

Test Vote in House Seen as Big Boost For Private Power

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Statesman Correspondent

WASHINGTON—(Special)—In the first solid test of the mood of the present House of Representatives on the touchy public vs. private power question, critics of public power have won a hands-down victory that is being taken as an indicator of what may happen to such Pacific Northwest questions as Hells Canyon and "partnership" construction of dams on the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

The test came on whether Congress should vote funds to connect the TVA system with the proposed Dixon-Yates steam plant via transmission line across the Mississippi river as asked by the Eisenhower administration.

Democratic critics of the Dixon-Yates power contract, which has already been sealed by the administration and the private utility, combine that plans to build the plant, saw this as a last opportunity to block the implementation of the contract. The Democratically-controlled House Appropriations Committee earlier had approved their scheme to deny funds for the transmission line hookup with TVA.

"National Concern"
Republican supporters of the Dixon-Yates power deal brought the issue to a head on the House floor last Thursday when debate neared a voting climax on the big public works construction money bill. They moved to reverse the action of the Democrats on the committee and approve the power plant plan.

"The Dixon-Yates contract is a matter of national concern," declared Rep. Natcher (D-Ky.), "and success of this plan ultimately means not only the destruction of TVA, but the same situation will apply to Hells Canyon, Trinity River, and the Niagara Falls redevelopment."

Rep. Hallock (R-Ind.), GOP floor leader, roared back a few minutes later that "you people have done very well down there (in TVA country) compared to the taxpayers of the rest of the country, and I might suggest that it might not be too wise to ride a good horse to death. Possibly you are afraid the gray train is running out."

Rep. Jones (D-Ia.) had a quick appeal to the "rest of the country." "This immediate proposal does not confine itself just to TVA. There is a larger question, the question of whether or not the people, through their government, will continue to control the management of the TVA, Bonneville Power administration, Central Valley project (in California), Southwest Power administration, the rural electrification program, and all the flood control projects (of the Corps of Engineers) that presently contain a multiple function including the supplying of electric energy."

Rep. Arends (R-Ill.), GOP whip, said the vote the House was about to take was "whether, as a matter of national policy, we shall promote federal public power rather than private enterprise. It is essentially whether we believe in socialism or whether we believe in our American system of free, private enterprise. To this fundamental issue all this talk about costs, rates, interest, and taxes is superfluous."

Roll Call Avoided
Back and forth it went, with Pacific Northwest Democrats and Republicans sitting this one out. On the final vote, the Republican plan to approve funds for the Dixon-Yates power line was approved 198-169 by a teller vote. Realizing they were defeated, Democrats who fought the plan did not ask for a formal roll call that would have placed each member on record on the question.

While the same battle is expected to be fought when the bill comes up in the Senate later this summer, this was the first test run through the House of any major public vs. private power issue. This was sure evidence that the House will likely pass the "partnership" bill of Rep.

New York Association To Honor Sarnoff

NEW YORK (AP)—David Sarnoff, chairman of the Radio Corporation of America, will receive the 1955 gold medal of the Hundred Year Assn. of New York. Sarnoff will be cited for "his contribution to the community life of New York." The association is composed of commercial and cultural institutions one hundred or more years in existence.

Methodists Open Conclave Today

EUGENE (AP)—The annual conference of the Methodist Church in Oregon will open here Tuesday with committee meetings. Dr. Earl Cranston, dean of the school of Religion at the University of Southern California, will be the guest speaker Wednesday. Pastoral appointments will be announced Sunday.

Morrison-Knudsen Bid Low on Barracks Job

SEATTLE (AP)—Morrison-Knudsen company's bid of \$473,741 was the lowest received on construction of four two-story barracks for airmen at the Klamath Falls Air Force Base. The announcement was made by the 13th Naval district which is handling the project for the Air Force.

Buyer Dickers For Lebanon Timber Firm

PORTLAND (AP)—An officer of the company which owns a Lebanon timber fabricating firm — Timber Tech — said negotiations are underway for its sale. Lewis E. Tippet of the Lawrence Warehouse company in Portland said sale negotiations are in progress, but that he was not at liberty to identify a possible buyer. Lawrence Warehouse owns a heavy majority of the stock in Timber Tech. Tippet confirmed Timber Tech is not accepting orders for future delivery, but said present contracts are being filled. He added that work on hand would take "probably ninety days" to complete. The firm now employs about 145 persons. Estimates of the property's worth have run as high as \$700,000 but Tippet said he could not confirm that figure. There have been reports that closure of Timber Tech was imminent. Asked about those reports, Tippet said, "Every effort is being made to continue operations and it appears there is every chance for success."

House Raises Government Workers' Pay

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House voted overwhelmingly Monday to raise the pay of more than one million classified government workers 7 1/2 per cent. The Senate has passed a 10 per cent boost.

The bill now goes to a Senate-House conference committee to compromise the difference. Many House members said they expect the final figures to be 8 per cent.

There was no direct indication of how big a pay hike President Eisenhower would approve, although both figures were higher than the 5 per cent he recommended. In Monday's brief debate, Rep. St. George (R-NY) said a 7 1/2 per cent bill would be signed into law.

As voted by the House, the increase would cost an estimated \$25 million dollars a year. The vote on the pay raise was 370-3, with three Republicans against it — Reps. Taber of New York, Mason of Illinois and Vorse of Illinois.

While there was no floor fight over the amount of the boost, Rep. Moss (D-Calif.), who led an unsuccessful fight in committee for an 8 per cent hike, said his forces were counting on a compromise at that figure. Moss reminded the House that Congress voted itself a 50 per cent raise and gave career military personnel incentive pay raises ranging from 6 to 25 per cent.

The measure would apply to 983,057 Civil Service workers and some 90,000 employees of Congress and the judicial branch of government, the Department of Medicine and Surgery of the Veterans Administration, the Foreign Service and agencies whose pay is fixed by administrative action.

Speeder's Prayer Quickly Answered

PRESTONSBURG, Ky. (AP)—A religious friend gave this explanation to Editor Norman Allen of the Floyd County Times after being cited for driving 50 miles an hour in a 35-mile zone: "I had just bought a nice, new car and was driving alone, thanking the Lord I was able to own such a nice car. And while I was doing this, paying no attention to speed and the surroundings, I also asked God to keep me from being proud. I asked Him to whittle me down to size and just that very moment the state trooper pulled me to the side of the road."

The "Babe's" Own Story



Mildred Didrikson Zaharias, greatest woman athlete of all time, tells her amazing story

Ben Hibbs, editor of the Post, says, "You'll meet here one of the warmest human beings you've ever read about—a woman who would make great copy even if she were not the world's greatest woman athlete. 'I like Babe's picture of the modest home where seven little Didriksons practiced weightlifting. I like the yarn about Babe's first trip away from home. And I admire Babe's story of that day in '53 when she learned she had cancer. 'The Babe is quite a gal. I commend her to you.' For the most entertaining story from the sports world in years, don't miss 'This Life I've Led.' Start it today!"

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Zee Towels	ABSORBENT	2 rolls	33¢
New Potatoes	HIGHWAY	3 No. 303 cans	25¢

Olives	Ebony No. 1 Can	21c	
Green Beans	Frozen Belair	10-oz.	20c

Anacin Tablets	Quick, Safe Pain Relief	30 Tablets	49c
Purex Bleach	Safe, Mild Liquid Bleach	1/2 Gal. Bottle	29c

Begmore Dog Food	Typical Safeway Low Price	6 Reg. Cans	85c
Biltmore Tuna	Red Label Tuna Morsels	No. 1/2 Cans	25c

Milani Dressing	Famous 1890 French Dressing	6-oz. Bottle	29c
Heinz Ketchup	Flavor Favorite of Millions	14-oz. Bottle	23c

M.C.P. Pectin	For Summer Jelly Making	2 3 1/2-oz. Pkgs.	29c
Zee Tissue	Made in the Northwest	4 Roll Pack	33c

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