

Cotton Report, As Advertised, Pro-Federal On Hells Canyon

PORTLAND (AP) — The much-discussed Cotton report on Hells Canyon Dam was made public Wednesday. As unofficial comment had hinted, it gives strong support to a high dam at Hells Canyon as against either three or five low dams proposed by Idaho Power Company.

It says the Idaho Power plans are "not feasible" economically. "The Hells Canyon multiple purpose scheme is from all points of view superior to the schemes proposed by the Idaho Power Company," the author, John S. Cotton, says in his letter transmitting the report to the Department of the Interior. The letter is dated last Feb. 25.

In 91 pages of text and tables, Cotton, a consulting engineer from San Anselmo, Calif., discusses the proposals. He was engaged last Oct. 20 to study the Hells Canyon Dam proposed on the Snake River by the Bureau of Reclamation, and two Idaho Power proposals—five and three dams on the same river.

HELL CANYON HIGHEST

On the amount of prime power produced, Cotton puts Hells Canyon at 1,122,000 kilowatts, Idaho Power's five-dam system at 517,000, and Idaho Power's three-dam

45 Speed Zone South of Dorris

SACRAMENTO — Reduction of the speed limit from 55 to 45 miles an hour has been ordered on a portion of U. S. Highway 97 in the vicinity of the plant quarantine station just south of Dorris. It was announced today by the State Department of Public Works.

The new restricted speed zone is slightly under half a mile long. It extends from south of the county road near the plant quarantine station to south of the Southern Pacific Railroad spur tracks, where it adjoins an existing 35-mile-an-hour section leading into the city.

All southbound vehicles are required to be stopped for inspection at the station. Northbound produce trucks, which are also subject to inspection, must be turned left across the highway to halt at the station, which is on the west side of the highway.

The restriction was recommended by State Highway Engineer G. T. McCoy following an engineering study of traffic conditions by the Division of Highways. It will be effective with the posting of signs, probably within a week.

At Least One Area Dam Slated

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction on at least one Pacific Northwest dam project will be started next year, Interior Secretary McKay said Wednesday.

He did not name a specific project, but said the selection would depend upon a study of all potential multi-purpose dam sites on the Columbia River and its tributaries.

McKay made his remarks at a meeting attended by Washington Republican Congressmen Tolleson, Holmes, Horan, Mack, Pelly and Westlund. They were sounding out McKay on the current controversy over proposed 20-year contracts between the Bonneville Power Administration and private utilities.

MERRILL VFW

MERRILL—Roast turkey and all the "trimmings" will be served Saturday evening at the Merrill Recreation Hall, when the annual VFW Auxiliary dinner is held.

The dinner will be served family style from 6:30 to 8:30 and the public is invited.

system at 680,000 kilowatts. These are all figured, the report says, on the same basis of general basin development elsewhere.

In considering alternatives, the report says that with a large Libby reservoir in operation, the federal project's effect including additional downstream capacity would produce 967,000 kilowatts of firm power, the five-dam system 516,000 and the three-dam system 702,000.

The building costs, Cotton said, "are in favor of the Idaho Power Company because of the higher design standards of the Bureau of Reclamation."

The Hells Canyon Dam cost is listed at \$350,400,000 plus an extra \$57,707,000 to add 774,000 kilowatts of installed power at downstream plants, and \$144,274,000 for the transmission system.

The five-dam Idaho Power Company proposal is listed at \$241,220,100 for construction of the plants with 695,000 kilowatts installed capacity, plus \$57,213,500 for the transmission system. But after going through extensive computations, the report says the five-project scheme "is not economically feasible on any basis."

COSTS

Then turning to the three-dam proposal, which currently has been advanced as planned by Idaho Power, the report estimates the cost at \$261,875,800 for 783,400 kw. installed capacity but deducts as a storage benefit not charged to power, \$12,270,000. The transmission construction cost is put at \$69,971,000 and the cost of additions at downstream plants at \$14,208,500.

The report then says "the proposed three project scheme is not economically feasible, but it is more attractive than the five project scheme."

In reaching this conclusion, the report says account was taken of the value of power "lost forever" because the projects do not make full use of the river and prevent later development.

Various alternatives were considered in the report, such as the effect of future construction of certain dams. The comparisons, though, were based largely on what is called the C-2 system. The report speaks of this as including dams built, under construction, authorized and recommended which are "reasonably certain" of joining in Northwest power production.

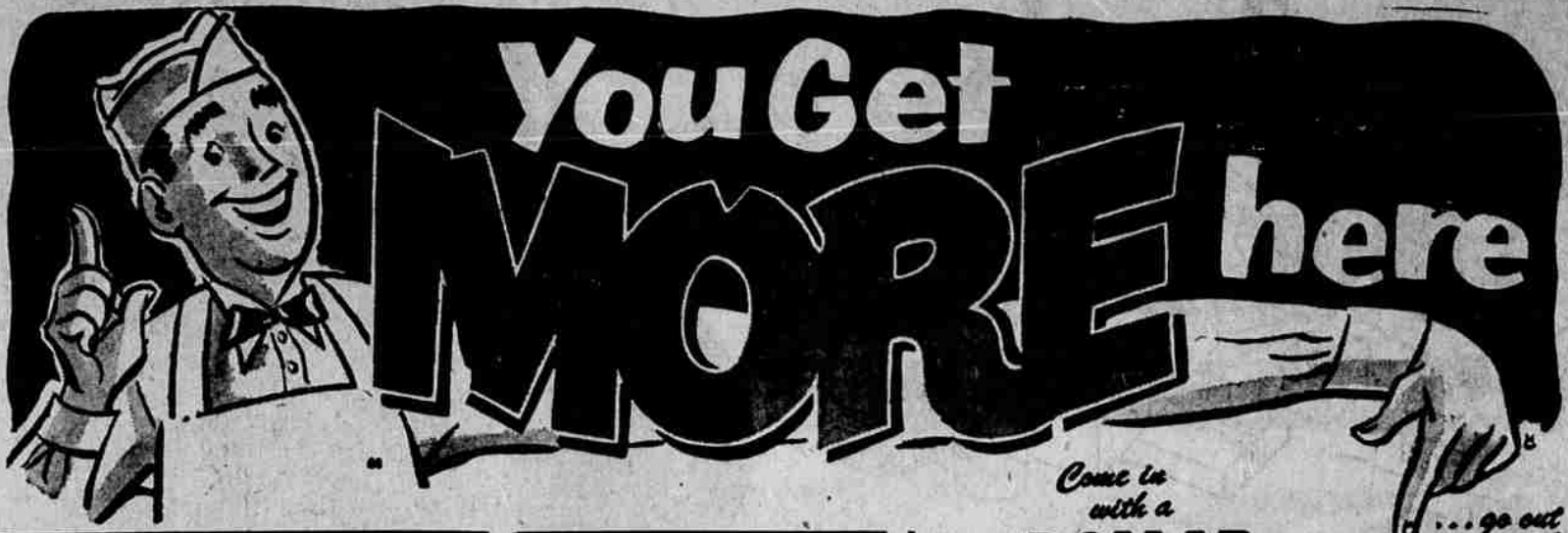
TAXES

In computing annual costs for Idaho Power Company projects, local taxes were included but federal were not. No taxes were added to federal costs "on the basis that the larger quantity and cheaper power from the proposed Hells Canyon multiple purpose scheme would provide additional industry and, hence, more taxes to the region."

In a table of comparisons, the report puts the federal Hells Canyon G-2 system annual cost at \$27,800,000 and the firm kilowatt cost at load centers at \$19.09. On the same basis, the Idaho Power five-dam annual cost is listed at \$32,917,000 and kilowatt at \$42.39, and three-dam annual cost at \$36,362,000 and kilowatts at \$41.07.

And, it says, if the "value of low cost power lost forever" is included, the same kilowatt cost of power in the three-dam system would be \$54.28.

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Hominy Drews, White or Golden No. 303	11c	10/1.00
Peas Market, Tiny No. 303	21c	5/1.00
Spinach Contadina No. 2 1/2	17c	7/1.00
Tomatoes State Fair Type No. 2 1/2	19c	6/1.00
Tomato Sauce Hunts, Buffet	5c	21/1.00
Sardines Conqueror, Maine No. 1/2	10c	11/1.00
Tomato Juice State Fair No. 2 tins	10c	11/1.00
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