

Good River Public Library

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THE BONNEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

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BONNEVILLE

CASCADE LOCKS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1939

New Club Hears Collins Speak on War

The first meeting of the Sunday Evening Club was held last Sunday night at the Civic Auditorium at Bonneville. Dean Collins of the Oregon Journal gave a thought-provoking talk on "Do We Want to Buy a War?" He was introduced for the occasion by Captain Robert Des Islets who also thanked the organizing committee in behalf of the Army Engineers for their work.

Patriotic singing was led by Harry Fraser with Mrs. Saunders at the piano. Reverend W. C. Cronk offered a brief scripture and prayer.

The next meeting of this organization will be held Sunday night, March 5, at 7:30 p. m. when Judge Donald Long of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court of Portland will be the principal speaker. Hereafter meetings will be the first and third Sunday evenings of each month.

The committee in charge of these meetings consists of E. J. W. Anderson, J. P. MacAuslin and James Gillett.

PUD Measure Returns to Hopper

SALEM, Feb. 22—The public power issue was brought back to the starting point Tuesday when Senator Lyman Ross of Washington county and Representative Hosch of Deschutes joined hands in reviving the original Grange-Bonneville PUD bill.

According to Senator Ross, the measure is identical with the one he originally introduced at the behest of the state grange and the Bonneville administration.

His original measure, Ross explained, has been shot so full of holes by its opponents and so patched up with amendments that it can not be recognized any longer by its friends, hence the new bill which was dropped into the senate hopper late Tuesday.

As did the original measure, the new bill provides for the creation of people's utility districts with authority to acquire power plants and distribution lines and other equipment necessary to supplying electrical energy to patrons within the district.

Two Financing Plans Offered

Financing activities of the district would be provided through issuance of either general obligation bonds, which would stand as a lien against the property of the district, or revenue bonds, which would be retired out of earnings of the district. General obligation bonds would be subject to vote of the people of the district as would the first issue of revenue bonds. Subsequent issues of revenue bonds, on the other hand, might be sold either on bid or at private sale as the directors of the district might elect.

'Contributions,' Not Taxes

In lieu of taxes now paid by private utilities the people's utility districts would be authorized to make "contributions" toward the support of government out of their earnings, but in no event would these contributions exceed 5 per cent of the first annual gross revenue.

Read the first time Tuesday the measure will probably be referred to the senate committee on railroads on Wednesday. That committee, however, is expected to make short shift on the measure inasmuch as the members are pretty well worn down already with consideration of the PUD problem, which has been constantly in the forefront of legislative activities for the past three weeks.

More than a week ago the committee turned back both the Ross bill and the Burke-Zimmerman bill and sent in a substitute compromise measure of its own. This measure has been the subject of three public hearings the past week

MIKE HAS MOVED

For the past two weeks the Chronicle has been making a very grave error. Each of these two weeks an ad has slipped in telling of the location of Mike Long's Barber shop as being in its old location.

As our soft spoken druggist friend expresses it, "Any darn (typographical error intentional) fool can see that he has the swellest location in town in the Lakeside Hotel corner and still you run that ad!" And so the ad is changed this week and Mike Long is in the swellest location in Cascade Locks at the corner of Fifth and Main Streets.

Bonneville Power To Aid Farmers

Columbia River hydroelectric power not only can bring electrical conveniences within reach of nearly every farmer in the region, but can help solve the three major problems of the Northwest. This message from Administrator J. D. Ross was brought to the farmers of Idaho and Eastern Washington by Ivan Bloch, head of the market development section of the Bonneville Project.

Speaking at the annual meeting of Inland Empire Rural Electrification, Inc., at St. John, Wn., he declared that Bonneville power can help meet the problems raised by increasing migration from the Middle West, depletion of timber resources and a growing unfavorable balance of trade.

Administrator Ross has predicted the new Bonneville rate of one-half cent per kilowatt-hour for wholesale energy will stimulate construction of lines to serve thousands of farm homes, Bloch said. The Inland Empire group is the largest rural electric cooperative in America, he pointed out, and said many farmers in Oregon, Washington and Idaho now without electricity were organizing similar associations to market Columbia River power at cost.

The Bonneville engineer said that industrial development fostered by low-cost Columbia River power will help the farmer by providing a nearby market for his produce, and by lowering the cost of manufactured goods used by him. He indicated that local industries might provide essential fertilizer and farm chemicals at a price within reach of Northwest farmers. Such enterprises might also utilize surpluses for conversion into manufactured goods, he said.

Bloch said that Administrator Ross is especially interested in using Bonneville power to help open up nearly two million acres of land to pump irrigation. He said the Bonneville staff is now studying rate problems that will stimulate electric pumping for supplemental irrigation throughout the Northwest. Bloch pointed out that at Canby, city and rural residents are joining together to work out methods for using power to irrigate thousands of additional acres.

PASSING OF THE DAMN CHRONICLE

It is with sorrow and regret that we announce to the populace in general that this is the last issue of the Bonneville Dam Chronicle. For nearly five years the Chronicle has done its part in the building of the Bonneville Dam and now that the Bonneville Dam is nearing completion the Bonneville Dam Chronicle feels that it has done its duty and so it gracefully fades from the picture of Oregon Newspapers.

And as a passing warning we say, WATCH FOR NEXT WEEK'S PAPER, SOMETHING NEW AND SOMETHING DIFFERENT. WATCH FOR IT FRIDAY.

and the committee is about ready to send the measure out onto the senate floor for consideration by the legislators.

Resume of Bonneville Dam Appears in Metropolitan Press

(This past week the Oregonian placed on the news stands and sent out to all its subscribers its annual "Progress Number." Included in this outstanding number was an article on the Bonneville Dam written by a very capable staff writer of the Oregonian, Herbert Lundy. We quote the article.)

With construction of Bonneville dam by the army engineers nearing completion, the year 1938 brought to the forefront of public attention and public importance the two major reasons for which the dam was constructed—power and navigation.

The first ocean vessel, the Charles L. Wheeler, Jr., went through the highest single-lift sealock in the world on July 9 and steamed to The Dalles, 182 miles from the sea, after passing through the coast range and the Cascade range.

Since opening of the sealocks and drowing of Cascade rapids by Bonneville pool, a steadily increasing barge and riverboat traffic has been built up between Portland and The Dalles. Navigation of the upper Columbia will not attain its rightful place, however, until funds are allocated, probably this year, for deepening the channel between Vancouver and the dam.

Potentially the most important phase of development at the dam in the fifth year since construction started was the placing on a production basis of two giant generators—the first of a battery of ten—by the army engineers, and the start made by the interior department in constructing a network of transmission lines and the actual marketing of some of the hydroelectricity.

Delivery Program

The public's interest in 1939 will be concentrated on the program of the Bonneville administrator to deliver power to the people of Oregon, Washington and Idaho at prices that he believes will be lower than any private utility in the United States can equal under present conditions.

In step with the distribution program of the interior department, the army engineers headed in this division by Colonel John C. H. Lee, who succeeded Colonel Thomas M. Robins, will continue to build Bonneville dam to its full potentialities for generation of power.

Last year the engineers installed the mechanical and electrical equipment for the powerhouse and fishways.

In the powerhouse, they completed the two main 43,200-kilowatt generators and 60,000-horsepower turbines, the powerhouse but structure, the 16,000-kilovolt-ampere transformers, the 15,000-volt

switch-gear and buses, the 115-kilovolt bus insulators and disconnecting switches and the metal-enclosed control equipment.

In the period from August 18 to December 31, 1938, under a contract negotiated by Administrator James D. Ross, the army engineers delivered 20,843,000 kilowatt-hours of electrical energy to Northwestern Electric company. Starting July 9, the city of Cascade Locks, Ore., was supplied with power to light its streets, and electricity was provided for the Tooth Rock highway tunnel.

The total amount of electricity generated during the year for project use and for sale was 25,282,100 kilowatt-hours.

Fish Ladders

In February, 1938, the engineers completed installation of the necessary operating equipment for the Bradford island and Washington shore fish ladders. These passages were operated successfully during both the spring and fall runs of salmon, laying to rest—so far as the engineers are concerned—fears expressed by commercial fishermen and sportsmen that the dam would hinder the free passage of salmon up and down the Columbia. More than 875,000 fish ascended the ladders during the year, Major Theron D. Weaver, district engineer, said.

The powerhouse and main dam fish lifts were completed in August and tested during the fall run of Chinook salmon.

In December, the engineers opened bids for construction of an addition to the powerhouse superstructure to house four additional generating units. L. H. Hoffman, Portland, submitted low bid of \$1,169,596.10. This is a 20-month job that will employ 250 men directly and will utilize more than 2000 carloads of material.

Major Weaver listed principal contract work to start in the immediate future as follows: Construction of the Tanner creek bypass and fish ladder, estimated to cost \$120,000; completion of the powerhouse superstructure to house units 3 to 6, inclusive; and the manufacture of two 74,000 horsepower turbines and two 60,000 kilovolt-ampere generators for units 3 and 4 at an estimated cost of \$4,810,000.

Power Capacity

With two generating units already installed, two under contract and two more a possibility for 1939, the generating capacity potential before 1940 will approximate 300,000 kilovolt-amperes.

Administrator Ross, in his appearance before the budget committee of congress in November, advanced information to show that

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Power Facilities To Consider Beauty

"Beauty and power can go hand in hand and the Bonneville administration will follow this policy in the construction of the \$41,000,000 transmission project."

This, in effect was what Acting Administrator Charles E. Carey told Vancouver, Washington, city officials when he disclosed the plan for beautification of the substation site and transmission route just north of the city limits.

Meeting in Mayor A. N. Stanley's office at the Vancouver city hall Carey, who is also Bonneville's principal construction engineer, offered to cooperate in a plan to use the Bonneville substation site as a scenic and recreation mecca for the people of the area. He suggested cooperation at the establishment of a park that would embrace the substation site and indicated that a similar plan would be followed in all of the 14 substations to be built by the project in the northwest.

"Administrator Ross wishes the Bonneville transmission system to be beautiful as well as efficient," Carey told the Vancouver officials. "At the Vancouver substation he plans the establishment of a nursery to grow shrubs and trees which will be transplanted to the other substations and to points along the right-of-way. He hopes to introduce a large number of subtropical species which he believes can survive in western Oregon and Washington weather conditions."

In outlining the Vancouver plans Carey pointed out that thousands of tourists travel along federal highway No. 99 each year past the Bonneville substation site at Vancouver. He believes the power stations can be made among the principal attractions of the Pacific Northwest.

Legion Auxiliary To Be Guests

The Bonneville American Legion Auxiliary will be the guests of Mrs. Otto Pomplitz at a tea on March 3 at 1 o'clock. The afternoon will be spent in discussing the activities of the Unit, as outlined by the National and State headquarters, so that the members may become better acquainted with the work which they want to help carry on.

Corbett has invited the Bonneville Legion and Auxiliary to be present at their March 2 meeting. They will receive their permanent charter at that time. All those wishing to make the trip are asked to get in touch with Mrs. Fred Morton in regards to transportation.

\$70,000,000

The army engineers spent approximately \$5,600,000 at Bonneville dam during 1938. Total construction expenses since the first public works administration allocation of \$20,000,000 on September 30, 1933, to about \$50,500,000.

Certain settlements, to railroads for right-of-way, and other claimants, pending as this is written, will make the five-year, three months' total on the war department's side of the Bonneville ledger approximately \$52,000,000, according to Major Theron D. Weaver, district engineer.

The interior department meanwhile obtained \$17,941,534 from congress, public works administration and works progress administration with which Administrator James D. Ross launched his northwest power network. Most of this money has been spent or earmarked for contracts and Mr. Ross has applied for additional funds to continue his program.

The total cost of the Bonneville project to date, then, approximates \$70,000,000.

—The Oregonian.

SOON TO HAVE A THEATRE

It was just a very short time ago that the business men of Cascade Locks started the ball rolling for the construction of a motion picture theatre in their town. Today the roof for the largest building to be built in Cascade Locks to date is being erected. It won't be long before regular shows will be held in this most modern theatre.

To aid the builders and the citizens of Cascade Locks in the construction of this enterprise, books of tickets went on sale this week which insure the holder to quite a number of shows. Already more than 100 of these books have been sold to citizens of the dam area who are anxious to do their part in this community enterprise.

Six Cascade Locks men have these for sale and will be glad to wait on anyone wishing to purchase one. These men are Stanley "Doc" Hammel, C. C. Chapman, Oscar Hyde, George Webber, Jack Flaucher and Bill Keeler.

Harry Gamble, who has leased the theatre is busy lining up shows for the grand opening. It is estimated that the total investment, when the theatre is ready to open, will be around \$15,000.