

Budget Bureau Denies Elimination of Oregon Project Due to Politics

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Statesman Correspondent
WASHINGTON — The Budget Bureau denies that it played politics in giving new reclamation projects to Idaho, California and Washington state and not to Oregon, in compiling the annual budget sent to Congress last Monday.

Boston Cons Face Added Prison Terms

BOSTON — Additional prison terms up to 40 years each Saturday faced the four convicts in Massachusetts State Prison who staged a 3½ day siege, holding five guards as hostage.

Atty. Gen. George Fingold said he would press for maximum sentences against the quartet on charges including kidnapping, illegal possession of firearms, and holding guards as hostage.

The first two charges carry maximum sentences of 10 years each. The maximum penalty for holding a hostage is 20 years.

Fingold said speedy trials for the men will be sought, adding that "they'll all be heard by March 15."

The desperadoes surrendered meekly Friday to the persuasions of a seven-man citizens committee. When they quit their desperate try for freedom, the rebels gave up their guns and freed the hostage guards and six other inmates held against their will.

Several investigations were beginning immediately at the 150-year-old prison. Officials sought to learn how the men got guns; where they obtained the saws to cut cell bars, and how it happened that they roamed freely outside the isolated cellblock for three hours before barricading themselves.

Deputy Warden Perley Vance disclosed the convicts had dug through the concrete floor during their siege. He said the digging went on from Tuesday morning, when they began their stubborn resistance, through Thursday.

Vance said the rebels struck water Thursday. It was then, he said, that they decided to make peace.

"They would have made their escape," he said, "if they had their plans laid out."

He said the original plan called for them to climb to the prison roof on a makeshift ladder and then scramble up the inclined roof to the wall.

Vance scoffed at statements by bankrobber Theodore Green that he had reformed.

"Ted Green always has that theme song, 'I want to be good,'" Vance said.

Veto 'Certain' If Congress Votes Tax Cut

WASHINGTON — Rep. Daniel A. Reed (R-N.Y.) said Saturday the Democrats face "a certain presidential veto" if they carry through reported plans for a tax cut in 1955.

Reed, who waged a notable but losing battle for tax cuts early in the Eisenhower administration, denounced as "political jockeying" Democratic talk of tax reductions this year in the face of President Eisenhower's call for no further change in the nation's tax structure before 1956.

The veteran lawmaker, senior Republican on the tax writing House Ways and Means Committee and its chairman in the last Congress, blasted talk of tax reductions now as "an act of unpardonable irresponsibility" in a statement defending the administration program.

His blast came in the wake of reports that Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee were considering running a general tax cut through Congress this year, instead of following the President's lead to put off any new changes until 1956, an election year.

Manslaughter Charged in Death Of Artist Eaton

THE DALLES — Joseph Warren Ferguson, 39, Moser rancher accused of killing his brother-in-law, Charles Edwin Eaton, 29, Portland commercial artist, on a hunting venture Dec. 26, was indicted on a manslaughter charge Saturday.

Ferguson is accused of mistaking Eaton for a deer while the two were hunting on Ferguson's ranch, 15 miles southwest of The Dalles.

Circuit Judge Malcolm W. Wilkinson set next Saturday as the time for Ferguson to enter a plea.

Young birds often eat more than their weight in food in a single day.

by former Sen. Guy Cordon (R-Ore.) and Rep. Harris Ellsworth (R-Ore.) to persuade the Budget Bureau last fall to include the newly authorized Talent division of the Rogue River project in the budget for construction funds.

But the budget, as revealed to Congress, contained only \$30,000 to continue planning the project, while it included construction funds to start five new irrigation projects in other states.

It had been explained in advance to this reporter by a high official of the administration that the Talent project was not included because there was no longer any political need to help Cordon, who was defeated in the November election. It was pointed out that the new projects went to states in which GOP candidates had won their re-election contests and were back in office with enough influence to move the administration to approve funds for their projects. No comment could be obtained on this report in advance, due to tight secrecy about the contents of the budget until it is sent to Congress.

Asked Reasons
After the budget was released for publication, this reporter sought out the officials under whose jurisdiction the decision on the Talent project was made and asked the reason for its deletion. This is what happened:

The official declined to discuss the matter with the reporter but turned the inquiry over to the information officer of the Budget Bureau, Miss Virginia de Pury, who said she would try to get the answer.

The official answer as later given by Miss de Pury was that the Oregon project was not in the budget for this reason:

"Because of the large investment and the high federal subsidy, and the fact that total annual benefits are only slightly in excess of costs, the Bureau decided to defer action on it and have a further review in connection with the 1957 budget."

Not Enough Priority
When asked why the Budget also failed to include funds for the navigation improvement at the mouth of the Columbia River, as authorized by Congress last year, the spokesman for the Bureau said there was "no special reason" except that it didn't have "a high enough priority for this year's budget."

Few experienced officials, either in Congress or in career jobs in the administration, will deny that frequently the priority given any project is directly proportionate to the political power and influence of those who seek its approval. But it is a condition which the Budget Bureau will not admit as true, and which members of Congress decline to charge publicly so long as they continue to be at the mercy, in effect, of the Budget Bureau officials who have the last word in determining which projects gain approval and which are denied funds.

Anglers Put Sea Lions in Dog House

FLORENCE, Ore. (UP)—Some 60 sea lions here are in the dog house as far as anglers, and resort owners are concerned.

Seems the lions are making a big bite in the steelhead run in the Siuslaw river mouth.

Fishing guide Archie Barnes said that eight out of 10 fish caught have been clawed by the sea lions which come from beneath the fish to catch it in the belly or tail.

Some anglers have reported the lions gulp the fish right off the hook when the fish were being boated.

Lane county's sea lion population is protected by state law. The world famous Sea Lion caves are only 13 miles north of Florence.

Some guides and fishermen have maintained the sea lion population should be decimated for the sake of better fishing.

The game commission however, recently shot some sea lions in the mouth of the Rogue river. Examination of stomach contents showed these lions had been dieting primarily on lampreys which in turn prey upon steelhead and salmon.

TV EXCHANGED
VIENNA (INS)—East Germany and Communist Czechoslovakia have agreed to exchange television programs over an interstate television hook-up system.

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Power Group Hits AEC's Bid Deadline

WASHINGTON — The American Public Power Assn. protested Saturday that an April 1 bidding deadline would virtually exclude its members from joining in a new program for development of atom-powered generating plants.

The Atomic Energy Commission announced Jan. 10 it was offering to aid utility companies in development of their own reactors to produce electric power. It called for proposals to be submitted by April 1.

The public power group, which represents about 800 municipally and cooperatively owned utilities, said the deadline had the effect of limiting participation to 37 private and two public power groups which already are members of AEC industrial study teams.

It said no other utilities have or could get the necessary clearance for secret information in time to permit them to submit intelligent bids.

The protest was filed in a letter to AEC Chairman Lewis L. Strauss with copies to the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee which plans to open hearings Jan. 31 on various phases of AEC activities.

HAMMOCK BEDDED
LONDON (INS)—The old-fashioned, back-breaking hammock will soon disappear from Britain's Royal Navy. The normally hide-bound Admiralty has finally succumbed to sailors' complaints and is introducing a new type of hammock which can quickly be turned into a comfortable bed.

Reopening of North Idaho College Eyed

BOISE, Idaho (UP)—Reopening of Northern Idaho College of Education at Lewiston as a branch of University of Idaho was proposed Saturday by Sen. Howard Hechtner (D-Nez Perce).

His proposal, made to newsmen on the eve of a meeting of the State Board of Education, came as the House of Representatives approved unanimously the granting of master's degrees by Idaho State College.

Heard an attack by Rep. James Annett (R-Cassia) on recommendations that Southern Idaho College of Education at Albion be converted into a western women's reformatory.

The Education Board will discuss its budget recommendations — including \$15,200,000 for public schools — with the joint Finance and Appropriations committees starting Monday. It will meet with education committees on its legislative program.

Emphasizing that he was speaking only for the Nez Perce County delegation, Hechtner said:

"We would like to get clearance from the State Board of Education so the facilities at Lewiston can be utilized for the training of elementary teachers."

Hechtner's statement was the first public indication of the approach backers of NICE will take on seeking to reopen the school closed in 1951. Govt. Robert E. Smylie has said he will not "arbitrarily reject" a solution of the teachers college problem that is within the state's financial means.

Accidents killed more than 80,000 people in the United States in 1954.

Demos Record Opposition to Dixon-Yates

WASHINGTON — Democrats on the Senate-House Atomic Energy Committee are planning to put the group on record next week in opposition to the embattled Dixon-Yates power contract.

The Democrats, now in the majority on the group for the first time since President Eisenhower ordered the contract negotiated, have held secret huddles this week to work out strategy.

Out of these, one lawmaker reported, has come a decision to push through a resolution taking one of three tacks:

1. Condemning the contract outright.
2. Calling on the Atomic Energy Commission to cancel the contract.
3. Rescinding the committee's action of last November, when it was under Republican control, permitting an immediate go-ahead on the contract as asked by the President.

Democrats concede that none of the three moves would necessarily block the contract, which already has leaped numerous hurdles but still has several to go.

But they say they have found a vulnerable spot in the contract's proposal for a privately built and operated power plant.

This is a request in Eisenhower's budget for more than six million dollars to build transmission lines to connect with the Dixon-Yates plant.

Democrats fighting the contract already are laying plans to try to eliminate this item—a move they say would make the plant worthless.

Ford Delays Decision on Wage Demand

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (UP)—A Ford Motor Co. executive announced Saturday night that Ford is holding off any decision on union demands for a guaranteed annual wage prior to negotiations with the CIO United Auto Workers this spring on a new contract.

In a speech prepared for the Wyoming Press Assn., John S. Bugas, Ford's vice president of industrial relations, said:

"You may x x have heard mention of a thing known as GAW, or guaranteed annual wage, which some people claim will be considered."

"I will just say that we'd be very happy if only somebody would come up with a good plan for GAP or guaranteed annual profit."

Bugas declared that "no decision of any kind will be reached by us" before the company and union negotiators "have had the opportunity to sit down and discuss the issues at the bargaining table."

Construction of Pendleton's New Armory to Start

PENDLETON — Construction of Pendleton's combined armory and civic center is expected to start early next month.

The state is making the early start possible. The low bid for the job was \$399,630, which was \$79,000 more than available funds. Pendleton could offer only an additional \$40,000.

Col. Paul Kliever of the Oregon National Guard at Salem advised city officials Friday that the state would match the city funds, and construction could start.

Eastern Crash Kills Bend Soldier

BEAUFORT, S. C. (UP)—Johanna K. Paulson, 24, Bend, Ore., Marine corporal stationed at nearby Parris Island Recruit Depot, was injured fatally in an automobile accident here Wednesday.

An automobile crashed into a utility pole while being chased by a police car. Three sailors in the fleeing car were injured seriously.

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