

Late Storms Help Water Outlook in Most State Areas

Late storms in March, even extending into early April in some sections, served to change a poor early outlook for the Oregon irrigation water to one of mostly adequate supplies, just as June rains last year throughout eastern Oregon rescued most sections from a disastrous season.

These facts were brought out in the recent series of eight forecast meetings held in as many districts in eastern and southern Oregon by representatives of the Soil Conservation service and O. S. C. experiment station, which sponsor the federal-state cooperative snow surveys and irrigation water forecasts for Oregon.

After summarizing reports from all the districts, W. T. Frost, who represented the SCS at the meetings, announced that 93 per cent of the irrigated lands of the state have in sight fair to good water supplies. While these are lands chiefly served from reservoirs, a

few areas depending for irrigation upon unregulated stream flow also have good water supplies in prospect. A few areas, however, are facing definitely deficient water supplies this season and will be hoping for another season of heavy late spring or early summer rainfall.

Snow supplies in most the watersheds over the state are at unusually high levels, with little or no snow remaining below 5000 feet. The storms this year were also more spotted than usual, so that conditions may be favorable at one place while quite the contrary 50 miles away.

Malheur county, which depends mostly on reservoir storage and which has the largest intensively irrigated acreage, has perhaps the most adequate supply in sight. Umatilla county and adjacent areas, and Harney county expect plenty of water, as do the areas in northeastern Oregon, except parts of Wallowa county.

Southern Oregon lands, including Klamath county, all have fair to good supplies, as does Lake county with the exception of the northern part. Deschutes and Crook counties are somewhat low on supplies but will get by, as will the mid-Columbia section around The Dalles.

This is Okinawa Island Hellhole

EN ROUTE TO OKINAWA—This is our target; It is a hell-hole ridden with malaria, dengue, leprosy, plague, typhus filariasis and virtually every skin disease afflicting mankind.

Two of the world's deadliest snakes infest Okinawa in large numbers. A walk in any wooded area is dangerous; both snakes are tree climbers and often strike from above.

Wild boars are plentiful. Though not dangerous until aroused, they can rip a man to pieces in a few minutes.

The climate is worse than any pest-hole in the tropics. The temperatures approximate those in the southern regions of the United States, but the extremely high humidity makes living highly uncomfortable. The annual rainfall averages 120 inches. We expect six inches our first month ashore and nine the next. Each year five or six typhoons rake the island.

Nerve Center of Japs' Asia Defense

Our landing on this mangy, leprous island was necessary. Okinawa is the nerve center of Japan's defense in all Asia. We have opened the East China Sea, heretofore a Jap lake and refuge of the Imperial fleet.

With Okinawa in our hands, Japan will be hard pressed to send planes or troops outside the homeland. No longer will she suck the wealth of conquered territories over her maritime routes to the south. Radio and cable communications to Formosa, China, Manchuria, Indo China, Malaya and the Dutch East Indies are disrupted. Her carriers and submarines will have to train elsewhere.

Much as we dislike the thoughts of Okinawa, the natives apparently like it even less. In the past few years, some 60,000 have migrated to Japan's mandated islands, Hawaii and Brazil. Economically and politically they are virtually slaves.

Centered around the island's largest city, Naha (Pop. 65,765), are hundreds of sweatshop factories and workshops specializing in the distillation and brewing of liquor and beer, the manufacture of lacquer-ware, pongee and "panama" hats. Here also are large canneries and sugar refineries.

In 1940, a machine tool operator earned 51 cents a day; a woman textile worker, nine cents.

Farm Acreage Small
Most of the population is engaged in sub-standard agriculture. Some 91,595 farm families are dependent for a livelihood on what they can eke out for an average of 1.55 acres of land. This acreage, incidentally, is about half the average of farms in the home islands. The chief crops are sweet potatoes, sugar cane and rice.

According to last-known reports, there is but one political party, the all-powerful Imperial Rule Association—the Japanese equivalent of the National Socialist Party of Germany. The natives are permitted to vote for a Diet, or Congress, but their candidates are selected for them. And no matter what the Diet elects to do, the governor has the power to veto.

As a means of controlling the population, the Imperial Rule Association dominates the six daily and 22 weekly or semi-monthly newspapers. Radio sets are few and can be turned only to government stations. The natives, as a result, are almost completely ignorant of the United States. What little information they have leads them to believe that Americans are just one cut above apes.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

About the only freedom granted the 445,000 people on Okinawa is religious freedom. In 1938, there were 9,335 Shintoists, 22,208 Buddhists and 1,207 Christians. The proportion of Christians to popu-

Jap War Dog



(U. S. Marine Corps Photo)

Marine Pfc. Carl E. Bliss of East Syracuse, N. Y., is shown with his canine charge, "Boy," a captured Jap war dog seized on Guam and retained for use in action against his former masters. The shepherd-collie is with the Second War Dog Platoon, now serving with the Second Marine Division somewhere in the Pacific.

lation is higher here than in Japan.

Centuries of being kicked around in the game of power politics has produced a polyglot race. Probably the first inhabitants were Ainu and Kemasos, the same people who first lived in Japan, but other racial strains also are present—Malayan, Korean, Chinese and Japanese. The result is a short people with dark hair, sometimes wavy and sometimes straight, and with olive skin.

Okinawans have an ancient history. About 850 years before Columbus discovered America, the Chinese recorded emigrations to Nansai-Shoto. And it was somewhere about this time, too, that the first king of the island, Tinsinshi, "Grandson of Heaven," first began his rule. Tinsinshi's descendants ruled until overthrown by Shuntien, the renegade son of the Japanese Minamoto family.

Fails to Help Japs

In 1372, China demanded and received tribute from the kingdom. While acknowledging Chinese dominance, the ruler somehow managed to keep his friendship without Japan's overlordship. This arrangement continued until the end of the Sixteenth Century, when the king failed to help the Japanese against the Koreans, thereby cooking his goose. After settling the Korean business, the Prince of Satsuma descended on the islands and forced the king to acknowledge Japanese rule. He did, but continued paying tribute to China.

This state of affairs existed until 1879, when the Japanese—opened to the western world 20 years before—began consolidating the nearby semi-independent kingdoms into the Empire. China protested, but got no satisfaction. When Japan crushed China in the war of 1894-5 and took over Formosa, China's last claim disappeared.

SCOUT TROOP NO. 60

An outside meeting of Scout troop No. 60 was held Monday evening at the Baptist church with their scoutmaster, Cliff Roberts. Dale Sears became a Scout at this meeting and an overnight hike was announced for Saturday. After the meeting the boys enjoyed playing games.

Mosby Creek

The Mosby Creek Extension club met Thursday with Mrs. Esther Ward. Mrs. Carter, home demonstrator at large, had charge of the meeting which was "Simple Home Carpentry." A planned lunch was served at noon and also election of officers was held. Fay Taylor was elected chairman, Mary Snauer, vice chairman and Mrs. Ida Jenkins, secretary and treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Duerst have received word from their son 1st Sgt. Clarence Duerst, who has been in Belgium for 8 months, that he has been transferred to Germany.

Those having their lights turned on this last week were the Arnold Duersts, Cliff Green, Perk Miller, L. Bettis families.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Mooney of Walden visited in Grants Pass Sunday.

Mrs. Dora Lee Fox went to Seattle this past week to visit her husband who is in the navy and whose boat was docked there.

Floyd Tucker, E/C of Portsmouth, Virginia, has received a medical discharge and is home with his wife and baby daughter at the Frank Bridwell home.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bridwell have gone to Stockton, California, to visit their son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Bridwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor and children and Mrs. Ida Taylor attended a church and dinner in Springfield Sunday at the Methodist church in honor of Dr. McComie.

Vernon Black, chief petty officer in the navy, has returned to Norfolk, Virginia after several days' furlough at home.

Mrs. Joe Geer of London spent Monday with Mrs. Lee Dugan at Walden.

A horse belonging to Norris Roby fell in a spring Sunday and it took several neighbors to help pull him out.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reichel of Eugene and Mrs. George Reichel of Hebron were callers Sunday at the Fred Overton home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Telford and son Carol of Klamath Falls visited a few days last week at the Fred Overton home.

Saginaw

The Friendly Neighbors club held an all-day meeting with a potluck dinner at noon at the home of Mrs. Helen Russell at Goshen, Thursday. There were 12 members present and Mrs. John Lingard of Kelowna, Canada, niece and house guest of Mrs. Russell, and Mrs. Zehner of Goshen were visitors. After the business meeting was over two contests were held with Mrs. Dora Stewart winning one contest and Mrs. Nona Kirkendall the other.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Keene and children spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Keene's mother, Mrs. Mary Lindsay of Creswell.

The dance given at Walker Saturday night by the Friendly Neighbors club was well attended. Mrs. Fern Huffman of California visited recently with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Dora Stewart.

Mrs. Jess Tucker was called to Beaverton last week by the death of her foster mother, Mrs. Ida Jackson is helping care for her children while Mrs. Tucker is gone.

W. A. Keene is spending a week at Roseburg at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Claude Willey.

THANK YOU

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to many friends for their kindness and beautiful floral offerings in the illness and passing of my mother.

Chas. Earl.

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MRS. ROSE BELLE GOTCHER

Mrs. Rose Belle Gotcher, 72, of Drain died Monday in a Eugene hospital after a short illness. She was born in Drain, October 24, 1872, and had been a continuous resident of that place. She was married to John F. Gotcher at Drain, October 2, 1905. She was a member of the Christian church.

Besides her husband she is survived by a brother, Ora Swearingen, Drain.

Services will be held in the Christian church at Drain this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Rev. James Powell officiating. Interment will be in the Putnam cemetery. Arrangements are in the care of the Stearns mortuary of Oakland.

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KEM'S for DRUGS

Delight Valley

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sailer of Mohalla visited the John Stalders over the week end.

Thelma Moors who works at Cres-Dell Lodge, visited her parents Wednesday evening.

The Max Sears family were Sunday dinner guests of the Ernest Sears in Cottage Grove. The day was Dale Sears twelfth birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Sears and granddaughter of Eugene visited Sunday at the Ralph Sears home. Mrs. Eldon Steele of Dorena and Mrs. Hubert Haworth of Cottage Grove have been rehired to teach the Delight Valley grade school he coming school year.

Mrs. Hassert and son left yesterday (Wednesday) for a visit with relatives in southern California.

The Frank McDonald family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon in Lynx Hollow. The Elwyn Sales have recently purchased 1,500 baby turkeys.

MRS. L. C. DEVORE OF DRAIN PASSES

Mrs. Leila Cecilia Devore, 87, died early Tuesday at the home of her daughter, Dr. Bertha L. Devore, in Drain, following a long period of ill health. Born in DeKalb county, Illinois, July 11, 1857, she had been a resident of Drain for 40 years. Her husband, Dr. C. P. Devore, died several years ago.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Ena P. Rasmussen, Live Oak, California, and Dr. Devore, Drain; a brother, Wesley Moon, and a sister, Mrs. Annette Moore, both of Sutter, California.

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Rev. A. R. Monahan of Pittsburg, Pa., is bringing the messages, assisted by Miss Dorothy Radcliff of Albany, Miss Bernetta Bolt of Salem, Miss Marcella Amack of Salem and the local pastor, Rozella Douglas. The messages of Rev. Monahan are brief and to the point. You will enjoy these spiritual messages and good singing.

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