

Midwest Congressmen See End To Preference Clause

WASHINGTON (UPI) — South Dakota congressmen agreed today the Pacific Northwest power bill which they regard as selfish almost surely will be passed by the House, probably early next month.

The legislation would pave the way for construction of transmission lines to carry the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) surplus power from the Pacific Northwest to California. It also would give first call on power from the Columbia River dams to industry and private utilities in the area, as well as to publicly owned utilities.

This provision is opposed by members of Congress from Missouri River Basin (MRB) states, where the 50-year-old law giving publicly owned utilities preference in buying the federal power still is in effect.

Reps. E. Y. Berry and Ben Reifel, R-S.D., contend this is a first step to abandonment of the time-honored preference clause.

Their own state is guaranteed first call on half the power produced at Big Ben Dam, but they said this is different. If B. N. is only one of six federal dams in the MRB, four of which are located in South Dakota, they said, and the Big Ben provision was intended as a bonus to the state for giving up so much rich, tax-producing land to control the Missouri.

Berry, a member of the House Interior Committee which approved the Senate-passed Pacific Northwest bill, threatened to offer amendments which would make the same first call preference applicable in the MRB area. He could not do so, however, he told UPI, because of House rules requiring that amendments be pertinent to the bill, but his announcement produced a flurry of protest from the Midwest.

Defeat Urged

"We urge you most strongly to defeat both the regional preference in the Northwest and your own amendment," V. T. Hanlon, manager of the East River Electric Co-operative, Madison, S. D., telegraphed.

Other protests were received from Basin Electric Consumers Co-op, Stanton, N.D., and Midwest Electric Consumers Association, Denver.

"Why didn't they come to life sooner," Berry inquired. "They didn't testify against the bill."

The National Association of REA's took no stand on the bill, he noted, even though spokesmen "told me they hoped it would be defeated because they didn't want to see the public preference clause chiseled away."

"It's a selfish gesture on the part of the Pacific Northwest," Reifel said. "Bonneville produces more power than can be used there, and California needs it, but the BPA won't sell the surplus unless it has this regional preference clause."

The regional preference is designed to attract industry to the area with the lure of cheap power, Reifel and Berry said. BPA power sells for 2 1/4 mills, less than half the cost at other federal dams, they said.

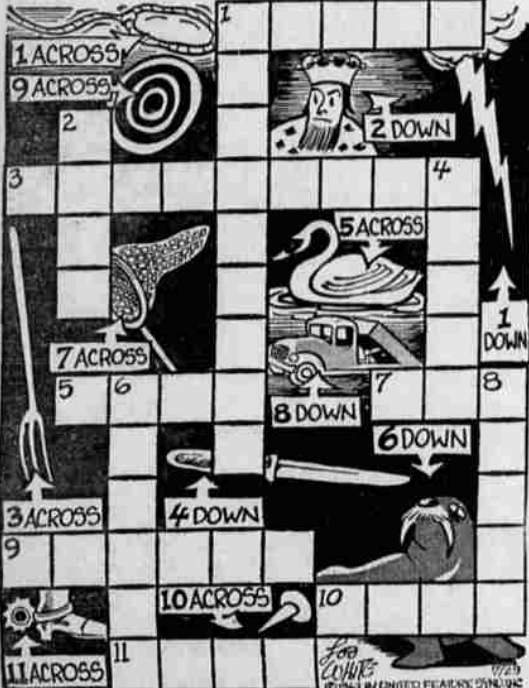
"We're subsidizing the Pacific Northwest to compete with our own efforts to attract industry," Reifel said.

"If they're going to get this provision, everyone else will want it too, and I will keep my eyes open for a chance to apply the same principle for the benefit of South Dakota."

Berry doubted that the MRB ever could win such an attempt in Congress.

"We don't have the votes," he said.

LITTLE PEOPLE'S PUZZLE



ANSWERS

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|----------|--------------|----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| 1. LASSO | 2. KING | 3. PITCHFORK | 4. KNIFE | 5. SWAN | 6. TARGET | 7. NET | 8. TRUCK |
| 9. WALRUS | 10. TACK | 11. SPUR | 12. DOWN | 13. ACROSS | 14. DOWN | 15. ACROSS | 16. DOWN |

A SMOKEY PROBLEM — City firemen were called at 11:50 a.m. Friday to handle this grass fire that broke out along the banks of the Southern Pacific tracks in the vicinity of 200 North Spring Street. Despite the appearance, only damage was to a wooden fence which can be seen on fire in the background. Grass fires plagued fire departments due to the hot dry weather. Other grass fire calls Friday included North Spring Street at 3:58 p.m. and North Ninth Street at 7:10 p.m.

Youth Helps Deliver Baby

LONG BEACH, Calif. (UPI) — had delivered his baby brother. Mrs. Nicoll was taken to Long Beach Memorial Hospital, where doctors reported both she and her new son were doing fine.

Officers said Mrs. Betty Nicoll, 30, who was deserted in May by her second husband, was at home with her six children, aged 18 months to 11 years, when she started having labor pains. She sent the 11-year-old out to get help.

While he was gone, the baby started to arrive and Mrs. Nicoll asked her 10-year-old son, Torin, to help her.

By the time help arrived, Torin

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So. Carolina Senator Denounces McNamara Order

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Strom Thurmond, D-S.C., Saturday denounced as "economic blackmail in its rawest form" a new anti-segregation order by Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara.

Thurmond said McNamara's order authorizing military commanders to place entire communities off limits in cases of serious discrimination is "preposterous."

The South Carolina Democrat, member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said in a statement that "this would be detrimental not only to the local economy but also to individual servicemen and their families and the entire defense program."

Thurmond said "the American people resent blackmail at the hands of government and are generally opposed to coercion in any form."

He predicted that McNamara's order "will not be accepted by the American people and will be particularly resented by military commanders who understand their mission to be defense of their country rather than creation of domestic turmoil and strife by engaging themselves in sociological and political activities at the behest of a power-mad administration."

If the order is rigidly enforced, Thurmond said, such South Carolina cities as Charleston, Columbia, Sumter, Beaufort and Myrtle Beach as well as bordering Augusta, Ga., and surrounding communities "could be boycotted by Defense Department edict."

McNamara Friday authorized in a directive the off limits remedy for communities that practice "relentless" racial discrimination. He told the commanders, however, to get Defense Department permission before resorting to the restriction.

The order, if put into effect, could have serious repercussions on any number of Southern communities that derive their livelihood from nearby bases.

"If we don't just bow to them, then we're off limits," Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett said when informed of the directive.

Some Southern officials said, however, that recent progress in

racial desegregation would limit use of the order.

McNamara's order stopped short of a more sweeping recommendation by a presidential commission that the Defense Department consider closing down military installations where Negro troops are subjected to discrimination.

The commission was headed by Washington attorney Gerhard A. Gesell and suggested "a form of off-limits sanction when, despite the commander's best efforts with community leaders, relentless discrimination persists against Negro servicemen and their families."

The Pentagon said last month that a fact-finding group had visited bases in Biloxi, Greenville and Columbus, Miss., and Mobile, Ala., but officials stressed there was no certainty that these cities would be ordered off limits.

The Defense Department said "relentless" discrimination appears to mean "those places or communities which would continue to practice discrimination regardless of the situation."

NIXON AND De GAULLE

PARIS (UPI) — Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon arrived Sunday from Frankfurt, Germany, for a meeting Tuesday with President Charles de Gaulle.

Nixon and his family are on a Middle East-European tour. Nixon met with West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer Friday in Bonn and earlier in the week toured Berlin, including the East sector.



Herald and News

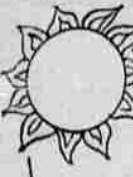


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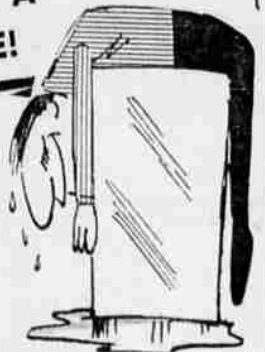
The books are closed! All charge purchases made balance of this month will not be billed until August 25, payable September 10th.



IT'S HOT!

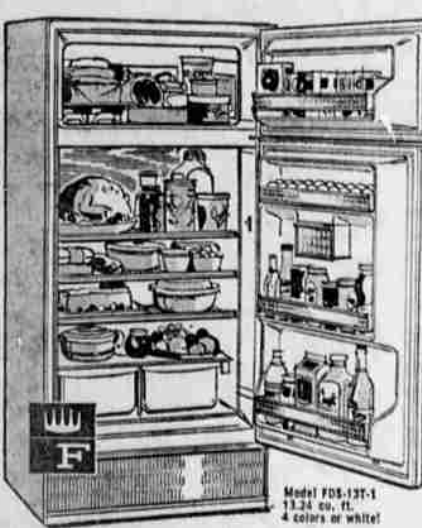


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