

BACK WHEN: FROM THE JANUARY, 1961 BULLSEYE

On January 4, 1961, the Oregon Water Resources Board reaffirmed its approval of the PGE Round Butte Project.

Line crews from PGE's seven divisions will compete in the King Kilowatt contest in Portland on February 4, 1961. The contest will simulate actual working conditions. Points will be awarded on general conduct and appearance of the crew, truck and equipment, overall teamwork and efficiency, and general safety aspects.

Don Curts, Division Manager, reports that there are 59 employees serving 15,000 customers in the Oregon City Division – 31 line people, 12 office personnel and 16 in the business office. In contrast, in 1929 there were 2 linemen, 1 inspector, 1 meter reader, and a salesgirl in the appliance store.

Members of the PGE Pastimer Camera Club will meet February 7, 1961 at PSC

Cost of Health Insurance Going Up – A rate increase of 10% on the base plan, and 15% on the major medical coverage. Example for an employee, spouse, and one or more children: Old Plan Rate - \$10.80 per month. New Plan after company contribution \$11.70 per month. (What's to happen 43 years later ??)

Underground Department won the \$45 first place in the PGE Pastimer Buck Derby for the deer's rack that was closet to the average of all entries.

Quote from Bullseye: "Atomic power suggests almost cost-free generation of power. Fact is, current production cost is several time over conventional generation. Atom is another fuel with much research to be done before it becomes competitive with present methods. "
(Not exactly true 10 years of so later.)

Portions of Clackamas County are served by five of PGE's seven divisions. Included are Oregon City, Gresham, Willamette Valley, Yamhill and Portland divisions.

On December 14, 1960, work began to remove an estimated 25 acres of floating trash from PGE's North Fork reservoir. The material came down the Clackamas River during the Thanksgiving Day Flood.

General Electric put 750,000 volts on its test line at Pittsfield, Mass. This is the highest operating voltage ever attained. Russia's highest experimental line reportedly carries 600,000 volts. (In 1966, PGE began building a portion of the NW/SW 500,000 volt Intertie line to California and the Southwest.)

Drawings for free Thanksgiving turkeys and an interesting program presented by Pacific Telephone Northwest attracted 265 men and boys to the December meeting of the PGE Men's Forum at PSC. Of the total, 85 were sons of employees. (Today, all employees, spouses and children would attend such an Employee's Forum)

Wisdom from Thomas A. Edison – "If there's a better way to do it – find it."