

McKay Reports U.S. Water Problems Being Reviewed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — All phases of the nation's water problems are being reviewed with a view to developing recommendations for a consistent national water policy, Interior Secretary Douglas McKay said here Wednesday.

McKay told the opening session of the 4th annual Western Forestry Conference of the activities of the cabinet committee on water resources policy, established by President Eisenhower, of which he is chairman.

"This committee is reviewing all aspects of water policy with a view to developing recommendations for the establishment of a consistent national policy under which our water resources can be comprehensively developed," McKay said in his prepared address.

"The committee is, of course, devoting careful consideration to the vital interest of the states, communities and private citizens in the policies and activities of the federal government in the water resources field."

The committee's report will be made early next year.

McKay said progress is being made in ironing out differences with Canada with respect to federal construction of the Libby Dam on the Kootenai River.

Referring to power developments in the Pacific Northwest, the secretary said applications have been filed with the Federal Power Commission by local public and private interests totaling almost six million kilowatts. Construction of these proposed projects, he said, would call for expenditure of almost two billion dollars.

More than half of the applicants, McKay said, are local public bodies such as municipalities and public utility districts.

The secretary discussed development of Western natural resources, saying the administration advocates cooperation among all levels of government, industry, landowners, associations and educational systems. He continued:

"Our concept recognizes that these of our natural resources which are subject to federal control should be utilized by enterprises only upon fair and equitable terms as provided by law. It also recognizes the great public interest in the proper conservation and wise development of all of our natural resources."

Former Wife, Friend Shot

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (AP) — A well-to-do toy shop operator who police said shot his recently divorced wife and another woman to death last night while children watched gave himself up to posse members today.

Held following a five-hour manhunt that included a house-to-house search was Fred Fowler, 54.

Killed in the Fowler home last night were Mrs. Dorothy Fowler, 32, who divorced her husband three months ago, and her friend Mrs. Emma Lou Cotner, 35.

Police said the Fowlers' children Frances, 14, William, 7, and Freda, 6, and Mrs. Cotner's 4-year-old son David were in the house. Young David, they said, witnesses the shooting. So did Frances, who called police and said:

"My daddy just shot my mommy."

The children then ran across the street to a neighbor's home.

Police Lt. Ray Sheffield said Fowler told him after being booked for murder, "I'm glad I shot my wife. I'm sorry I shot the other woman."

Police said Fowler had been drinking heavily since the divorce. At that time his wife was given the family home and also the toy store with the stipulation that Fowler be allowed to work there and live in an apartment at the rear.

Judge's Rule Frees Inmate

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Louis Henry Ross, 55, is a free man today after spending 30 years in a mental hospital, described by a judge as "the road of no return."

Ross known as the "Laughing El" for robberies committed in the 1920s, escaped from Farview State Hospital several weeks ago and surrendered to Pittsburgh authorities.

Judge Loran L. Lewis ruled yesterday that Ross is legally sane and should not be returned to the hospital. He said a study of records showed Ross must have been sane since 1943.

Ross was sentenced to serve 12 years at Western State Penitentiary for robbery and was transferred to Farview in 1923.

He was named the "Laughing El" by Pittsburgh police, who said he laughed at his holdup victims and eluded many police traps.

In ordering Ross released, Judge Lewis said the road to Farview "could be properly classified as 'the road of no return.'" adding:

"It is quite conceivable, because of the wholly inadequate system of examinations that many more patients of sound mind are knocking at the door of freedom at Farview without being heard."

Judge Lewis ordered Ross' release after four psychiatrists testified he was sane.

Ross said he plans to work for a local contractor and live with a brother here.

Dr. Asa L. Hickok, assistant at Farview, said he would welcome an investigation of the hospital.

"If he (Ross) is loose in society we're glad that we are nowhere responsible," Hickok said.

New Democrat Chief Speaks

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — The Democratic party has "many men who are presidential timber" and Adlai Stevenson must seek the 1956 presidential nomination "vigorously" if he wants it, says Paul Butler, the party's new national chairman.

Butler, also told a television panel of South Bend newsmen last night that "the (Stevenson) and other candidates must let the party and the nation know their intentions by the latter part of 1955."

The South Bend lawyer, pressed by the newsmen to name possible candidates, mentioned Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee, Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia, Gov. Frank Lausche of Ohio, Gov. G. Mennen Williams of Michigan, Gov-elect George M. Leader of Pennsylvania and Gov.-elect Averell Harriman of New York.

"All I know is what I read in the papers and most papers consider him (Stevenson) the leader right now," Butler said. "But the Democratic party is fortunate in having many men who are presidential timber for 1956."

"I have no reason to think that Stevenson will or will not seek the nomination. However, he won't obtain it the same way he did in '52. There will be no draft. If Stevenson seeks the nomination, he must seek it vigorously."

The tenor of the new chairman's remarks apparently were intended to establish himself as an independent factor in the party, although he was generally believed to be pro-Stevenson in party affairs.

On the subject of the situation in the South, he said: "I am hopeful that factionalism with the Democratic party is over and I will work to that end."

DOOMED

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Plans for a huge Roman Catholic ceremony to mark the end of the church's Marian Year appeared doomed Wednesday in the wake of a police ban on the annual procession of clergy and laymen honoring the Virgin Mary.

morning from his bed in celebration of mass. Later he recited prayers to the Virgin with the Rev. Robert Leiber, the German Jesuit who is chief of his personal secretariat.

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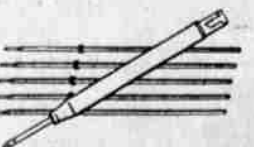
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Pope Closes Marian Year With Blessings From Bed

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Thousands of prayerful Roman Catholics Wednesday packed Rome's great Basilica of St. Mary Major to hear a sickbed blessing from Pope Pius XII closing the Marian Year.

Pope Pius' blessing as well as an Ave Maria and a few words of greeting were recorded for broadcast from his sick bed by Vatican radio and the radio networks of other countries. Arrangements were made for the Pope's words to be heard both inside the basilica and in the square outside, where thousands unable to find a place inside gathered.

The Pope's blessing was "urbis et orbis" — to the city of Rome and the world.

The Marian Year was inaugurated a year ago Wednesday to honor the Virgin Mary upon the centenary of the dogma which proclaimed her immaculate conception.

Last Dec. 8 Pope Pius rode in triumph procession from St. Peter's Basilica to St. Mary Major. Even then he was not a well man. Wednesday he was so ill that the fact he had walked his first few steps, leaning on the arm of a physician, was world news.

The Pope's short speech, recitation of the Ave Maria and his blessing were recorded in two sessions Wednesday morning and this afternoon.

At one point, the Pope's voice faltered in the blessing and it had to be repeated.

The Pontiff wished to make a "live" broadcast, but his private physician, Dr. Riccardo Galeazzi-Lisi, as well as the substitute secretary of state, Msgr. Angelo Dell'Acqua, persuaded him to make the less trying recorded message.

At noon the Vatican announced that the Pope's recovery continues. Thunderstorms over Rome Tuesday night.

OSAN, Korea (AP) — The South Korean air force Wednesday began its jet training program at this air base, south of Seoul.

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