

# Morse Rallies Public Power Advocates In 'Last Ditch' Fight for Federal Dam

Washington—(U.P.)—Sen. Wayne L. Morse (D-Ore.) today rallied public power advocates for a "last ditch fight in this congress" for the proposed Hells Canyon federal dam.

The Supreme Court Monday rejected an appeal by public power interests to prevent development by privately owned Idaho Power Co. of the Hells Canyon dam site of the Idaho and Oregon border. Morse said the court decision has no bearing on the public power policy questions involved.

"The sell out by the Eisenhower Administration" of public power should be stopped, he said.

**"Gratified At Decision"**  
T. E. Roach, president of Idaho Power, said he was "gratified at the Supreme Court's action because it removes another of the many obstacles which the public power or nothing advocates have used in their efforts to discourage and prevent the Idaho Power Company from fulfilling its responsibility to the people of this area."

Roach, in a statement made in Boise, Idaho, said the action will be a source of gratification to the many persons throughout the northwest who have contended all along that the decision concerning Hells Canyon should be made on an orderly fact finding basis rather than on political philosophy.

However, Evelyn Cooper, attorney for the National Hells Canyon Association, said the decision came as a "complete surprise." She said "none of us expected this."

**Beginning of Battle**  
Although she said it was "too early" to tell whether another appeal would be made, Mrs. Cooper said the high court may have refused to review the appeal because "it didn't want to get caught in the middle of such a hot political issue."

Clyde T. Ellis, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, said "the battle for a federal Hells Canyon dam is just warming up."

In a telegram to various leaders of the public power fight for

Hells Canyon, he urged them not to be discouraged.

"Let's give them a real battle now," Ellis said.

Portland—(U.P.)—C. Girard Davidson, former undersecretary of interior and now an attorney for the National Hells Canyon Association, said today that a high federal dam in Hells Canyon is now up to Congress.

The U.S. Supreme Court yesterday rebuffed an association move to oust Idaho Power Com-

pany and its three low dams from the Canyon.

Davidson said "unless Congress rises to the occasion and authorizes the high dam, and the Eisenhower administration permits the bill to go through, virtually our last chance for a high dam will have been lost."

**Governor Holmes Agrees**  
In Salem, Gov. Robert D. Holmes agreed with Davidson and said "our hope now lies with Congress."

Idaho Power, which has al-

ready started construction at Brownlee, Ore., is still involved in litigation with the state of Oregon over its private construction of the dams in Hells Canyon.

The firm was indicted by a Baker county grand jury for going ahead with the project without getting permission from the Oregon Hydroelectric Commission. The indictment was squashed by the Circuit Court but an appeal to the State Supreme Court is pending.



**OLD OFFICE**—An old photo reproduced from the original by W. E. Thomas of Medford shows the old telephone office on North Central ave., about 1910. To left of entrance to the Odell furnished rooms was the Medford post office. Parked in front of it was sparking saw "horseless carriage." To left of the two-story stone and brick structure was the Karnes and Ritter confectionery.

## Pacific Telephone's New Service Improvements to Start April 27

Almost 59 years of telephone history for the Rogue River valley will be in the records April 27.

On that day, according to Manager Jack Creager, Pacific

Telephone will complete a \$630,000 service improvement and expansion project. The project includes:

1. Placing in service the new Phoenix-Talent exchange.
2. Introducing new telephone numbers with a prefix in Medford, Ashland, Gold Hill, Jacksonville and Phoenix-Talent.
3. Expanding the local calling area of these exchanges through an extended service program.

Telephone history books show that Medford was the first town in the valley to get telephone service. That was on Sept. 5, 1898.

**In Drug Store**

The telephone office was set up in Strang's Drug store at 206 East Main st. Charles Strang was the telephone manager, and Edna Eifert, the first operator. By the end of the year there were 22 telephones in use.

Other telephone exchanges soon sprang up in the area. Sunset Telephone and Telegraph company, a subsidiary of Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, was extending long distance lines between California and Oregon. As the long distance lines progressed, exchanges were established in towns along the route.

The Ashland exchange was set up in October, 1898. Jacksonville's was installed the following March and Gold Hill's a year later.

When the long distance line between California and Oregon was completed, a local newspaper dispatch described it as "the longest stretch of telephone line in the world. It covers the territory from Spokane Falls (Spokane) to San Diego and gives connections with upwards of 3,000 towns."

**Baseline Description**  
In another description of the telephone service of that time a local reporter remarked, "The ability to speak over long distances knows anywhere largely depends upon the strength of one's vocal chords."

But the science of communication progressed, and by 1915 less volume was needed to talk over the new long distance wires that connected the East with the Pacific Coast.

Nowadays local telephone service in Medford had both improved and expanded. By 1914 there were 1,000 phones in town, and a year later there were more than 1,500.

Telephone growth in Medford showed spectacular during the next few decades. But by 1933 when Pacific Telephone assumed

full operation of all facilities in Medford, Gold Hill and Jacksonville, as well as Ashland, there were 3,230 telephones in Medford.

**Major Improvements**  
The years 1939 and 1940 saw the next major improvements of service in the valley area. Ashland and Gold Hill were converted to dial operation in 1939. Medford and Jacksonville got dial telephones the following year.

At that time, Creager was an outside telephone representative with the company here. He later became the assistant manager and then manager.

As the 1940's drew to a close, Medford became a key point on the coaxial cable route established between California and the northwest. The cable expanded long distance calling facilities and later was also used to carry the first television programs into the northwest.

**Microwave System**  
Now the company's new microwave radio relay system, placed in service last summer, carries TV programs, and the cable is used primarily for telephone conversations. Two relay stations in the microwave systems are located near Medford at Baldy Mountain and at Siskiyou Summit.

With almost 15,000 telephones at the end of 1956, the Medford telephone exchange was the fourth largest in the state. At the first of this year Pacific Telephone had 252 employees in Medford and last year had an annual payroll of \$1,165,000 in Jackson county.

Last year, according to Creager, the company paid \$159,420 in property taxes to Jackson county and had \$11,716,000 worth of telephone plant in the county.

Medford telephone users are making about 73,000 calls on an average business day.

**Klamath Bus Service To Cease on April 30**  
Klamath Falls—(U.P.)—The owner of the Klamath Bus company last night informed the city council that the company will terminate its services in the city on April 30.

Fred Joslin told city councilmen that the company had been operating in the red for four years and has to quit because of lack of passengers and mounting operating costs.

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## Burglar Posing as Manager Robs Store

Cincinnati—(U.P.)—A lazy burglar posing as an assistant store manager hired a locksmith to open a store safe for him while two policemen kibitzed, authorities said today.

The manager of the store, Wayne Betz, said he found out about the burglary Monday when the locksmith, Joseph Schmidt, called him to ask what he "wanted done with the safe door." Pressed for more details, Schmidt said he was called Sunday by a man who identified himself as the assistant manager of the store to fix a "stuck" door on the safe.

Schmidt said he removed the door while Patrolmen Ed Becker and Robert Ramstetter, who knew him, stopped, by to ask "what was going on."

Schmidt said he took the door home and "I was going to send them a bill for \$80."

The burglar got away with \$3,698 in cash and \$107 in checks.

**STAMP OF APPROVAL**  
Des Moines, Iowa—(U.P.)—Six Garden Grove, Iowa, high school students who found a package of state-owned postage stamps valued at \$328 and turned them in will be rewarded for their honesty. The state will give each of them a certificate commending them for the virtue.

## Scientific Accomplishment Seen As Aid To Overdoses of Radiation

BY DELOS SMITH  
United Press Science Editor

New York—(U.P.)—Science now can keep the bone marrow cells of mice alive outside mice bodies for three weeks. This justifies a reasonable hope that some day there will be a specific remedy for the sure death results of massive doses of radiation.

That's news in a world where there is a chance of the day coming when large numbers of people will receive these massive doses willy nilly from bursting atomic bombs. As scientific knowledge stands right now, nothing could be done to save the lives of those people.

**Can Save Mice**  
But under laboratory conditions, a mouse's life can be saved right now. First, you have a supply of fresh mouse bone marrow cells ready, which entailed the sacrifice of other mice. Then you irradiate mice with x rays in doses large enough to kill them all.

Some you inject with the fresh mouse bone marrow cells. The others you leave alone. The latter die, the former survive. Its wonderful. No remedy could be more specific. The radiation destroyed the blood making cells of the marrow. Substitute cells are put into the mouse, and it lives.

Presumably what can be done to help mice with mouse cells, could be done to help people; with human cells. But when outside the body, these cells are extremely fragile and short lived. Obviously if the method is ever to become practical, there have to be supplies available at all times.

This means methods have to be found for culturing these cells outside animal bodies and keeping them alive indefinitely. That's why it's important that Dr. Daniel Billen of the Oak Ridge, Tenn., National Laboratory, has succeeded in keeping mouse marrow cells alive in culture jars for three weeks.

**Used Chemical 'Soup'**  
That's a phenomenally long

time, it gives hope that ways will be found of keeping them alive indefinitely. Dr. Billen did it by working out a favorable chemical cultural medium or "soup" in which to suspend them and combining it with an incubation temperature which helped the medium along.

You can see the progress of his laboratory work from these figures: cells cultured for four days in medium "C" when injected into irradiated mice permitted 92 per cent to survive 30 days. But after nine days in the medium the cells no longer helped any irradiated mice.

**Work Continues**  
But medium "E" after 14 days of culture yielded cells which gave 58 per cent of irradiated mice a 30 day survival. Finally he worked out another medium which after 21 days still contained life giving cells.

There his work stands for the moment, so far as he has reported on it to the scientific world. But he is deep into two other vital phases of the matter. He is trying to identify the type or types of bone marrow cells which permit mice to recover from lethal doses of irradiation, and he is working on methods of multiply bone marrow cells outside animal bodies. Those phases he will report on later.

## Bishop's Company to Present Play Thursday

The Bishop's company, a national church drama group, will present the play "Cry, the Beloved Country" Thursday, April 4, at 8 p.m. at the First Methodist church in Ashland.

The company, which presented four plays at the Medford Presbyterian and First Methodist churches last year, has played in 35 states and traveled 110,000 miles. The play will be given by an all professional cast.

## Arend-Roland Comet Will Be Visible To Naked Eye in April

Brussels—(U.P.)—This month the world will be able to see with the naked eye a brilliant star-like comet moving majestically through the heavens.

This is a rare sight, but the Arend-Roland comet is even rarer than that. It is the only comet ever to have been discovered because a table tennis tour collided with a revolution.

M. Roland, its co-discoverer, is 33 and the table tennis champion of Belgium.

Last November Roland and his wife, Ghislaine, who is the Belgian woman's table tennis champion, took part in the Yugoslav international championships. They were invited to continue on to the Hungarian championships.

"But the revolt was raging in Budapest so we ended our tour in Belgrade and came on back home," Roland said.

"I thought that since I was back in Brussels I might as well go back to work and I showed up at the laboratory Nov. 15, somewhat earlier than scheduled. That very day my chief, Simon Arend, asked me to examine a photograph of the sky taken the night of Nov. 8."

**Comet Confirmed**  
Roland, who started at the Royal Observatory as a calculator five years ago, began checking the photograph for anything

out of the ordinary.

"Forty-five minutes later," he said, "I was pretty sure I had located an unknown comet on the picture. I rushed back to Arend and together we started working frantically, verifying and checking it thoroughly, and soon there was no doubt left."

The Arend-Roland comet had taken its place in astronomy.

German astronomers carefully checked photographs they had taken even earlier. The path of the comet was thus traced back to summer of 1956, and through an international exchange of information it was possible to establish its route or trajectory.

**Will Attain Perihelion**  
The Arend-Roland comet is the only one of the eight discovered in the past year which will be visible to the naked eye. This April it will attain its perihelion—closest approach to the sun.

"By that time in April," said Roland with a touch of paternal pride, "it will be as brilliant as the big stars. I figure it will be best visible in the southern hemisphere, but observatories all over the world will be able to study it."

"I will ask to be on duty at the observatory every day during that period. I wouldn't want to miss the rendezvous with our comet."

## Social Security Program Explained at Roundtable

Benefits of the bureau of old-age and survivors insurance program were discussed yesterday by W. V. Nusbbaum, manager of the local office, U.S. department of health, education and welfare, social security administration.

Nusbbaum spoke at the noon luncheon of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce Roundtable at the Jackson hotel.

**Program Explained**  
The Social Security program, established by the Social Security Act in 1935, includes unemployment insurance, public assistance such as old-age compensation, and assistance for needy children and welfare purposes, he said.

Explaining the insurance program, Nusbbaum said it provides monthly income for the worker and his family when he retires, and compensation for his family when he dies. He added that 90 per cent of receipts for the program goes for benefits and only two per cent for administration purposes.

Chief reason an insurance program is needed, according to Nusbbaum, is because the American way of life has shifted from an agricultural society to an industrialized urban one. He cited as an example that in 1790 one

out of every 20 people lived in urban areas and in 1940 six out of every 10 lived in the city.

Therefore, he said, big families are no longer assets and must be provided for in some way. Another reason for the program, he said, is that the life span of an individual has increased. The amount of people over 65 has increased 242 per cent since 1900, it was reported.

Nusbbaum estimated that by 1960 there would be about 17,000,000 people in the country over 65. That many people just cannot save enough money for retirement, he said.

In Jackson county during 1955 Nusbbaum said payments were made to 4,145 people totaling over \$2½ million. There was probably a 20 per cent increase last year, he said. Nusbbaum added that 1,800 applications for payments were made last year at his office, which also serves Josephine county.

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