

# Governors Look For Road Plan

CHICAGO (AP)—The nation's governors searched today for a compromise highway construction program that might be palatable to a Congress which rejected President Eisenhower's proposals and Democratic substitutes.

Although the governors listened to praise last night from Britain's Ambassador Sir Roger Makins for Eisenhower's role at the Geneva Big Four conference and turned to a discussion of mental health problems today, their minds obviously were on the roads issue.

Makins told the governors at the state dinner of this 47th annual conference of the chief executives that at Geneva Eisenhower had succeeded "in laying, let us hope for once and all, the ghost of the idea that the Americans are a pack of war mongers."

Gov. G. Mennen Williams, Michigan Democrat, told his colleagues in a prepared address that "the problem of mental health is still one of the biggest faced by the people and the states."

"One out of 12 babies born today will spend some time in a mental institution," he said. "Over one-half of our hospital beds are required for mental cases. The total annual public cost of mental health in the United States amounts to over \$1,100,000,000."

President Eisenhower told the governors in a message yesterday he is ready to cooperate with them in attempting to solve the highway and school construction programs.

After a discussion, the governors named a resolutions committee to take up the road issue.

The makeup of this committee seemed pointed toward some sort of compromise on highway financing. Most of the members called for quick action to get road building started but they differed in methods.

As chairman of the committee, Gov. Robert B. Meyner, New Jersey Democrat, called on the governors to "compromise with Congress and the appropriate pressure groups" in working out their recommendations.

Gov. William G. Stratton, Illinois Republican, proposed a five-year road building plan instead of the 10-year program urged by President Eisenhower. Gov. Fred Hall, Kansas Republican, plugged for a cooperative federal-state program.

Indiana's Republican Gov. George M. Craig urged continuous consultation between the governors and Congress in working out a highway bill. Gov. Walter J. Kohler, Wisconsin Republican, said he is supporting Eisenhower's proposal for long term, bond financed program.

Gov. Edwin C. Johnson, Colorado Democrat, said he wants a pay-as-you-go system, without any increase in federal gasoline and other taxes.

Employment In Siskiyou Up

DUNSMUIR — There is practically full employment in southern Siskiyou County according to Thelma Bender, manager of the Dunsmuir state department of employment office.

In fact, there is a shortage of skilled men for logging and sawmill operations, Bender said, and carpenters are particularly in demand. Last week there were only 45 unemployment claims handled by the Dunsmuir office and three-fourths of these were for women.

Right now the Dunsmuir office is noting a considerable influx of newcomers to the community, Mrs. Bender noted. People are coming from Southern California and other states, principally attracted by the climate and recreational possibilities of the mountainous area.

The employment outlook for this area will continue to be good, Mrs. Bender estimated, until bad weather begins in the fall. She said there is a demand for equipment operators and other road construction men but these must be hired through their unions. The railroad is also seeking maintenance men and laborers.

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Pollock Rites To Be Held

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Mrs. Pollock was born in Hontcutt, Butte County, April 24, 1875. Her husband, brother of the late Walter B. Pollock, died in 1912. A son, Oscar Mooney, died in Newark, New Jersey, in 1945.

Mrs. Pollock was a member of Hope Rebekah Lodge 33 and Siskiyou Circle 386 Neighbors of Woodcraft. She had been a member of each of these orders for more than 20 years.

Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Edith Hedges of Sacramento and Mrs. Queen of Chico, and three nieces.

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# "Atomic Runaway" Poses Problems For Engineers Of Future

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This is not a natural state because the fission reaction that keeps a furnace going is nervous by nature. The activity of a pile must always be rising or falling. If it falls too low the pile shuts down. If it rises too high the pile blows up.

**THE POSSIBILITY**

The explosive reaction is restrained in the normal way by control rods and other safety devices but these, like any other machine, can go wrong and it is therefore possible for a pile to go out of control.

Dr. Edward Teller, who contributed much to America's H-bomb development, put the need for guarding against this "going wrong" in these words:

"With all the inherent safeguards that can be put into a reactor, there is still no fool-proof system. Any system can be defeated by a great enough fool. The real danger occurs when a false sense of security causes a relaxation of caution."

It can be predicted theoretically up to a point but practical experience is the best guide and the only way to gain this experience is to let a reactor explode.

Perhaps it is important... the Teller team reported, "to emphasize the degree of public hazard that might follow a reactor accident."

"Assuming that good luck prevails and no one is killed, it may nevertheless be necessary to evacuate a large city, to abandon major waterbeds, and very probably it would be necessary to make the reactor site itself a forbidden area for some years to come."

In less than one-fifth of a second the uranium fuel melted, the surrounding water vaporized and the whole structure blew up, scattering fragments and radioactive debris over a 350-foot circle.

From this experiment and other calculations another American group including Teller submitted a study suggesting what might happen if a big reactor blew its top.

First there would be a loud explosion, destroying the reactor and killing or maiming the staff of the plant. Then a cloud of radioactive dirt would rise into the air and, according to the state of the wind, would drift over the surrounding landscape.

Communities in its track might have to be evacuated and water supplies might become unusable for days or weeks, until the radioactivity radiated itself away to a safe level.

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