

Britain Far Ahead of Western Europe In Atomic Energy for Peaceful Uses

Editor's Note: The United Nations is sponsoring an international conference at Geneva next month on the theme, "Atoms for Peace." On the eve of this scientific get-together the United Press polled its bureaus throughout Western Europe for an up-to-the-minute report on how peaceful application of atomic energy is moving ahead in 16 nations west of the Iron Curtain.

By **KENNETH MILLER**
United Press Correspondent

London—(U.P.)—Great Britain is running away with the atomic energy show in Europe. She is spending more on research and development than the rest of Europe put together.

Her first atomic power plant will be generating electricity by the middle of next year.

By 1975, Britain will be producing enough atom-made electricity to light nearly 40 cities the size of Washington, D.C.

And the rest of Europe is far from idle. A survey by United Press correspondents in 16 capitals shows many countries working with all-out speed to get the atom into harness on a practical, workaday basis.

It is possible millions of Europeans will have the atom as their household servant before many Americans do, even though the scientific know-how, and possibly the very equipment and materials involved will be stamped "Made In U.S.A."

This doesn't mean U.S. science and industry are slow or short-sighted, or that the United States, which has offered to help European countries get their atomic power programs started, is giving away something that could better be used at home.

European Needs
Certain economic facts of life have made atomic-electric power a more urgent goal in Europe than it is in the United States.

America has enough coal, oil and hydroelectric reserves to keep generating plants supplied with fuel for years to come. Right now, it is cheaper for power companies—and users of electricity—to rely on these conventional fuels than to switch to atomic fuel.

In Europe the story is different. Many nations have dwindling supplies of coal and oil, or none at all. Mountainous countries like Sweden, Norway and Switzerland see the day coming when their hydroelectric potential will fail to meet their need for power.

Under such circumstances, electricity produced by nuclear energy would come as a God-

send, regardless of price.

Great Britain is staking her future on the atom. She hopes to lead Europe through a second "industrial revolution," as important as the one which carried Britain to world ascendancy in the 19th century.

Under present plans Britain will spend more than \$1,000,000,000 on atomic development in the next 10 years, and by 1956 will have 37 nuclear reactors in operation. British laboratories already are Europe's leading suppliers of radio-active isotopes for medical research.

Technical Shortage
Throughout Western Europe, and in Britain, there is a shortage of trained scientists and engineers to carry on the research and development which must go into any atomic revolution.

West Germany, a late but fast-running starter in the atomic stakes, hopes to "catch up" with other European nations. But Nobel Prize-winning Prof. Otto Hahn has said Germany's first task is to train scientists.

Italy, too, reports that the greatest roadblock to atomic development is the shortage of trained personnel.

U. S. and British technicians are helping build an experimental low-power reactor in Belgium to train future atomic engineers. This is part of an exchange agreement in which the U. S. and Britain get exclusive rights to 90 per cent of the uranium ore produced in the Belgian Congo.

Belgium gets the other 10 per cent, and is looking forward to the time when it no longer need worry about dwindling reserves.

France is deep in a 15-year atomic development program. An atomic reactor generating 30,000 kilowatts of electricity will be running at Marcours by 1957. Foreign Minister Antoine Pinay is pressing for a European atomic pool involving the six Schuman Plan nations.

Atomic City in Sweden
Sweden is building Europe's first "atomic city," a \$6,000,000 project south of Stockholm which will house 400 scientists and technicians. This is a kind of insurance. In 20 years, Sweden's hydroelectric power resources will have been tapped to their limit.

Norway is at work on a light nuclear reactor suitable for merchant vessels. The Danes are prospecting for uranium in

Greenland, and hope to see an atomic power plant operating in Denmark within 10 years.

In Switzerland a group of 150 private firms is backing construction of an experimental reactor. Austria's venture into atomic power is still in the talking stage, until the country's economic burdens under her

new state treaty are sufficiently eased.

Radioactive ores are known to exist in Spain, Portugal and Yugoslavia, and each of those countries has begun to exploit them. Spain and Yugoslavia already are producing the "heavy water" needed for operating certain types of nuclear reactors.

Other South American Countries Expected To Be Trouble Spots

By **CHARLES M. McCANN**
United Press Foreign Analyst

Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador and Guatemala may become trouble spots within the next few months.

Argentina, Brazil and Chile, the Latin American "big three," already are in the news.

President Juan D. Peron of Argentina probably has not heard the last of his dispute with the Roman Catholic Church. There is a turbulent presidential election campaign in Brazil. Chile has a dangerous transport and communications strike.

Thus, it is indicated that Latin America will be a source of headlines for some time to come. A recent dispatch from La Paz, Bolivia, reported rumors of plots to assassinate President Victor Paz Estenssoro. Paz was put into office in 1952 after a coup by the National Revolutionary Party.

Paz Popular Man
Paz's four-year term expires next year. He is a popular man, who is doing about as much as anybody could to combat Bolivia's bad economic situation. He probably would win an election. But under the constitution he is not eligible to run for a second consecutive term.

The National Revolutionary Party plans to hold an assembly in October to rewrite the constitution so Paz can run to succeed himself. Naturally his opponents do not like that idea. Hence the rumors.

Dr. Carlos Arroyo Del Rio, former dictator-president of Ecuador, was arrested in April, charged with subversive activities against President Jose Maria Velasco Ibarra.

The government said that supporters of Arroyo were plotting against Velasco. They quoted Arroyo as predicting that the government would be overthrown by the end of this month.

At the moment, the Ecuadorian government is battling a strike by workers on the state-owned railroads, who complain that their pay is three months in arrears. The army has taken charge of the roads.

Four Presidential Candidates
In little El Salvador, in politically turbulent Central America, four men have announced their candidacies for election as president next year—the exact date is to be set. Dispatches indicate that the campaign may break up in a fight, and that there may be a coup instead of an election.

Finally, there is Guatemala, where a Communist-dominated government was overthrown a year ago. President Carlos Castillo Armas rules as dictator. But a new constitution, planned to return the country to democratic government, has just been drafted. After it has been adopted, a presidential election is to be called.

Dispatches from Guatemala report first that Castillo is getting stronger and that he is meeting increasing opposition from both left and right wings in politics. It looks as if anything might happen.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 5:30 previous day.

Stevenson Charges Administration Idle On School Problems

Chicago—(U.P.)—Adlai E. Stevenson attacked the Eisenhower administration on a new front on Wednesday night, charging that it had done "absolutely nothing" to solve the nation's public school problem.

Stevenson, the Democrats' 1952 presidential candidate, urged a "drastic" billion-dollar federal assistance program to meet "America's No. 1 domestic need—schools and teachers."

Severe Criticism
Stevenson has not yet said whether he intends to make a second bid for the presidency next year, but he has directed severe criticism at various phases of the Eisenhower program in recent speeches.

Wednesday night's address before the 93rd annual meeting of the National Education Association was billed as his last major speech before next fall.

The former Illinois governor, suffering from a bad summer cold, accused President Eisenhower of dodging an earlier promise to give "prompt, effective help" to the nation's schools.

Instead, Stevenson charged, Mr. Eisenhower has asked Congress to pass "not a law but a miracle."

The President told Congress only last February that the na-

tion needs \$7,000,000,000 worth of new schools, Stevenson said, but administration program calls for grants of only \$66,000,000 a year for three years.

"This is 33 cents a year to meet every \$35 of admitted, present, crying need," Stevenson said.

Figures Cited
In contrast, Stevenson cited figures of economist Beardsley Ruml that the government should spend \$700,000,000 next year and possibly as much as \$3,500,000,000 a year by 1965 to "salvage" the nation's school system.

The Democratic leader also urged support of bills now before Congress which call for the annual spending of \$400,000,000 in federal school construction funds during the next four years plus federal grants of \$50,000,000 a year to improve teachers' salaries and help educate more teachers.

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NOT HOT IN HELL
Oslo—(U.P.)—Hell and Paradise had practically the same temperature today. The cities of Hell, near Trondheim, and Paradise, near Bergen, both recorded comfortable readings near 50 degrees.

POSTMAN'S HOLIDAY
Madison, Wis.—(U.P.)—Weather forecaster Al Joss made plans today for his annual two-weeks vacation. He said he will do weather forecasting for a radar station construction crew in the Atlantic Ocean.

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526 SOUTH RIVERSIDE

The train "Rogue River" will be Discontinued August 7

A statement to the residents of Southern Oregon by Southern Pacific

Effective August 7 we're discontinuing the "Rogue River," overnight passenger train, which has operated for many years between Portland and Ashland.

We don't like to do it—but we have no other choice. Only a handful of passengers use the service which fails by a wide margin to pay its way.

Operating loss for 1954 was \$453,425. Loss in 1955 would probably be even greater.

During the first four months of this year an average of only 18 passengers traveled southbound daily on the train and 20 northbound. (These were not all through passengers—they represented the average total number of people who traveled between any two of the many stations on the 342 miles between Portland and Ashland.)

Obviously there is not sufficient traffic to justify the train's operation. It's uneconomic, to say the least, to keep on offering something the public doesn't want and doesn't use.

Actually from a financial standpoint we should have discontinued the train many years ago, but we continued to operate it with the hope that by improving the service we could make it come somewhere near paying for its cost.

Early in 1952 we put in service a modern chair car with sponge rubber seats, a fine lounge car with snack meal service; in 1953 diesel power replaced steam, providing a much smoother ride; in 1954 the schedule was cut and cost of Pullman rooms was reduced.

But these improvements were of no avail. The "Rogue River" just couldn't compete successfully with modern highways, the speedy new family car, the 8 bus schedules and 6 air flights each way daily between Portland and southern Oregon.

BERNAL S. QUAYLE
General Passenger Agent

Southern Pacific

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