

Fight Over Hells Canyon Project May Be Decided By One Senator

By A. Robert Smith
Mail-Tribune Correspondent

Washington (Special) — The fight over the high Hells Canyon project authorization bill in Congress has come to the critical point where one senator may decide the fate of the bill and possibly the ultimate fate of middle Snake river development.

He is Arthur Vivian Watkins, Utah's white haired senior senator who won national reputation last fall as chairman of the special Senate committee that judged the conduct of Sen. McCarthy of Wisconsin and recommended that he be censured.

Vote Deferred

A vote on the high dam bill within the Senate Interior Committee, which held hearings in the Pacific Northwest in April, has been deferred until Watkins has finished studying the full implications of the bill and has made up his mind whether to support or oppose it.

A former judge and for over 20 years counsel for reclamation water users of central Utah, Sen. Watkins is concentrating his attention on the charge that the big federal project in Hells Canyon would threaten existing water rights of upriver irrigators in southern Idaho.

Attention To Opposition

During hearings on the bill here, Watkins paid close attention to the opposition testimony given by William Holden, Idaho Falls counsel for Upper Snake River Water Users and nine canal companies. That the senator was being openly wooed by both sides became obvious in these hearings, for every time Watkins would question the witness he would get somewhat conflicting answers from his colleagues.

Senators who are passionately for and against the bill would jump up to Watkins with a quick response. Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) saying one thing, Sen. Henry C. Dworshak (R-Ida.) saying another. Sen. Herman Welker (R-Ida.), who like Dworshak opposes the high dam, said little about but would hustle up to Watkins and whisper in his ear while supporters of the bill were trying to hold his attention with their account of the facts.

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) kept emphasizing similarities between the high Hells Canyon project and the vast Upper Colorado storage project bill which the committee and the Senate had previously approved, for Watkins was its champion every step of the way.

Division of Opinion

Watkins' vote could be critical because of the tightly drawn division of opinion on the Hells

Canyon issue in committee and in the Senate as a whole. In the Interior Committee, seven of the 15 members are figured as supporters of the bill—all of them Democrats, six of whom are co-sponsors of the bill. If Watkins votes against it, all seven Republicans on the committee are expected to oppose it. This could very well seal the fate of the bill in committee, blocking it from ever reaching the floor of the Senate. If taken to the floor, it would appear to face sure defeat.

If Watkins votes for the bill, its clearance by the committee is certain — and its chances of being approved by the Senate would go up immeasurably, most observers believe. The bill would then have bipartisan backing, for observers think Watkins

would carry perhaps half dozen senators with him by sheer weight of his prestige on a controversial question most lawmakers don't have time to study in order to reach an independent opinion themselves.

With the Eisenhower administration opposed to the high dam, observers think it will be harder for Watkins to come out for it than against it. But high dam supporters are convinced the GOP senator from Utah is conscientiously examining the engineering and legal facts rather than the politics of the matter.

"The longer he studies the facts, the better for our side," said one high dam sponsor, "because we have the facts on our side."

Whether Watkins will agree, remains to be seen.

In and Around Eagle Point

Eagle Point — Mrs. Augusta Perry returned home Saturday, May 21, from a two week vacation in California. She spent a week with her nephew, S/Sgt. Darrell Newstrom and wife in Vallejo, the second week with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibson, Weaver, Calif.

Mrs. Amy Brown has been recovering from recent seige of old fashioned flu. There have been several cases of the same in this vicinity in the past six weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Smith, Eagle Point, are in Crescent City, Calif., at present for an indefinite time.

Mrs. Roy Swan and Mrs. Gertrude Stanley were hostesses at a dinner party at the Stanley home to five couples Sunday May 15. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Hammell, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Henderson, Eagle Point, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beebe, Medford and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brummitt, formerly of this locality, but recently of Watsonville, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Swan and Mrs. Stanley. After dinner while Mrs. Brummitt played the piano, all joined in singing many of the beautiful old songs as well as some of the more modern ones, interspersed with friendly joviality, making it a most pleasant evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Brummitt left Medford Wednesday, May 18, for Washington, and planned on going to Florida for awhile before returning to California.

Mr. and Mrs. Bertland Stanley and two daughters, Judy and Linda, of Ft. Klamath, came over Saturday for the week end with Bert's mother, Mrs. Gertrude Stanley, returning home Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Guerin of Newport, Ore., left Monday, May 21, on their return home after a week here. They came down to attend the Masonic lodge 100th anniversary, held in Jacksonville last week.

Mrs. Ruby Stowell, and brother Percy Stowell, Eagle Point, received word Sunday, May 22, of the passing away of their sister, Mrs. Ivy Merrill, at her home in Eugene on Sunday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Haley and Mrs. Stowell will drive to Eugene to attend the funeral Wednesday, May 25 at 2 p.m. Deepest sympathy of their neighbors and friends is extended to them.

Mrs. John Smith of this place was honoree at a family get-together pot luck dinner Sunday, May 22, the occasion being her birthday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stowell and family, Mr. and Mrs. Aron Smith of Butte Falls and Mr. and Mrs. Don Helmick and family of Grants Pass.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Bubb and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Carroll, Englewood, Calif., left Tuesday, May 24, after spending a week here with Mr. and Mrs. John Derry and family of Eagle Point. Mrs. Derry is also a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bubb.

Eugene FPC License Hearing Postponed

Washington — (U.P.) — The Federal Power commission yesterday postponed a hearing on an application by the city of Eugene, Ore., asking for an FPC license for the proposed Beaver Marsh hydroelectric project on the McKenzie river.

The hearing, scheduled for June 7, was postponed until June 27.



Father Weeps Bitterly At Funeral for Son

Banning, Calif. — (U.P.) — Roger Deason, handcuffed and with his wife's coat thrown over his shoulders to hide his jail clothes, wept bitterly yesterday at funeral services for his nine-year-old son.

The boy, Roger, Jr., committed suicide with a shotgun Monday after his father was jailed on a burglary charge. Deason, guarded by two sheriff's officers, was permitted to attend the services.

The boy's mother, Mrs. Gladys Deason, burst into tears when her husband was led into the funeral chapel, and she threw her overcoat over his shoulders to hide his jail clothes.

Mrs. Deason said Roger Jr., a constant companion of the elder Deason on hunting and fishing trips, couldn't bear the taunts of schoolmates that his father was a "jailbird."

LOGGER KILLED

Myrtle Point — (U.P.) — Ansel Northrup, 29, Broadbent, Ore., was killed instantly Monday when he was struck by the butt of a tree he had just felled. The logging accident happened near Powers.

Roman Catholic Church Increases Membership

New York — (U.P.) — The Roman Catholic church has increased its membership in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii by 927,278, for a record total of 32,575,702.

The 123rd edition of the official Catholic Directory published yesterday reported 137,310 converts among new members gained last year. This marked the ninth consecutive year adult baptisms have exceeded 100,000. Total conversions in the last 10 years numbered 1,160,054.

Molotov Confirms Big Four Meeting

Moscow — (U.P.) — Soviet Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov summed the three Western envoys in Moscow and formally confirmed Soviet acceptance of a Big Four meeting at the summit.

A Soviet note was handed by Molotov to British Ambassador Sir William Hayter, French Charge d'Affaires Jean Le Roy and American Charge d'Affaires Walter M. Walsley Jr.

It reiterated the Russian proposal that the Big Four meet in Vienna.

Scarf Gives Clue In Search for Girl

Kalamazoo, Mich. — (U.P.) — A huge searching party fanned out over a wooded game reserve today after a scarf, believed to belong to missing Jeanie Singleton, was found tangled in a branch in the eight-acre tract.

Police said the scarf, found by one of thousands of searchers who scoured the entire county yesterday, may be their first clue in the disappearance of the lame eight-year-old girl early this week.

Jeanie's mother, Mrs. Dorothy Singleton, 32, said she was "positive" the scarf belonged to her daughter, who disappeared while walking home from school.

The missing girl's sister, Patsy, 13, said she and Jeanie had been arguing over the scarf the day before the girl disappeared.

THIRSTY THIEF

Philadelphia — (U.P.) — A thirsty burglar ransacked four homes and stole \$11, police said today. Detective Thomas Spera reported the thief drank four quarts of milk he found in the homes and left the empty bottles behind.

Flegel Named Head Of Truman Committee

Portland — (U.P.) — Austin F. Flegel, former head of the Foreign Operations administration's mission to Thailand and one-time Oregon gubernatorial candidate, will head the committee in charge of arrangements for ex-President Harry Truman's speech here June 11.

Flegel's appointment was announced by Rep. Edith Green, general chairman of the dinner. Flegel, Democratic candidate for governor in 1950, returned to Portland early this year after his tour of duty with the government.

Mrs. Truman is expected to accompany her husband here. They are expected to arrive early Saturday, June 11, from Kansas City.

A baby will consume 515 pounds of food in its first year at an approximate cost of \$120.

Buying MILK Today?

Reach for
GILMAN'S

Borden Cheese
2 lb. loaf **79¢**

Hills Bros. Coffee
lb. **91¢** 2 **\$1.81**
lbs.

CHARCOAL
With Quick Action Starter pkg. **39¢**

POTATO CHIPS
Williams Saratoga 39c Size bag **29¢**

MUSTARD
FRENCH'S 9¢
6-oz. JAR

LUMAN'S

Wax Paper
Diamond Brand
50 Ft. roll **9¢**

FLUFFO . . . 3 Lbs. **93¢**

Kool-Aid
3 pkgs. **10¢**

CAN-A-POP . . 6 for **59¢**

Pork & Beans
Van Camp's
2 No. 2 1/2 Cans **39¢**

Sperry Pancake Mix
4 lb. bag **43¢**

SUGAR
WHITE SATIN **10 lbs. 89¢**

EGGS
2 Dozen Small **85¢**

Honey Grahams
Nabisco lb. **29¢**

SARDINES
Beachcliff Brand 3 for **25¢**

LUMAN'S PRODUCE

BANANAS
2 Lbs. **29¢**

Green Peppers
3 For **10¢**

Watermelons • Strawberries

LUMAN'S MEAT DEPT.

FRYERS Pan Ready lb. **59¢**

SLICED BACON lb. **39¢**

HAMS Cooked, Ready to Eat. Picnic Style. lb. **39¢**

FRANKS Scott's Old Fashioned lb. **33¢**

SAUSAGE Country Style lb. **39¢**

STORE HOURS—8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

SATURDAY—8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

SUNDAY—9 a.m. to 7 p.m.



LUMAN'S WILL BE
OPEN SUNDAY

CLOSED MONDAY — MEMORIAL DAY

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