

Tighter U.S. Reclamation Funds Angle Enters Hearing

By JOHN KAMPS
WASHINGTON (AP) — Whether Congress will tighten purse strings on reclamation was discussed last week at the Hells Canyon hearing. The question was raised by John Hogg, Federal Power Commission attorney, at a commission hearing on Idaho Power Co.'s application to build three dams in the Snake River along the Idaho-Oregon border near where the federal Hells Canyon Dam has been proposed.

The question was put to Robert Hogg, Idaho Power engineer, who had testified that demands for irrigators for Snake River water in the future would make the proposed Hells Canyon project not feasible.

Mason asked whether Hogg believed Congress would cut appropriations for irrigation projects on which Hogg was relying in his water demand estimate.

Hogg said he believed Congress would continue to authorize and appropriate money for feasible reclamation works including three sizeable projects in Idaho which would place water on about 200,000 acres of land.

Hogg predicted non-federal irrigation projects would supply water to more than 200,000 acres by 1958 in addition to land in the proposed federal projects and that the new acreage total along the Snake River would hit 1,196,000 in 50 years.

He said Idaho has six and nine million acres of land suitable for irrigation in addition to 2,610,000 acres already under water.

Hogg has testified Idaho Power's three projects would utilize all available Snake River water not required for irrigation. Their storage would be about one million acre feet.

Idaho Power contends there wouldn't be enough water to fill the proposed three million acre foot Hells Canyon reservoir without interfering with irrigation.

Mother & 5 Die In Fire

AMBLER, Pa. (AP) — A mother and her five children are dead in one of the worst fire tragedies in the history of this suburban Philadelphia community.

The husband and father of the victims and four guests of the family escaped the blaze which swept through their three-story home early yesterday.

An oil stove explosion touched off the blaze, firemen reported, and in seconds flames shot up an open stairway leading to the upper two floors. The victims were all trapped in their floor bedrooms. Two people on the second floor escaped.

The father, John Duckett Sr., 32, was on the first floor with a friend, Stanley Tate, 23, when the explosion occurred. The pair tried in vain to get up the stairway but finally had to flee from the burning home.

Meantime, Eva Dean, 17, Duckett's sister-in-law, and Louella Robinson, 24, climbed from a second floor bedroom to a shed roof and thence through the window of an adjoining residence.

Firemen raised extension ladders to the trapped family but were driven back by the flames.

Duckett's wife, Dora, 29, was found lying in the doorway of the front bedroom with 3-month-old Arlene in her arms. The rest of the children, John R., 6; June 5; Dorothea, 4, and Calvin, 3, were found huddled on the floor of the bedroom.

Acting Coroner Dr. John Simpson said they had been overcome by smoke.

French Near Big Red Base

HANOI, Indochina (AP) — French fighting into enemy Vietnam territory south of the Red River Delta have pushed close to the big rebel base on Thanh Hoa without a serious fight.

Only minor resistance was reported yesterday as French Union troops which were put ashore last week along the Gulf of Tonkin 25 miles south of Thanh Hoa advanced to within 12 miles of the town. A second spearhead driving toward the Thanh Hoa from the north was reported within 25 miles of it.

The city of 5,000 has long been the administrative center for the Communist-led rebels operating in central Viet Nam.

Gen. Rene Cogny, French commander in northern Indochina, said yesterday his chief aim was to track down and destroy two Vietnamese divisions in the area south of the Red River Delta. He hoped also to wipe out Vietnamese supply depots. Capture of Thanh Hoa was considered only a secondary aim.

The strategy of the French calls for wrecking Vietnamese plans for an autumn offensive rather than launching any all-out attempt to score a decisive victory, a highly qualified source said last night.

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Big 3 Ministers Invite Russia To Talk Germany

LONDON (AP) — The Big Three foreign ministers have invited Russia to meet with them next month to discuss Germany, Austria and European security. Winding up a three-day conference last night they also took dramatic steps to deal with all other major tensions threatening the world.

The three — U. S. Secretary of State Dulles, British Foreign Secretary Eden and French Foreign Minister Bidault — also invited Italy and Yugoslavia to a five-nation meeting on the Balkan power keg issue of Trieste.

During these intensive meetings the top Western diplomats also discussed Korea, the possibility of a later meeting of the Western chiefs of state with Soviet Premier Malenkov, the turbulent Middle East, questions with emphasis on the latest Israeli-Jordan border flare-up and France's seven-year war against the Reds in Indochina.

The three were reported also to have agreed secretly on a new Korean peace conference plan aimed at ending the present deadlock over its makeup.

There was no official confirmation of this report by a diplomatic informant that the three had agreed on a compromise proposal calling for a seven-nation round-

WU DIES
HONG KONG (AP) — P. C. Wu, 62, Chinese industrialist and member of the Nationalist Resources Commission when the Nationalists controlled the mainland, died in Shanghai Thursday of a heart attack.

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would try to end the deadlock over unifying Germany, giving occupied Austria her independence, and assuring security throughout Europe, presumably through a series of East-West non-aggression pacts.

During their talks, the three also had called for an urgent session of the U. N. Security Council to discuss the threat to Middle East peace posed by the attack by Israeli troops Oct. 14 on the Jordan border village of Kibya in which Jordan claims 66 persons were killed.

The 11-nation body took up the issue today, with an advance claim by Israel that the latest bloodshed was the culmination of a long list of border attacks by Jordan's forces.

In proposing the Big Four conference, the Western allies brushed aside an earlier Soviet proposal for a Big Five conference—including Red China—to discuss world tensions. They commented the Chinese Communists would have their say at the projected Korean peace conference, whose object "precisely is to remove one of the major sources of tension in the Far East."

The three Western notes to Moscow said if the proposed talks at Lugano succeed, the way may be cleared "for discussion of other major questions and for restoring necessary conditions for peaceful and friendly relations among nations."

Observers in Moscow felt the Russians would take their time answering the latest invitation to talk on these European issues. The Soviet press already has indicated her feelings on the subject, and the Kremlin has suggested that the questions of Germany and Austria be discussed separately. The West maintains the two must be settled together if European peace is to be assured.

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