

Recreation Bill Gets Approval

Sediment Control Near Dam Projects

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A bill to authorize a portion of the costs of reclamation projects for sediment control and recreation was approved Monday by a House Interior subcommittee.

The legislation would provide that the secretary of interior may set aside recreation areas immediately adjacent to reclamation projects and build recreation facilities at no cost to the water and power users.

REP. ENGLE (D-Calif.), chairman of the subcommittee, said the bill would make possible small reduction in payments by owners to the government in number of projects.

Introducing the bill last February, Engle said he hoped it would be a basis for discussion of some of the recommendations of the President's Water Resources Policy Commission.

The commission had proposed a method be devised to remove the burden of irrigation water costs by collecting from other beneficiaries, including those now benefiting from flood control.

Engle's bill would approach the problem from a reverse angle. It would put recreation and sediment control on the same basis as flood control which now is an expense borne almost entirely by the federal government.

THE BILL would authorize the secretary of interior to construct, permit others to construct, recreational facilities immediately adjacent to reclamation dams.

The lands and structures built by the government could be leased to operators, with preference given to federal, state and local government agencies if they desired to undertake the development of the recreational areas surrounding the dams and reservoirs.

Grange Opens Business Meet

LA GRANDE—(AP)—The 79th annual convention of the Oregon State Grange went into its business session here Tuesday following the annual address Monday by State Master Elmer McClure.

He said the Grange should continue its traditional opposition to proposals for a state sales tax.

A measure which is to appear on a November election ballot is a major step toward enactment of a sales tax," he said. He was referring to a measure which would impose a six-mill limit on property taxes.

He also told the Grange it should oppose an initiative measure which calls for removal of wholesale and retail milk prices from state control.

McClure urged support of two other initiative measures. One would ban pari-mutuel betting and the other would make standard mandatory throughout the state.

He told the Grange it should continue its opposition to the proposed Pelton Dam on the Deschutes River but should support construction of the proposed Hells Canyon Dam on the Snake River.

EWEB Authorizes McKenzie Survey To Be Undertaken

The Eugene Water and Electric Board Monday night authorized the expenditure of \$1,000 for a consulting engineering firm's initial survey of proposed hydroelectric developments on the upper McKenzie River system.

International Engineering of San Francisco will make the preliminary study for the the Board. The firm will send one of its top men here to study the proposals and reports drawn by EWEB personnel, according to general superintendent Ray Boals.

AS PART OF the same action, the Board authorized the local system's civil engineer, Byron K. Taylor, to go to San Francisco to consult with the firm on its findings.

Earlier, the board had heard a proposal for a similar study advanced by a member of the Corvallis engineering firm of Cornell, Howland, Hayes & Merryfield. This was a more detailed plan, however, than that finally called for.

Also appearing before the Board was Joe Kipper, president of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, and two members of the chamber's industry committee. They wanted a \$3,500 contribution from the Board for the Lane County industrial survey which the industry committee is now pushing. Aim of the survey is the diversification of Lane County's lumber-heavy economy.

KIPPER SUGGESTED the Board make its contribution to the survey over a three-year period. The Water and Electric Board, he emphasized, has a vital stake in the county's business health and would stand to profit from new industry which might be attracted.

The Lane County Court has given \$3,500 and the Eugene City Council \$2,500 to finance the survey and its related costs, Kipper pointed out. The Board, however, took no action on the proposal Monday night.

Board Member Howard Taylor objected that the proposal sounded "like 95 per cent promotion and 5 per cent fact." And Member Stan Darling suggested that the Board could do more continued service to the diversification the survey is seeking by employing a person to concentrate upon market development.

A REVIEW of the water and electric system's 1951 balance sheet was also on the Board's docket Monday. It showed that while the whole system showed profit of almost \$1,500,000, this figure was almost all eaten away by more than \$1,400,000 in expansion of its facilities.

Profit on the electrical part of the system was \$921,000, and on the water, \$152,787. The electrical figure represented 38.7 per cent of the gross income from electrical services, and the water figure 29.8 per cent.

Boals pointed out, however, that the profit on the electrical system was just 9 per cent of the \$10,157,268 capital investment in it. The water profit was about 7.5 per cent on an investment of \$2,175,053.

Apartment Levelled

MILAN, Italy—(AP)—An explosion flattened a three story apartment building in Milan's industrial outskirts Tuesday, killing 11 persons and injuring five others. Three children were among the dead.

City Employees Request Raise

COTTAGE GROVE — Representatives of the city's water and street crews had their request for a cost of living raise deferred Monday night as the city council gave the matter to the water and street committees for study.

The delegation did not quote any exact figure they hoped to get. They are now being paid \$1.35 an hour with time and a half for over time. Workmen doing similar work for Eugene and Springfield get \$2 an hour.

A spokesman for the group said he understands crews at Drain and Yoncalla are also paid about \$2 an hour.

Councilman Richard Thwing commented that Drain and Yoncalla probably do not maintain their crews full time so that their take home pay would not be greater than that of the city's workmen. He told the delegation that the committee would try to get complete figures from neighboring cities for comparison.

Thwing was asked after the hearing if he would recommend a raise if study showed that Cottage Grove was paying less than other cities of similar size.

"I'll withhold comment on that," he said.

VIOLATION IS RIGHT

FALL RIVER, Mass. — (AP) — When police arrested Charles Pelletier on a larceny charge, he was carrying a parking meter which registered "violation."

TEACHER NOT SO GOOD

INDIANAPOLIS—Ind.—(AP)—Billie Sullivan, 23, was wounded when he accidentally shot himself with a .22 caliber rifle while teaching his wife how to handle the weapon.

TOO BIG TO HANDLE

EAST CHICAGO, Ind.—(AP)—Intruders, who apparently like to operate in a big way, were stopped here because a tire blew out and the machine bogged down.

STEAL SURE ENOUGH

CLEVELAND, O.—(AP)—Ralph Stewart, a car dealer, advertised a snappy model as "a steal at \$1,150. The next morning he informed police someone had taken his advertisement literally.

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Thank You

As I may not have the opportunity to see each of you personally, I am using this means of expressing my deepest gratitude to every one of the members of Eugene Elks Lodge No. 357 and to the city officials, the police department and the business men and citizens of Eugene and Springfield who co-operated so magnificently during the Oregon state Elks convention. The visitors from all over the state were overwhelmed by our hospitality and expressed admiration for the manner in which the convention was conducted. To the members of our lodge and to the ladies of the Elks who worked so long and diligently during the convention and in the planning of it; you have earned the thanks of a grateful lodge and the satisfaction that comes from a job well done. The plans made by the delegates at the business sessions for youth activities, scholarships, medical clinics, entertainment for disabled veterans in hospitals etc. will go far in improving the democratic way of life in our great state.

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