

# Passage of Upper Colorado Project Said Not Necessarily Favorable Sign for Northwest

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
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Washington — Willingness of Congress last week to pass the Upper Colorado



reclamation project — a three-quarter billion dollar undertaking — cannot be taken as a favorable sign for affirmative action on pending Northwest project bills as the high federal dam at Hells Canyon or the "partnership" proposals for John Day, Cougar or Green Peter dams.

Despite its big price tag—it was the second most expensive water and power project ever authorized by Congress—the Upper Colorado project sailed through the House last week by a heavy majority, 256-136. The Senate passed an even larger program for developing the four state Rocky Mountain region by a wide margin, 56-23. The compromise bill expected to come out of conference will permit the Bureau of Reclamation to build a series of dams, powerhouses and irrigation works to supply 132,000 acres with water for the first time and 235,000 acres with supplemental water. Federal power developed will come to about a million kilowatts.

**Combination of Backers**  
This project had attracted a unique combination of supporters, which accounts for its easy passage through this 84th Congress. Its backers were:

1. President Eisenhower—he made a special appeal for approval of the project the day it

came up in the House and House GOP Leader Joe Martin later estimated this pitch gathered in 30 more votes for it. Moreover, the president has mentioned it favorably in his various state of the union messages. Perhaps more significantly, six of his assistants from the White House were assigned to button-hole Republicans in the 10 days prior to House debate on the measure. The vote seeks for their success.

2. Mountain state Republicans and Democrats alike joined to push it — there was no diversion along party lines from this region, as now exists in the Pacific Northwest over power policy. Members of both parties backed this federal project. Their stiffest opposition came from members of both parties from Southern California, who

## Church-State Fight Renewed in Argentina

Buenos Aires—(U.P.)—Church-state friction touched off new student riots here last night, a few hours after the government announced that ousted ex-President Juan D. Peron's ban on religious education in public schools will continue in force.

At least two students were injured, and three of the youthful rioters were arrested. One girl suffered a head wound serious enough to require hospital treatment.

Continuation of the education ban was a gesture to Socialists and other leftists who have denounced the government's earlier declaration that it will permit the establishment of private universities in Argentina.

contended it would cut into that area's water supply from the lower Colorado river.

## To Beef Up Economy

3. Private utilities and other business interests from the Mountain states got behind it—the power which the government will generate will cost about 6 mills and will be sold to the 10 private power companies that serve the bulk of the residents of this region. Business interests figured it would beef up the economy of the entire region, particularly the outlying areas where more water is needed.

## Argentina To Receive Iron Lungs for Polio

Buenos Aires—(U.P.)—A U.S. Air Force C-124 transport is carrying 21 "iron lungs" here today to help combat the polio outbreak that has killed 85 Argentines in recent weeks.

The huge, four-engined plane is flying from Boston to Buenos Aires by way of Greenville, S.C. and Trinidad, B.W.I. It is expected here early tomorrow.

The Air Force is only one of a number of public and private U.S. agencies which are helping Argentina fight the dread disease. Others include the State department, the International Cooperation administration, the Red Cross and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

President Eisenhower has appropriated \$100,000 from special funds for the purchase of emergency equipment and the employment of expert consultants as a gift to Argentina from the American people.

Neither the federal Hells Canyon project backed by Northwest Democrats nor the "partnership" bills backed by the Eisenhower administration and Northwest Republicans have attracted such a powerful combination of supporters.

President Eisenhower, Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay and their subordinates have fought the Hells Canyon legislation to a standstill in the reclamation committee of both House and Senate. They were able to line up all the Republicans to vote against the measure. Private utilities had fought it for years.

**Stuck on Dead Center**  
Unless some crack in this wall of opposition develops within the next few months, the high dam bill has no chance of being enacted into law to take its place alongside the Upper Colorado project in the annals of western resource development.

What the president and his administration have supported for the Northwest—the "partnership" bills of Reps. Sam Coon for John Day dam and Harris Ellsworth for Green Peter and Cougar dams—are likewise stuck on dead center because they have run into stout opposition from Northwest Democrats. Private utilities are backing these measures, but so long as Democrats control Congress there appears little chance they can be enacted.

Mountain state congressmen won their battle for federal development of their big project by joining hands with the administration to push it through Congress. Northwesters are losing their battles by fighting amongst themselves.



**DIRECTING "For America" movement, Brig. Gen. Bonner Fellers begins "Stop Ike" movement to throw presidential election into House of Representatives. He claims prominent right-wing Republicans and conservative Democrats will bolt their parties to join movement. (International)**

## Ford Stock Goes On N. Y. Exchange For First Time

New York—(U.P.)—Ford Motor stock goes on sale through the New York Stock Exchange today, just seven weeks after it first became available to the public in over-the-counter trading.

Business and financial leaders planned to attend the opening of the stock exchange when the Ford stock will be listed for the first time on the "big board."

**To Reward Shareholders**  
At the same time Benson Ford a vice president of the \$2,400,000,000 auto giant and grandson of its founder, was expected to reveal for the first time how many people owned shares in the company.

Shareholders have paid from \$71 to \$59.87½ for the 10,200,000 shares which went on sale over-the-counter March 18. Its initial price was \$64.50 a share but it bounded quickly as high as \$71 in the unlisted market. Its closing price Tuesday was \$61.78½.

**Family Hold Cut**  
Stock issued by the Ford Motor Co. to employees and officers has raised the total number of shares outstanding to 11,331,450 shares.

Sale of the stock has cut the Ford family's hold over the company from 100 per cent to 40 per cent of the voting power. However, the other 60 per cent is spread so the Fords are assured control of the company.

Last year Ford became one of the world's top money earners, with sales of almost \$5,600,000,000 and net income after taxes of \$437,000,000. The company ranks as one of the nation's biggest and richest.

## Mental Examination For Berserk Father

Philadelphia, Pa.—(U.P.)—An exhaustive mental examination began today for a berserk father to determine whether he ever will face trial on charges of holding a priest and two policemen at gun-point for five dramatic hours.

Joseph Madara, 28, the father of two children, was arraigned on a variety of charges including kidnapping after his capture yesterday. He later was taken under heavy guard to Philadelphia General hospital's psychiatric ward.

Chief Inspector Alfred Driscoll said disposition of Madara's fate rested with the edistrict attorney's office. He added that Madara definitely would be prosecuted if psychiatrists find him sane and responsible.

The distraught Madara was subdued on the lawn in front of his apartment after police, the police, a newspaperman and Madara's wife persuaded him to return and talk with her.

## South Carolina Rabbit Bill Made Ridiculous

Columbia, S. C.—(U.P.)—Members of the South Carolina House of Representatives Tuesday defeated a so-called "rabbit bill," by making it "ridiculous" to pass.

Lawmakers who disapproved of the bill to permit children to hunt rabbits with sticks without buying hunting licenses introduced amendments to permit the use of slingshots, air rifles, arrows and boomerangs.

Finally, Rep. John T. Gentry proposed "blowguns without poison darts," "stomping rabbits" with feet, or saying "bang bang" if no weapon is available.

## Pacific Greyhound Drivers Vote on Strike

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Pacific Greyhound drivers and station employees in seven Western states voted today whether to authorize a strike to support current contract talks.

The contract covering the employees expires next Wednesday. Ballots will be counted Monday.

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