

Reclamation Congress Considers How To Meet Nation's Rising Water Demands

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — Maj. Gen. William F. Cassidy, director of civil works for the Army Engineers, said Saturday the task of meeting this nation's rising water demands "will require the greatest combination of specialized skills and experience we can organize and deploy."

Cassidy and Richard E. McArdle, chief of the U. S. Forest

Service, both outlined in speeches for the National Reclamation Association the parts their agencies play in water resources development, especially in the 17 western states.

The NRA winds up its 30th annual convention late Saturday. In advance of the closing session there was considerable background activity in regard to the position the NRA should take by resolution on proposed changes in the procedures for applying the 160-acre land ownership limitation, a basic requirement in reclamation law.

The Land Limitations Committee recommended a resolution on

proposing changes being proposed to the Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall which would: terminate the practice of permitting prepayment of allocated costs by water users to obtain lifting of the 160-acre limitation, and continue application of the limitation even after complete repayment of allocated costs.

Cassidy told the 17-state organization that with unprecedented demands being placed on water. "We now have a more clear national recognition of the urgency of water resources development in the United States than at any time in the past."

"It is manifest," Cassidy said,

"in the policies of President Kennedy, in the attention being given water resources matters in congress, and in the concern being shown by the public."

Cassidy outlined the Army Engineer program in the western states, with storage capacity already provided for 113 million acre-feet of water while other dams under construction would add another 22 million. Those authorized but not started account for another 18 million acre-feet of storage.

He added that almost two-thirds of the existing storage capacity is for multiple use purposes, including water to run hydropower

plants with over five million kilowatts capacity.

The presently authorized program contemplates western power installations at engineer dams with capacity in excess of 14 million kilowatts.

The engineers also are restudying and revising their general river basin plans so as to improve their responsiveness to the long-range requirements projected by the Senate committee.

Cassidy took the occasion to emphasize that the engineers recently started taking a longer-range view of the economic effects of projects in determining their justification for construction.

"To this end we are, among other things, abandoning the practice—carried over from the accounting field—of amortizing in 50 years the costs of projects that will be useful for much longer periods," Cassidy explained.

He detailed work to be done during the year ending next June 30 at a cost of about \$400 million in the 17 reclamation states

under the 1961-62 appropriation of about a billion dollars for the nationwide civil works program. McArdle confined himself largely to a technical discussion of management of national forest watersheds.

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A. A. Soule, M. D.
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Correction Date Noted

The deadline for correction of military records will be reached Oct. 23, R. J. Novotny, manager of the Portland Veterans Administration Regional Office reminded veterans today.

Boards for the correction of military records have been operating in the Army, Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard and have been empowered by law to alter any military record to correct an error or remove an injustice.

Reviews of military records by these boards have made many veterans, and surviving dependents of veterans, eligible for benefits administered by the VA and other federal agencies, Novotny pointed out.

Regulations require that applications must be filed within three years after the veteran discovers the error or not later than Oct. 23, 1961. In the event of the filing of an application after time limits the board may excuse the tardy filing only if it finds it to be in the interest of justice.

Veterans affected are advised to file by close of business, Oct. 23, 1961. Application forms are available at all VA offices.

Ike Recalls Son's Death

NEW YORK (AP) — Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower recalled Friday night the death of his first son from scarlet fever "only a year or two before research reduced that disease to a childhood sickness."

Eisenhower spoke at the annual Humanitarian Award dinner of the Cerebral Palsy Association of New York. He was presented with the group's annual award in recognition of "a lifetime of service to mankind."

Speaking of the son's death, he said: "Although it happened 44 or 45 years ago, it is just as vivid in our memory as it was then."

At this side was Mrs. Eisenhower, who was given a silver picture frame in recognition of her interest in the handicapped.

King Turns Down Role

NEW YORK (AP)—The Rev. Martin Luther King has turned down a chance to be a movie actor—as a senator from Georgia.

The Negro minister who led the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott and now conducts widespread civil rights activities from headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., Friday denied reports he would appear in the movie "Advise and Consent."

Otto Preminger, director of the film based on a novel about Washington politics, had announced the Negro leader would play a small part as "Sen. King from Georgia."

The idea was attacked by some Georgians, including Gov. Ernest Vandiver, who said it would turn a good book into "sheer fantasy."

King said he rejected the movie role for three reasons—it wouldn't do much to advance civil rights, it might have looked like publicity-seeking and: "I had to think also of the fact that I am a leader in the civil rights struggle and not an actor."

Heavy Damages Given Family

SEATTLE (AP) — A Superior Court jury awarded \$78,335.50 to a family of five in a traffic accident case Friday.

Defendants were the city of Seattle and a former trustee, John H. Usery, 46.

Usery was assigned to work out a \$710 traffic court fine at a precinct police station when the automobile he was driving struck Robert E. Hosea's car in 1958. The jury award was to Mr. and Mrs. Hosea and three children.

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