

Political Spotlight On Power Issues

Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon said Sunday that he believes power costs in Eugene would be increased by local construction of Cougar Dam power facilities on the McKenzie River.

According to the Associated Press, Morse criticized the federal-local "partnership" proposal for the construction of the project, saying that advocates were estimating kilowatt hour costs on the basis of 50 years instead of a 30-year amortization period on revenue bonds.

COST FACTOR

Morse favors federal construction of Cougar Dam and Green Peter Dam, on the Santiam River.

The partnership plan for Cougar, with the Eugene Water & Electric Board building the power portion, received the approval of a Senate committee during the last session of Congress. But it failed to reach the floor of the Senate.

Morse said the cost of the

proposal of the EWEB under 30-year amortization would be higher than if the city utility bought power from the Bonneville Power Administration.

Meanwhile, a group of seven prominent Oregonians, members of public power groups, came out in favor of Sen. Guy Cordon Monday.

The men are Earl McNutt, a member of the EWEB; Larry Hull, a director of the Central Lincoln Peoples Utility District; Louis Courtemanche, a commissioner of the McMinnville Water and Light Dept.; W. J. Seufert, past president of the Northern Wasco PUD; Clarence Belknap, past president of the Oregon Assn. of REA Cooperatives; Ford Northrop of Eugene, a past president of the Northwest Public Power Assn.; and J. D. Puzey, a director of the Clatskanie PUD.

The committee, in a five-page statement, said the partnership proposal criticized by Morse and the Democrats is "the best way the power needs of the Northwest can be met in time to avert a serious power shortage."

FINANCE PROBLEM

And the best way to build up the partnership theory, the men said, is to re-elect Sen. Cordon in Oregon.

According to the group, "there is mounting evidence that the federal government cannot and will not finance the needed power projects." The national debt and continued increasing opposition to large appropriations for the west were given as reasons.

The power group was organized on a voluntary basis, according to the committee's statement of policy. Its purposes are to present the power issues in the 1954 Oregon senatorial election.



NAMED TO AEC — John Von Neumann, above, smiles at his Princeton, N.J., home, after being named by President Eisenhower to the remaining vacancy on the five-man Atomic Energy Commission. Dr. Von Neumann is 50, a mathematics professor at the Institute for Advanced Studies, and a naturalized citizen who was born in Budapest, Hungary. He succeeds Eugene M. Zuckert in the \$18,000 a year post for five years expiring June 30, 1959.

River Barge Firm Decides to Liquidate

THE DALLES, Ore. — The Inland Navigation Co., one of the major barge concerns on the Columbia River, announced Saturday it was "liquidating" its Oregon properties because it could no longer operate profitably in the state.

Capt. A. Leppaluoto, general manager of the firm, made the announcement in a letter to M. A. Davidson, mayor of The Dalles.

Costly British Dock Strike In 4th Week

LONDON — Britain's waterfront strike, which has idled 44,000 of 76,000 cargo handlers in this maritime nation, entered its fourth week Monday with no settlement in sight.

The National Federation of Wholesale Grocers warned that stocks of imported bacon, cheese, butter, eggs and tinned fruits were running low and said the situation would become serious if the work stoppage continues until next weekend.

The strike has paralyzed the big port of London and crippled operations at six other important ports, including the key freight-handling cities of Liverpool and Hull. More than 300 ships are idle in the ports. Cargoes worth an estimated 120 million pounds (\$36 million dollars) are being held up.

A committee of government ministers which has been keeping an eye on essential imports scheduled another meeting for Monday. It was expected the group would recommend the use of troops as stevedores if the strike continues beyond Wednesday.

The dockers walked off their jobs in support of a demand for the right to refuse overtime work.

Actress, Auto Dealer To Wed Next Month

HOLLYWOOD — Actress Jane Powell and Pat Nerney, prominent automobile dealer, have announced they will marry Nov. 8 at the Ojai Valley Inn in Ojai, Calif.

Miss Powell, 25, formerly was married to Geary Steffen and has two children. Nerney is the ex-husband of actress Mona Freeman and has one child.

The couple plan a honeymoon in Europe and will return here shortly before Christmas.

Flames Destroy Recreation Hall

PENDLETON — A fire, the origin of which was not determined immediately, destroyed the two-story Pendleton recreation hall Sunday. Loss was estimated at between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

It was the second major fire in the Pendleton area over the weekend. The bodies of two persons, believed to be Mr. and Mrs. Valcon Robertson, were found in the charred ruins of their house at Pilot Rock after a fire Saturday.

Robertson apparently shot himself and then set fire to the house, Sheriff Roy Johnson said. Cause of the woman's death was being investigated.

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