Lower Rogue Dam To Be Discussed by Natural Resources Committee

Copper Canyon Would Be Site Of Power Source

Salem—(UPI)—A proposed Copper Canyon dam on the Lower Rogue river will be discussed Dec. 27 at a meeting of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Natural Resources here.

Also on the agenda are proposed legislation to control dredging for gravel and sand in fish streams and for amending soil conservation district laws.

Last week a group was formed in Grants Pass to promote a People's Utility District in Josephine county and push a high dam in Copper Canyon.

Such a dam has been discussed since 1932. The site would be about 23 miles up the Rogue river from Gold Beach in Curry county. It would push water into Josephine County.

Potential Given

The Federal Power Commission estimates power potential of the site at 300,000 kilowatts installed capacity.

In 1958-59 the Oregon Water Resources Board made a thorough study of the Rogue River basin and concluded that a hydroelectric project on the Lower Rogue would be "prejudicial to the public interest."

It classified the Lower Rogue's use for domestic, livestock, municipal, irrigation, industrial, mining, recreation, wildlife and fish purposes, excluding power development.

The board's policy at present is not to accept any applications for such a project and this includes Copper Canyon.

Don Lane, executive secretary of the board, will report on the board's position to the governor's committee.

Grants Pass Group Named

The Grants Pass group, called the Josephine County Public Power Association, named Bill Davidson as its temporary chairman. Davidson said a dam located below the confluence of the Illinois and Rogue rivers would back up a lake some 131 miles long, counting both the Rogue and Illinois river arms.

Davidson said the project would make available some 600 square miles of timber around the shores of the lake, now in accessible, but which he said could be logged and sent to mills on the lake via rafts.

He also said it would have "tremendous recreational value."

Davidson estimated it would take two years to form a public power district. When formed, he said, it would elect its own officers and the present new organization would cease to exist.

Program Set For Sunday Morning

The Sunday school of the First Assembly of God church, 1108 West Main st., will present its Christmas program Sunday morning.

The beginner department, directed by Mrs. R. E. Cull, will present a pantomime and song, "Tell Us of Christmas." Under the direction of Mrs. Clinton Horton the primary department ill have recitations and a so "Little Bells of Christmas." T junior department directed by Mrs. Evan Rasmussen will present recitations and songs. "O Holy Night" will be sung by Marvin McCoy.

The Sunday evening message will be brought by the Rev. O. Finnern.

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Family Weekly tells what happens in your December 25th Issue with MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Legislature Asked To Leave Jobless Benefits Unchanged

Salem — (UPI) — The 1961 legislature has been asked by the Oregon Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation to leave unemployment benefits unchanged.

In its final report the council also called for no changes in the 2.7 per cent payroll tax paid by employers for the first $3,800 of each employer's income. This is the employer's contribution to the jobless fund.

The 11-member council includes four labor representatives, four of management and three of the general public, all appointed by the governor.

Voted for Increase

At present maximum benefits are $40 a week. Two of the labor representatives voted for increasing the maximum and all four labor members opposed the provision that a worker must earn $20 a week for 20 weeks in one year to be eligible. They say this is too restrictive.

The council favored changing the phrase "unemployment compensation" to "unemployment insurance" because compensation gives the impression of a welfare program when actually it is an insurance program.

The council also recommends that summertime jobless benefits be authorized for state employees of the Oregon Board of Higher Education and State Deaf and Blind schools.

Other recommendations included:

—Deny extension of coverage to packing house workers at firms whose operation is incidental to ordinary farm operations.

—Deny benefits to anyone fired for committing a felony.

—Retain the provision whereby social security payments are not deducted from jobless benefits.

—Deny extending coverage to take in employees of otter trawlers.

Fraud Investigation

—Increase funds for investigation of fraud.

—Disqualify men and women who leave work to get married and then move away, making it impractical to commute to their prior job.

—Permit hearings for employers or employees who complain about charging or non-charging of benefits to employers.

More than 43 million young Americans have come to voting age the past 20 years.

Cub Scouts

Cub Pack 10

Cub Pack 10, Howard school, held its monthly pack meeting Monday, Dec. 19, combined with their annual Christmas program. Cecil Boles, cubmaster, held a short meeting in which awards were presented. Each den provided a carol. Santa Claus distributed candy. Refreshments were served in the school cafeteria.

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