

## Snowpack Water And Precipitation Far Below Usual

Streamflow is forecast much below the usual amount for the spring and summer of 1968 in Umatilla, Morrow and Gilliam counties, according to a report released today by A. J. Webber, State Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Portland.

Reservoir water supplies are unusually low for this date, snowpacks are far below their usual water content, and soils in the higher watersheds are drier than last year.

Water content of the mountain snowpack is only 45 percent of the 15-year average (1948-62) for February first and only 52 percent of the amount for this date last year. Remaining winter storms will need to produce more than double the usual snow to provide adequate water supplies in 1968.

Winter precipitation, November to February 1, has been only 48 percent of the 15-year average (1948-62) according to the U. S. Weather Bureau.

Watershed soils under the snowpack are wet to 77 percent of capacity but still dry enough that they will soak up from two to seven inches of snowmelt water in the spring.

Stored water in Cold Springs Reservoir is up to the 26,000 acre feet level compared with 35,600 acre feet at this date last year. This is the same amount of water held in 1966 when total storage climbed to 49,200 acre feet by April 1.

McKay reservoir now holds only 18,000 acre feet compared with 25,500 acre feet on hand at this time last year. This is the lowest storage amount since 1964 when only 10,300 acre feet were on hand. There is reason to expect a pack total of less than 60,000 acre feet in this reservoir since the February-July flow of McKay Creek is forecast at 70% average or 43,000 acre feet assuming normal winter conditions from this date.

Statewide, Oregon's 1968 water supplies are forecast to range from poor to near average in the coming spring and summer months. This is the outlook if the balance of the winter has normal temperatures and precipitation. But if the present trend of abnormally most of any precipitation that warm temperatures continues, occurs will fall as rain, not as snow, and the summer season streamflow will be further reduced by the lack of snowmelt water.

About two-thirds of Oregon's irrigated lands, without storage water, will have "short" water supplies or even very deficient supplies this year. The remaining irrigated lands will have a near average water supply because of available reservoir water. Serious shortages of water are probable for lands served from McKay Reservoir in Umatilla county, Bully Creek Reservoir in Malheur county, and most of Crook county, upstream from major reservoirs plus Hay and Trout Creeks in eastern Jefferson county and Mountain and Bridge Creeks on the John Day River in Wheeler county.

## Property Owner Tax-Saver Tips Told by Expert

Oregon property owners may be missing some tax-saving opportunities, according to Marion D. Thomas, extension public policy specialist at Oregon State University.

Thomas said that it is not unusual to find property owners billed for taxes on property that no longer exists. Such property would include buildings which have been removed or destroyed, or timber which has since been harvested.

Assessors try to eliminate such property from tax rolls, but these changes may be overlooked. Owners can be helpful and save themselves some money, Thomas said, by being sure that these changes come to the assessor's attention.

Likewise, he added, part of a parcel of real estate is sometimes sold without adjustments being made in assessment records. Again, Thomson urged the owner to call this to the assessor's attention.

Many property owners are receiving exemptions, partial exemptions or preferential assessments under Oregon property tax laws, but some are not aware of the opportunity for tax savings. These savings are available for senior citizens and disabled veterans as well as owners of timber and timberland, farmers and others who qualify.

Thomas said it would pay property owners to check with the county assessor to see if they qualify for savings.

He stressed that taxpayers who feel that assessed values on their property are higher than intended by law can appeal to their county board of equalization. This appeal must be filed by May 20 this year. The assessor cannot make changes in assessed values after April 30, Thomas added.

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## How You Can Become A Coronary Candidate



MIDDLE-AGED man with three adverse risk factors (high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure and excessive cigarette smoking) has a heart attack risk ten times higher than the man with none. So don't be a coronary candidate! Give generously to the Heart Fund Campaign, being conducted here throughout February.

## Council Names Budget Members

By MARY LEE MARLOW

(Held over from last week)

BOARDMAN—The City Council met last Tuesday night and new members of the budget committee were appointed for this year as follows: Andrew Jones, Bud Michels, Delbert Ball and Cecil Hicks. Old carry over members include Mrs. Zoe Billings, Mrs. Leo Root, Leonard Bedford, Walter Hayes and Wayne Kuhn. Shirley Ziellinski was appointed budget officer, and will announce the meetings as soon as they are set up.

The new auxiliary engine for the city water pump has been installed, so that in the future when the electricity is off for any reason, residents will be assured of water.

The city has purchased a new fire truck from the U. S. Fire Equipment Company at Stayton, Ore., and it was delivered February 7. No disposition of the old truck has been made at this time.

Mrs. Seth Russell was hostess for the Ladies Aid Society of Community Church Wednesday of last week at her home. Yearly reports were read, and the following committees appointed for this year: Sunshine—Mrs. Glen Carpenter; poster—Mrs. Leo Potts; publicity—Mrs. Frank Marlow; good neighbor, town—Mrs. Hazel Miller, west end—Mrs. Willard Baker, east end—Mrs. Ralph Earwood. The finance committee for the year are: Jun.-Mar., Mrs. Frank Marlow, Mrs. Arthur Allen, Mrs. Leo Root, Mrs. Leo Potts; Apr.-June, Mrs. Seth Russell, Mrs. Elmer Messenger, Mrs. Glen Carpenter, Mrs. Ralph Earwood; July-Sept., Mrs. Rollin Bishop, Mrs. Hazel Miller, Mrs. Bernard Donovan, Mrs. Guy Ferguson, Mrs. Armin Hug; Oct.-Dec., Mrs. Emery Lyons, Mrs. Willard Baker, Mrs. Harold Rash, Mrs. Chub Warren. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Bishop March 6.

There were three tables of pinocle in play at the card party at the grange hall February 6, sponsored by the Home Economics Club of Greenfield Grange. Mrs. Arthur Allen was hostess. High prize was won by Mrs. W. G. Seehafer and low went to Mrs. LaVern Peterson. Mrs. Chub Warren and Mrs. Glen Carpen-

ter won the pinocle prizes.

Members of the Home Economics Club of Greenfield Grange who attended the county HEC conference at the Lexington Grange hall last Wednesday afternoon included Mrs. Chub Warren, chairman, Mrs. Arthur Allen, Mrs. Donald Baker, Mrs. Rollin Bishop, Mrs. Glen Carpenter, Mrs. Walter Hayes and Mrs. W. G. Seehafer.

Mrs. Leo Root went to Wasco February 2 to attend the wedding of her grandson, Curtis L. Root, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Root of Wasco, and Julie Farmer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Buschhold, Jr., of Orlando, Fla. The ceremony was held at 9:30 a.m. in the Methodist church. At the reception following Mrs. Root cut and served the cake. The couple will live in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Dewesse of Grandview, Wash., were visitors Wednesday of last week at the home of Mrs. Dewesse's sister, Mrs. Leo Root.

Mrs. Jeanne Kent of Stockton, Calif., visited last week at the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Donovan.

Mrs. Ronald Black was in Tooele, Utah last week, called there by the illness of her mother, Mrs. M. I. Oveson.

James Partlow, son of Mrs. Roy Partlow, has enlisted in the U. S. Navy and is in training at Treasure Island near San Francisco, Calif.

## My Neighbors



"Hold it pop—the scouts have decided to sell candy bars instead..."

## Bottlers Launch Drive to Combat Litter Nuisance

A state-wide campaign against littering on the highways was launched last week at the annual meeting of the Oregon Bottlers Association, it was announced by Leroy Hanna, president.

The Oregon bottling industry, drawing on the manpower and equipment of the state-wide organization, has pledged a major effort to help control roadside littering. The bottlers are coordinating a state-wide clean-up program with CLEAN and Beautiful, the business industry sponsored litter-prevention and beautification agency for Oregon and Washington.

Public awareness is a major factor in litter control, and the bottlers plan to make maximum use of their "rolling stock" to spread their litter prevention message to the greatest number of people via the CLEAN truck decal.

"Reminding people not to litter has the best effect on people when they are closest to the act; or in this case, driving along the highways in their cars," says Eugene B. Kasper, CLEAN'S executive director.

The large size truck decal features a colorful anti-litter message asking motorists to "Deposit Litter—Keep Your State Clean." This sign will become the symbol of the bottlers' roadside clean-up campaign.

The Oregon Bottlers Association plans to place this truck decal on all local and intercity vans operating in the state's bottling industry.

Hanna estimates more than 350 trucks will become "rolling billboards" for litter-prevention by June 1, of this year. The campaign is not only aimed at Oregon residents, but also for the many tourists who travel the state highways during the summer season.

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## Sprague Praises, Criticizes Press At Eugene Meet

Charles A. Sprague, editor and publisher of the Oregon Statesman, told delegates at the 49th annual Oregon Press Conference in Eugene, Friday, February 16, that "there must be an upgrading in the contents of the American press if it is to fulfill its function."

The former Oregon governor delivered the 22nd annual Eric W. Allen Memorial Lecture at a noon luncheon in the Erb Memorial Union. This is the first time an Oregon editor has been invited to deliver an Allen lecture.

Sprague summarized both negative and positive aspects of today's press coverage and then gave some suggestions for the future.

Press critics complain that advertising dictates news, papers support the wrong political candidates, and reporting is superficial, according to Sprague.

The critics tend to forget, he said, that a paper must be tailored to a budget and meet the interests of varied readership while handling the overwhelming "volume of news pouring in over the wires, through the air, off the news beats."

In view of these demands,

"The remarkable fact is that the job is done daily, punctually," Sprague stated. He also said today's papers are better printed, handle the news more objectively, and "contain more news and far less junk."

There are some real criticisms which the editor did acknowledge, however. One of these is that "the press is often delinquent in recognizing situations and conditions that merit attention."

Papers failed to recognize the growing pressure for civil rights, he commented, and "are unaware to the extent and degree of poverty."

His second criticism was that members of the press in Oregon and other states are essentially conformist and few editors have ability to innovate. In addition, he noted the lack of competition among the news media. "I think that the monopoly situation is going to continue because of the realities of newspaper economics," he commented.

Sprague also acknowledged that journalists can't brook criticism. They have always vigorously defended press freedom and rejected any proposal for

requirements in the profession, he said. The result, Sprague added, is that "many who engage in newspaper writing are poorly prepared."

The former governor listed three major areas needing reform. First, he said there should be zeal on the part of publishers to improve their product. Newspapers should exercise leadership and be the voice of the community.

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