

Decisive Action Due On Hells Canyon Bill

By JOHN KAMPS
Of The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — One senator's vote this week could be decisive in the controversy over whether the Hells Canyon stretch of the Snake River should be harnessed by the federal government or by the Idaho Power Co. The Senate Interior Committee Thursday is scheduled to consider a bill to authorize a big federal dam in the river bordering Idaho and Oregon, where Idaho Power Co. wants to build three smaller power projects.

The vote will be extremely close—interviews with key members of the 15-man committee indicate Democrats sponsoring the bill will have to swing over one Republican member to get it through. If the Democrats can muster the necessary eight votes, the bill will move to the Senate floor for debate. If the Republicans stick together, the bill will die and its proponents will have lost ground in their fight to stop the Federal Power Commission from acting on Idaho Power's proposals.

HEAR ARGUMENTS

The FPC is to hear arguments for and against the company's applications July 6, and will rule on them later. FPC counsel John C. Mason has recommended increasing the company's three proposed dams. FPC examiner William J. Costello recommended a license for one company project. Advocates of the federal Hells Canyon Dam, fearing the FPC will rule for Idaho Power, hope to get some sort of congressional approval for their bill before the FPC acts.

Twenty-six of the 30 senators sponsoring the bill signed a letter to the FPC after the measure was introduced, calling upon the commission to defer action on Idaho

Power's application. They said the introduction of the Senate bill and identical House measure indicated that Congress desired to retain jurisdiction over the Snake River.

Committee approval of the Senate bill would add weight to this argument. Committee disapproval probably would have the effect of killing the House bills as well as the Senate measure for this year, at least.

LONG OPPOSED

The House Reclamation subcommittee has set aside time for hearings on House Hells Canyon bills June 29-July 1. No arrangements for the hearing have been made, however, and they probably will be cancelled if the Senate bill is rejected in committee.

The Democrats, who for years have used Hells Canyon as a political issue, are sure of six votes in the committee. The six senators, all Democrats and sponsors of the bill, are Chairman Murray (Mont), Anderson (NM), Jackson (Wash), O'Mahoney (Wyo), Scott (NC), and Neuberger (Ore). Sen. Bible (D-Nev) also is expected to vote for the bill.

The eighth "aye" would have to come from a Republican since Sen. Long (La), eighth Democrat on the committee, plans to vote against the bill.

Long has made no secret of the fact that he is adverse to voting to build a federal dam in Idaho when both Idaho senators are against it.

KUCHEL UNDECIDED

Five of the seven Republican members are expected to vote against the bill. They are Sens. D'Arshak (Idaho), Barrett (Wyo), Goldwater (Ariz), Malone (Nev), and Watkins (Utah).

Sen. Milliken (R-Colo) voted "present" when the Senate Reclamation subcommittee approved the bill, 3-1. However, Neuberger said after the closed subcommittee meeting that Milliken read a "hostile" statement indicating he was an opponent of the bill.

So if Milliken votes with the other five Republicans and with Long, Sen. Kuchel (R-Calif) may have the deciding vote in the Interior Committee.

Kuchel says he hasn't made up his mind on the Hells Canyon bill and that he has been busy reading up on it.

NO HINT GIVEN

Backers of the bill are hopeful Kuchel will bear in mind that California project legislation soon will come before the committee and they will have votes for or against it.

Kuchel's record in the Senate gives no hint as to how he may vote in the controversy over whether Hells Canyon should be reserved for a 400-million-dollar public power project or licensed for three private power dams estimated to cost 133 million.

The Californian has given no indication that he is opposed to public power. In fact, he opposed a "partnership" proposal for construction of Trinity project in California by federal and non-federal groups. And he's backing a bill calling for federal construction of the project.

FOUGHT BILL

Kuchel generally has supported the Eisenhower administration. However, he fought the big project bill which was endorsed by the administration, on grounds it would be detrimental to California.

The Eisenhower administration does not favor the Hells Canyon bill. It feels the Federal Power Commission should decide whether private or public power dams ought to be built in the area.

The Department of the Interior under the preceding Democratic administration intervened at the FPC hearing against Idaho Power's applications. The department under the present administration withdrew its opposition.



TOTAL ECLIPSE—This picture, made in Manila June 20, shows what some scientists say is the longest total eclipse in nearly 1,250 years. The moon blanked the sun over an estimated 1,276,000 square miles of the earth's surface. The streak of darkness started in the Indian Ocean and raced at 24 miles a minute for 7,200 miles across Ceylon, Thailand, Indochina, and the Philippines into the Pacific Ocean. In the Philippines the longest totality was 7 minutes, 4 seconds.

City Manager Asks Garbage, Trash Haulers to Take Care

Eugene City Manager Robert Finlayson appealed to residents Tuesday to be more careful in handling garbage and junk in containers when hauling over city streets to the county dump south of Eugene.

"We want them to watch and see that nothing falls off during the trip to the dump," he said. "We've received quite a few complaints about it."

Finlayson indicated that a city ordinance requires trucks to be covered when hauling garbage. Other containers used for junk or garbage must also be secured.

The city manager said papers and pieces of garbage have littered the streets in the southern part of the city during recent months. It is the responsibility of persons hauling refuse to keep the material in containers.

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CLAM DIG
PISMO BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Some 18,000 clam-lovers bagged the limit recently when the fish and game department opened two Pismo clam refuges after they had been closed for five years. Largest catch of the opening day measured seven inches in diameter. Boy Scouts and local sportsmen assisted department men in returning discarded and undersized clams to the sands.

Man Injured When Pistol Discharges

Howard Carl Faught, 31, of 1185 1/2 St. Springfield, was wounded Monday afternoon when his brother, Ray, 19, pulled a .22-caliber pistol from a holster and it went off.

The slug went through the side of brother's wrist and into his leg, according to Springfield police.

He was treated at McKenzie-Willemette Memorial Hospital and then released.

The brothers told police they were on their way to go fishing when they saw a turtle in a slough of the McKenzie River, about one mile north of Gamebird Village.

They said the pistol went off when Ray Faught was taking it out of the holster to shoot at the turtle. They said the pistol went off a second time when it was accidentally kicked on the floor of their auto after Howard was

wounded and they were trading places at the steering wheel. After the pistol went off the second time, the younger brother threw it from the auto. Police, who recovered it later, said the pistol was a very old model.

Two slightly injured in traffic collision. Two persons suffered minor injuries Monday afternoon in a traffic collision at the intersection of 5th Ave. and Monroe St. George R. Roberts, 31, of 1763 E. 26th Ave., driver of one of the cars involved in the accident, received a skinned knee in the collision. A passenger in the other car, Wilona Carrol, Menlo Park, Calif., received bruises of the arm.

City police cited Roberts on a charge of failure to yield the right of way. The other driver, Venona W. Alley, 44, 1910 Grant St., was cited on a charge of driving without an operator's license. She was uninjured.

Resignation Reported
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Evening Star said Tuesday Robert T. Stevens has resigned as secretary of the Army, effective July 31. The newspaper quoted informed Pentagon sources as saying Stevens, a principal in the Army's row last year with Sen. McCarthy (R-Wis), was resigning "for numerous personal reasons."

Springfield Club Names Candidate

Wanda Lee Hayes, 19-year-old University of Oregon music student, will represent Springfield in the 1955 Miss Oregon Contest at Seaside, July 15-17.

She will appear as "Miss Springfield" under the sponsorship of the Springfield Greeters' Club. She is a 1954 alumna of Springfield High School and has lived there for 9 years.

She is 5 ft., 1 1/2 inches tall and weighs 100 pounds.

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Reserve Bill Still Stymied

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rebellious members of the House Armed Services Committee Tuesday blocked quick action on a new military reserve bill and sent it back to a subcommittee for further study.

By a 16-14 vote the committee decided to give the subcommittee five days to work on the new version of President Eisenhower's "vital" reserve program. The vote came after Subcommittee Chairman Brooks (D-La) complained his group was being bypassed.

Chairman Vinson (D-Ga) had urged the full committee to act Tuesday on a compromise measure he is sponsoring. He said House leaders wanted to get it to the floor by Thursday.

Eisenhower has called for public support for a strengthened reserve which he said is necessary for the country's defense.

Vinson called the committee together for action on his compromise, shorn of an anti-segregation feature and other controversial elements.

The House stalemated over an original measure which, in expanding the reserve, would permit assignment of reservists to under-strength National Guard units. The impasse came when the House voted to bar such assignments to National Guard forces practicing racial segregation.

Veteran Druggists To Be Honored

PENDLETON (AP) — Druggists with 35 years or more in the business will be honored by the Oregon State Pharmaceutical Assn. which opened its annual convention here Monday.

Some 200 persons had checked in for the two-day convention.

Convention delegates were to pay special honor to a group within the organization which calls itself "Veteran Druggists." Members cannot qualify for that group with less than 25 years service.

A speaker at the early session was John Heinz, president of the American Pharmaceutical Assn.

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