

The Aurora Observer

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Geo. E. Knapp, Editor and Publisher



EDITORIAL
Opinions of the
Observer

Electrifying a Nation

Realizing that this country is on the threshold of the greatest industrial development it has ever experienced, Secretary Hoover, with the approval of the President, on October 13, called an Eastern Superpower Conference in New York City for a preliminary discussion of what co-operative steps federal and state authorities can properly take in the promotion of what is called superpower development in the New England and Middle Atlantic States.

Secretary Hoover explained that the conference was not to put more government in business but as public authorities were already deeply interested in power production through many forms of regulation and control over power resources, he felt that coordination between public authorities and industries would help in the consummation of a great advance in the development of a great service to the public.

Engineering science has at last made it possible by the perfection of high voltage transmission lines of great length to send power from distant sources to the very thickly populated communities. Great economies in distribution can be secured through the interconnection of load between systems and at the same time assure more security in the power supply from the effect of coal strikes and transportation interruptions.

As power distribution spreads across state lines and into diverse legal jurisdictions, engineering, financial, industrial ownership and legal problems arise which must be coordinated. It was with these ideas in mind that Secretary Hoover called the present conference in order that the way might be prepared to handle the coming situation in the most efficient and scientific manner.

Mr. Hoover says: "Every time we cheapen power and centralize its production we create new uses and we add security to production, we also increase the production, we eliminate waste, we decrease the burden of physical effect upon men. In sum, we increase the standards of living and comfort of all our people."

"This new era of advanced projects is no theorist's or promoter's dream. It is a basic fact unanimously supported by our engineers; agreed to by the responsible men in the industry. It is true that there has been progress in the actual application of scientific advances in our national equipment; but we are far from the realization that it is today practicable. I do not wish to be construed as stating that no progress has been made in enlarging coordination of our power production and distribution. The electrical companies, under the regulation of the Public Service Commissions, have already made excellent progress in the application of superpower principles in many localities. Power interconnections on the Pacific Coast reach from the southern border of California to Oregon; the states of Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Michigan are associated in a net work of interconnections as are Georgia, Alabama, North and South Carolina and Tennessee. This being the case—one purpose of this conference is to consider—why does this development in this, the greatest power of our country, where the greatest saving can be made, not make progress? What measures can be devised to stimulate it? What obstacles to its realization can be removed?"

"In the matter of public rela-

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tions to power development and distribution it appears to me that one of the first principles we must realize is that the whole of this development implies the free flow of power. We have thus at once created a physical and economic interstate question. This great development of so much public interest cannot come about unless there is a complete liquidity in movement of power back and forth across the boundaries thruout the whole of the United States. We cannot secure centralized generation, great water power development, or interconnection of load unless there is free flow. Without this we shall have permanently a larger cost of power and less expansion in its service. There are timehonored disputes over States' rights with regard to water, and somewhat similar questions are being raised as to power. Subject always to the sovereignty of States in taxation, etc., unless all citizens irrespective of state may have the same rights as to use of power we will destroy the hopes of a very great economic development.

"The regulation of power distribution, profits or rates, is a concept fully fixed into our governmental system.

"The economical distribution of power rests, to a large degree, upon local territorial monopoly. Competitive overlap of power distribu-

tion systems would represent tremendous capital and distribution waste. When we accept the principle of monopoly we at once must accept the principle of public regulation. This is a fundamental conception upon which there is no need for dispute or argument. It is amply accepted by universal State legislation. Our states have wisely created public service commissions with State-wide regulatory power in order that rates, profits and distribution might be controlled.

"I am not here to advocate federal super regulation of interstate movement of power. I believe that power development and distribution would find its greatest solution in coordinated States regulation, perhaps with assistance and cooperation of the Federal Government, rather than in any super structure of authority such as has been found necessary in transportation unless, of course, necessities of the case cannot be obtained otherwise. Real conservation lies in use for public interest, not in prevention of use.

"There is a phase of this whole public relationship that seems to me to be slowly emerging and that is that the United States will naturally divide itself into several power areas. For instance, the barren area of power consumption formed by the Adirondacks on the east and the character of natural resources along the Mason Dixon line on the south creates a natural district in the New England and Mid Atlantic States. Another power district lies to the west of the Alleghenies and east of the Mississippi River. Still another district lies in the Southeastern States, and still another in the Northwestern States. The problems in each of these power districts are essentially different as to the origins of power, the character of their industries, and are affected by the rate of probable industrial development in some states. And if we are to make rightful so-

lution of national problems we should consider their development as essentially separate questions." —Industrial News.

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Notice to Creditors

Notice is hereby given that by an order duly issuing out of the County Court for Marion County, Oregon, on the 18th day of August, 1923, the undersigned were duly appointed executors of the last Will and Testament of Charles Kreft, deceased, and that thereafter the said undersigned duly qualified as such executors. All persons having claims against said estate must present same duly verified as required by law to said executors at the office of their attorney, Elmo S. White, 402 Masonic Temple, Salem, Oregon, within six months from the publication of this notice. Dated this 8th day of November, 1923.

Carl Kreft,
Albert Kreft,

Executors of the estate of Charles Kreft, deceased.
Elmo S. White, 402 Masonic Temple, Attorney for Executors. 44-5

Notice of Hearing Final Account

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Marion. In the Matter of the Estate of Jacob Kuckelberg, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that the final account of Leona Kuckelberg, Executrix of the Estate of Jacob Kuckelberg, deceased, been has filed in the County Court of Marion County, Oregon, and that the 26th day of November, 1923, at the hour of 10 o'clock a. m., has been appointed by said Court for hearing objections to said final account, at which time any persons interested in said estate may appear and file objections thereto in writing and contest same.

Leona Kuckelberg,
Executrix.

Thos. Brown, Atty. for Executrix, 210 Oregon Bldg., Salem, Oregon. 43-5t

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