 to Aug. 2, 1953.

Where Williams is now the institution and police don't know. It is believed he has relatives in the Aurora area.

The ex-guard's social security number which he gave the sanitarium checked out with the social security card found in his wallet on Highway 99W near Rickreall the morning after he vanished, Howard said.

Police have airmailed a photograph of Williams to the sanitarium to get positive identification. If the photo checks out, Howard said police would drop the

Snowstorm Warning Issued for Northwest

3 to 6 Inches Predicted for Seattle Area

SEATTLE — Moisture laden clouds moving toward the Pacific Northwest are expected to bump into a cold front near Seattle Friday and dump from three to six inches of snow on the Puget Sound region, the Weather Bureau advised in a special storm warning Thursday night.

Blizzard weather comparable to that which hit this region four years ago Jan. 13 are a possibility, the weather man said, and it would

India Plans to Return PWs Before Deadline

PANMUNJOM (AP)—India decided Thursday on its own to start turning back nearly 23,000 disputed prisoners to their captors Jan. 20—three days ahead of the deadline—and said it either side freed them it would violate the armistice.

In Washington, the U. S. Army chief of staff, Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway told a Senate committee "I would think that serious consequences could flow from such an action on the part of custodial forces of India—a premature release."

Ridgway said "I'd be concerned by the Communist reaction to such a release."

In Korea, the U. N. Command prepared to take back 22,500 Chinese and North Koreans from the anti-Red camp but went ahead with plans to set them free as civilians at 12:01 a. m. Jan. 23.

India's announcement drew quick criticism from the Swedish and Swiss members of the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission although both were agreeable to turning over the prisoners on Jan. 20.

The other members, Communist Poland and Czechoslovakia, did not make any public comment.

India acted after the Red and U. N. Commands held firmly to conflicting positions which left open the possibility the prisoners in the anti-Red camp might break out on Jan. 23 if not released.

U.S. Willing to Compromise On Parley Site

WASHINGTON — The United States was reported willing Thursday night to end the wrangle with Russia over the site of the Big Four foreign ministers conference in order to get it started on time Jan. 25.

Preliminary talks have bogged down in Berlin on the site question, but it was understood the United States would compromise at the next meeting, probably Friday afternoon.

The Russians have been insisting that half the Big Four talks be held in the Soviet controlled East Zone of Berlin and half in the Allied controlled Western Zone.

The United States, Britain and France had been holding out for a straight rotation among each of the four powers, thus making it three meetings in the West to one in the East.

Informed quarters said Thursday night the United States, in line with a policy to head off any Communist stall which would delay the foreign ministers meeting, was prepared to give in on the site detail. The feeling was that it is much too minor a detail on which to make a stand which would delay the meeting.

Marilyn, Joe Married in San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO — Gorgeous Marilyn Monroe and Joe Di Maggio were married Thursday in what was supposed to have been a quiet ceremony, but wasn't.

Judge Charles S. Peery, presiding jurist of the municipal court, performed the civil ceremony behind closed doors in his chambers while an estimated crowd of 500 jammed the corridor outside on the third floor of San Francisco's City Hall.

In an effort to keep their much-talked about but unannounced wedding plans secret, the film star and the former Yankee baseball slugger didn't even let the judge know he was to perform the ceremony until early Thursday afternoon.

Yet by the time they were married the crowd was so thick that Di Maggio, aided by his best man, restaurant manager Reno Barsocchini and Letty O'Doul, had to elbow a pathway for Marilyn to the elevator.

Joe and Marilyn left on a brief honeymoon for an unannounced destination. "Just driving," Joe said.

No Plans for Movies He indicated the plan to make their home in San Francisco, going to Hollywood whenever Marilyn has a picture to make. But, Marilyn said, she has no plans for movies now.

It was the second marriage for each. Miss Monroe was married at 15 to James Dougherty, now a policeman in Van Nuys, Calif. Her studio says it "was a short-lived marriage which she perfers to forget."

Joe was divorced from Dorothy Arnold, a film actress. They had one son.

Miss Monroe and Di Maggio have been virtually hiding out here for more than a week, primarily to keep their marriage plans secret.

Orchid, Corsage She was bare headed, wearing a dark brown broadcloth suit with a wide white ermine collar. She carried a corsage of three white orchids.

Di Maggio wore a dark blue business suit, and — long before the ceremony began — a considerable amount of Marilyn's lipstick.

Joe kissed Marilyn, somewhat bashfully but very well, for the photographers. He did it repeatedly without too much urging.

Judge Peery missed out. Later, he explained, "it was my first meeting with her. I didn't want to be too forward."

GRAND SLAM MADE MONTE CARLO — Capt. Ben O. Homson of Spartanburg, S. C., bid and made a grand slam in diamonds Thursday at the final session of the International Bridge Tournament at which an American team of experts won its fourth straight world title.

SEATTLE PRECIPITATION Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1 This Year Last Year Normal

Table with 3 columns: This Year, Last Year, Normal. Rows for 24.14, 17.49, 21.93.

Listing Ship Drops Cargo

SEATTLE — The steam schooner Lumberlady was forced to jettison its deck cargo of 20,000 feet of lumber Thursday when it developed a dangerous list off the Oregon Coast, the Coast Guard reported Thursday night.

The 253-foot schooner is owned by the Owen-Parks Lumber Co., Los Angeles. The Coast Guard has dispatched the cutter Bonham from Coos Bay, Ore., to the point 47 miles to the northwest which the Lumberlady gave as its position.

Heavy seas blown up by a wind which reached gusts of 50 miles an hour further complicated the 2,333 ton vessel's difficulties.

The latest report from the Lumberlady said it was in no immediate danger. Cause of the list was not given.

Today's Statesman

Table of contents for SECTION 1 and SECTION 2, listing Editorials, Features, Society, Women's, Valley and Farm, Food news, Business news, Comics, Radio, TV, Crossword, Star Gazer, Sports, Markets, Classified Ads.

Daily Speller

Following are 20 words from a list of 1000 which will form the basis for semi-final and final oral competition in The Statesman-KSLM Mid-Valley Spelling Contest for 1954, in which 83 schools are participating.

- stationery lieutenant puncture responsible speedometer disagreeable enormous ornament quotation librarian accordant twentieth youth excellent discussion gradually pleasing instrument muscle opponent