

Board Okays Export of Gas

Lines Would Link Canada, Northwest

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Alberta Conservation Board's recommendations that the province export part of its natural gas supply to the Pacific Northwest drew mixed reactions Thursday.

Burl Hagadone, vice president of Trans-Northwest Gas Co., one of the companies seeking distribution rights, hailed the recommendation as "certainly good news, especially for Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho."

ON THE other hand, N. Henry Geller, president of the Seattle Gas Co., expressed disappointment. He said the action dims hopes that Seattle and other Northwest cities will be able to tap the Canadian gas supply and the area will have to turn again to Texas.

The board's recommendation to the Alberta Provincial Legislature Wednesday proposed export of natural gas from the Peace River area, where the board estimated, 300 billion cubic feet of gas is available.

The board said Alberta will need 4.2 trillion cubic feet of gas in the next 30 years and recommended the remainder of the established reserves be retained for the province.

THE ALBERTA government is not bound by the board's findings and Premier E. C. Manning was mum on the position the government will take. The legislature will study the report, he said.

The board recommended an export permit for Westcoast Transmission Co. Ltd. Alberta incorporation. The company would be authorized to pipe the gas from Peace River to British Columbia and to the United States.

Hospital District Eyed

ASHLAND —(P)—The Valley View Hospital Committee hopes to have the question of establishing a Southern Jackson County Hospital district on the May 16 ballot.

Petitions, bearing over 1000 signatures asking the vote, were filed with the county clerk Tuesday.

Thousands Flee Midwest Floods

By UNITED PRESS

Rampaging waters in the Missouri River Valley made thousands homeless Thursday after a state of emergency was declared in a Montana community and the Weather Bureau warned of new dangers.

Late-winter blizzards clogged streams from Montana through the Dakotas and into Iowa and Minnesota as flood relief crews worked feverishly to throw up new dikes and repair old ones.

HARDEST STRUCK was the area around Havre, Mont. Acting Gov. Paul Cannon declared North Havre a disaster area when an 80-mile stretch of lowland was swamped by the overflowing Milk River. Nearly 2000 persons were homeless and damage rose toward the million-dollar mark.

Another 150 persons were forced to flee their homes at nearby Chinook as the Milk River flood tide rose. Four hundred other Chinook residents were protected by a hastily constructed dike.

But a 13-year-old dike at Malta, 80 miles to the east, appeared threatened and the National Guard was ordered to stand by for flood control duty.

Farmers warned of the approaching high waters began moving their stock to higher ground at Harlem, 20 miles east of Chinook.

The situation was eased in extreme Eastern Montana as the Yellowstone River slowly receded. About 3000 acres of land were swamped earlier this week.

NEW THREATS were posed in North Dakota where the Weather Bureau predicted that another rise in the Missouri River would flood areas north of Garrison.

Some 60 persons were driven from their homes near Buford and Trenton flats as the waters swept in and drowned livestock.

The rising waters of the Big Sioux River threatened parts of Northwest Iowa but officials hoped levees there would hold back the river until Thursday when it was believed the critical period would be past—for a time.

VA Office Closes May 1 at Salem

PORTLAND —(P)—The Veterans Administration office at Salem will be closed May 1, Regional Manager Charles Langdon said Wednesday.

"There is a reduction of Veterans Administration personnel nationwide," he said, "and the work load at the Salem office has not been heavy enough to keep the office open." He added that the state Department of Veterans Affairs as well as veterans' organizations had been taking care of most veteran problems in the Salem area.

Only two employees are affected: A stenographer, who declined a transfer to Portland, and the contact representative who will be shifted to Eugene to replace an employee transferred to Portland, Langdon said.

Mayor and Mrs. Larson Return From Mexico

Mayor and Mrs. B. P. Larson of Springfield returned Tuesday afternoon to their home after a trip to Mexico that began Feb. 2.

The Larsons, in addition to bringing back their house trailer in which they lived during the auto trip, brought back deep sun-tans and the back from a 150-pound turtle captured south of the border.

KOREAN PLANTING BEGINS PANMUNJOM, Korea —(P)—Spring planting began Tuesday in the rice paddies around this truce talk village. Oxen pulled crude plows as peasant families worked fields under the watchful eyes of Chinese security guards.

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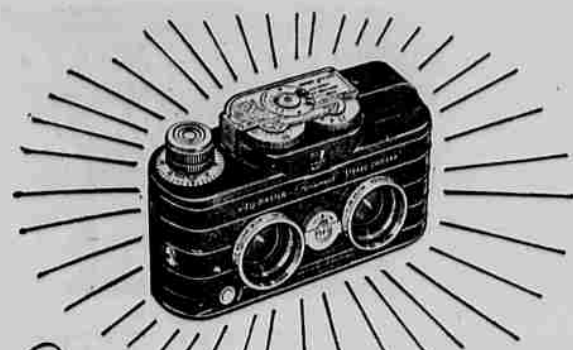
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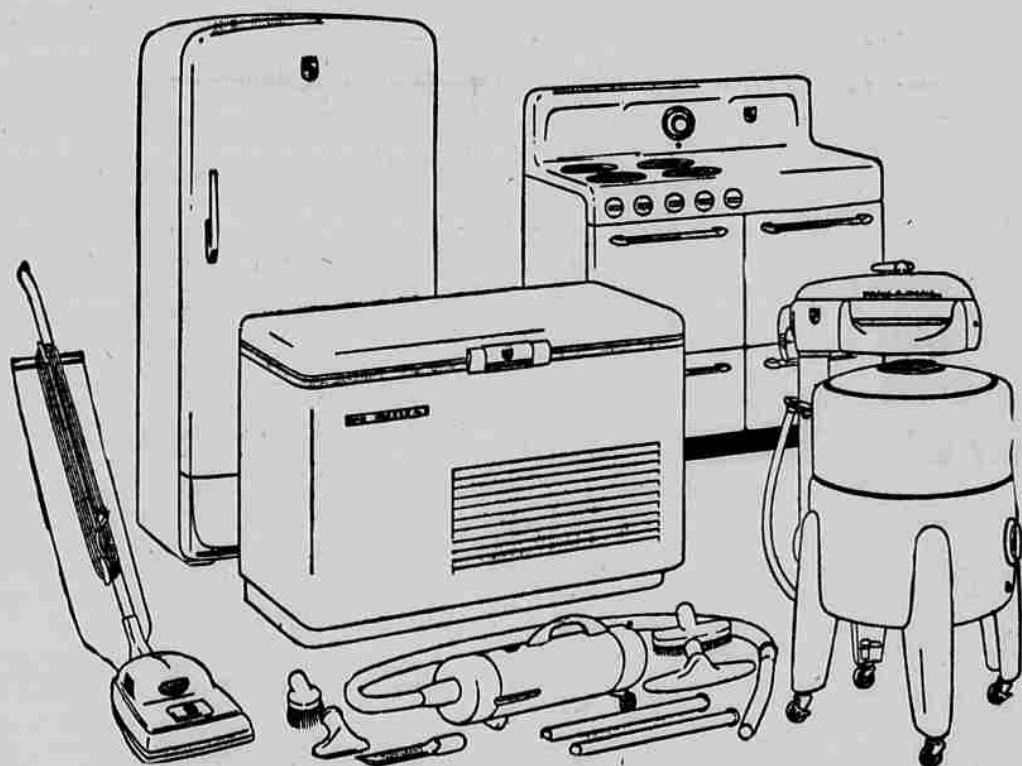
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