



NUCLEAR POWER—President Eisenhower displayed this sketch when he announced the awarding of a \$20,908.00 contract to the New York Shipbuilding Corp. at Camden, N.J. for the building of the world's first nuclear-powered merchant ship.

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Travelers Won't Find Much That's Not Known of Moon, Smith Says

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
New York—To avoid disappointment, prospective travelers to the moon ought to understand they won't find a great deal there which isn't known already. For example, a scientist has just figured out a plausible explanation of why the moon's "seas" are quite flat although they are not seas of water but seas of rock and rubble.

Dr. John J. Gilvarry of Milwaukee reasoned that the moon is periodically shaken by moonquakes, as the earth is shaken by earthquakes—and the effect is something like that produced by shaking flour through a sieve. Moonquakes, he reasoned, break up the rocks in high moon places and shake the rubble into the low places, forming moon "seas."

Meteors Create Craters
He proceeded from the theory that the moon's craters were made by the impacts of meteors, and the "seas" merely are bigger craters which have been filled with rubble. A rival theory is that the craters are cones of extinct volcanoes and the "seas" are vast beds of the lava which

once poured from them. The meteor-collision theory supposes that some sort of erosion process is going on in the moon's mountains which breaks up the rocky peaks, and reduces those big pieces into small chunks and dust. But it would have to be a different kind of erosion from the common earth one, and there would have to be a "transport system" more effective than simple gravity to get the rubble down into the "seas."

Gilvarry, who is well known in science for his previous calculations on the nature of the moon's surface, cited the evidence that the moon was formed "cold," that is, it was never a molten mass of matter as the earth was once. Therefore, the moon would have had no volcanoes but would have structural faults which because they violate the physical laws of balance, would cause violent quakes periodically.

Having been a molten ball once upon a time the earth has an interior balance which the moon, if it were formed "cold," could not have. Nevertheless the

earth has, in addition to volcanoes, faults which produce some 10 million quakes annually—most of them extremely minor, fortunately.

Calculating with earth equations and putting gravity accelerations into the balance, the moon's gravitational acceleration is one-sixth that of earth, his mathematics produced an approximation of the energy needed for a succession of moon quakes to have broken up rocks in the moon mountains and to have shaken the rubble and dust down into the "seas."

Violent quakes shake the earth every few centuries. Gilvarry figured that one such quake every million years on the moon could have filled huge holes with rubble and dust and produced the appearance of the moon seas as any of us may see them with even a low-power telescope.

Portland—Pan American World Airways said Thursday it would start direct service from Portland to Europe via the new Polar route on Dec. 2.

Blind Newsdealer Only One With Shack Designed by An Architect

BY DOC QUIGG
United Press Correspondent
New York—A blind newsdealer who has peddled papers and magazines on the same corner for 21 years, says he may not be the richest newsy in the world but he's the only one whose shack was planned and designed by an architect.

This wasn't any old architect. The firm that blueprinted O'Connor's three-by-six-foot newsstand happens also to be the one that designed the United Nations buildings and helped with the Rockefeller Center complex.

In addition, he works on a sidewalk which in cold weather is radiantly heated, an underfoot condition to be appreciated by a man who works outdoors nine hours a day.

Gala Opening Day
The day Dick opened his new stand was like opening day in a new office building. Two lady customers sent baskets of flowers, and they made a fine show among the stacks of papers.

The architecturally acceptable stand is on the corner of 59th St. and Madison Ave. in front of the new building of the CIT Financial Corporation, a decorous, smooth-faced structure of polished black granite, stainless steel, and green glass.

For two years, during demolition and construction work on the site, O'Connor had to move his old wooden stand, painted green in the New York tradition, across the street. But when the shiny new building was completed, he demanded his corner back.

"He told us his entire business career had been on this corner, that it was home to him," a CIT man recalled. "We decided to have a newsstand designed for him to conform with the new building."

The CIT building architects were Harrison & Abramovitz, whose Wallace K. Harrison was

director of planning for the U.N. buildings. Architect T. De Felice, who worked on the U.N. project, designed a newsstand of special waterproof plywood with three sliding glass-and-aluminum windows and a built-in,

fluorescent-lighted magazine stand on one end. **More Trouble Than U.N.** "Just between you and me," O'Connor said today, "I don't think they had as much trouble designing the U.N. as they did

this stand. They never had designed a newsstand before. They had to go to the city to find out the building ordinance on newsstands and then ask me and others for ideas."

The finished work has such features as an aluminum pull-out extension roof to protect papers from rain, short leveling-device legs, and a built-in folding seat. "That inside seat is only for

use if I want it," O'Connor said. "But I don't, except for coldest weather. I'm strictly an outdoor boy."

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