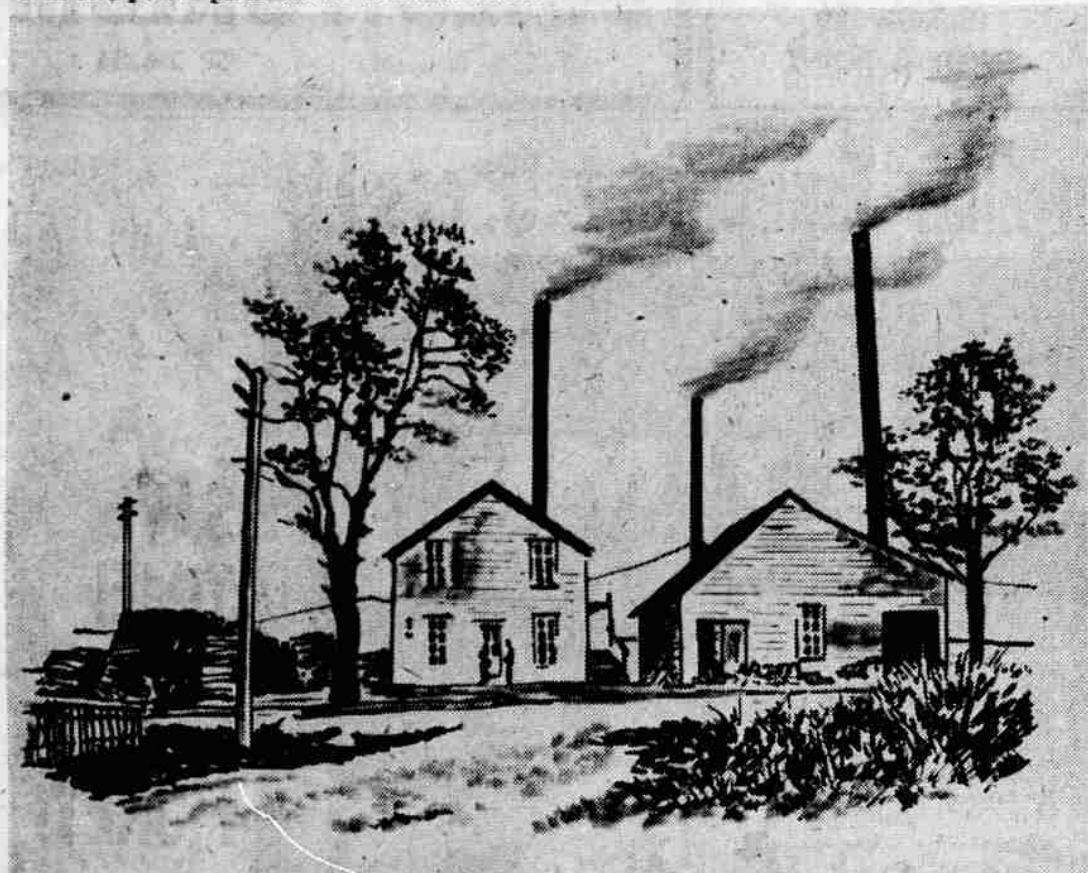


Past 11 Years Notable for Power Company

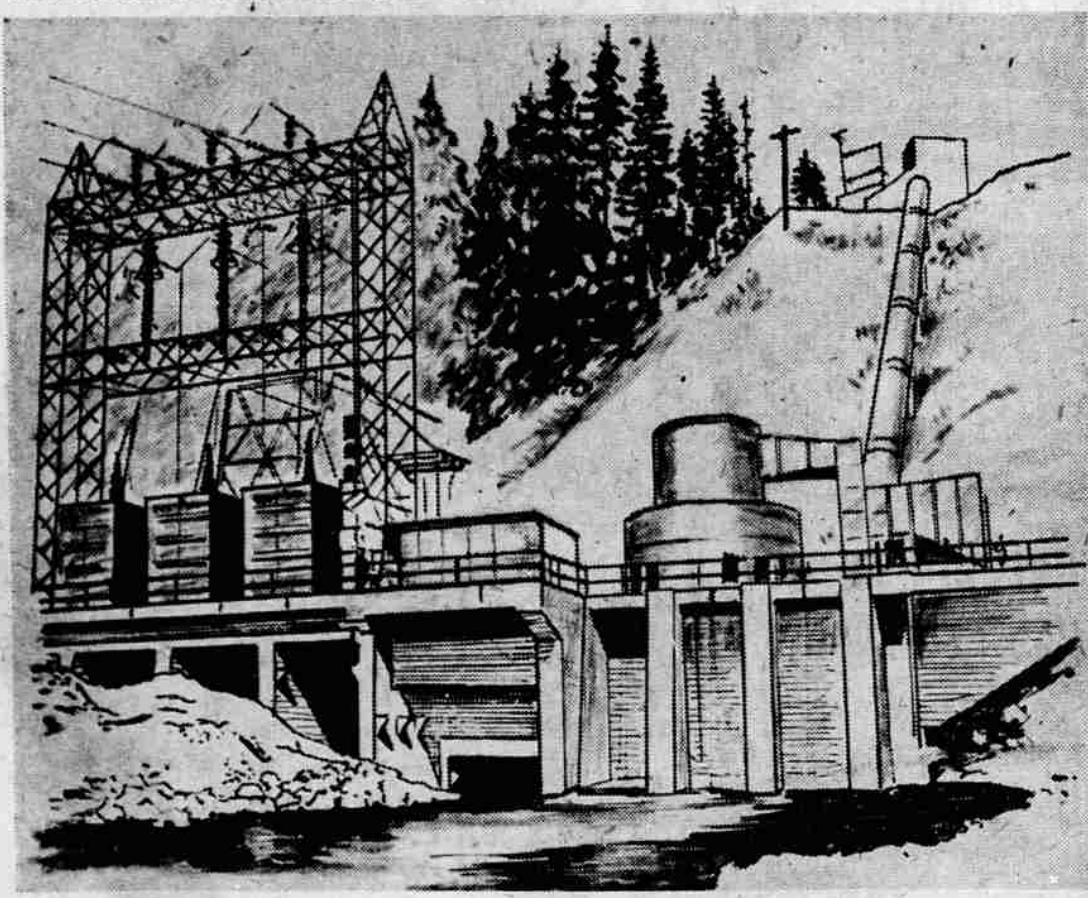
14 MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or., Sunday, July 26, 1959



BIG BEND DAM - The most recent development of the power system of the California Oregon Power company is Big Bend dam and power plant on the Klamath river. Above is the dam, completed last year. The power plant is about a mile downstream from the dam.



OLD MEDFORD PLANT - This is an artists sketch of the Old Medford plant which served Medford with electricity in 1898. It provided 120 kilowatts through its steam turbines.



LEMOLO PLANT - Lemolo No. 1 plant, is one of the company's newest hydro part of the North Umpqua development power plants.

Plant Investments Increase About 400 Per Cent

(Editor's note: No single business enterprise is as familiar to residents of southern Oregon and northern California as the California Oregon Power company. The history of electric power generation in this area is now about 80 years old, and much of it is associated with Copco and its predecessor companies. The following Centennial feature describes Copco, and its early and more recent history.)

The past 11 years have been notable ones for the California Oregon Power company.

Total plant investments have increased by approximately 400 per cent since 1947. The system had a hydro-generating capacity of 98,960 kilowatts in 1947 and a capacity of 367,000 kilowatts at the end of 1958. Revenues from sales totaled \$7,655,053 in 1947, and \$22,733,827 in 1958.

Average annual usage by Copco residential customers in the 12-month period ending Nov. 30, 1958, was 8,674 kilowatt hours, the highest of any private utility in the nation.

Although the history of the California Oregon Power company probably begins in 1902, when the Siskiyou power and Light company was organized in Yreka, Calif., it has its roots in a number of earlier, pioneer companies. For example, the 36-kilowatt plant constructed in 1891 on the Shasta river by James Quinn provided the people of Yreka with their first electric lights.

Early in Century
Early in this century, the Siskiyou Power and Light company built a plant on a tributary of the Klamath river. Power from that plant provided limited lighting service to the towns of Ft. Jones, Greenville, and Etna, Calif. The Siskiyou Power and Light company later acquired the business of its competitors and became the sole supplier of electricity to the above-mentioned towns and to Yreka by 1912.

Meanwhile, in Oregon, the Klamath Falls Light and Water company, with H. V. Gates, president and general manager, purchased a plant on the west side of the Link river known as the West Side Plant, which had served the people of Klamath Falls with electricity since 1894. In 1906, the original East Side Plant was built to meet increasing demands.

Also in Oregon, but across the mountains in the Rogue River valley, Colonel Frank Ray and his brother, Dr. C. R. Ray, in 1903 formed the Condor Electric company and built a dam and hydroelectric plant near Gold Hill.

This project, known as the Gold Ray dam, supplied electric power to the then thriving community of Tolo, and later to Medford, Grants Pass, Jacksonville and Ashland.

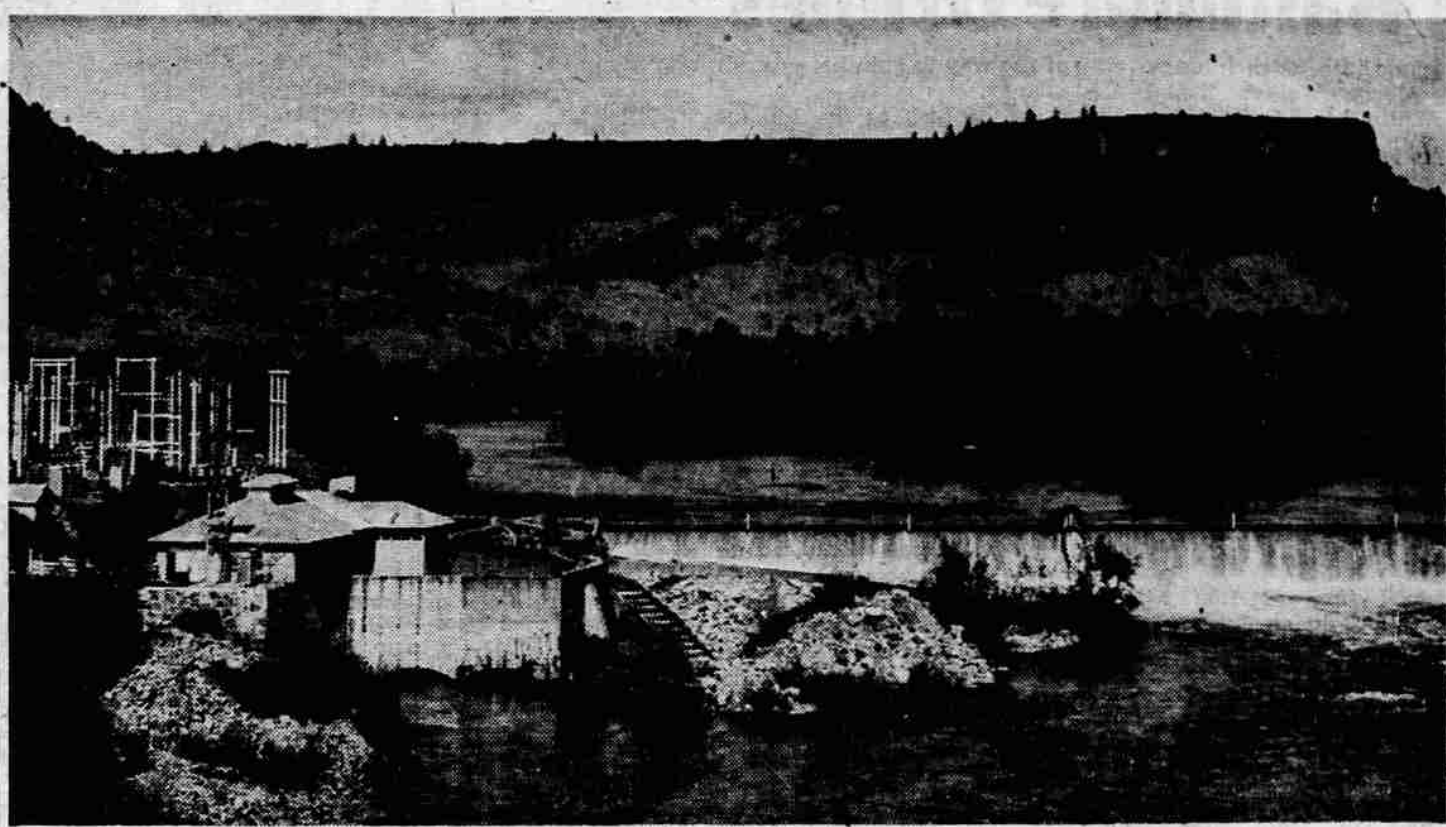
More Power Needed
In 1911, additional power was needed and a plant was built at Prospect. During this time, a plant had been in operation in Ashland since 1889. This plant and the distribution system was purchased by the Siskiyou Power and Light company in 1903. In 1905, it was dismantled and an agreement entered into to purchase power from the Rogue River Electric company, the successor to the Condor Electric company.

While the Rogue River Electric company and the Klamath Falls Light and Water company were growing, the Siskiyou Power and Light company had become the sole distributors of electricity in the towns of Dunsmuir, Weed, Montague, and Ashland.

In 1912, the Siskiyou Power and Light company under O. G. Steele, general superintendent, bought control of the Rogue River Valley and Klamath Falls companies. The Klamath Falls company was then under the management of C. S. Moore.

Companies Merge
The three companies were later merged and in 1912 became the California Oregon Power company with its headquarters in San Francisco. In 1915, the City of Ashland acquired ownership of its distribution and contracted to purchase power from the California Oregon Power company.

During the next two years, the new company purchased the electric plants in the towns of Mt. Shasta and Edgewood, Calif., and in Glendale, Ore. This period saw the building of the Copco No. 1 plant on the Klamath river in California, and the beginning of the company's transmission system.



GOLD RAY DAM - Gold Ray dam near Tolo north of Medford on the Rogue river was built in 1905 by the Condor Electric company, one of the earlier companies in southern Oregon and northern California which later formed the California Oregon Power company. It was the second plant built in the Copco system.

In 1920, the company was re-organized and renamed the California Oregon Power company. In 1921, the company's operating headquarters were moved from San Francisco to Medford.

During 1924 and 1925 two plants were built, a new East Side Plant in Klamath Falls and Copco No. 2 on the Klamath river three miles below Copco No. 1.

Acquires Common Stock
In 1926, Standard Gas and Electric company, one of the nation's foremost public utility holding companies, acquired ownership of The California Oregon Power company through purchase of its outstanding common stock. This company owned and operated the Copco system for more than 20 years.

In June, 1947, in compliance with the provisions of the Public Utility Act of 1935, Standard Gas and Electric company disposed of its interest in Copco to an investment banking group which in turn made a public offering of the acquired shares of stock.

In the early 1930's, three more plants were built on the Rogue River, Prospect Nos. 2, 3, and 4. The later depression years, however, marked the end of this building program until after World War II.

Douglas County
Further north, the town of Roseburg had had electric power since about 1890 supplied by the Roseburg Water company, which had a plant on the South Umpqua.

In 1903, the Roseburg Water company was acquired by the Douglas Electric and Water company and in 1904 the Douglas Electric and Water company merged with a company which had a power plant and dam at Winchester on the North Umpqua, and the Umpqua Water and Light company was formed.

Following several more quick changes of possession, the power plants and equipment were sold in 1912 to the Douglas County Light and Water company. They, in turn, sold it to The California Oregon Power company in 1923.

Wholesaled Power
With the system, came the towns of Roseburg, Winchester, Canyonville, Riddle, and Myrtle Creek. In the last three towns, the company only wholesaled power to the towns' own distribution systems which later were acquired in full by the company.

The advent of World War II brought about quick and drastic changes. Overnight the nation moved from a free economy to a controlled, restricted and rationed one. Production of civilian peace time goods was interrupted and the nation placed on a war time basis. Unemployment vanished and labor shortages became the problem. Power demands quickened as war needs increased and people moved into this area.

The company adequately met all war time needs and with the termination of hostilities it quickly adjusted its operations and programming to a peace time basis.

Plant Expansion
Immediately following the surrender of Japan in mid-1945, Copco set in motion a program of rehabilitation and plant expansion. It had already acquired the electric properties of California Public Service serving the area in and around Alturas, Calif., and Lakeview, Ore., in late 1944; and in June, 1945, it acquired the electric property of Public Utilities California Corporation serving Crescent City and portions of Del Norte county in California.

In 1945, applications were made for licenses to build the Toketee Falls plant on the North Umpqua river. This plant was completed in 1949 and subsequently seven additional plants were constructed

in the North Umpqua development, the last one, Lemolo No. 2, going into service in 1956.

The post-war construction program was temporarily completed with the addition of a plant at Eagle Point in 1957 and the completion of Big Bend on the upper Klamath river in Oregon late in 1958. While no additional plant construction is anticipated in 1959, programming is so advanced that any one of several projects is capable of early completion.

Investment in Plants
During the period from Jan. 1, 1946, through 1957, Copco invested \$154,500,000 in plants and facilities in order to provide full and adequate service and meet the needs of its growing service area. Number of customers has increased from 39,589 to 89,138 on Nov. 30, 1958.

The company derives 100 per cent of its retail revenues from sales of electricity to 72 communities and adjacent rural areas in Klamath, Jackson, Josephine, Lake and Douglas counties in Oregon, and in Siskiyou, Modoc, Del Norte, Trinity and Shasta counties in California. The economy of the territory of about 50,000 square miles with a population estimated at 250,000, consists of lumbering, farming, the raising of livestock and fruit and mining.

Since World War II days, Copco has grown in size and usefulness. Today it is a strong, independent electric company with a fine, modern plant, a high capable organization and a sound capital structure. Not only has Copco the capability, the resources and the skills to supply the needs of its growing service area; but it is able, over its transmission network, to deliver large blocks of power to distant areas to the north and the south, as evidenced by sales during the past year to the Hanna Nickel Smeltering company, the Portland General Electric company, the Eugene Water and Electric Board and to the Pacific Gas and Electric company.

Copco is a California corporation and with more than 80 per cent of its stockholders and all of its officers, and directors residents of the three Pacific Coast states, it is truly a western company owned and operated by western people.

Swimming Classes Announced by Y

Ashland-Swimming classes for all ages will begin Monday, Aug. 10, sponsored by the Ashland YMCA.

John Cook, YMCA secretary, will supervise the program. He is a former conference swim champion at Illinois Wesleyan university and has had more than 20 years swim teaching and coaching experience.

Advance registration for the three-week classes may be made at the YMCA or Jackson Hot Springs.

Classes for advanced swimmers of all ages will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; beginners, aged 9-10, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m.; beginners, aged 7-8, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 10:30-11:15 a.m.; beginners, aged 4-6, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 11:15-noon; competition swimming and diving, Thursday, 9-10:30 a.m., and adult instruction for men and women, Thursday, 10:30-noon.

Total cost for the three-week period will be \$5 for the three-days-a-week classes and \$3 for the once-a-week classes.

California has 140,000 farms and ranches, more than any other state in the nation.

Talent Contest Set for Fair

A talent contest for all performers in this area will be featured at the Kiwanis Centennial fair August 20-23, according to Dick Lamont, Talent committee chairman.

The contest will be held at the armory, with the winner competing at the state fair talent contest in Salem.

Last year's winners, The Shadows, also won in the state contest and have made many professional appearances since that time, Lamont said.

Entries must be postmarked by midnight, Aug. 10. Application blanks are available at the Lamont residence, 1221 Court st.

The petroleum industry invested almost five and a half billion dollars in drilling more than 113,000 wells during 1955 and 1956. More than one and a half billion went into more than 42,000 dry holes.

court of honor at a giant campfire where the boys received the badges which they had earned during their week at camp.

On Sunday, the camp was inspected for national standards by two men from Region XI with headquarters in Portland. They were Ross Fanning, member of the regional executive committee, and Howard Brown, deputy regional executive. The camp received a high rating.

New Attendance Set At Boy Scout Camp

By DICK CLARK
Scoutcraft Director, Boy Scout Camp

Camp McLoughlin, Lake of the Woods - Boy Scout Camp McLoughlin, located at Lake of the Woods near Klamath Falls, reached a new attendance record recently. In the period from July 12 to 19 more than 185 boys participated in the varied program offered at camp.

The program is well-balanced and well-rounded. It includes aquatics, swimming, boating, and canoeing; scoutcraft activities, axemanship, compass work, and rope work. The camp also offers a complete merit badge program in which a boy may specialize in any one of many fields, such as camping, outdoor cooking, forestry, and nature.

No camp would be complete without its field sports, including rifle, archery, and mo-sket ranges. The popularity of the rifle range is shown by the 4,000 rounds of ammunition fired last week. Merit badges are also available in archery and marksmanship.

From Crater Council
The Scouts making up the record camp came from the Crater Lake Council, which includes Jackson and Josephine counties in Oregon and Siskiyou county in California.

Camp McLoughlin was chosen by the U.S. forest service to appear in a film on the use of national forest lands. Forest service officials were in camp last Saturday filming Scouts in action.

Hikes last week took boys in many directions. One group

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Contests Planned For Fiesta Here

Residents of Medford and vicinity are invited to participate in two contests which will take place at the three-day Centennial Fiesta sponsored by Sacred Heart Catholic church parish Aug. 7-9.

The contests, which are scheduled for Sunday afternoon, Aug. 9, at the Medford armory are for old-fashioned dress, with divisions for both men and women, and for old-time fiddlers.

Costumes in the dress contest may be modeled by someone other than the owners, but must be authentic and not copies of old garments. Winners will receive \$50 in merchandise certificates.

Anyone experienced in playing recognized old tunes is eligible for the fiddler's contest. A \$25 prize will be given. No entry fees will be charged for either event.

Persons interested in the contests should submit names, addresses and telephone numbers to Bill Dugan, 325 South Holly st., Medford, or telephone SPing 2-2849.

The fiesta will open at 6 p.m. Aug. 7 and close Sunday night, Aug. 9, according to George Holtzinger, general chairman.

Central Point Gets City Hall Bids

Central Point-The Central Point city council last week rejected the only two bids received for construction of a proposed new city hall at Third and Pine st.

Bids were received from Jacobs Construction company of Medford, for \$27,014, and from Southern Oregon Construction company of Grants Pass, for \$26,500, according to Lyle Paull, city administrator.

Paull said the council had not yet decided whether to call for new bids.

Rare varieties of hybrid petunia seeds produced at Paoia, Colo., sell for as much as \$7,000 a pound wholesale.

California Man Hurt in Accident

Ashland-Wallace E. Prior, 34, San Francisco, received a nose fracture and head cuts Friday afternoon when his foreign car went out of control near Siskiyou summit on Highway 99 south.

He was taken by Siskiyou Ambulance service to Ashland General hospital where he underwent surgery Saturday morning.

State police reported that Prior's car went out of control while rounding a curve, skidded into the lane of a dump truck operated by Homer Howard Spurlock, 39, Camas Valley, and hit a rock embankment after striking the truck.

His car came to rest on the shoulder of the highway. It was towed from the scene. The dump truck received minor damage.

The U. S. Army has a crane which can be parachuted from the air and can lift more than its own weight-which is eight tons.