

Moon Loaded With Riches, In Opinion Of Scientists

By WILLIAM C. Harrison
SUN VALLE, Calif. (AP)—When man lands on the cosmic wasteland of the moon some 25 years hence, he will find it loaded with riches, well guarded.

The lunar surface is lifeless and airless, baked by day and frozen by night. The earth's atmosphere, by comparison, are hospitable as a hearthside.

But there are many advantages in low gravity—about one-sixth that of the earth—and no atmosphere.

No atmosphere means no breezes, clouds or storms, no weather at all—just a monotonous succession of days, about 14 earth days long, and nights.

"That long period of sunlight is a tremendous energy source," Homer A. Boushey, retired U.S. Air Force brigadier-general, pointed out in an interview.

Boushey heads the scientific and product planning department of Lockheed Missiles and Space Company. A speech he made in January, 1958, proposing the moon as military "high ground" for determining an atomic attack on the United States, aroused widespread controversy.

LITTLE GRAVITY

With no weather and little gravity, large devices to capture and conserve and utilize the moon's undisturbed solar radiation can be flimsy structures by earth standards.

"And something as simple as a parabolic mirror could be effective in protecting personnel from the radiation," Boushey said.

He and Jack Kraft, a planning scientist in the department, predicted, however, that the first man visiting the moon will land just after the lunar night begins, when the insolation problem will be even simpler.

The insulation provided by the lunar vacuum will make the night time temperature minus 240 degrees (Fahrenheit) easy to deal with. The same applies to the 24-day day time heat. The vacuum can be employed much in the manner of the thermos bottle idea.

Vacuum insulation should greatly simplify electricity transmission, he said. And there'll be no corrosion of metals.

Discoveries and developments in low temperature and low-pressure physics, infant sciences on earth, will boom on the moon, where a vacuum of unlimited extent and rigid temperatures will be available.

The moon almost surely will become a communications centre with the coherent light beams of lasers, carrying millions of messages. Ordinary radio communications will be crippled by lack of an ionosphere such as earth signals house against.

LIMITED SIGNALS

Line-of-sight signals will be limited by the more pronounced surface curvature of the lunar sphere, which has a diameter about one-quarter that of the earth.

But giant reflectors, lightly constructed, may be mounted on moon heights to relay signals, Boushey said.

Jules Verne's 100-year-old proposal of a space gun may find practical application in electrically-operated rocket launchers on the moon.

In theory, a space vehicle could achieve the lunar escape speed of 5,200 miles an hour—its 25,000 miles an hour on earth—on the moon surface without consuming any of its own fuel.

Earth escape, impossible by spaceship, requires an estimated

30 times as much energy and enormous fuel loads.

The moon will become a way station to other planets. Tanker rockets placed in earth orbit from the moon will be used for refuelling of earth rockets, scientists predict.

"The first moon visitors will have to take along everything they need, including air to breathe. But they'll find about the same elements the earth has, although in different amounts and combinations," Boushey declared that mater-

ials, energy and scientific knowledge will be abundant for moon colonizers, who eventually may need little or nothing from the earth.

"We are much more well prepared for lunar colonization than men were in Columbus' time for earth colonizing," said Boushey. "And the men aboard Columbus' ships were far more isolated than moon colonizers will be. His crews faced greater hardships, including scurvy, thinking they might fall off the earth at any moment."

Quest Program Said Obscure

OTTAWA (CP)—A drama carried March 10 on the CBC program Quest was criticized as "suggestive, obscure and in poor taste" here at the 80th annual meeting of the Roman Catholic Knights of Columbus Ontario Council.

The play, Gallows Humor, depicted the last hours of a condemned murderer. In one scene he rejects a prostitute hired by prison officials for pre-gallows solace.

A resolution said the CBC should take steps to prevent future productions of a similar nature.

GAVE THE WORD

The winding Macaroon River of the windmill describes what the word that describes what many rivers do—meander.

PM Is Kept Reminded Of Days Of Decision

By KEN KELLY
OTTAWA (CP)—Prime Minister Pearson is not being allowed to forget his election pledge of action in "60 days of decision."

The opposition, and sometimes his own members, give him in that speech he said:

"I pledge that more constructive things will be done in the first 60 days of a new Liberal government than in any similar period of Canadian history."

It was repeated—with slight variations of wording—on subsequent election platforms and the phrase "60 days of decision" quickly became a Liberal slogan.

The 60 days began when the Pearson government took office April 22—just 30 days ago.

At this halfway point Mr. Pearson has acted on many of his domestic and foreign policy promises in one way or another. And he placed them before Parliament which met 38 days after the election—the shortest interval between an election and the opening of Parliament.

On the economic front, measures were started through Parliament in its first three days to establish an economic council and a \$400,000,000 Municipal Development and Loan Fund, and to give the Atlantic Development Board a \$100,000,000 capital fund.

Steps also were taken toward setting up a department of industry and providing two ministers of agriculture. A move was made toward establishing a special defence committee.

The spectre of his 60-days clearly was haunting him when in an April 30 address in Toronto he noted that reporters and politicians were ticking off each day.

His concern was that "at the end of 60 days, there may be an idea that the job is done. That is not my intention."

Since Parliament met last

Thursday, there have been daily reminders of it.

SUMMARIZES VIEW

Opposition Leader Diefenbaker, speaking Monday, summarized his view of the days thus far:

"Some of the policies of a few months ago have been altered in these days of decision. Within 30 days the 60 days had become 30 days."

Mr. Pearson's own supporters have referred to it. Finance Minister Walter Gordon, delivering his budget in Parliament, said it will be brought down "within 60 days of April 22."

And Pauline Jewett (L-Northumberland) said in moving the Commons address in reply to the throne speech that the government's program does "as much as is feasible, at least within the first 60 days."

But Mr. Pearson indicated he wasn't backing away from the pledge.

REMARKING ON OPPORTUNITY

"amusement" about it and complaints that all the election promises were not included in the program for the period, he said.

"Well, there are limits to what even we can do in 60 days."

TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

JERUSALEM (AP)—To the sound of a ram's horn, Zalman Sharar took the oath of office as Israel's third president in parliament Wednesday. Parliament elected Shazar to the presidency Tuesday. In succession, Shazar took the oath of office of a 75-year-old labor leader, editor and author who once served as minister of education.

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GATT Agreement On Agriculture Is Reported

GENEVA (Reuters) — Hans Schaffner, Swiss chairman of the 30-nation trade conference here, said here a deadlock on agriculture between the Common Market and Canada, Australia and New Zealand has been solved.

The stalemate centred about approach to be taken on agricultural negotiations at next year's Kennedy round. He proposed tariff cuts within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

A closed-door debate on agriculture between the United States, the three Commonwealth countries and the Common Market delayed the final meeting Tuesday of the plenary session of the GATT ministers by several hours.

Schaffner told reporters: "All problems are solved." He made this comment about 30 minutes before the final plenary session was to begin.

Trade and Commerce Minister Frederick Ezzor of Britain said the European Common Market had been unable to accept the wording of an agricultural resolution "which would have taken into account the legitimate and understandable difficulties of Australia, Canada and New Zealand."

In the original text of a U.S. resolution which the Common Market has broadly accepted, the three Commonwealth countries were exempted from the general rule on across-the-board tariff cuts.

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