

Aid for Water System Project Sought by City

By DONNA EPPENBACH
IRRIGON — The latest material on the City of Irrigon's application for Federal assistance to construct a basic water system was presented by Mayor Chester Wilson at a public gathering Monday night in the A. C. Houghton cafeteria.

The break-down figures on the proposed \$67,000 project came from Farmer's Home Administration, Pendleton office, where the application was filed, and covered both construction cost and proposed operational budget and debt retirement data. The application was forwarded to the national office of FHA by their state representatives early in February and recent word received indicates it will be returned to the city for revision of some aspects of the proposed system.

The local interest in, and hope for, an early approval of the loan-grant request was somewhat intensified in early February when one of the old stand-by wells, serving 13 families of some 60 persons, suddenly failed because of a drop in the local water table. The hope that the well could be rejuvenated by the use of a sandpump was soon abandoned by the owners and a rising water table appeared to be the only solution for future use of the well.

An early appeal to the city for relief was met by contacting owners of adjacent wells, some who granted permission for temporary connections, however, the nature of these wells did not appear to make this a feasible arrangement for all involved. Some families were hauling water in cans and others were individually serviced by a hose through mutual agreement with a neighbor.

The problem was presented to the city council in session for a special meeting called in connection with the public meeting and a solution was requested by Mayor Wilson.

Authority was granted, by adopting a resolution, to serve these families from a small city-owned well in the city service building which was formerly operated as a Standard Gas Station. This well had not been in operation for some 4 years and, although some felt it might prove to be inadequate, this appeared to be the only solution, other than the drilling of a new well. To meet the need, a service charge of \$3.00 per month per family will help defray the cost to the city for materials and labor.

Immediate action has bridged the gap between possibility and reality and by the use of 140 feet of pipe and 540 feet of 1½ inch plastic hose, water was available to each family early Wednesday evening.

William Culham of the State Board of Health sat in on Monday night's meeting and offered some very valuable comments and suggestions. His office was made aware of the water shortage immediately and has kept a watchful eye on the conditions to assure sanitation in the emergency.

Needless to say, those who are relieved from the chore of hauling water are happy.

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MEMBERS of the Oregon Wheat Growers League and Wheat Commission attended the breakfast for Congressmen from the wheat producing states recently in Washington, D. C. The theme of the breakfast was the Food For Peace program and the importance of the United States' share of wheat sales in the world markets. Seated on the left is Robert Jensen, president of the league. On his left is Milt Morgan, member of the Oregon Wheat Commission; Representative Al Ullman; Bill Hulise, 1st vice-president of the league; Representative Edith Green's legislative assistant; Mr. Lee, legislative assistant to Senator Morse; and Wayne Nunn, legislative assistant to Senator Hatfield.

Markets Discussed At D. C. Breakfast

By JOHN WELBES

Robert Jensen and Bill Hulise, representing the Oregon Wheat Growers League along with Floyd Root, Ron Rew, and Milt Morgan representing the Oregon Wheat Commission recently attended a breakfast in Washington, D. C. in which congressional people from 10 wheat producing states were in attendance, as well as a number of USDA personnel.

The purpose of the breakfast was to inform the congressional people of the wheat producers' efforts to expand markets for U.S. wheat in foreign markets. The breakfast was sponsored by two market development associations—Western Wheat Associates, U.S.A., Inc., and Great Plains Wheat, Inc.—and the National Association of Wheat Growers.

GPW President Ralph Ball of Sterling, Kan., and WWA Past President Gene Moos of Edwall, Wash., briefly reviewed the operations of the two organizations and pointed to the success of market development programs in increasing wheat exports.

South Dakota Senator George McGovern, former Food for Peace director, responded for his congressional colleagues.

McGovern said the drop of 25 cents a bushel over the last several months is like cutting the pay of, or withholding equipment from the Marines in Vietnam in an effort to protect consumer prices.

"If we are really earnest about the war on hunger," he said, "then we must be willing

Sewing Machine, Valuable Tool, Needs Good Care

By MARJORIE WILCOXEN
County Extension Agent

This is the time to start planning spring and summer clothes, Oregon State University extension clothing and textiles specialists remind us. But be sure your sewing machine is ready to go when you are.

How long has it been since you cleaned and oiled your machine? If you have forgotten how to oil it, consult your instruction booklet. Here are some basic rules that will help sewing machines stay in good working order.

Keep the machine covered when not in use. When dust combines with oil, the efficiency of the moving parts is reduced. When you have finished sewing for the day, lower the presser foot on a scrap of fabric and lower the needle into the cloth. This will do three things—relieve strain on the presser bar spring, protect the needle, and absorb any excess oil that might drain down through the machine.

Cleaning can best be done by removing the throat plate and brushing the dust, lint, loose threads or foreign matter from the bobbin case and the feed mechanism. Use a soft cloth to dust the machine, and a brush for those hard-to-reach places. Draw a fold of lightweight cloth carefully between the tension discs to remove dust and lint.

Oil the machine regularly. If you use it often, a general rule is to oil it after every eight hours of use. After you have oiled the machine, run it slowly for several minutes to distribute the oil to the moving parts. Wipe off the excess oil.

If the machine is oiled at the end of the day's sewing, and a scrap of material is left under the presser foot, the machine will be ready to use again with less danger of an oil spot on the fabric you are sewing.

The motor and gears should be lubricated about every six months. Use the lubricant specified by the manufacturer, and follow the directions given in the manual. Never apply oil or ordinary grease to these parts. Like other valuable tools, your sewing machine will give many years of service if it's kept clean, oiled, adjusted and in good repair.

Dry Month Cuts Summer Season Water Outlook

A very dry February, with consequent reduction of the mountain snowpack to about 78 percent of the 15-year average (1948-62) for the Umatilla-Walla Walla watersheds, reduces the water supply outlook for this region to slightly below average for the spring-melt season and only fair for the late season, according to a report released today at a Water Supply Forecast meeting by W. T. Frost, of the Soil Conservation Service.

Water content of the mountain snowpack is 10 to 20 percent below average at Tollgate, Meacham, and Lucky Strike but far below average at Emigrant Springs and Battle Mtn. Summit. There is no snow on the lower elevation as of March 1. Moisture in the top four feet of the soil mantle is now 82 percent of capacity compared with 77 percent last year on this date.

Stored water in McKay reservoir remains low compared with the 15-year average—only 32,100 acre feet compared with 41,000 a. f. average. There is slightly more water in storage now than last year at this time when only 28,100 a. f. were reported. The reservoir is not likely to fill unless unusual rainfall should occur in the near future.

Cold Springs reservoir is up to the average with 39,600 acre feet in storage and is slightly ahead of the 36,400 a. f. held last year on March 1.

Flow into McKay reservoir in the March through July period is forecast at 39,000 acre feet or 80 percent of the average. If this flow is realized, a total of 71,100 acre feet, including storage, will be available from the McKay reservoir source. There will be less than this unless temperatures and rainfall are close to or more favorable than average.

Flow of the Umatilla at Pendleton is forecast at 231,000 acre feet or 94 percent of the 15-year average. If realized, this should produce average water supplies for all users.

Butter Creek is forecast to flow 13,000 acre feet or 90 percent average for the same 5-month period, March through July. There may be some unusual shortage of water toward the end of the season.

These forecasts are made with the assumption that near average conditions of temperature and precipitation will prevail from now through the forecast period.

Statewide, 1967 spring and summer water supplies for most ranchers, farmers and other water users in Oregon will be slightly below average. Deficient February precipitation and reduced snowfall has dimmed the picture of late-season water supplies. On the bright side, watershed soils are well recharged and stored water supplies are mostly satisfactory.

Measles, like polio, can be eradicated in Oregon in 1967. It takes only one visit to the family physician or public health clinic.

Routine immunization of all children when they are one year old will eradicate measles.

OREGON FARM CALENDAR

- MARCH**
*25 Mid-Willamette 4-H Rabbit School, Rickreall.
28 Squaw Butte Livestock Field Day, Burns.
- APRIL**
*30 Rural Life (4-H) Sunday.
- MAY**
*1 Columbia Basin World Trade, Hilton Hotel.
*5 OSU Beef Cattle Field Day, Withycombe Hall and Adair area.
*6 OSU Sheep Field Day, Withycombe Hall and Adair area.
9-11 State Extension Homemakers Council meeting, OSU.
*17 Western Oregon Livestock Association Pastures Tour, Douglas County.
- JUNE**
*4-7 Wheat League Show and Sale, The Dalles.
*8-10 Eastern Oregon Livestock Show, Union.
*12-17 4-H Summer School, OSU.
- JULY**
*24-30 National Farm Safety Week.
- AUGUST**
*6-12 Range Management Youth Camp, Grant County.
*26-9/4 Oregon State Fair, Salem.
- SEPTEMBER**
*29-10/7 Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Portland.
- OCTOBER**
*20-22 Horseman's Short Course, Withycombe Hall.
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FARM

County Agent's Office

Council Considers Effect Of Irrigation on Market

By GENE WINTERS
County Extension Agent

With considerable activity in the various stages of investigation, planning and developing of irrigation in Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla counties one important question is being asked. How fast will the market absorb the new production at a fair and just price to the producer?

At the Columbia Plateau Resource Council meeting at Spokane in February, a host of facts, figures, notions and ideas were presented. Some facts and figures from Idaho and Washington relevant to irrigation development appeared to be especially interesting to us in this area.

According to Calvin Warnick, Director of Water Resource Research Institute, University of Idaho new irrigation development in Idaho has averaged 50,000 acres each year for the past 10 years. Last year 73,000 new acres were placed under irrigation.

Mr. Warnick pointed out that the Idaho potato crop has doubled in the four years from 1963-1967.

The state of Washington recently completed a preliminary look at ultimate water needs for that state somewhat like the study now underway in Oregon as reported to Morrow county residents recently by Donel Lane of the State Water Resources Board.

Dr. E. Roy Tinney, Water Research Center, Pullman, headed up the committee assembling the report and also gave a summary at the CPWC meeting in Spokane. In the Washington investigation water needs were projected for the years 1980, 2020 and 2065. The irrigation needs were estimated on the basis of economic returns from the development.

According to Dr. Tinney there are one million acres in Washington that could be developed by 1980 or sooner without subsidy. Another one-half million acres would be developed by 2020 when returns of \$25 per acre less than present day costs could probably be absorbed or subsidized. By the year 2065 it is estimated the final 9.2 million acres of irrigable land in that state would be developed.

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Northwest Low On White Wheat Ready for Export

The Pacific Northwest is rapidly running out of white wheat for export, according to Stephen C. Marks, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State University.

Marks points out that there were around 53 million bushels available for milling, seed and feed use and export at the start of 1967, but the supply has been reduced by sizeable export allocations since January 1. Recent purchase of 150,000 tons of white wheat by India leaves an additional 150,000 tons outstanding under her latest purchase authorization for 300,000 tons.

The Pacific Northwest white wheat crop is making excellent progress and a bigger crop than last year will be available for market. Wheat growers seeded 30 per cent more acreage for harvest under the increased acreage allotment for 1967, it was noted.

The hard red winter wheat crop in Kansas and neighboring southern plains states has been hard hit by drought. The uncertain wheat crop prospects in the southern plains and our foreign food aid program demands are primary factors behind the 10 per cent increase in U. S. rice acreage allotments for 1967.

USDA officials said the increase is temporary and would provide enough rice for all probable needs in the marketing year ahead.

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