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FARM PROGRAMS

The government has gotten the farm problem in a heck of a mess, so bad that it is possible that it cannot be solved except by going back to first principles and starting over. The crops that have received the largest amount of federal government attention are in the worst fix.

It has gone on so long that the talk is nearly always about "what is the government going to do?" or what are the political parties going to do. That means that the job of farmer welfare has been given to the government and that farmers are not masters of their fate as has been so often boasted.

Farmers await supinely the decision of the government about what to plant and how much when, if their welfare was theirs for solution they might be doing their own planning. It is seldom, even in this area of 40 percent acreage reduction, that we hear conversation about individual plans for the use of that land. No one is buying beef cattle to run on the abandoned acres, no sheep are being bought, there is no increase in swine population, the production of poultry is not being considered.

No. The farm problem is strictly a government problem. It is no longer a problem of the farmer himself. That is one of the disastrous results of government aid, government control, government subsidies. They ruin initiative.

Although the individual farmer might improve his situation by changing his method of operation, he could not by himself solve the political situation that handicaps farmers. That has been brought on by government and will have to be changed by government. The government paid a subsidy for wheat during wartime and ignorantly and politically kept it up after the war was over until now the surplus is too big for even the government to handle. The wheat farmer is the goat although he is better financed than ever as a result of the payments so far.

We must produce less wheat. Acreage reduction has not been successful. Payments for production of wheat are foolish when there is too much wheat although successful when wheat is needed. It seems reasonable to presume that eventually some one will learn that a different policy is needed to reduce a surplus than to build one, but it will not be a politician who discovers the clue.

They are interested in vote getting subsidies.

THE SENATOR AND THE CONGRESSMAN

Citizens have been led astray who believed that the joint meetings between Senator Neuberger and Congressman Coon would be debates in the fine tradition of the Lincoln-Douglas debates. That idea probably came from Dick who likes to dramatize himself in historic roles. Neither is a speaker comparable to Senator Douglas nor is either a statesman or humanist comparable to Abraham Lincoln.

In precise definition the meetings are not debates at all. They are statements of belief about particular phases of the John Day dam bill which was first introduced by Senator Cordon and later by Coon.

There is a conflict in political theory between the two men but there was nothing of that nature in the talks given. Perhaps neither felt capable of it or felt that it would not be understood.

The question of the John Day dam was not fully covered by either speaker. Each has made better statements in written material sent out in their letters to constituents.

The senator has always had trouble with facts. He embraces and elaborates those that suit him and scorns those with which he disagrees. His lack of adequate research has long been his greatest weakness. This makes his better speaking ability ineffective when confronted by the more direct and more factual Coon.

No one can win the debates; there are no judges and the audiences bring their own prejudices and take them back home again unimpaired. Those socialistic minded citizens who believe in big government with power over dams, farms, resources, people, will continue to believe in that theory until it touches them adversely; those who think that individuals should have the right to develop the nation's resources and forge ahead on any front will continue to think so. Neither speaker has the oratorical ability to swerve basic opinions.

As a bit of political advertising the meetings may be worth while to the contestants and the parties they represent. As a way of informing the public we doubt their value. In these days of fast printing presses, radio and television this sort of means of spreading information or opinion is not effective and is preserved for its historical background only.

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Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Vada DeMoss, N. G. Jo Gentry, Sec.

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. Hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited. John Shipley, N. G. Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 75 O.E.S. fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members. Meets every second and invited. Moro, Oregon Catherine Thompson, W. M. Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. Frank Sayers, W. M. Clyde Gillmor, Secretary

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CARD OF THANKS

Family of Dean Fuller wishes to express their gratitude for the help and sympathy during the period of sadness occasioned by his untimely death.

CALL FOR BIDS Anyone wishing to bid on the job of redecorating certain of the rooms upstairs in the county court house will please meet with the court, Wednesday afternoon, October 5, 1955. Vernon Miller, Judge

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30,000 Shares  
**PACIFIC POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**  
4.52% Serial Preferred Stock  
(Cumulative, \$100 par value)  
Price \$102.00 per share plus accumulated dividends

Copies of the preliminary Prospectus may be obtained from the dealers whose names and addresses will be furnished upon request to Pacific Power & Light Company, Public Service Building, Portland 4, Oregon. The date of this Identifying Statement is September 21, 1955.

To: Pacific Power & Light Company, Public Service Building, Portland 4, Oregon.  
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Building Oregon together ... for 90 years!

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This month, as we celebrate our 90th anniversary, we of the First National Bank wish to express our deep gratitude to the people of Oregon. Thanks to the confidence placed in us by the people of our state, we have grown to become the leading bank in the Pacific Northwest. It has been a wonderful 90 years. Let's keep on, "Building Oregon Together!"

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