

A WAY TO SURVIVE—In another column you will find what we consider possibly the most important news report this newspaper has ever printed.

It is the account of State Engineer Steve Reynolds' report to Portales Valley farmers on how they can extend the life of our irrigation system for 40 years.

The report contains some grim facts. Unquestionably these facts will startle many people. Some of those who heard the report, of the prospect that 10,000 acres of the Portales Valley will be without water in another five years, suggested that we should "play this down" because of the effect it is likely to have on property values, and business in Portales.

We can't play down such vital facts. To do so would unfairly impair the ability of all our citizens to find a solution. We should all understand the problem, and then we can devise ways of dealing with it.

It is a situation that parallels the problem when a doctor has to decide whether to tell a patient that he has cancer. If he can give the patient hope for a cure, he would certainly be justified in telling the facts of the case. If the case were hopeless, he might want to spare the patient the torment. Most people, in such a case, would want to know the facts, regardless of the outlook.

We believe that reasonable people who are willing to look at the facts of the Portales Valley's water situation, can devise a way to offset the severe economic dislocations that would result in the failure of our water supply.

There will be no dramatic, overnight failure of our water supply. The water levels have been lowering each year for forty years, with the exception of 1941 when superabundant rainfall gave our valley a substantial recharge. But we used up this 1941 accumulation of water within the following five years, and now are nearing the bottom of our water resources on some 19,000 acres lying around the City of Portales. This area will grow each year until by 1985 two thirds of the present water supply in the valley will no longer support crops which we now depend upon.

There are steps that can be taken, and by taking them resolutely, one by one, without unnecessary delay we can hope for a 40-year extension of our irrigation economy. And within 40 years, it is possible that science will provide us with some source of water that we know nothing about now.

The important thing is that we study these facts carefully, and act on them in the way a prudent man deals with a situation affecting his very way of life.

There is ample water in the sandhills that lay alongside our irrigated valley. This water won't flow through the underground formations nearly fast enough to give us any hope for relief in our lifetime. But by organizing an irrigation system to pump this water through pipelines to our good land, we can continue to operate for years.

A lot of study, and careful planning are called for. Traditionally our farmers and geologists have refused to face the fact that there is a limited supply of water. They can no longer ignore these facts. Second and third generation farmers are more willing, than the original developers of this irrigated valley, to accept the word of engineers and geologists who have studied our valley for 30 years. When these engineers point a way to a partial solution of our problem, we think we all need to listen, and be prepared to take those steps that best promise a solution.

THE ALMANAC

Today is Friday, July 10, the 191st day of the year, with 174 more days to follow in 1959.

The moon is approaching its first quarter.

The evening stars are Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

On this date in history: In 1569, the French theologian John Calvin was born.

In 1834, the painter James McNeill Whistler was born.

In 1867, the American journalist Finley Peter Dunne was born.

In 1871, the French writer Marcel Proust was born.

In 1890, Wyoming was admitted as the 40th state.

In 1919, President Wilson presented the Versailles Treaty to the Senate.

Thought for today: Finley Peter Dunne said, "Life would not be worth living if we didn't keep our enemies."

Plenty of Polio Vaccine in N.M.

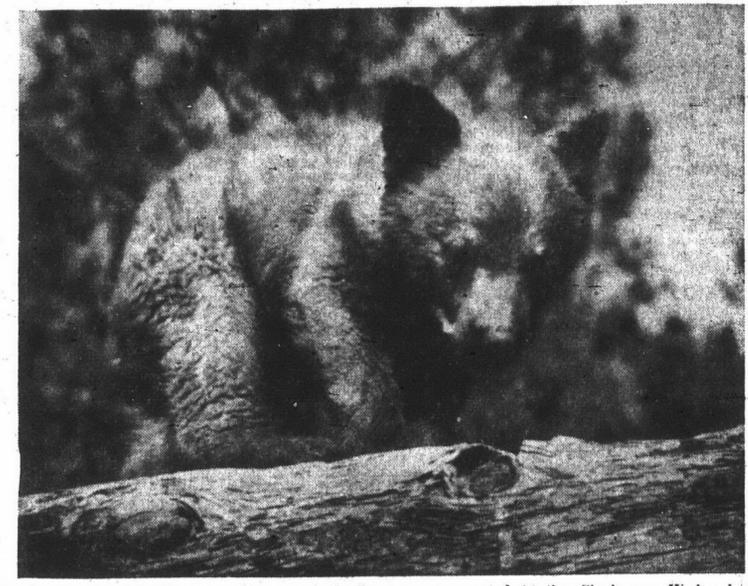
SANTA FE (UPI)—New Mexico has enough polio vaccine "to fill all needs," the State Health Dept. reported today.

Four cases of polio were recently reported in the Las Cruces area and health officials have warned parents that the children should be given at least three injections of the vaccine.

Four or more injections of vaccine are now recommended by the public health service under certain circumstances. Dr. Stanley J. Leland, state health director, said.

No Disease Reported

Roosevelt County citizens were extremely healthy during the week ending July 4. The department of public health reported no cases of communicable diseases.



NEW CLOVIS RESIDENT — Smokeyna the Bear was presented to the Clovis zoo Wednesday afternoon at 4 p.m. by Governor John Burroughs. Smokeyna, like her famous predecessor "Smokey the Bear," is a victim of man's thoughtlessness in the forest. While Smokey was orphaned by a forest fire, Smokeyna's mother was shot illegally by some hunters in the mountains near Alamogordo. After being cared for by the State Game and Fish Department for several weeks, Smokeyna found a home in the Clovis zoo. (Fred O. Patton Photo)

Quarreling Potato Growers Cool Off at Court Recess

A court hearing on an injunction against the Board of Directors for the Portales Valley Sweet Potato Growers Association was halted Thursday afternoon, when the disputing factions got together in the hallway during a recess and agreed to try to patch up their differences.

The dramatic break in the warmly disputed case came after the hearing had been under way for an hour and a half. The courtroom was packed with farmers who had been subpoenaed as witnesses, but few of them knew of the back hall agreement.

Judge E. T. Hensley had announced the 10 minute recess at the request of Jay Morgan, attorney for the Board of Directors, and spent the time in his chambers, while the litigants met in the hallway to discuss their attorneys.

The recess was lengthened when the Judge was advised by the attorneys as he prepared to reopen the hearing, that they were working toward a settlement.

Then, after another session in the hallway, in which a dozen farmers and three attorneys participated, the Judge was notified that the factions were ready to announce a stipulation.

The stipulation, dictated by Morgan, as the court session reopened, was to the effect that the "show cause" hearing on the temporary restraining order be continued until after the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Association, to be held sometime during July, and that in the meantime the Board of Directors be authorized to continue

work on laying a concrete floor in Curing House No. 6 and that work on shoring up of the roof of this house be completed.

The attorneys agreed, upon questioning by Judge Hensley, that "whether this lawsuit remains on the docket depends upon the contingency that may happen at the annual meeting."

The attorneys agreed to set the date for the continuance of the hearing on the restraining order for Aug. 10 at 9 a. m. in the event the matter is not straightened out at the annual meeting of the stockholders.

Background of the dispute is whether the Potato Growers' Association shall convert their method of handling crated sweet potatoes to a "pallet system" using a fork lift to move crates of potatoes.

J. D. Ray, manager of the association, was questioned sharply on this matter at the hearing opened by Dan Buzzard, attorney representing the group of farmers who brought the suit against the Association's board of directors.

Ray confirmed that a special meeting called on May 14, the stockholders present defeated a proposal, by a vote of 32 to 25, to put in concrete floors in three curing houses, and rearrange roof supports to make use of a fork lift and pallet system possible.

Ray said that subsequent to this meeting, the Board of Directors agreed to go ahead with work on House No. 6, and that a work lift had been contracted on a "lease-buy" proposition. The work was in

progress on laying the concrete floor and reshoring the roof of this house when the restraining order was obtained by the group opposing the change.

Ray said that the Board believes the conversion to work-lift handling will save 50 per cent of the labor costs in the curing houses, and thereby will offset some of the losses the Association has experienced in each of the past five years.

The last year the Association showed a profit, he said, was in 1954, when the profit was \$13,500. The net loss for the past year, after depreciation, was \$489, he said.

Murray South, who managed the Association for 25 years, with three gaps, was called as a witness for the group opposing the change.

South testified that the House No. 6 was in good shape, except for some braces for the roof.

He said that he believed concrete floors would not be as satisfactory as dirt floors in the curing houses, because the concrete floor would tend to accumulate moisture, and wouldn't permit the potatoes to dry out as evenly as the dirt floors.

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ENMU Swimming Pool to Open For the Public

Open swimming in the new natatorium at Eastern New Mexico University will begin Monday afternoon (July 13) at 3 p.m., according to Dr. Joseph Dickson, chairman of the division of health and physical education.

The natatorium will offer open swimming every day of the week and evening swimming Monday through Friday. B. B. Lees is the manager of the natatorium.

Season tickets may be purchased at the University accounting office or tickets for single swims may be bought at the natatorium.

A season ticket (good for the remaining 10 swims) is \$20 for man and/or wife plus \$1 for each member of the family. A ticket for an individual swim is 50 cents.

Other regulations state that all recreational swimmers must furnish their own suits and towels and non-swimmers under 48 inches in height must be accompanied by an adult.

The open swimming schedule: Monday through Friday 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Fred Florence Pays \$300 Fine

Fred Florence, operator of a domino parlor on West Second Street, paid a \$300 fine in city police court this morning after pleading guilty to a charge of offering for sale, and selling alcoholic liquors.

Florence was arrested shortly after midnight when city and county peace officers, armed with search warrants, searched his car and his place of business. On the raid were City Policemen Walter Vanderville and Keith Rowland, and Sheriff Leon Harris and Deputy Glen Widener.

Engineer Tells How Valley Can Survive

Sandhill Pumping System For Irrigation Proposed

The Portales Valley can extend the life of its irrigation system by more than 40 years through a sandhill pumping station and system of central canals and pipelines, but the project would cost around five million dollars, Steve Reynolds, New Mexico State Engineer said last night in a meeting with Valley farmers.

Reynolds came here at the invitation of Rex Parrish, water committee chairman of the County Farm Bureau. He spoke before some 100 Valley farmers at the Memorial Building.

The engineer, who has the responsibility of administering laws concerning all of New Mexico's streams and underground water basins, described the water situation in the Portales Valley as "the most critical we have in New Mexico."

He said that a study, based on the rate of decline of the water table in this area, indicates that by 1965, it will be impractical to irrigate 19,000 acres of land around Portales, and that by 1985 a total of 36,000 acres of the valley's 52,000 under irrigation now, will not have a dependable source of irrigation water.

Reynolds said that these calculations are based on the conclusion that when the water bearing formation is no more than 20 feet thick at the start of the pumping season, irrigation is not practical.

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ers that the water in the Portales Valley is collected from many years of local rainfall, and that irrigation is "strictly a mining operation," with withdrawal from the underground reservoir amounting to about five times the annual recharge from rainfall.

He said that the contemplated project would entail a careful study of legal aspects, for this would be the first occasion where an irrigation is contemplated for an underground water basin. He said it is his belief that existing water laws which apply to surface reservoirs, could be applied to the underground district, but that he would want legal opinion on this point.

Reynolds said there would be no difficulty in obtaining rights to water in the sandhill areas for this purpose, because existing laws vest the ownership of all underground water in the state. He said that condemnation proceedings would be required, and that the owners of the sandhill surface land would have to be compensated for the use of their land.

Reynolds noted that the development of such a project is an extremely complicated problem, involving legal, engineering and economic problems that would require a minimum of four years.

But he said that the problem is no more complicated than many surface irrigation projects that have been successfully carried through, and that this offers the best hope of lengthening the lifetime of the valley's irrigation economy.

Farmers in the audience asked numerous questions of the state engineer, who responded frankly and openly. He pledged the help of the state engineer's office to carry on the study, but suggested that a local organization be formed to look after the interests of those who will be affected.

Reynolds pointed out that a bill introduced in the last legislature, providing for the creation of an irrigation district by petition of one third of the land owners, was defeated, and that this type of enabling legislation would be helpful in Portales' problem. But he said that it may be possible to go ahead under existing laws that affect surface irrigation.

Reynolds also explained the purpose of the "adjudication suit" now underway in the Pecos Valley irrigation district, where water rights of several hundred landowners are being determined by court action. He said that although such an adjudication is not at present contemplated for the Portales Valley, that it would be helpful, although not absolutely necessary, to carry out an irrigation program such as he outlined.

The engineer cautioned time after time that all the figures he quoted about the proposed development were based on a "reconnaissance survey" which would have to be supplemented by a more detailed "feasibility survey" before they could be considered reliable.

A feasibility survey, Reynolds said, would cost \$15,000, and before it can be made, a local organization will have to be formed under an agreement that if the survey finds the project feasible, the cost of the survey would be repaid. If the project proves unfeasible, there would be no obligation for repayment, he said.

Reynolds said that the tax to one ration of costs to benefits compares favorably with reclamation projects for surface water, where the federal government has approved projects in which the cost-benefit ratio has been only one to one.

But he stressed that the feasibility of the project will depend, in final analysis, upon whether the value of crops grown by irrigation can pay off the cost of the project.

To questions from farmers, Reynolds said that the study indicates so far that the total cost to farmers under the project would be around \$18 per year per surface acre, which would include both the cost of their water, and the amortization of the cost of the project over a 40-year period.

He said the survey is based on distribution of 1.4 acre feet of water per surface acre farmed, and that this is well within the capability of the land. Reynolds said this calculation is based on the fact that over the entire valley now, farmers are pumping an average of 2 acre feet of water per year. But he explained, the water delivered to farms by the concrete pipeline and concrete line ditches would have no loss from seepage or evaporation, and would amount to as much water as the farmers are now actually getting to their crop-land.

He said that at this rate of pumping, the collection system would be good for "far longer than 40 years."

Reynolds explained to the farm-

John Claims Andy Is Plotting With Republican Chief

By HOYT GIMLIN United Press International SANTA FE (UPI)—Gov. John Burroughs today linked the Republican party's effort to out him in 1960 to his fellow Democrat and Portales neighbor, Rep. Anderson Carter.

"Would Mr. (Tony) Llewellyn (State GOP Chairman) deny that the Republican party has made a deal for support in the next gubernatorial election," Burroughs asked in a prepared news statement.

Asked to elaborate, Burroughs told United Press International: "Ask Ed Mechem or Andy Carter. I understand there was a meeting at La Posada (Inn at Santa Fe) when the judicial conference met."

He referred to ex-GOP Gov. Edwin L. Mechem and a conference of lawyers and judges from states in U.S. 10th circuit, who held their convention at Santa Fe last weekend.

Neither Mechem nor Carter was immediately available for comment.

(Anderson Carter, reached in Portales today, said that the Burroughs statement is "based on a great deal of implication, and little if any fact.")

He said that he would reserve any further comments until he has had a chance to read Mr. Burroughs' statement in full. He added: "I feel sure I will have a comment to make at that time."

Carter has been sharply critical of Burroughs and his administration since the closing days of the 1959 legislature.

A source close to the administration said Las Cruces Reps. James T. Martin and James R. Patton had met with Mechem, Patton and Martin, both Democrats, are urging other lawmakers to petition for a special session, which Burroughs opposes.

Patton, reached at Las Cruces, promptly denied he or Martin ever met with Mechem in Santa Fe. "Mechem is a resident of Las Cruces and we are personal friends," he is still a Republican and I am a Democrat," Patton said. "I think he's as interested in cleaning up the highway mess as anybody... but we have not been plotting anybody's downfall."

Burroughs' prepared statement was a rebuttal to Llewellyn, who Thursday called upon Republican lawmakers to sign the petitions.

The GOP Chairman indicated the legislators needed to study road oil purchases, Finance Board power and a highway probe recently halted on a legal question.

Burroughs termed this an effort by Llewellyn to "inject his party into the proposed investigation of the State Highway Department."

He called it "a two-penny political maneuver designed to whitewash deficiencies brought about during the administration of the previous Republican governor (Mechem)."

Mentions Past Mistakes "There is little doubt in my mind that the state could profit from the mistakes made by the highway department in the past," a highway department that has served under Mechem, appointed majority commissions almost since its inception until—the first of this year," Burroughs added, and continued: "My real concern is that the investigating agency, whichever it might be, be empowered to carry on its work in the best interests of the state of New Mexico."

The State Board of Finance headed by Burroughs, called on the attorney general to determine if a House investigating committee was legally empowered. Frank B. Zinn ruled it was not because it was created by only one House

of the legislature. "New Efforts, including a plea for a special session, have been made—particularly by Patton and Martin—to keep the investigation alive."

Burroughs further charged that Llewellyn's appeal to GOP lawmakers was "an apparent move to come to the assistance of an asphalt firm who has held a strangle hold on asphalt sales to the state for the past 20 years."

Spencer Attacked Again Burroughs referred to Spencer and Co. of Santa Fe, a firm he has roundly attacked since April 9, when he rejected Spencer's low bid on supplying road oil to the State Highway Department.

Burroughs called for more competitive bidding and contends the recent new bids are lower. This was challenged this week by Spencer's vice president, Paul Huss.

"I question whether Llewellyn's concern is for the state of New Mexico or for Malco," Spencer's Bob Anderson, who has been one of the top contributors to the Republican party," Burroughs said. "Possibly because of his interest in cartel-like companies," the governor added, "Llewellyn can publicize how much money Spencer and Co. made over the last 18 months in asphalt sales."

"Maybe Mr. Llewellyn can explain why the company has refused to submit quotations in truly direct competition with other asphalt suppliers."

Malco refineries of southeastern New Mexico supplied much of the road oil Spencer sold to the state in years past. The refineries have now been acquired by Continental Oil Co. of Houston, Tex.

Officials Fear Polio Epidemic Will Sweep Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa (UPI)—Health officials feared today that Des Moines' polio epidemic, the first in the nation this year, would spread throughout the state because of public apathy toward inoculation.

Des Moines, Iowa's capital city, and surrounding Polk County have had 69 polio cases this year. Three of the patients have died. One hundred chapters of the National Foundation in Iowa were alerted to battle the disease and Salk polio vaccine was shipped to all but three of the state's 99 counties.

Doctors pleaded with residents to get inoculations but said people in general, and teenagers in particular, were not responding well.

Dr. James F. Speers, the city-county health director here, said he "wouldn't be a bit surprised if the epidemic sweeps across the state."

"Iowa has a very poor vaccination record," he said. Speers said Des Moines, with about one-tenth of the state's population, has used half the public health-dispensed vaccine in the last few years.

Health officials Tuesday officially termed the outbreak an epidemic, and the U. S. Public Health Service's communicable diseases laboratory at Atlanta, Ga., said the epidemic here was the first "real outbreak" in the nation this year.

Fifteen iron lungs were sent to the city by the National Foundation. The organization asked the Red Cross to provide 16 special nurses to handle the patients in the crowded polio wards.

Thursday a National Guard truck, converted into a "hospital on wheels," sped a Des Moines patient confined to an iron lung to Iowa City under police escort. Officials said university hospitals in Iowa City had better facilities to care for the patient, Mrs. Betty Wesley, 27.

The spread of the disease slackened this week, but Speers said "it's too early to predict that we may have hit our peak."

"Polio sometimes eases and then flares up again," he said.

BRIDGE BUILDING Will Stop Traffic

SANTA ROSA (UPI)—US 66 traffic will be delayed for short periods here through the week-end, starting Saturday, because of bridge building across the Pecos.

The State Highway Department in Santa Fe said the builder plans to start hanging girders on the north side of the bridge.

A highway spokesman said traffic would be halted for not more than 30 minutes at a time, but that on occasion there may be delays up to 30 minutes.

WEATHER

PORTALES: Fair and warmer today through Saturday. Chance for brief shower during afternoon or early evening. Low tonight 65, high Saturday 96.