



A general view of the Friant-Kern canal which carries central valley project water 153 miles from Friant dam near Fresno to the Kern river near Bakersfield. Concrete lining of the canal was completed recently, leaving only bridges and other structures to be finished before the full integrated operation of CVP begins in July. The canal has a capacity of 4,000 cubic feet of water per second.

THE 'BIG DITCH'

153 Mile Friant-Kern Canal Will Irrigate Dry San Joaquin Valley

The latest step toward putting the California central valley project into operation this summer was the completion of the concrete lining work on the 153 mile man-made river—the Friant-Kern canal which will cost an estimated \$60,000,000.

With the exception of some work on siphons and bridges, the brief ceremony marked completion of the waterway which by exchange will bring water from Shasta reservoir, nearly 500 miles to the north—to the parched farm lands of southern San Joaquin valley.

Of the eight initially authorized features of the vast central valley project, only two—the Delta Cross channel and the Delta-Dendota canal and its pumping station—remain to be completed. Both are scheduled for operation before July when the mass movement of water from the snow capped watershed draining into Shasta reservoir to the Kern river near Bakersfield will begin.

The bureau of reclamation's construction engineer for the project, S. S. Leonard, hailed the event as a fitting climax to 50 years of hopes and planning.

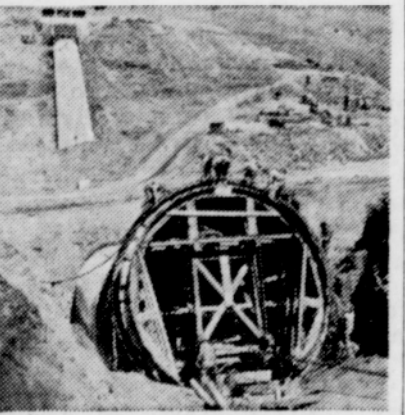
"Fifty years ago the men who talked of completing this great canal were called impractical dreamers. Yet today we are only a few months from the time when water stored in Millerton lake behind Friant dam can eventually serve 624,000 acres," he said.

Still to be completed are the distribution systems by which Friant-Kern water will be delivered to the irrigation districts served by the canal. These systems, to be constructed mainly of concrete pipe, will cost more than \$70,000,000. Work on several districts already is under way.

Work started on the canal in September of 1945. Portions of the "big ditch," which carries 4,000 cubic feet of water per second down the east side of the San Joaquin valley, were in use as early as 1948.

Because of the nearly unprecedented scope of the job, special equipment was used by several of the contractors. Huge dragline excavating machines roughed out the canal trench. Then came the trimmer, which cut the bottom and sides to grade and to a smooth surface.

Following the trimmer, and running on the same rails beside the trench, was a complicated mechanism known as the slip form, which placed the concrete lining as it rolled slowly along. Attached to the slip form were the finishing and painting "jumbos". In the wake of these huge machines, was the finished product—concrete placed, finished complete with expansion joints and painted.



Workmen above put finishing touches on the Little Dry creek siphon which carries waters of the Friant-Kern canal under the stream bed on its way south from Friant dam near Fresno to the thirsty crop lands of the southern San Joaquin valley.



Grenchen housewives shop at covered stalls for fruit, vegetables and flowers grown within a short distance of the market square. The town is a blend of industrial and rural living more highly developed than in any other country of the world. Eight out of every ten husbands in Grenchen are quality watch-makers.

Swiss Towns Best Examples of City And Rural Living

Farm and industry leaders in the United States who have worked for many years toward the blending of rural living and city life cite Swiss communities as practical examples, one of which is Grenchen, located in the Jura mountains of northeastern Switzerland.

Eight out of every ten wage earners of Grenchen's 12,000 population are employed in quality-watch factories, although the mood of the town remains wholly rural—with-out smoke or fumes which identify almost all industrial centers. For the modern factories of Grenchen are 100 per cent electrified.

Rural and city life is so intertwined that a fruit farm is operated within two minutes walk of Grenchen's commercial center. Grenchen housewives enjoy a high standard of living. Marketwomen come in from surrounding countryside, bringing produce from family farms. It is sold in open-air markets in the center of the community.

As a settlement Grenchen dates from Celtic times and first appears in written history as a small grain-milling village.



Rural life is intertwined with city life in Grenchen. The boy above, for instance, is crating fruit grown on a farm with two minutes walk of the town's commercial center.

Friant-Kern Canal Cost 60 Million

The Friant-Kern canal system, which will cost \$60,000,000 when completed, will deliver water 153 miles to that rich area of southern San Joaquin valley that is so dry. Fabulous crops have been produced in those parts of the valley that have been irrigated. The distribution system into the irrigation districts from the canal will cost approximately \$70,000,000. This is another part of America's expanding agriculture which is feeding much of the world.

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Labor vs Truman

WHETHER JUSTIFIED or not, organized labor is near the breaking point with the administration, with top labor leaders as full of venom against Harry Truman as a union league club discussion of the late FDR.

In private conversations, AF of L's Bill Green and CIO's Phil Murray make no bones of their bitterness. But since they begged union members to vote for him in 1948, it's a little hard to attack him publicly.

But a telltale sign of labor's revolt is a stinging editorial, "Wake Up, Labor," in the newspaper of the brotherhood of railroad trainmen now being reproduced in labor papers across the country without comment. It says: "If the rest of the labor movement still has any fair deal stardust flecks obscuring its vision, now is the time to apply the towel and face reality. Labor's interests were sidetracked in practically every move and major appointment the President has made since his re-election by the U.S. working men and women."

The editorial opens the gate for reapproachment with the Republican party, and recommends Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon as COP standard bearer. Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois is suggested on the Democratic ticket.

The disillusionment of the labor leaders who went down the line for Truman in 1948 began soon after his inauguration when they found themselves no longer invited to the White House for conferences. Instead, Mr. Truman insisted that labor relations be handled through amiable John Steelman. Within weeks, both Green and Murray were complaining to sympathetic congressmen that Steelman was not carrying their messages to the President, that labor's requests for policy appointments were sidetracked.

It's Mutual

Labor's coolness also had an effect on the 1950 elections where Democratic losses in the cities were heavy.

What brought the rebellion to a head were:

1. Truman's failure to consult with labor chiefs on the price-wage freeze formula. Roosevelt, though often disagreeing with Green and Murray, always made it easier for them to sell disagreeable news to their members by frequent consultation.

2. The absence of a top-flight labor man, on Charlie Wilson's staff. When Stuart Symington ran defense mobilization, he appointed a labor advisory council, but not Wilson.

3. Truman's crack comparing railroad strikers to Russians. This convinced labor chieftains that the President was against them for keeps.

Now it's mutual.

Heroic 2nd Division

One of the best things about the new and victorious advance in Korea is the way the gallant 2nd division has staged a comeback. Last November, in the tragic retreat from Korea, the 2nd division took the heaviest punishment of all. It was given the tough assignment of holding off the enemy while the rest of the 8th army pulled back below the 38th parallel.

This resulted in some bitter, bloody punishment, with casualties so heavy that General MacArthur cabled Washington that the 2nd division was "unfit for further combat."

However, the 2nd division has now staged one of the most magnificent comebacks of the Korean war. Under Lieut. Gen. Matt Ridgway, it went back into the line along the Taebak mountains in the bitterly contested Wonju area and heroically stopped a North Korean end run around the U.N. right flank.

Then the 2nd division reversed the tables, pulled back 12 miles, drew the North Koreans into a trap, hit the trapped Communists on their flank and wiped them out. It was a brilliant maneuver, proving that this division, with an outstanding record in two previous wars, is now carrying on its tradition as proudly as ever.

Washington Pipeline

Senator Taft refused to allow one of his speeches to be broadcast over the mutual broadcasting system recently until the network deleted criticism of Taft from the script of mutual commentator Frank Edwards, who is sponsored by the AF of L.

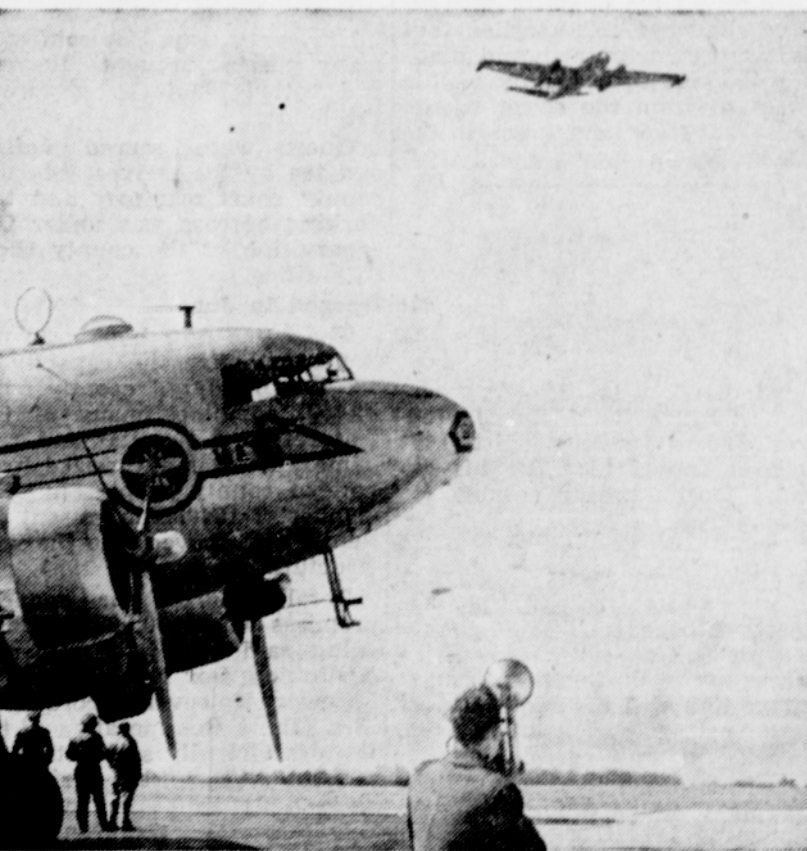
Thus Taft, who has been critical of labor, was in the position of denying a labor-sponsored commentator the right to criticize him. Taft's terms were delivered to the network by his administrative assistant, Jack Martin. Later, network officials examined Edwards' script, found it wasn't as critical as Taft had thought. . . . GOP colleagues are needing Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio, long considered the leader of Ohio congressmen, about the activities of ebullient George Bender. Bender, they say, is stealing Brown's spotlight.



BRITISH VETS PROTEST . . . These British reservists, facing probable recall to the armed forces as a result of the present world crisis, are demonstrating at a Labor party meeting in London. They are holding aloft signs that express their various sentiments. The one in the center, reading "I've got mine. Where are Herb's?" is decorated with medals awarded for World War II. The Herb mentioned is Herbert Morrison, a member of the British cabinet, who was addressing the meeting at the time of the demonstration. The one reading, "Don't be yanked into war" probably refers to American influence.



PUNCHBOARD TAKE NEARS A BILLION . . . Senator Charles Tobey (right), member of the senate crime investigating committee, listens as John W. Brookfield, federal trade commission attorney, who specializes in punchboard and other gambling cases, tells him the facts of life about punchboards. Expert Brookfield said that the "take" from the "suckers" by these boards is between 100 million and one billion dollars a year and that this "take" will get bigger because of the ban on interstate shipments of slot machines. The committee is emphasizing how the gamblers are making "suckers" of the public.



BRITISH BOMBER ARRIVES . . . The British twin-jet bomber, Canberra, which recently set a non-stop Atlantic crossing record of four hours and 40 minutes, makes a pass over Andrews air force base outside Washington shortly before landing at the capital. The bomber flew to Washington from Gander, Newfoundland, where it landed after the trans-Atlantic flight. Government dignitaries and newspaper reporters and cameramen awaited the ship.



EISENHOWER TOASTED AT CHERBOURG . . . A smiling General Dwight Eisenhower raises his glass in a toast with Edmund Soufflet, mayor of Cherbourg, during the dock-side champagne reception given the new supreme commander of western European defense on his arrival aboard the Queen Elizabeth. The general said the last time he was in the city the docks were wrecked and now they are in good repair. His job is to keep them that way.



LORD MAYOR WINGS IN . . . Berlin's Lord Mayor Ernst Reuter leaves airliner at New York's Idlewild airport to visit Secretary of State Acheson to discuss German problems. He does not foresee Russian attack on Berlin.



PRICE ENFORCER . . . Edward P. Morgan, Washington attorney and former FBI chief inspector, was formally sworn in as chief of enforcement for the price stabilization office. Post was refused by New York police commissioner.

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This little space is to be read by those folks who are always wishing they'd feel better. Now this business of wishing for "this" and wishing for "that" is all right. It sort of makes a person look to the future. But it is a mighty sorry state of affairs when folks keep wishing and wishing they would feel better. That just doesn't get the job done. Take Leo D. Fisher, 901 Charles Street, St. Joseph, Missouri, for example. He just didn't wish he would feel better — he did something about it. He took HADACOL, and says he feels just fine for Mr. Fisher found that taking HADACOL helped his system overcome deficiencies of Vitamins B₁, B₂, Niacin and Iron, which HADACOL contains.

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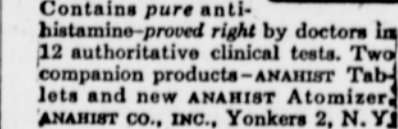
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