



**KELLY—**

Washington, D. C., June 18.—Of special interest to Oregon the past 10 days is the hearings held by a joint congressional committee on the proposed Columbia Power Authority, introduced by Senator Bone of Washington. The measure was prepared by power lawyers of the interior department. Greatest interest was shown by senators and representatives from Washington state, who said that the Bonneville act (this bill is intended to amend or replace that act) was a mandate for the people of the northwest to become owner-minded and go into the power business.

To accomplish this the Bone bill authorizes the administrator to acquire private utilities. The witnesses admitted, however, that the private utilities and Grand Coulee and Bonneville, government plants, are now interconnected and it is believed they will do a good job. The measure provides that the private companies be bought with revenue bonds; further that the secretary of the treasury can buy these bonds with any borrowed money. Thus receipts from the sale of war bonds can be diverted to invest in these revenue bonds. The proposed acquisition of private companies, it was testified, "is the heart and soul of the act."

To date only proponents of the measure have testified. Managers of private utilities will have their opportunity later, if they wish to avail themselves of it. Despite the "mandate," as testified, and that Washington state is aflame for public ownership, no reference has yet been made to the defeat of PUDs in the Oregon primaries last month.

Federal power commission, only authorized power expert in the government, is now wanted to allocate what part of Grand Coulee should be charged to power. Proponents of the bill insist that the secretary of the interior be given this authority. There is a long standing feud between the interior and FPC. The hearings will probably consume another week. Rep. Walter Pierce is the only Oregon congressman who appears as a witness and he was in support.

A life-saver for the wheat grower, hop man, wool man and potato producer is promised by war production board. The board froze all burlap in the country. Such a protest was raised by Oregon farmers that it has modified its policy and is authorizing commodity credit corporation to buy the frozen burlap. The wheat men, staggered with a crop that is hard to warehouse, wants burlap sack, the hop men need burlap, the wool men have asked for burlap, and the potato grower prefers burlap to the paper mesh bags. As rapidly as arrangements can be made the burlap will be sold to farmers.

The collection of old rubber, now on a national scope, will determine the amount of discarded rubber in the country. It does not mean, however, that when this rubber is reworked into tires any will be available for civilians. President Roosevelt, finding his administrative officers had nothing but foggy ideas on the amount of waste rubber, decided to make a direct appeal to the people. Based on the rubber drive, a policy will be determined for gasoline. The ration books have been printed and are ready for distribution, but the president is not certain that rationing gas is a wise thing to do. There is a shortage, of course, in some sections, but it is not due to a shortage of gas but of means of distribution. Because of its geographical position, the northwest has been marked for gas rationing, an order later vetoed, yet a few hundred miles away there is

an unlimited supply. It is situations such as these that are causing turmoil from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

**IRRIGON NEWS**

**Mary Ellen Grice to Wed Robert Brace**

By MRS. J. A. SHOUN

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau is fighting against it, but each day the way and means committee is feeling stronger toward a general sales tax. This tax has been defeated whenever the people of Oregon had a chance to vote on it, although California, Idaho and Washington have such a tax. The president views a sales tax askance but the betting at this time is a 50-50 chance that the ways and means committee will embody it in the tax bill now being written. One reason why a sales tax is being urged is that the great bulk of the money is in the hands of those in the lower income brackets—so low that they pay no taxes—and a sales tax of a few cents on the dollar would bring into the treasury a substantial amount which cannot be obtained in any other way.

Insofar as Oregon is concerned, WPA, which has been working on projects since 1933, is almost out of the picture. Money available for that state the coming fiscal year has been cut to the bone and there will be only a skeleton organization left. WPA was almost entirely elimin-

Mrs. Rose Grice of Pendleton announces the engagement of her daughter, Mary Ellen to Robert Earl Brace, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brace of Irrigon. The wedding date has been set for June 28 at 2 p.m. at the home of the bride with members of both families present. Mr. Brace works at the Umatilla ordinance depot and lives at home in Irrigon.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sweringen have moved to Irrigon from Seattle. He is employed at the Umatilla ordinance depot as an electrician. They are at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Sweringen.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bediwell and little daughter went to Pendleton Wednesday.

Cecil Goodman and wife and brother Alfred went to visit their mo-

ated on the ground that it was set up to make work for the idle, but now with employment at a higher point than ever the need for WPA has passed. An attempt was made to turn such work as is left over to the states.

ther in Grants Pass.

Roger Godwin is spending the summer with his grandmother, Mrs. C. T. Farrell.

Emery Bediwell went to Hermiston Sunday.

Walter Grider is on the sick list. Mrs. Wisdom left Monay after spending the week end in Irrigon with the Russell McCoy's.

Marshall Marquam spent the week end with his family.

Grandma Graybeal is ill at her home. Her daughter, Mrs. Charles McFall, is caring for her.

Jack McFall is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McFall.

The annual school meeting was held at the school house Monday beginning at 2 p.m.

Russell McCoy was reelected director and Harvey Warner was reelected clerk. The budget was approved.

W. H. Johnston with the Herman Duus family has gone to Spokane to make a short visit with his children. He works at the Umatilla ordinance depot.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Grimm made a trip to Boardman on Sunday to visit the Preuters. The Preuters have ten acres of tomatoes and several acres of lettuce, reports Mrs. Grimm.

Doris Gollyhorn's grandmother

died in Salem Monday. She is going to the funeral.

Ella May Grimm is taking Mrs. Gollyhorn's place at the Lorenzen cafeteria while she is gone.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shoun of KKelso, Wash., arrived in Irrigon Monday evening after spending a short time with his mother, Mrs. J. A. Shoun. They went to Walla Walla to visit her people, the Shrievers, and James Shoun. He is three days off from the aluminum plant in Longview.

Mrs. H. W. Grimm entertains the grange ladies on Thursday afternoon.

The 4-H club will have a program at the school gymnasium on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. H. J. Warner had another lawn dinner Sunday honoring her son, Rev. Walter Warner. All of her children and grandchildren were present.

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