

Corps of Engineers Taking Second Look At Proposed Nez Perce Dam

By PAUL F. EVANS
United Press Correspondent
Boise—Idaho Reclamation Engineer Mark Kulp said Saturday the Army Corps of Engineers is taking a second look at the proposed Nez Perce dam site on the lower Snake river to see how it measures up to a two-dam development proposed by a group of private power companies.

The corps announced last week it had started a study of development sites on the lower Snake and Salmon rivers.

The study, according to Col. Myron Page, chief of the engineers Walla Walla district, was part of a review of the corps' so-called "308 report" dealing with comprehensive development of the Columbia Basin, including the Snake river drainage.

The report, which has become an official congressional document, is revised from time to time as new dam possibilities are investigated by the engineers. It was the original report in 1929, incidentally, that first gave rise to the possibility of the controversial federal dam in the Hells Canyon reach of the mighty Snake and which precipitated one of the hottest northwest political blowups of the decade.

Fish Lost Feared

The original Nez Perce site, located immediately below the confluence of the Salmon and Snake rivers, also was mentioned in the original 308 report. As flood control dam would have been proposed, the combination power-flood control dam would have been 1,410 feet long and 813 feet high to develop a maximum power capacity of 1,650,000 kilowatts.

But major complaints were voiced by sportsmen that the dam would block spawning salmon from running up the Salmon river and the proposal subsequently was dropped. It was in 1935 that the Pacific Northwest Power company—a group of five private firms scattered from Montana throughed for permission to investigate possible private development of Mountain Sheep and Pleasant Valley on the Snake river. Both sites are above Nez Perce and both would be flooded should that site be developed.

None of the three possible structures would flood the Hells Canyon site, although the Snake river would be backed up to the face of any dam built there. 690 Foot Dam Proposed

Kulp said the proposed Nez Perce dam would back water 64 miles up the Snake river and about 63 miles up the Salmon. Neither Mountain Sheep or Pleasant Valley—the most upstream of the two proposals—would flood the Salmon because they would be constructed above its mouth.

As proposed by the power

combine, either a 690 or 495-foot dam could be built at Pleasant Valley with a 250-foot structure at Mountain Sheep. Total power output, according to records kept by the bureau of reclamation, could be 1,500,000 kilowatts with the high Pleasant Valley structure or 880,000 kilowatts if the lower structure were built.

Kulp points out that the engineer study will be far more reaching than a mere review of

Wildlife Service to Take Survey of Tuna Along Pacific Coasts

Honolulu—Sea-going detectives hope to find the clues next month that will solve a multi-million dollar riddle for the north-eastern Pacific Coast commercial tuna fishermen.

The riddle: Why the delectable albacore, upon which the commercial fishing industry depends for prosperity, are so fickle and elusive.

Thirteen years ago the choice tuna catch was a 34 million-pound harvest, worth 6 million dollars, in the northeastern Pacific along the California, Oregon and Washington coast. Today that same area appears to be as barren as the Great Salt Lake. Have the fish gone south where the fishing still is good?

High Dam Backers Seek Quick Action

Washington—Democratic supporters of a federal high dam at Hells Canyon prepared Friday to press for quick House action on the measure. Republicans, meanwhile, launched a campaign to defeat the bill. The House irrigation and reclamation subcommittee announced it will resume hearings on the measure this week. It also must be considered by the full interior committee before being sent to the House.

Democrats favoring the bill were bolstered in their efforts for quick action by the Senate's passage of the measure last week.

New Death Date To Be Set for George Sack

Portland—A new death date will be set Monday for George F. Sack, who was convicted of the murder of his wife, Goldie. The U.S. Supreme Court recently denied Sack a hearing. Sack's attorney indicated clemency from the governor would be sought.

Boyer Discusses Power Situation At Two Meetings

Robert A. Boyer, Medford attorney and state Democratic chairman, Saturday discussed the power situation in Oregon and Gov. Robert Holmes' Oregon Development program with party leaders in the Columbia river area.

He planned to attend a meeting at 1 p.m. in Hood River and a second meeting in The Dalles. "For the last several years our state's economy has suffered from the policy of the private utility-Republican coalition to keep low-cost power out of Oregon," Boyer said. "We will continue to face power shortages for at least 4-6 more years as a result of the short-sightedness of past Republican state governments and the current national administration."

Boyer continued, "The entire economy of Oregon depends on low-cost power. Instead of recognizing this fact and giving their support to a program which would bring new industries, jobs and tremendous economic development, the Republicans of the Northwest have opposed, again and again, the interests of their own people for the sake of private power monopoly."

He declared that Republican opposition accomplished the defeat this year in the Oregon senate of a bill setting up a non-partisan state power commission. "This commission would not compete with existing private utilities," he said "But was designed to insure our state of its share of electrical energy."

Vision Screening Project Under Way

C. D. (Swede) Larsen, head of the traffic safety division of the Medford Safety council, reports good response to the driver-vision screening project of the council.

Employees of the Medford branch of the U.S. National bank were screened Wednesday afternoon, with about 40 taking advantage of the opportunity to have a reappraisal of their vision. Drivers of Yellow Cab and other employees took part in the program on Thursday. The clinic will be conducted at Pierce Freight Lines Monday.

Larsen emphasized that the screening is conducted as an educational project by the Medford Safety council to focus attention on the need for regular reappraisals of drivers vision.

"It is every driver's responsibility to be certain his visual and physical abilities are equal to the job of driving on today's highways," Larsen said. "Just as important is his mature attitude toward driving."

Larsen said firms wishing to participate in the vision-screening project may contact him at Pierce Freight Lines.

Most Orchards Will Need Two Sprays

There is a large quantity of pear psylla around the valley and most orchards will need two sprays to carry them through harvest, according to C. B. Cordy, county horticulture agent.

If psylla are present and there is some honeydew, spray now and follow with the third cover, which should be completed three weeks before harvest, he advised.

If there are no psylla, the third cover should be applied when timely and growers should watch closely for psylla. Spray as soon as any psylla appear or at hormone spray time.

Six pounds of malathion, three pounds of parathion or three pounds of EPN per acre are sufficient for control, Cordy said. Lack of thorough application is the weak point in psylla control and growers should be sure to drive the sprayer slowly. Three ounces of liquid sprander per 100 gallons is desirable.

Reserve Officers To Go On Non-Pay

Vancouver Barracks, Wash.—To a move to gain the maximum number of six-month enlisted trainees within budgetary and space ceilings available to the Army Reserve, the department of Army has announced the transfer of 22,000 reserve officers to a non-pay drill status beginning July 1.

The action, which emphasizes the troop unit program by creating new spaces for the training of enlisted men, is aimed at increased troop unit mobilization readiness, according to Captain Donald L. Clark, public information officer for the Army military district of Oregon.

Funds previously budgeted for drill pay for 9,000 officer mobilization designees and 13,000 officer students in USAR schools will be transferred to permit recruiting of additional enlistees in the reserve troop unit program particularly in the six-month training program.

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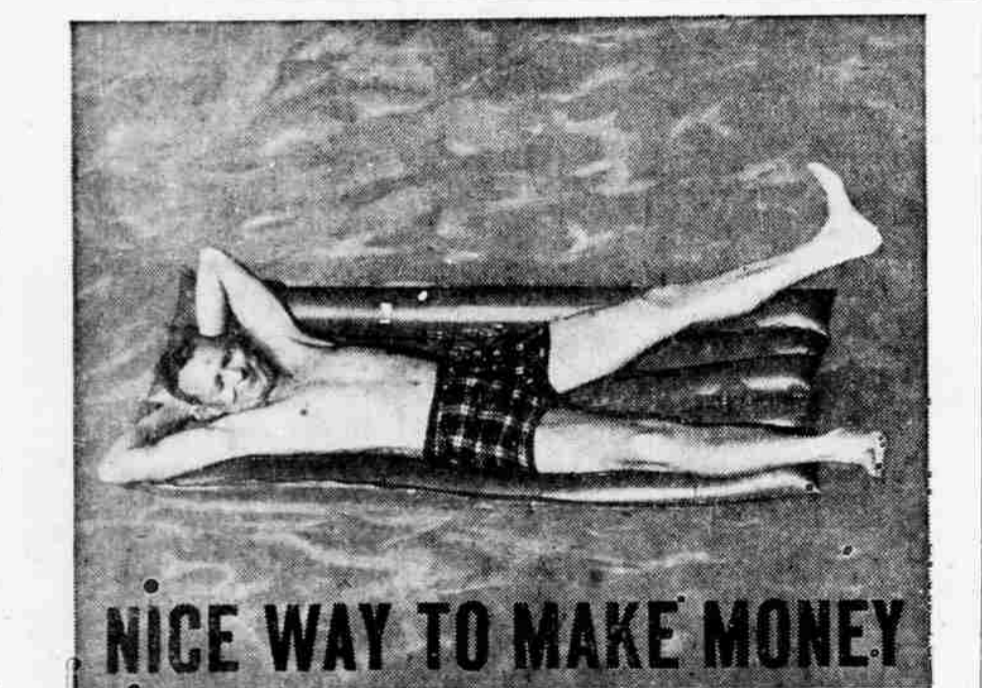
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