

Patriotism highlights Hydro groundbreaking ceremony

by Sandy Rangila

Chrome-plated shovels glistened in the sunlight as the groundbreaking ceremony for the Confederated Tribes' hydroelectric project began Wednesday, April 22. The

event drew a KATU (channel 2) news crew, reporters from several newspapers, officials, tribal members and associates. Seated on the patriotically-wrapped platform at the Reregulating Dam site were

chiefs Nelson Wallulatum, Amos Simtustus and Nick Kalama, all dressed in full regalia. The American flag fluttered to the right of the platform, and a traditional Indian flag was positioned to

the left.

Members of the Tribal Council along with tribal attorney Dennis Karnopp, engineering consultant Jerry Dibble and Jack Carney, President of ASC Constructors Inc. also shared the platform.

The Tribes' power plant, when finished in 1982, will generate 81 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. That is two-and-a-half times of electricity now used per year on the reservation.

Following the invocation by Amos Simtustus, Sr., Tribal Council Chairman Delbert Frank, Sr. welcomed the guests, and Zane Jackson and Olney Patt, Sr. spoke of the importance of the project and how the whole thing came about.

Main speaker Nelson Wallulatum noted that the facility will benefit not only the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, but the entire Northwest community as well.

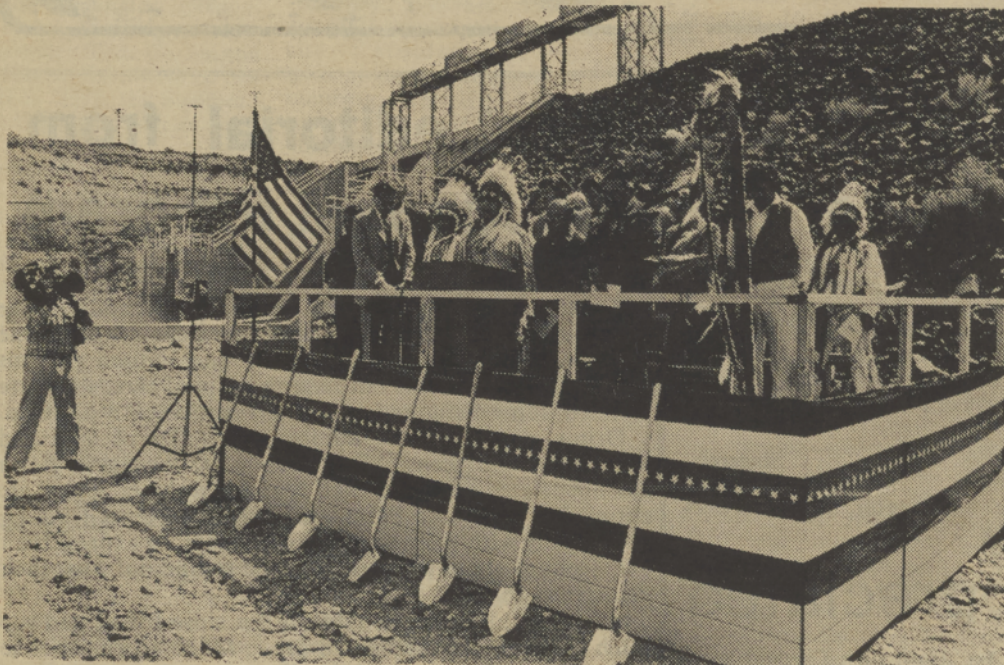
The \$30 million generating plant, which is the first federally-licensed power project developed by an Indian tribe, will be completed for testing by June 15, 1982, and in operation by July, 1982. The

project is financed by \$10 million of tribal funds, a low-interest Congressional loan of \$5 million, and a \$15 million loan from the State of Oregon.

The excavation and installation portion of the powerhouse is being done by ASC Constructors under an \$11.7 million contract. Modifications will also be made to the existing fish ladder and fish trap at the dam site to provide for continuation of proper anadromous fish handling. The flow of the river will not be affected by the installation of the powerhouse.

Pelton Reregulating Dam was built in the mid-1950's by Portland General Electric. Power from the generating plant will most likely be sold to either Pacific Power & Light, P.G.E., or Bonneville Power Administration. This is one of the largest projects ever undertaken by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon.

Following the groundbreaking ceremony, everyone there headed for a reportedly delicious barbeque at the dam site.



The groundbreaking ceremony for the Tribes' hydroelectric project at the Pelton Reregulating Dam April 22 began with the invocation by Chief Amos Simtustus (above photo). Below, members of the Tribal Council prepared to dig in by the spillway.

Photos by Behrend and Rangila

Racism Bill

Aimed at intimidation

by Marsha Shewczyk

A bill has recently been introduced into the Oregon State legislature at the request of Governor Vic Atiyeh making racial or religious harassment a Class C felony with a fine up to \$2,500, up to five year's imprisonment, or both.

There are already laws aimed at harassment, intimidation, violence and destruction of property, and laws against assault, menacing and criminal mischief. But the "theory behind House bill 2479 is that such activities take on a particularly dangerous and socially disruptive character when they are motivated by racial or religious bigotry," according to a statement made by Robert Oliver, the Governor's assistant.

"Last year," says Oliver, "the Governor became concerned about a growing number of incidents of harassment and violence which appeared to be racially or religiously motivated." The locations of the primary incidents were in Salem and Portland involving people who are black or people with Jewish heritage.

"Certainly Indians are victims of discrimination," Oliver stated, "but not with as intense feelings as among blacks." He also stated that "it is just as bad for a member of a minority to harass and intimidate a member of the majority for racial and religious reasons, as it is the other way around."

A summary of House Bill 2479 reads, "A person commits the crime of intimidation if, intentionally and with intent to intimidate another person because of such other person's race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, the person: A. causes physical harm to the other person; B. by word or

conduct places, or attempts to place, the other person in fear of imminent physical harm; or C. tampers with, interferes with, damages or destroys the property of the other person."

The matter of intent is the issue. Oliver says it will be difficult to prove. But if malicious intent can be proven then "the crime is worthy of being called a felony." In stating the terms of the bill legislators want to make certain it does not call for limitations of free speech. When intimidation and violence is threatened the accosted person must have the right to seek protection through the law.

In a written statement Oliver says it this way: "I threaten another person in a restaurant, or strike him, or damage his property because of a heated dispute over the merits of various football players, for example, other patrons normally will react by attempting to quell the disturbance. If these actions are accompanied by racial or religious slurs, tension is much more likely to spread throughout the establishment—as compatriots of the victim rally to his defense, and my compatriots respond in turn. Because such events seriously threaten social order, it is Governor Atiyeh's view that they should be subject to more serious sanctions than apply to the casual wrongdoer."

Two other bills have been introduced since the original harassment bill. One bill seeks to include harassment because of a person's sex, marital status, sexual orientation or age along with race and religious harassment as a criminal offense. Governor Atiyeh did not include these distinctions on his requested bill because according to Oliver



Accident fatal to driver

Lavy Berman, age 25, night auditor at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort was fatally injured in a one car accident on April 30 at 3:08

p.m. He was alone in his car at the time of the accident. His westbound car left the highway at milepost 104.8 near the WSFP1 approach on highway 26. His car struck a tree.

He was removed from the car and transported by the Warm Springs Fire and Safety department and taken to the Warm Springs Clinic where he died in the emergency room.

"that expanding coverage of the bill at this time will dilute its effectiveness." To cover these areas House Bill 2703 was introduced at a later date.

A second bill was introduced because it also was not included on the original harassment bill. House Bill 2702 states that intimidated persons may recover damages "for violence or intimidation stating that any person that has been violated has a cause of action to recover actual damages and to recover damages in the amount of \$5,000. Any person recovering damages under this section

shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees in addition to costs and necessary disbursements.

These bills are still pending. The original bill has gone through one committee hearing and because of high interest by the public is expected to go through other hearings although no further committee hearing is as yet scheduled. House Bill 2702 and 2703 have been reviewed by the judiciary committee and no further hearings have as yet been scheduled.

A new piece of equipment received by the Fire and Safety department on the morning of the accident, known as "the jaws of life", was used to assist in removing Mr. Berman. The rescue crew was able to remove him in a matter of 15 minutes enabling faster transporting to a doctor. Ray Rivero, Fire and Safety officer, said that without the jaws of life it would have taken at least an hour for the crew to get the victim out of the car.

Sergeant Ray Calica said the accident is under investigation.