

# Hungry Horse News

## To Vote at Plant Monday and Tuesday

### Labor Leaders Comment on Election

#### CIO Stand

United Steelworkers of America expressed confidence in a statement issued to the Hungry Horse News Thursday noon.

"It's been going CIO for weeks now and we expect to get the vast majority of votes because the AAC employees favor an industrial type union," CIO Representative Kenneth Stonehouse said, adding that the CIO "sets the pattern for wages and benefits for workers in the industry."

He charged that the Anaconda Aluminum Company is paying its aluminum employees from 50 to 75 cents an hour below the "going CIO rate" paid at such plants as the giant Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Co. in Mead, Trentwood and Tacoma, Wash., where he claims over 6,000 USWA-CIO members work in the aluminum industry.

"We proposed to end this inequity of wage rates between the AAC and the others and we'll insist on retroactive pay back to July," the CIO spokesman stated.

Other reasons for the CIO union's confidence, Stonehouse says, is that CIO is the only union which has a job description program for workers in aluminum industry. He said many of the AAC employees have complained that they are being forced to work outside of their specific classifications.

He feels that there is almost no Mine, Mill sentiment at Columbia Falls and that the entrance of the CIO ousted Mine, Mill on the aluminum scene is "ridiculous" since, he says, the Mine, Mill does not represent a single aluminum worker in the country.

#### AF of L Views

AF of L desire to have workers at the Anaconda Aluminum Co. plant get a new, higher wage scale as soon as possible results in the Monday and Tuesday election at the Flathead plant, commented Pat Reilly, international representative for the AF of L Aluminum Workers. We will ask for retroactive pay as well.

Reilly pointed out that the AF of L wanted the election right away so that the local "low" wages could be increased. He stated that the CIO had used every means to delay the hearings at election. In effect, Reilly said, "It has been a delay of higher pay as a result of CIO tactics."

It was the AF of L who first asked the National Labor Relations Board that an election be held to pick a bargaining agent. Then the CIO asked to be included.

Reilly continued that the Aluminum Workers is chartered by the American Federation of Labor as an industrial union to exclusively represent the workers in the aluminum industry.

Reilly added that the AF of L Aluminum Workers is the only union in the United States and Canada that represents only aluminum workers. He compared the CIO Steelworkers who essentially are a steel workers union. Their aluminum plant membership is less than 2 per cent of the whole. The men who work in aluminum plants are a small minority in the CIO Steelworkers union.

Furthermore steel is competitive to aluminum. Reilly continued that it is named "CIO Steelworkers for good reason—aluminum is so small a part of the whole operation."

#### Mine-Mill Off

##### Plant Ballots

This week saw the International Union of Mine-Mill and Smelter Workers withdraw from a place on the ballot at the coming National Labor Relations Board directed election at the Anaconda Aluminum Co. plant.

Such action has been expected by all parties for several months. The Mine-Mill saw that they could not win the election. The CIO Steelworkers have been attempting to organize Montana plants presently represented by Mine-Mill. Relationships between Mine-Mill and CIO are bitter.

At the same time there are a number of AF of L locals representing the workers at Anaconda plants in Montana with Mine-Mill representing production workers.

There is considerable difference in the whole national picture between the AF of L and Mine-Mill, but they present themselves as a united labor front when it comes to problems before the legislature and other Montana situations.

Ernest Salvas, Butte, member of the executive board of the International Union of Mine-Mill and Smelter Workers, telephoned the Hungry Horse News giving a detailed statement of why Mine-Mill had requested that the name of the union be excluded from the ballot.

Salvas was informed by the NLRB office in Seattle Wednesday that this request had been complied with.

Salvas' statement on withdrawing gives three reasons.

The first states "Our union entered the Columbia Falls situation so that the Columbia Falls employees of Anaconda would be able to join a united collective bargaining apparatus. We are mindful however that most of the employees of the Aluminum plant are members of various AF of L craft unions in that they were employed originally in construction of the plant and later hired as production workers."

"Mine-Mill feels that our continued participation in the current campaign would only serve to split the unity of the Columbia Falls workers in the Home area and later hired them to leave their present union and join ours."

Salvas then added that Mine-Mill (Please turn to page 4)

#### County Has Gain In School Census

KALISPELL—Total school census figure—from one day to 21 years old—in Flathead county for last Oct. 1 is 13,748, according to County Superintendent Lulu Barnard.

She added that this was an increase of 500 over last year, and advised the 1955 figure has to be checked further.

The unofficial tally shows Columbia Falls and school district 6 this year have 1,587 persons from 6 to 21 compared to 1,483 last year, and 896 under 6 compared to 833 last year. New factor this year is Bad Rock with 98 students including 25 under 6. Complete district 6 tabulation was used in Oct. 28 Hungry Horse News.

Whitefish school district 44 figures—including consolidations—show 1,462 for the year from 6 to 21 compared to 1,268 last year. 797 under 6 compared to 738 last year. Kalispell district 5 has 3,390 from 6 to 21 this year compared to 3,241 last, and 1,788 under 6 up from last year's 1,759.

Flathead with its 33,600 estimated population for 1954 and 31,495 by U. S. census in 1950, appears to have made a 4 per cent population gain this year over last if the school census is used as a basis indicating about 3,500 residents.

The county school census report needs checking and rechecking before the total final figures are to be released.

The school census figures are a base for apportionment of state funds.

#### Wildlife Talks Start Tuesday

##### Flathead Experiences Colder Than January Weather in November

First in a series of ten monthly illustrated talks on wildlife will be presented at Columbia Falls grade school auditorium Tuesday at 8 p. m. by Les Pengelly, Montana State University wildlife extension sponsored jointly by the Montana Fish and Game department.

Pengelly is sponsored at the Columbia Falls meetings by the Northern Rocky Mountain Sportsmen's club.

Hal Kanzier, club president, invites all interested men, women and students in the area to hear the series. There is no charge.

Pengelly will speak in Columbia Falls every two weeks, and is also giving a series of talks in Whitefish. He appeared in Kalispell last spring. Columbia Falls dates are Nov. 22, Dec. 6, 20, Jan. 3, 17, 31; Feb. 7, 21 and two talks in March.

The talks will start off with the premise that there is the dependence of all animal life upon food manufactured by green plants. Animal population is limited by such factors as quantity and kinds of food available.

The series will build with the effect of climate, plant succession, soil formation and maintenance, wildlife management, predators, habitat improvement, wildlife research and modern research.

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He is a fluent speaker, and his ideas about wildlife management are receiving wide acceptance.

The Hungry Horse News has heard one of his talks, and believes that any person interested in hunting, fishing and wildlife in general will find attending these sessions a worthwhile experience.

Pengelly was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1948 followed by high school teaching in Michigan. He received his master's degree at Utah State and worked for five years as a biologist for the Idaho State Fish and Game department. He came to Montana a year ago to become wildlife extensionist with headquarters at Montana State University.

WEST GLACIER—Arriving this week in Glacier National Park was Harry Robinson, the new chief park naturalist, who succeeds Ed Beatty, now regional naturalist for the National Park Service at Richmond, Va. Robinson was naturalist at Dinosaur National Monument in Utah.

WEST GLACIER—Record of a struggle in the wilds was observed by Ranger John Higgins on the shore of Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park.

A 20 foot square snow covered section of the shore showed where a wolverine had tackled a beaver. Then the beaver frantically tried to drag the aggressor down the bank into the water. He made progress, but lost if the beaver had reached water, he'd have won.

Ranger Higgins came on the wolverine having a beaver dinner. The 20 to 35 pound wolverine is largest member of the weasel family, and considered one of the rarest animals in the United States.

WEST GLACIER—Winter in November has stopped laying the new Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph cable from Appar to Polebridge down the middle of the North Fork road.

The cable is placed in an 18-inch deep trench, an innovation in northwestern Montana telephone construction.

The Bell system crews, while stopped on the North Fork line, are stringing wire from West Glacier to East Glacier, apparently using Great Northern poles.

Target date for Mountain States T & T to take over Glacier telephone communications is next May 6.

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Picturesque spot in Glacier National Park is bridge across McDonald creek at Appar. Nov. 15 saw bridge with much of full-winter look. Gilbert Washburn and Jimmy Grist were watching spawning salmon in creek below. Above there were three eagles interested in those fish. All photos taken by Mel Ruder.



#### Four Generators At Hungry Horse Spin at Capacity

HUNGRY HORSE—Hungry Horse Dam's powerhouse this week resumed operations at full capacity. Power output, according to Charles Simmons, powerhouse supervisor, is at 285,000 kilowatts with a higher production during peaking hours.

A factor in Hungry Horse power production resuming full-scale at this time is the record November cold wave over the Pacific Northwest which increased demands for power.

Last year full-scale power output at Hungry Horse resumed Dec. 10. The 34-mile long lake behind Hungry Horse Dam has dropped just over a foot this week from 3,560 feet above sea level to 3,558.83. The lake filled to capacity last June 29. Last year the lake was full from July 9 to Dec. 8.

Discharge of water at the powerhouse is 7,720 cubic feet per second. With the reservoir practically full, 7,720 cubic feet of water is producing the same amount of power that 9,000 cubic feet will later as the lake elevation drops.

Inflow of the South Fork is 1,480 cubic feet per second. There has been zero weather in the whole drainage, but the inflow is still about normal for this time of year.

Pattern of operation for Hungry Horse Dam is heavy power output and water discharge during the fall and winter months. This comes after downstream reservoirs have been depleted.

Water discharge from Hungry Horse flows downstream to turn turbines at Kerr, Cabinet Gorge, Grand Coulee and other downstream installations on the Columbia.

Hungry Horse is the furthest upstream storage facility on the Columbia system.

Power from Hungry Horse is marketed through the Bonneville Power Administration in the Home area and grid to Grand Coulee. Largest local BPA customer is the Anaconda Aluminum Co.

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#### Flathead Elk Kill Totals 892

Total elk kill for the 1955 Flathead hunting season is estimated at 892.

Carter Helseth, Flathead National Forest dispatcher, who obtained the elk kill figure from Forest and Fish and Game department sources, said that the 1955 figure appears to be about average.

The 1955 elk kill of 892 compares with 1,000 last year; 1,240 in 1953, 920 in 1952, 705 in 1951, 622 in 1950, 808 in 1949, 925 in 1948, 615 in 1947 and the record year following war lack of hunters of 1,835 in 1946.

Only post-Nov. 15 hunting season continuing in northwestern Montana is area 3 for deer in the Fisher river section of Lincoln county.

Other Flathead 1955 wildlife harvest includes 404 deer, 64 black bear, 13 moose, 13 grizzly, and 36 mountain goats. Hunter total exceeded 4,500. Many local hunters get their deer in nearby Lincoln county which does not show in the local counts.

Thursday was to see the last hunters come out of the Flathead's South Fork. Due out is a party headed by Guy Brash, Spangle, Wash., accompanied by Mrs. Brash, their daughter, and another associated couple. Their camp was at Limestone. Brash hunts up the South Fork each fall.

Ranger Charlie Shaw closed up Spotted Bear ranger station at road's end up the South Fork Wednesday. It was 22 below with 10 inches of snow Wednesday morning. At Trout lake snow depth was 18 inches.

The east side road is open; the west side closed.

Coming out with Shaw this week were Les Darling, dispatcher; Adam Frank, pecker; with Gerald Rose, trail foreman.

#### Form Fire Fighters At Soldiers Home

SOLDIERS HOME—Commander Clarke Grady and Assistant Commander James Staff have announced the formation of a group of volunteer fire fighters at the Soldiers Home. This is the first such group to operate at the Home as a volunteer fire fighting unit.

Hose and equipment is housed in a former paint shop, which is centrally located and from which fire in any of the Home's buildings could be reached. New members familiarized themselves with the hose and other equipment Nov. 5.

Engineer Roy Johnston checked equipment and tested the hose for 150 pounds pressure. Water is obtained through the boiler room. In addition to this central unit there are 29 fire extinguishers placed in strategic places throughout the buildings.

Grady commented that the Home would continue to rely on the Columbia Falls Volunteer Fire department for aid in case of fire but that from now on the Home unit would be able to assist. Plans are made to have the group meet regularly for practice, possibly following monthly roll call.

Volunteers are Al Bisson, Charles Scott, Leonard Roessner, Patrick Black, Howard Clark, Al Eldridge, Louis Houtchens, Ralph Caldwell, Frank Griffin, John Malek, Charles Clark, Scott Morris and Edward McAllister.

#### Patrol Car Hit; Chief Injured

Columbia Falls new police patrol car was seriously damaged Thursday at 12:15 p. m. and Police Chief William Good came within a few feet of serious injury and possibly death.

The accident occurred when Duane D. Kiel, 17, Columbia Falls, came through the stop sign on Fourth Avenue West without stopping. Ice was a factor, continued a state highway patrolman. The car apparently wasn't able to stop.

Police Chief Bill Good was in the patrol car on highway 40 heading west.

Kiel was issued a ticket by the highway patrol for failure to yield right-of-way, and the patrolman said the youth was driving too fast for existing road conditions.

Good was thrown from the police car onto the highway, the police car meanwhile being shoved into the opposite lane. Good was flat on the pavement. A third car driven by Keith Buzzell was able to stop. Just a few feet ahead was the downed police chief.

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One touch of autumn was left in this view of Anaconda Aluminum Co. plant main office building as winter blew into the scene last weekend.

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Monday and Tuesday will be election days at the new Anaconda Aluminum Co. plant. Official notification of the election was received Thursday.

The 400 production employees will vote in a National Labor Relations Board conducted secret ballot election held in the conference room of the employees' change house.

On the ballot will be three squares for marking an X. Selected by lot, and from left to right will be the Aluminum Workers Council of Columbia Falls, AF of L; in the center, neither, and on the right, the United Steelworkers of America CIO. An employee may vote for one.

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers requested that they not be included on the ballot.

#### POLLING HOURS

Polling hours will be from 7 a. m. to 9 a. m. and from 3 p. m. until 5 p. m. Monday, and then from 7 a. m. to 9 a. m. Tuesday in order that all shifts may vote.

Orville Turnbaugh, Seattle, will be the National Labor Relations Board representative in charge of the election. He will arrive in the Flathead Sunday. There will be a Sunday 4 p. m. conference between Turnbaugh and AF of L, CIO and Anaconda representatives as to conduct of the election.

The Hungry Horse News was in telephone contact with the office of Senator Mike Mansfield, whom we asked to help keep us posted. Mansfield's office contacted the sources of information. We also talked to Thomas Graham, Seattle, regional officer in charge for the National Labor Relations Board.

#### ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

Eligible to vote will be employees on the Anaconda payroll during the last full payroll period preceding date of the NLRB (Nov. 8) order in Washington, D. C. that an election be held. This means employees of record before Nov. 1.

Eligible to vote will be: "All production and maintenance employees EXCLUDING office clerical employees, superintendent's clerks, office janitors, executives' chauffeurs, full-time safety and first aid employees, laboratory and control technicians, professional employees, guards and supervisors as defined in (NLRB)." (NLRB)

Those who will vote are the hourly paid people while the exclusion for the most part indicates those paid on a monthly salary.

Of the over 500 employees at the plant about 400 are eligible to vote. Results of the election will be announced after ballots are counted.

OBJECTION POSSIBILITY

The CIO Steelworkers, AF of L, Aluminum Workers or Anaconda Aluminum company each have five days after the election to file objections, if any. If no objections are filed, Graham will issue a certificate in the name of the National Labor Relations Board certifying the union (or no union) chosen to be bargaining agent at the plant in wage negotiations, working conditions and other factors concerning employees.

If the election is close, it can be expected that there will be challenged ballots such as a man considered a part of the supervisory staff voting. Graham's office will then make an investigation.

Past developments include the Sept. 16 hearing in the courthouse at Kalispell before Melton Boyd, representative of the NLRB.

At this hearing the Anaconda company, AF of L, Aluminum Workers and International Union of Mine-Mill and Smelter Workers each agreed to an immediate election to pick the bargaining agent.

The CIO Steelworkers felt the plant was not ready for an election and their "stipulated consent" was to have the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D. C. decide if the plant was ready for an election. This delayed the election about six weeks.

The board in Washington reached its decision Nov. 8, and directed that an election be held at the AAC plant within 30 days.

NLRB DECISIONS

In its decision the National Labor Relations Board said: "Steelworkers contend that no election should be conducted until the employer has achieved full production. We find no merit in this contention. The record shows that, although full production had not been achieved at the time of the hearing, a full complement of workers was currently employed."

(Please turn to page 4)

