

# Natural Gas Industry Seeks To Duplicate Fabulous Growth

By HENRY J. BECHTOLD  
UPI Financial Editor  
New York — (UPI) — With a few roadblocks now being cleared, the natural gas industry has trained its sights on duplicating the fabulous growth of the past decade.



The \$23 billion gas industry now is the nation's fifth largest in terms of plant investment — but further and more rapid expansion is yet to come. Natural gas fulfills about 30 per cent of total U.S. energy requirements, against 14 per cent in 1946. The nation's energy requirements are expected to increase 72 per cent by 1975, and in order to meet this need, the natural gas industry hopes to increase its competitive position by raising its output about 80 per cent.

113 pipeline rate cases involving increases of around \$420 million a year collected under bond. Also significant is the FCC's raising of the permissible return above the historic 6 per cent on invested capital. In several decisions the return was boosted to 6½ per cent. The FCC also granted a larger return on production properties, subject to future disposition of tax credits from well drilling and depletion. It is going to take substantial sums of money to finance the industry's goals. Present schedules are for capital outlays of more than \$8 billion in the four-year period 1960-63 — 26.8 per cent more than the \$6.7 billion spent in the 1955-59 period. The American Gas Association estimates that 39 per cent of the required funds will be generated internally, 45 per cent from the sale of bonds and debentures, and 16 per cent from the sale of common and preferred stocks. With the addition of Alaska recently, the natural gas industry now serves 28 million customers in 47 states. The

number of household customers has more than doubled in 10 years, and more than quadrupled since 1940. There are more than 8,000 natural gas producers, but about half of the proven recoverable reserves are owned by 30 major oil companies. Sold To Pipeline Firms The output of the large number of independent producers is sold to about 100 interstate pipeline companies who in turn sell it to more than 1,300 distributing companies and municipalities for retail sale to all types of customers. Despite estimates of ultimate domestic natural gas reserves of from 1,200 to 1,700 trillion cubic feet, the natural gas industry is conducting a vigorous research program aimed at the development of processes for producing synthetic natural gas, or an equivalent gas, from the oil shales, low grade coals, and other abundant natural resources. While these processes are not yet competitive with natural gas production, an AGA spokesman believes they will be by the time the synthetic gas is needed to supplement the natural product.

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## Kennedy Holding 149,202 Margin In Record Voting

Washington—(UPI)—The record high vote in the 1960 presidential election apparently will fall just short of 69 million ballots. With official figures certified by 28 states, and all but a fragment of the votes counted in the other 24, the unofficial United Press International tabulation was: Kennedy . . . 34,181,777 Nixon . . . 34,032,575 Others . . . 473,630 Total . . . 68,687,982

President-elect John F. Kennedy thus held a slim 149,202 vote margin over Vice President Richard M. Nixon as the tabulating drew toward a finish.

Smallest Since 1888 Kennedy's margin is the smallest since 1888, when Democrat Grover Cleveland won the popular vote count by 90,728 ballots but lost the election because Republican Benjamin Harrison received more electoral votes. Kennedy has 50,109 per cent of the two party vote, and Nixon 49.981—a difference of 0.218 per cent. Kennedy's 0.218 margin—if it holds through the final count—would break the 1884 record for the closest percentage in history. The 0.30 record was posted when Cleveland edged Republican James G. Blaine by 20,341 votes. According to today's tabulation, Kennedy has 49.76 per cent of the total vote, Nixon has 49.54 per cent and minor party candidates 0.70 per cent.

## Dr. Moore To Attend Klamath Falls Event

Ashland—Dr. Donald Moore, assistant professor of English at Southern Oregon college, will attend a remedial reading laboratory in Klamath Falls Dec. 10. During the morning address, he will present "What the Classroom Teacher Can Do to Help Improve Reading" to the 50 to 75 teachers expected to attend.

According to Dr. Moore, the workshop will place emphasis on developmental reading programs for regular classrooms, special reading improvement approaches, reading for the accelerated students, and remedial reading programs for the retarded or reluctant reader.

## Unusual Crochet



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ASHLAND TOPIC Ashland — "God's Promise of a Divine Prophet" will be the sermon topic Sunday at Grace Lutheran church, Frances lane, Ashland, by the Rev. Albert R. Nickodemus, pastor. Lord's supper will be served.

SURPRISE! SURPRISE! Midland, Tex. — (UPI) — Police reported someone stole several dozen diapers Thursday from the Tidy-Diary Diaper Service. All of them were dirty.

## Bus Driver Has Excuse for Acts

San Francisco—(UPI)—Municipal bus driver William T. Johnson called his office Thursday to report he had been drinking on duty and driving past would-be passengers standing in the rain.

But he had an excuse. Johnson said a young man boarded the bus with a .45 caliber pistol and a half pint of vodka, which he ordered the driver to drink. He forced Johnson to drive past bus stops to the end of the line, where he took \$46 from the driver and \$9 from the only passenger.

"I never drink anything stronger than milk, and I was really high on that vodka," Johnson said. "I didn't want to antagonize him by not drinking because my passenger was a lady."

The gunman, who was later captured, wasn't nearly as gallant. He didn't even offer the lady a drink.

## Missing Portland Girl, 11, Located

Apache Junction, Ariz.—(UPI)—The Federal Bureau of investigation Thursday night located a missing 11-year-old Portland, Ore., girl and arrested a 52-year-old ex-convict.

The girl, Renee Hanna, missing from Portland since Nov. 10, was unharmed. She was found in a home about four miles west of here with Claude Kenneth Castle.

Castle was arrested on a federal charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution. A kidnapping charge is on file with the state of Oregon on a complaint signed by the child's mother, Mrs. Rae Marie Hanna.

Castle was paroled Sept. 1 from the Oregon State Penitentiary after serving 16 years of a life sentence as an habitual criminal.

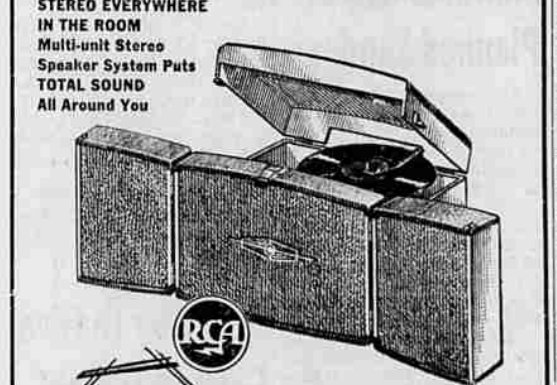
## Former Resident To Leave For France

Richard Keith Stagg, former Medford resident and son of Zoe E. Stagg of Inglewood, Calif., was recently selected to serve as a missionary in France for a 2½-year period with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The young man was born in Medford and made his home here until 1956. He was graduated from Inglewood High school with the class of 1959 and attended Brigham Young university. He plans to return to the United States following the completion of his mission.

He has been active in ward and stake activities in Inglewood.

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## Dr. McGill Author Of Journal Item

Ashland — Dr. E. C. McGill, assistant to the president and director of academic affairs at Southern Oregon college, had an article "Boys in Business Education" published in the November issue of the Kansas Vocational Journal, a national magazine for persons interested in vocational and practical arts education.

In his article, Dr. McGill points out the fact that too many young men fail to take advantage of business courses until they are ready to enter the labor field and then must get this knowledge through night courses and on the job training. He also feels that in this age when our nation is the world's leading business and economic power that boys can not afford not to take advantage of high school business courses.

Dr. McGill's background in commercial education is extensive and he has to his credit a doctoral thesis on "A Study of Business Skills and Knowledge Used by Business and Non-Business People," which won the New York University founder's day award in 1956. Dr. McGill also is co-author of the complete course in briefhand which is a widely used text in business and academic skills. Over 100 of his articles have been published in professional periodicals and year books. Besides his administrative duties at SOC, Dr. McGill instructs courses in economics, labor economics, and public finance.

## Research Projects Approved at SOC

Ashland — Eight Southern Oregon college research projects totaling \$2,000 have been approved for 1960-61 by the SOC research committee and President Elmo N. Stevenson, according to Dr. E. C. McGill, assistant to the president.

Research projects and the SOC staff members receiving research grants for each are: Howard P. Sanborn, assistant professor of science, acarines (soil mites) present in the soil of burned and unburned areas of the Ashland watershed; Dr. Franklin W. Sturges, assistant professor of science, tetrapods and the habits of southern Oregon; Dr. Harold A. Cloer, director of guidance, revision of a vocational goal-certainty scale.

Dr. J. Kenneth Bartlett, associate professor science, development of a titrimetric method for determination of cyanide ion; Francis J. Kelly, psychology and education instructor, sex attitude scale standardization; Dr. F. D. Haines Jr., associate professor of social science, Thomas of Woodstock, Duke of Gloucester; Dr. Richard H. Byrns, professor of English, an investigation into the factors that influence the reading interests of adolescents; Dr. Francis Horowitz, assistant professor of psychology, preparation of a multiple prediction equation for indicating sociometric status.

## Strong Earthquake Rocks North Chile

Antofagasta, Chile — (UPI) — A very strong earthquake hit this northern Chile port today, sending people fleeing into the streets in fear of a recurrence of the devastating quakes of last May. No casualties or major damage was reported but cornices on old buildings tumbled to the street. Electricity service was interrupted briefly but repairmen quickly restored power lines.

Antofagasta escaped major damage in last year's series of upheavals but memories of the quakes are uppermost in peoples' minds because of the 1,000 lives lost by quakes and tidal waves in southern Chile.

## Portland's November Rainfall 10.65 Inches

Portland—(UPI)—Portland had its wettest November since 1942. The Weather Bureau announced Thursday that 10.65 inches of rain were recorded in the city for November. The record is 14.40. A total of 3.57 inches of rain fell in November of 1959.

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