

## THE LEGISLATURE'S GREATEST CHANCE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK

T
providing for resolution before the Oregon legislature providing for submitting to the people at the next elec-
tion a constitutional amendment authorizing the state to issue bonds for water power development. The measure is sponsored by Speaker Bean, Representative Woodson of this district, and Senators Joseph and Norblad. The plan is along thepids Power. Site Association at its meeting a week ago. The general idea is sound and if adopted and properly handled can be made of wonderful influence in the development of the state's greatest unused resource.
While this. measure was not fathered by the Umatilla may reveal that some such action as this by the state may become essential to the success, of Umatilla rapids development. For instance the federal government mayibe found unwilling
to finance our project in its entirety. The federal water power board may rule that the project is one requiring cooperation between the United States and the two states directly affected. If so the states of Oregon and Washington will be obliged to do their part and in that event we will need just such authority as
i contemplated by the measure now before the legislature. Certainly it can do no harm to have the measure on the ballot so that the people will have an avenue for obtaining state aid if
such becomes necessary. such becomes necessary.
tion No. 10 as it stands there cee fit to pass Senate Joint Resoluto the passage of a measure authorizing state aid on hydro electric projects financed in part by the federal government With a view to iostering irrigation or Improved river navigation
or both. In the case of the Umatilla rapids project if the federal government should take care of one half the total cost or more as it would be thoroughly justified in doing, it would be an easy
task for Oregon and Washington to handle the remainder of task for Oregon and Washington to handle the remainder of the expense through bond issues repayahle from the income de-
rived from sale of power. The financial obligations for the states would be comparatively light and the reimbursable provision would absolve taxpayers from any cast whatsoever. The
states would be justified in extending stich help because every states would be justified in extending stich help because every
foot of territory in both states would be within the transmission radius of the project and there would be material benefits to all from such an industrial development.
The province of Ontario, Canada, has tried self help in the
matter of hydro electric development and has succeeded tario has an abundance of power for cities and farms at low rates and the plan is costing the taxpayers nothing because the bonds are redeemable out of the income derived from sale of power. Industries formerly located on the American side have New York is waging an uphill fight to adopt something like the Ontario plan.
There are those of course who will say that hydro electric development should be left to private capital. We have done
that in this territory for 100 years and not a drop of water from the Columbia, one of the world's mightiest power streams, has been utilized, It is hard for private capital to handle such big projects and furthermore, there is grave question if private
capital is what we want. By the nature of things private capital capital is what we want. By the nature of things private capital
when engaged in such development seeks a minimum expendture and a maximum charge for current. We need the reverse, maximum development and the lowest possible charge for elec-
tricity. These can be had only through federal or state aid or tricity. These can be had only through federal or state aid or
a combination of the two. If our legislators want a record for constructive legislation it can find no better field for activity than in that of hydro electric development. It is all very well to have galleys of talk about teacher tenure and other
subjects but after all such matters get us nowhere. We want development and we have the chance to obtain it if we show the proper gumption. Let us go forward and put this old state
really upon the map.
$\qquad$
The appeal of Senator Lodge against any anti-Japanese
legislation for fear of embarrassing the new administration has legislation for fear of embarrassing the new administration has
a familiar sound. That same appeal has been made before in a familiar sound. That same appeal has been made before in
behalf of various administrations of different poitical combehalf of various administrations of different poitcal comhouse the request is worthy of attention and doubtless should be
granted. Nevertheless the time is at hand when western states granted. Nevertheless the time is at hand when western states
must take a firm and united stand to see that the interests of the west upon this subject are thoroughly respected. Otherwise
the day will come when the west will be "embarrassed" by a race problem of large proportions.
On a basis of maximum engine efficiency which is never atthorse power at Umal railroad operation, the minimum continuous at an estimate of $\$ 8$ per ton, is worth more med in terms of coal, $\$ 5,000,000$ a
at year. In other words we are throwing that great sum away annually through failure to use this power opportunity. It is an
ceonomic crime in view of the great shortage of coal and oil. CASCADES OEERSLAYER $\rightarrow=$ TWENTOMATILZO
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