

PUD Defeat in Vote Seen as Victory for Private Enterprise

Private Power Wins in Washington

COLVILLE, Wash. (AP)—The Washington Water Power Co. claimed "a smashing victory for private enterprise" Wednesday and moved to take over facilities of the Stevens County Public Utility District.

The 19,500 residents of the county have been served by both public and private power but agreed the area wasn't big enough for both. The issue of whether the PUD should sell out to WWP was put to a vote.

By a 71 per cent majority, the voters said "yes" in the special election Tuesday and the private company will now buy distribution and transmission lines of the district for \$2,905,000.

The vote was 5,009 to 2,028. Kinsey M. Robinson, president of WWP, was elated at the overwhelming victory and said in a statement "it is a clear indication that the majority of the American people anywhere will vote in favor of free enterprise if given a chance."

Robinson said his Spokane office has been "flooded with messages of congratulations" from all over the country.

"President Eisenhower's partnership program for the development of these facilities is the most reasonable answer to bringing together all of the power-producing agencies in the nation to assure that the best interests of all the American people will be served," he said.

There were differences of opinion on how far reaching the political implications of the vote might be.

George Kinnear, state Republican chairman, said in Seattle the election shows that people are willing to choose which organization can serve them best, regardless of whether it's public or private.

He said such an attitude went into formulation of the partnership power program.

Sen. Richard Neuberger (D-Ore.), commenting in Portland, said the vote has no relation to "the bigger issue of public or private development of power resources. I would like to see the Hells Canyon Dam issue put to a referendum in Oregon."

What many Americans, particularly those with New England descent, have not recognized is the infusion of other strains, religious, (Continued on editorial page, 4.)

Thanksgiving is distinctively American. Other nations have their "Te Deums" on occasions of great rejoicing, but only the United States sets aside one day a year for national thanksgiving. Its symbols, too, are American: the turkey, strictly an American bird, and Pilgrims, Bible in hand, marching through the snow to the meeting house to offer prayers of thanksgiving in response to the call of Gov. William Bradford of the Plymouth colony in 1623.

They were a small band, these Pilgrims, and the Puritans who followed them to found Massachusetts Bay colony were not numerous either. Yet they gave a singular stamp to American cultural development. They were intense; they quickly founded schools and set up printing presses. Thus New England became the schoolmaster for America, and the religious mentor, too, for many decades.

While modern Americans have gone far toward throwing off their Puritan inheritance, this Thanksgiving custom still holds. Church services are held over the land (often too poorly attended, however) and folk assemble in family gatherings to partake of the bounties with which they are blessed.

Political parties may claim the credit for the prosperity, but through the year every American feels grateful to God that he is an American citizen enjoying the liberties as well as the material abundance which here is widely distributed.

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New Strawberry Variety Named

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Experts describe it as vigorous, resistant to red stele and particularly good for areas in which the standby variety, Marshall, cannot grow.

Hitchcock Levels Blow at Harriman Balloting Advice

MILWAUKEE, Ore. (AP)—Former State Sen. Phil Hitchcock said Tuesday night Oregon does not need the advice of Gov. Averell Harriman on whether to vote for Sen. Wayne Morse next year.

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Russ Set Off Big H-Blast

A-Commission Points to Soviet's 'Intensive Effort'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Russians have set off another great nuclear explosion "the largest yet in the U.S.S.R."—and carrying a punch equal to millions of tons of TNT.

The Atomic Energy Commission announced this Wednesday night, without saying it was a hydrogen bomb explosion, which it appeared to be on the basis of the force credited to it. The first known Russian H-bomb blast occurred in 1953.

The greatest nuclear explosion the United States has set off—in 1954 at Bikini atoll—was estimated unofficially as having the force of 15 to 17 million tons of TNT. Since the AEC spoke only of unspecified millions of tons in its new announcement of Russia's achievements, a comparison was not possible.

The text of Wednesday night's AEC announcement:

"Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, announced today that another explosion had taken place in the current Soviet test series."

"Following the policy of reporting to the American people information of significance concerning Soviet weapons tests, Mr. Strauss said that this explosion was the largest thus far in the U.S.S.R. and was in the range of megatons (a megaton represents the explosive equivalent of one million tons of TNT)."

The purpose of the conference is "to bring together selected representatives of the churches of Salem and vicinity to discuss things the churches can do and ought to do to develop a mind for peace on the part of their memberships."

The conference will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 2 to 9 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church. It is the inter-church Community Conference on World Order sponsored by Salem Council of Churches.

Discussion will center around such items as the United Nations, international negotiations, universal disarmament, foreign trade and human rights.

Charles A. Sprague, Oregon Statesman publisher and general conference chairman, will preside. Prominent outside speakers will participate.

The Rev. Julian Keiser, committee chairman, said the conference will be made up of 10 members from each church, who are now preparing through the use of study materials. A dinner will be held at 6 p.m. at Leslie Methodist Church.

(Additional details in Sec. 1, Page 13)

Santas Told to Avoid Garlic

NEW YORK (AP)—You think it's a cinch to be a sidewalk Santa Claus? Not on your life.

The Volunteers of America held a briefing for its 60 Santas Wednesday. These strict orders were laid down:

Be sure your breath is clean—stay away from garlic and onions. Be patient with little children. Ring your bell, but don't be a nuisance. And don't lean on your chimney or smoke or eat or drink while on duty.

DRIVERS SEE RED

NEW YORK (AP)—Traffic got into a horrible snarl on Flatbush Avenue in Brooklyn Wednesday. A short circuit caused all traffic lights along a one-mile stretch to stay red.

Santa's Visit, Parade Due Friday, Saturday

Salem merchants said Wednesday they had completed plans for Santa Claus' visit Friday and the gala kiddies' Fairyland Parade Saturday morning.

The Fairyland Parade, in which local kiddies have been invited to take part, will start at 9 a.m. Saturday and will leave from the Capitol Mall at 10 a.m.

Line of march will be west on Chemeketa street to High, then south to State, west to Liberty, north to Center, then east to Capital and south again to disband at the mall.

Santas will land by helicopter at the mall Friday at 11:45 a.m. He will appear at downtown stores and in the Capitol Shopping center from noon to 8:45 p.m.

Children's Floats

The parade will include Santa's float and 11 others, depicting scenes from children's classics.

Journalist



Fred Shideler, Oregon State College journalism director, will become administrative assistant to Gov. Paul Patterson Jan. 1.

OSC Official Named Aide To Governor

The governor announced Shideler's appointment to the new position Wednesday. Shideler has obtained a year's leave of absence from OSC to accept the state post.

Shideler is head of the journalism department at OSC and a former newspaperman. He has been on the Oregon State faculty since 1929.

Gov. Patterson said the demands made upon his office have increased so rapidly that the additional executive assistant was authorized by the last Legislature. Shideler is to start work here Jan. 1. (Additional details Sec. 1, Page 5.)

Sweet Home Man Dies in Trailer Fire

SWEET HOME (AP)—An 80-year-old blind man tripped as he groped his way toward the door and died in a fire that destroyed a trailer house about 15 miles east of here Wednesday afternoon.

The victim, William Buchanan, was alone in the structure while his wife and a daughter, Mrs. Rex Dundon, were in a house at the front of the lot, putting chickens away in a freezer.

The women looked out and saw the trailer house in flames. They ran to it, Mrs. Buchanan shouting to her husband and he screaming in reply. Mrs. Buchanan entered the flaming structure, but her daughter pulled her out. Both women suffered minor burns and Mrs. Buchanan, in a state of shock, was brought to a hospital here.

The Sweet Home Fire Department sent a pumper and the Linn County Fire Patrol a water truck. Firemen put out the blaze and removed Buchanan, who apparently had stumbled over a chair as he headed for safety, but he died within a few minutes.

Deputy Coroner Walt Houston quoted firemen as saying the blaze apparently started from the explosion of a butane gas heater. Cause of the explosion was not known.

The dwellings were about a half-mile below the Cascadia Ranger Station.

The State Supreme Court, in an opinion by Justice Hall S. Lusk Wednesday, affirmed the conviction of Dr. Ross H. Elliott, Portland chiropractor, of an attempt to commit manslaughter by abortion.

Circuit Judge Martin W. Hawkins presided at the trial in the Multnomah County Circuit Court.

The woman, the Court said, was pregnant following the abortion attempt. But the pregnancy was in the fallopian tube. The Court indicated this is the first time it had been faced with the problem of any other than a normal pregnancy in dealing with criminal abortion.

In upholding the conviction, the high court reviewed the laws of criminal attempt and held that the "want of the thing to be operated upon" is no defense to the charge of a criminal attempt to commit the substantive offense.

The Court said "the punishment of such an offender is just as essential to the safety of society as committed."

(Additional court decisions Sec. 1, Page 11.)

NEW VIOLENCE REPORTED

ALGIERS (AP)—New violence flared across French North Africa Wednesday, leaving more than 20 dead in Algeria. Seven persons were reported dead in Morocco amid signs of fresh tribal unrest in the northern part of that protectorate.

Bank in Portland Robbed

Young Bandit Grabs Up \$1,018 And Walks Away

PORTLAND (AP)—A dapper, calm bandit, unflustered by pursuing bank employes, escaped from the main branch of the First National Bank of Portland with a handful of currency Wednesday evening.

Bank officials estimated the loss at \$1,018.

It was the second such bank holdup here in five weeks. Last month a man made off with \$3,265 from the Metropolitan branch of the U.S. National Bank, a few blocks away. He was never caught.

Demands Money

In each case the bandit shoved a note through a teller's window demanding money. Wednesday's said, in wording similar to the October holdup, "Be calm—hand over the money and I won't shoot you."

Mrs. Gertrude Dunford of Canby, a teller, said she picked up some unbundled currency and handed it to him. She said he walked away calmly, putting the money in an envelope. He did not display a gun, she said.

Went for Police

Two assistant cashiers, sensing something wrong, pursued the man. One of them, Robert T. Weber, went after a nearby traffic policeman.

The cashier, Perry Miller, followed the man 1 1/2 blocks, but the man suddenly turned, shoved Miller through a restaurant door, and said, "Get in there and walk to the back."

Cold Weather Brings Heavy Job Layoffs

Oregon's cold mid-November weather resulted in the heaviest temporary layoffs throughout the State since January, 1950, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission reported here Wednesday.

Twenty-six local offices of the Unemployment Compensation Commission reported 8,919 initial claims last week, highest ever recorded at this time of the year and nearly double the number received the previous week.

Claims for compensation, however, remained around 12,000, about 40 per cent below comparable periods either in 1953 or 1954.

Although further seasonal increases are expected, many plants are expected to resume activity if the weather continues to moderate.

Earnings of Oregon's 130,000 production workers changed but little last month, although the average rose slightly to \$87.04 a week. The figure was approximately 74 cents above September's average.

Shorter work weeks were reported by construction and printing and publishing but slightly longer hours came from most other groups. The average work week for all industry rose to 38.7 hours as compared with 39.2 hours last year. Hourly pay increased from \$2.18 to \$2.25 during the 12 months.

Parents Take Pupils' Places

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—"How long has it been since you had fractions?" one mother whispered.

"That's a personal question," the second mother replied.

The laugh-provoking conversation came at a special class for parents of fifth-grade pupils of Mrs. Winnifred Wickson at Horace Mann School here.

Mrs. Wickson explained: "The children often tell me, 'that isn't the way mother and daddy show me' so I asked the parents to come in after school so we could be teaching and helping the same way."

Seventeen mothers and fathers "crammed" an hour and a half on fractions and all but one mother agreed they had learned something.

She confessed: "I didn't realize how badly I needed glasses. I had trouble reading the problems on the blackboard."

Service Planned For Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving church services today will include the Protestant Union service at 10 a.m. at First Christian Church and Catholic services at St. Vincent de Paul at 7 and 9 a.m. and at St. Joseph's at 7:15, 8 and 9 a.m. Many other churches also will hold individual services.

The Weather

Max. Min. Precip. Portland 49 41 38 Baker 32 21 03 Medford 50 38 24 North Bend 53 44 78 Roseburg 50 39 72 San Francisco 55 40 33 Los Angeles 65 45 00 Chicago 41 35 15 New York 57 37 04 Willamette River 5.6 feet

FORECAST (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary Field, Salem): Mostly cloudy with showers today; cloudy with rain and showers Friday. A little change in temperature with the highest today near 60 and the lowest tonight near 35. Temperature at 12:01 a.m. today was 45.

SALEM PRECIPITATION Since Start of Weather Year Sept. 1 This Year Last Year Normal 12.97 9.21 6.68

Putting the 'Giving' Into Thanksgiving



This little girl will have a happy Thanksgiving dinner today through the efforts of one of the many civic and religious organizations donating food to needy families for the holiday. Representing American Legion Auxiliary 136—one such organization—are from (left to right) Mrs. Jack Johnson, Mrs. Donald W. Kazummen and Mrs. Joseph V. Tompkins. (Statesman Photo by John Erickson.)

Mid-Valley Wrecks Mar Holiday; Heavy Traffic Clogs Area Roads

By RUSSELL BIERAUGEL Staff Writer, The Statesman

Absence of serious injury was cause for Thanksgiving at a dozen tables today after at least 12 vehicles were involved in major crashes Wednesday night on congested highways in the Salem area.

Only one man was reported treated at a hospital although eight vehicles received extensive damage and five were towed from the scene.

Four major accidents were reported by state police, but one of them involved five vehicles and another involved three. All were rear-end crashes on Highway 99, where bumper-to-bumper traffic was the rule from late afternoon on. Several minor accidents also were reported.

Youth Treated

Verne Lawrence, 16, of Westport, was treated at Albany General Hospital for face lacerations after the southbound car in which he was driving alone plowed under the rear end of a truck which parked on a shoulder of Highway 99E about 12 miles south of Salem shortly before 8 p.m. The truck was registered to Ted Wheelock of Corvallis.

Five Cars

While traffic was slowing at the scene of this wreckage, five northbound cars tangled in a series of rear-end crashes which damaged four of them extensively. A pickup truck which was struck while standing crossways in the road had to be towed away.

One of two cars northbound involved in a rear-end collision about 5:30 p.m. on Highway 99E about 5 miles north of Albany had to be towed from the scene. Two of three northbound cars involved in a rear-end collision shortly before 5 p.m. on the Salem-Portland Expressway were towed from the scene north of Broadacres road where the highway had been partly blocked for highway crew work.

Minor Crashes

At least three minor crashes, on 99E south of Salem, on Lancaster road and at Silverton, were not investigated by state police for lack of time.

A large geographical area is represented in the list of drivers involved in the four major accidents. Besides Lawrence and the Wheelock truck, they were Gustav Langley, Empire; Allen Edward Sackett, Blue River; Wilmer Elmer Johnson, Lebanon; Edgar Wayne Carpenter, Grants Pass; Donald Wheeler Willing, Eugene; Charles Wilber Chambers, Albany; Donald Dolph, Portland; Beverly Bernice Martinson, Albany; Dorin Elber Walter, Fossil; and Wendell Chase Johnson, Corvallis.

The council also voted to turn over the auditorium for a center if the commission wants it. However, the council voted, 4-1, against making available Buckman Field, an east side park.

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Tourist Trade Record Seen

OCEANLAKE (AP)—The Oregon coast next year will exceed its record 51 million dollar tourist trade of 1955.

That prediction was made at the closing session of the Oregon Coast Assn. convention Tuesday by Don Houghton, association president.

He also said the convention turnout was the best in recent years with delegates attending from all seven Oregon coastal counties and neighboring California and Washington counties.

Delegates supported the proposal of R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer, for a compromise solution of the congressional controversy which has delayed the appropriation of federal road funds.

Council Offers to Give Streets for Sports Center

PORTLAND (AP)—The City Council agreed Wednesday to vacate streets needed for a proposed sports center, either near the civic auditorium or near the east end of the Steel Bridge. The Exposition-Recreation Commission has both sides under consideration.

The council also voted to turn over the auditorium for a center if the commission wants it. However, the council voted, 4-1, against making available Buckman Field, an east side park.

Showers, Then Rain Forecast

Showers will continue today but turn to rain tomorrow, McNary Field weathermen announced for Thanksgiving vacationers. The temperature will be about the same as Wednesday's but tonight is expected to fall to about 35.

Continuing snow was reported in the mountains, with McKenzie and Mt. Hood passes closed and chains required on Santiam and Willamette Passes and in Southern Oregon and Northern California.

A-ENGINE PLANNED

PARIS (AP)—France's secretary of state for armed forces, Jean Crouzier, said Wednesday night this country has begun preliminary work on an atomic engine for submarines.