

US Reclamation Bureau Files Fourth Block Of Farm Units Near Ephrata

By NED THOMAS
 MOSES LAKE, Wash., July 25 (AP)—With the filing of its block of farm units, the bureau of reclamation has revealed plans for laying out half the land it is pledged to irrigate in 1952 when water reaches the Columbia basin project.

Latest farm unit plan is block 70, comprising 147 farm units totaling 7233 acres lying northeast of Ephrata in the Crab creek and Rocky Ford creek drainages. The bureau began publication of a notice of intention to establish the plan and filed a copy of the plan with Grant County Auditor C. A. Hawley.

The action brings to 40,928 the

number of acres platted to date. The bureau is committed to deliver water to 87,000 acres by 1962. The area laid out so far contains 558 farm units, or an average of 73.14 acres per unit.

Block 70 is the second in the Quincy Columbia basin irrigation district for which a preliminary plan has been announced, and the fourth for the entire project. Directors of the Quincy district approved the plan June 13 and Grant county commissioners later approved the county road plan proposed for it.

First block, some of which already is settled, was No. 1 near Pasco, where 84 units covering 5553 acres became official last year. These units are being furnished water from the Pasco pumping plant.

The second group, block 40 due north of Moses Lake, was filed last December. The first block plan for irrigating by the gravity system, it embraces 184 farm units totaling 22,256 acres, 15,453 of them irrigable.

The third was block 71, in the Quincy district southwest of Ephrata. Covering the area south of the main highway between the railroad underpass and Winchester, it contains 143 units totaling 12,669 irrigable acres. The preliminary plan for it was announced in April.

W. W. Johnston, project development supervisor for the bureau, explained that of the 40,928 acres covered by preliminary plan, 5811 are class I land, 17,583 are class II and 17,534 are class III.

Biggest USBR Program To Be Announced

HELENA, Mont., July 25 (AP)—Reclamation Commissioner Michael Straus said Saturday his bureau will detail probably the biggest multi-purpose power and reclamation program in history next month.

Reclamation bureau officials from 17 Western states will open a week's meeting at Boulder City, Nev., August 1 to plan expenditure of about \$350,000,000 this fiscal year. Exact amount still is up to congress.

At a press conference, Straus explained the long range reclamation program this way:

In 47 years about half of the nation's available waters have been put to profitable use. That cost the government about \$1,700,000,000.

"Now it appears that we will be called upon to do the same amount of work in the next 12 months that we did in the first 30 years under the reclamation law of 1902."

Congress, "in response to demands of the people, said available waters were not being put to use fast enough, and it is expected to provide the money."

He said it is impossible to estimate the cost of putting the rest of the nation's available waters to use. He indicated it would be many times more than the first half, however, by saying: "We did the easy development jobs first. We have the hard ones left—the great, cooperative, multiple-purpose, extensive interstate projects."

GOOD CAST

COLUMBUS, O., July 25 (AP)—Fred Byas whipped his fishline into the swift-flowing Scioto river Friday, snared William Miller around the foot and reeled the floundering eight-year-old boy to safety.

Afterwards the 32-year-old railroad brakeman complained: "That's the trouble with fishing here. The kids always come around and ruin my fishing."

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Biggest Sturgeon Caught In River

SAN DIEGO, Calif., July 25 (AP)—Police Saturday said they were reopening investigation of the unsolved murder two years ago of Marian Davidson Newton, 36, Vancouver, B. C., divorcee.

Her garroted body was found July 17, 1947, on a dirt road on Torrey Pines mesa near here. Mrs. Newton had been visiting friends here when she was murdered.

Detective L. Mort Geer, head of the police homicide detail, said "new information" had been received from an undisclosed source which may lead to new clues in the slaying. He said it might be necessary to send an investigator "far out of town" to obtain these clues. Geer declined to reveal where the investigation would be centered.

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Good Grain Harvest Seen For Russians This Year

MOBSCOW, July 25 (AP)—Government officials predicted a good Russian harvest this year because of ample June rains and generally favorable growing conditions.

The first official prediction indicated the grain yield might be exceptionally large because of the increased acreage ordered under the present three-year plan to build farm output.

Grain is one of Soviet Union's chief exports. She already has agreements with Britain and east-

ern European countries calling for grain shipments and is negotiating with other countries, including France, for similar trade agreements.

A communique issued by the central statistical administration said the grain crop in the vast central and western zones of the country would exceed last year's while other areas reported satisfactory growth.

"The Soviet Union seldom pub-

lishes full annual harvest statistics and it is impossible to make comparisons."

Growth of sugar beets, sunflowers, flax and vegetables has been enhanced by June rains which fell almost everywhere, it was reported.

Down average on state, collective and individual peasant farms was up by 6,000,000 hectares (15,000,000 acres) over last year according to the government statistics.

The state-sown animal culture was improved. It reported the following increases in stock over last year: Large longhorned cattle, 25 per cent; pigs, 79 per cent; goats and sheep, 11 per cent.

For a Sunday night supper menu serve broiled or boiled frankfurters with two salads—potato and zucchini. Add mustard, dill pickles, and spiced beets and lots of thin slices of pumpernickel bread spread with butter or margarine. Dessert might be lemon sherbet with a topping of grated fresh pineapple.

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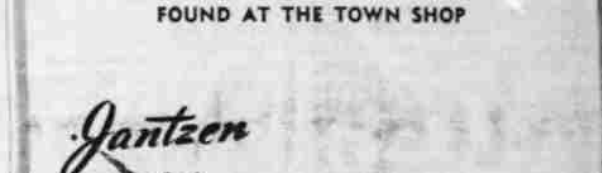
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