

Group Demands France to Stop Taxing U. S. Aid

One Dollar in Five Claimed Seized

By B. L. LIVINGSTONE
Associated Press Staff Writer
WASHINGTON—(AP)—A congressional committee Saturday demanded that France quit grabbing as taxes "about one dollar in five" of the money the United States gives for mutual defense construction in that country.

It said the tax on American procurement transactions in France amounts to more than the total the French themselves give to the defense program. The take, it said, might hit 100 million dollars.

To Stir Up Battle

Disclosure of French taxes on American defense works comes at a time when Congress is about to be asked for more money to finance European defenses.

It appeared certain to stir up a storm among lawmakers who have already balked at President Truman's request for additional taxes.

In a toughly worded report, a special House committee charged that "fantastically" pyramided taxes now being applied on military construction by the French government constitute "a serious drain" on U. S. funds.

No Taxes Please

Directing the State and Defense Departments to "take steps immediately" to obtain relief, the committee said money sent abroad for mutual defense should be exempt from all taxes by the beneficiary nation.

The report was issued by a special subcommittee of the House Armed Services and Executive Expenditures Committee, headed by Rep. Hardy (D.-Va.), following a recent inspection of military construction in Europe and Africa. Rep. Vinson (D.-Ga.), chairman of the House Armed Services Committee which has the last word on American military spending, said Saturday his group had endorsed the recommendations of the Hardy subcommittee.

SHERIFF TO RESIGN

DAELAS—(AP)—T. B. Hooker, Polk County Sheriff for the past 28 years, said Friday that he will leave office at the end of this year when his present term expires.

Pelton Dam Foes Condemn Project

PORTLAND—(AP)—A group opposed to construction of Pelton Dam on the Deschutes River in Central Oregon elected officers Friday and issued a statement condemning the proposed power project.

Rollin Bowles, president of a Portland chapter of the Izaak Walton League was named chairman of the group which changed its name to "Save the Deschutes Committee."

Earlier the group was called the "Citizens Committee to Stop the Pelton Dam."

The committee said "power production of the proposed Pelton Dam would amount to only eight-tenths of one per cent of the anticipated Northwest power pool by 1954-1955, when the dam . . . might be completed."

The group said Portland General Electric was wrong in asserting there were no salmon in the Deschutes. "Significant numbers of Chinook . . . spawned countless number of eggs . . . above the proposed dam site . . ." last spring, the group said.

The group said two members of the Oregon Committee for Industrial Development—which Governor McKay asked to study the dam controversy—should withdraw while the study is being made.

They are Sid Woodbury, who the group said was a director of PGE and Glenn Jackson, said to be president of the California-Oregon Power Co.

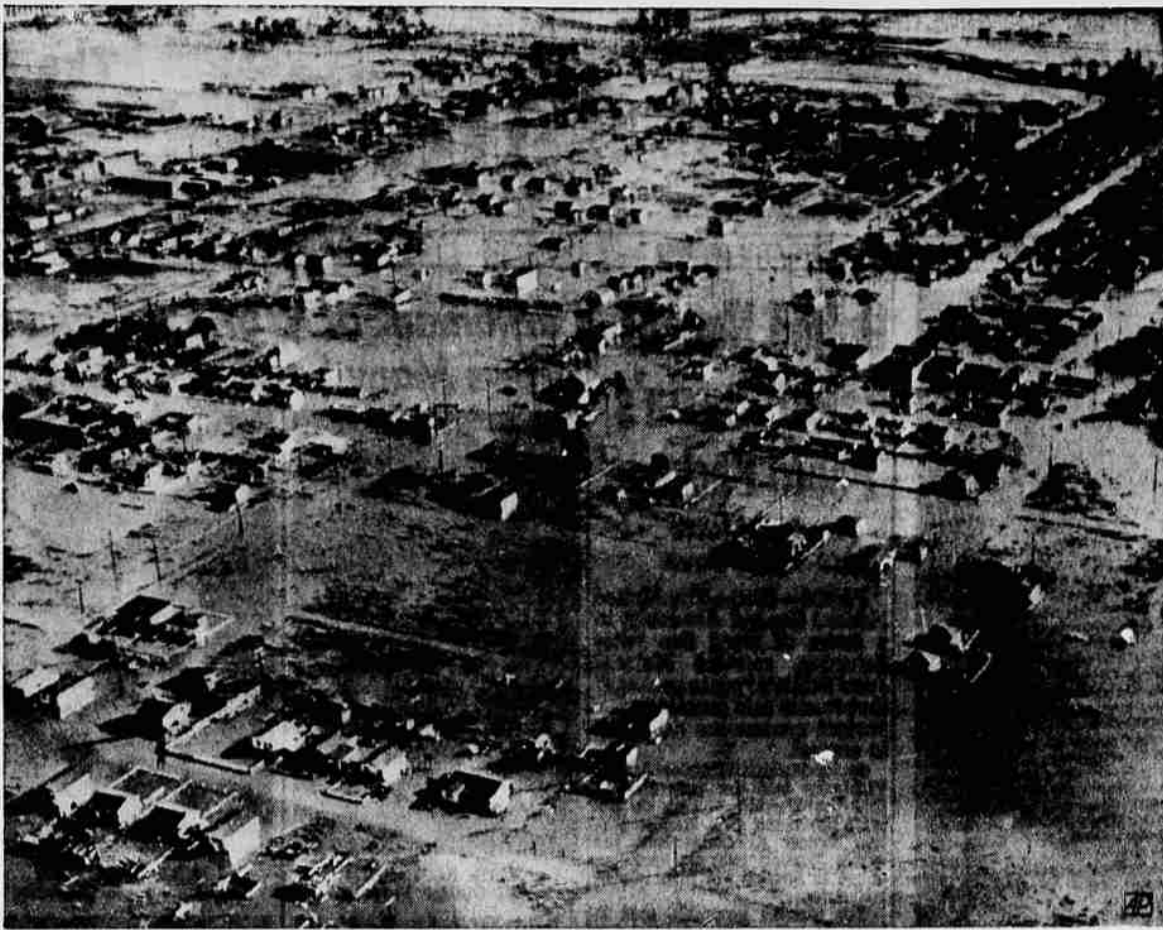
Serving with Bowles on the Save the Deschutes Committee are Elmer McClure, master of the Oregon State Grange, and Brig. Gen. Ralph P. Cowgill, vice-chairman;

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SOME OF THE 2000 HOMES flooded in Hawaiian Gardens and Artesia near Long Beach, Calif., are shown in this aerial picture. Coast Guard units are using rowboats to rescue residents in one of the worst storms to hit Southern

California. The storm dumped 7.39 inches of rain on Los Angeles in three days, left 19 known dead and sent damage estimates into the millions.

(AP Wirephoto)

Oregon Gains Union in GOP

SAN FRANCISCO—(AP)—W. L. Phillips and Mark O. Hatfield, officials of the Oregon for Eisenhower Club, said Saturday they were successful in gaining coordination of the Oregon and national movements for Ike for President Clubs.

Hatfield, executive secretary of the Oregon group, said he and Phillips spent Friday in meeting with Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. (R-Mass.), leader of the national Eisenhower for President movement, and his staff.

The Oregon delegates said they struck a parallel between Dwight Eisenhower, Robert Taft, Thomas Dewey and Harold Stassen, to bring their point home.

Sun Shines as Rain Abates For Storm-Struck California

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—The sun shone Saturday on a muddy, debris-strewn Southern California digging out of the aftermath of the heaviest series of storms in more than half a century.

The weatherman promised a weekend respite in the wake of torrential downpours and road-blocking snowfalls that gripped the southern half of the state virtually without letup for an entire week, taking a toll of 20 lives and millions in property damage.

Fills Up Reservoirs

It was costly. But for California, the nation's number one agricultural state, it also had the Jekyll-Hyde aspect of being a multi-million dollar bumper rainfall that replenished reservoirs sapped by seven years of drought, boosted the underground water tables, and stocked up the mountain winter-storage slopes with abundant snow for the spring runoffs.

Another storm atop the drenchings that began last Saturday and led off a series of follow-the-leader rain-snowfalls across the southern half of California might prove too much for over-taxed emergency crews to cope with.

Storm Threat Gone

But the U. S. Weather Bureau reported at noon that the last of the recent series out of the Alaskan Gulf "weather factory" had "blown up" off the coast of Cali-

fornia and no longer posed its threat of further rains.

The forecast was for scattered clouds and plenty of sunshine over the stricken area—which authorities agreed narrowly missed becoming a disaster area. A slight possibility of light rains or snowfalls remained for the mountain areas.

Some 2000 persons in southeast Los Angeles—the Downey-Artesia-Hawaiian Gardens area—moved back into homes they evacuated Friday. Flood waters had covered 15 square miles to depths up to 12 feet at the height of the deluge.

Water Is Safe

Drinking water in the San Fernando Valley, home of many movie celebrities north of Hollywood, was declared safe despite inundation, but Los Angeles City Health Officer George Uhl closed 25 markets and grocery stores

pending examination of their fruits and vegetables.

Floodwaters backed into more than 1000 private sewage systems to pollute the surface waters that spread through the valley.

Union Threatens Aluminum Strike Over Contract

Steelworkers Join Labor Controversy

PITTSBURGH—(AP)—A nationwide strike of some 35,000 aluminum workers early in February darkened the industrial scene Saturday as management-CIO-AFL contract talks remained stalemated.

A spokesman for Aluminum Company of America, biggest producer in the industry, said the AFL Aluminum Workers Union has broken off contract negotiations and threatens to strike Feb. 3 unless agreement is reached by then. About 9500 workers at six plants are involved.

'No Other Recourse'

James G. Thimmes, vice president of the CIO United Steelworkers, said 11,000 members of his union have no other recourse but to strike Feb. 1 if a new contract is not signed with Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Co.

The CIO-USW issued an ultimatum to ALCOA on Wednesday that 15,000 workers will strike Feb. 1 unless a contract is negotiated.

Thimmes said the USW is making the same demands on Kaiser as on most of the steel industry. Those demands include wage boosts totaling about 18½ cents an hour and improved vacation, holiday and incentive pay benefits.

Dispute Before WSB

The basic steel industry dispute with the USW is now before the Wage Stabilization Board in Washington.

An ALCOA spokesman said economic demands of the CIO-USW and the AFL-AWU are substantially the same. He added the whole package of each union would cost the company 50 cents more a hour.

The Indian tepee was covered with buffalo hides, sewn together and stretched over a framework of poles angling in from the circumference and tied together near the top to form a cone.

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