



BIG SPRINGS GRADE SCHOOL



THE BIG SPRINGS

Siskiyou Community Of Big Springs Is Friendly Oasis Of Fertile Plenty

By J. O. MCKINNEY

Big Springs, in central Siskiyou County, is a name given to a rural school district, an irrigation system, a dairying community, a duck hunting club and the entire neighborhood adjacent to the big springs for which all the others are named. All of the designations represent outstanding entries in their class.

The school district has an \$85,000 rural structure in which students of the neighborhood are instructed in surroundings as elaborate as those in town. The irrigation system covers 2,280 acres of soil built up from an old lake bed and covered with volcanic ashes. It is fertile in the extreme, and as well watered as it needs to be.

The duck hunting club's membership is restricted and expensive; while tall silos and huge dairy herds attest to the excellence in this line. The big springs flow fully 10,000 gallons of pure water per minute which supplies the district, a ranch that is supplied by gravity flow, and sends a good sized creek into Shasta River. The local district draws 3,375 gallons per minute out of the spring's 10-acre reservoir, while the other uses take care of the rest.

The city of Yreka has often considered getting its water supply from these springs.

This delightful region is situated some 10 miles east of Grenada, between U.S. Highways 97 and 99. One must traverse an arid, sagebrush, lava rock region of sand to get there from any direction. All this is forgotten when looking across the lush fields of Big Springs. They are level and with soil and water sufficient for all needs, crops thrive as they do in few communities.

But one exception has been noted. No one tries to raise bumper

potato crops, which were tested there, and discontinued. Here is why. Although the land was once a huge lake and potatoes were not grown prior to about 1945, a crop there showed heavy infestations of nematodes. The seed was blue-tag, certified stock, planted on virgin soil, but contamination came from somewhere.

Still another mystery remains unsolved in the springs themselves. The water is a chill 46 degrees and pure. Fish will start up the creek from Shasta River, come a short distance, and turn back. Why this is so has never been explained, but Joseph Wales, biologist at the Mount Shasta state fish hatchery, believes that somewhere deep inside the earth the water was squeezed free of oxygen without which fish cannot survive.

Dairying, that stable community industry, has of recent years showed a decline. No mystery surrounds this. The drudgery of milking, even with a machine, interferes with television shows. Beef cattle appear in many places instead of the usual milking strains.

But waterfowl hunting there has held up despite hunting pressure. The Charles H. Drummond Wildlife Refuge a few miles away brings more ducks and geese than before. Honkers, those stately Canada geese, frequent the fields of the valley. An invitation to shoot on a ranch there is usually followed by a goose dinner.

It is a thrilling sight to see a ve of these birds come out of the shadows of nearby Mt. Shasta, set their wings and glide down to a decoy set. This is one of the few places that Canada geese frequent in numbers, but as stated above, hunting there is exclusive—and expensive.

New Method For Filming Of Lectures

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—A unique and money-saving method of filming educational television lectures for later use in other classrooms has been developed by Oregon State College engineers in cooperation with a Hollywood film company.

It will mean a saving of more than \$12,000 this year in the filming of the OSC chemistry course being presented over KOAC-TV, Channel 7.

The conventional system of filming—or kinescoping for TV—basically is reversed with the method.

Instead of taking and developing a negative film and then printing positive copies, the engineers photograph a negative picture on the five by seven inch picture tube of a recording machine. When developed, it becomes a positive image that is ready to project without additional processing or handling. The reversal is done electronically.

Engineering work was headed by Grant S. Feikert, chief engineer at OSC for KOAC radio and TV, and Lester G. Mock and Robert L. Tinkle, television technicians. The development of the special kinescope recorder was done in cooperation with the Vuetronics Company in Hollywood, a leading TV film production and processing firm.

The process is feasible only in cases where a single film copy of the program is required, Feikert explained, but has wide application in most educational TV and some commercial TV situations.

Malaria May Be Wiped Out In World During Next Twenty Five Years

LISBON (UPI) — A leading American expert on malaria says the disease is almost certainly being wiped out from the world, but warned that this doesn't mean the world will be rid of mosquitoes too.

"A lot of people think malaria eradication is the same as mosquito eradication," said Dr. Paul F. Russell of the Rockefeller Foundation. "That isn't so. We can beat malaria killing only a small percentage of the world's mosquito population."

Russell, who lives in North Edgecomb, Maine, was in Lisbon to act as consultant at a World Health Organization meeting of malaria experts. The meeting was part of a 76-nation campaign to erase malaria completely within 10 to 25 years—in some countries within five years.

Malaria is a mosquito-carried disease which has ravaged the world's tropical regions for centuries. For the past 300 years man has had only two defenses against it—the mosquito net and quinine.

Now, though, quinine has been pensioned off and replaced by such drugs as the German developed Chloroquine, the British Proguanil and the American Pyrimethamine.

And the net has been rendered obsolete by powerful insecticides which remain lethal to mosquitoes for months after being sprayed on walls.

Russell said "there is no doubt that the new method of wall spraying with insecticides has been the greatest single factor in helping defeat malaria."

He explained that the mosquito becomes a malaria carrier only by biting a man already infected with the disease. It takes the malaria parasite into its system from the sick man.

"This is where a useful trick comes in," Russell said. "It takes 10 days for the parasite to become potent within the mosquito. During that 10 days the mosquito can do no harm even if it bites another man, but we have a good chance of killing it."

The type of mosquito which bites a man, generally speaking, is the type that likes to buzz around houses, attracted by lights, humans, food.

But as soon as it hits an insecticide-sprayed wall it is finished. And in a general campaign of mass spraying of walls wherever there are dwellings it is a

good bet the mosquito will hit a dose of poison before 10 days are up.

For the big post-war drive to oust malaria from the world, 60 per cent of the funds have come from the governments of affected countries.

But three organizations have taken the lead in the battle:

—The World Health Organization. Although operating on a small budget, since 1947 it has provided the necessary technical leadership.

—The United Nations Children's Fund. Working on the theory that malaria is very tough on children, this organization has poured more than 30 million dollars into the fight. Its money has been used for equipment, transport and supplies.

—The United States International Cooperation Administration (ICA) and its predecessor foreign aid agencies. They have given in excess of 90 million dollars for all phases of anti-malaria work.

Russell said the work already done has been so extensive that more than half the people who must come under eradication programs are already under them.

There is one cloud on the horizon—the possibility that mosquitoes will develop a resistance to both groups of insecticides presently in use—DDT on the one hand and B.H.C. (Benzene hexa chloride) and Dieldrin on the other.

Experience to date has shown, however, that if mosquitoes become resistant to one group of insecticides, they fall to prey to another.

Men like Russell are confident all problems can be overcome. They have seen such tremendous progress in their lifetime they know eradication is possible.

"Take the United States," said Russell. "During the 1930's we used to get up to 4,500,000 cases in a year, mainly in the Southeast. Last year there were only 14 proved cases."

Other places where malaria has been eradicated are Puerto Rico, Chile, Cyprus, Corsica, Italy, Martinique, the Netherlands and the Gaza Strip. Countries where the disease is on its way out are Mauritius, Reunion Island, Romania, Argentina, Venezuela and British and French Guiana.

Areas where the problem is still acute include Central Africa, Borneo and New Guinea. China is an unknown quantity.

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