

Northwest Had Excess Storage Water In January, Dr. Paul Raver Tells Meeting Of Columbia Basin Inter-Agency Group

Salem, Ore., Feb. 9.—(U.P.)—In contrast to some areas of the nation which are faced with water shortages, the Pacific northwest had excess storage water and a large flow of water which enabled the northwest power pool to continue during January without any serious interruptions, Dr. Paul J. Raver, Bonneville power administrator, reported today.

Frequency Sags
Dr. Raver told the Columbia Basin Inter-Agency committee meeting here today that because of the prolonged cold spell, the electrical frequency in the area sagged below 60 cycles eight times in January but with milder weather, a capacity load now is being carried in the pool.

The Bonneville administrator said there had been some line breakages on lines of Bonneville customers. But the BPA was able to divert power over other lines to continue service.

S. P. McClelland of Boise, Idaho, with the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, said a "reconnaissance" of the water situation in the

entire west is being made to determine if a complete survey should be made. There has been talk that, if a sufficient surplus of water should be found in the Northwest, beyond all needs for power, reclamation and other purposes, it might be exportable to other areas where the water supply is short.

To Continue Serious

Dr. Raver said the power situation in the Northwest will continue to be serious at least until the end of 1953, when further power generation at McNary, Hungry Horse and Detroit dams should furnish a flow of uninterrupted power to present customers. However, no new contracts can be made with either private or public power users at least until 1953, he said.

Col. O. E. Walsh, North Pacific division engineer for the U. S. corps of engineers, said that elimination by the bureau of the budget of several smaller dams in the Willamette valley project will seriously interfere with the

effectiveness of the entire project.

Col. Walsh, who is a member of the Columbia Basin Inter-Agency committee, urged that the group hold an early meeting in the Willamette basin area to consider the deletions and take whatever action they deem advisable.

Rogue Work Complete

Gov. Douglas McKay of Oregon, host of the meeting, urged that the Willamette Basin meeting be held at an early date so that protests could be forwarded to northwest members of congress in time to assure action while the joint army-reclamation bill is still in committee.

Col. Walsh reported that cold weather caused suspension of virtually all army projects in the northwest in January. He said 100 inches of snow at the Detroit dam site on the north Santiam river prevents any work at the present time.

Harold T. Nelson of Boise, Idaho, with the U. S. department of interior, said all work was completed Tuesday on an investigation of the Rogue River basin, and a report on it is expected to be out soon.

Northwest Power Rates May Jump, Cordon Advised

Washington, Feb. 9.—(U.P.)—The reclamation bureau has advised Sen. Guy Cordon (R., Ore.), that public power rates in the Pacific northwest eventually may be raised.

Reclamation Commissioner Michael Straus told Cordon the present rate of \$17.50 per kilowatt year would go up to \$21.57 when 17 existing and proposed projects are operating together.

Letter Read

Straus estimated the increase without reference to a proposal to use interest collected on power investments to aid in repayment of project costs.

Cordon read a letter from Straus during senate interior committee hearings on the Columbia river coordinated plan. Earl B. Ostrander, Bonneville power administration official, was testifying.

"Is \$21.57 enough to return all costs allocable to power on these projects without the use of the interest component?" Cordon asked Ostrander.

"Yes," Ostrander said, "if those projects are operated as a power pool. The rate, however, reflects a pay-out only for power. There is no irrigation in there."

Other Projects

Straus said the increase would be necessary when the following power projects were operating together: Bonneville, Grand Coulee, Hungry Horse, McNary, Chief Joseph, Detroit, Meridian, Roza, Chandler, Big Cliff, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Albeni Falls, Hells Canyon, Hills Creek, Waldo Lake and Dexter.

Street Car Strike In San Francisco Looms

San Francisco, Feb. 9.—(U.P.)—Threat of a system-wide strike of AFL municipal streetcar and bus operators over a dispute about work schedules loomed today.

Nearly 500 union men voted at a meeting to ballot Thursday on a strike that would tie up transportation in this city of 850,000.

The strike threat arose when new "split shift" work schedules went into effect on the No. 26 line.



BOY FOR INGRID—A hospital nun, in accordance with old Italian custom, pins white bow on drapes in the Villa Margherita, Rome, to show actress Ingrid Bergman's baby is a boy. Father Felix A. Morlon, director of the Pro Deo University of Rome, said Italian Film Director Roberto Rossellini was the father of the baby. (Exclusive photo by Julius Huml, NEA-Acme staff correspondent.)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

President Truman accepts the Taft-Hartley law as an instrument for dealing with the coal strike, puts a three-man board to work digging up the facts with orders to pour on the heat and bring in a report by next Monday and may later call for an injunction sending the miners back to work for 80 days.

Whether he would have invoked Taft-Hartley against anybody but Miner Boss Lewis, whom he dislikes, is an interesting subject for speculation but is probably not material to the present problem, which is how to get coal enough dug to keep the country warm and its industries moving.

The miners, bitter and angry, say they "won't be black-jacked into the mines." A rank-and-file Pennsylvania coal digger tells a reporter: "Let 'em put us in jail. If the government puts us to work for Uncle Sam and gives us a contract, we'll dig coal. But not under this Taft-Hartley stuff."

A mine-leader says: "We are not going back to work under somebody dominating us. . . . No contract, no work—under Taft-Hartley or anybody else. . . . If they want coal dug, let Taft and Hartley and Truman come and dig it."

IT SOUNDS like a show-down—which is probably what we'll have to have. Boils have to come to a head before they can be treated and the patient relieved.

PARTY Republicans, after laboring mightily without benefit of twilight sleep, bring forth a platform in which they name liberty vs. socialism as their top campaign issue in 1950.

It sounds nice and all that, but it's vague and remote. Socialism isn't going to happen next year or the year after that. It will come so creepingly that nobody will be able to tell when it's here. Using it as a 1950 top campaign issue is a good deal like telling the children the big bad boogey man will get 'em if they aren't good.

The children are bad a little bit, just enough to see what will happen, and when the boogey man doesn't come they put the statement down accurately for what it is, which is a scheme to SCARE 'em into being good.

On the subject of finances, the Republicans are a little smarter. (They've always been financially smarter than the Democrats.) They drop the idea of \$100-per-plate dinners (or \$10, or \$20, or anything that sounds like big money) and start a series of old-fashioned basket dinners at a buck a basket. While they munch their chicken and fried potatoes at these affairs, they propose to talk over the heavy affairs of the nation and what ought to be done about it.

Their idea, of course, is that the thing to do about it is to return the Republican party to power.

THAT'S one move in the right direction. If the Republicans are ever going to get back into power, they've got to GET HUMBLE. They've got to get down among the common people and be regular fellows.

(Among other things, they'll have to convince the common people that you just CAN'T vote yourself rich. At the present moment, the common people don't believe that. They think you CAN vote yourself rich. We've been doing it for years—and running up a 257 billion dollar debt in the process. The Republicans will have to be really

Man Survives 8 Days Locked In Box Car

Los Angeles, Feb. 9.—(U.P.)—A 49-year-old man was taken from a locked box car at an automobile plant here today and said he was imprisoned when he fell asleep in the car eight days ago in Highland Park, Mich.

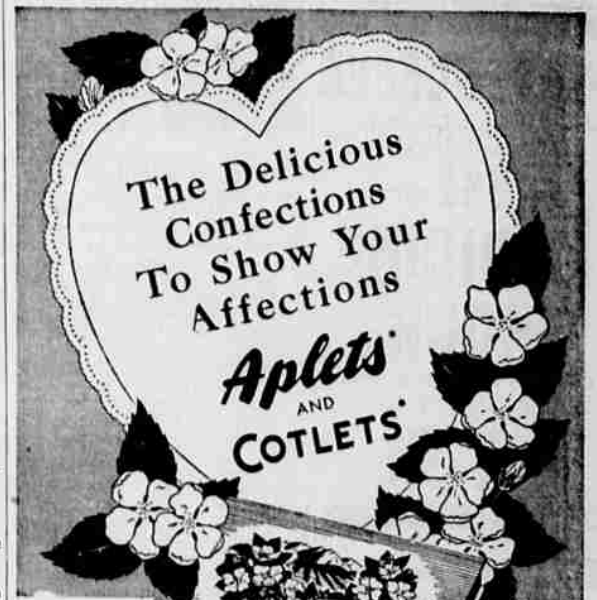
The man, John Lee Ford, a Negro, was examined by the plant nurse at the Lincoln-Mercury assembly plant of the Ford Motor company in East Los Angeles and pronounced in "good condition, considering his experiences."

Ford told sheriff's deputies he went to the Highland Park Ford plant to see about getting back his former job. While he waited

to see the foreman, he crawled into the box car to take a nap and was sealed inside when the carload of auto parts was started on its way January 31.

Duluth, Minn. (U.P.)—Children playing with matches caused a fire which did \$30 damage to a house belonging to Ed Owen.

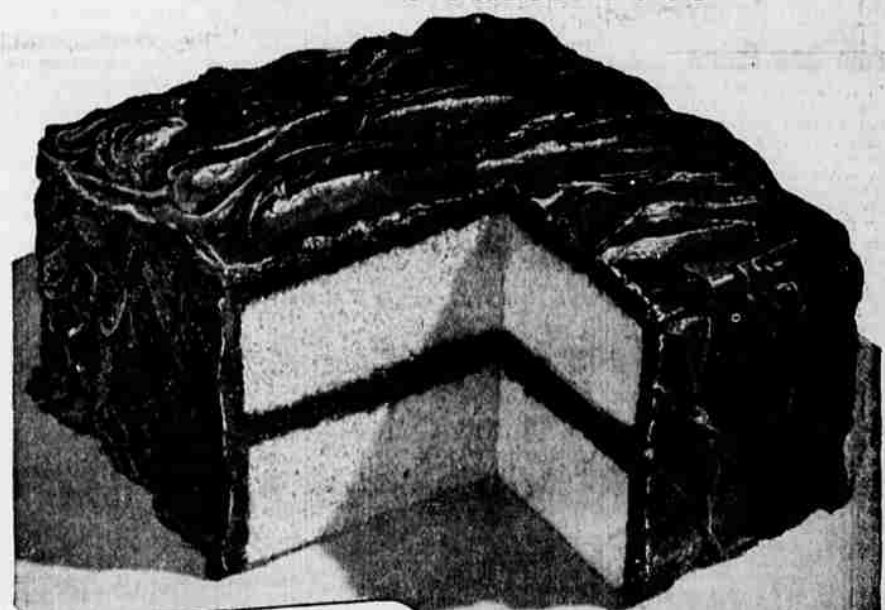
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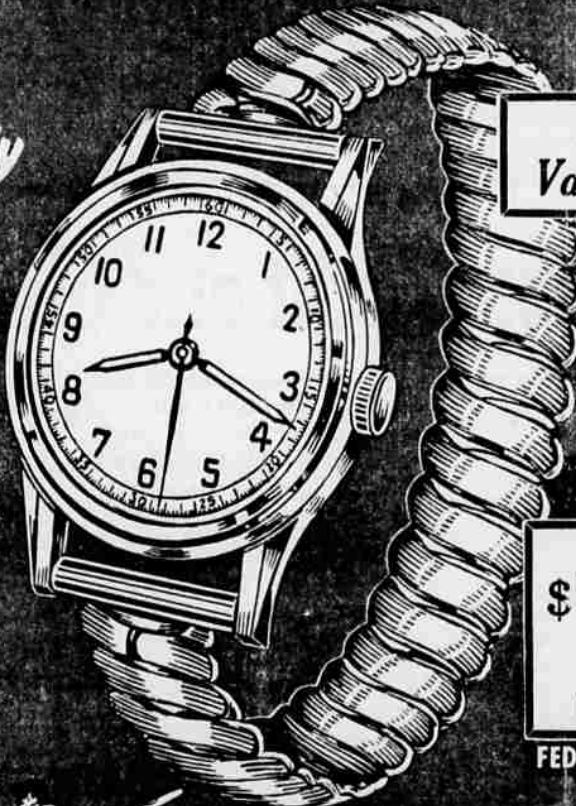
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