

# AEC Doubles H-Bomb Plant Cost Estimate

Construction Project  
To Exceed \$1 Billion

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The nation's vast plant for the projected hydrogen bomb will cost more than twice as much as originally estimated, the Atomic Energy Commission reported Tuesday.

Chairman Gordon Dean of the AEC declared at a news conference the probable cost has been "jumped considerably" from a 600 million dollar "guesstimate" of a year and a half ago to one-fourth billion dollars at present.

DEAN SAID the estimates were revised because it is apparent now that "reactors" will cost more than had been expected.

Reactors are devices for making atomic explosives.

The AEC had announced that the reactors at the South Carolina H-bomb plant were to be of "advanced" design. Dean said Tuesday "the design is still not completed on some of them."

The new estimate was contained in the AEC's semi-annual report to Congress.

THE COMMISSION described "intense activity" in the past six months throughout the entire atomic enterprise—including an "expanding atomic weapons program." It told of:

1. FULL BLAST operation of all its existing plants including those for making atomic explosives.
2. PROGRESS on new construction entailing 3 per cent of the nation's total building expenditures and employing nearly 2 per cent of the country's total construction force.
3. "CONTINUED" increase in the output of fissionable materials—at a lower cost than ever.
4. "SUBSTANTIAL" and significant advances in weapons research and development.
5. INCREASED domestic production of uranium ores thanks to expanded exploration, opening of new producing areas, and incentive bonuses for uranium producers who collected more than \$250,000 in such "prizes" last year.
6. RESEARCH findings with radioactive isotopes that may lead to improved methods of farming and lowered costs of food and fibre production.
7. FURTHER agricultural research indicating that atomic "rays," while providing no stimulus to plants, may aid in breeding new varieties of crops, and also aid in the fight against certain crop diseases.



DIONNE QUINTS FETED AT PARTY—Canada's famous Dionne quintuplets taking part in the annual winter carnival at St. Paul, Minn., were guests of honor at a lavish party given by Charles A. Ward, head of the Brown & Bigelow advertising firm, at Hudson, Wis. Left to right, the quintts are: Cecile, Marie, Yvonne, Emilie and Annette. On their left is Mrs. Ward. On their right is Olivine Arcand, friend of the quintts.

## 'MOTHER' TO EIGHT ORPHANS 15-Year-Old Head of Family Eyes Proposal of Marriage

CHICAGO — (AP) — Pretty Patricia Green, 15, "mother" to eight orphaned children, Tuesday considered a marriage proposal from her boy friend who popped the question after her mother and older sister drowned near their river shanty.

Patricia said she was excited and happy about the offer of Eiden G. Thompson, 22, but wanted a little time to think things over.

"Right now I'm spending all my time caring for the other kids," the girl said. "I'm the head of the family now."

Her mother, Mrs. Rose Green, 38, and sister, Carol Jean, 16,

drowned last Thursday in the Des Plaines River near their tumbledown home in suburban Summit. The children's father deserted the family more than a year ago and Mrs. Green divorced him last summer.

Patricia and her brothers and sisters now are living with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Millard Green, in Willow Springs, Ill.

Thompson said he and Patricia, if married, could care for the two youngest Green children who are one and three years old.

"We could manage somehow," he said. "I have no other dependents and earn \$113 a week as a welder."

But the youth said Patricia's age was a wrinkle in the prospective wedding plans.

"She'd have to have legal consent," he said. "But I've talked things over with authorities and they believe it might be arranged."

Thompson and the girl chatted in the home of Patricia's grandparents.

"We're both real serious," Thompson said. "We've known each other for six months, ever since she entered high school as a freshman."

Patricia agreed they could manage, but said she didn't want to rush into marriage.

## Stockman Ask A Reappraisal Of State Land

McMINNVILLE — (AP) — A proposal to reappraise all property in Oregon went before the Western Oregon Livestock Association annual meeting here Monday.

The resolution, which went to the tax and legislation committee for a later report, suggested that ranchers were carrying more than their share of the tax burden.

Timberland and perhaps other property could stand higher taxes, speakers said. The proposal calls for reappraisal to correct inequities.

Archie Riekkola, Astoria, said the public is unfriendly toward stockmen now because of meat prices, but he defended the stockmen's position.

He cited figures that he said proved a pound of round steak is cheaper now than in 1929 in terms of real buying power.

C. A. Stearns, Portland OPS meat price specialist, is scheduled to discuss price ceilings Tuesday.

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## Britain to Get Defense Grant

\$300,000,000 Fund  
Transfer Approved

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The United States has granted Britain \$300,000,000 to maintain the "strength and stability" of her defense program.

The grant, which had been public knowledge before the recent visit of Prime Minister Winston Churchill, was the first sizeable economic aid to the British since the Marshall Plan help to Britain ended.

Mutual Security Director W. Averell Harriman, who announced the grant Monday night, promised that despite the need to boost economic aid to Britain, it will not be necessary to ask Congress for any additional foreign aid funds during the current fiscal year which ends June 30.

Without the grant, Harriman said Britain would have been forced to cut its defense program "by more than twice as much" as \$300,000,000. The money will be transferred from military aid funds granted under the Mutual Security Act of 1951, which authorizes such action, at the discretion of the President.

### SOMETHING MISSING

MITCHELL, Ind. — (AP) — Robert Burton and Buster Briscoe, used-car salesman, had a good prospect in sight but their car wouldn't start. They decided to push it to get the engine warmed up. They had pushed it a few miles when they decided to stop at a filling station. All their car needed was a gas tank.

### HIGHWAY TEA PARTY

LONDON — (AP) — Englishmen can have a tea party right on the highway with the aid of a new gadget manufactured by a British firm.

It's a tea- or coffee-maker that operates from a 12-volt auto battery and produces 1 1/2 pints. It is claimed that 1 1/2 teaspoonful of tea will give up to 12 cups.

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WOMEN'S SUITS, one group Regular to \$25 ----- Now \$15  
MATERNITY GOWNS & SLIPS, Reg. 5.95 to 7.50 ----- Now 2.95  
BLOUSES, Wool Jersey, Reg. to 14.95 ----- Now \$4  
GIRL'S SWEATERS, wool and nylon, cardigans and slippers. Sizes 3 to 6, 7 to 14 ----- 2.69 to 3.99  
BABY SHAWLS, all wool, pastel shades. Regular 4.95 to 6.95 ----- Now 2.99 to 3.99  
CHILDREN'S WOOL SOX, light and dark shades. Regular 69c ----- Now 39c  
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