

REA Spokesmen Opposed Public Power Policy As Missouri Project Planned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Spokesmen for rural electric cooperatives lines up Tuesday in opposition to a new public power marketing policy, despite an official statement that their power applications would be considered before those of private utilities.

Their target is new marketing criteria announced by the Reclamation Bureau for Missouri Basin Project power. The Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Monopoly opened hearings on the criteria Monday and co-op representatives

Snow Blocks Oregon Roads

SALEM (AP) — The Oregon Highway Commission listed several routes Tuesday as being closed by snow or other causes.

McKenzie Pass, East and West Diamond Lake Highways, and the Mt. Hood Loop were blocked by snow.

The highway along the lake behind McNary Dam is still closed because of settlement of the road.

There are live short sections of gravel surface in the Lowell-Odell Lake section of the Willamette Highway, and there is one-way light traffic on the South Santiam Highway 20 miles east of Foster.

On the Oregon Coast Highway, there is a possible 30-minute delay at the Nehalem drawbridge, which is under construction.

The commission reported possible construction delays on the Coast Highway 3 miles north of Gardiner, and from 9 to 14 miles south of Port Orford.

US in Middle on Israel-Arab Row

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Watkins (R-Utah) said Tuesday the United States "is damned by both sides" in the dispute between Israel and the Arab nations.

Watkins, who returned recently from a tour of Arab refugee camps in Egypt, Jordan and other Moslem nations, said he had proposed to President Eisenhower a program for dealing with the problem. He said he believes the President may have discussed it at the "Big Three" talks in Bermuda.

He declined to discuss his proposal until he has an opportunity to "talk it over" with the President.



30 DEAD IN VICKSBURG TORNADO — This leveled city block in Vicksburg, Miss., was gay with Christmas shoppers and movie-going children minutes before a death-dealing tornado roared in with hammer blows. The tornado cut a 16-block swath in the heart of the city, caused damage estimated at 25 million dollars and brought death to 30 persons.

Houseflies Studied To See How Best To Poison 'em

By RENNIE TAYLOR
Associated Press Science Reporter

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A new scientific attack on the housefly, aimed to hit him in the intestines, was reported today to the Entomological Society of America.

First steps in the offensive are to find out how the fly converts his food into energy and cell-building material. When the facts about housefly digestion are determined, insect fighters will know more precisely about where and how to do the hitting.

One of the new findings is that houseflies have pepsin in their systems. Pepsin is an enzyme which helps meat-eating animals to digest protein.

Dr. Bernard Greenberg of the University of Kansas reported the pepsin discovery. Up to now it has been taken for granted, Dr. Greenberg said, that insects do not have pepsin.

The new finding means that there is less difference between flies and the higher animals than previously realized. It means also that the housefly may be vulnerable to new and different forms of chemical attack.

Another similar finding was reported by Dr. W. Chefurka, of the Canadian government experiment

station at London, Ontario. Dr. Chefurka said he had determined the steps by which houseflies break a whole series of chemical changes, one or more of which may constitute an invitation for some other scientist to utilize some simple substance as a lethal weapon against the pest.

These and related researches have been brought about by the realization that DDT and other new compounds are not going to exterminate the housefly. Flies have become increasingly resistant to these chemicals.

In another report to the society, Dr. George C. Decker of the Illinois Natural History Survey said the battle against insects is far from won.

Despite the new chemicals, Dr. Decker asserted, the total weight of insects produced each year exceeds the weight of all other animal life produced in the same time.

Dr. Decker said insects did more to reduce the yield of corn in central and southern Illinois this year than did drought. The dying of lawns and pastures sometimes has been attributed to drought when the real cause was insect damage, he asserted.

Neuberger May Quit Politics

PORTLAND (AP) — Richard L. Neuberger, Portland Democrat, either will go after a major political office in 1954 or will retire from office-holding after the 1955 legislative session. He will decide, by February, which course to take.

He said that Monday when asked to comment on a report that Sen. Wayne Morse had suggested he run against Sen. Guy Cordon.

Neuberger said that unless he decided to seek a major office—he often has been mentioned as a possible candidate for governor as well as a candidate for the national Congress—he would turn his attention full time to writing.

He currently is a state senator.

PROCLAMATION

SALEM (AP) — Gov. Paul L. Patterson urged Tuesday that Dec. 15 be observed as Bill of Rights Day. It is the 162nd anniversary of the adoption of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution.

Benson Sees Subsidy For Wool Grower

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — Secretary of Agriculture Benson said Tuesday some form of subsidy or unusual aid probably is needed to insure survival of this country's wool industry.

He said present federal aid programs are ineffective, since domestic wool production and sheep population are declining and wool exports are increasing.

"The American people have a choice to make," the GOP farm chief said in a speech prepared for the annual convention of the National Wool Growers Assn.

"Should they permit the progressive weakening of our wool industry to proceed unhindered, or should they make a determined effort to solve the problem and maintain an efficient wool production as a part of our economy?"

"If they choose the latter, they must face the fact that maintaining the industry in a sound and healthy condition will probably involve some form of subsidy or unusual assistance from the government."

Benson said four major proposals had been advanced for helping wool producers, including (1) tariff increases or import fees to reduce competitive imports, (2) quotas to restrict imports, (3) price support programs involving loans and purchases of wool by the government, and (4) use of production payments to growers when market prices fail to provide adequate returns.

While stating that the administration has not yet decided upon any recommendations for future programs, Benson said use of higher tariffs, import fees or import quotas would tend to restrict international trade and encourage retaliatory actions against U. S. imports.

Potato Men Talk Market

PRINEVILLE (AP) — Central Oregon potato growers met with the Powell Butte club Monday night to talk over the low return they are getting for potatoes. They came up with no solution.

However, Roy Snabel, chairman of the Oregon-California Potato Marketing Agreement Committee, gave them a suggestion: He proposed that standards be raised, with 6 ounce substituted for 4 ounce as the standard minimum.

There was no agreement among the 75 growers present that this would be the best solution. However, Snabel is expected to advance it again at a meeting of the marketing committee at Klamath Falls late Tuesday.

Growers said carlots were being consigned to Los Angeles and on arrival there were finding virtually no established market. They said they were realizing only \$1 to \$1.35 a hundredweight, a figure at which they said they cannot stay in business.

Maine Town Names Democrat Mayor

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP) — In the only partisan contest among six municipal elections in Maine Monday, this mill city reelected youthful Democratic Mayor Richard P. Dubord to a second two-year term with a record plurality of 1,930 ballots.

And for the first time in more than 10 years, the Democrats won complete control of the city government, taking five of seven alderman posts and nine of 14 seats on the City Council.

Power Quiz Open Again

WASHINGTON (AP) — Public power attorneys Tuesday were to begin cross-examining T. E. Roach, Idaho Power Co. president, at a Power Commission hearing on the company's applications to build three dams in the Snake River.

They represent groups which oppose the applications and favor construction of the federal Hells Canyon dam in the same reach of the river along the Idaho-Oregon border.

Roach's cross-examination began Monday with Joseph E. Hayden, Power Commission attorney, who finished with the witness in one day. The public power lawyers expected to keep Roach in the chair most of this week.

Hayden asked Roach what marketing plans had been made for surplus power which would be provided by the three proposed dams. Roach said he had told major utility members of the Northwest Power Pool that Idaho Power would "make surplus power available to all members of the pool who might have need for it."

Roach said no rates were discussed with members of the pool since they would be set by the Power Commission. He added, however, that the cost of steam power and shortages in the Northwest would make surplus power worth "four to five mills" per kilowatt-hour.

Autopsy Shows Death Cause

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles County's chief autopsy surgeon says that a wealthy manufacturer who died after a gang brawl on a downtown corner succumbed to a massive brain hemorrhage which was not directly caused by any blow.

Three teen-aged youths are being held on bookings of suspicion of murder as a result of the melee, in which a band of hoodlums attacked a lone Marine.

William D. Cluff, 55, of Hollywood, owner of the Western Chemical & Manufacturing Co., a bystander, went to the Marine's aid. The Marine, Pfc. John W. Moore, 18, said that a moment later Cluff collapsed. Cluff was dead upon arrival at an emergency hospital.

Moore, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Moore, Portland, Ore., is stationed at Camp Pendleton. He was not seriously hurt.

Dr. Frederick A. Newbarr, chief county autopsy surgeon, said the brain hemorrhage Cluff suffered was "precipitated by sudden elevation of blood pressure incident to altercation."

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